

Travel

Hawaii on a budget

by Phaenon Landen

SYNDICATED TRAVEL NEWS - "Well, it may not be the Ritz, but it isn't exactly the pits, either," chirped a little old lady from Massachusetts. "I've been coming here for five years," she continued, "and I wouldn't stay anywhere else."

This pert return visitor to Hawaii was telling newfound friends about a small inexpensive hotel off the beaten path in Waikiki.

Large tour packages have pared the cost of a vacation in Hawaii, making it possible for millions to see the Islands. But some people prefer a less structured vacation and a slower pace, yet hesitate because they've heard Hawaii is expensive.

The average visitor spends about \$50 per day; many spend much more. Yet it is possible to spend less and see and do more with a little know-how.

You can save quite a lot to start with, by taking the middle of the week economy flights. If you plan ahead and include the fare in your roundtrip ticket, you can see more than one island on a discounted common fare stop. Or you can save from 20% to 50% by purchasing a travel club membership card for \$5.00 from one of the inter-island airlines after you arrive, but you must travel at off-peak hours.

Although Hawaii has its share of lavish hotels and posh restaurants, it is also a goldmine of bargains in lodging, food, transportation, sightseeing, entertainment and recreational facilities.

There are many small hotels, apartments and condominiums from one to five blocks from the beaches in Waikiki. They run the gamut from charming to conventional and can be rated fair to excellent. Many have kitchens. Most are without frills and special services; some do not have telephones or maid service. Not as elegant as major hotels, they are comfortable, private and affordable and the money saved can more than pay for a rental car. As Hawaii is a popular year-round vacation spot, it is wise to make reservations well in advance.

Food in Hawaii is delicious and exotic, reflecting the rich, cultural diversity of the island people. It doesn't have to be expensive. A \$3.00 meal in a small family restaurant can sometimes rival highly advertised *luncheon cuisine* costing four to five times as much. Fresh island fruits are served everywhere. Papaya and pineapple at lunch counters costs less but tastes the same as that served in hotel dining rooms.

There are hundreds of restaurants with a wide range of prices, fast food chains, open air stands and even food trucks along the

beaches that serve hot plate lunches. Budget-minded travelers know that eating the main meal at mid-day often provides the same food served for the evening meal at a much higher price in many good restaurants.

If you can't afford an authentic luau (the traditional Hawaiian feast with entertainment), watch the papers for announcements of church luaus. They serve Hawaiian home-cooked food with home-grown entertainment at a fraction of the cost.

Hawaii's magnificent beaches are all public, even those that front expensive hotels. Besides sunning and swimming, try snorkeling or rent a surfboard for a small fee. Free lessons on technique are often held on the beach. Fishing the ocean is permitted from most beaches anytime - a license is not required.

There are about 50 free public tennis courts scattered around Oahu. Some 38 golf courses are open to the public throughout the islands and weekday green fees can be a bargain.

Hawaii's year-round temperate climate makes just about any mode of travel pleasant, even walking and hiking. There are excellent tours in air conditioned buses or limousines with narration by well informed local drivers, but you can also rent a car and cover the same places and many more at your own pace, stopping at beach parks for a swim and a picnic. With a little reading from several free tourist newspapers, brochures and maps, you will soon be well informed. Rental car operations are very competitive, so shop for the best rate.

If you are a free-wheeler at heart, there are also bicycles and mopeds for rent.

The biggest transportation bargain of all, however, is Honolulu's city bus system. The buses run frequently and many are air conditioned. For 25c you

can take a bus just about any place, anytime. You can swing on and off, visiting one sightseeing spot after the other. It is even possible to circle the whole island of Oahu for 25c.

If you are lucky you may catch one of Hawaii's many colorful festivals. There are also interesting and historic sites to visit, many of which are free and most can be reached by The Bus.

You may take the Navy's courtesy boat out into Pearl Harbor and visit the Arizona Memorial, tour the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Punchbowl Crater; view the city and Honolulu Harbor from the top of Aloha Tower; walk around the Iolani Palace grounds and, on Fridays, listen to the Royal Hawaiian Band from the Palace bandstand. You can tour the unique Hawaii State Capitol; visit a pineapple cannery; photograph an authentic Polynesian extravaganza at the Kodak Hula Show; watch the changing of the guard at King's Alley; visit an elaborate Chinese Temple; enjoy one of the world's finest collections of Oriental art at the Honolulu Academy of Arts; go through Foster Botanic Gardens; and much, much more - all without spending a penny. Other major attractions have reasonable fees.



Mike Cubitt of Sunflight enjoys the wine while Bev Squire of Fiesta looks on the festivities

About 30 guests attended Cochrane Travel's first anniversary party held Tuesday night at the Cochrane Travel Agency in Moore Park Plaza.

The theme of the party was "Around the World in 80 Days". Featured was a sound-slide presentation of the Queen Elizabeth II's Round-the-World cruise scheduled for January 1979. The slides beautifully depict scenes from the many ports of call included in the cruise.

The cruise is scheduled to leave New York for Barbados on January 18, 1979. After a stop over in Barbados, the Queen Elizabeth II sails to Venezuela, Brazil, Rio, Buenos Aires, Montevideo across the Atlantic to Africa. Capetown and Durban are visited here before sailing on to Bombay, India and Ceylon. From Ceylon, the Queen sets sail for Singapore and Hong Kong,

then up the coast to China. A visit to Peking is scheduled for the anniversary party. One and two tours are offered. One is a visit to the Ancient Great Wall of China and the other is a visit to the great palaces and temples of old Peking.

From here the ship sails to Japan, where Tokyo is visited before sailing across the Pacific to Hawaii and then on to Los Angeles. The Queen takes in Alcatraz, Mexico before heading to the Panama Canal and St. Thomas Island in the Caribbean.

By early April, the Queen Elizabeth II is scheduled to arrive in New York, thus ending the magnificent cruise.

The Queen Elizabeth II sport an endless list of features and activities, such as the pool, the eight liquor lounges, the four restaurants and the mini golf course, shop in the duty-free shops and enjoy all the excellent food, drink and entertainment. A large selection of luxurious staterooms is available to all travellers on this floating resort hotel.

Cochrane Travel produced the presentation on its own earlier this year and it was enjoyed by all.

Among the guests was Mike Cubitt of Sunflight Holidays. He congratulated Mr. Cochrane on his first year of business and wished him further success in the future. As an indication of the success of the business, Cochrane Travel has won top awards for both Sunflight holidays and Cunard Cruises sales.

Mr. Cubitt also assured Mr. Cochrane that even with the devaluation of the Canadian dollar, the costs of Sunflight holidays were remaining the same as the prices listed in the brochures.

Richard Eve and Derrick Judd of the Bermuda Tourist Board were also in attendance. Both enjoyed the slide-sound presentation, but said that Bermuda could offer an excellent, economical holiday to those unable to afford the Queen Elizabeth II cruise.



Richard Eve and Derrick Judd of the Bermuda Tourist Board chat with Jean Cochrane after the presentation



Mike Cubitt and Ed Cochrane both enjoyed the presentation and the festivity of the anniversary party

COCHRANE TRAVEL ANNIVERSARY PARTY

res on the Queen Elizabeth cruise and all the other holidays handled by Cochrane Travel, such as the exclusive British coach package for next year. For an anniversary special, sales are being offered on South Sea plantations, Miami Beach and Sanibel Island in January.



The future of biking

In 1973, there were more bicycles sold than new automobiles. This is very impressive when you consider the long-term love affair Americans have carried on with cars. Perhaps some of this affection is now being diverted to a new love - the bicycle.

It is doubtful that the bike will ever replace the family car as a means of transportation, but the bike is certainly assuming a new importance as a form of recreation. Important attributes of a bicycle are weight and strength. The frame, especially, should be strong and rigid to sustain the road shock and weight of the rider.

Mossberg has recently introduced competition racing bicycles which use Magnamite graphite material for the frame. The frame weighs a mere 3.10 pounds, yet is incredibly strong and stiff. The material is expensive, however, so its use is confined to custom professional racing bikes at present.

The development of Mossberg's Race-Lite Magnamite graphite bicycle is the result of their recognition of the bicycle as a "recreational vehicle" rather than a child's toy. Their efforts in research and development are aimed at making the bike safer, stronger and, most of all, fun to ride.

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Thu Nov 16	Nov 23	Dec 1	Dec 8	Dec 15	Dec 29	Jan 19	DC-10	Tue Oct 31	\$299
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Thu Jan 12	Jan 19	Jan 26	Feb 9	Feb 23	Mar 9	Mar 23	DC-10	Tue Dec 26	\$299
Thu Jan 19	Jan 26	Feb 9	Feb 23	Mar 9	Mar 23	Apr 6	DC-10	Tue Jan 2	\$299
Thu Jan 26	Feb 9	Feb 23	Mar 9	Mar 23	Apr 6	Apr 20	DC-10	Tue Jan 9	\$299
Thu Feb 2	Feb 9	Feb 23	Mar 9	Mar 23	Apr 6	Apr 20	DC-10	Tue Jan 16	\$299
Thu Feb 9	Feb 23	Mar 9	Mar 23	Apr 6	Apr 20	Apr 27	DC-10	Tue Jan 23	\$299
Thu Feb 16	Mar 2	Mar 16	Mar 30	Apr 13	Apr 27	-	DC-10	Tue Jan 30	\$299
Thu Feb 23	Mar 9	Mar 23	Apr 6	Apr 20	-	-	DC-10	Tue Feb 6	\$299
Thu Mar 2	Mar 16	Mar 30	Apr 13	Apr 27	-	-	DC-10	Tue Feb 13	\$299
Thu Mar 9	Mar 23	Apr 6	Apr 20	-	-	-	DC-10	Tue Feb 20	\$299
Thu Mar 16	Mar 30	Apr 13	Apr 27	-	-	-	DC-10	Tue Feb 27	\$299
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