



Waimea Canyon & the Westside

808

Includes ➔

Port Allen & Around	212
Hanapepe	216
Waimea	223
Kekaha	230
Waimea Canyon State Park	230
Koke'e State Park ...	233

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Japanese Grandma (p221)
- ➔ G's Juicebar (p226)
- ➔ Wrangler's Steakhouse (p227)
- ➔ Bobbie's (p220)

Best Nightlife

- ➔ Kauai Island Brewery & Grill (p216)
- ➔ Port Allen Sunset Grill & Bar (p215)
- ➔ Wrangler's Steakhouse (p227)
- ➔ Hanapepe Art Night (p219)
- ➔ Waimea Theater (p227)

Why Go?

This is the edge of the world. And everything from the people to the food to the landscape is somehow more wild, more uncharted than on the rest of the island. You won't find many top-notch resorts or restaurants, but you will get a genuine broad-grinned spirit that is proud, authentic and directly Hawaiian.

With several noteworthy parks, lots of sunshine and access to the world famous Na Pali Coast, this is an adventurer's dream come true. There are deep, riveting red canyons, impossibly steep jungle cliffs, forgotten surf breaks, empty beaches, chart-topping views, waterfalls and a seemingly infinite expanse of ocean.

Kaua'i doesn't get more local than the Westside, where revered traditions and family pride reign. You're more likely to hear fluent Hawaiian, spot a real-life *paniolo* (Hawaiian cowboy) and see fishers sewing their nets here than anywhere else on the island.

When to Go

- ➔ Many people time their trips to the Westside to include the exciting Friday Art Nights in Hanapepe. You'll love checking out the fun, lyrical and sometimes totally cheese-ball creations local artists come up with. Food, drinks and a generally festive environment make it popular with locals and tourists alike.
- ➔ The weather here is generally drier than the north part of the island, thanks to something called island rain-fade, meaning it's good to go all year round.
- ➔ A few farmers markets and yearly festivals stand out here. Don't miss October's Eo e Emalani I Alaka'i.



Waimea Canyon & the Westside Highlights

1 Polihale State Park (p231) Pondering eternity at the edge of the world, which ancient Hawaiians believed to be the jumping-off point for souls leaving for the underworld.

2 Waimea Canyon (p231) Driving jaw-dropping canyon vistas and ocean views so

striking you may wonder if this painterly vision is real or not.

3 Na Pali Coast Boat Tour (p225) Zipping into sea caves, bouncing over waves and snorkeling remote reefs – aah!

4 Koke'e State Park (p233) Stopping at roadside lookouts to peek over into

remote valleys, then lacing up your hiking boots and hitting the trails.

5 Art Night in Hanapepe (p216) Feeling groovy every Friday, when sleepy Hanapepe's pint-sized main street fills with local artists, food vendors and crowds of visitors for Art Night.