



Windward Coast

Includes ➔

Waimanalo.....	218
Maunawili.....	219
Kailua.....	220
Kane'ohe Bay Area..	229
Kahana Valley.....	234
Punalu'u.....	235
Kahuku.....	239

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Ai Love Nalo (p218)
- ➔ Ono Steaks & Shrimp Shack (p218)
- ➔ Island Snow Hawaii (p227)
- ➔ Kailua Farmers Market (p224)
- ➔ Fumi's Kahuku Shrimp (p240)
- ➔ Tita's Grill (p240)

Best Beaches

- ➔ Kailua Beach Park (p220)
- ➔ Waimanalo Bay Beach Park (p218)
- ➔ Bellows Field Beach Park (p218)
- ➔ Lanikai Beach (p220)
- ➔ La'ie Beach Park (p238)

Why Go?

Welcome to O'ahu's lushest, most verdant coast, where turquoise waters and light-sand beaches share the dramatic backdrop of misty cliffs in the Ko'olau Range. Cruise over the *pali* (mountains) from Honolulu (only 20 minutes) and you first reach Kailua, a pleasant place with an extraordinary beach.

Many repeat visitors make this laid-back community their island base, whether they intend to kayak, stand up paddle (SUP), snorkel, dive, drive around the island or just laze on the sand. To the south, more beautiful beaches (and good food) await in Waimanalo. North up the coast, Kamehameha Hwy narrows into a winding two-lane road with a dramatic oceanfront on one side and small rural farms, towns and frequent sheer cliffs on the other.

The coast is the main part of the round-island drive that also circles through the North Shore. Don't be surprised if you want to hit the brakes and stay a while.

When to Go

May–Jun Crowds are low and the weather is best: 80°F (27°C) by day, 72°F (22°C) by night.

Aug–Sep A bit later in the year, rainfall is low and beach temps peak: 84°F (29°C) by day.

Dec Hawaii's busiest tourist month is also the Windward Coast's rainiest.



Windward Coast Highlights

- 1 Kailua Beach Park** (p220) Thrilling to this 4-mile-long beach perfect for swimming year-round, then getting wild on the bay windsurfing, kitesurfing, kayaking or stand up paddling.
- 2 Waimanalo Bay Beach Park** (p218) Curling your toes in the sand at one of the world's most stunning beaches, while

- families barbecue and couples get married by the blue water.
- 3 Kahuku's Shrimp Trucks** (p240) Tickling your taste buds as you savor garlic-drenched shrimp at one of these roadside purveyors of goodness.
 - 4 Driving the Windward Coast** (p233) Hitting the brakes for Kualoa Regional Park, one of

- the treats on O'ahu's best drive for beaches, lush tropical scenery and dramatic, sheer cliff faces.
- 5 Maunawili Trail** (p216) Stepping back to a precontact Hawaii on this 9.5-mile hike along rainforest-covered mountain ridges with an optional detour to Maunawili Falls.