

# **Hawaii Dolphin Swim Information**

There are numerous ways to create a dolphin encounter experience in Hawaii. Below are some suggestions based on my experience and information that has come my way.

One thing to keep in mind, though, is that when journeying to encounter dolphins in the wild, there are no guarantees. I have had experiences with both outcomes ... sometimes they have appeared, and sometimes they have not. Often the times they did not appear physically have been my most profound experiences. The dolphins were definitely choreographing my experiences on land. The dolphins are masterful not only in the water, they are energy masters on land, too. Be aware of all that is occurring around you. A key learning that I have received from them is to let go of ALL expectations and attachments, and be open for the magic to unfold in any way ... often it takes the most unusual forms. This is part of the adventure! It is like a treasure hunt, and the treasures are within us and all around us.

The dolphins are also encouraging us to move beyond our physical senses. They are teaching us humans to expand our extra-sensory perceptions ... to move beyond what we already know. They are assisting us to move into our future. They do this in a very non-linear way. It is subtle, and very profound. It is the new way, and they are helping us attune to it by guiding us through unique life experiences.

There is a specific protocol for how to behave while swimming with dolphins. Several dolphin swim web sites have very good descriptions of what to do and what not to do.

One site to read is <u>www.waterplanetusa.com/interactions.htm</u>. It's important to honor the dolphins, and other humans, during your swim experience. Okay, now for the practical information:

#### **Big Island of Hawaii**

This is where I had my first encounter with the Spinner dolphins (they're so awesome!!). Kealakekua Bay is a protected bay on the Kona side of the island, in Captain Cook just south of Kailua-Kona (fly into the Kona airport ... rental cars are a must). The dolphins can be seen here about 18 days out of the month. I always go here first thing in the morning. If no sightings, I venture on to Ho'okenna Beach, about a 15-minute drive further south. If no dolphins are here, this is a great sand beach just to hang out and relax for a while. The dolphins can also be seen at Ho'Nau Nau (more commonly called 'Two-Step'), located just before a sacred site on the island called the City of Refuge. For me, this is the best pure snorkeling on this part of the island ... lots of colorful fish and amazing sea turtles. It's a black lava rock 'beach', but it works!

Some people like to rent kayaks for Kealakekua, as the swim from shore is a good 1/2 mile to get to the dolphins. It is a fairly easy swim, however, due to the buoyancy of the salt water. Kayaks can be rented at the Kealakekua Dive Shop shop in Captain Cook. Snorkel gear can be rented here, too. Jack's Dive Locker is the premier dive shop in Kailua-Kona, and also takes people out on dolphin swims by boat.

## **Lodging Possibilities**

<u>Aaahhh Paradise</u> 5662 old Government Rd., Captain Cook, HI 96704

Several of our students recently stayed here and couldn't say enough about it. I suspect it will become my lodging of choice for my upcoming trips.

Paleaku Gardens 83-5401 Painted Church Road Captain Cook, HI

Phone 808-328-7717

Manager, Barbara De Franco

(808) 328-8084 (if you get the message machine, invite her to return your call collect, or you may not hear back from her)

This is a Buddhist retreat center with awesome grounds on a hill overlooking the ocean, a 5-minute drive from the bay. The accommodations are simple, inexpensive, with a common kitchen area to prepare one's own meals, and most rooms share a bath. Reservations are by word-of-mouth, so let Barbara know I referred you.

## Manago Hotel (808) 323-2642

This hotel is on the main street in the town of Captain Cook. Rates are reasonable and accommodations are basic...if you're looking for a bed for the night, this will do the trick. If you're looking for atmosphere, try a resort in Kailua. This hotel is about a 10-minute drive to Kealakekua Bay.

If you're not on a budget, here's a lovely lodging possibility to check out:

<u>Dragonfly Ranch</u> (www.dragonflyranch.com)

I have not stayed here, nor even visited, but I hear that it's very lovely, and they have their own organic gardens from which they prepare yummy vegetarian meals.

Several people in the local dolphin community also have rooms for rent in their homes, these average \$50-75 and up, per night per person. Visit <a href="www.dolphinville.com">www.dolphinville.com</a> for a listing of these possibilities, as well as an extensive listing of other B&B, vacation rental options and dolphin swim retreat offerings.

## **Contacts**

Some people you may wish to connect with:

<u>Joan Ocean</u> – pioneer of the human/dolphin swim encounter experience. She conducts group workshops throughout the year, may be available for a one-day boat charter experience (\$700 for 1-5 people). She also has rooms available to rent in her house for \$50/night per person. For reservations call (808) 328-9297. Her website is <a href="www.joanocean.com">www.joanocean.com</a>

<u>Trish Regan and Doug Hackett</u> – (808) 874-8555 – Close friends of Joan's, they took over her dolphin swim trips for beginners, and have their own array of seminars they teach, focusing on Essential Joy and Sacred Relationships. Trish also does wonderful soul readings and channels messages from the Ascended Masters, the dolphins and the whales. <u>www.dolphinspiritofhawaii.com</u>

<u>Zoë Schoemaker</u> is a dear friend and dolphin sister who has the biggest heart. Zoë's native home is The Netherlands, and she lives in Hawaii half-time, from November through June. Zoë loves creating magical experiences for visitors to the Big Island, both in the water with the dolphins, and on the sacred land. dolphinlove rs@hotmail.com.

<u>Celeste Eaton</u> 808-323-2568 Mobile: 808-896-3132 <u>www.celestialsonics.com</u>. Celeste is a dolphin sister. She's available as a swim guide for wild dolphin encounters. Celeste also leads groups to swim with the Humpback Whales in the Tonga. <u>csonicangel.dol@verizon.net</u>.

Roberta Goodman -- www.wilddolphinswimshawaii.com. Roberta has extensive background and knowledge of dolphins, from both the scientific perspective and the experiential. She co-founded Cetacean Nation with Dr. John Lily, and is highly regarded and respected in the human-dolphin community.

#### **Boat Captains**

<u>Captain China-Mike and his wife, Melainah</u> are highly skilled, experienced, and bring a high level of spirituality and consciousness to each boating adventure. Every trip they've facilitated for my groups has been profound and exciting. Visit their website: <a href="www.sunlightonwater.com">www.sunlightonwater.com</a> and book at least one boat trip with them. You won't regret it.

<u>Captain Veto</u>, In to Spirit ... <u>http://www.dolphinshawaii.com/</u>. I've used Veto a number of times, both by myself and with groups. He's great. Has a fun sense of humor, so you'll laugh a lot! And he's very skilled and patient with people of all experience levels.

<u>Blue Connection</u> ~ <u>www.blueconnectionhawaii.com</u> is my newest discovery. This is a smaller boat, so the group size is nice and intimate if you're one who prefers smaller groups. They are top quality all the way. A real Hawaii treasure!

#### Maui

The latest information I've received (September 2011) is that Maui is not allowing people to swim with dolphins, and have been issuing citations with high fines to swimmers who get caught.

## <u>Kauai</u>

Dolphins can be seen in the Secret Beach area of Kauai, but this is seasonal. I haven't met those dolphins yet, so don't have much more than that to share. I've heard of people who have swum out and had successful encounters, and I've also heard that it can be pretty dangerous depending on the current.

I'm happy to share all that I know right now.

I'm not currently organizing swim trips for groups. This isn't my piece of the Dolphin experience to do. If you're wanting to join with others of like-heart to share your dolphin encounter, there are many beautiful, gifted souls out there creating organized trips for the public. Ask the dolphins to guide you to the trip facilitator, and location, that is best for you. Trust that they will lead you to your perfect dolphin adventure!

Blessings on your journey!

In Dolphin Love & Joy,

Linda Shay Dolphin Ambassador

Love Heals. Joy Transforms! Dolphins are Pure Love and Joy!

www.dolphinheartworld.com