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SHERATON KONA AND WAIKIKI CHEFS TO SET CULINARY TREND THROUGH GOURMET DINNER & FARM TOUR

KONA COAST, Hawaii (May 6, 2015) – The award-winning culinary duo of <u>Sheraton Kona</u> <u>Resort & Spa at Keauhou Bay's</u> Executive Chef Matthew Naula and Sheraton Waikiki Senior Executive Sous Chef Colin Hazama is partnering with Wailea Agriculture Group in Hilo to bring the latest trend in sustainable cuisine to Hawaii Island June 5 - 6.

As part of the successful dining and farm tour series that began at the <u>Sheraton Waikiki Hotel</u> and Ho Farms on Oahu, Sheraton Kona will host a fresh produce dinner on its oceanfront Bayview Grounds at 6:30 p.m. with culinary presentations by Chef Naula and Chef Hazama. Dinner guests are invited to purchase beverages and mingle with the chefs and farmers prior to the event at 6 p.m.

"We are excited to support local farmers and showcase Hawaii Island agriculture, which acts as a major source of the state's fresh produce," said Chef Naula. "Hawaii Island has a unique variety of fruits and vegetables, and our dining and farm tour initiative allows us to prepare this produce with a new level of sophistication that will boost agritourism and delight local 'foodie' residents from Kona to Hilo."

"Hawaii Island has some incredible farm-fresh products, and what we do as chefs really starts with the farmers," said Chef Hazama. "This particular menu allows us to showcase the very best products from the land and the sea."

On Saturday at 7:30 a.m, guests will embark on a private tour of the Wailea Agricultural Group farm and share an intimate picnic, overlooking the dramatic Hamakua Coastline. Participants will return to Sheraton Kona by 3 p.m.

In addition to Wailea Agriculture, featured partners include Kona Cold Lobsters, Zak's Living Aquaponics, Tai Shan Farm, Kona Kulana Farm and Hawaiian Spring Water.

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Friday evening's menu by Chef Hazama and Chef Naula will include:

"Lemon Verbena Cured Hawaii Kampachi"

Adaptation farm shiso bavarois, compress konbu, coconut gelee & Wailea ag finger limes

"Taste of Wailea Hearts Of Palm"

Raw, Smoked, Braised Soup & Croquette

"Farms Wagon"

Baby romaine and Tai Shan Farms Kona coffee compressed dragon fruit Wailea ag cinnamon hearts of palm Zak's pickled watermelon radish Big Island smoked curry with leaf-scented goat cheese

"Deconstructed Hawaiian Ciopinno"

Nutmeg & Clove Smoked Hawaii Abalone Kona Cold Mussels and Lobster Wailea Ag Roasted Ulu HO Farms Tomato Chardonnay Coulis Fresh Green Curry

"Kulana Farms lavender sous vide lamb loin"

Volcano red cabbage compote Minted Wailea Ag Citrus, Wailea Ag Bay leaf peppercorn oil, celery root puree Adaptation mysore raspberry gastrique, nasturtium flowers

"Big Island Meyer Lemon Lilikoi Goat Cheesecake"

Dark Chocolate Coconut HOP truffle Kula Strawberry & Wailea Lychee Confiture

Saturday's tour and picnic menu at Wailea Agricultural Group farm will include:

"Wailea Ag Heart of Palm Chowda"

Leek, Eggplant, Kona Lobster, Finger Lime Caviar

"Bento box"

Sandy's Smoke Meat & Onions: Shichimi Dusted Garlic Ulu Chips Tuna Melt: Evans Fresh Tuna & Kim Chee Green Papaya Pickled Wailea Ag Hearts of Palm & Zac's Radish

"Wailea Ag Spiked Meyer Lemon Lilikoiade & mint"

"Lunch Pail"

Hawaiian Spring Water Hamakua mushroom cookies Mushroom lilikoi butter & lavosh

The dinner is \$103 inclusive; \$133 inclusive with wine pairing; dinner plus the farm tour and picnic is \$170 inclusive; wine dinner plus the farm tour and picnic is \$200 inclusive. The farm tour and lunch option sells for \$103 inclusive. Transportation, gratuity and tax is included. Tickets will be sold until June 4, but availability is limited. To reserve spots at the dinner table and the accompanying farm tour, call the Starwood Dining Desk at (808) 921-4600.

A special room rate of \$159 per night is being offered to guests attending the event on June 5-6 (and 7 days pre/post) at Sheraton Kona. Reservations can be made by calling the Sheraton Kona's reservations specialist at 1 (844) 235-6796 and asking for the "FarmTour" rate code.

For more information, visit <u>http://www.sheratonkona.com/dining/flavorsofhawaii</u> or call (808) 930-4900. Follow us on social media at <u>Facebook.com/sheratonkona</u>, <u>Twitter.com/sheratonkona</u> or <u>Instagram.com/sheratonkona</u>.

About Sheraton Kona Resort & Spa at Keauhou Bay

Sheraton Kona Resort & Spa at Keauhou Bay is Hawaiian hospitality experienced through adventure, culture and its rich heritage. Situated on the iconic lava rocks of the Kona coast overlooking historic Keauhou Bay, the unique oceanfront resort flourishes with naturally landscaped lands that were once the birthplace and playgrounds of kings. There are 485 guest rooms and 24 suites on 22 acres. Considered the "Gateway to the Bay," The Flying Fish outfitters provide an all-access pass to fun and adventure where guests have immediate access to paddle boarding, kayaking, fishing, surfing, boat tours and exploring the pristine reef. Ocean view restaurants partner with local farms and fishermen to serve only the freshest ingredients. Rays on the Bay is Hawaii Island's only restaurant to enjoy nightly live music by fire pit and observe majestic Manta Rays in their natural habitat. Under the stars, a weekly luau offers a colorful journey through history. Offering the ultimate pool experience, guests rave about the 200-foot lava tube water slide, hot tubs, sprouting fountains and the sandy-bottomed children's play area. Hoola Spa offers a healing Himalayan Salt Room and oceanfront treatment patio. Whether culture seeker, romantic or ocean or land explorer, guests find themselves in the perfect location to discover and experience the beauty of Hawaii.

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