

# Liquid Luxury on Maui



## WAIWERA WATER REFRESHES PALATES AND COOLS DOWN COCKTAILS AT THE RITZ-CARLTON, KAPALUA

story and photos by Allison Levine

The 29th annual **Kapalua Wine & Food Festival** took place in June at the stunning **Ritz-Carlton, Kapalua**, one of THE TASTING PANEL's favorite Hawaiian hideaways. With Master Sommeliers Fred Dame, Michael Jordan, Shayn Bjornholm, Jay Fletcher, Greg Harrington, Joe Spellman, Brian Cronin, Geoff Kruth and Emily Wines in attendance, hundreds of wines were poured and tasted at seminars and events throughout the weekend.

When attendees needed a refreshing glass of H<sub>2</sub>O to cleanse the palate or rehydrate, they picked up a bottle of Waiwera, the premium water for the Ritz Kapalua and the official water sponsor of the event for the third year. Waiwera—available in both still and sparkling versions—is sourced from the serene North Island of New Zealand and enriched with a high pH and mineral content, making it clean and refreshing.

During the weekend, Waiwera also hosted Liquid Luxury, an elegant cocktail event focused on unique mixology featuring spirits, wine and artesian water. Cocktails were made with Waiwera water, as well as event partners Bombay Sapphire and Champagne Taittinger and were crafted by award-winning mixologist Joey Gottesman, who has been featured on *The Food Channel*, *The Ellen DeGeneres Show*, *Entertainment Tonight* and *Epicurean Radio*.

Waiwera water is distributed by Young's Market Company in California and Hawaii (with Better Brands). Currently focused on building the brand on the West Coast, Waiwera will be expanding into key markets on the East Coast next year.



**Guests sample Taittinger champagnes, among many other wines, at the event.**



**Waiwera COO James Robertson and CEO Philana Bouvier.**



**Mixologist Joey Gottesman mixes a Waiwera cocktail.**

## Featured Cocktails

created by Joey Gottesman

### Spicy Basil Sapphire Caesar

Bombay Sapphire bruised to perfection in Waiwera ice, island-sourced fresh basil, yuzu, Sriracha, dill weed and wasabi bound in Clamato and fresh lime.

### Lemongrass and Rose Essenced Sparkling Bombay Sapphire Gimlet

Alizé Rose and Bombay Sapphire flash-infused with fresh lemongrass and cranberry, served on the rocks with fresh-pressed lime and capped with Waiwera sparkling water.

### Château d'Aqueria Rosé

Peppered Sangria Château d'Aqueria 2007 Tavel Rosé enhanced with Bombay Sapphire and fresh citrus, bound in cranberry, white cane sugar reduction and Waiwera sparkling water.

**French 45** Bombay Sapphire, lemons, Waiwera still water, simple syrup and Taittinger Cuvée Prestige. ■■