



# NAUPAKA NEWS

RELAX, SHOP & PLAY AT WAIKOLOA BEACH RESORT

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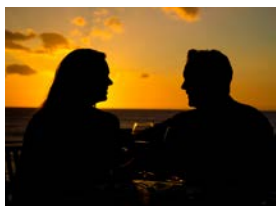
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Scan code to sign up to receive Waikoloa Beach Resort updates.



Royal *lū'au* at the king's boathouse, circa 1883.

## Hawai'i's *Lū'au* Tradition Lives On

THE *LŪ'AU* TRADITION IN HAWAII began more than 200 years ago. When first introduced by King Kamehameha II in 1819, it represented a complete break from the ancient Hawaiian custom where men and women ate meals separately, and commoners and women of all ranks were forbidden to eat certain delicacies.

To symbolize this break, King Kamehameha II brought men, women and *ali'i* (royalty) together for a regal feast. The practice evolved and became known as a '*lū'au*,' named for a traditional local dish made of taro leaves and chicken baked in coconut milk.

One of the most legendary *lū'au* was King Kamehameha III's 1847 event, during which

more than 4,000 taro plants, 271 pigs, 482 gourds of poi, 2,245 coconuts and 5,000 fish were consumed by attendees in an opulent celebratory feast.

During the mid-20th century tourism boom in Hawai'i, *lū'au* became popular with visitors. Today, most often hosted at hotels, *lū'au* can be highly polished productions complete with Polynesian music, chanting and dancing, and bountiful buffets of local dishes. One example of the traditional *lū'au* that resort guests can experience is found at Waikoloa Beach Marriott Resort & Spa.





Above: The Sunset Lū`au at Waikoloa Beach Marriott Resort & Spa includes a Samoan fire knife dance.

Below: Pua`a kalua pork is removed from the imu at Hilton Waikoloa Village, where it has been slowly roasting over red-hot lava rocks through the day.

“Our *Sunset Lū`au* is rooted in tradition,” says the hotel’s Executive Chef Jayson Kanekoa. “We pride ourselves on providing an authentic lū`au experience that starts with food. The *kalua pork* is prepared in an *imu* (underground oven) that goes in the ground in the morning, slow-roasts all day over *kiawe* (mesquite), then comes out just before sunset. In addition, traditional-style *poke* and *poi*, as well as other local comfort foods, headline our menu with a few familiar dishes for guests to savor.”

Following dinner, the *Sunset Lū`au* presents a Polynesian revue, during which guests enjoy songs and dances from Hawai`i and the Pacific, including the thrilling *siva afi* — the Samoan fire knife dance.

Born and raised near Wāipi`o Valley on the northeastern coast of Hawai`i Island, Kanekoa says his love for cooking was instilled by his late grandfather, a legendary taro farmer, who passed down many family recipes and made his own *poi*. “It’s great to be able to share the foods I grew up eating with visitors from around the world,” he says.

Husband-and-wife team Papali`itele Jack “Tihati” and Cha Thompson have been producing grand *lū`au* events throughout the state of Hawai`i and around the world for more than 50 years. Their company, Tihati Productions, began with a modest cast of six in 1969 and flourished into several productions shows, international tours, television appearances and spectacular performances.

Now directed by their children, Afatia Thompson and Misty Tufono, the dance company shares Polynesian culture through the art of song and dance, including the Polynesian *Legends of*

*Hawai`i Lū`au* at Hilton Waikoloa Village, complete with a torch run, a blessing, dinner, musical and hula performances.

“We take tremendous pride in our Hawaiian culture and the proud history of Hawai`i Island,” Afatia explains. “Many of us grew up at home, at parties or at any type of gatherings sharing songs and dances. The stories and legends specific to Hawai`i Island and its relationship to the broader Pacific distinguishes *Legends of Hawai`i Lū`au*.”

But not all *lū`au* are for visitors. In backyards, garages, nearby beaches or parks, smaller, less formal *lū`au* are held by local families to celebrate special

occasions such as school graduations, weddings, birthdays and the much-loved first birthday, “baby *lū`au*.” These celebrations often include music performed by friends or family members, and a *hula* dance by a talented cousin or auntie.

Like at the hotels, local *lū`au* typically include *laulau* — food wrapped and steamed in young taro leaves — and *poi*. Fresh poke, roasted pork and *lomi lomi* salmon are also popular, in addition to dishes that reflect the multicultural nature of Hawai`i such as Chinese noodles, Korean barbecue beef and *malasadas*, the renowned Portuguese doughnuts.

But whether big and public or a smaller family gathering, *lū`au* continue to be unifying experiences, as King Kamehameha II intended. They are a place where friends and family come together to celebrate Polynesian culture and the gift of life. ●



## NEWS & NOTES



### 2024 Lavaman Triathlon

THE LAVAMAN TRIATHLON WILL BE HELD ON APRIL 7 at Waikoloa Beach Resort, beginning with a 1500-meter swim at Anaeho`omalua Bay. On this 25th anniversary, a duathlon option will also be offered. In lieu of the swim, Duathletes will run an out-and-back 3.1k on Waikoloa Beach Drive starting and finishing at transition. The triathlon begins at 7 am and officially concludes at 2 pm. Nearly 2,000 athletes will compete.



### Cultural Walking App

FOR VISITORS SEEKING A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF THE VIBRANT CULTURE and significant preservation sites that shaped this land, a historic walking tour around Waikoloa Beach Resort just got easier. A new app, which can easily be downloaded from your app store, acts as an interactive guide with narratives along the ancient trail. Cultural tour guides share stories and insights about Hawaiian culture, with stops at sacred temples, petroglyphs, royal fishponds and more.



## FREE ENTERTAINMENT & ACTIVITIES

### Queens’ Marketplace

[Check website for details. QueensMarketplace.com.](#)

### LEI MAKING

**First Fridays**

Join in and make your own Hawaiian lei ... no experience required!

### `UKULELE LESSONS

**Tuesdays**

Strum along with master `ukulele players in this unique offering.

### HULA SHOW

**Wednesdays**

Enjoy free performances of Hawai`i’s iconic dance.

### `OHANA MOVIE NIGHT

**Second Saturdays**

Family friendly fun is on tap at Ohana Movie Night. Bring the gang!

### KANIKAPILA MONTHLY CONCERT

**Third Saturdays**

Hawai`i Island is known for its talented musicians, which this concert series spotlights.

### Kings’ Shops

[Check website for details. KingsShops.com](#)

### FIRES OF POLYNESIA

**Wednesdays | 8 pm |**

**Kings’ Shops Center Stage**

A FREE fire extravaganza, the torches/fire fans of Tahiti, fire poi balls of New Zealand, fires of Hawaii and the amazing fire knife of Samoa. *Dates and times are subject to change. Check website.*

### SUPPORT LOCAL

**Tuesdays | 9 am – 2:30 pm**

Hawaii Island gifts, local produce, food and more.

### NIGHT MARKET

**2nd & 4th Fridays | 4 – 8 pm**

Local businesses and artisans showcase an array of handcrafted goods, food and entertainment.

### LAKESIDE PUTTING

**Daily | 2 – 8 pm**

(808) 897-0423

Operated by Keiki Museum

\$10 for adults; \$5 for children/ *kama`aina*. Available for private bookings.

### GIVING BRACELETS

**Thursdays | 4:30 – 5:30 pm**

Suite C6

Workshop offered to create your own one-of-a-kind meaningful bracelet.

### Hilton Waikoloa Village

### DOLPHIN SUNRISE SPLASH

**Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays | 8 am | Saltwater Lagoon**

Witness the joy of the dolphin *ohana* frolicking at sunrise in the expansive, open-to-the-ocean saltwater lagoon at Hilton Waikoloa Village. Learn about these spectacular animals while watching them up close and personal with a marine mammal specialist. Bring your camera to capture this unique experience. Sessions typically last for about 10 minutes.







## Queens’ Marketplace

Open Daily | Store hours vary, please call or visit their websites for hours and more information

### ART & JEWELRY

**Genesis Galleries**  
(808) 886-1770

**Hawaii Fluid Art**  
(808) 344-4878

**Maui Divers**  
(808) 886-4817

**Lava Light Galleries**  
(808) 756-0778

**Mashka Jewelry**  
(808) 731-7310

### ENTERTAINMENT

**Kozy’s Comedy & Magic Show**  
(808) 430-1957

**Waikoloa Luxury Cinemas**  
(808) 464-3009

### FASHION

**Blue Ginger Family**  
(808) 886-0022

**Cariloha**  
(808) 886-2608

**Coconut Ave**  
(808) 731-4024

**Crocs™ Shoe Store**  
(808) 886-0213

**Kona Surf N’ Sandals**  
(808) 886-0898

**Mahina**  
(808) 886-4000

**Malibu Shirts**  
(808) 886-0003

**Olivia Clare Boutique**  
(808) 657-4307

**Oshima Surf & Skate**  
(808) 339-7305

**Quiksilver**  
(808) 886-0900

**Reyn Spooner**  
(808) 886-1162

**Volcom**  
(808) 886-6888

### GROCERY

**Island Gourmet Markets**  
(808) 886-3577

### REAL ESTATE

**Hawai`i Life Real Estate Brokers**  
(800) 667-5028

**Kona Coast Vacations**  
(808) 329-2140

### SERVICES

**Hilton Grand Vacations Club**  
(808) 886-0945

**KOR Salon**  
(808) 886-8090

**ResorticaHawaii**  
(808) 881-8222

**Rider Levett Bucknall**  
(808) 883-3379

**Skin Factory Tattoo**  
(808) 661-5511

**Vacasa**  
(855) 861-5757

**Waikoloa Dental Clinic**  
(808) 886-0891

**Zen Dermatology**  
(coming soon)

### SPECIALTY & GIFTS

**Claire’s**  
(808) 886-8905

**Da Big Bags**  
(808) 989-8709

**Lids**  
(808) 886-1649

**SoHa Keki**  
(808) 909-3888

**SoHa Living**  
(808) 464-4268

**Sunglass Hut**  
(808) 886-0274

### SPORT & ACTIVITY

**Bike Works Beach & Sports**  
(808) 886-5000

**Yoga Barre**  
(808) 333-5378

## Kings’ Shops

Open Daily | Store hours vary, please call or visit their websites for hours and more information

### ACCESSORIES

**Michael Kors**  
(808) 886-2653

**Sunglass Hut**  
(808) 886-0593

### APPAREL

**Crazy Shirts**  
(808) 886-9303

**Giving Bracelets**  
(808) 445-9951

**Honolua Surf Co.**  
(808) 886-6422

**Jams World**  
(808) 796-3182

**Kona Harley-Davidson**  
(808) 464-4033

**Mary Jane’s**  
(808) 886-2707

**Noa Noa**  
(808) 886-5449

**Rip Curl**  
(808) 886-1952

**Tommy Bahama**  
(808) 886-8865

**Tori Richard**  
(808) 886-8308

**TravisMathew**  
(808) 865-2452

### ART & JEWELRY

**Aesthetic Hawaii**  
**by Genesis Galleries**  
(808) 731-6280

**Kohala Coast Fine Art**  
(808) 886-4240

**Lavaka Gallery**  
(808) 796-3033

**Nā Hōkū**  
(808) 886-7599

**Royal Gold**  
(808) 886-7701

**Tiffany & Co.**  
(808) 886-1931



### SERVICES

**Big Island Motorcycle Co.**  
(808) 886-2011

**Hawaii Keiki Museum**  
(808) 315-8862

**Hawaii Vacation Condos by Outrigger**  
(808) 886-0036

**Hilton Grand Vacations**  
(808) 217-4904

**Hulakai**  
(808) 731-7945

**Kings’ Shops Management Office**  
(808) 886-8811

**Kohala Coast Properties**  
(808) 886-6600

**RE/MAX**  
(808) 756-4285

**Shell Gas Station**  
(808) 886-9512

**Team Clean**  
(808) 944-8255, ext. 108

### SPECIALTY & GIFTS

**CocoNene**  
(808) 909-9019

**Martin & MacArthur**  
(808) 886-0696

**Sugar Coast Candy**  
(808) 886-0406

**Whalers General Store**  
(808) 886-7057



## Waikoloa Beach Resort Golf Shop

### Golf Pro Shop

Open Daily | 6:30 am – 5:30 pm  
(808) 886-7888

## Waikoloa Beach Marriott Resort & Spa

### Travel Traders

(808) 886-8146  
Daily | 8 am – 10 pm

### Mandara Spa

(808) 886-8191  
Daily | 10 am – 5:30 pm

## Hilton Waikoloa Village

Open Daily | Hours vary seasonally.

All phone numbers are (808) 886-1234, with the extension noted below:

**Dancing Dolphins and Big Island Marketplace**  
ext. 1744, 1746

**Dolphin Quest Gift Shop**  
ext. 1216

**Journey**  
ext. 1546

**Kohala Spa Essence and Kohala Spa Retail Shop**  
ext. 1768 or ext. 1228

**Nā Hōkū**  
ext. 1750

**Things Hawaiian**  
ext. 1232



## Lavaka Gallery Brings Polynesian Masterpieces to Kings’ Shops

Lavaka Gallery is open daily from 10 am – 8 pm  
(808) 796-3033

Fetufoou Lavaka began learning traditional Tongan wood carving at the age of eight from his father, who was also taught by his father. Like in Hawai`i, carving is an important part of the Tongan culture where skilled carvers created functional pieces such as canoes, tools and weapons.

Today a master carver, Fetu’s works can be found at Lavaka Gallery — the only fine art gallery dedicated solely to Polynesian wood carving in Hawai`i. Since opening at the Kings’ Shops in December, the new store features whales’ tales, manta rays, *honu* (turtles) and tiki made solely by Fetu and his family members.

“(We) come from the island of Tongan, where we have been carving for four generations,” he says. “Carving has always been a part of my family.”

Lavaka Gallery’s director, Arianna Flory, says she and her family were “blown away when they met Fetu five years ago and saw his

skill firsthand.” Ardent art collectors, the Florys bought one of his tiki carvings and from there developed a close friendship. This past summer, after Lavaka’s studio in Lahaina was destroyed by the fire, both families decided to collaborate on the new space.

Most works at Lavaka Gallery are made from locally sourced koa and monkeypod woods.

“All of them represent my love for the land, earth and sea through their depictions of gods, sea life and symbolic geometric patterns,” Fetu explains. “The ones that speak to me the most depict Tongan gods, like Limu, and are symbols of protection.”

Utilizing the core of a koa tree to carve a tiki takes hours and hours of craftsmanship. At Lavaka Gallery they range from 18 inches to eight feet tall.

“We’ve had commissions for hotels and private clients up to 20 feet or taller too,” Arianna says. “We’ve been getting a great response from the community.”



See our  
website  
for more  
information.



Marriott.com

## SUNSET LŪ`AU

**Mondays and Wednesdays | 4:45 pm**

EXECUTIVE CHEF JAYSON KANEKOA PRESENTS AN AUTHENTIC MENU for the popular Sunset Lū`au with the freshest of ingredients harvested from Hawai`i Island purveyors. Experience an authentic *imu* pit presentation and the *ono* tastes of a J.A. Farms Garden Salad, Waipi`o Valley Poi, Keahole Shrimp, *hō`i`o* fern shoots, Pulehu steaks, and grilled chicken with Hamakua mushrooms.

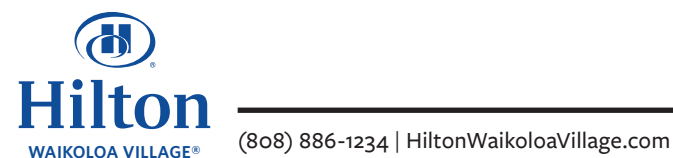
Following dinner take a journey to Tahiti, New Zealand, Hawai`i, and Sāmoa through the songs and dances of these Pacific cultures. The spellbinding Samoan fire knife dance is a spectacular sight to see!

General ticket prices start at \$195 inclusive for adults, \$96 inclusive for *keiki* 6-12 years old, and *keiki* five and under are no charge. Premier ticket prices include preferred seating, floral lei, and a Hawaiian treat. Premier seating prices start at \$234 inclusive for adults, \$128 for *keiki* 6-12 years old, and *keiki* five and under are FREE.



For reservations visit [thesunsetluau.com](http://thesunsetluau.com)

Cancellations must be received 24 hours before your scheduled Luau. There will be no refund if cancellation is not received 24 hours out.



(808) 886-1234 | [HiltonWaikoloaVillage.com](http://HiltonWaikoloaVillage.com)

## LEGENDS OF HAWAI`I LŪ`AU — OUR BIG ISLAND STORY

**Sundays, Tuesdays, Fridays | 5 pm | Kamehameha Court**

TREAT YOURSELF TO THE ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME CULTURAL IMMERSION of our *lū`au* at Hilton Waikoloa Village. Brought to you by Tihati Productions, the Legends of Hawai`i Lū`au dinner and show brings to life the ancestral songs and dances that retell the epic stories of Hawai`i Island and her remarkable people.

You'll receive a lei greeting upon arrival and have the opportunity to capture memories with photos with our *lū`au* performers. The meal includes island favorites such as huluhuli chicken, seared island catch-of-the-day, and the traditional *imu* kālua pig, and fresh daily Hawaiian style desserts. Our signature mai tais are made with fresh pineapple juice.



Make reservations in advance at [legendsluau.com](http://legendsluau.com). Book early to get your spot.

## DINING GUIDE

Restaurants open daily unless noted.



### GOLF COURSE

**Tropics Ale House and Restaurant**  
(808) 886-4287  
[TropicsAleHouse.com](http://TropicsAleHouse.com)

Lunch and dinner  
11 am – 10:30 pm

**Mauka Bar and Grill**  
(808) 886-7600  
[MaukaBarandGrill.com](http://MaukaBarandGrill.com)

Breakfast and lunch  
7:30 am – 5 pm

**Mauka Steakhouse**  
(808) 886-7600  
[MaukaBarandGrill.com](http://MaukaBarandGrill.com)

Dinner  
5 - 9 pm

**LAVA LAVA BEACH CLUB**  
(808) 769-LAVA (5282)  
[LavaLavaBeachClub.com](http://LavaLavaBeachClub.com)

Breakfast  
8 – 10:30 am

Lunch and dinner  
Noon – 9 pm

CLOCKWISE  
FROM ABOVE:  
Island Fish &  
Chips; Roy's  
Waikoloa Bar &  
Grill; Kamuela  
Provision  
Company

### HILTON WAIKOLOA VILLAGE

(808) 886-1234  
[HiltonWaikoloaVillage.com/dining](http://HiltonWaikoloaVillage.com/dining)

#### Water's Edge

A lavish breakfast buffet overlooking the saltwater lagoon.

7 – 11 am

#### Orchid Marketplace

Grab-and-go lunch located at Kona Pool.

9 am – 5 pm

#### Shaka Cones

Locally made ice cream and sorbets at Orchid Marketplace.

9 am – 5 pm

#### Nui Italian

Authentic, family-friendly Italian dining including stone-fired pizzas, pastas, salads, and more.

Lounge and dinner  
5 – 9 pm

#### KPC – Kamuela Provision Company

KPC offers Hawai`i Island's most spectacular sunset views. Locally sourced cuisine, from prime steaks to Hawaiian seafood.

5:30 – 9 pm

#### Lagoon Grill & Bar

Grab a burger, sandwich, salad, or Hawaiian bowl for lunch or early dinner and watch dolphins playing in the lagoon below.

11 am – 7 pm

#### Lagoon Chill

Dole Whip, sweet treats, souvenirs. Located next to Lagoon Grill.

8 am – 3 pm

#### Kona Tap Room

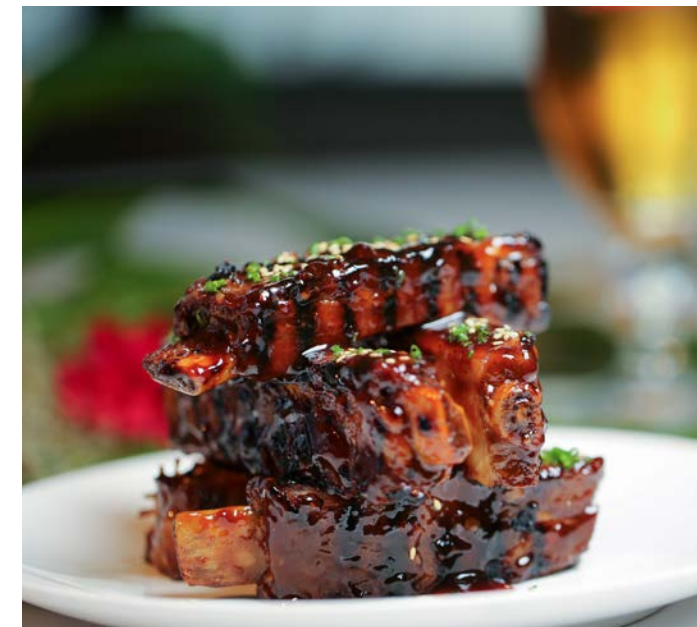
A fun gathering place with an array of craft and domestic beers and casual pub fare.

4:30 – 11 pm

#### Waikoloa Coffee

6 am – 3 pm  
in Ocean Tower

6 am – noon  
in MAKAI



### WAIKOLOA BEACH MARRIOTT RESORT & SPA

(808) 886-8165  
[Marriott.com](http://Marriott.com)

#### Hawaii Calls Restaurant & Lounge

Breakfast  
7 – 11 am

Lunch  
11 am – 5 pm

Happy Hour  
2 – 4 pm

Dinner  
5 – 9 pm

SECOND SATURDAYS  
PRIME RIB & CRAB BUFFET  
Includes live entertainment by premier local musicians

5 – 9 pm

FRIDAYS, SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS  
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT  
Featuring some of Hawai`i's local musical artists

5:30 – 7:30 pm

**Nalu's Pool Bar**  
10:30 am – 5:30 pm

**Aka'ula Lanai Coffee & Cocktail Lounge**  
Lobby Level

Morning  
6:30 – 11 am

Evening  
4 – 9 pm

Happy Hour  
4 – 6 pm

### KINGS' SHOPS

#### A-Bay's Island Grill

(808) 209-8494  
[A-Bays.com](http://A-Bays.com)

Breakfast, lunch and dinner  
8 am – midnight

#### Foster's Kitchen

(808) 657-4500  
[FostersKitchen.com](http://FostersKitchen.com)

Lunch and dinner  
11 am – 10 pm

#### Gypsea Gelato

(808) 886-1540  
[GypseaGelato.com](http://GypseaGelato.com)  
11 am – 8 pm

#### Island Fish & Chips

(808) 886-0005  
[KingsShops.com/island-fish-chips](http://KingsShops.com/island-fish-chips)  
10 am – 8 pm

#### Roy's Waikoloa Bar & Grill

(808) 886-4321  
[RaysHawaii.com](http://RaysHawaii.com)

Dinner  
4:30 pm – 8:30 pm

#### Island Vintage Coffee

(808) 731-5700  
Open daily at 6 am

#### The Original Big Island Shave Ice Company

(808) 895-6069

Tuesday – Sunday  
11:30 am – 6:30 pm,  
full menu

6:30 – 7:30 pm,  
ice cream menu





Please  
check with  
individual  
restaurants  
on hours of  
operation.

# DINING GUIDE



Island  
Greens

## QUEENS' MARKETPLACE

Full-service restaurants.

**Bistro at the Cinemas**  
(808) 464-3009  
[HawaiiCinemas.com/  
the-bistro](http://HawaiiCinemas.com/the-bistro)

**Charley's Thai Cuisine**  
(808) 886-0591  
[CharleysThaiHawaii.com](http://CharleysThaiHawaii.com)

**Kuleana Rum Shack**  
(808) 238-0786  
[KuleanaRum.com](http://KuleanaRum.com)

**Mauna Kea  
Tropical Treats**  
(808) 738-6249

**Romano's Macaroni Grill**  
(808) 443-5515  
[MacaroniGrill.com](http://MacaroniGrill.com)

**Sansei Steak  
& Sushi Bar**  
(808) 886-6286  
[SanseiHawaii.com](http://SanseiHawaii.com)

**Starbucks Coffee  
Company**  
(808) 886-1888  
[Starbucks.com](http://Starbucks.com)



Waikoloa Pizza

## QUEENS' MARKETPLACE FOOD COURT

Grab & go and  
food court eateries.

**Dairy Queen/  
Orange Julius**  
(808) 886-1029

**Hawaii Kind Grinds**  
[HawaiiKindGrinds.com](http://HawaiiKindGrinds.com)  
**Island Greens**  
[IslandGreensHI.com](http://IslandGreensHI.com)

**L&L Hawaiian Barbecue**  
[HawaiianBarbecue.com](http://HawaiianBarbecue.com)

**Waikoloa Pizza**  
[WaikoloaPizza.com](http://WaikoloaPizza.com)

**Waikoloa Shrimp Company**  
[WaikoloaShrimpCo.com](http://WaikoloaShrimpCo.com)



[WaikoloaBeachResort.com](http://WaikoloaBeachResort.com)