
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SUNSHINE RETURNS TO HAWAII

HONOLULU – The weather system that brought weeks of unusually heavy rainfall to the Hawaiian Islands has dissipated and sun-worshippers are back on the beaches.

The aberrant weather caused flooding, road closures and wastewater spills that resulted in several beaches, including Waikīkī Beach, being closed to swimmers for several days. The State Department of Health reopened Waikīkī Beach on April 4.

Hawaii's tourism officials welcomed the return of beautiful weather to all islands. "We're enjoying blue skies and the warm sunny climate that everyone expects when coming to Hawaii," said John Monahan, president and CEO of the Hawaii Visitors and Convention Bureau (HVCB).

Hotel and airline officials have said the number of cancelled bookings were small.

All six major Hawaiian Islands – Kaua'i, O'ahu, Moloka'i, Lāna'i, Maui, and Hawaii's Big Island – are experiencing good weather again and airlines, hotels, cruise ships, and activities and attractions are operating as usual.

On Kaua'i, which initially received the major effects of the bad weather, all beaches and roads are open. These days, the weather is back to normal, meaning it's one sunny day after another. "We've had beautiful sunshine these past couple of weeks and the positive weather outlook going forward tells us that travelers can come here confident they will experience the Kaua'i they know and enjoy," said Sue Kanoho, executive director for the Kaua'i Visitors Bureau.

The *Aloha State* is coming off a record number of visitors in 2005 and has seen similar demand in 2006 thus far.

For travel information about Hawaii – the Islands of Aloha – visit HVCB's website at GoHawaii.com or call 1-800-GOHAWAII.

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Special note to media: The Hawai'i Visitors and Convention Bureau (HVCB) recognizes the use of Hawaiian diacritical markings (e.g. glottal stop [ʻ], macron [ā] in place names of Hawai'i such as Lānaʻi). However, HVCB respects the individual use of these markings for names of organizations and businesses.

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Photo Caption

Jack and Tori Saavedra of San Anselmo, CA, play in the warm waters off Princeville Resort at Hanalei Bay on Kaua'i's north shore. Following unusually heavy rainfall in March, Kaua'i has experienced beautiful, sunny weather in April. *Photo courtesy of Kaua'i Visitors Bureau (photo taken April 12, 2006).*