



North Shore & Central O'ahu

Includes ➔

Turtle Bay	249
Sunset Beach to Hale'iwa	252
Pupukea	254
Hale'iwa	256
Waialua.....	263
Mokule'ia to Ka'ena Point.....	264
Central O'ahu.....	266
Wahiawa.....	266

Best Beaches

- ➔ Sunset Beach (p252)
- ➔ Kuilima Cove (p249)
- ➔ Waimea Bay Beach (p252)
- ➔ 'Ehukai Beach (p252)
- ➔ Pupukea Beach (p254)
- ➔ Hale'iwa Beach (p257)

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Ted's Bakery (p253)
- ➔ Roy's Beach House (p251)
- ➔ Pa'ala'a Kai Bakery (p263)
- ➔ Uncle Bo's Bar & Grill (p261)
- ➔ Kono's (p260)

Why Go?

Pipeline, Sunset, Waimea... You don't have to be a surfer to have heard of the North Shore; the epic breaks here are known worldwide. Sure, winter brings giant swells that can reach 15ft to 40ft in height, but there is more to this coast than monster waves. The beaches are gorgeous year-round and perfect for swimming in summer. And there are so many activities besides surfing. Try stand up paddling (SUP) or kayaking, take a snorkeling or whale-watching tour, go hiking or horseback riding – jump out of an airplane, even.

The laid-back communities here are committed to keeping life low-key and rural – and if that's what you're after, do some exploring among the pineapple and coffee plantations of Central O'ahu. Slow down. Spend the day cruising and don't forget to stop at Green World Coffee Farm for a local brew or at Ted's Bakery for chocolate-*haupia* (coconut pudding) pie.

When to Go

Nov–Dec Watch the Triple Crown of Surfing as the big waves come to town.

Jun–Sep Enjoy some beach and swimming time in the summer's calmer waters.

Sep–Oct Avoid the crowds of summer and winter by visiting in the shoulder season.



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North Shore & Central O'ahu Highlights

- 1 Waimea Bay Beach Park** (p252) Admiring this picture-perfect beach; the waves are massive in winter.
- 2 Laniakea Beach** (p252) Seeing the *honu* (green sea turtles) relaxing on the beach.
- 3 Hale'iwa** (p256) Enjoying Surf City, the North Shore's only real town.
- 4 Waialua Sugar Mill** (p264) Exploring the stores in this cleverly redeveloped area.
- 5 Sunset Beach** (p252) Surfing the waves in winter; swimming in summer.
- 6 Ted's Bakery** (p253) Tucking into a chocolate-*haupia* (coconut) cream pie at this legendary eating spot.
- 7 Sharks Cove** (p254) Snorkeling in the cove and pools at Pupukea Beach Park.
- 8 Pu'u o Mahuka Heiau State Historic Site** (p253) Visiting O'ahu's largest ancient temple and admiring the views.
- 9 Green World Coffee Farm** (p267) Trying local brews and checking out the coffee plants.