

Sweet Home

Aloha



• BY ROBERT KAUFMAN



Two contrasting developments on two distinctly different Hawaiian Islands offer luxurious options to purchase the tropical dream.

The enduring appeal of Hawaii is sustained by a combo of key ingredients that define its truly unique atmosphere. The scent of the seducing trade winds. The swaying palms. The crusty lava landscapes. The graceful waterfalls or a dose of vitamin sea from the glittering blue Pacific. Mix all these components and it's understandable why vacationers get the bug to invest in the Aloha spirit.

Whether the plan is to unplug or partake in outdoor pursuits, the tropical paradise is teeming with options for lifestyle and accommodations. And if your pocketbook allows for a home away from home, two of the most burgeoning opportunities are rising from the volcanic ashes on the archipelago's oldest and northernmost island of Kaua'i and the youngest, yet largest, Island of Hawaii.



Living on the Edge

After a quarter century since Kaua'i was devastated by Hurricane Iniki, a key contributing factor for Kaua'i's slower growth compared to its island neighbors during this time, The Garden Isle is experiencing a rapid increase in prosperity, with Facebook founder, Mark Zuckerberg, leading the class of new property owners.

Operating in a somewhat different fiscal bubble, yet, leading the field in redefining luxury lifestyle on Kaua'i is Colorado-based Timbers Resorts. Since 1999, they have been a developer and operator of boutique hotels, residences clubs and resort communities located in some of the most sought-after destinations in the world, including The Orchard at Carneros in Napa and Mayacama in Sonoma County. Building on their global portfolio, Timbers has now made their second foray (*after the Residences at Kapalua Bay*) into Hawaii with the 450-acre Timbers Kaua'i.

Home base for this new Timbers' family member is the same parcel of land once occupied by the Westin Kaua'i, adjacent Nawiliwili Bay and the Pacific. Fortunately, since the venture was approved prior to a 2014 Kauai County zoning ordinance requiring a 500-foot coastal setback, Timbers Kaua'i represents the last remaining opportunity for new development so close to the ocean's edge on Kaua'i. Similar legislation also restricts any building on Kaua'i from being higher than a coconut tree.

Unobstructed viewing of Kaua'i's natural splendors will be welcome news for homeowners at Timbers Resort – Ocean Club & Residences at Hokuala when the first residents start moving in June 2018. When the entire Timbers Kaua'i project is complete in 2021, a total of 47 residences consisting of a mix of fractional (*starting in the mid-\$300,000s*) and luxury whole ownership residences (*ranging from \$2 million to \$10 million for oceanfront townhomes and condos*) will be surrounded by a retail shopping village, restaurants, destination spa, pools, 17 miles of community hiking and biking trails, plus a 180-room boutique hotel. Homeowners will also



have preferred tee times at the Ocean Course at Hokuala (*formerly the Kiele Course at Kauai Lagoons*), a Jack Nicklaus Signature design featuring the longest continuous stretch of oceanfront golf in Hawaii.

"The reception we've already received from our current Timbers ownership has been nothing short of amazing," said Greg Spencer, Timbers Resorts Chief Executive Officer. "Located in one of the world's most sought-after destinations, Timbers Kaua'i will introduce a new and unique residential project that currently does not exist in this fantastic market. We are excited to add another top notch luxury experience to the Timbers Resorts collection."

During your trans pacific flight, if the anticipation of sipping that first Mai Tai is too much to bear, well you're in luck. With the airport literally next door to Kaua'i Timbers, soon after touchdown, you'll be transported from curbside to the property's front gate quicker than you can pronounce "humuhumunukunukuapua'a" and holding a cocktail glass while horizon gazing from your private lanai!

Big Island, Big Dreams

Going to Hawaii to spend time inside bowling or sitting in a movie theater wouldn't exactly top the list of things to do. Unless, perhaps, you're taking advantage of these activities with complimentary popcorn, soda, candies or ice cream at the 67,000-square-foot clubhouse at Kohanaiki, the first luxury development on the Island of Hawai'i in nearly a decade. And these entertaining endeavors occupy just a portion of the lower level at this two-story \$12 million complex.

"This is the Taj Mahal of clubhouses," says General Manager George Punoose, who is familiar with high-end frills having worked with Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts and private club developer Discovery Land before arriving at Kohanaiki in 2012, to oversee operations at the oceanfront utopia where the primary form of transportation for members is via electric golf cart.

No doubt most of the rides will steer toward the crowning centerpiece of this 450-acre gated residential community built on ancient black lava fields just a five-minute drive from the Kona airport. Unveiled in December 2016, it includes an indoor/outdoor fitness center, spa, yoga lawn, pool, a “speak-easy” cigar and scotch lounge, brewing facility, wine tasting room - highlighted with 50 years worth of Château Mouton Rothschild – plus members’ wine storage lockers and a Chop House and Sushi Bar Restaurant.

Holy coconuts, there's more! The clubhouse overlooks a Rees Jones-designed 18-hole golf course complete with a trio of “golf hales” (*a.k.a. comfort stations*) located at three separate holes. While these don't exactly encourage pace of play (*a non-factor at Kohanaiki*) these air-conditioned, 19th hole-on-steroids shelters are the place to hang out for indulging on an assortment drinks and snacks from candies to house-made beef jerky or a Hawaiian refresher from the frozen Mai Tai machine.

With an extensive lineup of things to do at the family-friendly Kohanaiki, chances are fairly slim of ever catching a case of island fever but, given that misfortune, the A-Team (*Adventure Team*) is on standby with a prescription of deep-sea fishing, stand-up paddle boarding, snorkeling or maybe a cruise on their 39-foot Yellow Fin boat to the secret spot for swimming with manta rays.

“It goes without saying we've got great amenities, ocean, fantastic golf course but ultimately, it's the members and staff that make the biggest difference here,” says Punoose. “We offer a very non-pretentious, casual atmosphere and we make it like the Cheers' bar where everybody knows your name.”

Would you like your name added to this elite roster consisting of celebrity members like former women's World No. 1-ranked tennis player Lindsay Davenport, or actor Don Cheadle, along with CEOs and other high-powered executives? It's as simple as plunking down anywhere from \$3 million to \$30 million to purchase one (*or more*) of the estate lots to build a custom home or choose from a variety of move-in ready residences.

At the end of the day and affordability aside, the decision becomes more about buying a membership than a home because if you're not a fan of the amenities, the people, or the Hawaiian vibe at Kohanaiki, it's a good bet you won't be watching the sunrise or sunset from this exclusive neighborhood.



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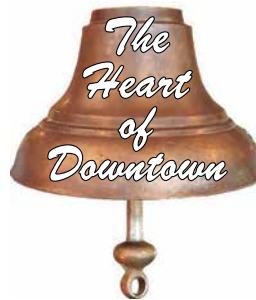
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