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Hilton Waikoloa Village Reduces Environmental Impact with Electric-Powered Canal Boats

The resort converts its canal boats to electric power for quiet and emission-free guest transportation

WAIKOLOA, HI (May 13, 2019) – Hilton Waikoloa Village’s signature canal boats have gone green. Originally designed and built at Walt Disney World in Florida prior to their introduction in 1988 for the grand opening, the mahogany canal boats that transport guests along the resort’s meandering waterways have become one of its most beloved features. Now, Hilton Waikoloa Village is proud to announce that four of its canal boats will be converted to a fully-electric propulsion system and upgraded with new features.

By operating on fully electric power, the canal boats will save 12 gallons of gas per boat, per day adding up to an annual savings of 4,320 gallons of gas per boat. In addition, an electric motor means no need for motor oil, adding up to an astounding savings of 180 quarts annually per boat. Hilton Waikoloa Village partnered with Duffy Electric Boats, a leading manufacturer of electric propulsion water craft, to outfit each of the mahogany vessels.

The revamped canal boats offer greater guest comfort, too. With no carbon emissions, guests will enjoy improved air and water quality, especially when the boats are idling at various docks throughout the resort. The nearly-silent motor also lends to a more tranquil experience of the resort’s tropical surroundings. The boats have been equipped with LED lights that will illuminate the waterway at night; cabin floor lighting; and an improved, marine-grade sound system.

In addition to the new tech, each of the four vessels has been christened with a Hawaiian name representing native kumu la’au (trees) that surround the boatway – Hau (hibiscus tiliaceus), Niu (cocos nucifer), Hala (pandanus tectorius) and Kukui (aleurites moluccana).

Hilton Waikoloa Village’s electric propelled boats are the latest way the property has sought to reduce its environmental impact while improving guest services. Recently, the resort introduced free collapsible, reusable water bottles to guests staying in MAKAI at Lagoon Tower and also installed water filling stations on every floor in MAKAI, significantly cutting down on plastic bottle waste. In addition, in early 2018 the resort initiated The Last Straw Campaign – a commitment to discontinue the use of plastic drinking straws resort-wide in its restaurants, bars, venues and vendors and replacing them with biodegradable paper straws.

Hilton is on a mission to redefine sustainable travel and tourism through Travel with Purpose, the company’s corporate responsibility strategy. Hilton has committed to cutting its environmental footprint in half and doubling its investment in social impact by 2030. To learn more about Travel with Purpose, visit cr.hilton.com.

For more information about Hilton Waikoloa Village, visit www.HiltonWaikoloaVillage.com

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About Hilton Waikoloa Village

The award-winning Hilton Waikoloa Village is a sweeping Pacific playground and alluring destination on the sunny Kohala Coast of the Island of Hawaii. The resort offers island hospitality with beautifully appointed guest rooms and stunning vistas of Waiulua Bay and tropical surroundings. Guests enjoy two distinct lodging experiences from premium accommodations in MAKAI at Lagoon Tower to a grand atrium welcome at Palace Tower. Amenities include three swimming pools, an ocean-fed snorkeling Lagoon Beach, waterfalls and waterways, locally-inspired treatments at Kohala Spa, and a wide variety of dining outlets that include Legends of Hawaii Luau, Kamuela Provision Company featuring panoramic sunset dining over the Pacific Ocean, Kona Tap Room, offering craft brews from Kona Brewing Company; and a Museum Walkway with 1,800 unique art pieces. Adventures within the surrounding Waikoloa Beach Resort range from two championship golf courses to world-class shopping. Hilton Waikoloa Village is a gateway to the Island of Hawai'i, engaging travelers in the area's rich history through such interactive activities as hula and ukulele lessons and is the perfect starting point for the exploration of island attractions including active volcanoes, snow-capped mountains, lush valleys, breathtaking waterfalls, colorful beaches and deep culture, embodying the Island's Aloha Spirit.