



Around the Island	Kauai Coming Events	What's Happening at Hideaway Cove	A Little Bit of Laughter	Thoughts to Ponder
Real Estate Corner	And the Winner is...	Year Round Things To Do	Past Issues	Subscribe / Unsubscribe

Volume 7, Issue 3

## Around the Island



### Don't Miss New Year's Eve Fireworks

If you will be on Kauai December 31st, don't miss this annual tradition. Fireworks can be seen at Poipu Beach Park beginning at 10pm. The event is free and open to the public. Limited parking is available. Hoone Road, which is the road that runs along the beach in front of Brennecke's, will be closed between 9pm and 11pm.

### Volunteer for the Sanctuary Ocean Count 2008

The Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary is now registering volunteers for the shore based census and monitoring of humpback whale behavior at 15 designated sites around Kauai.

The project provides a relative approximation of numbers and location distribution patterns over the years. Training is required for all new volunteers; optional for returning volunteers.

Ocean Count dates are January 26th, February 23rd and March 29th. Training dates are January 12th and 19th, February 16th and March 22nd. Please call 808-246-2860

for detailed information on training and count times and locations.

### Aloha Airlines Announces New Gift Ticket

This holiday season you can purchase a round-trip gift ticket using a new concept in travel-- The Aloha Airlines Gift Ticket. Purchase one or more gift tickets online and they will send you an e-ticket confirming your order and naming the passenger you choose.

You can forward that e-mail with the attached e-ticket. The person named on the ticket then calls Aloha Reservations directly to book

travel from January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008.

Choose from a \$500 round trip coach ticket or \$1700 first class ticket for travel between any Aloha Airlines destination on the Mainland and Hawaii. Also available are interisland tickets for \$120 good for round trip travel between any two Aloha destinations in Hawaii. Visit [alohaairlines.com](http://alohaairlines.com) for details and online purchase.

#### **Leave a Lei, Return to Kauai**

The Grand Hyatt recently placed a pohaku (stone) near Tidepool's Restaurant

between the beach and the lagoon. This is a spot where guests can leave their lei before returning home, in hopes they will one day return to Kauai. The suggestion was made by Les Nagashima, a long-time employee of Tidepool's. The tradition that returning a lei to Hawaii ensures a visitors return to the islands, was taught to him by his father.

#### **Kauai Hotel Occupancy Still on the Rise**


For the week ending November 17, occupancy rates on Kauai were up 16.3 percentage points from the same time last year, giving Kauai a 76.4 percent occupancy rate year to date.

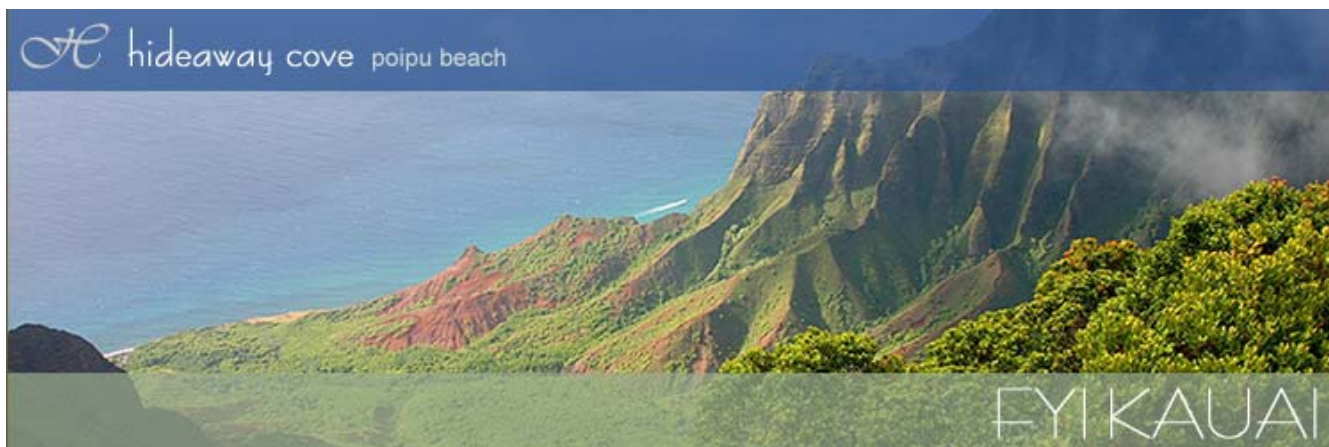
Statewide hotel occupancy was down 2.7 percentage points, while room rates on all islands went up 10% to \$196 per hotel room night. Kauai hotel room rates were up 8% to \$202 per night. This information was obtained by Hospitality Advisors and Smith Travel Research.

#### **Poipu Roundabout Construction**

In an earlier issue of FYI, we passed along the convention wisdom regarding the new bypass road and roundabout in Poipu. The statement was "Roadway work for the first phase of the Poipu Road improvements near the Koloa Fire Station will begin on April 16th and continue for about 5 months." Well, it should come as no surprise to anyone familiar with the islands, that we are now seven months into the project and are at least another month to completion. Judging from the landscaping that has been completed, it looks like the final result will be first class.

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Volume 7, Issue 3

## Kauai Coming Events



Found below are links to several different Kauai events calendars. Click on one or all of them and you'll be right up to date on absolutely everything happening on our garden island during the time you're planning to be on Kauai.



Hawaii State vacation planner  
[www.bestplaceshawaii.com/calendar/kauai](http://www.bestplaceshawaii.com/calendar/kauai)

Visitors and Convention Bureau  
[www.gohawaii.com/about\\_hawaii/plan/events\\_in\\_hawaii](http://www.gohawaii.com/about_hawaii/plan/events_in_hawaii)

Festivals  
[www.kauaifestivals.com](http://www.kauaifestivals.com)


Community events  
[kauai.alllocalevents.com](http://kauai.alllocalevents.com)

Off the beaten path events  
[www.alternative-hawaii.com/kaucal.htm](http://www.alternative-hawaii.com/kaucal.htm)

Festivals and events  
[www.kauaidiscovery.com/kauai\\_festivals+events](http://www.kauaidiscovery.com/kauai_festivals+events)

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FYI KAUAI

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Volume 7, Issue 3

## What's Happening at Hideaway Cove



As you can see, our newsletter has been completely redesigned. We hope you like the new format. This was a massive project that began by hiring a marketing company to do a top to bottom study of our business. And study us they did! No stone was left unturned in their effort to analyze our business. One of their staff came and secretly stayed with us to evaluate that portion of the business. When they completed their study a couple months later, they found a consistent comment in our guest books. Our guests repeatedly told us that our accommodations were much nicer than they expected. We had always been happy to hear that, however the company pointed out to us that we were most likely losing business because our web site did not reflect the quality of our property. They also recommended dropping the word "Villas" from our name and changing our slogan from "Your Home Away From Home" to "The Difference is in the Details."

The results are spectacular! He has really captured what I think is the essence of Hideaway, which was really lacking in our "homemade" photos from seven years ago. We have continued to upgrade and are truly upscale, however you wouldn't know it from our photos. So hopefully, with these new shots, we won't have as many people saying "Wow, it's much nicer than we expected". Now we hope they say "Wow, this is just what we expected".

We've now completed the first two phases of the project (website and newsletter) and you can see the new design for our website by going to [www.hideawaycove.com](http://www.hideawaycove.com). Our new logo is the stylized "H" that you see before the words Hideaway Cove.

There are two individuals who played essential roles in our website and newsletter projects. We couldn't have done it without them. The first is Ken Posney, the professional photographer who took the superb photos seen everywhere. He hired a professional model for some of the shots, stayed overnight to get some of the spectacular sunset and sunrise photos and exceeded our expectations every step of the way. In addition to the photos he took of Hideaway, he allowed us to use many of the outstanding photos on his website at [www.kenposney.com](http://www.kenposney.com). You really should check out his site!

Beverly Calzada from Emerge Solutions, [www.emerge-solutions.com](http://www.emerge-solutions.com), is the graphic designer responsible for the look and feel of our newsletter and website. She is the best! Not only is she creative and helpful, she finished our projects on time and on budget. What a pleasure it has been working with her.

My hat is off to these two top quality professionals!

Our next phase is the redesign of all of our printed materials including stationery, business cards, envelopes, in room books, scratch pads... the list goes on and on and includes every piece of printed material that we use.

As that work progresses, we are continuing our commitment to maintaining and improving the quality you've come to expect from us. Gale and I have been staying in the units for several days at a time to make sure none of the small details are being overlooked. We are

replacing 12 interior doors and trim with solid core, raised panel doors to enhance sound deadening between rooms. The Hot Tub in the Seabreeze is being replaced with one that is quieter, heats faster and has many more jets. We will be adding signage property wide to help you locate your accommodations, the laundry rooms, beach showers and our office.

We'll keep you posted in future newsletters of our progress.




**Send Your Positive Hideaway Cove Comments to [TripAdvisor.com](http://TripAdvisor.com)**

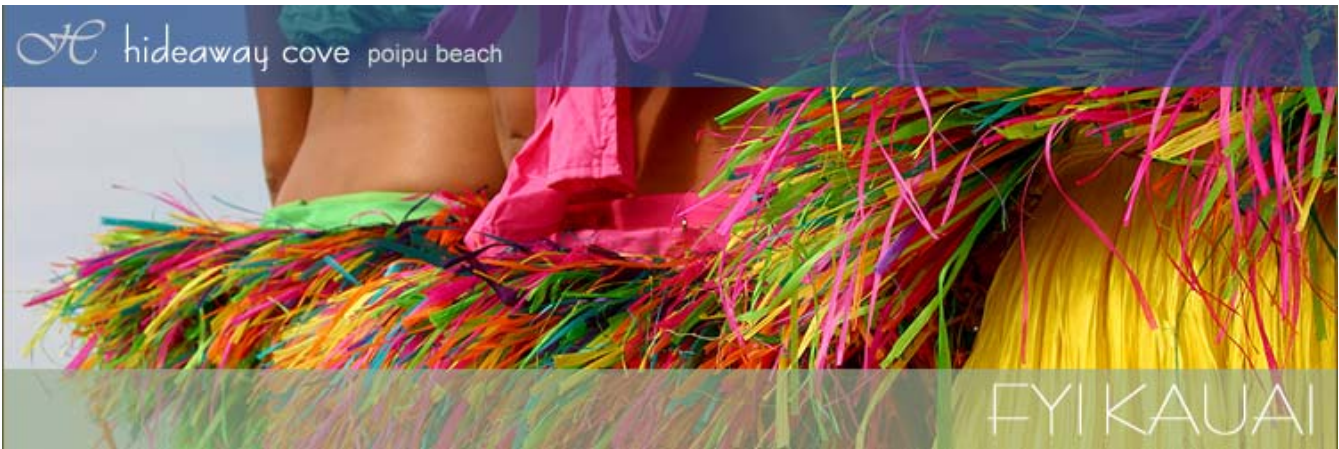
We're now consistently ranked number one or two on TripAdvisor. Thanks to everyone for sharing your experiences at the TripAdvisor website [www.TripAdvisor.com](http://www.TripAdvisor.com) We really appreciate the time you've taken to relate your positive experiences. We've been told by several different sources that travelers not familiar with Kauai are increasingly relying on this site for advice.

**Still Waiting to Sign our Online Guestbook? Now's The Perfect Time!**

Thanks to everyone for the time you spend sharing your comments in our guest book. If you've been thinking of adding your comments, why not take a moment and do it now! Just click on this link: <http://www.rentors.org/guestbook>. Your comments help our future guests get a unbiased idea of what a stay with us is really like. Many mahalos (thanks) for your help!

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<a href="#">Real Estate Corner</a>	<a href="#">And the Winner is...</a>	<a href="#">Year Round Things To Do</a>	<a href="#">Past Issues</a>	<a href="#">Subscribe / Unsubscribe</a>

Volume 7, Issue 3

## A Little Bit of Laughter



[Share these jokes with your friends and family](#)



### Concerned about too many carbs in your diet?

For those of you who watch what you eat, here's the final word on nutrition and health. It's a relief to know the truth after all those conflicting nutritional studies.

1. The Japanese eat very little fat and suffer fewer heart attacks than Americans.
2. The Mexicans eat a lot of fat and suffer fewer heart attacks than Americans.
3. The Chinese drink very little red wine and suffer fewer heart attacks than Americans.
4. The Italians drink a lot of red wine and suffer fewer heart attacks than Americans.
5. The Germans drink a lot of beer and eat lots of sausages and fats and suffer fewer heart attacks than Americans.

### CONCLUSION

Eat and drink what you like. Speaking English is apparently what kills you.

### Retirement Choices - Where To Live

You can live in Phoenix, Arizona where.....

1. You are willing to park 3 blocks away because you found shade.
2. You've experienced condensation on your butt from the hot water in the toilet bowl.
3. You can drive for 4 hours in one direction and never leave town.
4. You have over 100 recipes for Mexican food.
5. You know that "dry heat" is comparable to what hits you in the face when you open your oven door.
6. The 4 seasons are: tolerable, hot, really hot, and ARE YOU KIDDING ME??!!

You can Live in California where...

1. You make over \$250,000 and you still can't afford to buy a house.
2. The fastest part of your commute is going down your driveway.
3. You know how to eat an artichoke.
4. You drive your leased Mercedes to your neighborhood block party.
5. When someone asks you how far something is, you tell them how long it will take to get there rather than how many miles away it is.

You can Live in New York City where...

1. You say "the city" and expect everyone to know you mean Manhattan .
2. You can get into a four-hour argument about how to get from Columbus Circle to Battery Park, but can't find Wisconsin on a map.
3. You think Central Park is "nature."
4. You believe that being able to swear at people in their own language makes you multi-lingual.
5. You've worn out a car horn.
6. You think eye contact is an act of aggression.

You can Live in Maine where...

1. You only have four spices: salt, pepper, ketchup, and Tabasco .
2. Halloween costumes fit over parkas.
3. You have more than one recipe for moose.
4. Sexy lingerie is anything flannel with less than eight buttons.
5. The four seasons are: winter, still winter, almost winter, and construction.

You can Live in Texas where...

1. You can rent a movie and buy bait in the same store.
2. "y'all" is singular and "all y'all" is plural.
3. "He needed killin' " is a valid defense.
4. Everyone has 2 first names: Billy Bob, Jimmy Bob, Mary Sue, Betty Jean, etc.

You can live in Colorado where...

1. You carry your \$3,000 mountain bike atop your \$500 car.
2. You tell your husband to pick up Granola on his way home and he stops at the day care center.
3. A pass does not involve a football or dating.
- 4 The top of your head is bald, but you still have a pony tail.

You can live in North Dakota where...

1. You've never met any celebrities, but the mayor knows your name.
2. Your idea of a traffic jam is ten cars waiting to pass a tractor.
3. You have had to switch from "heat" to "A/C" on the same day.
4. You end sentences with a preposition: "Where's my coat at?"
5. When asked how your trip was to any exotic place, you say, "It was different!"

Or You can live in Florida where..

1. You eat dinner at 3:15 in the afternoon.
2. All purchases include a coupon of some kind -- even houses and cars.
- 3 Everyone can recommend an excellent dermatologist.
4. Road construction never ends anywhere in the state.
5. Cars in front of you are often driven by headless people.

### **Knots And Ropes**

One day, a young cowboy and a cowgirl decided to get married. He was a man of the world and she was an innocent bride with no experience.

On the first night of their honeymoon the couple washed up and started to get ready for bed. When they got into bed, they start exploring each other's bodies. Things are going along just fine until the bride discovers her husband's privates.

"Oh my", she says, "What is this?"

"Well, darlin", the cowboy says, "That's ma rope".

She slides her hands further down and gasps. "Oh my goodness, what's them?" she asks.

"Honey, them's my knots", he answers.

The bride seems satisfied with his answers and finally the couple begins to make love. After several minutes, the bride says,

"Stop honey. Wait a minute".

Her husband, panting a little, asks, "What's the matter honey, am I hurtin you?"

"No", the bride replies. "Just undo them damn knots. I need more rope!"

### **Getting Married**

A six-year-old boy told his father he wanted to marry the little girl across the street.

The father, being modern and well-schooled in handling children, hid his smile behind his hand.

"That's a serious step," he said. "Have you thought it out completely?"

"Yes," his young son answered. "We can spend one week in my room and the next in hers. It's right across the street, so I can run home if I get scared of the dark."

"How about transportation?" the father asked.

"I have my wagon, and we both have our tricycles," the little boy answered.

The boy had an answer to every question the father raised.

Finally, in exasperation, his dad asked, "What about babies? When you're married, you're liable to have babies, you know."

"We've thought about that, too," the little boy replied.

"We're not going to have babies. Every time she lays an egg, I'm going to step on it!"

### **A pirate at the local bar**

A sailor meets a pirate in a bar, and talk turns to their adventures on the sea. The sailor notes that the pirate has a peg-leg, a hook, and an eye patch.

He asks, "So, how did you end up with the peg-leg?"

The pirate replies, "We were in a storm at sea, and I was swept overboard into a school of sharks. Just as my men were pulling me out, a shark bit my leg off."

"Wow!" said the seaman. "What about your hook?"

"Well", replied the pirate, "We were boarding an enemy ship and were battling the other sailors with swords. One of the enemy cut my hand off."

"Incredible!" remarked the seaman. "How did you get the eye patch? "

"A seagull dropping fell into my eye," replied the pirate.

"You lost your eye to a seagull dropping?," the sailor asked incredulously.

"Well," said the pirate, "It was my first day with my hook"

### **SHORTEST BOOKS**

AMERICA 'S MOST POPULAR LAWYERS

HOW TO HUNT

by Dick Cheney

MY SUPER BOWL HIGHLIGHTS

by Dan Marino

THINGS I LOVE ABOUT BILL

By Hillary Clinton

MY LITTLE BOOK OF PERSONAL HYGIENE

by Osama Bin Laden

THINGS I CANNOT AFFORD

by Bill Gates

AMELIA EARHART'S GUIDE TO THE PACIFIC

THINGS I WOULD NOT DO FOR MONEY

by Dennis Rodman

MY WILD YEARS

by Al Gore


DETROIT: A Travel Guide

A COLLECTION OF MOTIVATIONAL SPEECHES

by Dr. J. Kevorkian  
GUIDE TO DATING ETIQUETTE  
by Mike Tyson  
SPOTTED OWL RECIPES  
by the EPA  
THE AMISH PHONE DIRECTORY

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Real Estate Corner	And the Winner is...	Year Round Things To Do	Past Issues	Subscribe / Unsubscribe

Volume 7, Issue 3

## Real Estate Corner



It is hard to pick up the paper these days without reading about falling real estate prices across the country. In some areas, those decreases in value have created a ripple effect in the mortgage market. Borrowers, who financed with little or no down payment and low initial interest rates, are now facing much higher payments as those adjustable rate loans increase to market rates. And unfortunately, they do not have enough equity to sell the property and pay off their loan, forcing lenders to foreclose in ever larger numbers.

Our local market here on Kauai has not been immune to supply and demand. There are not as many buyers as sellers and this has lengthened time on the market. Interestingly, we have not seen a wholesale drop in values, as has been the case in many markets that enjoyed sharp price run ups over the past two or three years. Statistics comparing all of 2006 with the first eleven months of 2007 reveal some interesting data.

The total number of sales has declined from 1429 to 827, a drop of 43%. That steep drop was lead by condo sales, which were off 56%, due primarily to a drop in the Lihue District; vacant land sales were down 48% and residential home sales were down a modest 12%.

Total sales volume year to date is down 25%. Sales volume has not declined at the same rate as total sales due to the fact that multi-million dollar property sales have not felt the same pinch as the rest of the market.

The most interesting statistic is the median sales price. Year to date that figure stands just shy of a 17% increase. The breakdown by category is residential down 4%; condos up 44%; vacant land up 63%; commercial down 3% and businesses down 16%.

The two categories that had the largest decline in number of sales, condos and vacant land, were the same categories that had the largest increase in median sales price. The logical explanation is that more of the higher priced condos and vacant sold this year compared to last.

The residential category is more reflective of market conditions here on Kauai. The median sales price is down 4% on a 12% drop in the number of sales. And although the median drop in value is 4%, the bottom and middle of the market is seeing more downward pressure on prices than the upper portion of the market.



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<a href="#">Real Estate Corner</a>	<a href="#">And the Winner is...</a>	<a href="#">Year Round Things To Do</a>	<a href="#">Past Issues</a>	<a href="#">Subscribe / Unsubscribe</a>

Volume 7, Issue 3

## Thoughts to Ponder



When you come to a fork in the road, take it.

**Yogi Berra**

The three great essentials to achieve anything worthwhile are, first, hard work; second, stick-to-itiveness; third, common sense.

**Thomas Edison**

You can live to be a hundred if you give up all the things that make you want to live to be a hundred.

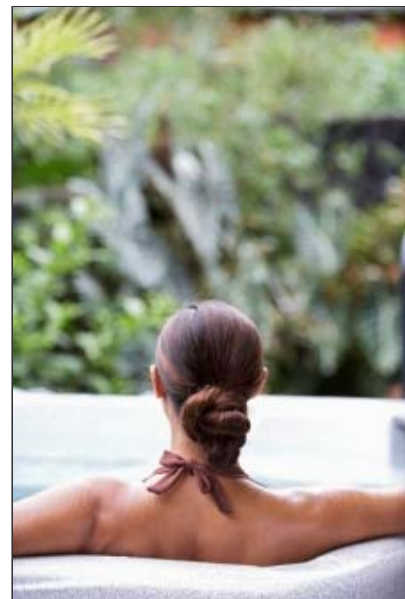
**Woody Allen**

You can either complain that rose bushes have thorns, or rejoice that thorn bushes have roses.

**Author Unknown**

The greater part of our happiness or misery depends on our dispositions and not our circumstances.

**Martha Washington**



When you're going through hell, don't stop to take pictures.

**J.T. O'Hara**

Democracy is a device that ensures we shall be governed no better than we deserve.

**George Bernard Shaw**

In Hollywood a marriage is a success if it outlasts milk.

**Rita Rudner**

No degree of dullness can safeguard a work against




the determination of critics to find it fascinating.

**Harold Rosenberg**

When angry, count to four. When very angry, swear.

**Mark Twain**

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<a href="#">Real Estate Corner</a>	<a href="#">And the Winner is...</a>	<a href="#">Year Round Things To Do</a>	<a href="#">Past Issues</a>	<a href="#">Subscribe / Unsubscribe</a>


Volume 7, Issue 3

## And the Winner is...



Congratulations to...  
 Doub and Traci Pearce from Canyon Country,  
 California for winning a \$300 credit toward a future  
 stay at Hideaway Cove. The credit expires a year  
 from now, so give us a call and make a reservation!  
 The winner of our new drawing will be announced  
 in our next issue. Good luck to everyone!

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Real Estate Corner	And the Winner is...	Year Round Things To Do	Past Issues	Subscribe / Unsubscribe

Volume 7, Issue 3

## Year Round Things To Do



### Hanapepe Art Night

Every Friday night from 5 - 9 p.m. is Hanapepe Art Night and is unique. Participating galleries take turns being the weekly host gallery, offering original performances or demonstrations which become the theme for that art night. All the galleries are lit up and decked out, giving the town a special atmosphere. Enjoy a stroll down the streets of quaint, historic Hanapepe.

### Enjoy free hula shows at the following locations:

**Seaview Terrace at Hyatt Regency Resort & Spa, Poipu, 6:00 - 8:00 PM.** Be sure and call (808) 742-1234 to double check the type of performance. Some nights there is guitar music, others keiki hula with young children performing. If you've never seen 3-9 years olds doing the hula, you should go. It's really a joy to watch.

**Kukui's Restaurant at Kauai Marriott Resort & Beach Club, Lihue (on Kalapaki Bay),** Wednesday & Saturday shows, 6:30 PM and 8:00 PM Call (808) 245-5050

**Coconut Marketplace, Kapaa, 5:00 PM daily (programs vary)** Call (808) 822-3641

**Happy Talk Lounge at Hanalei Bay Resort, Princeville, Tuesdays 6:30 - 9:30 PM -** call (808) 826-6522. Also enjoy live jazz here on Sunday afternoons.

**The free Tiare Tahiti Dance Show** takes place Monday & Thursday evenings at 5:00 PM, in the courtyard of Poipu Shopping Village. Call (808) 742-2831.



### Hawaiian crafts

Watch Hawaiian crafts being created at the Hui Aloha (friendly get-together) in the Sheraton Garden Court Lobby in Poipu from 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM. This daily display features everything from coconut hats to Niihau shell leis, lauhala baskets and more. Call (808) 742-1661 for further information.

### Crater Hill Hikes



Monday through Thursday go on Crater Hill Hikes. From the Kilauea Point National Wildlife Refuge Visitor's Center, you can join this 2 to 2-1/2 hour hike. Guides discuss the geology of the island and Crater Hill, seabirds and migratory birds, native plants, and marine wildlife that visit Kilauea Point. Spectacular setting including historic Kilauea Point Lighthouse, visitor's center, and grounds open all day. Free with paid entry fee of \$3 to the Wildlife Refuge. Call (808) 828-0168 for reservations.

#### **Gay & Robinson Tour**

Monday through Friday take a Gay & Robinson Tour. See Makaweli's sugar irrigation systems Mon - Fri, 8 - 4 p.m. Exhibits show the 17.5 mile Koula Ditch, 13 mile Olokele Ditch, and history of Gay & Robinson, Olokele and Hawaiian Sugar Co. plantations. Free. Call (808) 335-2824.

#### **Kauai Children's Discovery Museum**

Tuesdays through Saturdays take the kids to the Kauai Children's Discovery Museum. "Deep Sea Giants" is an amazing interactive exhibit of robotic ocean creatures. Permanent exhibits include multi-cultural keiki village, coral reef at night, virtual reality stations, magic tree house library and more. Admission is \$4.50/\$3.50. Located at Kauai Village Shopping Center in Kapaa. Daily summer camp is offered weekdays. For more information call (808) 823-8222.

#### **Kapaa History Tour**

Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays go for a Kapaa History Tour. Take walking tours through Kapaa town. Meet at Pono Kai Resort lobby at 10 am. Call (808) 245-3373 for reservations.

#### **Historic Waimea Walking Tour**

Mondays are reserved for the Historic Waimea Walking Tour. This 90 minute tour offers a glimpse of historic Waimea town Mondays at 9:30 a.m. Call (808)338-1332.

#### **Sugar Mill Tour**

Mondays through Fridays enjoy a Sugar Mill Tour. This two-hour field and factory tour is given twice daily at 9 a.m. and at 1 p.m. There is an admission charge for the tour, but admission to the Visitor Center is free and is open 8 - 4. Kaumakani Ave. Call (808)335-2824 for reservations.

#### **Garden Tours**

Mondays through Fridays take advantage of any one of a number of Garden Tours. North shore Limahuli Garden: Restored ancient taro fields, rare species, and spectacular views. (808) 826-1053. Kalaheo Allerton Garden: Exquisite statuary and reflecting pools plus amazing flora. (808) 742-2623. Na Aina Kai: Contemporary sculptures and wonderful grounds. (808) 828-1525.



#### **Walking Tour of Old Waimea Sugar Plantation and Cottages**

Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays stroll back in time with a Walking Tour of Old Waimea Sugar Plantation and Cottages. The tour meets at 9:00 a.m. and lasts approximately 90 minutes. Volunteers lead you through Waimea Plantation Cottages, a vacation resort of restored plantation houses, and the neighboring Waimea Sugar Company "camp" of houses dating to the turn of the century. Tours are limited to 12 people. For reservations please call (808) 335-2824.

#### **Kauai Museum Tour**

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays take a Kauai Museum Tour. Free tours at 10 am with admission. Docents provide interpretation of Kauai and Niihau culture as they lead tours through the Museum's galleries. Call (808) 245-6931 for more information.

#### **Hawaiian Slack Key Music Concerts**




Fridays and Sundays perk up your ears for Hawaiian Slack Key Music Concerts. Enjoy a delightful afternoon of live slack key guitar and ukulele with stories of the history of the music, Kauai, endangered species, and more. Free gift drawing! Tickets \$10 (\$8 keiki/kupuna). [Hanalei Community Center](#) - Fridays at 4 p.m., Sundays at 3 p.m. For more information call (808) 826-1469.

#### **Grove Farm Museum**

Grove Farm Museum offers a walking tour of the grounds and building of a sugar plantation home with little bits of Hawaiiiana that are hard to find. Offered daily. Reservations are required and can be made up to three months in advance. (808) 245-3202. Donation of \$5 per adult and \$2 for children 12 and under.

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 hideaway cove poipu beach "The difference is in the details."  
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