



HONOLULU

A boisterous Polynesian capital, Honolulu delivers a tasty mixed plate of experiences. Eat your way through the pan-Asian alleys of Chinatown, where 19th-century whalers once brawled and immigrant traders thrived. Amble around Victorian-era buildings – including the USA's only royal palace – still standing beside downtown's sleek, modern high-rises. Watch Pacific breezes rustle palm trees along the harborfront, then head up into the cool, mist-shrouded Ko'olau Range, where forested hiking trails offer panoramic city views. Here in Honolulu, away from the touristy haunts of Waikiki, is where you can get to know the real Hawaii – both its future and its colorful past.

HONOLULU ITINERARIES

IN TWO DAYS *12 miles*

- 1 **CHINATOWN (p64)** Poke around fragrant flower lei stands and animated markets, then do some antique-store and art-gallery hopping after joining the locals at a savory dim-sum palace.
- 2 **HAWAI'I STATE ART MUSEUM (p61)** Sate your artistic side with a full-on visual experience of Hawaii's multicultural society and heritage, then stop downstairs for a gourmet plate lunch at **Downtown (p82)**.
- 3 **LYON ARBORETUM (p72)** Head up into the hills to take a walk on the wild side (literally – the paths are mostly unmanicured) at this verdant tropical flora-lovers' paradise, with a hidden waterfall at the back.
- 4 **MANOA FALLS & NU'UANU VALLEY LOOKOUT (p76)** Although the Tantalus-Round Top scenic drive looks tempting, those waterfall and mountaintop views are best earned with your own two feet.
- 5 **HONOLULU ACADEMY OF ARTS (p67)** The next morning, get a dose of culture at this prestigious art museum, which also sponsors film screenings and community events. Fork into market-fresh fare at the **Pavilion Café (p86)** for lunch and make advance reservations for an excursion to **Shangri La (p155)**.
- 6 **ALA MOANA BEACH PARK (p58)** Head to Honolulu citizens' favorite beach park to swim laps or simply laze on the golden sands. Then take a sunset walk around **Magic Island (p58)**.
- 7 **ALA MOANA CENTER (p94)** End the day at O'ahu's biggest shopping mall with superbly executed Hawaii Regional cuisine at **Alan Wong's Pineapple Room (p87)**. Then head upstairs to the boisterous **Mai Tai Bar (p91)** for live island-style music.



Hawai'i State Art Museum (p61)