Hawai‘i, the Big Island: Off the Beaten Track

THE KOHALA INSTITUTE
Dive into the early colonial history of the Big Island, all while trekking along jungle paths that just off the bohemian enclaves of North Kohala.

WAIMEA BACK ROADS
A spiderweb of thin roads forms a fascinating network in the misty upcountry that surrounds Waimea. Go down little-known paths, and find a gorgeous new angle on Hawaii’s cattle country.

KIHOLO BAY
Discover this enormous bay where a plethora of landscapes, from red desert to black-sand beach to rocky coastline, awaits. Don’t forget to say hi to the sunning sea turtles while you’re here.

AHUALOA PASTORAL DETOUR
Experience a gentle, rural side of the Hamakua Coast with this bucolic little road trip, which winds through some of the most attractive agricultural scenery on the east side of the Big Island.

KALOPA STATE RECREATION AREA
Two overland trails form a web of exploration opportunities in this lovely slice of preserved eucalyptus groves, ferns, and deep gulches. An excellent outdoor excursion for families and small groups.

MANA ROAD
Highland flora and copses of fir trees mark this mountainous excursion, which takes in an alpine vistas that are wholly unexpected in tropical Hawaii.

GOVERNMENT BEACH ROAD
Go (more) off the grid in counter-culture Puna. Little country roads and jungle paths wind around mango groves and swatches of dramatic Pacific coastline.

HAWEI’I VOLCANOES NATIONAL PARK
Witness the primal engine of creation churning out actual lava, which bubbles in dramatic flows across the Mordor-esque slatescape of Volcanoes National Park. When else will you get a chance to see creation in action?