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TASTE, TEXTURES, TECHNIQUES

New dinner menu at Mai Grille by Chef Allen Hess

WAIKOLOA BEACH RESORT, HAWAII ISLAND—Chef Allen Hess' latest restaurant, Mai Grille at the Kings' Course premiered a deliciously innovative new dinner menu on February 18, 2016. Focused on the flavors of Hawai'i with modern culinary techniques, Hess is looking to whet the appetites of adventurous foodies from near and far.

Since it opened October 5, Mai Grille has been a popular breakfast, lunch, and après-golf choice. With preparations using liquid nitrogen, dehydrating methods and more, diners can expect intriguing menu items with chef's parenthetical "sound bite" descriptions.

"Because Hawaii's chefs are experimenting with modern techniques, I put words in parentheses, so customers are a little bit prepared, mentally," said Hess. "Someone might think, 'I know what a musubi is, but this sounds different and interesting.' "I try to let them know what's going through the chef's mind, the kitchen's mind, where we are excited to take a familiar dish and try new things with it."

Chef Allen's spin on the classic musubi combines spicy ahi tuna, fennel nori dust, heart of palm and charred green onion. **Adding unique dimension to the menu, "Wok Fried Bacon (Hot & Spicy, Caution with Chilies)," "Mussels (Fun, Unexpected, Robust)," and a "Nasti Goat" salad, with nasturtiums and local goat cheese, chili lemongrass and toasted quinoa.**

"We're looking for people who love to go out, enjoy a nice dinner and a good bottle of wine," said Hess. "We're inviting people to eat the way chefs like to eat, the way we eat in the industry, with lots of options to choose from."

Seating for dinner is limited at this time, and reservations are required. Please visit www.MaiGrille.com, or call (808) 886-7600.

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Waikoloa Beach Resort is a complete destination resort that encompasses two championship golf courses and over 3,000 guest rooms in two upscale hotels, and seven luxury condominiums and vacation home properties. The Resort also includes award-winning Queens' MarketPlace and Kings' Shops, offering a wide variety of shopping opportunities, services, golf and dining experiences, plus free entertainment and cultural programs. For more information visit www.WaikoloaBeachResort.com.