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## Mauna Lani Bay hosts turtle Independence Day



Big Island-based hotels Mauna Lani Bay will be hosting their 29th annual Turtle Independence Day Celebration on July 4th, 10:30 a.m. to noon.

Mauna Lani has been receiving juvenile *honu* (Hawaiian Green Sea Turtles) from Oahu's Sea Life Park and raising the *honu* in the hotel's saltwater ponds since 1989. The *honu* are cared for until they grow to a size and weight that are deemed appropriate for release into the wild. This release occurs every July 4th at the ocean's edge fronting the hotel.

On Wednesday, July 4, 2018, the *honu* will be gathered at 10:30 a.m. from the Honu Ponds and they will be paraded to the beachfront for the release. A welcome ceremony with a hula performance by Halau Waiau will kick-off the event followed by the release. This annual celebration honors the *honu* and helps educate the public about the Hawaiian green sea turtle.

The event will include live entertainment, education displays, and local food trucks.

For reservations, visit [www.maunalani.com](http://www.maunalani.com).

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[Back to Home](#)

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