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Publish Date: January 29, 2018
Circulation/VPM: 37,005
Topic: Hawaii New & Renovated

WWW.TRAVELWEEKLY.COM JANUARY 29, 2018

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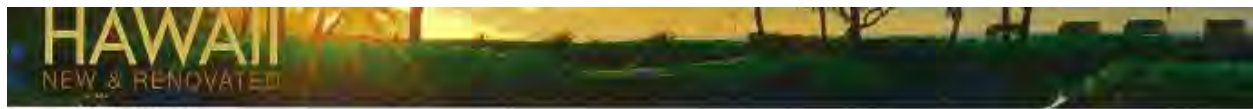
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HAWAII

NEW & RENOVATED



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Toward the end of 2017, Hawaii tourism was flying high—over the first 11 months of the year, visitor arrivals grew by 4.9 percent and visitor spending rose to \$15.15 billion, a 6.6 percent increase over the same period in 2016, according to the Hawaii Tourism Authority.

Moving into 2018, it's possible that the industry will see a slight increase in the cost of hotel stays on the islands, as a new tax goes into effect. Last October, the state legislature and governor approved a 1 percent increase in the transient accommodations tax, which applies to all rental properties in Hawaii, including hotels. The funds collected will be directed toward Honolulu's rapid transit project, a light rail system that will extend 20 miles from Kapolei (on Oahu's west side) to the Ala Moana Center, with 21 stations along the way.

Overall, Hawaii seems poised to keep its positive momentum going in the new year, with enhancements and developments taking place across the state. Following are a few of the recent hotel, activity and airline updates, as well as a look at what else is in the works for the Aloha State.

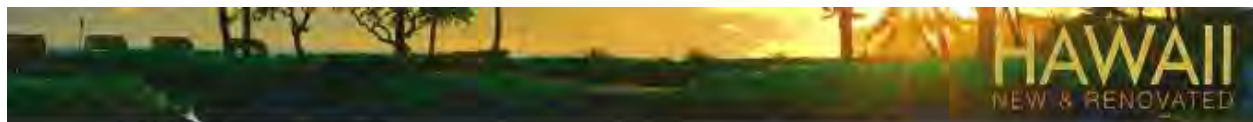
HOT NEW HOTELS

Oahu is always awash with activity, and among the recent developments are a num-

ber of new hotels. Late in 2017, Alohilani Resort Waikiki Beach emerged as a \$115 million redevelopment of the Pacific Beach Hotel. The property—which pays homage to Hawaii's cultural heritage—has 839 redesigned guestrooms and suites along with a lobby featuring a 280,000-gallon Oceanarium and Oahu-inspired design, among other new amenities.

Also new to Oahu is The Embassy Suites by Hilton Oahu Kapolei—a newly built hotel with 180 suites, an outdoor pool and two on-property dining options—and the Holiday Inn Express Waikiki, which opened last July after a multimillion-dollar renovation. The 55-story property is the largest Holiday Inn Express in the Americas, featuring 596 rooms and a location just three blocks from Waikiki Beach.

Still to come for the island is a rebranding of the former Holiday Inn Resort Waikiki Beachcomber, which will be converted to an Outrigger Resorts-branded property on February 1, when



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it will be known as the Waikiki Beachcomber by Outrigger. The property is also undergoing an extensive \$25 million renovation project, which is expected to wrap up in summer of 2018.

Over on Hawaii Island, Hapuna Beach Prince Hotel has begun the process of renovation and rebranding, as it transforms into the Westin Hapuna Beach Resort. Following a \$46 million renovation with anticipated completion this March, the resort will feature new amenities, redesigned guestrooms, four new dining options, a new adults-only pool and other updates.

REFRESHED AND RENEWED

Across the islands, existing hotels are also evolving to stay fresh and exciting for guests.

On Maui, hotel happenings include new guestrooms, suites and residences at The Ritz-Carlton, Kapalua, featuring contemporary furnishings and design elements inspired by the

island environment. In addition, guests now enjoy an elevated lobby experience, a new eatery and newly imagined Cabana Suites at the pool, complete with butler service.

At Honua Kai Resort & Spa, meanwhile, the pool area has undergone a refresh, adding deck space, additional cabanas, and improved lighting and landscaping. In February of 2018, ground will be broken for a new phase of construction at the hotel, with plans to add three more pools and 72 three-bedroom units.

The Grand Wailea, a Waldorf Astoria Resort also recently debuted the results of a \$70 million redesign, including refreshed guestrooms and suites and updates to its signature restaurant. The property's pool experience has also been upgraded, including a newly imagined Lava Tube slide—a three-story drop at speeds of up to 22 miles per hour—and the refreshed Wailea Canyon Activity Pool, which consists of nine pools on six levels, connected by a river.

ON HAWAII ISLAND, HAPUNA BEACH PRINCE HOTEL IS RENOVATING AND REBRANDING, AS IT TRANSFORMS INTO THE WESTIN HAPUNA BEACH RESORT.

In late 2017, Maui Kaanapali Villas wrapped up a year-long initiative to improve its energy consumption and sustainability, investing \$6.7 million to reduce the resort's carbon footprint. And over at the Kaanapali Beach Hotel, the focus on cultural programming and authenticity continues with a new dedicated space in the lobby for the property's cultural center. The hotel is also offering a handful of cultural