



Big Island, Hawaii

Photo: Leena Robinson/Shutterstock.com



lauraslens/Shutterstock.com

The Island of Hawaii is known colloquially as “Big Island.” This is a fitting nickname, for the Island is twice the combined size of its neighboring counterparts! Big Island flaunts its colors like the plumes of a peacock: fierce reds of magma from Hawaii Volcanoes National Park contrast spectacularly with the bright white snow of Maunakea, while the electric black sands of Punaluu Beach stream into the emerald green of Hamakua Coast’s rainforests.



Marty Wakat/Shutterstock.com



Jirka Matousek/Flickr

QUIZ

*What Type of Traveller
Are You Based on
Your Travel IQ?*

TAKE THE QUIZ

Top 5



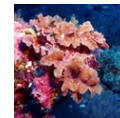
Hawaii Volcanoes National Park

You have the unique opportunity to watch one of nature's most



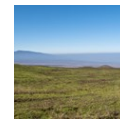
Punaluu Black Sand Beach

Hawaii's black sands draw much of the attention for its beaches. Drawing its...



Two Step Snorkeling

Perfect for the beginner, Two Steps, a colloquial name for Honaunau Bay, is ...



Mamalahoia Kona Heritage Co...

Mamalahoia Kona Heritage Corridor was named in honor of Kamehameha the Great'...



Royal Footsteps Along the ...

The Royal Footsteps Along the Kona Coast Byway is seven miles of a 700-year ...



THE ISLAND



Radoslaw Lecyk/Shutterstock.com

While Hawaii Island may be the youngest island in the archipelago, it retains its prominence as the first island to be touched by man. Coming in the form of Polynesian voyagers from the Marquesas Islands 1,500 years ago, they would become the first Hawaiians. Native Hawaiian temple ruins, royal grounds, fish ponds, sacred burial spots, and petroglyphs all remain as evidence of this early culture. And Puuhonua o Honaunau National Historic Park also retains many areas and items of historical significance.

Throughout Hawaii's era of discovery, Hawaii Island was divided among chiefdoms, leading to frequent skirmishes and contention between the factions. It was during this time that the last major religious "heiau" temple was built. In constructing a tribute to the war god Kukailimoku, King Kamehameha I hoped to bolster his efforts in uniting the Hawaiian Islands. He would go on to conquer the island and indeed unite the Kingdom. The temple is now the Puukohola Heiau National Historic Site in North Kohala, and there are also statues and dedications to the Great King Kamehameha around Hawaii Island.

Over the next centuries, Hawaii Island would be influenced by the influx of missionaries, along with a roaring sugar industry. Today's Big Island

continues as a cornerstone for the Hawaiian Islands' beauty, culture, and eternal elegance.

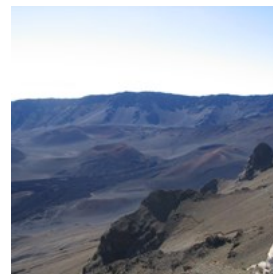
DO & SEE



Maridav/Shutterstock.com

The Big Island is not only the largest island in Hawaii, it also has an active volcano to amaze visitors with an unparalleled view of the Earth in action. It is only one of the many natural and historical sites that enthrall visitors to the island annually.

Hawaii Volcanoes National Park



You have the unique opportunity to watch one of nature's most powerful, beautiful processes as the earth unfurls to release its

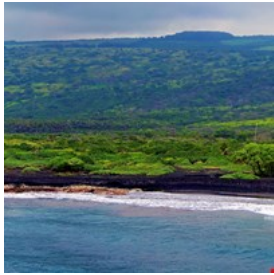
magma from the volcanoes. As one of the most active volcanoes on the planet, Kilauea volcano is consistently one of Big Island's biggest attractions. Its reputation precedes it as a sacred place for Native Hawaiians as well.

Photo: Ken Lund/Flickr (image cropped)

Address: Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, Island of Hawaii

Phone: +1 808 985 6000

Punaluu Black Sand Beach

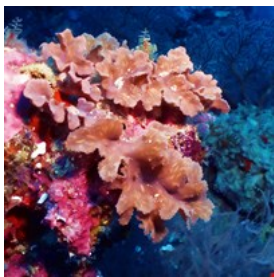


Hawaii's black sands draw much of the attention for its beaches. Drawing its color from the volcanic activity, the Punaluu Black Sand

Beach on southeastern Kau's coast is stunning. Hawaiian Green Sea turtles will bask in the sun beside you (please do not disturb them, however, as they are endangered and protected).

Photo: Les Williams/Flickr (image cropped)
Address: Highway 11, Island of Hawaii

Two Step Snorkeling

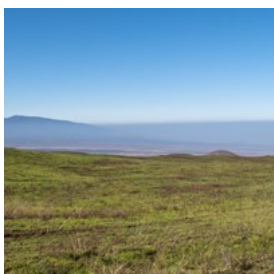


Perfect for the beginner, Two Steps, a colloquial name for Honaunau Bay, is the marquee location for a jumping off point. There are plenty of

sightseeing opportunities while exploring the sea, with coral, varied topography, and an abundance of ocean life.

Photo: Neville Wootton/Flickr (image cropped)
Address: Honaunau Bay, Island of Hawaii

Mamalaho Kona Heritage Corridor



Mamalaho Kona Heritage Corridor was named in honor of Kamehameha the Great's "Law of the Splintered Paddle." The storied

footpath granted runners safe passage for centuries, and today the 10-mile Mamalaho (paddle) Kona Heritage Corridor survives with stories of Hawaii's past and present. The immigrant influences of Europe, Asia, and the Americas are still evident, survived by historic

architecture, shrines, coffee farms, art galleries, and Holualoa Village.

Photo: Andrew K. Smith/Flickr (image cropped)
Address: Holualoa, Island of Hawaii

Royal Footsteps Along the Kona Coast

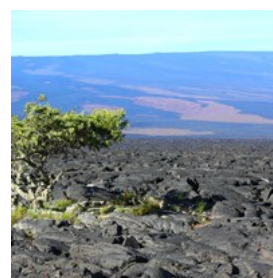


The Royal Footsteps Along the Kona Coast Byway is seven miles of a 700-year history. The stretch of road unfolds the centuries of Hawaii's

Alii, or ruling class. You will be led past four of Kona's seven "Royal Centers," which were the sacred locations chosen due to an abundance of natural resources and recreational value; they were also reserved for Hawaii's kings and queens. Count among them Hulihee Palace (one of three palaces in the United States), the royal surfing grounds of Kahaluu, Hawaii's oldest Christian church and several heiau, or sites of sacred Hawaiian temples.

Photo: Travisthurston/Wikimedia Commons (image cropped)
Address: Alii Drive, Island of Hawaii

Kau Scenic Byway - The Slopes of Mauna Loa



The Kau Scenic Byway is a 54-mile loop of ancient Hawaiian history. Enjoy the wealth of natural wonders and the southernmost point of the

United States. Long stretches of pristine, unrequited scenery makes for exceptional experiences along this byway. Stop at the Honuapo Overlook, and indulge in one of Hawaii's most remarkable views. The byway also takes you to Punaluu Black Sand Beach, the 1000-year-old cave system of Kula Kai Caverns and gives you majestic vistas of Hawaii's lava

fields.

Photo: Roy Luck/Flickr (image cropped)

Akaka Falls State Park



Akaka Falls State Park is nestled along the northeastern Hamakua Coast. The 2 mellifluous waterfalls are seen on only one short hike, while a pleasant 0.4-mile hike will take you through a lush rainforest of wild orchids, bamboo groves, and coquettish ferns. You'll pinch yourself to find this is all indeed real, especially with the 100-foot Kahuna Falls and the towering Akaka Falls, which plummets down 442-feet.

Photo: randy stewart/Flickr (image cropped)

Address: Akaka Falls Road, Honomu, Island of Hawaii

Opening hours: Every day 8.30am - 6pm

Phone: +1 808 961 9540

Hilo



Hilo is a region of Hawaii known for its dramatic waterfalls, fertile rainforests, blooming gardens, and its geographic inverse of the volcanic Kohala Coast. Hilo is also the gateway to Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, located 45 minutes south. You'll find plenty to do with a collection of renowned museums, art galleries, unique shops, and everlasting favorites like the Hilo Farmers Market.

Photo: KanoaWithington/Wikimedia Commons (image cropped)

More Info: Depart from Waimea on Highway 19 (approximately 1 hour 15 minutes)

Historic Kailua Village (Kailua-Kona)



Historic Kailua Village (Kailua-Kona) is a vivacious seaside town in the heart of the sunny Kona Coast. When the sun sets, Kailua Village puts forth a lively nightlife with live music, great local food, and ocean vistas. During the day, find a variety of shops, cafes, historical sites, and more.

Photo: Floyd Manzano/Flickr (image cropped)

Address: 755766 Kuakini Highway Kailua-Kona, Island of Hawaii

Phone: +1 808 326 1467

Internet: www.historickailuavillage.com

Email: kailuavillage@gmail.com

More Info: 15 minutes south of Kona International Airport

Keauhou



Visitors are never short of activities at Keauhou. Just south of Historic Kailua Village, the Keauhou area has become one of Hawaii's most frequented destinations. The waters are perfect for snorkeling, scuba diving, and kayaking. Enjoy a combination of golf courses, spas, and fine resort restaurants on land. Spot manta rays at night as they meander near the shores to feed on microscopic plankton, and you may even see napping honu (Hawaiian green sea turtles) in the shallow tide pools as well.

Photo: Travisthurston/Wikimedia Commons (image cropped)

More Info: Immediately south of Historic Kailua Village

Pu'u'honua o Honaunau National Historical Park



A centerpiece of Hawaiian culture, Puuhonua o Honaunau is a 180-acre national historic park that once served home to royal grounds and a place of refuge for ancient Hawaiian lawbreakers. In these times, those who broke kapu (or sacred laws) were given one chance of redemption: evade pursuers and arrive to a puuhonua, or a sacred places of refuge. If successful there would be a ceremony of absolution, and the law-breaker would return to society.

Photo: Makuahine Pa'i Ki'i/Flickr (image cropped)

Address: State Highway 160 Honaunau, Island of Hawaii

Opening hours: Every day 7am - 6pm

Phone: +1 808 328 2326

Waimea



Quirky and fun, Waimea immediately shows its sense of humor with stop signs that read "Whoa," instead of "Stop." Waimea is known as paniolo (Hawaiian cowboy) country, with rolling, green pastures that still serve home to cattle, cowboys, and ranches. The community also features some of Hawaii Island's finest chefs and endless entertainment with the Kahilu Theatre.

Photo: Robert Linsdell/Flickr (image cropped)

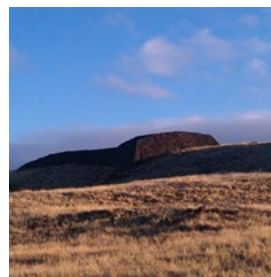
Hamakua Heritage Corridor



The Hamakua Heritage Corridor is a scenic day trip along the Hamakua Coast. Drive along sea cliffs and through lush valleys and tropical rainforests with ample opportunities to explore old plantation towns, see amazing waterfalls, and unveil scenic detours.

Photo: brewbooks/Flickr (image cropped)

Puukohola Heiau National Historic Site



Puukohola Heiau is a stunning stone visible from the road. Located north of Kohala Coast's resorts, the National Historic Site is home to one of the largest restored heiau (temple) in Hawaii. Heiau were sacred places of worship for Native Hawaiians, and Puukohola Heiau itself was built to fulfill a historic prophecy.

Photo: Angel Schatz/Flickr (image cropped)

Address: 62-3601 Kawaihae Road Kawaihae, Island of Hawaii

Opening hours: Every Day 8am - 4.45pm

Pololu Valley Lookout

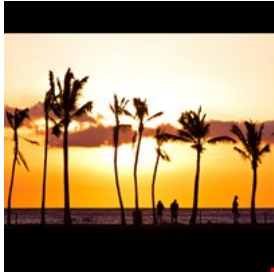


The Pololu Valley Lookout is at the end of Highway 270. Experience remarkable views of verdant cliffs and the dramatic northeastern coastline. There are horses grazing on the hillside, outcroppings in the waters offshore and the black sand beach. You may opt to hike down to the valley floor and the black sand beach, although swimming is ill-advised due to strong currents.

Photo: Bill Ward/Flickr (image cropped)

Address: 52-5100 Akoni Pule Highway Kapaau, Island of Hawaii

Anaehoomalu Beach



This thin strip of white-sand beach is flanked by the Anaehoomalu Bay on one side and two ancient Hawaiian fishponds,

Kuualii and Kahapapa, on the other. Located near the Waikoloa Marriott, it is a favourite spot for swimming, windsurfing, snorkeling and other water activities.

Photo: A. Strakey/Flickr (image cropped)

Address: 69-275 Waikoloa Beach Drive Waikoloa, Island of Hawaii

Hawaii Tropical Botanical Garden



This beautiful garden showcases some Hawaii's rich variety of plant life, with a great selection of orchids as the standout feature. A walk through

the garden takes visitors down to the shoreline and back up again, providing some great views of the ocean.

Photo: brewbooks/Flickr (image cropped)

Address: 27-717 Old Mamalahoa Highway Papaikou, Island of Hawaii

Opening hours: Every day 9am - 5pm

Phone: +1 808 964 5233

Internet: www.htbg.com

Email: htbg@ilhawaii.net

Hulihee Palace



One of only three royal palaces in the entire United States, this former residence dates back to 1838, and once served as King David Kalakaua's

summer palace. The elegant gardens, the vintage koa furniture, the Hawaiian quilts, and the whole of the decor are a page out of Hawaiian history.

Photo: Calbear22/Wikimedia Commons (image cropped)

Address: 75-5718 Alii Drive Kailua-Kona, Island of Hawaii

Phone: +1 808 731 3033

Email: sunshine@daughtersofhawaii.org

Imiloa Astronomy Center



This observatory, museum and educational and cultural center is dedicated to the study of the stars and the galaxy, as well as the cultural

and historical importance of nearby Mauna Kea. It features interactive exhibits, shows and events.

Photo: brewbooks/Flickr (image cropped)

Address: 600 Imiloa Place Hilo, Island of Hawaii

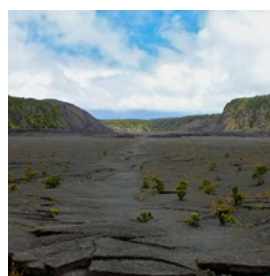
Opening hours: Tue - Sun 9am - 5pm

Phone: +1 808 932 8901

Internet: www.imiloahawaii.org

Email: imloa.info@hawaii.edu

Kilauea Iki Trail



This hiking trail can be a bit challenging, but adventurers will be rewarded with a unique experience. A descent through lush rain forest

leads to a valley of a solid, yet still steaming lava

lake. The scenery is barren and desolate, but eerily beautiful.

Photo: Navin Rajagopalan/Wikimedia Commons (image cropped)

Address: Crater Rim Drive Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, Island of Hawaii

DINING



Santorines/Shutterstock.com

Big Island restaurants include small family friendly seafood spots and exquisite resort fine dining. No matter where you go, you will be greeted by the welcoming island attitude and delicious food you will find nowhere else on the planet.

Gramma's Kitchen (Honokaa)



Gramma's Kitchen is a family owned business that offers an all day breakfast menu and Portuguese inspired dishes. They are know for their fast and friendly service and fresh food. Stop by for a meal on your way to the Waipio lookout.

Photo: Charissee Kenion/Unsplash.com

Address: 45-3625 Mamane Street Honokaa, Island of Hawaii

Opening hours: Every day 8am - 3pm

Phone: +1 808 775 9943

Internet: grammaskitchen.restaurantwebexpert.com

Rays on the Bay (Kailua-Kona)



Rays on the Bay at Sheraton Kona is a sight in and of itself. With open-air seating that offers vistas of the Pacific and its spectacular sunsets, the restaurant is second to none. It is also the only dining venue on Big Island that was built on lava cliffs this close to the water. There's live music nightly from 6pm - 9pm, served alongside pupus, dinner, and a diverse rum bar.

Photo: Wesual Click/Unsplash.com

Address: 78-128 Ehukai Street Kailua-Kona, Island of Hawaii

Opening hours: Every day 5.30pm - 10.30pm

Phone: +1 808 930 4949

Internet: www.raysonthebay.com

Ocean Bar and Grill (Waimea)



Enjoy casual poolside dining at the Ocean Bar & Grill, which boasts front row seats to enjoy the spectacular sunsets over the Kohala Coast. Humpback whales can also be spotted off shore from November to April.

Photo: Wesual Click/Unsplash.com

Address: 68-1400 Mauna Lani Drive Waimea, Island of Hawaii

Opening hours: Every day 11am - 7pm

Internet: www.maunalani.com/dining/ocean-bar-grill

Honu's on the Beach Restaurant (Kailua-Kona)



Honu's on the Beach Restaurant was designated as the "Favorite Hotel Restaurant - Neighbor Island" by the Honolulu

Advertiser in 2000 and 2001. The result of great food and a friendly atmosphere, their wins were also due to the unbeatable tableside views of Kamakahonu Bay and the Pacific.

Photo: Maxim Krayushkin/Flickr (image cropped)
Address: 75-5660 Palani Road Kailua-Kona, Island of Hawaii
Opening hours: Every day 6am - 10.30am, 17.30pm - 10pm
Phone: +1 808 331 6388
Internet:
www.konabeachhotel.com/kona-beach-restaurants.htm

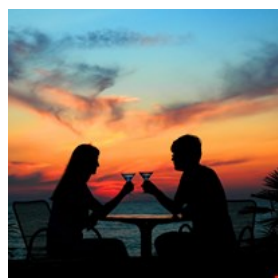
Number 3 (Kohala Coast)



Located at the Mauna Kea Golf Course Clubhouse, Number 3 offers guests casual lunch and libations. Yummy fruit cocktails and smoothies, the grass-fed burger and classic crab Louis are favorites.

Photo: Nick Clement/Unsplash.com
Address: 62-100 Mauna Kea Beach Drive Kohala Coast, Island of Hawaii
Opening hours: Every day 11.30am-2.30pm
Phone: +1 808 882 5707

Brown's Beach House Restaurant (Waimea)



The award-winning Brown's Beach House is under the helm of Chef TK Theosavang, who spotlights the best of island-inspired ingredients with fresh seafood. Located steps from the shore, the elegant beachfront restaurant has won the prestigious Hale Aina Award for "Top Big Island Restaurant" by readers of Honolulu magazine. Nightly entertainment from Nino plays island memories on Hawaiian slack key while you dine.

Photo: Polushkin Ivan/Shutterstock.com
Address: 1 North Kaniku Drive Waimea, Island of Hawaii
Opening hours: Every day 5.30pm - 9pm
Phone: +1 808-887 7368
Internet: www.fairmont.com/orchid-hawaii/dining

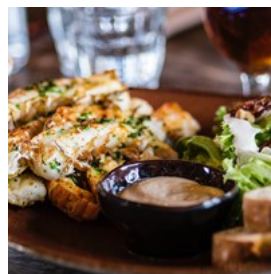
Lagoon Grill (Waikoloa Village)



Come to Lagoon Grill and watch their resident dolphins frolic below as you dine on your choice of burgers, hot dogs, salads, sandwiches, and tropical fruits. Be sure to try one of their famous smoothies or one of the refreshing tropical cocktails.

Photo: Bobby Rodriguez/Unsplash.com
Address: 69-425 Waikoloa Beach Drive Waikoloa Village, Island of Hawaii
Opening hours: Every day 11am - 7.30pm
Internet: www.hiltonwaikoloavillage.com/dining/lagoon-grill

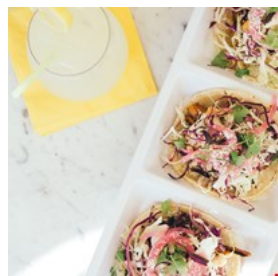
Queen's Court Dining Room (Hilo)



The Queen's Court Dining Room overlooks Hilo Bay, Coconut Island, and Mauna Kea Mountain. They serve breakfast, lunch, dinner, and Sunday brunch, with emphasis on American and internationally-inspired cuisine.

Photo: Davide Cantelli/Unsplash.com
Address: 71 Banyan Drive Hilo, Island of Hawaii
Phone: +1 808 969 6470
Internet: www.queenscourrestaurant.com
Email: info@queenscourrestaurant.com

Don The Beachcomber (Kailua-Kona)



Don the Beachcomber is an open-air, signature restaurant at the Royal Kona Resort. They feature a prime setting on the water's edge,

allowing for views of Pacific sunsets. The menu comprises of Pacific Fusion, Prime Rib and seafood specialties, and the culinary team prepare entrees in the Exhibition Show Kitchen.

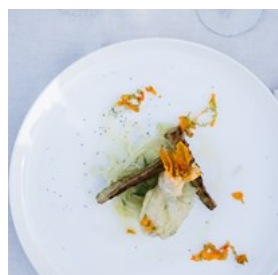
Photo: Ingrid Hofsta/Unsplash.com

Address: 75-5852 Alii Drive Kailua-Kona, Island of Hawaii

Opening hours: Thu - Sun 5.30pm - 10pm

Phone: +1 808 329 3111

Merriman's Restaurant (Waimea)



When you mention the name "Merriman" on any of the Hawaiian islands, great food instantly comes to mind. Come experience the acclaimed

cuisine by Chef Merriman himself, which features authentic Hawaiian cuisine and contemporary renditions.

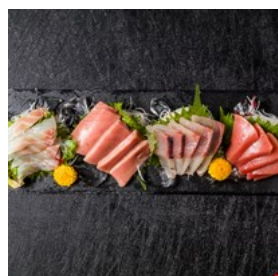
Photo: Ingrid Hofstra/Unsplash.com

Address: 65-1227 Opelo Road Kamuela Waimea, Island of Hawaii

Phone: +1 808 885 6822

Internet: www.merrimanshawaii.com

Beach Tree Restaurant (Kailua-Kona)



Beach Tree Restaurant offers unparalleled dining at the Four Seasons Resort. Enjoy culinary delights inspired by dishes from around the

world that have been given an island twist.

Sample one of 60 wines available by the glass,

carafe, or bottle or one of many unique island-inspired cocktails.

Photo: norikko/Shutterstock.com

Address: 72-100 Ka'upulehu Drive Kailua-Kona, Island of Hawaii

Opening hours: Every day 11am - 10pm

Phone: +1 808-325 8000

Internet:

www.fourseasons.com/hualalai/dining/restaurants/beach_tree

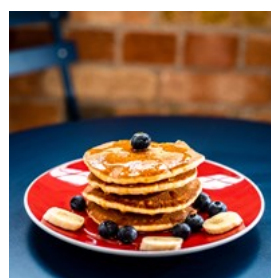
CAFÉS



Kite_rin/Shutterstock.com

100% pure Kona coffee is a rare commodity exclusively grown in north and south Kona. The high elevation, constant cloud coverage and rich volcanic soil from Hualalai Volcano in the upland slopes of Kona create an ideal coffee experience to cherish. As such, there are several coffee shops that are run by local roasters, as well as bakeries selling delights you will only find on the island.

Hawaiian Style Cafe (Waimea)



Hawaiian Style Cafe offers a Hawaiian breakfast menu in a diner atmosphere. Their banana macadamia nut pancakes are particularly

popular with the guests. You can also enjoy a variety of lunch options, served as a regular or mini portion. Check out their website for daily

specials.

Photo: nikld/Unsplash.com

Address: 65-1290 Kawaihae Road Waimea, Island of Hawaii

Opening hours: Mon - Sat 7am - 1.30pm, Sun 7am - 12pm

Phone: +1 808 885 4295

Internet: www.hawaiianstylecafe.us

Ka'ū Coffee Mill



Although Ka'ū Coffee Mill is a little off the beaten track, it has won the Hawaii Coffee Associations Certificate of Excellence for its coffee.

You will be able to reach it if you travel towards the southernmost part of Big Island. Ka'ū Coffee Mill offers coffee samples as well as farm and coffee tours.

Photo: Nathan Dumlao/Unsplash.com

Address: 96-2694 Wood Valley Road Pahala, Island of Hawaii

Opening hours: Every day 9am - 4.30pm

Phone: +1 808 928 0550

Internet: www.kaucoffeemill.com

Kona Coffee Cafe (Kailua-Kona)



Enjoy a fresh brewed cup and browse the shop for something to share with friends and family afterwards. Try the Lilikoi Bars, Portugese Sweet

Bread French Toast, Berry Scones and Macadamia Tarts.

Photo: margouillat photo/Shutterstock.com

Address: 75-5744 Alii Drive Kailua-Kona, Island of Hawaii

Opening hours: Every day 6am - 9pm

Phone: +1 808 329 7131

Punalu'u Bake Shop (Naalehu)



Punalu'u Bake Shop is the Southernmost bakery in the United States. They're home to the world-famous Punalu'u Sweetbread and serve

great sandwiches, malasadas, ice cream, and more. Pick up some edible and collectible gifts on your way out.

Photo: Dean Drobot/Shutterstock.com

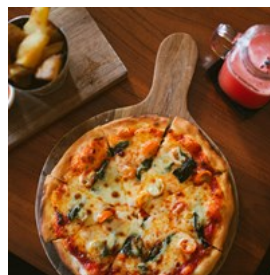
Address: 95-5642 Mamalahoa Highway Naalehu, Island of Hawaii

Opening hours: Every day 8.30am - 5pm

Phone: +1 866 366 3501

Internet: www.bakeshophawaii.com

Café Pesto (Hilo)



Café Pesto features fresh, local seafood, exotic pizzas, eclectic salads, and Asian inspired pastas and risottos.

Complimentary Wi-Fi is available for all guests.

Photo: Hannah Sorrell Creative/Shutterstock.com

Address: 308 Kamehameha Avenue Hilo, Island of Hawaii

Phone: +1 808 969 6640

Internet: www.cafepesto.com/cafe-pesto-hilo-bay-location/

BARS & NIGHTLIFE



DisobeyArt/Shutterstock.com

Big Island has a sleepier, more laid-back vibe than other Hawaiian islands, but that doesn't mean that the nightlife is dead. The resorts host night-time activities and events to keep guests busy, and a handful of bustling bars can be found around the island. Art is also alive and vibrant in small playhouses and movie theaters, some of which screen indie and foreign films, and there is always live music somewhere. And of course, the local specialty is the luau, a chance for visitors to experience the music and dances of the island, accompanied by fine food and finer company.

On the Rocks



With both dinner and Happy Hour, On the Rocks beckons you to come relax after a day of exploration. Chill out in the cocktail lounge with handcrafted beverages and fine wine. Their Pupu menu is served at the bar.

Photo: Arina P Habich/Shutterstock.com

Address: 75-5824 Kahakai Road, Kailua-Kona, Island of Hawaii

Opening hours: Sun - Thu 11am - 10pm, Fri & Sat 11am - 11pm

Internet: huggosontherocks.com

Cronies Bar and Grill (Hilo)



A favourite among local sports fans, Cronie's is the perfect place to have a burger and a beer while watching the big game. The bar gets pretty packed at night, so be ready to deal with a crowd.

Photo: zeljkodan/Shutterstock.com

Address: 11 Waianuenue Avenue Hilo, Island of Hawaii

Phone: +1 808 935 5158

Internet: www.cronieshawaii.com

Uncle Robert's Awa Bar and Farmers Market



This compound, long-time property of the Keli'iho'omalua family, has recently become a hotspot for locals to shop, eat, drink, dance and socialize, making it a great place for visitors to experience local culture. Every Wednesday there is a night-market, where farmers, artists and entertainers gather to enjoy, among other things, the weekly live music.

Photo: W & J/Flickr (image cropped)

Address: 6860 Kalapana Kapoho Beach Road Pahoehoe, Island of Hawaii

Opening hours: Thu - Tue 7am - 3pm, Wed 7am - 9pm

Phone: +1 808 987 7247

Island Breeze Luau (Kailua-Kona)



Unlike so many shows geared toward tourists, Island Breeze Luau is more a genuine art performance by true artists who showcase the dancing traditions of Hawaii, Samoa, Tahiti and New Zealand. The setting is magnificent, and the

food is authentic and delicious.

Photo: Deborah Kolb/Shutterstock.com

Address: 75-5660 Palani Road Kailua-Kona, Island of Hawaii

Phone: +1 808 326 4969

Internet: www.eventsbyislandbreeze.com/islandbreezeluau

Kahilu Theatre (Waimea)



This modest theatre hosts a variety of concerts and performances, from classical music and traditional ukulele concerts, to theatre,

dance and conferences. Check their website for upcoming events and enjoy some of Big Island's top performance culture.

Photo: aerogondo2/Shutterstock.com

Address: 67-1185 Mamalahoa Highway Parker Ranch Center Kamuela, Island of Hawaii

Phone: +1 808 885 6868

Internet: www.kahilutheatre.org

Aloha Theatre (Kealahou)



This lively little community theatre hosts plays, concerts and even independent film nights.

Another great place to catch a show by a local

cast and crew and enjoy another side of Hawaii's performance art scene.

Photo: W Nowicki/Wikimedia Commons (image cropped)

Address: 79-7384 Hawaii Belt Road Kealahou, Island of Hawaii

Phone: +1 808 322 9924

Internet: www.apachawaii.org

Email: info@alohatheatre.com

Sam's Hideaway (Kailua-Kona)



Locals flock to the dark and seedy little bar that is Sam's for two main reasons: karaoke and the lack of tourists. It is a great, understated place

to have a drink and a good time and to have a moment on stage, while rubbing elbows with locals and foregoing the tourist-trap feeling of much of the island's nightlife.

Photo: khuruzero/Shutterstock.com

Address: 75-5725 Alii Drive Kailua-Kona, Island of Hawaii

Opening hours: Every day 9am - 2am

Phone: +1 808 326 7267

Honokaa People's Theatre (Honokaa)



For a taste of cinema on Big Island pay a visit to this historic building from 1930, where you can catch a movie or one of the frequent special

events hosted there. The theatre is very much in tune with the arts scene on the island, and it is a good place to find out about local happenings to be on the lookout for.

Photo: wavebreakmedia/Shutterstock.com

Address: 45-3574 Mamane Street Honokaa, Island of Hawaii

Phone: +1 808 775 0000

Internet: www.honokaapeople.com

Mask-Querade Bar



The location in a strip mall is nothing special, but behind the doors of the Mask-Querade Bar is the island's best gay bar, providing a change of

pace from the island's usual sports bars. Most nights host special parties or events, like drag

shows or barbecues on Sundays.

Photo: Mike Flippo/Shutterstock.com

Address: Kopiko Plaza, 75-5660 Kopiko Street Kailua-Kona, Island of Hawaii

Opening hours: Every day 12pm - 2am

Phone: +1 808 329 8558

Internet: www.themask-queradebar.com

Don's Mai Tai Bar (Kailua-Kona)



Visitors to Don's never fail to comment on the wonderful sunsets that can be admired from this outdoor bar, but the 10 varieties of mai tai also

attract the crowds (be sure not to miss Don's Mai Tai festival in August). On Sundays there is live music on the xylophone, as well.

Photo: Ivan Mateev

Address: 75-5852 Alii Drive Royal Kona Resort Kailua-Kona, Island of Hawaii

Opening hours: Every day 11am - 10pm

Phone: +1 808 930 3286

Hilo Brewing Company



This friendly, "neighbourhood" brewery in Hilo doesn't require an appointment. Visitors can simply show up at any time and get the chance

to try to free samples of the different varieties available on tap while learning all about the brewery and the island from the warm and welcoming staff, and even take some local brews home with them.

Photo: Arina P Habich/Shutterstock.com

Address: 275 East Kawili Street Hilo, Island of Hawaii

Phone: +1 808 934 8211

Internet: hilobrewingco.com

Kona Brewing Company (Kailua-Kona)



Beloved by locals, the Kona Brewing Company continues a tradition of brewing high-quality beer started in 1995 as Hawaii's largest craft

brewery. Visitors can order a sampler to try four different varieties, including Longboard Island Lager, Big Wave Golden Ale, and Fire Rock Pale Ale. There is an outdoor patio with live music on Sundays, and there is a good selection of food, from gourmet pizzas and sandwiches to fresh produce salads.

Photo: W & J/Flickr (image cropped)

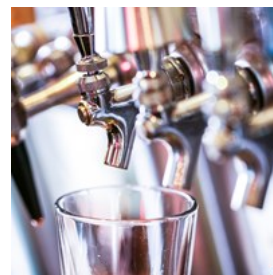
Address: 75-5629 Kuakini Highway Kailua-Kona, Island of Hawaii

Opening hours: Every day 11am - 10pm

Phone: +1 808 334 2739

Internet: www.konabrewingco.com

Humpy's Big Island Alehouse (Kailua-Kona)



As beer lovers themselves, Humpy's has a "no crap on tap" policy. All 36 beers on draught are thus fresh, hand-crafted beers which

can be enjoyed from the patio seating on the ground floor or from up above, where the views of the Kona coast at sunset are spectacular.

Photo: Arina P Habich/Shutterstock.com

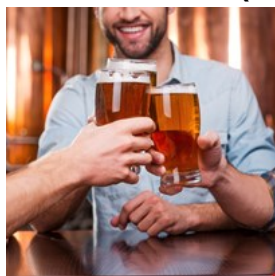
Address: 75-5815 Alii Drive Kailua-Kona, Island of Hawaii

Opening hours: Every day 8am - 2am

Phone: +1 808 324 2337

Internet: www.humpyskona.com

Hilo Town Tavern (Hilo)



The crowds at this popular dive bar regularly comprises college students and workers, locals and tourists, regulars and first-time visitor. The Tavern hosts live music most night, and also offers open mic nights, a pool table and game room, and a fresh open-air porch area.

Photo: g-stockstudio/Shutterstock.com
Address: 168 Keawe Street Hilo, Island of Hawaii
Opening hours: Every day 11.30am - 2am
Phone: +1 808 935 2171
Internet: www.hilotowntavern.com

SHOPPING



olly/Shutterstock.com

The numerous Big Island resorts all offer interesting options, as do the villages and downtown Kona. Even the touristy spots can be exciting, but, if you dig a little deeper, you can find some coveted local favourites and have a much more rewarding shopping experience. Especially appealing is the artwork and houseware made from local materials, such as lava rock and milo wood, which can be found in boutiques and galleries across the island.

Prince Kuhio Plaza (Hilo)



As Big Island's only enclosed shopping center, Prince Kuhio Plaza offers 85 retail shops and eateries, a stadium seating 9-screen theater and over 200 community events, promotions, and family entertainment programs each year. Find familiar national brands, as well as local Hawaiian names.

Photo: Rawpixel/Shutterstock.com
Address: 111 East Puainako Street Hilo, Island of Hawaii
Phone: +1 808 959 3555
Internet: www.princekuhioplaza.com

Just Ukes (Kailua-Kona)



Musicians (aspiring and established) can find fine handcrafted ukuleles to suit all needs, from budget starter options to professional models made from the finest woods. Of course, the store also carries all kinds of accessories, from books and cases to t-shirts and memorabilia.

Photo: PKpix/Shutterstock.com
Address: Kona Inn Shopping Village, 75-5744 Alii Drive Kailua-Kona, Island of Hawaii
Opening hours: Every day 9am - 9pm
Phone: +1 808 769 5101
Email: justukes2@yahoo.com

Keauhou Shopping Center (Kailua-Kona)



Keauhou Shopping Center is located on the birthplace and playground of Hawaii's great storied kings. Find stores for apparel, jewelry, gifts, beauty and specialty items. There

are also special entertainment and educational programs that teach about Kona's heritage.

Photo: Ollyy/Shutterstock.com

Address: 78-6831 Alii Drive Kailua-Kona, Island of Hawaii

Phone: +1 808 322 3000

Internet: www.keauhouvillageshops.com

Bentley's Home & Garden Collection (Waimea)



Locally owned and operated, Bentley's Home & Garden Collection offers gifts and souvenirs for all. For over 24 years, Bentley's has become

somewhat of a niche business in upcountry Waimea Town.

Photo: Oksana Shufrych/Shutterstock.com

Address: 65-1279 Kawaihae Road Waimea, Island of Hawaii

Opening hours: Every day 9.30am - 5.30pm

Phone: +1 808 885 5565

Internet: www.bentleyshomecollection.com

Hilo Farmers Market (Hilo)



On Wednesdays and Saturdays the open-air Hilo Farmers Market bustles with over 200 vendors selling their products. Local

specialties, such as exotic flowers, tropical fruits and honey, are sold alongside market staples, like cheeses, fresh produce and freshly baked pastries. The rest of the week a smaller market of about 30 vendors can be found.

Photo: Tupungato/Shutterstock.com

Address: Kamehameha Avenue and Mamo Street Hilo, Island of Hawaii

Phone: +1 808 933 1000

Internet: www.hilofarmersmarket.com

Parker Ranch Center (Waimea)



The Parker Ranch Center is anchored by the popular tourist attraction Parker Ranch Store and the historic Ikua Purdy statue. The Center has

several Big Island product retailers, as well as the Fireside Food Court. Be sure to admire the 32 historic Paniolo murals depicting its cowboy heritage.

Photo: Tancha/Shutterstock.com

Address: 67-1185 Mamalahoa Highway Kamuela, Island of Hawaii

Opening hours: Mon - Sat 9am - 7pm, Sun 10am - 5pm

Phone: +1 808 885 7178

Sig Zane Designs (Hilo)



Sig Zane Designs is dedicated to perpetuating Hawaiian culture through the art of Sig Zane himself. Each of the plant designs depicted on the

shirts and dresses are handcut to honor the culturally significant plants and symbols of Hawaii.

Photo: CHAINFOTO24/Shutterstock.com

Address: 122 Kamehameha Avenue Hilo, Island of Hawaii

Opening hours: Mon - Fri 10am - 5pm, Sat 10am - 4pm

Phone: +1 808 935 7077

Internet: www.sigzane.com

Basically Books (Hilo)



Probably the best-located bookstore in Hawaii, facing the beautiful Hilo Bay, Basically Books carries a great selection of Hawaiian music and an

impressive array of maps. But books are the

main focus at this family-owned independent store, and there is plenty of Hawaiiana literature to choose from.

Photo: KN/Shutterstock.com

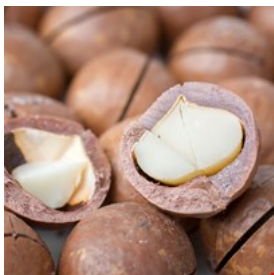
Address: 160 Kamehameha Avenue Hilo, Island of Hawaii

Phone: +1 808 961 0144

Internet: www.basicallybooks.com

Email: bbinfo@hawaiiintel.net

Big Island Candies Inc. (Hilo)



Big Island Candies was established in 1977 to create the finest macadamia nut chocolates and cookies in the world. Today they are

not only home to the famous diagonally dipped shortbread cookies, but also an assortment of globally acclaimed sweets that are all handmade with ingredients such as high-grade chocolate, island eggs, and premium 100% Hawaii-grown macadamia nuts.

Photo: g215/Shutterstock.com

Address: 585 Hinano Street Hilo, Island of Hawaii

Opening hours: Every day 8.30am - 5pm

Phone: +1 808 935 8890

Internet: www.bigislandcandies.com

Ueshima Coffee Corp (Holualoa)



Ueshima Coffee Corp is located on the beautiful Kona Coffee farm overlooking Kailua Bay.

They welcome guests to observe a working Kona

coffee roasting facility in one of their complimentary tours. You can also try your hand at roasting your own private label 100% Kona Coffee.

Photo: nioloxs/Shutterstock.com

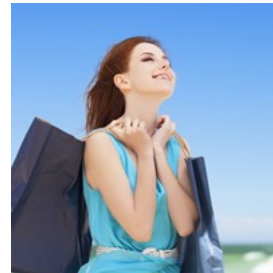
Address: 75-5568 Mamalahoa Highway Holualoa, Island of Hawaii

Opening hours: Every day 9am - 4.30pm

Phone: +1 808 322 3789

Internet: www.ucc-hawaii.com

The Shops at Mauna Lani (Waimea)



The Shops at Mauna Lani is your resort destination shopping centre located on the sunny Kohala Coast. Find a wealth of shopping, dining,

entertainment and cultural activity opportunities.

You can even take a self-guided plant tour (ask any retail merchant for the brochure).

Photo: Masson/Shutterstock.com

Address: 68-1330 Mauna Lani Drive Waimea, Island of Hawaii

Opening hours: Every day 10am - 9pm

Phone: +1 808 885 9501

Internet: www.shopsatmaunalani.com

Big Island Bees (Captain Cook)



Big Island Bees offers guests the opportunity to sample or purchase all existing varieties together with other beeswax and honey

products. Their honeys are distributed throughout Hawaii, and the quality has led to them being featured in national publications such as The New York Times and Food and Wine.

Photo: BillionPhotos/Shutterstock.com

Address: 82-5780 Napoopoo Road Captain Cook, Island of Hawaii

Opening hours: Mon - Fri 10am - 4pm, Sat 10am - 2pm

Phone: +1 808 328 1315

Internet: www.bigislandbees.com

Kona Wine Market (Kailua-Kona)



Although it boasts an impressive selection of over 600 varieties of wine, including imports from around the world as well as local vintages, the Kona Wine Market also carries over 100 specialty craft beers -from Belgian ales to local micro brews- specialty liquors, and even gourmet foods and cigars.

Photo: Minerva Studio/Shutterstock.com
Address: 73-5613 Olowalu Street Kailua-Kona, Island of Hawaii
Opening hours: Mon - Sat 10am - 7pm, Sun 10am - 6pm
Phone: +1 808 329 9400
Internet: www.konawinemarket.com

Hula Lamps of Hawaii (Kailua-Kona)



The unique bronze hula lamps on display at this shop are steeped in tradition and based on the vintage topless retro hula lamps of the 1930s, and they surprise both for their variety and their quality. They have become highly sought after by visitors to the island in search of a unique memory or gift to take with them. They can also be mixed and matched with a selection of hand-painted lamp shades.

Photo: steve lyon (image cropped)
Address: 73-5613 Olowalu Street Kailua-Kona, Island of Hawaii
Opening hours: Mon - Fri 11am - 5pm, Sat 12am - 4pm
Phone: +1 808 326 9583
Internet: www.hulalamps.com
Email: lamps@aloha.net

Queens' MarketPlace (Waikoloa Village)



Find an abundance of family entertainment with 28 acres of culture, shopping, and restaurants at Queen's MarketPlace. You will be amazed at the range of options you have at your fingertips, from fancy to no-frills shopping, dining, and services.

Photo: Pressmaster/Shutterstock.com
Address: 201 Waikoloa Beach Drive Waikoloa Village, Island of Hawaii
Opening hours: Every day 9.30am - 9.30pm
Phone: +1 808 886 8822
Internet: www.queensmarketplace.net

Kings' Shops (Waikoloa Village)



Kings' Shops is a premier shopping and dining destination, renowned for its luxurious and sophisticated ambiance and boutiques. Find an exquisite collection of luxury stores and high-end boutiques.

Photo: Artem Furman/Shutterstock.com
Address: 69-250 Waikoloa Beach Drive Waikoloa Village, Island of Hawaii
Opening hours: Every day 9.30am - 9.30pm
Phone: +1 808 886 8811
Internet: www.kingsshops.com

Mauna Loa Macadamia Nut Company (Keaau)



Mauna Loa Macadamia Nut Company offers tours of the facility. Afterwards, head to the gift shop and browse while treating yourself to ice cream and free samples of nuts.

Photo: HandmadePictures/Shutterstock.com

Address: 16-701 Macadamia Road Keaau, Island of Hawaii

Opening hours: Every day 8.30am - 5.00pm

Phone: +1 808 966 8618

Holualoa Gallery (Holualoa)



The Lovein family display their many works at this gallery, including contemporary raku pottery and ceramic sculptures, as well as

works by local artists from the surrounding area, rich in coffee growing and art culture.

Photo: Danil Nevsky/Shutterstock.com

Address: 76-5921 Mamalahoa Highway Holualoa, Island of Hawaii

Opening hours: Tue - Sat 10am - 5pm

Phone: +1 808 322 8484

Alii Gardens Marketplace (Kailua-Kona)



This market, open 6 days a week, feels almost like a lush park with some stalls hidden among its numerous trees. Visitors can pick up tropical

flowers and fresh produce, souvenirs and postcards, jewellery and clothing, arts and crafts, treats and much more. The outdoor garden cafe offers burgers, fish tacos, smoothies, shave ice, and any other refreshments you might need to enjoy the market.

Photo: Avatar_023/Shutterstock.com

Address: 75-6129 Alii Drive Kailua-Kona, Island of Hawaii

Opening hours: Tue - Sun 10am - 5pm

Phone: +1 808 937 8844

Kilauea Kreaions (Volcano)



Colourful, tropical and beautifully patterned fabrics and quilts line the walls in this small shop, which also offers an array of local Hawaiian arts and crafts, as well as unique photography, cards and souvenirs. The owners even offer different courses, such as quilt design and book making classes.

Photo: Africa Studio/Shutterstock.com

Address: 19-3972 Volcano Road Volcano, Island of Hawaii

Opening hours: Mon - Fri 9.30am - 4.30pm, Sat & Sun 9am - 5pm

Phone: +1 808 967 8090

Internet: <http://www.kilaueakreaions.com/>

TOURIST INFORMATION



Radoslaw Lecyk/Shutterstock.com

Best Time To Visit



The months from June to September are known for their warm weather and pleasant water temperatures. Rainfall is at its lowest during this time. If you are looking for more affordable flights and accommodation rates, you should visit Hawaii in September, October or November.

Whale watching season also starts in November.

Photo: VectorA/Shutterstock

Passport/Visa



Citizens of the Schengen countries, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Japan, South Korea,

Taiwan and the Kingdom of Brunei can visit the United States for up to 90 days without applying for a visa (as well as citizens of Andorra, Lichtenstein, Monaco and San Marino). Citizens of these countries must obtain an ESTA (Electronic System for Travel Authorization) before traveling. All other travelers must obtain a visa before visiting the United States.

International travelers need a passport that is valid for at least 3 months after the end of their intended trip in order to enter the country.

Photo: TukTukDesign/Shutterstock.com

Airports



Two airports serve Hawaii Island: Kona International Airport (KOA) in Kona in the west, and Hilo International Airport

(ITO) in Hilo in the east.

KOA services major airlines, including Air Canada, Alaska Airlines, American Airlines, Delta Air Lines, GO! Mokulele, Hawaiian Airlines, Island Air, United Airlines, US Airways and Westjet. KOA is accessible by car, taxi and shuttle, with The Hawaii County Mass Transit Agency Hele-On bus operating a limited service between the airport and Kailua-Kona town.

ITO services GO!, Hawaiian Airlines and United Airlines. ITO is accessible by car and taxi without public transportation available.

Photo: Juan Garces

Address: 73-200 Kupipi Street Kailua-Kona, Island of Hawaii

Phone: +1 808 327 9520

Public Transport



The Hawaii County Mass Transit Agency provides public transportation around Big Island on the Hele-On bus. Additionally, the Transit Agency offers

a Shared Ride Taxi program which provides door-to-door transportation within the urbanized area of Hilo.

Photo: Pierre-Luc Auclair

Internet: www.heleonbus.org

Taxi



The following cab companies serve Big Island: Kona Taxicab LLC, +1 808 324 4444 Global Rider, +1 808 631 9196 Dakine Taxi, +1 808

329 4446

Photo: ArrivalGuides

Pharmacy



Malama Compounding Pharmacy 74-5563 Kaiwi Street Kailua-Kona, Island of Hawaii Mon - Fri 9am - 5pm +1 808 324 6888 Safeway

Pharmacy

75-1027 Henry Street Kailua-Kona, Island of Hawaii

Mon - Fri 8am - 8pm, Sat - Sun 9am - 5pm
+1 808 327 6778

KTA Super Stores Waikoloa Village Pharmacy
68-3916 Paniolo Avenue Waikoloa Village, Island of Hawaii

Mon - Fri 9am - 6pm, Sat 9.30am - 1.30pm
+1 808 883 8434

Photo: Gemma Garner

Post

US Post Office



Photo: Andy Fuchs

Address: 74-5577 Palani Road Kailua-Kona, Island of Hawaii
Phone: +1 808 326 1432
Internet: www.usps.com

Telephone

Country code: +1 Area
code: 808



Photo: Jardson Almeida

Electricity

110-volt



Photo: Stirling Tschan

Population

1,426,393

Currency

US Dollar, \$1 = 100 cents

Opening hours

Most stores are open daily 9.30am - 9pm or later. Most bars and clubs close around 2am.

Internet

www.gohawaii.com

Newspapers

Tribune Herald
West Hawaii Today

Emergency numbers

911

Tourist information

The Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce
75-5737 Kuakini Highway
+1 808 329 1758