



## **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contacts: Diana Su  
Public Relations Manager  
Starwood Hotels & Resorts Waikīkī  
Phone: (808) 931-8409  
[diana.su@starwoodhotels.com](mailto:diana.su@starwoodhotels.com)

Lynn Blocker Krantz  
Licensing & Product Development  
Matson Archives  
Phone: (818) 509-8868  
[krantzlynn@yahoo.com](mailto:krantzlynn@yahoo.com)

### **HISTORIC PHOTOS OF HAWAII'S BOAT DAYS IN HONOLULU TO BE EXHIBITED AT THE ROYAL HAWAIIAN, A LUXURY COLLECTION RESORT**

WAIKIKI BEACH, HONOLULU, HAWAII – July 17, 2012 – The Royal Hawaiian, a Luxury Collection Resort has partnered with Matson Navigation Company to present “Boat Days” exhibit showcasing a collection of rarely seen photographs of visitors traveling to Oahu on Matson ship liners. On July 18, prized images revealing archived photos of passengers arriving in Honolulu from the late 1920s to the late 1940s and their visits to The Royal Hawaiian and Hawaii will be open to the public. The exhibit will be on display at the resort’s Coronet Lounge until January 31, 2013 with no admission fee.

This rare collection of photographs features the S.S. Lurline, Hula Boat Day greeting of passengers arriving at Aloha Tower, The Royal Hawaiian Band playing music at Aloha Tower, original Royal Hawaiian luggage tags, a variety of Matson travel posters, and more. Starting in the mid-1920s, visitors from all over the world began arriving at Aloha Tower on Matson passenger ships and vacationing at The Royal Hawaiian enjoying the exotic wonders offered on Waikiki Beach. Each photograph will be presented on large canvas prints lining the walls of Coronet Lounge.

Matson Navigation Company was instrumental in the development of tourism to Hawaii and the South Pacific. A fleet of Matson Lines cruise ships, the most famous being the *S.S. Lurline*, traveled from the mainland to Hawaii from the 1920s to 1960s. Matson built The Royal Hawaiian in 1927 so luxury accommodations were both available afloat and ashore. Matson photographers took thousands of snapshots of the celebrities and world-class travelers who traveled on its ships and vacationed in Waikiki.

Matson Navigation Company Archives encompass a vast collection of photographs and artwork from Matson Lines passenger and hotel era, 1920s to 1960s.

Kyo-ya Hotels & Resorts, LP owns the two Sheraton Hotels in Waikiki, The Royal Hawaiian and the Moana Surfrider, A Westin Resort as well as the Sheraton Maui in Kaanapali, Maui. Kyo-ya Hotels & Resorts, LP is one of Hawaii's largest employers, with nearly 3,000 hotel associates in its workforce. The hotels are a part of the 11-hotel group of Starwood-managed properties in Hawaii.

**About Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc.**

Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc. is one of the leading hotel and leisure companies in the world with 1051 properties in 100 countries and territories with 145,000 employees at its owned and managed properties. Starwood Hotels is a fully integrated owner, operator and franchisor of hotels, resorts and residences with the following internationally renowned brands: St. Regis®, The Luxury Collection®, W®, Westin®, Le Méridien®, Sheraton®, Four Points® by Sheraton, and the recently launched Aloft®, and Element SM. The company boasts one of the industry's leading loyalty programs, Starwood Preferred Guest (SPG), allowing members to earn and redeem points for room stays, room upgrades and flights, with no blackout dates. Starwood Hotels also owns Starwood Vacation Ownership, Inc., one of the premier developers and operators of high quality vacation interval ownership resorts. For more information, please visit [www.starwoodhotels.com](http://www.starwoodhotels.com).

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