



Honolulu

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Best Local Lunches

- ➔ Helena's Hawaiian Food (p115)
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- ➔ Side Street Inn (p120)

Best Dining

- ➔ Alan Wong's (p120)
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Why Go?

Here in Honolulu, away from the crowded haunts of Waikiki, you get to shake hands with the real Hawaii. A boisterous Polynesian capital, Honolulu delivers an island-style mixed plate of experiences.

Eat your way through the pan-Asian alleys of Chinatown, where 19th-century whalers once brawled and immigrant traders thrived. Gaze out to sea atop the landmark Aloha Tower, then sashay past Victorian-era brick buildings, including the USA's only royal palace. Browse at the world's largest open-air shopping center at Ala Moana, then poke your nose into the city's impressive art museums.

Ocean breezes rustle palm trees along the harborfront, while in the cool, mist-shrouded Ko'olau Range, forested hiking trails offer postcard city views. At sunset, cool off with an amble around Magic Island or splash in the ocean at Ala Moana Beach. After dark, migrate to Chinatown's edgy art and nightlife scene.

When to Go

Jun The concerts and hula performances of Mele Mei lead up to Hawaii's prestigious Na Hoku Hanohano Awards.

Sep The Aloha Festivals are a month-long celebration of Hawaiian music, dance and history throughout the state.

Nov Be in town in for Honolulu's version of the Hawaii International Film Festival.



Honolulu Highlights

- 1 Bishop Museum** (p103)
The world's finest Polynesian anthropological collection.
- 2 'Iolani Palace** (p90)
The USA's only royal palace.
- 3 Chinatown Markets** (p95)
Alleyways full of everything edible you can imagine.
- 4 Ala Moana Beach Park** (p90)
Sun and sand at the city's largest beach park.
- 5 Honolulu Museum of Art** (p99)
An exceptional fine-arts museum dating to 1927.
- 6 National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific** (p103)
Honor the 50,000 soldiers buried in Punchbowl.
- 7 Pu'u 'Ualaka'a State Wayside** (p105)
Sweeping views from high above the city.
- 8 Manoa Falls Trail** (p107)
Hike to the top of Manoa Valley.
- 9 Aloha Tower** (p92)
Great views from this historical tower.
- 10 Ala Moana Center** (p132)
The world's largest open-air shopping center.