



Dancers demonstrate traditional Hawaiian moves during the "Enchanted Waikiki" show on the whale-watching lunch cruise.

Cruises offer seasonal perks

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Where the whales are...

Each winter the Pacific Humpback whales head for the warm waters of Hawaii, swimming over 3,500 miles from Alaska in order to mate and bear their young. This highly anticipated annual migration also draws people from around the world to the islands to witness this spectacular event first hand. For those lucky enough to call Hawaii home, a front-row seat for watching these beautiful creatures can be found off the coast of Waikiki and at the Pearl Harbor Information, Tickets and Tour Office (I.T.T.).

Paradise Cruise, Ltd. offers one of many whale watching tours sold at I.T.T.

They have recently introduced a new daily cruise allowing guests to view the whales in their natural habitat while at the same time experiencing a taste of local island culture.

Departing daily at 10 a.m., the 232-foot, 1,500 passenger "Star of Honolulu" sets sail from the Aloha Tower Marketplace for the two-hour Whale Watching Lunch Cruise, traveling along scenic Diamond Head and the Kahala Gold Coast.

After being welcomed aboard, cruise-goers are given the opportunity to learn the hula (grass skirts provided). Other fun activities provided are lei making, palm frond weaving, and ukulele lessons.

While cruisers are enjoying the various activities, the captain has his eye on the water, announcing whenever whales are spotted, making sure that no one aboard misses the opportunity to view the whales as they emerge from the water to flip their fins.

Guests are also invited to enjoy a local style Hawaiian buffet featuring many delicious local specialties.

After lunch, the ship presents the new "Enchanted Waikiki" show highlighting the story of Hawaii's unique heritage with live music and dance.

While the food and fun activities certainly enhance the cruise, the highlight is of course the chance to view Humpback whales, which usually are found just off the coast of Waikiki from January until April.

The cruise even guarantees guests will see a whale with a special free return standard ticket (a cruise without the meal), if one is not spotted.

The normal price for the cruise is \$39.95, but to show their appreciation to the military, Paradise Cruise Ltd. is offering a special price of \$29.50 (or \$19.50 without the meal) for military members with their ID.

Romance at Sea...

If a night of romance is what you desire, set the mood with one of I.T.T.'s several dinner cruises.

One such cruise is the the luxurious Five Star Dinner Cruise where guests are treated like royalty.

The Five Star cruise offers a luxurious seven course French-style dinner and evening of live jazz with songs, ranging from the 20s until today. Set in a romantic atmosphere of art deco stylings with etched glass and marble, the cruise sweeps guests into an elegant private club atmosphere, complete with wrap around windows offering beautiful views of Hawaii's famous sunsets and Waikiki's skyline.

The meal combines the finest ingredients from around the world mixed with a Pacific Rim flair and the latest flavors of the season.

A few of the items on the menu include Northern White Bean Soup garnished with Black Truffle Foie Gras Torchon, drizzled with white truffle infused oil; a Smoked Duck Salad served with poached baby pear and warm Chestnut Farce, with a Wild Goose Plum Vinaigrette; Napoleon of Maine Lobster with herb potato crepes, Waipio avocado and Sevruga Caviar surrounded by brandied lobster broth infused with tarragon and raspberry; Borsin cheese crusted beef tenderloin wrapped in Savoy cabbage with butternut squash puree; and for dessert, a winter fantasy of pistachio and mango mousse accented with Maui sun-dried pineapple and Tahitian Vanilla Anglais.

With live jazz music in the background, a Hawaiian sunset and the exquisite menu, this cruise offers a romantic evening on Valentine's day or any day of the year.

The dinner cruise departs at 5:30 p.m. and includes a VIP welcome, dinner, a live jazz show, and premium cocktails.

While it is normally priced at \$164 per person, they are currently offering a special military rate of \$79.95 (and Kama'aina rate for DoD employees) until the end of March.

In addition to the Five Star Dinner Cruise and Whale Watching adventures (January through April), they also offer Pearl Harbor sightseeing trips, and numerous sunset dinner cruises as well as Hawaiian wedding ceremonies and receptions at sea.

I.T.T. also offers similar cruises with Navatek cruise lines and Dream Cruises. For more information, visit or call the Pearl Harbor I.T.T. office at 473-0792, call Paradise Cruise Ltd. at 983-STAR (7827) or visit the their website at www.Paradisecruises.com.



The 232-foot, 1,500 passenger "Star of Honolulu" leaves from the Aloha Tower Marketplace for its day and night cruises.



Above: Crewmembers offer instructions for several ship board activities including palm frond weaving.



Left: Chef Eric Omick demonstrates a sample of the seven course French-style dinner served during Paradise Cruise's Five Star dinner cruise.