

# Directory

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## ACCOMMODATIONS

With prices to suit all budgets, Hawaii accommodations are as varied as they come – choose from campgrounds, rustic cabins, hostels, rural and upscale B&Bs, a wide range of hotels, all-inclusive resorts, condominiums and ‘vacation rental’ homes.

During high season – mid-December through March and June through August – lodgings are the most expensive and in demand. In low or shoulder seasons expect discounts and easier booking, though family-friendly resorts rarely lower their rates. Certain big holidays (p566) and major events (p27) command premium prices, and for these, lodgings can book up a year ahead. Reviews throughout this book note when there are large fluctuations between high- and low-season rates. Also, large hotels and resorts in tourist hot spots commonly offer year-round internet specials well below advertised ‘rack rates.’

That said, jockeying for the ‘best rate’ in Hawaii is a popular sport that some elevate to an avocation. Be bold and inquisitive; work every angle you can think of. Also check out **Trip Advisor** ([www.tripadvisor.com](http://www.tripadvisor.com)) for accommodations reviews and traveler advice.

For last-minute deals:

- [www.expedia.com](http://www.expedia.com)
- [www.hotels.com](http://www.hotels.com)
- [www.hotwire.com](http://www.hotwire.com)
- [www.orbitz.com](http://www.orbitz.com)
- [www.priceline.com](http://www.priceline.com)
- [www.travelocity.com](http://www.travelocity.com)

In this guide, unless otherwise stated our reviews indicate high-season rates for single occupancy, doubles or, when there’s no difference in the rate for one or two people, simply the room. A double room in our budget category usually costs \$100 or less; midrange doubles cost \$100 to \$250; and top-end rooms start at \$250.

Unless noted, breakfast is *not* included, bathrooms are private and all lodging is open year-round; rates generally don’t include taxes of a whopping 11.41%.

For an explanation of the icons and abbreviations used in this book see the Quick Reference on the inside front cover.

A reservation guarantees your room, but most reservations require a deposit, after which, if you change your mind, the establishment will only refund your money if it’s able to rebook your room within a certain period. Note cancellation policies and other restrictions before making a deposit.

## B&Bs & Vacation Rentals

In Hawaii ‘B&B’ is a wide-ranging category: these accommodations can run from spare

### BOOK YOUR STAY ONLINE

For more accommodation reviews and recommendations by Lonely Planet authors, check out the online booking service at [www.lonelyplanet.com/hotels](http://www.lonelyplanet.com/hotels). You’ll find the true, insider low-down on the best places to stay. Reviews are thorough and independent. Best of all, you can book online.

bedrooms in family households to historic homes to plush, pull-out-the-stops romantic hideaways. These are mostly family-run operations; they provide much more personal, idiosyncratic experiences than hotels, but offer fewer services. Because B&Bs discourage unannounced drop-ins, they sometimes do not appear on maps in this book. Hosts are often out during the day, so same-day reservations are hard to get – try to book B&Bs in advance (they tend to fill up in advance anyway). Many B&Bs have two- and three-night minimum-stay requirements, though some will waive this if you pay a slightly higher one-night rate (since it's more work to turn over rooms nightly). Simple, rural B&Bs begin around \$70 per room; most B&B rates average between \$100 and \$200, and historic or exclusive properties typically run from \$200 to \$400.

True to their name, most B&Bs offer breakfast or provide some food for guests to cook their own. Ask what kind of breakfast is served; oftentimes, 'expanded continental' or 'full buffet' is coded language indicating a hot cooked meal – most B&Bs do not have state-approved restaurant-standard kitchens, and they can be fined if caught making omelets for guests.

Sometimes, the distinction between a B&B and a 'vacation rental' is very slim. Typically, a vacation rental means renting an entire house (with no on-site manager and no breakfast provided), but many B&Bs also rent stand-alone cottages, and often all these kinds of properties are handled by the same rental agencies. In some communities (such as Kailua on O'ahu, p173), there is a growing tension over the proliferation of 'unlicensed' vacation rentals/B&Bs in residential neighborhoods.

This book includes B&Bs that can be booked directly, but there are others that can be booked only through B&B reservation services. Some islands have B&B associations, such as the **Hawaii Island B&B Association** ([www.stayhawaii.com](http://www.stayhawaii.com)) on the Big Island. Some island-wide B&B agencies:

**Affordable Paradise Bed & Breakfast** (☎ 261-1693; [www.affordable-paradise.com](http://www.affordable-paradise.com)) Books reasonably priced B&Bs and cottages.

**All Islands Bed & Breakfast** (☎ 753-3445; [www.all-islands.com](http://www.all-islands.com)) Books scores of host homes.

**Bed & Breakfast Hawaii** (☎ 822-7771, 800-733-1632; [www.bandb-hawaii.com](http://www.bandb-hawaii.com)) A larger statewide service.

**Vacation Rental by Owner** ([www.vrbo.com](http://www.vrbo.com)) Facilitates renting vacation homes directly from the owners.

Note that some B&Bs, to preserve a romantic atmosphere, have minimum ages for, or don't allow, children. Be sure to ask about any restrictions before making reservations.

## Camping & Cabins

While Hawaii has, unsurprisingly, some stellar public campgrounds, the overall quality of facilities ranges from great to terrible. It has almost no full-service private campgrounds (though hostels sometimes provide camping). The best public facilities are in national parks, next best are state parks and typically the least well cared-for are county parks. Sites are less busy during the week than on weekends.

For safety reasons, a few county and state parks are expressly not recommended because they are either very isolated or they are regular late-night carousing spots. Theft and violence aimed at campers is rare, but you should still choose your campgrounds carefully. See the recommendations in this guide, and also get advice from local county and state parks departments; they are usually very upfront about campground conditions and safety.

Hawaii's two national parks – Maui's Haleakalā National Park (p413) and the Big Island's Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park (p306) – have excellent camping. Both have free drive-up campgrounds, cabins for rent and backcountry campsites; campgrounds are rarely full.

The five largest islands offer camping at state parks. These usually have picnic tables, BBQ grills, drinking water, toilets and showers. You may obtain permits (\$5 per night per site) from any Division of State Parks office. The Department of Land & Natural Resources' **Division of State Parks main office** (Map pp118-19; ☎ 587-0300; [www.hawaiistateparks.org](http://www.hawaiistateparks.org); Room 131, 1151 Punchbowl St, Honolulu; ☎ 8am-3:30pm Mon-Fri) handles reservations for all islands.

Some county parks are in fact quite wonderful, with white-sand beaches and good facilities. The key thing to keep in mind is that just because you *can* camp somewhere doesn't necessarily mean you'll *want* to. Check out the campground before committing yourself.

The state and counties also oversee some basic housekeeping cabins. For more specifics, see the O'ahu (p101), Big Island (p205), Maui (p328), Moloka'i (p439) and Kaua'i (p470) chapters.