



Hanalei & the North Shore

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Why Go?

Forget Eden. The North Shore's quilted green slopes and valleys are the picture of fertility. Somewhere between Hanalei Valley and the 'end of the road,' the seemingly untouched landscape makes it easy to imagine what life must have been like for ancient Hawaiians. Swim through the turquoise sea, bite into juicy fresh-picked wild guava or nap away the afternoon on warm, sugary sand. With the nearest traffic light almost 20 miles away, the North Shore runs on 'island time.' To be sure, this sleepy little enclave is a treasure: it's the island within the island.

When to Go

- ➔ Summer (May to September) is best for families as it typically offers the least rain and serene seas, which makes the beaches safe and ocean swimming and snorkeling possible across the region. Trails are in great condition then too.
- ➔ Wave riders, however, would do well to come in winter (November to April) when the many beach and reef breaks here are blessed with continuous action.
- ➔ For the best deals on lodging and for the thinnest crowds on the ground, plan your trip for May, October or November (prior to the Thanksgiving holiday).
- ➔ August is great for soaking up island culture and connecting with locals at the many festivals.

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ BarAcuda Tapas & Wine (p167)
- ➔ Hanalei Dolphin Restaurant & Sushi Lounge (p167)
- ➔ Tahiti Nui (p168)
- ➔ Sushigirl Kauai (p174)
- ➔ Kilauea Fish Market (p149)

Best North Shore Sunsets

- ➔ Ke'e Beach (p176)
- ➔ Hanalei Pavilion Beach Park (p159)
- ➔ 'Anini Beach Park (p152)
- ➔ St Regis Bar terrace (p157)

