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SURVIVAL GUIDE

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To embrace the magic that is Maui, remember: quality over quantity. Yes, the ziplines are fun, the restaurants excellent and the resorts posh, but spending time in small towns and remote parks will connect you with the land and its people. This trip covers many places, but allow yourself to readjust if the mana (elemental magic) is strong.

Splash into the scene with an ocean dip in coastal Ka‘anapali, followed by a sunset cruise. Next, stroll the historic whaling town of Lahaina then treat yourself to the Old Lahaina Luau. Still got jet lag? Drive to Haleakalā National Park to catch a breathtaking sunrise and hike into the crater.

The next few days are all about those gorgeous beaches. Begin by snorkeling with turtles at Malu‘aka Beach, followed by a picnic at magnificent Big Beach. For adventure, check out Kanaha Beach for the sailboarding scene.

Head to Pa‘ia for Maui’s hippest cafe scene and check out the surf action at Ho‘okipa Beach Park. Wrap up with waterfalls galore on the most legendary drive in Hawaii, the wildly beautiful Road to Hana. On your last day look out for leviathans on a whale-watching cruise or savor a fine dinner on the western coast.
History buffs, hikers and those with a sense of adventure will enjoy this multiday excursion in West Maui. The trip starts with urban exploring and ends with a wild drive along a remote and rugged coastline. There's a bit of snorkeling and Hawaiian dining in the middle.

The exhibits at the Lahaina Heritage Museum set the tone for adventure, with tales of warring ancient Hawaiians, hardy whalers and determined missionaries. From here, relax under the USA's largest banyan tree then stroll around Maui's captivating old whaling town, which is packed tight with historic buildings, art galleries, great restaurants and indie shops. In the evening, feast your stomach and your eyes at the Old Lahaina Luau, where the Hawaiian buffet and the storytelling – through hula – are highlights.

The next morning, plunge into Maui with a dip in the sea at Ka'anapali Beach. Snorkel out to Pu'u Keka'a (Black Rock) to check out Maui’s dazzling underwater scenery, then pop into the Whalers Village Museum to learn more about the island's whaling history. Enjoy the sunset on a sailboat cruise or from shore at the Hula Grill.

Start day three early – and we mean early – at the Gazebo restaurant in Napili for chocolate macnut pancakes. Swimmers should then head to Kapalua Bay, bodysurfers to DT Fleming Beach and snorkelers to Honolua Bay. Kapalua's menu of adventures also includes hiking and ziplining. And golfers? You probably already know about Kapalua’s courses from the tournament coverage. Catch the sunset at Merriman’s Kapalua. In the morning, stroll beside a string of beaches on the lovely Coastal Trail.

Hit the road on your last day with an adventurous early-morning drive around the northern tip of Maui. Follow the Kahekili Hwy to Nakalele Blowhole, and don’t miss Ohai Viewpoint. Other than fruit stands, dining options are few but Julia's Best Banana Bread should see you through.

In the early afternoon lace up your hiking boots. Lofty mountain views and waterfalls are just starters on the fun Waihe'e Ridge Trail, which heads deep into the West Maui Mountains. Return to Lahaina or spend the night in Pa’ia.
The Road to Hana to ‘Ulupalakua Ranch

This magical drive along the remote east Maui coast is lined with waterfalls and lush scenery. If you want to get away from the resort scene while digging into local culture and exploring untamed nature, this your trip. And there’s no need to rush – you’re spending two nights midway in Hana.

This trip begins on the Hana Hwy, dubbed The Road to Hana. The roadway begins as Hwy 36 then flips to Hwy 360 at mile marker 16. Waterfalls, pools and thick forests line the route. About halfway to Hana, swing down to Keʻanae Peninsula for wind-swept views of the rough lava coast, pounded by surf. You’ll be humbled by Hawaii’s largest temple at Kahanu Garden. Views of the striking black-lava coast and the unusual black-sand beach at Waiʻanapanapa State Park will linger in your memory.

The old Hawaiian community of Hana is well worth a poke around and a two-night stay. Enjoy Thai food for lunch, visit Hana’s museum and the Hasegawa General Store, and the marvelous beaches. Be sure to hike to the top of Puʻu o Kahaula Hill for a broad view of the town and Hana Beach.

It’s time for more local exploring in the morning. First stop? Wailua Falls. This roadside cascade is a top contender for Maui’s most-gorgeous waterfall. The road rolls through the Kipahulu Area of Haleakalā National Park, home to ‘Ohe'o Gulch and its 24 pools, each backed by its own little waterfall. Make time to hike to the 200ft plunge of Makahiku Falls on the Pipiwai Trail.

In jungle-tangled Kipahulu, seek out the grave of aviator Charles Lindbergh before returning to Hana for drinks and live music at posh but hospitable Travaasa Hana. In the morning you’ll follow the lonely Pi'ilani Hwy for an occasionally hair-raising drive with memorable hairpin turns, which eventually straighten out in the cowboy region of Kaupo.

End your trip with a taste of Maui Splash, a refreshing pineapple wine, at the tasting room at Maui Wine on the ‘Ulupalakua Ranch. Spend the night in the Upcountry, home to several inviting B&Bs and inns.
If you like your adventures sprinkled with history and science, then consider this short trip. It heads out to sea then dives into the wild and rugged heart of central Maui. 

Kihei Caffe is a good place to fuel up before a morning of snorkeling. And for offshore fish-gazing, it’s hard to beat Molokini Crater, a sunken volcanic crater rim harboring brilliant fish and coral.

Right where the Molokini boat docks you’ll find the Maui Ocean Center, an inviting tropical aquarium. In the afternoon, drive to ‘Iao Valley State Monument, known for its cool streams, misty mountains and Maui’s emerald jewel, the ‘Iao Needle.

The star of Kihei’s beaches, Keawakapu Beach is tops for sunset. The next morning, relax on the sand or slip on a snorkel and swim to the coral gardens at Malu’aka Beach, dubbed Turtle Beach: sea turtles nibble algae as you swim past.

Continue south to La Perouse Bay, a stunning volcanic landscape at road’s end, to ponder the twisted black lava flows.

On your way back to Kihei, stop at Big Beach for another fine sunset.

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The Upcountry may not have the flash of West and South Maui, but that’s why many people like it. This itinerary includes several small towns on the flanks of Haleakalā, from the surf-and-granola vibe of Pa’ia to the artsy charms of Makawao. It ends with a scenic bang in Haleakalā National Park.

On your first day, explore downtown Pa’ia to find the right breakfast joint then wander the boutiques or hit the beach. At Ho’okipa Beach Park watch the windsurfers from the overlook. Splurge for dinner at the renowned Mama’s Fish House.

It’s paniolo-meets-Picasso in Makawao, a gallery-filled cowboy town. After shopping, enjoy a melt-in-your-mouth cream puff from Komoda Store & Bakery or hit the trails at the Makawao Forest Reserve.

For Upcountry’s sweetest green scene, visit Ali`i Kula Lavender in Kula and munch on lavender scones while soaking up rainbow-lit coastal views from the farm.

The next morning, leave early to catch the sunrise atop Haleakalā volcano in its namesake national park. Follow with a hike into the crater and walk around the otherworldly cinder cones.
Top: ‘Ohe’o Gulch, Haleakalā National Park (p240)
Bottom: Maui Ocean Center (p144)
Maui: Off the Beaten Track

**HALE PA‘I PRINTING MUSEUM**
Students ran the press that produced Hawaii’s first newspaper, printed in a cottage that stands today on the grounds of Lahainaluna High School, 2 miles northeast of downtown Lahaina. Check out a reproduction of the original press. (p83)

**KAHAKULOA**
A striking rock formation watches over this drowsy village that’s tucked beside a bay near the western edge of the wild Kahekili Hwy. The town hot spot? The front porch of the banana-bread hut. (p122)

**HALE PA‘I PRINTING MUSEUM**

**KAHAKULOA**

**LA PEROUSE BAY**

**KING KAMEHAMEHA GOLF CLUB**
Frank Lloyd Wright designed a golf clubhouse? Say what? That’s right, this striking enclave on a Waikapu hillside was created and adapted by the renowned architect. Visitors are welcome to look around. (p142)

**POLIPOLI SPRING STATE RECREATION AREA**
Polipoli is the broody poet of Maui’s state parks. Dark woods, flitting clouds, and a damp chill in the air, all befitting a melancholy tale. But this is Maui, so swap a snuffling boar for a chain-clanking ghost. (p193)

**LA PEROUSE BAY**
A jagged field of lava rock meets a pristine bay at the end of the road in South Maui. Check out historic ruins, scan for spinner dolphins or start a trek to a royal highway. (p169)
Waterfalls on the Hana Hwy may blur in your memory. But the mysterious temple and the dark lava tube on ‘Ula’ino Rd? They’ll likely stay sharp in your thoughts for years to come. Make time for these unique destinations. (p224)

Unbeknownst to many, Haleakalā National Park holds two separate and distinct units. The lesser known is Kipahulu, a lush oceanfront wonderland of waterfalls, pools and one awesome bamboo grove. (p209)

Rewards are earned on the challenging back road to Hana, where landscapes are lonely but dramatic: tropical flora, volcanic slopes, crumbly cliffs and vast ranchlands. (p228)
Map Legend

Sights
- Beach
- Bird Sanctuary
- Buddhist
- Castle/Palace
- Christian
- Confucian
- Hindu
- Islamic
- Jain
- Jewish
- Monument
- Museum/Gallery/Historic Building
- Ruin
- Shinto
- Sikh
- Taoist
- Winery/Vineyard
- Zoo/Wildlife Sanctuary
- Other Sight

Activities, Courses & Tours
- Bodysurfing
- Diving
- Canoeing/Kayaking
- Course/Tour
- Sento Hot Baths/Onsen
- Skiing
- Snorkeling
- Surfing
- Swimming/Pool
- Walking
- Windsurfing
- Other Activity

Sleeping
- Sleeping
- Camping

Eating
- Eating

Drinking & Nightlife
- Drinking & Nightlife
- Cafe

Entertainment
- Entertainment

Shopping
- Shopping

Information
- Bank
- Embassy/Consulate
- Hospital/Medical
- Internet
- Police
- Post Office
- Telephone
- Toilet
- Tourist Information
- Other Information

Geographic
- Beach
- Gate
- Hut/Shelter
- Lighthouse
- Lookout
- Mountain/Volcano
- Oasis
- Park
- Pass
- Picnic Area
- Waterfall

Population
- Capital (National)
- Capital (State/Province)
- City/Large Town
- Town/Village

Transport
- Airport
- BART station
- Border crossing
- Boston T station
- Bus
- Cable car/Funicular
- Cycling
- Ferry
- Metro/Muni station
- Monorail
- Parking
- Petrol station
- Subway/SkyTrain station
- Taxi
- Train station/Railway
- Tram
- Underground station
- Other Transport

Routes
- Tollway
- Freeway
- Primary
- Secondary
- Tertiary
- Lane
- Unsealed road
- Road under construction
- Plaza/Mall
- Steps
- Tunnel
- Pedestrian overpass
- Walking Tour
- Walking Tour detour
- Path/Walking Trail

Boundaries
- International
- State/Province
- Disputed
- Regional/Suburb
- Marine Park
- Cliffs
- Wall

Hydrography
- River, Creek
- Intermittent River
- Canal
- Water
- Dry/Salt/Intermittent Lake
- Reef

Areas
- Airport/Runway
- Beach/Desert
- Cemetery (Christian)
- Cemetery (Other)
- Glacier
- Mudflat
- Park/Forest
- Sight (Building)
- Sportsground
- Swamp/Mangrove

Note: Not all symbols displayed above appear on the maps in this book
OUR STORY

A beat-up old car, a few dollars in the pocket and a sense of adventure. In 1972 that’s all Tony and Maureen Wheeler needed for the trip of a lifetime – across Europe and Asia overland to Australia. It took several months, and at the end – broke but inspired – they sat at their kitchen table writing and stapling together their first travel guide, Across Asia on the Cheap. Within a week they’d sold 1500 copies. Lonely Planet was born.

Today, Lonely Planet has offices in Franklin, London, Melbourne, Oakland, Dublin, Beijing and Delhi, with more than 600 staff and writers. We share Tony’s belief that ‘a great guidebook should do three things: inform, educate and amuse’.

OUR WRITERS

Amy C Balfour
Curator, Kihei & South Maui, North Shore & Upcountry, Road to Hana, Hana & East Maui, Haleakalā National Park

Amy first visited Hawaii as a toddler. For this book, she hiked on the King’s Trail, explored the Haleakalā crater and sampled vodka on a distillery tour in Haliʻimaile. She left Little Beach before things got too wild at the Sunday evening drum circle. Amy has authored or co-authored 30 books for Lonely Planet, including the first two editions of Discover Maui and the last three editions of Hawaii. Her stories have appeared in Backpacker, Sierra, Southern Living and Women’s Health.

Read more about Amy at: http://auth.lonelyplanet.com/profiles/amycbalfour

Jade Bremner
‘Iao Valley & Central Maui, West Maui

Jade has been a journalist for more than a decade. She has lived in and reported on four different regions. Wherever she goes she finds action sports to try, the weirder the better, and it’s no coincidence many of her favourite places have some of the best waves in the world. Jade has edited travel magazines and sections for Time Out and Radio Times and has been a correspondent for the Times, CNN and the Independent. She feels privileged to share tales from this wonderful planet we call home and is always looking for the next adventure.

Ryan Ver Berkmoes
Lana‘i, Moloka‘i, Lahaina

Ryan has written more than 110 guidebooks for Lonely Planet. He grew up in Santa Cruz, California, which he left at age 17 for college in the Midwest, where he first discovered snow. All joy of this novelty soon wore off. Since then he has been travelling the world, both for pleasure and for work – which are often indistinguishable. He has covered everything from wars to bars. He definitely prefers the latter. Ryan calls New York City home.

Read more about Ryan at ryanverberkmoes.com and at @ryanvb