

Mauka to Makai

THERE'S A LOT OF HAWAII TO EXPLORE AND ENJOY

[ISLAND OF HAWAII]

SWEET TREATS

Hawai'i flavors combine with German baking tradition and Japanese innovation at **Baumkuchen Farm**, a lush, 9-acre estate in Pāpa'ikou. Owners Markus and Marie Stolz bake tender, Japanese-style German "tree cakes," or *baumkuchen*, honoring their German roots and Markus' upbringing in Japan, where *baumkuchen* are exceptionally popular.

Visitors can sometimes spy Markus at his Japanese oven, baking each labor-intensive layer of these round cakes that resemble tree rings when cut. Free 30-minute farm tours on Tuesdays and Fridays showcase the estate's palm varieties, white pineapple, mangosteen, and hand-pollinated vanilla nursery.

During the semi-private baking experience (\$55 per person), Markus and Marie teach guests to bake their own *baumstriezel*, a simpler version closer to *baumkuchen*'s German origins. The bakery's versions are available for purchase, delicately flavored with pineapple, mango, Ka'ū coffee, or macadamia nuts and cinnamon. But the do-it-yourself version comes with a side of chocolate sauce and bragging rights. ➤ **CHRISTINE THOMAS**



ANDREW/RICHARD HARA