News Release

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Introducing Outrigger Kona Resort and Spa – Book with Confidence

The Premier Beach Resort Brand celebrates its newest property with a traditional Hawaiian blessing and introductory rates up-to 30% off



High-resolution images available for download **HERE**

HAWAI'I – Outrigger Hospitality Group today welcomed <u>Outrigger Kona Resort and Spa</u> into its portfolio of premier beach resorts with a traditional Hawaiian blessing and ceremony.

Perched above the lava-rock cliffs on the sun-kissed Kona Coast of Hawai'i's Big Island, the captivating 22-acre resort offers an idyllic home base for vacationing friends and families, as well as business and leisure groups of all sizes. Introductory rates up-to 30 percent off are now available on <u>Outrigger.com</u>.

"Outrigger has provided heartfelt hospitality in Hawai'i for nearly 75 years and our commitment to this destination remains steadfast; we're proud to invest in our island home – especially amidst these challenging times," said Jeff Wagoner, president and CEO of Outrigger Hospitality Group. "Vacations offer precious time to reconnect and recharge; it's an honor to serve our guests, and we look forward to welcoming travelers to experience this special place renowned for its Hawaiian heritage and healing." "We deeply appreciate land-owner Kamehameha Schools for entrusting Outrigger with the stewardship of this culturally significant land and look forward to showcasing its illustrious past throughout the resort's design, artwork and guest activations in an authentic and captivating way," added Wagoner.

On this first day of the resort being an Outrigger, a traditional Hawaiian blessing was led by Kumu Keala Ching and Kumu Kaipo Ho, alongside the resort's long-time cultural advisor, Rolinda Bean. There was also a sharing of *mea 'ai* (symbolic foods) – including *'ulu* (breadfruit), *'uala* (sweet potato), *kalo* (taro), *niu haohao* (young coconut), *pua'a* (pork) and *pa'akai* (sea salt) – followed by an exchange of gifts: 4 Koa paddles engraved with each of Outrigger's Values and a framed copy of a chant that was written by Kumu Keala Ching for the hosts of the former Outrigger Keauhou Beach Resort, now regifted to the new Hosts of the Outrigger Kona Resort and Spa.

Outrigger was blessed to be joined at the ceremony by Robert Command, deputy managing director for Mayor Mitch Roth, as well as the Lim and Yap families from Traditions Hawai'i.

Hospitality veteran Steve Solberg, the resort's new general manager, is conversant with the values of Outrigger Hospitality Group as he led Outrigger's resort in Guam for six years.

"The energy and splendor of this destination are palpable; I'm grateful for the opportunity to be part of this resort's next chapter and work alongside a dedicated team to create unforgettable experiences for our guests," said Solberg.

With more than 500 spacious rooms/suites with private lānai, the grounds also feature Hoʻola Spa, a wedding chapel, fitness center and two restaurants. Kids and kids at heart will get a kick out of the 200-foot winding waterslide at the oceanfront pool and enjoy Outrigger's Coral Kids Club – set to open later this year.

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES: Unique to the brand's premier properties are Outrigger Resorts' Signature Experiences where guests are invited to 'escape ordinary' and immerse themselves in an array of cultural programs and one-of-a-kind localized activities. At Outrigger Kona Resort and Spa, the Signature Experiences include a 90-minute cultural tour that takes guests to the birthplace of King Kamehameha III; the 'Feast and Fire' lū'au that celebrates the historic Keauhou region through song and dance; plus, it's one of the only places in the world where guests can view giant manta rays and have the experience of a lifetime by snorkeling with them at night.

MEETINGS & EVENTS: Located less than 30 minutes from Kona International Airport, the breathtaking oceanfront setting and tropical resort grounds make for striking meeting and event experiences. Outrigger Kona Resort and Spa boasts more than 100,000 square feet of function space – inclusive of four adaptable indoor venues, oceanfront breakout rooms and expansive options for lush outdoor events. The on-site convention center, with a 10,000 square-foot ballroom, is the largest on the Kona Coast and offers state-of-the-art audio-visual amenities to maximize productivity. A private chapel and expansive oceanfront grounds boast stunning views, picture-perfect for weddings and receptions. Custom catering highlights the unique culture of Hawai'i by pairing locally sourced ingredients, and a dedicated team makes event planning a breeze. For more information or to book a venue, visit outrigger.com/kona.

BOOK WITH CONFIDENCE: For additional peace of mind when booking, Outrigger has flexible cancellation policies for its properties worldwide. With some very limited exceptions, cancellation fees will be waived for new bookings for all future dates, as long as the cancellation is made at least 24-hours prior to arrival.

ABOUT OUTRIGGER HOSPITALITY GROUP

For more than 70 years, Outrigger Hotels and Resorts has charted a journey of discovery – expanding from Hawai'i to premier resort destinations including Fiji, Mauritius and Thailand. The privately held hospitality company invites guests to 'Escape Ordinary' with authentic Signature Experiences and the Outrigger DISCOVERY loyalty program. Outrigger's multi-branded portfolio includes Outrigger® Resorts, OHANA Hotels by Outrigger®, Hawaii Vacation Condos by Outrigger®, Kapalua Villas Maui and Honua Kai Resort & Spa Maui while also managing select properties from top international hotel brands including Embassy Suites by Hilton®, Best Western® and Hilton Grand Vacations®. Find out more at Outrigger.com or visit @OutriggerResorts on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

MEDIA CONTACT:

Kathy Foley, Outrigger Hospitality Group 808-921-6957 | kathy.foley@outrigger.com

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