

## **HAWAII.COM SHORT ITEMS: WHEN YOU HAVE A SMALL SPACE TO FILL**

**HONOLULU (March 16, 2010)** - Here are some short news items about Hawaii.com that you might find useful for your publication.

### **143 Words - New visitor center to open at Pearl Harbor**

Today more than 1.5 million people a year—over 4,500 a day—pay tribute to the USS Arizona crew when they visit the USS Arizona Memorial on Oahu, Hawaii. The state's top tourist attraction, the center is located on the Pearl Harbor Navy Base, about 45 minutes west of Waikiki. The Memorial, which is a unit of the National Park Service, was dedicated on Memorial Day 1962.

A new visitor center and museum is slated to be completed by Dec. 7, 2010, the 69th anniversary of the Japanese attack. The Pacific Aviation Museum is a significant addition to the enormously popular complex of historic military attractions at Pearl Harbor. The museum is located on Ford Island, a National Historic Landmark at the center of the Pearl Harbor Historic Site complex. For more information, visit [Hawaii.com](http://Hawaii.com).

### **117 Words - Big Island offers many helicopter options**

If you're interested in a helicopter adventure, the Big Island has some true wonders to share from above. Along with views of Volcanoes National Park, you can explore the magnificent rainforests and waterfalls of the Hamakua Coast. Fly over gorgeous terrain and see the exquisite Waipio Valley. Another tour may take you to the Kohala Coast where more waterfalls, towering sea cliffs and ancient Hawaiian settlements blend into deep valleys and acres of rainforest.

Some companies have designed tours that touch down in intriguing spots and combine their helicopter tour with other land activities. Tours may depart from Kailua-Kona, Hilo or Waikoloa on the Kohala Coast. For more information, visit [Hawaii.com](http://Hawaii.com).

### **144 Words - Give kiteboarding a try**

From the technological advances of windsurfing, paragliding and wakeboarding has come a hot, new water sport that some people call kitesurfing and others call kiteboarding. No matter what you call it, this is an extreme sport that takes wind, guts, the right equipment and a lot of practice.

Here's how it works: The kitesurfer, standing on a kiteboard, which is a small surfboard with straps, is pulled across the water by a big kite. Sounds easy enough, but don't be fooled. It could take a season of kitesurfing before a pilot becomes a competent. Kitesurfer. Enthusiasts say the sport, though challenging and sometimes dangerous, is more fun than and not as dependent on high wave and wind action as windsurfing.

Lessons and rental gear for the novice pilot are available on several of the Hawaiian island. For more details, go to [Hawaii.com](http://Hawaii.com).

### **155 words - When on the Big Island of Hawaii, consider a coffee tour**

Akin to Northern California's popular wine tasting tours, here the brew of the day is Kona coffee. Grown on the mountain slopes above Kailua-Kona on the Big Island of Hawaii, this is the only place in the world where certified Kona coffee is produced. Take 600 specialty coffee farms, a spattering of mills, roasters, retail outlets and museums, then cluster them in 20 miles of scenic country roads, and you've got the perfect excuse for a self-guided coffee tasting tour.

Most of the coffee grown in the coffee belt is cultivated on small tracts leased from Kamehameha Schools Bishop Estate, a large landowner dedicated to Hawaiian interests. The tracts average seven acres each and more than 1,200 acres are in cultivation. Make a day of exploring the Kona coffee highlights and make sure you take some Kona home with you. To learn more, visit [Hawaii.com](http://Hawaii.com).

### **172 words - On Kauai, ride the Kilohana Plantation Train**

You hear a whistle, then the clattering of the rails, and your train pulls into view lead by 'Ike' the 1939 Whitcomb diesel engine. Ike pulls elegant mahogany coaches modeled after the personal car of King Kamehameha. Your visit begins with the familiar call "All aboard" for a relaxing and informative tour of the working farm that is the Kilohana Plantation on the Hawaiian island of Kauai.

Along the way your conductor points out the more than 50 varieties of fruits and vegetables growing beside the tracks. You can sample many of these delightful treats at Gaylord's when you return to the main station. The train winds through sugar can fields backed by beautiful and haunting mountains. It then visits a paddock housing wild pigs, goats, sheep, horses and other farm animals. After a short stroll, you re-enter your elegant coach for your return trip to the Kilohana plantation mansion. The trip takes approximately 45 minutes. To learn more about this fun excursion, visit [Hawaii.com](http://Hawaii.com).

### **161 words - When on Maui, consider a visit to Paia**

Many visitors to Hawaii miss the historic town of Paia on Maui's north coast. This hospitable village was once a booming plantation town during the heyday of Maui's sugar cane industry. Today, Paia is a picturesque town of colorful residents thanks to an influx of refugees from the hippie movement in the continental United States in the 70s.

A decade later, the town became the focal point of an ongoing windsurfing boom, drawing board sailors from around the planet to the perfect conditions of Ho'okipa Beach, located just east of town. Take a walk down Pa'ia town's two main blocks today and you'll find a vast array of antique and souvenir shops, fine art galleries, casual clothing stores and low-key eateries (with lots of vegetarian fare), all housed in turn-of-the-century plantation storefronts painted with a

color palate that would make the brightest reef fish go green with envy. To learn more, visit [Hawaii.com](http://Hawaii.com).

### **131 words - Things you didn't know about the island of Molokai in Hawaii**

Many people have only heard of Molokai in terms of its former leper colony. But this small Hawaiian island is so much more: It has Kihiva Falls, at 1,750 feet the highest sea cliff in the world; it is regarded as the birthplace of the hula dance and there is a festival each May to commemorate this; it has Hawaii's longest white sand beach and the only barrier reef north of Australia.

Located nearly at the center of the chain of eight main Hawaiian Islands, Molokai is about two million years old. It also has black sand beaches, lowland desert, rain forests, bogs, fern forests, grassland and the remains of many ancient temples. To learn more about Molokai, visit [Hawaii.com](http://Hawaii.com).

### **139 words - Fun facts about Oahu**

Oahu's political history is as varied as its geological past. It was on this island's southern shore, near present-day Waikiki, that Kamehameha the Great began a decisive battle in his campaign to unite the Hawaiian Islands for the first time, defeating the forces of Kalanikupule — then the high chief of Maui and Oahu — in the spring of 1795. It was in Honolulu, also, that a coalition of sugar planters and missionary descendants would overthrow the Hawaiian Monarchy in 1893.

After Statehood was declared in 1959, Honolulu became the state capitol. The state's largest city, **Honolulu** ("protected bay" in Hawaiian), is also the largest city in Hawaii, the county seat, the state capital, and the center of business and industry in the Islands. To plan your visit to Oahu and the other Hawaiian islands, visit [Hawaii.com](http://Hawaii.com).

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[Hawaii.com](http://Hawaii.com) is the Internet's all-inclusive website for travel to, from and around the islands of Hawaii. It offers visitors unmatched ease in booking the perfect dream vacation: from airline tickets to lodging, car rentals to tee times, dining to snorkeling, leis to aloha shirts, anything to everything. If it's in Hawaii, it's on [Hawaii.com](http://Hawaii.com)!

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**Note:** [Hawaii.com](http://Hawaii.com) has retained Allison & Taylor as its public relations representatives. The company's principal is Heidi Allison Shane, a 25-year veteran of the public relations and travel industries. Allison & Taylor will be sending relevant press releases on the benefits of using

Hawaii.com on a periodic basis to the travel media. Please consult the new Press Room on Hawaii.com for updates.

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