

LIBERTY CALL



A Barbers Point Getaway

Looking for a place to unwind after a hectic week of work, but don't want to deal with the hustle and bustle of Waikiki's crowded beaches?

The beach cottages at Naval Air Station Barber's Point may be the answer.

Only a half-hour drive from Pearl Harbor, the cottages offer a relaxing and inexpensive weekend getaway for servicemembers stationed in Hawaii.

"The cottages are ten times better than a hotel," said Victor Hale, a former Marine from New Mexico who was visiting his son, Machinist's Mate 2nd Class Milt Hale, who is assigned to USS Louisville (SSN 724). "We're having a great time."

Victor, who spent his time fishing

and scuba diving, said he enjoyed visiting with other guests at the cottages.

"We just laughed and talked," he said.

"It's very relaxing here," added his wife, Vicky.

There are 20 beach cottages at Barber's Point, six enlisted and 14 officer. Most of the cottages are located on the beach, and have a view of Diamond Head.

The cottages generally have two bedrooms that sleep six people, and have a kitchen and dining area. The kitchens are equipped with cutlery and cooking utensils.

There are also barbecues outside each cottage.

The officer cottages are located at the White Plains beach area and cost

\$50 a day. The enlisted cottages are at the Nimitz beach area and only cost \$35.

"We have one of the best beaches on the south shore," said Cindy Padilla, Morale Welfare and Recreation (MWR) sports fitness director. Padilla added however that the general public will have access to the beach after Barber's Point is given back to the state on July 2.

As a security measure, the Navy is building a fence around the cottage sites for when the campsites become public. "The public will have access to the White Plains beach area everyday until 9 p.m. when the fence will be secured for the evening," she added.

While the beaches will continue to

be a major attraction for visitors, Padilla said the majority of the air station's recreational facilities will stay open and remain under Navy control.

MWR will continue to operate the Surfer snack bar at White Plains beach and the Good to Go office will continue to rent surfboards, snorkeling gear, and camping gear.

Reservation applications for the cottages need to be submitted at least 30 days in advance and can be turned in up to 60 days in advance. Applications can be obtained from the Good to Go office. For more information contact Good to Go at 682-2019.

MWR to continue offering services at NAS Barbers Point after base closure

With the July 2 NAS Barbers Point base closure looming on the horizon, many people are concerned about the future of Naval Air Station Barber's Point. As a result, they may not consider Barber's Point when making plans for the weekend.

"Many people have misconceptions about the base closure," said Cindy Padilla, Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) regional sports and fitness di-

rector for Barber's Point. "The majority of our facilities are going to stay open because the housing and beach cottages will remain, and we have a large number of retirees who live in the area and continue to use the facilities here."

According to Padilla there are several recreational projects going on at Barber's Point, including the renovation of five duplexes and the Kona Breeze

pool. "We are also putting lights on the batting cages," she added.

The Navy Exchange and commissary will remain. MWR will continue to operate a 16 lane bowling center, a golf course with lighted driving range, a 50 meter pool, which is currently undergoing renovation, youth programs, and an auto hobby shop.



(Top) Scenic vistas are available year-round to servicemembers visiting the Barbers Point beach cottages. (Above) Officer and enlisted cottages are furnished with modern accessories including a full kitchen, living and dining rooms. (Below) Just a half hour from Pearl Harbor, NAS Barbers Point beach cottages offer servicemembers a chance to relax and unwind in style and comfort. This cottages will remain available to servicemembers after NAS Barbers Point closes.



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