

# WAIKIKI

#### Once the playground of Hawaiian royalty, Waikiki

has reinvented itself. No longer just a plasticky beach destination for package tourists, this famous strand of sand is flowering again with a renaissance of Hawaiian music and hula. Oceanfront resorts now aim for boutique intimacy, while Waikiki Beach Walk, with its diverting shops, restaurants and bars, keeps evolving on lower Lewers St. Find whispers of the past here, from the chanting of hula troupes to the legacy of Olympic gold medalist Duke Kahanamoku. Take a surfing lesson from a bronzed beachboy, sip a mai tai as the sun drops into the sea and just enjoy life. It's for good reason that everyone's here.

### WAIKIKI

## **ITINERARIES**

#### IN ONE DAY 7.5 miles

- **1 EGGS 'N THINGS (p116)** Sometimes all the tourists really are headed in the right direction: this diner serves just about the best bang-for-your-buck breakfast in Waikiki. Dig into Portuguese sausage and fluffy pancakes topped with honey or guava or coconut syrup.
- **2 SANS SOUCI BEACH PARK (p108)** Hop on TheBus down to the southern edge of Waikiki to this seldom-crowded beach park, which may feel like your own private paradise. Snorkeling in the calm waters is a joy.
- **3 WAIKIKI AQUARIUM (p109)** Figure out what all those fish you just snorkeled by actually are at this eco-conscious educational center. Don't miss seeing the moon jellyfish, Paluan chambered nautiluses or the Hawaiian monk seals out back

- **4** KUHIO BEACH PARK (p107) Stroll or cycle back towards Waikiki's most popular strand of sand. Take the kids on an outrigger canoe ride (p110) or just laze the hours away until the torch lighting and hula show (p137) starts
- **6 CATAMARAN CRUISE** (p114) If Hawaiian music and hula dancing aren't your thing, jump aboard a catamaran that pulls up right on the beach for sunset mai tais shaken by the waves.
- **6** ROY'S WAIKIKI BEACH (p119) After dark, Waikiki Beach Walk is the most glam place to be. Shine your shoes and treat yourself to cocktails and stellar Hawaii Regional cuisine at this star chef's newest island restaurant.

