



THE RITZ-CARLTON  
KAPALUA

# NEWS

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## WHALE TALES PRESENTED BY WHALE TRUST, A RITZ-CARLTON, KAPALUA SIGNATURE EVENT, TO BRING RENOWNED MARINE EXPERTS TO MAUI IN FEBRUARY 2020

*Whale Trust and The Ritz-Carlton, Kapalua will present the 14th Annual Whale Tales by Whale Trust, showcasing local and international whale researchers, photographers, and conservationists over President's Day weekend*

**Maui, Hawaii (Whale Trust/The Ritz-Carlton, Kapalua) November 5, 2019** – [The Ritz-Carlton, Kapalua](#) – located on Maui's stunning Northwest Shore – is pleased to host the [14th Annual Whale Tales](#) Presented by Whale Trust, February 14 - 17, 2020. Guests and locals will have the opportunity to interact with top international scientists, photographers and conservationists during the four day event which will feature talks from world renowned researchers on cetaceans and the ocean environment, stunning underwater photography and video of whales, immersive hands-on educational opportunities presented by marine research and conservation organizations, and benefit whale watches. In partnership with Maui-based whale watch companies, local and international guest presenters will be featured on whale watching cruises during the event.

Whale Tales is a unique opportunity for Maui residents and visitors to hear first-hand what marine scientists are studying and discovering about the ocean and its inhabitants. "We are so lucky to live here on Maui where the whales are such an important part of our lifestyle," says Whale Trust executive director and co-founder Meagan Jones Gray. "As photographers, filmmakers, conservationists, and researchers, we travel the world to learn more about whales and their ocean

environment, but it is on Maui that we come together to share our stories, research, photographs, and video at Whale Tales - a free community event."

Whale Tales (originally Whale Quest Kapalua) was established in 2006 by Kapalua Land Company in partnership with Whale Trust to bridge the information gap between scientists working in the field and the public. This year marks an exciting milestone in the evolution of Whale Tales by Whale Trust as the event becomes one of The Ritz-Carlton, Kapalua's signature events. "We are very pleased to welcome back Whale Tales to The Ritz-Carlton, Kapalua for another year. To be in partnership with an organization that is making such an important and positive impact on the ocean environment is a true honor. Whales are a beloved aspect of Maui and we look forward to helping continue bridge the gap between scientists and the general public," says General Manager, Andrew Rogers. The Ritz-Carlton, Kapalua has been home to the event nearly every year since its inception in 2006.

Presentations, special events, and benefit whale watches will be held throughout the weekend. Admission to Whale Tales presentations and the Marine Science Center is free and open to the public, with a suggested donation of \$20 per person to support Whale Tales 2020 Beneficiaries. Benefit Whale Watch tickets will start at \$65 per person. For an up close and personal look at Maui's most famous winter visitor - an exclusive package includes, luxury accommodations, Whale Tales Whale Watch for two, Ambassadors of the Environment Eco-Adventure for two, and access to complimentary Whale Tale events. Full terms and conditions include:

- Offer is valid for reservations stays between February 12 – 19, 2020 and must be booked by February 7, 2020.
- Limited number of rooms are available for this promotion. Offer does not apply to groups of 10 or more rooms. Blackout dates and other restrictions may apply. Minimum length of stay may apply.
- Package is subject to availability and cannot be combined with any other offer.
- Advanced reservations are required, and rates do not apply to groups.
- Rates listed are per room, per night, single or double occupancy, and exclusive of taxes, gratuities and other charges unless otherwise noted.
- Package inclusions may not be redeemed for cash or credit value.

Whale Tales is a fundraising event to support whale research in Hawaii. In 13 years, the event has raised more than \$725,000 for whale research in Hawaii and Alaska. All proceeds are distributed to selected beneficiary organizations and students. The Whale Tales Beneficiaries Program has provided funding to support Cascadia Research Collective, Center for Whale Studies, Hawaii Association for Marine Education and Research, Inc. (HAMER), Hawaii Whale Research Foundation, Hawaii Marine Mammal Consortium, Keiki Kohola Project, National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, Oceanwide Science Institute, Oregon State University Marine Mammal Institute, Sitka Science Center, University of Hawaii Foundation, and Whale Trust.

Whale Tales is made possible through the generous support of many individuals and organizations. This year's presenting sponsors are Makana Aloha Foundation and George and Marie Weis.

For more information about Whale Tales please visit [whaletales.org](http://whaletales.org) or call Event Director, Dayna Garland at (808) 572-5700, or reach her directly by email at [dgarland@whaletrust.org](mailto:dgarland@whaletrust.org)

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### **About Whale Trust**

*Whale Trust is a Maui-based non-profit organization whose mission is to promote, support, and conduct scientific research on whales and the marine environment, and broadly communicate the findings to the public. Its founders are passionate scientists and explorers who believe that science—the quest for answers to the most intriguing questions about our natural world—lies at the heart of environmental education and conservation. Whale Trust research programs focus on exploring the natural communication, behavior patterns, and social organization of whales. But Whale Trust seeks to do more than fund groundbreaking field research on our earth's largest marine mammals. Results from Whale Trust field research are the basis for a broader program of outreach and education that involves the public, educators, and a new generation of researchers whom Whale Trust hopes to inspire. For more information, visit [www.whaletrust.org](http://www.whaletrust.org).*

### **About The Ritz-Carlton, Kapalua**

*The AAA Five-Diamond Ritz-Carlton, Kapalua showcases a stunning, destination resort offering 466 newly reimagined guestrooms, including 107 residential suites, with all new décor capturing Kapalua's rich heritage and natural aloha. The Ritz-Carlton Spa®, Kapalua beckons with treatment rooms framed by private garden showers, volcanic stone grottos, steam, sauna and whirlpool therapies, outdoor couple's hale (cabanas) and a fitness center and movement studio with spectacular ocean views. Jean-Michel Cousteau's Ambassadors of the Environment program offers all interest levels an array of outdoor activities from land to sea, led by trained naturalists. The breathtaking island resort also features six dining experiences, enhanced indoor/outdoor meeting space, an inviting children's pool and new, custom luxury cabanas. The Ritz-Carlton, Kapalua is nestled on 54 acres and enveloped by the 22,000-acre Kapalua Resort, renowned for two championship golf courses, award-winning restaurants and the site of an historic pineapple plantation.*