

## HAWAIIAN ISLANDS

There are numerous cruise lines serving the islands, we just happened to select Norwegian Cruise Line, at the suggestion of our travel agent. Because Hawaii is such a long drive from California we decided to make the most of our airfare and spent two weeks renting a place on Kauai for one week and another week on the north shore of Oahu, away from the hustle and bustle of Honolulu. Plenty of time for us to enjoy our own golfing and touring arrangements.

Day 1 The cruise ship left from Honolulu and arrived in Kahului Harbor, Maui the next morning. Bo (Bo knows golf) was the resident golf pro aboard and arranged a taxi for us to the KAHILI COUNTRY CLUB. Kahili is a very nice course on the east facing side of the Maui Mountain slope. We eventually were paired with a young Canadian couple from another cruise line. Security is very thorough when checking your clubs back aboard. Everything could be construed as a possible bomb, but the real reason is to prevent passengers from sneaking alcohol aboard.

Day 2 The ship didn't leave Kahului Harbor so the next day we played the PUKLANI COUNTRY CLUB situated on the west slope of the Haleakala National Park overlooking the ocean at both ends of the island. Once again we were paired with a retired Canadian couple from Ontario, who somehow have acquired Hawaiian residency. I only mention this as the green fee for locals was \$14 and ours was \$95 each. It just makes me feel warm and fuzzy all over just being able to subsidize the local golfing economy.

Day 3 As if by magic the ship arrived at Hilo on the big island of Hawaii. Today we were paired with shipmates a Canadian couple from New Brunswick. They must have lived a fascinating life as one was of English descent and the other Australian. Wonder where they bumped into each other? The green fees at the HILO MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE were a ridiculously low fee of \$12, how can they afford to stay in business? Oh that's right all the groups excepting ours consisted of 5 or 6 players! The ship was leaving at six, so no dilly dallying!

Day 4 The lifeboats hold about 100 passengers and that's how we went ashore in Kona. Today was dedicated to tourism exclusively, Kona Coffee, Kona Chocolate (the only chocolate company that farms, produces, manufactures and markets their product totally in the United States). Jump on one of the web sites for the myriad of courses available on this side of the island.

Day 5 Nawiliwili Harbor on Kauai looks to be quite the challenge to bring this behemoth through the little breakwater, turn it around on a dime and tie it up without incident. The Duke Kahanamoku bar and restaurant named after the legendary surfer is a must visit. The heavy handed bartenders make Mai Tai's that are the real thing, from the source, a real warmer upper for the afternoons' family reunion. Of course you probably wouldn't have this distraction and could play PUAKEA GOLF COURSE or take a taxi to some other course, the island is relatively small. Hanalei is on the north shore near the Princeville resort, and of course we all know Hanalei is where Puff the Magic Dragon hails from. Being as the ship didn't leave until 2 there would have been time for another round.

Day 6 The Pride of America took a swing around the outside of Kauai along the Napali Coast. This shore line is rugged to say the least, almost unapproachable except maybe by double rigger canoe a thousand years ago. Don;t hold me to it, butthe bar tab may have exceeded the cost of the cruise, what with the helmets of beer and daily specials.

Day 7 Get off the ship! Disembarked and headed for the airport.