



West Maui

Includes ➔

Lahaina to Ma'alaea ..	104
Ka'anapali	107
Honokowai	112
Kahana	113
Napili	114
Kapalua & Northern Beaches	115
Kahekili Highway	119

Best Places to Dine with a View

- ➔ Hula Grill & Barefoot Bar (p110)
- ➔ Gazebo (p114)
- ➔ Plantation House (p119)
- ➔ Burger Shack (p119)
- ➔ Merriman's Kapalua (p119)

Best Beaches

- ➔ Ka'anapali Beach (p107)
- ➔ Kapalua Beach (p115)
- ➔ Oneloa Beach (p115)
- ➔ DT Fleming Beach Park (p115)
- ➔ Napili Beach (p114)

Why Go?

For sun-kissed fun, West Maui is the place to be. Whether you want to snorkel beside lava rocks, zipline down the mountains, thwack a golf ball, hike through the jungle or sail beneath the setting sun, the adventures are as varied as the landscape. Ka'anapali is West Maui's splashy center, a look-at-me town luring travelers with world-class golf courses, stylish resorts, oceanfront dining and a dazzling, mile-long crescent of beach.

Further north, Hawaiian history and swanky exclusivity have formed an intriguing, sometimes uneasy, alliance in Kapalua, where luxurious lodgings and a PGA golf course preen near a lush mountain watershed, an ancient burial ground and several gorgeous beaches. To escape this glittery scene, hunker down in Kahana or Napili, lovely seaside communities known for their condos and budget-friendly prices. For off-the-grid excitement, only one adventure will do – a breezy, sometimes hair-raising, drive around the untamed northern coast.

When to Go

The best time to visit is generally whale-watching season – between mid-December and mid-April.

West Maui has great weather all year round. Average temperatures range from the mid-70s to the low-80s Fahrenheit (23–30°C). Rain showers are more likely the further west you go, but they often blow over quickly.

Good deals can be found between mid-April and mid-June and between September and mid-December.

Visit in June for the Kapalua Wine & Food Festival (p118) held over four days at the Ritz-Carlton. It features renowned winemakers and Hawaii's hottest chefs, offering cooking demonstrations and wine tastings.



West Maui Highlights

- 1 Ka'anapali Beach** (p107)
Snorkeling beside Pu'u Keka'a (Black Rock) then strutting your stuff resort-style at 'Dig-Me Beach.'
- 2 Papawai Point** (p113)
Crying 'Thar she blows!' at this cliffside perch, a primo whale-watching spot come winter.
- 3 Waihe'e Ridge Trail** (p100)
Climbing into the clouds on this scenic five-miler with sweeping north coast views.
- 4 Balancing on a board** (p104)
Surfing, bodyboarding and stand up paddling: everyone's catching waves.
- 5 Masters of Hawaiian Slack Key Guitar Concert Series** (p114)
Enjoying these old-style jams in Napili, cultural celebrations that make everyone feel like 'ohana (extended family).