



Lahaina

808 / POP 11,900

Includes ➔

History	82
Sights	82
Beaches	85
Activities	86
Tours	88
Festivals & Events	88
Eating	90
Drinking & Nightlife	93
Entertainment	95
Shopping	95

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Lahaina Grill (p93)
- ➔ Pacific'O (p93)
- ➔ Star Noodle (p92)
- ➔ Ululani's Hawaiian Shave Ice (p90)
- ➔ Choice Health Bar (p90)

Best Places to Watch the Sunset

- ➔ Front St, just south of Lahainaluna Rd
- ➔ Fleetwood's (p94) rooftop bar
- ➔ Old Lahaina Luau (p95)
- ➔ Kimo's (p92)
- ➔ Mala Ocean Tavern (p93)

Why Go?

With its weathered storefronts, narrow streets and bustling harbor, plus a few chattering mynahs, Hawaii's most historic town looks like a port-of-call for Captain Ahab. Is this the 21st century, or an 1850s whaling village? In truth, it offers a mix of both.

Tucked between the West Maui Mountains and a tranquil sea, Lahaina has long been a popular convergence point. Ancient Hawaiian royals were the first to gather here, followed by missionaries, whalers and sugar plantation workers. Today it's a base for creative chefs, passionate artists and dedicated surf instructors.

Near the harbor, storefronts that once housed saloons, dance halls and brothels now teem with art galleries, souvenir shops and, well, still plenty of watering holes. As for the whalers, they've been replaced by a new kind of leviathan hunter: whale-watchers as dedicated as Ahab in their hunt. Between January and March, they don't have to look hard.

When to Go

From mid-December through to mid-April, visitor can watch the humpback whales as they feed on krill during their annual migration.

The King Kamehameha Day Parade takes place in June, with floats, historical figures on horseback and a festival.

Winter begins with famous Halloween revelry and ends with the lighting of the Banyan Tree.



Lahaina Highlights

- 1 Banyan Tree Square** (p82) Reveling in the improbable beauty of Lahaina's central landmark, including the Old Lahaina Courthouse.
- 2 Spectacular Sunsets** (p93) Thrilling to the polychromatic spectacle over the Pacific from the terrace of

a waterfront restaurant such as Pacific'O.

- 3 Whale-watching Cruise** (p88) Going whale-watching in winter when odds are good that you'll see a whale, especially when you're in the hands of an operator such as Pacific Whale Foundation.

- 4 Front St** (p95) Strolling

while viewing dawdling sailboats and a languid Lana'i, and browsing alluring galleries.

- 5 Old Lahaina Luau** (p95) Celebrating Hawaiian culture with traditional hula, tropical cocktails and food a few cuts above the average luau experience.