



The Road to Hana

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Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Huelo Lookout (p216)
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Best Views

- ➔ Ke'anae Peninsula Lookout (p221)
- ➔ Wailua Valley State Wayside (p221)
- ➔ Wai'anapanapa State Park (p225)
- ➔ Honomanu Bay (p220)

Why Go?

There's a sense of suspense you just can't shake while driving the Road to Hana, a serpentine road lined with tumbling waterfalls, lush slopes, and rugged coasts – and serious hairpin turns. Spanning the northeast shore of Maui, the legendary Hana Hwy ribbons tightly between jungle valleys and towering cliffs. Along the way, 54 one-lane bridges mark nearly as many waterfalls, some tranquil and inviting, others so sheer they kiss you with spray as you drive past. The drive is ravishingly gorgeous, but certainly not easy.

Roadside distractions? Eden-like swimming holes, sleepy seaside villages and hiking trails through cool forests. If you've never tried smoked breadfruit, explored a spring-fed cave or gazed upon an ancient Hawaiian temple, set the alarm early. As for rental cars, Jeeps and Mustangs are the ride of choice.

Once you've left Ha'iku behind, houses give way to thick jungle, and the scenery gets more dramatic. One quirk? After the 16-mile marker on Hwy 36, the Hana Hwy becomes Hwy 360 and the mile markers begin again at zero.

When to Go

Driving the Road to Hana is an extremely popular activity. The highway is busy year-round. For slightly lighter crowds, visit in the Maui off-season (April, May and September through mid-December).

If you're limited to a day trip, start your drive at dawn or as soon after sunrise as you can. Parking next to the top waterfalls gets harder as traffic increases.

If you have two days, spend the night in Hana. On the drive back, pull over at the sites and waterfalls that you missed.



The Road to Hana Highlights

- 1 Wai'anapanapa State Park** (p225) Exploring stunning natural attractions along a rugged lava coast.
- 2 Three Bears Falls** (p221) Photographing three lovely cascades from one roadside spot.
- 3 Pi'ilanihale Heiau & Kahanu Gardens** (p224) Admiring Polynesia's greatest temple, and tropical plants.
- 4 Ke'anee Peninsula** (p220) Strolling a seaside village evoking the best of Old Hawaii.
- 5 Rappel Maui** (p219) Adventuring beside waterfalls.
- 6 Coconut Glen's** (p223) Slurping chili chocolate ice cream at a roadside stand.
- 7 Waikamoi Nature Trail** (p212) Leaving the safety of your car for a jungle hike.
- 8 Honomanu Bay** (p220) Watching a tropical river spill from a valley into the sea.
- 9 Twin Falls** (p216) Hiking followed by a splash.