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Maui

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# Budget-Friendly Maui

Mark Twain once said he's never "bade goodbye so regretfully." He was, of course, referring to his departure of Maui, which draws you in with its majestic skylines, endless horizons and adventurous excursions. A place so grand in its natural state, the Valley Isle offers contrasting landscapes, from sweeping views of Wailuku and Central Maui while on the path of Waihee Ridge trail, to the glistening waters and powdery sands of Oneola beach. Let the following tips below guide you to an inexpensive tour of some of the island's most picturesque locales. And be sure to wear comfortable shoes.

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### >> MORNING

Before the Waihee Ridge Trail is misted with dreamy cotton-like clouds, head out early to the 2,563-foot peak and get a breathtaking view of Wailuku, the slopes of Kahakuloa, Makamaka'ole Falls and Mount 'Eke. Bring a rain-resistant jacket, bottles of water and a picnic lunch to enjoy at the end of the trail.



### >> AFTERNOON

A trip to the islands would not be complete without a refreshing dip in the ocean. Maui's shorelines are no exception. Located in Kapalua, Oneloa beach features a quiet stretch of jewel-toned waters that skim the fine grains of powdery sand. Don't forget to pack sunscreen as you may end up basking all day long.



### >> EVENING

The term "local" may be difficult to define other than noticing the busy lines and wait times at a popular eatery. A place that attracts both visitors and regulars alike is none other than Da Kitchen Cafe in Kahului. It's authentic "local" cuisine at a great price. Must-tries include the sumo plate and fried musubi.

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# where now

MAUI

The seasons are filled with entertaining festivals and events

LOCAL SCENE

## WELCOME HOME

The annual Festivals of Aloha celebration welcomes everyone to experience the true meaning of "aloha."

BY KRISTEN NEMOTO

You've probably heard the remark while on your flight here to Maui. Or perhaps you have seen the gesture in a lei greeting to a loved one. Many people hear or see the word expressed, but few understand its true meaning. A term so endearing, its definition spans meanings from a simple "hello" to an expression of love. This word, often practiced by those living in Hawaii, is known as "aloha."

In an effort to express what many locals call the "aloha spirit," the Festivals of Aloha—an over half-a-century-old celebration of Hawaii's culture for those visiting during the islands "off-season"—will take place during September and October.

As the Maui County coordinator for the Festivals of Aloha, Wailuku native, Yuki Lei Sugimura, found her role to be a natural fit, experiencing the feeling of "aloha" when she returned to her home island of Maui.

"I lived on the mainland for six years and when I was gone I never realized how beautiful (Maui) is," says Sugimura. "It's more than the beaches and the gorgeous Haleakala, it's the people in Maui who make it so special."

The people, she says, along with the tight-knit bond of communities within Maui, make the Festival of Aloha events possible. And the planning process helps create a connection of unity among participants.

Starting in Wailuku, the Festivals of Aloha will kick off on Friday, Sept. 5 with a lively First Friday street festival, followed by a month filled with entertainment, local culinary vendors, artisans and crafters, and an annual falsetto competition hosted by legendary musician Richard Ho'opi'i.

Culminating the Festivals of Aloha will be a weeklong extravaganza in the quiet, close-knit town of Hana.

"I'm looking forward to my poke plate," laughs Neil Hasegawa, a consultant for the Festivals of Aloha in Hana, as he describes his favorite part of the event. "Eating is a big part of the culture in Maui. If you haven't tried any local food, this is the time and place to do it."

From a parade, live entertainment and



"It's more than the beaches and the gorgeous Haleakala, it's the people of Maui who make it so special."

makahiki games to a fishing tournament and a talent show competition, thousands will gather, says Hasegawa, for the Festivals of Aloha event because of their need to feel and be a part of the community.

"The Festivals of Aloha is about coming together and celebrating each other's culture," Hasegawa says. "It's about inviting people in and sharing our aloha. That's what it truly is about." [www.festivalsofaloha.com](http://www.festivalsofaloha.com)



## White Collar Comedy Tour

Just because you're on an island, doesn't mean you have to miss out on top-named headliners. At Maui Arts Cultural Center's Harold K.L. Castle Theater, entertainers flock to the 1,200-seat venue for its spacious yet intimate setting. Along with his signature Scotch drink in one hand and a cigar in the other, comedian Ron White will perform his infamous juicy tall-tale (yet real life) storylines. **Friday, Sept. 19, 7:30 pm, [www.mauiarts.org](http://www.mauiarts.org)**

### Bars/Lounges

**ALALOA LOUNGE**—Formerly The Lobby Lounge, The Alaloe Lounge is that place to go for a casual lunch, specialty cocktails or signature appetizers and desserts. [ritzcarlton.com](http://ritzcarlton.com). 1 Ritz Carlton Dr., 808.669.6200

**AMBROSIA MARTINI LOUNGE**—This pink-hued liquid laboratory has something happening every night of the week. Impressive dress is required. [ambrosiamaiui.com](http://ambrosiamaiui.com). 1913 S. Kihei Rd. 808.891.1011

**BOTERO GALLERY BAR**—Stare at walls that are plastered with the artwork of Fernando Botero while you indulge in fancy cocktails and live music at a five-star resort. [grandwailea.com](http://grandwailea.com). Grand Wailea, 3850 Wailea Alanui Dr., 808.875.1234

**CASANOVA**—Discover life after dark in the small town of Makawao. On select evenings, this popular Italian restaurant converts into a nightclub or features live music and guest DJs from Hawaii and the mainland. Call for event schedule. [casanova-maui.com](http://casanova-maui.com). 1188 Makawao Ave., 808.572.0220

**FRED'S MEXICAN CAFE**—Every hour at this popular Kihei bar is the happiest hour. Don't miss the drink and food specials on Taco Tuesdays. [fredsmexicancafe.com](http://fredsmexicancafe.com). 2511 S. Kihei Rd., 808.891.8600

**LIFE'S A BEACH**—Sip your Mai Tai solo or share a carafe at their daily happy hour. Live music and entertainment is featured nightly. [mauibars.com](http://mauibars.com). 1913 Kihei Rd., 808.891.8010



**ROCK 'N' ROLL HALL OF FAMER** and music legend Leon Russell returns to the islands on his "Life Journey Tour." [www.mauiarts.org](http://www.mauiarts.org)



## Jewelry

**BEN BRIDGE**—A trusted source for fine jewelry and timepieces since 1912, his diamond collections and gems are perfect for any special occasion. [benbridge.com](http://benbridge.com). Queen Kaahumanu Center, 275 W. Kaahumanu Ave., #1200, 808.877.0122

**GRANDE'S GEMS**—This family-owned jewelry shop carries nature-inspired designs for both men and women. Marriott Wailea Beach Resort, 13700 Wailea Alanui Dr, 808.891.2464

**J.C. CHISM**—Discover a collection of exotic jewelry and gifts, including the signature "Aloha Bracelet." You can also find several special pieces handmade by the store's owner. Wharf Cinema Center, 658 Front St., 808.661.8818



## Opt to Shop

Dust off the sand from Kaanapali Beach and enter Whalers Village, an open air shopping destination just steps away, offering outlets for retail therapy, cultural entertainment and oceanfront dining. Its vast range of over 90 stores covers everything from "Made in Hawaii" boutiques to international couture brands. Hula performances take place every Monday, Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday from 7 to 8 pm. Open daily from 9:30 am to 10 pm with plenty of covered parking. 2435 Kaanapali Pkwy. [www.whalersvillage.com](http://www.whalersvillage.com)

**MAUI DIVERS JEWELRY**—Renowned for high-quality handcrafted designs, this shop features pearls, precious corals, Hawaiian gold, diamonds and gemstones. Whalers Village, 2435 Kaanapali Pkwy., 808.661.1097

**NA HOKU**—Hawaii's finest jewelers since 1924. Exotic and elegant, their jewelry is inspired by the beauty and tradition of the Islands. [nahoku.com](http://nahoku.com). 858 Front St., 808.661.1219; Queen Kaahumanu Center, 275 Kaahumanu Ave., 808.893.2110; Whalers Village, 2345 Kaanapali Pkwy., 808.667.5411

## Shopping Centers

**THE OUTLETS OF MAUI**—This is the only outlet center in the world located in a historic oceanfront, resort town, showcasing brands like Calvin Klein, Michael Kors, Coach and more. [theoutletsofmaui.com](http://theoutletsofmaui.com). 900 Front St., 808.661.8277

**QUEEN KAAHUMANU CENTER**—Located in the heart of Kahului, this center has more than 100 shops and restaurants. Other offerings include a food court, movie theater, banking, travel agencies and hair salons. [queenkaahumanucenter.com](http://queenkaahumanucenter.com). 275 W. Kaahumanu Ave., 808.877.3369

## Specialty Shops

**CARILOHA**—From apparel to bedding to handbags and accessories, everything in this shop is made from their ultra-soft, moisture-wicking bamboo fabric. [carilo.com](http://carilo.com). 824 Front St., 808.214.5503

**ELEPHANT WALK**—This eclectic store calls itself a "gallery of life," and they carry everything from locally handmade jewelry and paintings by local artists to gifts for children and Crocs footwear. The Shops at Wailea, 3750 Wailea Alanui Dr., 808.891.8684; 855 Front St., 808.661.6129

**FOREVER H&A**—Make sure your keiki and American Girl dolls are properly attired for their Hawaiian vacation. Choose from an assortment of floral island-inspired dresses and accessories. Wharf Cinema Center, 658 Front St., Suite 155, 808.661.1760

**MARTIN & MACARTHUR**—Find beautiful furniture and home décor pieces crafted from native koa wood. They also carry a gourmet selection of gifts for foodies, table accents and hand-sewn kitchen towels. [martinandmacarthur.com](http://martinandmacarthur.com). Whalers Village, 2435 Kaanapali Pkwy., 808.667.7422

**ORCHIDS OF OLINDA**—This award-winning farm produces plants with incredible color and vigor. Learn about these mystical plants on a tour that includes lunch and a complimentary orchid. [orchidsofolinda.com](http://orchidsofolinda.com). 1101 Piipholo Rd., 808.572.0839

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**MONKEYPOD KITCHEN—Regional.** Find sustainable and locally sourced cuisine paired with crafted cocktails, ice cold draft beers and a diverse wine list. [monkeypodkitchen.com](http://monkeypodkitchen.com). 10 Wailea Gateway Pl., Unit B-201, 808.891.2322

**MORIMOTO MAUI—Regional.** Whisk away to a sushi-lovers paradise at Iron Chef Morimoto's beachfront restaurant. A must-try is the ishi yaki buri bop, cooked at your table in a hot stone bowl. [maui.andaz.hyatt.com](http://maui.andaz.hyatt.com). 3550 Wailea Alanui Dr., 808.573.1234

**NICK'S FISHMARKET—Regional.** Known for their fresh catch, this local favorite is a seafood lover's delight. Enjoy garden views as you select wines from their award-winning wine menu. [nicksfishmarket.com](http://nicksfishmarket.com). 4100 Wailea Alanui Dr., 808.879.7224

**PITA PARADISE—Various.** A sweet medley of Greek and Italian cuisine is served at this popular casual dining destination. Make visits religiously for their fresh fish and daily specials. [pitaparadisehawaii.com](http://pitaparadisehawaii.com). 1913 S. Kihei Rd., 808.875.7679

**SARENTO'S ON THE BEACH—Regional.** Enjoy sweeping ocean views as you dine on fresh island fish prepared with a Mediterranean flair. [sarentosonthebeach.com](http://sarentosonthebeach.com). 2980 South Kihei Rd., 808.875.7555

**THE MARKET BY CAPISCHE—Deli.** Part coffee shop and part deli, this new marketplace offers a variety of mouth-watering options. Find freshly baked breads, gourmet meats as well as made-to-order sandwiches and salads. Wailea Gateway Center, 10 Wailea Gateway Pl., 808.879.2433

→ SPOTLIGHT



## Sumptuous Nuka

There's traditional sushi then there's sushi that's inventive and artistic. Cue in Nuka—an izakaya-style Japanese restaurant—and all the flavors and expectations will be met and exceeded. The lollipop roll is composed of tuna, hamachi, salmon, shrimp, asparagus and masago, all condensed neatly into a cucumber wrapper, then served (not licked) on toothpicks. For dessert, the name "black sesame ice cream" is too tempting to pass up as two heaping scoops are piled on a plate to share. [www.ukamaui.com](http://www.ukamaui.com). 780 Haiku Road, 808.575.2939.

## Lahaina

**CHINA BOAT—Chinese.** This cozy local eatery has a wide assortment of seafood and meat options. Stop by for their daily early bird specials. [china-boatkahana.com](http://china-boatkahana.com). 4474 Lower Honoapiilani Hwy., 808.669.5089

**KIMO'S—Regional.** This open-air restaurant is famous for their hula pie--towers of macadamian nut ice cream piled on a chocolate cookie crust. Before you satisfy your sweet tooth, try their fresh fish or prime steaks. [kimosmaui.com](http://kimosmaui.com). 845 Front St., 808.661.4811

**MAUI TACOS—Mexican.** A restaurant fusing traditional Mexican fare with the exotic flavors from the Hawaiian Islands. [mauitacos.com](http://mauitacos.com). Lahaina Square, 840 Waiee St., 808.661.8883; Queen Kaahumanu Center, 275 Kaahumanu Ave., 808.871.7726

**SANSEI—Japanese.** Creative sushi creations come alive at this contemporary Japanese eatery. [sanseihawaii.com](http://sanseihawaii.com). Kapalua Resort, 600 Office Rd., 808.669.6286

## Paia

**FLATBREAD COMPANY—Pizza.** If you like thin crust pizzas, this north shore Maui eatery will not disappoint. Try their Mopsy Kalua Pork flatbread--kiawe-smoked pork shoulder, local pineapple and mango barbecue sauce. Vegan and gluten-free options are also available. [flatbreadcompany.com](http://flatbreadcompany.com). 89 Hana Hwy., 808.579.8989

**ROCK & BREWS PAIA—American.** Along the road to Hana, stop by to fill up on American comfort food with an island edge. Enjoy a wide selection of craft beers, wine or cocktails on their outdoor patio. [rockandbrews.com/paia](http://rockandbrews.com/paia). 120 Hana Hwy., 808.579.9011

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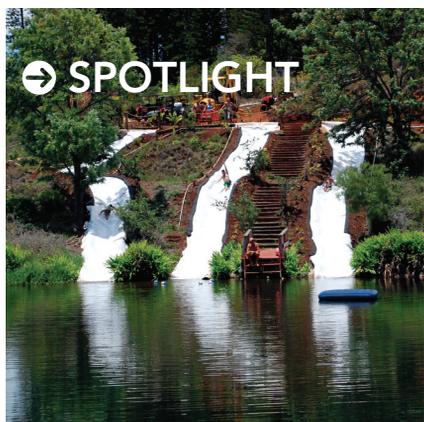
COURTESY NUKA

**DUNE BUGGY TOURS**—Get down and dirty in a dune buggy while you rip through the valleys of the West Maui Mountains. kahomaranch.com. 33 Lono Ave., 808.667.1978

**HALEAKALA BIKE COMPANY**—Self-paced and guided tours include a 24-speed mountain bike with front and rear disc brakes, helmet and backpack. bikemaui.com. 810 Haiku Rd., 808.575.9575, 888.922.2453

**MAUI SUNRIDERS BIKE CO.**—Bike down Haleakala Volcano at your own pace. No groups, no pressure and no timetable at the lowest prices guaranteed. mauibikeride.com. 71 Baldwin Ave., C1/C2, 808.579.8970

**MAUI ZIPLINE**—Only Maui Zipline allows kids as young as 5 years old to experience the same adrenaline rush as their parents. With five side-by-side lines ranging from 300 to 900 feet, this tour offers a memorable experience for the entire family. mauzipline.com. 1670 Honoapiilani Hwy., 808.633.2464



## Slip and Slide

What better way to end your room-to-room roaring dune buggy rides, while taking in spectacular scenic views of West Maui mountains and landscape, than a swoosh and kerplunk dunk into the valley's fresh water reservoir. From children to adults (pretending to be children), visitors of all ages agree that the culmination on the Kahoma Ranch's water slides makes for an experience like no other. Kahoma Ranch Tours, 808.667.1978, [www.kahomaranch.com/water-slides.com](http://www.kahomaranch.com/water-slides.com)

**PACIFIC WHALE FOUNDATION**—Choose from an array of eco-cruises and water excursions whether it's a snorkeling trip to Molokini or a dolphin and whale watch cruise. Private charters get you up close and personal with Hawaii's unique marine life. pacificwhale.org. 300 Maalaea Rd., 808.249.8811. 800.942.5311

**PIIHOLO RANCH ZIPLINE**—This seven-generation family-owned cattle ranch now offers Hawaii's newest and longest side-by-side zipline. Enjoy coastal and canyon views as you zip through a lush Hawaiian forest. piiholozipline.com. 799 Piihoho Rd., 800.374.7050

**PONY EXPRESS TOURS**—A family-run operation since 1983, Pony Express Tours offers horseback rides with ocean views. Available tours include, the Haleakala Ranch Paniolo Ride (2 hours) and the Haleakala Ranch Mauka Ride (1.5 hours). A refreshment is provided during both tours. Reservations required. ponyexpressstours.com. Crater Rd., 808.667.2200

**PROFLYGT PARAGLIDING SCHOOL OF HAWAII**—Train to fly tandem or solo over Mt. Haleakala and look down into "The House of The Sun." paraglidehawaii.com. 1065 Waipoli Rd., 808.874.5433

**ROBERTS HAWAII**—With 70 years of experience in providing first-class transportation services and personalized sightseeing tours and excursions, let Roberts Hawaii be your guide to the island of Maui. robertshawaii.com. 800.831.5541

**SKYLINE ECO ADVENTURES**—Skyline Eco Adventures offers zipline adventure courses, custom designed to highlight spectacular natural areas that are open and accessible exclusively to Skyline guests. zipline.com. Haleakala Crater, 15-200 Haleakala Hwy., 808.878.8400; Kaanapali, 2588 Kekaa Dr., 808.878.8400

## Watersports

**AUNTIE SNORKEL**—Boasting to be the friendliest of snorkel shops on Maui, Auntie Snorkel offers ocean sports equipment, information on where to snorkel and coupons for weekly snorkel gear rentals. auntiesnorkel.com. Rainbow Mall, 2439 South Kihei Rd., 808.879.6263, 855.4.AUNTIE(286843)

**BIG KAHUNA ADVENTURES**—Surfing lessons, skim and boogie boards, kayaking expeditions, snorkel gear rental. bigkahunaadventures.com. 1913 C S. Kihei Rd., 808.875.6395.

**UFO PARASAIL**—Soar above Maui with experienced crew and the latest in lift-off technology. ufoparasail.net. Kaanapali Beach, 808.661.7UFO or 800.359.4836

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