

GETTING ACQUAINTED *with* MAUI

MAUI NUI: *Centerpiece of the Hawaiian Feast*

THE ISLANDS OF MAUI INCLUDE MAUI, Molokai, and Lanai. All are part of Maui County, politically speaking. This diverse trio comprises one of the best Hawaiian holiday destinations.

The Maui County islands are believed to be the tips of a single, sunken island, legendary Maui Nui, or Big Maui. You can see the geologic theory at work on Maui as you fly into Kahului Airport—the two main parts of the “Valley Isle” are mountains linked by a low-lying isthmus or valley, covered with fields of waving green sugarcane and Kahului Airport. If Maui were to sink much more over the coming geologic eons, or if the ocean were to rise dramatically, modern-day Maui could become two islands, one around the base of 10,000-plus-foot Haleakala and the other circling the mile-high West Maui Mountains. Intact and familiar for the foreseeable ages, however, Maui is the second largest of the major islands (next to the neighboring Big Island) at 729 square miles, 48 miles long, and 26 miles across at the widest point, with 81 accessible beaches spread along a shoreline of 120 miles.

They may be joined at the base, but each of the Maui islands is quite different from the next. You can get the big picture from the air, on the descent into Honolulu International Airport from the Mainland. Look out the left side of the aircraft during the last 30 minutes, when flight attendants announce the final stage of your transpacific flight. After more than 2,000 miles of open sea, the first sight of land is the two hulking volcanoes of the Big Island, and then across the water after a moment, the cloud-wreathed peak of 10,023-foot Haleakala, the summit of Maui. Sometimes you can see into the crater at the top, a burned and cindery vista that looks like

a misplaced chunk of Arizona. Next comes Molokai, its steep, green slopes continuing out to sea in reefs visible near shore and its flattened, dry West End ringed with golden beach. Finally you'll see the little red-dirt Island of Lanai, once the world's biggest pineapple plantation and now a luxury retreat. The three islands in the middle of the Hawaiian chain are the core of the archipelago, each with its own appeal. Maui is an island of sophisticated resorts and fine dining, championship golf courses, and great beaches, among other attractions. But its little historic towns add an air of reality and recall the sweet past of sugar plantations and a farming heritage. Molokai is part cattle ranch, part lush valleys and ancient fishponds, part small farm. It is totally laid-back, with little in the way of tourism facilities, but plenty to offer visitors who can get along without resorts. Lanai is an exclusive retreat that draws honeymooners and folks with deep pockets who like the great outdoors. From dawn at the summit of Haleakala until the sun sets behind Lanai, your sojourn to Maui's islands can be packed with enough diversions to create a lifetime of memories.

CHOOSING *an* ISLAND

THE CHOICE DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU SEEK: beaches and water sports, rest and relaxation, action and adventure, hip shops and nightlife, historic homes and ruins, romantic evenings with champagne and chocolate, nature and culture, hiking and camping, championship golf, or just lazy days under the tropical sun.

A stay on Maui promises warm beaches, great golf on championship courses, winter whale-watching, snorkeling and sailing, hikes, sunrise at Haleakala Crater, and quiet nights outside of Kihei and Lahaina. People come to Maui to have fun—with their lovers, their families, their business associates, their school friends and cruise mates, their best pals and fellow travelers. But all that popularity means you will share Maui with lots of others. If you're looking for a getaway, consider those other little-known islands across the water, Molokai and Lanai.

Maui offers the most action, hotels, shopping, restaurants, golf, and beaches, and is the most accessible. Molokai offers the least of those features and the most undisturbed tropical landscape. Lanai, a secluded luxury retreat, offers some of both: great hotels, golf, dining, and wide-open spaces to explore.

The following passages give an overview of each island, describing Maui in keeping with the geographical divisions used throughout the book: West Maui, Central Maui, South Maui, Upcountry Maui, and Hana. Besides providing an introduction to the physical and cultural geography of Maui County's distinct regions, the passages will help you determine where to focus your vacation. All of Maui County will be within reach during your stay (though interisland travel can be

costly and time-consuming). However, if you know you want to spend your time at the beach, it doesn't make sense to stay Upcountry. Targeting your vacation to a resort, city, or region can save you lots of transit time, thus leaving more play time. More important, it helps ensure that you encounter the side of Maui that most appeals to you. This is especially true if you're planning to stay at one of the major resorts and spend a lot of time on-site.

MAUI: *Island of Adventure*

MAUI IS HAWAII'S MOST FAMOUS ISLAND, thanks to the popularity of the sunny resorts and golf courses on its southern and western coasts. Maui's two volcanic masses are joined by a slender valley and ringed with golden beaches and blue sea. Haleakala Crater's sheer bulk anchors the isle. Its slopes covering more than half Maui's land, Haleakala towers like a guardian spirit above the whole, particularly the South Maui resort coast, which it shields from wind and rain. What draws everyone to Maui, we suspect—besides its natural diversity, great beaches, and endless summer weather—is location: smack dab in the middle of the inhabited Hawaiian chain with a clear view of five nearby islands. Mainlanders and people who live landlocked lives somehow feel comforted by the presence of other islands in plain sight. We don't know why this is; we only know that to be all alone on the vast Pacific is an isolation only solo sailors crave. In the empty ocean, even migratory whales seek out Maui. The West Maui Mountains are mysterious, a series of steep valleys that lead to peaks lost in clouds, lending haunting beauty to the sloped fields of cane and pineapple behind the seaside West Maui resorts. Maui combines a hint of Honolulu's cosmopolitan flash, the genuine country pace of a rural plantation island, and the sophisticated influence of its luxury spreads and the people who frequent them.

With nearly 19,000 visitor units, ranging from less than \$100 to more than \$10,000 a day, and 16 golf courses, Maui accommodates wide-ranging tastes. Elegant luxury hotels cater to the wealthy and free-spending corporate incentive winners, but Maui also offers some affordable bargains for budget travelers.

This island delights people who like living it up at swanky beach resorts and those who prefer bedding down in rustic park cabins and camps; people who like hiking upland trails or kayaking with the windy sea and those content to watch from the beach; people who like to shop international boutiques in shorts and those who crave the awesome beauty of natural vistas. Getting rowdy in Lahaina is a century-old tradition, and young visitors line up nightly to keep the whalers' heritage alive in their own way. More than a few Maui travelers are drawn by the mystic powers attributed to Haleakala, "House of the Sun," and then find themselves caught by the misty magic of the West

MAUI FACTS

Flower: Lokelani (rose)	Population: 128,094
Color: Pink	Highest Point: Haleakala (10,023 feet)
County Seat: Wailuku	Coastline: 120 miles
Area: 729 square miles	Airports: Kahului Airport, Central Maui and Kapalua, West Maui
Length: (east–west) 48 miles	
Width: (north–south) 26 miles	

Maui Mountains. Whatever the draw, visitors with myriad interests regularly return to Maui, and Maui eagerly embraces its tourists, more than 2 million a year from around the world. They mean jobs and prosperity for a large share of Maui residents and Molokai commuters, many of whom would otherwise find it rough to make ends meet on these tiny dots in the middle of the vast North Pacific.

WEST MAUI

A WORLD TO THEMSELVES, the towns and resorts of West Maui ring the mountains around **Eke Crater**. It's a leisurely hour's drive from Kahului Airport (longer if you stop to watch the passing whales in winter) south to **Maalaea** and on to **Lahaina**, with a final 20 minutes along Honoapiilani Highway (Route 30) through open country, dry slope on one side and ocean and beach on the other. From bustling, historic Lahaina town, it's three miles farther to the manicured parklike setting and midrise hotels and condos of **Kaanapali Beach Resort**. The developed coast continues north seven more miles to elegant **Kapalua Resort**.

CENTRAL MAUI

MAUI'S UPLAND **Iao Valley** flanks the West Maui Mountains on the east, dipping to the slender lowlands that connect Maui's two massive mountain structures. This low, flat stretch is Central Maui. To most visitors, Central Maui is just a corridor through which they travel after landing at **Kahului Airport** on the North Shore en route to resorts in West Maui (via Kuihelani and Honoapiilani highways) or the island's southwestern shore (via Mokulele and Piilani highways). If and when you traverse Central Maui, through fields of waving sugarcane from the island's northern to southern shores, you'll see the smokestack of the **Puunene Sugar Mill**, still at work even though sugar mills have shut down across most of the Islands.

SOUTH MAUI

BEGINNING AT THE SOUTHEASTERN END of the isthmus valley at **Kihei**, South Maui spills down around the base of Haleakala like a newly unfolding map. The area lines up much like West Maui, minus

the 20-minute drive through volcanic badlands. First comes the resort town, Kihei, home to an array of shops and restaurants centered around **Kamaole Beach Parks I, II, and III**, which draw aspiring surfers and whale-watchers alike. South of Kihei is the famous, manicured resort **Wailea**, where boutiques and three golf courses await visitors willing to splurge. Then come the least known, most remote **Makena Resort** and finally **Makena State Beach Park**, before the road runs out around the bend in lava-flow wilderness at **La Perouse Bay**.

UPCOUNTRY MAUI

HALEAKALA NATIONAL PARK IS THE centerpiece of Upcountry Maui and its primary draw. The park stretches from the sea (at Oheo Gulch) in the east to the crater's summit, though most visitors arrive from the west via **Kula**. Upcountry offers a respite from Maui's tropical heat, and there's even a winery, **Tedeschi Vineyards**, at Ulupalakua Ranch, south of Kula. Pineapple wine and other vintages, including sparkling wines, are available to sample and buy at the tasting room. To the north, surrounded by cane and pineapple fields, are **Makawao**, a ranching and rodeo town with colorful Western-style storefronts; the working plantation village of Haliimaile, home to the deceptively named restaurant, **Haliimaile General Store**; the rural hamlet of **Haiku**; and **Paia**, a former plantation town now a bustling, picturesque tourist shopping village. Few visitors will spend a night in Upcountry Maui, unless they do so in a tent on the slopes of Haleakala. However, Kula offers the quaint **Upcountry Kula Lodge** and a variety of bed-and-breakfast rooms or vacation rentals. Also, rentals and bed-and-breakfasts in **Haiku** and the vicinity are favorites of the windsurfing jet-setters who come for the waves at Hookipa.

HANA

THE TWISTY ROAD TO HANA takes you winding by magnificent sea views, waterfalls, and botanical gardens on a skinny lane for 52 miles, away from the here-and-now and deep into old Hawaii. The old times are relatively intact in the remote village of Hana, even though celebrities live there, too. **Hotel Hana-Maui**, a comfortable veteran of many owners and facelifts, is again being brought back to glory as a luxurious tropical retreat. It has the only restaurant in town for dinner, although takeout food is available across the way at the **Hana Ranch** headquarters. A few condos and vacation rentals offer shelter, but most visitors return at night to the brighter lights on the other side of the mountain.

Count on two to three hours each way for the drive to Hana on Maui's most famous road, depending on how many times you stop to swim in waterfall pools or admire the view. The rich and famous fly to Hana in small planes, and you can, too. There is a small airport served by planes from Kahului.

HANA REDUX

We spent our first summer in Hana 30 years ago. We stayed in a big old beach house near the police station, where Keith Keau then served as one of Hana's two policemen. Their chief mission seemed to be rescuing tourists in rental cars who had missed a turn while admiring the scenery. That summer, we swam in five icy pools, with one eye on the sky in case of a cloudburst, shook breadfruit out of trees, ate poi pancakes with tree-ripe bananas from our yard, dug an *imu* (pit) for a *luau* (barbecue party) of *kalua* pig, picked *opihi* (limpets) on the reef, hiked to the white cross on the hill, visited Lindbergh's grave, learned half a dozen old Hawaiian songs, made lei of flowers so big they looked unreal, attended Sunday services sung in Hawaiian, hiked to Red Sand beach, bodysurfed at Hamoa Bay, set reef nets at sunset and plunged into the sea at sunrise to pick *pupu* (appetizers) of bright, tropical fish, and, of course, shopped Hasegawa's General Store.

It was the best of times in Hawaii, that summer in the 1970s in Hana. And, wonder of it all, three decades later, remains this vestige of old Hawaii. Oh, there have been a few changes—Hasegawa's burned down and rose from the ashes at a new location. The Hana Hotel closed and reopened and closed and reopened. There's a paved parking lot at Kipahulu now, and by noon it resembles a rental-car lot. Wild pigs don't run across the road as often, but you can still buy those juicy mangoes for giveaway prices at roadside stands, and everyone smiles if you do. Life in Hana is still wonderful.

MOLOKAI: *Friendly Isle, Accidental Destination*

PEOPLE GO TO MOLOKAI to wrap themselves in its abundant, unencumbered nature and Hawaiian ways, or possibly by mistake, since the history of Molokai tourism seems to involve unintended, serendipitous stops. Some of its first Western visitors were two daring airmen who flew from the Mainland bound for Honolulu, 26 more miles across the sea, and almost made it. When they ran out of fuel and crashed on Molokai, they discovered a gentle island, now somewhat lost from view compared to its neighbors. Look for the historic plaque along Kamehameha V Highway on the island's East End, denoting the 1927 Smith-Bronte flight. Molokai, content with relative obscurity, suffered tourism rather than sought it, and even in the face of spiraling welfare and agricultural setbacks, an antitourism contingent continues to fight any proposal that opens the island more. Formed by two volcanoes, the long, narrow island is the result of a merger that didn't quite work out. One side is hot, dry, and flat; the other is lush, green, and steeped like Tahiti. It's a schizophrenic island that's always described in negatives: Molokai has no Disneyesque fantasy resorts, no fancy-pants restau-

MOLOKAI FACTS

Flower: White kukui blossom	Width: 10 miles
Color: Green	Population: 6,717
Villages: Kaunakakai and Maunaloa	Highest Point: Kamakou Peak (4,961 feet)
Area: 260 square miles	
Length: 38 miles	Coastline: 88 miles

rants, no stoplights, no malls or Golden Arches, and no buildings taller than a coconut tree. And that's all to the good, for less is more on Molokai, Hawaii's last raw outpost (if you don't count Niihau or Kahoolawe—and we don't). The simple life and absence of contemporary American landmarks is what attracts those in search of the “real” Hawaii. The majority of the 7,000 residents display warm hospitality, willingness to share their culture, and friendly low-key attitudes. The few facilities devoted to visitors are interesting and different, such as the switchback mule ride down a steep sea cliff to a historic former leper colony and the dude rodeo for visiting riders at Molokai Ranch.

For better or worse, Molokai has avoided the usual definition of “progress.” The island has sustained a number of economic hits over recent years—sugar and pineapple production ceased, residents opposed new hotels and tourism, and on an island where one ranch alone has more than 54,000 acres devoted to cattle ranching, federal officials in the mid-1980s ordered all the cows killed to stamp out an obscure ailment that had been around for decades.

Islanders grow prized produce, such as watermelons, sweet potatoes, boutique miniature veggies, honey, coffee, and macadamia nuts. Molokai folks are uncommonly friendly and down-home. And honest. Once we inadvertently left a usable airplane coupon ticket at the rental car counter in Molokai's tiny airport. Three days later, it was still there—not far from the sign reminding passengers not to carry watermelons in the overhead racks.

The island is not a destination for everyone, especially those who crave creature comforts, although there are some. The beaches are wild and empty, but not generally safe or desirable for swimming. The greatest natural features, the world's tallest sea cliffs and the jungle valleys of the North Shore, are virtually inaccessible wilderness. The most famous, and poignant, attraction is **Kalaupapa National Historic Park**, where leprosy victims were banished by royal edict in the 1860s.

Adventurers, families, and those who love the great outdoors: this island's for you. There's plenty to do: mountain biking, trail riding, snorkeling, diving, kayaking, fishing. The Nature Conservancy runs preserves and hike programs at **Moomomi Dunes** and at **Kamakou** in the high country, a cloud forest filled with rare native plants. Hikers have been known to trek through scenic **Halawa Valley** wilderness on

the East End, although the ancient Hawaiian settlement was declared off-limits to visitors by the private owner. Ask locals about its status when you visit.

Sightseers find an odd assortment of natural and historic sites, such as ancient fishponds, **Mapalehu Mango Grove**, and **Ililiopae Heiau**, temple ruins of an ancient school of sacrificial rites. The frontier-like town of **Kaunakakai** is a sleepy crossroad with a handful of stores and a bakery.

LANAI: *The Plantation Island*

SMALLEST AMONG THE MAIN ISLANDS, Lanai is a world removed. Your arrival at Lanai Airport after a short hop by air from Honolulu or Maui will prove it. The plane touches down in **Palawai Basin** on an empty, bright landscape of rusty earth and green scrub that truly looks like the middle of nowhere—no trees or buildings in sight except for the cheery little terminal, the state’s newest. Then you are met by the unlikely sight of uniformed hotel staff who guide you to a shuttle bus and whisk your bags aboard for the short ride through fallow fields to your lodging. You hear echoes in your mind, “Da Plane! Da Plane!” But this fantasy island is real.

At your hotel, you are wrapped up in a Hawaiian welcome and presented with a glass of pressed pineapple cider. Soon you are itching to shed travel clothes, jet lag, and your adult years and get out there to discover freedom in this compact near-wilderness playground—on foot, horseback, golf cart, off-road four-wheel drive, rental car, resort shuttle, or boat. Unlike most destinations, there are few places here you cannot go, whether or not you use one of the three paved roads, and it’s all within the secure confines of a nearly private island.

Lanai is no tropical wonderland, however; its deep gorges and eroded plains speak of a hard agricultural life. But there’s beauty to its hinterlands, headlands, and wide-open red valley touched only by blue sky and puffy white clouds. While prowling the 100 miles of four-wheel roads, explorers can find historic sites like a crumbled sugar town, an ancient king’s summer fishing residence, strange rock formations, and petroglyphs etched into lava rocks by ancient artists. On a clear day, from the **Lanaihale** summit, you can see most of the main Hawaiian islands. Hunters come to pursue wild (introduced) game: turkeys, pigs, mouflon sheep, and small axis deer, which outnumber people on this island.

Lanai, in Maui’s rain shadow, is dry and hot around the lower edges but cool and misty on the slopes of 3,366-foot Lanaihale, thanks to an unlikely crown of pines planted on the mountain ridge long ago to snag passing clouds. The genius responsible was an early manager, George Munro from New Zealand. The summit trail is named for him.

LANAI FACTS

Flower: Kaunaoa	Width: 13 miles
Color: Orange	Population: 2,800
Village: Lanai City	Highest Point: Lanaihale (3,366 feet)
Area: 141 square miles	Coastline: 47 miles
Length: 18 miles	

Lodging on the island is available from two fabulous luxury hotels, a charming old lodge, and a few rentals. If the sky's the limit, reserve a butlered suite. You'll find them at both the **Manele Bay Hotel** and the **Lodge at Koele**. As your personal concierges, butlers will ease your arrival and departure and greet you personally, make your reservations, bring you anything you like, take care of any wrinkles in your trip, and send you a good-bye note when you leave.

With access reined in by luxury rates and limited rooms, the island remains secluded. The people of Lanai still enjoy a quiet plantation lifestyle that is rapidly vanishing throughout Hawaii. It is an island of anomalies, isolated and yet worldly. Former immigrant fieldhands who retrained as hotel workers and old Hawaiian families are neighbors now with celebrity travelers and wealthy residents who wanted to stay longer under their own tin roofs. It's red-dirt rural with a good supply of fine champagne. In former times, the days started with a plantation whistle at 5 a.m. Now, days in the sun begin with more discreet wake-up calls.

Shopping's a bit limited, but you can catch the Expeditions ferry over to Lahaina to shop and play. Nightlife is nonexistent except for evening entertainment performed by Island dancers and musicians at the hotel lobbies and a lecture series for visiting scholars and artists. A very few less-pricey alternatives exist for visitors, including the Manele Bay Hotel and vacation rentals. Day-long snorkel-sail trips from Maui are a good way to see Lanai overland and underwater, without paying dinner prices for breakfast. Hats off to Lanai's new owners for figuring out how to turn its riffed, rutted, abandoned plantation roads into adventure trails for the gentry.

Hawaii's Privately Owned Islands

In Hawaii, where land is finite and costly, it may seem odd that any one person could own an island in the chain. Yet it is possible, because Hawaii once was a kingdom, and the king sold land (sometimes a whole island) when he needed cash. Both Lanai and Niihau are privately owned, one by heirs of a New Zealand family, the other by a self-made California tycoon. Dry, barren Niihau, formerly known as the "forbidden" island because travel there was once prohibited, is owned by the Robinson family, who raise sheep and cattle and otherwise keep the island (and its Hawaiian-speaking residents) unchanged. There are

AN ILL-FATED ISLAND?

Lanai is perhaps most interesting because of its history of defeating nearly all who set foot on the island—early Polynesians, fierce Hawaiian kings, European explorers, even Mormons, among the most steadfast Pacific missionaries. Ancient Hawaiians believed Lanai was haunted by “spirits so wily and vicious that no human who went there could survive,” according to Ruth Tabrah, author of the aptly titled history *Lanai*.

In 1778, Big Island King Kalaniopuu invaded Lanai in “the war of loose bowels.” His men slaughtered every warrior and set fire to everything except a bitter root that gave them dysentery. When, 14 years later, Captain George Vancouver sailed by what he wrongly termed “Ranai,” he noted in his journal: “It seems thickly covered with shriveled grass in a scorched state.” King Kamehameha the Great had a summer house on Lanai in the early 1800s, yet only stacked rocks remain. In 1802, Wu Tsin tried to harvest wild sugarcane on Lanai, but failed. New England missionaries arrived in 1820 and used Lanai as a prison for women convicted of adultery. Walter Murray Gibson looted the Mormon treasury, bought half the island, and founded a cult in 1866; it lasted three years. Charles Gay subsequently acquired 600 acres of Lanai at auction and planted pineapple; a three-year drought bankrupted him. Others tried cotton, sisal, sugar beets, a dairy, sheep, and pig farms. All failed.

Harry Baldwin, a missionary’s grandson, may be the island’s lone success story. He bought Lanai for \$588,000 in 1917, developed a 20-mile water pipeline, and five years later sold the island to Jim Dole for \$1.1 million. Dole planted 18,000 acres of pineapple and enjoyed great success for a half century. However, even Dole was eventually vanquished; cheaper pineapple production in Asia ended Lanai’s heyday.

The island today seems to be slipping back in time, resembling old photographs of itself in the glory days of Dole, except, of course, for two notable exceptions: a pair of hotels built for \$400 million. The engines of Lanai’s new tourism industry are so deliberately nostalgic they appear to have been here all along. Any minute now, you half expect to look up and see old Jim Dole himself rattling up the road in a Model T truck with a load of freshly picked pineapples. Only now there is a new lord of the manor, and his name is David Murdock. He’s gambling you will pay big bucks to visit his “private island.” And, maybe, buy one of his \$1 million vacation retreats, too.

no telephones, no jail, no paved roads, and no tourists in Puuwai (population 226), the island’s lone settlement. The Robinsons are descendants of Eliza Sinclair of New Zealand, who traded her piano and \$10,000 in gold in 1864 to acquire the island from King Kalakaua. Her grandson, Charles Gay, paid \$200,000 for Lanai in the late 1800s, but his farming enterprise failed.

Lanai was eventually sold to James Dole, who turned the island into the world’s largest pineapple plantation. In the 1980s,

entrepreneur David Murdock gained control of Dole Food Corporation in a merger acquisition, and he discovered that as majority stockholder he now owned Lanai. He closed the moribund pineapple plantation and opened two ritzy resorts.

So, HOW'S *the* WEATHER?

MAUI ENJOYS ONE OF THE WORLD'S most agreeable climates. The norm is blue skies, trade winds, temperatures in the 70s and 80s, and almost 12 hours of daylight every day of the year. The reason is geographic. Maui sits in the middle of the Hawaiian chain, in the middle of the Pacific, 1,700 miles north of the equator and just inside the Tropic of Cancer (between 154° 40' and 179° 25' west longitude and 18° 54' to 28° 15' north latitude, to be precise).

Cold northeast winds, which propelled New England whalers and sailors to Lahaina from the West Coast and earned the name "trade winds," still sweep down the North Pacific, softening as the water warms, so that the tamed breezes arrive as natural air-conditioning. All islands have a cooler, wetter "windward" side, which receives the trades and their showers first, and a hotter, drier "leeward" side where the sun bakes the land. The line between is a northeast-southwest diagonal echoing the trade-wind flow.

On Maui, the hottest spot is Lahaina, named for its ovenlike heat. The coolest place on the resort coast is Kapalua, where the trades blow in directly. On Molokai, the East End gets the welcome showers to nourish its green landscape, while the West End is drier. Lanai, situated in the rain shadow of Haleakala, is lucky to get any rain. Long ago, an insightful plantation manager planted the signature pines of Lanai in the uplands to snag the passing clouds and hold them long enough to drop their mist on the little island.

Cooling trade winds are always welcome. But on the Island of Maui, they are often blustery, especially in the isthmus valley in the afternoons and on the windward northwest coast. Now and then, the winds die off in what is called *kona* (leeward) weather, hot and still and fretful, and the smudgy haze off the volcano, called "vog," creeps northward, obscuring the normally clear views.

Reflections on Water

We once spent a summer away from Hawaii, traveling in Asia, and what we came to miss most was not the singular beauty of the place, or the soft tropical air, but the water. It wasn't only the cobalt-blue Pacific Ocean surrounding the Islands that we missed, but rather the embracing wetness of the place. You might say we missed the climate, but our yearning went beyond that. We missed the waterfalls and the ceaseless waves, the light rain everyone calls a blessing, and the sudden summer squalls. We missed what Hawaiians call the *wai* (fresh

water) and the *kai* (salt water). Sitting in Tokyo on a gray day that summer in Asia, we found ourselves dreaming of the soft, warm rain that drizzles down on Hana. We could close our eyes and see all the great bays (Kaneohe, Kailua, Mamala, Kealahou, Hilo, and Hanalei) and the little pretty ones (Hanauma, Kahana, Hamoa, Wailea, and Kapalua). Our eyes ached to see again the amazing variations on the color blue, from turquoise to deep purple, with shades of sapphire, cobalt, mulberry, and indigo for effect. We could almost feel the foggy dew of Manoa and the fine mist raised by Akaka Falls. We could hear the roar of North Shore surf in winter. We yearned to snorkel the green tidepools on Maui's black lava coast. Out there in Asia, it all seemed like a dream, and we suppose in a way it is. The wonderful waters of Hawaii—the wai and kai—are so otherworldly that we suspect they must be two of the essential elements of paradise.

Maui's year-round average temperature of 77°F is one of the most agreeable anywhere. The difference between winter and summer, and between night and day, is about 5 to 10°F on the islands' shorelines, with normal daytime highs in the 80s, although they can be lower in winter, when storms hide the sun, or rise into the low 90s in steamy August and September. Nights are in the 70s in summer and 60s in winter, with rare dips into the 50s. The rest of the thermometer seems superfluous, until you travel up. Temperatures drop as the altitude rises—about 3.5°F for every 1,000 feet, meteorologists estimate. Each of these islands has at least one mountain in the middle, so if the heat gets you down, go up and cool off. You may need a jacket or sweater and a blanket at night at Kula, Maui, and Lanai City, Lanai, even in the warmer months. The weather atop Haleakala can be downright alpine; a winter dusting of snow is not unusual.

A word about showers: Don't worry too much about getting wet in the trade-wind showers that often blow through. It's just more of the natural air-conditioning system. If it rains while you're on the beach, jump in the water or get under a beach mat or Hobie Cat trampoline. The shower will probably be gone in a minute or two. With the ubiquitous Hawaiian "pineapple juice" showers that drift over while the sun shines brightly, everyone just gets wet one moment and dries off the next. Showers are considered blessings.

COLORFUL HISTORY

ONCE YOU TOUCH THE *aima* (land) of the Valley Isle, you will begin to see why more than 2 million people find their way here each year. It isn't only the sea breezes and golf greens that bring them back again. They come to roam the volcanic peaks, gaze at the spectacular scenery, and draft dream messages announcing they won't return as planned. A whole parade of adventurers, entrepreneurs, heroes,

THE FIVE GREAT FEATS OF MAUI

We once read in Katharine Luomala's *Voices on the Wind: Polynesian Myths and Chants* about the five great feats of the god Maui, who overwhelmed the gods of the air, sea, and underworld to make the world a better place. Maui, according to legend, lassoed the sun with a rope of his sister's pubic hair, used a fishhook carved from his grandmother's bones to catch the fish that he transformed into islands, and stole the secret of fire from the fire god so people could cook their own fish. But his singular achievement, we think, is this: he lifted the sky so people could stand and walk upright.

and scoundrels have done so throughout Island history. Since the Hawaiian Islands were settled in about AD 650 by Polynesian seafarers, all kinds of people have washed ashore.

Born of fire in the middle of the sea, the Island of Maui has a most interesting history, with tales of legendary gods, fierce kings, and fabled explorers, whalers, missionaries, sugar planters, immigrants, and travelers from around the world.

The island gets its name from the demigod Maui, a multitasking Polynesian superman.

The first Hawaiians most likely sailed to the Big Island from the Marquesas. Some later crossed the Alenuihaha Channel to Maui, where they settled coastal villages and farmed taro in narrow stream valleys like those at Iao and Kahakuloa. To worship their gods, they built *heiau* (temples), including the massive Piilani Hale, now the site of an archaeological dig on the Hana coast. They buried their dead in sand dunes in places like the Kapalua and Wailuku shores and held sacred the jumping-off places for the spirits of the deceased, like Black Rock on Kaanapali Beach. These adventurers from the South Pacific, seeing the Island of Molokai a short distance across the Pailolo Channel from northwest Maui, probably set sail for the island's calm south shore, where they built a complex of fishponds that still line the coast and constructed Ililiopae Heiau, a kind of early university for sorcerers. Molokai gained a reputation for sorcery. According to some historians, Molokai was also the island where the Hawaiian dance was first performed on the summit of Mount Kaana, known today as "the birthplace of the hula."

Adventurers also wandered to neighboring Kahoolawe, which served as a prison for a time, and to Lanai, which gained a reputation of being haunted by cannibal spirits so fearsome no mortal man could survive a night there—until a brave prince proved them wrong. Bad spirits continued to plague the island. Lanai was the scene of one of the first and bloodiest battles in the royal effort to unify the islands into one kingdom in the late 1700s. Most of the residents were killed, and the island was burned by a raiding party from the Big Island that included the future

king Kamehameha. The battle was decisive, and Lanai never quite recovered its Hawaiian populace or its original landscape.

CAPTAIN COOK AND LA PEROUSE

IN 1778, BRITISH EXPLORER JAMES COOK reported sighting Maui and Molokai but sailed on by, bound for the Big Island, where he was later killed. Cook's explorations inspired many others, including Jean-François de Galaup, known as Admiral La Perouse, the first recorded European to land on Maui. In 1785, the king of France commissioned La Perouse to head an expedition to explore Pacific whaling and fur prospects, map the islands more precisely, and establish French claims. With two ships, the *Astrolabe* and the *Boussole*, and a crew of 114, including scientists, draftsmen, naturalists, and a mathematician, La Perouse sighted the peak of Haleakala on the morning of May 28, 1786. As the French ships sailed past Maui, La Perouse was "enchanted by its beauty" and fascinated to find waterfalls and coastal villages of grass houses built in "the same shape as the thatched cottages found in certain parts of France."

"Imagine the feelings of the poor sailors, who, in this hot climate, had been reduced to a water ration of one bottle a day, when they saw the mountains clothed in vegetation, the homes surrounded by green banana trees," he added in his journal. But the surf was too strong to land, and they sailed on to a safe anchorage on "a shore made hideous by an ancient lava flow." That was the tip of South Maui, a place now known as La Perouse Bay.

When we were in sight of Maui about two hundred canoes came out from the shore to meet the frigates. All the canoes were loaded with pigs, fruits, and fresh vegetables which the natives conveyed to us on board and forced us to accept as gifts. The wind then became stronger and speeded us on our way, preventing us from further enjoying the picturesque view of the island and the great gathering of canoes, which as they moved about, provided us with the most exhilarating and exciting scenic spectacle imaginable.

—The Journal of Dr. Rollin, ship's surgeon aboard *Boussole*,
Voyages & Adventures of La Perouse, 1786.

Now that Maui was on the map, the inevitable began to occur: others found the island, including lusty New England whalers spoiling for shore liberty and, soon after, prim Boston missionaries. They found themselves at odds in, of all places, Lahaina.

In 1812, the first whalers sailed into Lahaina. They found eager women and ready grog, and their behavior gave Lahaina a wild reputation as word spread that there was "no God West of the Horn." Presumably, Pacific humpbacks they hunted elsewhere were right offshore breeding and raising their young and cruising as they do today, but it seems the whalers went to the strategic mid-Pacific stop for

other reasons—to restock their ships and go ashore in search of rowdy times. They did, however, begin to kill whales in Maui waters, a practice that died off when the whales stopped coming around.

In the whalers' heyday, 1840 to 1860, several hundred whaling ships anchored in Lahaina Roads. The sailors preferred Lahaina to Honolulu because of its easy-access harbor, low fees, and, most of all, the warm embrace of the local folks. When 20 or more whaling ships dropped anchor at once and the whalers went ashore, the people of Lahaina prospered. The whaling era gave rise to tourism with all the usual good and bad results. Missionaries took a dim view of the whalers' onshore diversions, which involved alcohol, gambling, and sexual excess.

Thriving Lahaina became the royal capital of the Hawaiian kingdom in 1840, only to surrender political clout to Honolulu four years later. In 1871, whaling was halted by the discovery of petroleum oil in Pennsylvania. Whale oil for lamps became obsolete. Lahaina, once the wealthy port of call, dozed in the hot sun, safe in the hands of Bible-toting missionaries. The now-civilized seaport began to trade with merchant ships. The missionaries stayed on and acquired land and power.

Maui is very foreign and civilized, and although it has a native population of over 12,000, the natives are much crowded on plantations, and one encounters little of native life.

—Isabella L. Bird, *Six Weeks in the Sandwich Islands*

Kalaupapa's Sad Legacy

Over on Molokai, authorities conducted a forced immigration to remote Kalaupapa Peninsula, 5,000 acres at the foot of imposing sea cliffs that served as a natural prison for victims of leprosy. The only ways in or out of Kalaupapa were by sea or on foot, via the three-mile trail down a 1,664-foot cliff with 26 switchbacks—still one of the most spectacular, if daunting, hikes in the Pacific. Leprosy victims were hunted throughout the Islands, rounded up, and exiled to live and die on Kalaupapa. Some 800 sufferers were there in 1873 when a Belgian priest, Father Damien de Veuster, was dispatched to tend to the ailing souls. He stayed until his own death on April 15, 1889, after he contracted the disease. Leprosy, or Hansen's disease, was eradicated decades ago with sulfa drugs, and Kalaupapa is now a lonely National Historical Park. Father Damien is a candidate for sainthood.

SWEET SUCCESS

IN 1876, A GERMAN IMMIGRANT named Claus Spreckels arrived on Maui from San Francisco and changed life on the island. He became pals with King Kalakaua, bribed him with \$10,000 cash, loaned him \$40,000, plied him with champagne, and acquired vast tracts of

Maui. He irrigated the land, planted it with sugarcane, and made a fortune refining the sugar in California.

“Never in the history of the Hawaiian kingdom had money been used to procure official favors from the king,” according to Ralph Kuykendall, author of *The Hawaiian Kingdom*. The idea of “owning” land was a Western concept, not understood by Hawaiians until foreigners introduced it to the royalty earlier in the 1800s. Hawaiians’ family-held lands, uncertain in title and boundaries, were often simply taken by the enterprising foreigners to amass the acres needed for sugar plantations.

Not enough Hawaiians could be found to tend the sugar, so owners like Spreckels imported immigrants from Japan and China, and later Korea, the Philippines, Portugal, Puerto Rico, and other areas of Europe and Asia, who worked cutting and hauling cane for a pittance and a home. They lived on plantations, tied to the company house and the company store in a kind of contracted servitude. Samuel Alexander and Harry Baldwin, descendants of New England missionaries, later acquired the Spreckels plantations and pioneered an island company that continues today.

Sugar governed the Hawaiian economy from the 1860s to the 1980s, with Wailuku and Paia/Makawao among the major centers. Life was sweet, and sugar was king of the Hawaiian economy, drawing thousands of immigrants who saw it as a way to escape harsh conditions in their homeland and seek a new life. As soon as many of them could work off their debt, they started to leave the plantations and pursue their fortunes in other endeavors. Other nationalities were recruited to take their place.

In another, perhaps more surprising, saga of royal patronage with a sugary episode, the arid Island of Lanai passed from the pocket of one foreign lord after another through history and is still largely owned by one man’s company. It may seem odd that a private owner could control a whole island in the chain. But when the Islands were a kingdom, the king sold land when he needed cash. In 1864, New Zealander Eliza Sinclair traded her piano and \$10,000 in gold to acquire the Island of Niihau from King Kalakaua. (She decided not to purchase Waikiki, then a mosquito-choked swamp.) Then in the late 1800s, her grandson, Charles Gay, paid \$200,000 for Lanai. But his farming enterprise there failed, as had cultivation attempts 30 years prior by Mormons, who came to the island in the 1850s but were thwarted by insects and droughts. Lanai eventually was sold to a young American named James Dole, who dug into the rich red dirt and, in a sense, struck gold.

Dole turned the island into the world’s largest pineapple plantation, some 20,000 acres fenced by an ocean, featuring the golden fruit that became Hawaii’s icon. But competition from other nations’ pineapples eroded the market, and Lanai’s influence dwindled. In the 1980s, South-

ern California entrepreneur David Murdock gained control of Dole Food Corporation—and discovered that as majority stockholder, he owned the Island of Lanai. He closed the pineapple operations, an institution for 65 years, recycled Filipino fieldhands into chambermaids and waiters, and opened two ritzy resorts, The Lodge at Koele and Manele Bay Hotel, with two remarkable golf courses. He built new tracts of million-dollar estates and began cultivating well-heeled tourists. The world's richest man, Microsoft billionaire Bill Gates, got married here; Oprah Winfrey stayed a week with her personal fitness trainer and hairdresser in adjoining private suites.

I have visited Haleakala, Kilauea, Wailuku Valley—in a word, I have visited all the principal wonders of the Island, and now I come to speak of one which, in its importance to America, surpasses them all. A land which produces six, eight, ten, twelve, yea, even thirteen thousand pounds of sugar to the acre on unmanured soil! There are precious few acres of unmanured ground in Louisiana—none at all, perhaps—which yield 2,500 pounds of sugar; there is not an unmanured acre under cultivation in the Sandwich Islands which yields less. This country is the king of the sugar world as far as astonishing productiveness is concerned.

—Mark Twain, September 10, 1866

WARTIMES

THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR OFFICIALLY ended in 1866. Meanwhile in Hawaii, sugar mills began to falter, but the industry stumbled on, through crippling strikes and the rise of competing imported sugar at cheaper prices. Eventually, the plantations closed on several islands, ending a way of life that created the Hawaii of today in several ways. However, Maui's cane fields are still producing and being harvested, even after those of other islands long since went fallow or became housing tracts. Above Kapalua Resort, Maui pineapples are still harvested as well.

When the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor on Oahu in 1941, Maui County turned out the lights and pulled down the blinds. All islands were placed under martial law, and blackouts were mandatory so the enemy could find no easy targets. Many Japanese Americans on Maui volunteered for army duty and served heroically in Europe and the Pacific. On the day after the Pearl Harbor attack, the U.S. Navy began dropping bombs on Kahoolawe, across the Alalakeiki Channel from South Maui. (Target practice continued into the mid-1990s, when President George H. W. Bush finally stopped it.)

Maui became a major training ground for jungle fighters during the war. Thousands of American troops came to Maui, marching off navy ships to prepare to fight the bloody battle of Okinawa in April 1945. Maui boomed while the troops bivouacked, but when World War II

ended and the military camps closed, the island economy sank. Many postwar Mauians left the island to seek jobs on the West Coast.

But in 1946, a new wave of people flooded the Islands: the last major immigration of 6,000 new plantation workers came from the Philippines aboard the SS *Maunawili*, a converted U.S. troopship. They were brought in from Ilocos Sur by the Hawaii Planters Society to work the cane fields of Maui and other islands. It was an effort to bring the fields back to life. Immigrants from Japan and China had been outlawed, and would-be recruits from Korea, Puerto Rico, Spain, Portugal, and other European countries were too scarce. Filipino plantation workers went to all the islands, including Lanai in more recent times.

The Hawaiian Islands boomed again as an R&R destination for Vietnam warriors and their wives and sweethearts. Tour buses began to rumble on island roads, and jets brought in a new age of tourism. While condos began to sprout all along Kihei's scalloped beaches, a group of West Maui sugar planters decided to devote a chunk of unprofitable coastal scrub land to create Hawaii's first master-planned resort, Kaanapali Beach Resort. They drew up plans for golf courses, shops, lodging, and restaurants, all along a picturesque beach. First came the Royal Lahaina in 1962. In 1963, the Sheraton Maui opened as the first luxury hotel on Maui, on the very site where Maui's King Kahekili took daredevil leaps off *kapu* (forbidden) Puu Kekaa (Black Rock) almost two centuries prior. As more and bigger chain resort hotels, like Marriott, Hyatt, and Westin, opened on Kaanapali Beach, Maui began to entertain a new breed of visitor who spent small fortunes in upscale fantasy resorts full of exotic macaws, parrots, and swans.

GOLDEN PEOPLE

ONE OUTSTANDING FEATURE OF HAWAII is the diversity of its people. Throughout the 50th state, no ethnic group comprises a majority of the population. People who declare themselves of mixed race are the largest group, followed by Caucasians, Japanese, and Filipinos. Pure Hawaiians are in short supply, but part-Hawaiian heritage is shared by many.

Each ethnic group has made its mark on Island culture, contributing foods, arts, music, and customs to Hawaii's melting-pot community.

The Chinese were the first immigrants. More than 200 workers from southeastern China came to the Islands in the mid-19th century after signing five-year contracts to work the sugar plantations. These laborers were provided food, clothing, shelter, and a salary of \$3 a month. Most of the Maui Chinese lived in Lahaina.

The first Japanese immigrants arrived in 1868. By the beginning

of the 20th century, more than 60,000 Japanese laborers and their families lived in Hawaii. Like all immigrants, Japanese faced racial prejudices, but far more so after Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor. Many Japanese Americans were taken away to internment camps on the Mainland, and many more lost their family businesses, even though not a single case of Japanese American treason or sabotage was ever documented. But they rebounded strongly in Hawaii after the war, gained prominence in politics and education, and integrated Japanese customs and design into everyday life. Today, Japanese Americans are a major presence in Hawaii, and most residents embrace at least a degree of Japanese custom, including removing shoes before entering a home. Rice, sushi, sashimi, *mochi*, and miso soup are staples at the Hawaii local table.

In 1903, the first Koreans arrived to work on the plantations. Ambitious and hardworking, Koreans have the highest education and income level per capita of any ethnic group in the Islands.

A group of 15 Filipino laborers began working on Island plantations in 1906; by mid-century, that number had swelled to 125,000. Every summer, the Filipina Fiesta festivals held throughout the state celebrate the colorful traditions and customs of the Filipino culture. Dishes such as chicken adobo, *pancit*, and *lumpia* are favorites on any local menu.

Later immigrants included Southeast Asians, some of them refugees of the Vietnam War, and Pacific Islanders from throughout Polynesia, mostly Tonga and Samoa.

Endangered Species

Hawaiians are a vanishing minority in their own land. When Cook "discovered" Hawaii in 1778, the native population was estimated at 20,000 to 30,000, although some historians believe the population may have reached 800,000. Today, there are fewer than 8,000 pure Hawaiians left. Diseases brought by foreigners, destruction of habitat, broken spirit, and changing times contributed to the decline. Reflecting the plantation immigrations of the past, the resident population of Hawaii today is a cosmopolitan cultural mix of Pacific Islander, Portuguese and other Caucasian, Japanese, Filipino, Chinese, Korean, and Southeast Asian. No one race achieves a majority rank. Most modern Hawaii natives are *hapa*—half Hawaiian and half Caucasian or something else—or, more often, a sum of many racial ingredients. It's a heritage often referred to locally as "chop suey." Many Hawaii residents believe the most important contribution the Islands make to humankind is not the promise of unparalleled vacation beaches but the reality of a multiracial culture where, by and large, people get along.

THINGS *the* LOCALS

Already KNOW

THE LEI TRADITION

A HAWAIIAN FLOWER LEI IS ONE of the most extravagant presents in the world. Some leis take more than a thousand flowers and quite a bit of time and artistry to make. They fade and perish within hours or days of their creation. Often they are worn only once.

Lei giving is one of the most colorful traditions in Hawaii. You'll see it first at the airport. But it isn't an embarrassing designation of a newly arrived tourist. Lei is a sign of honor for a family member, friend, or special guest of either gender.

Having a garland placed around your neck is a special welcome, farewell, or congratulations, usually followed by a hug or kiss on the cheek, especially if you know the donor. A lei greeting remains Hawaii's most tangible expression of aloha. Local tradition is to drape loved ones up to their noses with leis at graduations; they are also given for anniversaries, birthdays, and other special celebrations. They're great icebreakers with local strangers who want to admire the lei and congratulate you on your special occasion. It's also customary to share the lei around after you wear it for a while (take it off and give it to someone else to wear).

Hawaiian language advisory: The word, *lei*, is singular and plural; there is no "s" in the Hawaiian language.

The tradition of lei giving may have originated with Hawaii's earliest settlers, who brought flowering plants to use for adornment. Early Hawaiians offered lei to their gods during religious ceremonies.

Today, long lei are also draped over the statues or images of important people in Hawaiian history, or over the bows of victorious racing canoes, or on anything worthy of commemoration. Each June, the King Kamehameha Day celebration kicks off with a colorful lei-draping ceremony at the King Kamehameha statue in downtown Honolulu.

Writer-poet Don Blanding initiated Lei Day, a May 1 celebration held since 1928. The biggest event is held at Kapiolani Park in Waikiki, where floral creations by the state's top lei makers are displayed.

Before World War II, I never saw lei presented to all and sundry accompanied by a kiss. True, our greeting was the honi, kiss, almost like the hongī of the Maoris of New Zealand, but we did not greet everybody that way with a lei—and so I wondered how a kiss with lei giving began. One day, I wondered out loud at the Waikiki Camouflage Unit where I worked shortly after the beginning of World War II. A worker, who was a cutter in the Camouflage Unit by day

and a USO entertainer at night, heard me and laughed. She then told me that while entertaining one evening, her fellow musicians dared her to kiss a homely officer sitting nearby. She could not just barge up to kiss him, so she sat thinking a while until an idea came. When there was a little recess, she walked up to him, removed her lei, placed it on his shoulder, and said loud enough for those about to hear, "This is a Hawaiian custom," and implanted a kiss upon the man's cheek. Thus a neo-Hawaiian custom was born.

—Mary Kawena Pukui, *Aspects of the Word Lei: Directions in Pacific Traditional Literature* (Bishop Museum Press)

Fresh-flower lei can be purchased throughout Hawaii, at every major airport and many supermarkets as well as florists. Home style is to make your own, and many families still do. You'll find lei made of all kinds of flowers, including plumeria, gardenias, ginger, orchids, pakalana, roses, ilima, and carnations, as well as fragrant maile leaves, braids of ti leaves, kukui nuts, seashells, flowers made of dollar bills, and, for the kids back home, even candy and gum.

Lei costs range from a few dollars for a simple crown flower or sweet-smelling tuberose lei to \$40 for an intricately crafted rope lei. One of the most popular new lei is the cristina, an expertly sewn garden made of purple dendrobium orchids (\$25 to \$30).

Often people try to keep a lei alive by refrigerating it. Here's another suggestion: drape it over a doorknob or lampshade in your hotel room or some other place where it cheers you to see the flowers and smell the fragrance.

A Tip about Tipping

Many service workers in Hawaii depend on tips for their living. At the airport, tip a porter a dollar or two per bag. Taxi drivers receive a 15 percent tip of the total fare plus 25¢ per bag or parcel. At the hotel, tip the bellhop \$5 for transporting your luggage to and from your room, and give the parking valet a couple of dollars. Tip your room housekeeper \$1 for each day of your stay. For dining, tip 15 to 20 percent of the bill.

LOCAL CUSTOMS AND PROTOCOL

- When going to the *lua* (restroom) make sure you know the difference between *kane* (man) and *wahine* (woman), since many restrooms are only identified in Hawaiian.
- Here's a sign of friendship: Close your middle three fingers of either hand while keeping your thumb and pinky finger fully extended. Shake your hand a few times in the air. That's the *shaka*, a gesture expressing acknowledgment, goodwill, or appreciation, suitably made to children and adults. That, and maybe the universal thumbs-up, are the only finger signals we suggest you make.

- Technically speaking, Fridays are Aloha Friday throughout Hawaii and in the Maui Islands, a tradition like casual Fridays on the Mainland except it calls for wearing aloha shirts and muumuu or other colorful Island wear. But actually, on rural islands where shorts and sandals are de rigueur, aloha wear is dressing up. Many invitations to weddings and other events call for “aloha attire” or even sometimes “evening aloha attire.” It’s what to wear to the luau, along with flowers in your hair. Women, if you don’t have a muumuu or plan to buy one, that colorful pareo (sarong-like wrap) makes a great aloha skirt. If you can’t get a plumeria or other small flower to stay in your hair, try sticking a toothpick down the throat of it and pinning or placing the toothpick base. The first aloha shirt was sold in the mid-1930s in Honolulu, where boys wore shirts made from Japanese prints, and the idea caught on. The origin of the muumuu traces to missionary days when the missionary wives sewed “Mother Hubbard” nightgowns to hide the bodies of half-dressed Hawaiian women.
- If you are invited to a *kamaaina* (local) home, remember to bring a small gift and, in most cases, remove your shoes before entering the house. The tangle of loose shoes in front of the door is your first clue.
- Local people of all kinds share a deep reverence for the *aina* (land), although all that litter along Hawaii’s roads can’t be from visitors alone. This is a beautiful place that deserves respect. Please don’t trash it.

STATE HOLIDAYS

IN ADDITION TO ALL MAJOR U.S. HOLIDAYS, Hawaii celebrates three state holidays.

- **Kuhio Day** (March 26). This holiday honors Prince Jonah Kuhio Kalanianaʻole (1871–1922), a statesman and member of the royal family who served in the U.S. Congress in the early 1900s.
- **King Kamehameha Day** (June 11). Hawaii’s great king, Kamehameha I, united the islands into a kingdom under one rule. An imposing figure (some reported him as tall as eight feet), the Big Island–born monarch died in May 1819, when he was believed to be in his early 60s, and his bones were hidden at a secret location, perhaps on the Kona Coast. Modern islanders celebrate the life of Kamehameha with colorful festivities, including lei-draping ceremonies, parades, and *hoʻolauleʻa* (public parties).
- **Admission Day** (third Friday in August). On August 21, 1959, U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the proclamation welcoming Hawaii as the 50th state, following a long, often emotional campaign for statehood that originated more than a century earlier. Many expected Hawaii to be named the 49th state, but that distinction went to Alaska in 1958. Today, “Hawaii–49th State” memorabilia, ranging from record labels to buttons, is highly prized by collectors.

TEN WORDS EVERYBODY ALREADY KNOWS (DON'T YOU?)

You may not know a papaya from a *puakenikeni* (one's a juicy fruit, the other's a sweet-smelling South Pacific flower), but everybody knows these Hawaiian words and expressions. Test your vocabulary here:

Aloha (ah-low-hah) noun, verb: All-purpose Hawaiian word: "hello," "good-bye," "I love you." Not to be shouted like a tour-bus driver, but said softly with feeling.

Mahalo (mah-haw-low) noun, verb: Appreciative Hawaiian remark: "thanks," "thank you." *Mahalo nui loa* means "thank you very much."

Ohana (oh-hah-na) noun: Old Hawaiian for "family" or "kin group," "da gang."

Keiki (kay-kee) noun: Old Hawaiian word meaning "child," "offshoot," "youngster," "tot," "little one." *Keiki o ka aina* literally means "a child of the island."

Mele (mehl-lay) noun: Old Hawaiian for "song," "anthem," or "chant." Also "merry," as in Mele Kalikimaka, "Merry Christmas."

Talk story (tawk sto-ree) noun, verb: Pidgin expression for storytelling, the oral tradition of Polynesia. "Let's talk story."

Kaukau (cow-cow) noun: Food, though often referred to more specifically using *ono*, *grinds*, or *pupu*. **Ono** (oh-no) is a Hawaiian/pidgin hybrid, adjective or noun meaning "good" or "good food." Ono appears on local menus as "onolicious," Hawaiian/*haole* for "real good." **Grinds** (grines) means "meal," "entree," "breakfast," "plate lunch," or any dinner less than a luau. Derived from the act of mastication, chewing, or grinding food. "Dis mahi ono grinds, brah." **Pupu** (poo-poo) means "finger food," "snacks," "small bites of kaukau"—Hawaiian for "hors d'oeuvres." *Plenny* pupu may amount to grinds, but grinds typically is *moah* kaukau than pupu.

Alii (ah-lee-ee) noun: Old Hawaiian for "king," "monarch," "chief," or "commander." Also means *haimaukamauka-kine folks*, or "uncommon people."

Kupuna (coo-poo-nah) noun: Old Hawaiian for "grandparent," "ancestor," "elder." Like **tutu** (too-too), or one who's supposed to know all the answers.

Kane/wahine (kah-nay/vah-hee-nay) nouns: Old Hawaiian terms for "male" and "female," respectively, often seen on public bathroom signs. If you don't know the difference by now, *plenny pilikia*, but that's one 'nother story, brah.

All pau, now. Live aloha. For more information and definitions, see *The Hawaiian Dictionary*, by Mary Kawena Pukui and Samuel H. Elbert.

A WORD ABOUT DIRECTIONS

WE TRY TO ORIENT YOU SOMEWHAT with the familiar directions of north, east, south, and west. But these words won't be terribly helpful in Hawaii. Local usage has little to do with the compass. The words you want to know are *mauka* (uphill, inland, toward the mountains) and *makai* (toward the sea). The other directions are identified by a bewildering variety of local landmarks.

SAYING IT *in* HAWAIIAN

IN HAWAII, ENGLISH AND HAWAIIAN are both official languages.

The Hawaiian alphabet has only 12 letters—the vowels *a, e, i, o,* and *u* and the consonants *h, k, l, m, n, p,* and *w*. A diacritical mark called the *okina*, pronounced as a glottal stop, is almost as vital as a letter, so that those vowels can do extra duty. The language takes practice and patience. The most authoritative Hawaiian language book is the *Hawaiian Dictionary*, by Mary Kawena Pukui and Samuel H. Elbert.

Here are some general rules of thumb for you to remember:

- Vowels are pronounced this way: *a* as “uh,” as in “lava”; *e* as “ay,” as in “hay”; *i* as “ee,” as in “fee”; *o* as “oh,” as in “low”; and *u* as “oo,” as in “moon.”
- All consonants are pronounced as in English except for *w*, which is usually pronounced as “v” when it follows an *i* or *e*. Example: Ewa Beach is pronounced as “Eva” Beach. When following a *u* or *o*, *w* is pronounced as “w.” When it is the first letter in the word or follows an *a*, there is no designated rule, so the pronunciation follows custom. Which means *Hawaii* and *Havaii* are both acceptable.
- Some vowels are slurred together in a diphthong, forming single sounds. Examples: *ai* as in “Waikiki,” *au* as in “mauka,” *ei* as in “lei,” *oi* as in “poi,” *ou* as an “kou,” and *ao* as in “haole.”
- Some are separated by a glottal stop, or *okina*, an upside-down and backward apostrophe that emphasizes a separate vowel sound, acting like another consonant, and keeps identically spelled words from being confused. For instance, *pau* means “finished,” but *pa’u* is a skirt worn by women horseback riders. *Pau* is pronounced as “pow,” and *pa’u* is pronounced as “pah-oo.”
- A macron, or *kahako*, designates a long vowel. A macron is marked as a line directly over the vowel. Logically enough, long vowels last longer than regular vowels. The macron, however, is used less frequently than the *okina*, in part because it isn’t as often needed to distinguish between words. This book, like most English publications from Hawaii, excludes macrons. However, don’t be surprised if you see them over the *i* in Waikiki. They indicate that the word is correctly sounded “why-kee-kee” rather than “why-kiki.”
- Every Hawaiian syllable ends with a vowel. Thus, every Hawaiian word ends with a vowel. Thus, the word *Hawaiian* isn’t a Hawaiian word.
- If a word contains no macrons, the accent usually falls on the next-to-last syllable. Examples: a-LO-ha, ma-HA-lo, ma-li-HI-ni, and o-HA-na.

PIDGIN

YOU MAY HEAR PEOPLE TALKING in what sounds like abbreviated English, except that it’s more colorful. Hawaii-style pidgin, the local

patois, is the third language of the Islands. It combines words and syntax of several languages and was developed so that multicultural plantation people could communicate. Although it is a true creole language and not simply slang, it's definitely not an official tongue.

The term aloha used either in music, poetry, or social behavior, is regarded as, perhaps, the singularly most important word in Hawaii today. The idea of love, affection, openness, generosity—all connoted by the term—is most readily associated with Hawaiians; that is, ethnic Hawaiians and their culture, of which the songs of aloha are a part.

—George Kanahele, *Hawaiian Music and Musicians: An Illustrated History*

The pros and cons of pidgin have long been debated by local educators and cultural experts. Some say that the practice should not be encouraged because it is not an acceptable manner of speech, whereas others insist that pidgin is a treasured cultural asset that should not be looked down on. In Hawaii, it's not uncommon for a kamaaina to speak perfect English in an office setting, then pick up the phone and speak pidgin to a friend. Following are some commonly used pidgin words and phrases you might hear during your stay.

TWENTY WORDS EVERY HAWAII VISITOR SHOULD KNOW

IF YOU CAN PRONOUNCE “AIEA,” “KEEAUMOKU,” and “Anaehoomalu” correctly and know “hapa” from “hapai,” then you are *akamai*, brah. No need to read da kine. If you no can understand a word up there, mo bettah you read da kine.

Da kine is one of 20 words or phrases every Hawaii visitor should know. So are *akamai* and *pau*. When you go pau reading da kine, you will be *akamai*, li'dat.

Welcome to Hawaii, the linguistically rich and confusing Islands with not one but two official languages—Hawaiian and English—where the 12-letter alphabet has 7 consonants and 5 vowels, and everybody speaks a little pidgin. No other archipelago has such an eclectic array of words that look and sound so foreign. You probably can get by with a now-and-then “aloha” and a mumbled “mahalo,” but to understand what's really going on in Hawaii, you need to know a few basic words like *da kine*, *howzit*, and *mo bettah*.

Everyone knows *wahine* from *kane* and *mauka* from *makai*, but what about *akamai*, *kokua*, and *holoholo*? Most *haoles* (that's you, *seestah* and *bruddah*) have trouble saying Hawaiian words because they are repetitive, have too many vowels, and look like the bottom line of an eye chart, e.g.: Kaaawa, Kuliouou, and Napoopoo. A good example of all the above is *humhumunukunukapuaa*, the state fish. To haole eyes, honed on brittle consonants, Hawaiian looks impossible. Once spoken, the way Hawaiian was intended, the soft, round, soothing vowels are music to your ears.

Commonly Used Hawaiian Words and Phrases

aina	Land, earth
alo	Love, kindness, or goodwill; can be used as a greeting or farewell
e komo mai	Welcome!
hale	House
hana hou	Do again, repeat, or encore
haole	Formerly any foreigner; now primarily anyone of Caucasian ancestry
holoholo	To go out for a walk, ride, or other activity
hoolaulea	A big party or celebration
hooponopono	To correct or rectify a situation
ikaika	Strong, powerful
ilima	A native shrub bearing bright yellow or orange flowers; used for lei
kahuna	Priest, minister, expert
kala	Money
kamaaina	Native-born or longtime Island resident
kanaka	Person, individual
kane	Male, husband, man
kapu	Taboo
keiki	Child
kohola	Humpback whale
kokua	Help, assistance, cooperation
kolohe	Mischievous, naughty; a rascal
kupuna	Grandparent
kuuipo	My sweetheart

Banned by New England missionaries, who crudely translated into English what they thought they heard, the native tongue survived underground to carry a nation's culture down through generations in warrior chants, hula lyrics, and talk story. And then there is pidgin, the local patois originated by Chinese immigrants to do business with an easy-to-understand lingo. The root word of "pidgin" is, in fact, "business." A caveat: Before you go to Hawaii and put your foot in your mouth, it's probably a good idea to clip and save this lexicon for future review. Or, as any local might put it: Good t'ing, brush up on da kine, brah, so no make A.

Here are 20 words, common in everyday Hawaiian usage, that you should know. Fo' real. They'll also help you make sense of the passage above.

lanai	Porch, verandah
lua	Toilet, bathroom
luau	A Hawaiian feast
luna	Foreman, boss, leader
mahalo	Thank you
makahiki	Ancient Hawaiian harvest festival with sports and religious activities
makai	Toward the ocean; used in directions
malihini	Newcomer
mana	Spiritual power
mauka	Inland direction, toward the mountain
me ke aloha	With warm regards pumehana
mele	Song
Menehune	Legendary small people who worked at night, building fish-ponds, roads, and temples; according to legend, if the work was not completed in one night, it was left unfinished.
muumuu	Loose-fitting Hawaiian gown
ohana	Family
ono	Delicious
pau	Finished, done
pupu	Hors d'oeuvre, appetizer
tutu	Grandmother
wahine	Female, wife, woman

1. **kokua** (ko-coo-ah) *verb, noun*: Help, as in help, assist, (please kokua), or contribute (kokua luau), a gentle reminder. "Your kokua is appreciated."
2. **pau** (pow) *noun*: All gone, no more, time's up. Used every Friday (when you go pau hana), finish work, when you finish kaukau ("All pau"), when your car or other mechanical object breaks down ("Eh, dis buggah pau"). Not to be confused with *make* (mah-kay), which means dead, a permanent form of pau.
3. **malihini** (mah-ly-hee-nee) *noun*: Nonderisive old Hawaiian word, meaning the opposite of kamaaina, or local. If first time come Hawaii, that's you, brah: a stranger, tourist, someone who wears socks and shoes instead of rubbah slippahs and eats rice with a fork, not chopsticks. You remain a malihini until you use "used to be" landmarks as directional aids.

Commonly Used Pidgin Words and Phrases

an den?	So? And then?
bra	Brother or friend, short for “braddah”
bumbye	Do it later
bummahs!	That’s unfortunate!
da kine	The kind of, that thing
fo real?	Really?
garans	Guaranteed
geev um!	Go for it!
go fo broke	Give it your all (famous motto of the 442nd Battalion in WWII)
how you figgah?	How do you think that happened?
howzit!	How are you?
laytahs	See you later
lidat	Like that
minahs	Minor; no problem; don’t worry about it
mo bettah	Better
no shame	Don’t be shy or embarrassed!
nuff already!	That’s enough!
shaka	Greetings; good job; thank you
small keed time	Childhood
soah?	Does it hurt?
stink eye	Disapproving glance, a dirty look
talk story	Converse, talk, or gossip
tanks, eh?	Thank you
whatevahs	Whatever
who dat?	Who is that?
yeah, no?	That’s right!

- mo bettah** (mow bedder) *adjective*: A contemporary pidgin self-descriptive term meaning excellent, outstanding, the best. Often used for comparison of ideas, objects, or places, as in “Dis beach mo bettah.” Sometimes spelled “moah bettah.”
- no ka oi** (nok caw oy) Hawaiian phrase, a sequence of words that serves as an appositive, can only follow nouns as in “Maui no ka oi” (Maui is the best), a superlative expression, bragging rights, the best, similar to mo bettah.

6. **hana hou** (hah-nah ho) *interjection*: Hawaiian expression of joy, a cry for more, the local equivalent of “encore.” Most often heard at music concerts after Auntie Genoa Keawe sings.
7. **to da max** (to dah macks) *interjection*: Pidgin expression of boundless enthusiasm, meaning no limits, to the moon, give it your all, knock yourself out. Also, the partial title of a popular book, *Pidgin to da Max* by Douglas Simonson, Ken Sakata, and Pat Sasaki.
8. **akamai** (ah-kah-my) *noun, adjective*: Smart, clever, locally correct in thought, common sense as opposed to intelligence, or school smarts. “Many are smart but few are akamai.” Also the name of a high-tech Mainland computer outfit.
9. **chance ‘em** (chants em) *verb*: Take a chance, go for it, try. Also a rally cry. Often heard in Las Vegas at blackjack tables and in Aloha Stadium late in the fourth quarter when the Warriors are behind. “Fourth and inches on the five. Coach June Jones says, ‘Chance ‘em.’”
10. **chicken skin** (chee-kin skeen) *noun*: Descriptive pidgin term, the local version of goose bumps, for a frisson or shiver of excitement. Also the title of best-selling local spooky book by favorite author. “Oh, dat spooky kine stuff gives me chicken skin.”
11. **laters** (lay-derz) *noun*: Salutatory remark, often substituted for “good-bye,” pidgin for see you later, *sayonara*, adios, after while crocodile.
12. **howzit?** (house it) *interjection*: A greeting, always a question, friendly contraction of “How is it?” The inquiry is directed at your state of mind at the time. The preferred response is, “It’s good, brah!” Or maybe, “I’m feeling junk” (pidgin for “poorly”).
13. **shaka brah** (shah-kah brah) *interjection, noun*: A contemporary pidgin phrase similar to “hang loose,” used as a casual form of agreement that everything is cool. The first word, *shaka*, refers to a hand signal made with thumb and pinkie extended, index, middle, and ring fingers closed, and a brisk horizontal flip of the wrist. This public sign that all is well often follows the phrase “life is good, brah,” and is seen nightly on local TV news sign-off. The second word, *brah*, is a truncation of *brother*.
14. **holoholo** (hoe-low-hoe-low) *verb*: An old Hawaiian word meaning to go out for pleasure on foot or in a car or boat, a stroll to check things out, with emphasis on going out for fun. Not to be confused with similar sounding *halohalo* (hah-low-hah-low), the classic Philippine dessert made with ice cream and chopped fruit.
15. **wikiwiki** (wee-key-wee-key) *adjective, noun*: An old Hawaiian word and the name of the Honolulu International Airport shuttle bus, originally meaning to go fast, move rapidly, hurry (a concept missing on the islands of Molokai and Lanai). Not to be confused with *hele* (hell-lay), which means to go, or let’s go, as in “Hele on.”
16. **mauka/makai** (mao-cah/mah-kigh) *noun*: Two of the four key directions on Oahu, *mauka* and *makai* are used on all Hawaiian Islands.

Mauka means inland or toward the mountain, and *makai* means toward the ocean. Other Oahu directions are Ewa (eh-vah) and Diamond Head (die-mohn hed), meaning toward the Ewa plain or Waikiki's famous crater, known in Hawaiian as *Leahi* (lay-ah-hee) or tuna brow. On Maui, Upcountry same t'ing mauka, brah.

17. **kapu** (kah-poo) *noun*: An old Hawaiian word meaning taboo, off limits, no trespassing, keep out, forbidden, sacred. Often seen on signs in high-crime areas, danger spots, and geothermal plants.
18. **hapa-haole** (hah-pa-howl-ee) *noun, adjective*: If you're not *kanaka* (kah-nah-kah), that's you: literally a person with no breath. *Ha* is breathe, *ole* is nothing. *Haole* is what early Hawaiians called the first European visitors, who looked pale as death, or breathless. *Hapa* is Hawaiian for half, not to be confused with *hapai* (hah-pie), meaning one and a half, or pregnant. *Hapa-haole* is half white. When used derogatorily, *haole* is generally prefaced by adjectives like "stupid" or "dumb."
19. **da kine** (dah khine) *adjective, interjection*: Pidgin slang literally meaning "the kind," implying something perfectly understood but not exactly defined. A one-size-fits-all generic expression used when two or more people know what they are talking about but nobody can think of the right word, as in "Cannot explain, you know, da kine."
20. **li'dat** (lye daht) *adverb*: Existential pidgin phrase, from "like that." Agreement or confirmation that an idea, concept, or statement is what it is. Similar to English "uh-huh" and Japanese *honto des*.

PROBLEMS *in* PARADISE?

NONE OF THESE POTENTIAL DIFFICULTIES would keep you from coming, but be prepared.

WINDS The same gusty trades that make North Shore Maui an international windsurfers' joy can rock your landing jet and sting your skin with sand at the beach, not to mention kicking up the channel waters under your snorkel cruiser. It's a natural phenomenon. Nearly constant trade winds accelerate when they funnel through Maui's isthmus valley or whistle down the interisland channels. If you are an iffy sailor, go in the mornings when it's calmer.

CLOUDS Takeoffs and landings can be delayed by low-cloud conditions on the Island of Lanai.

SUNBURN Don't underestimate the power of the tropical sun. It's strongest from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Do what you want when you want, but slather everyone with high-potency waterproof sunscreen before you go out and often during your activity, and use sunglasses and hats as well. If you do get scorched, slather even more with aloe vera gel.

SHARKS Shark attacks are rare in Hawaii, but sharks are not. Attacks have occurred off Maui beaches. Those clear blue waters harbor a variety of the creatures, which, by Hawaiian legend, are more revered than feared as *aumakua*, or family guardian spirits.

FOODS Maui's cornucopia of restaurants and food stores dries up on the smaller islands. Molokai is one of those places where you don't nap into dinnertime, or you might miss it if you wait too late. Molokai receives milk and staples by once-a-week barge from Honolulu. If you shop the Island markets and cook your own meals, plan dinner around what there is to buy. Although U.S. Department of Agriculture rules restrict movement of fresh produce between Hawaii and other places, anything goes interisland. If you're renting a condo for a family of fussy eaters, you may want to consider buying some groceries on Oahu or Maui and carrying them to Molokai. In Lanai City, limited groceries are available in the plantation general stores, and a couple of restaurants serve breakfast and lunch. Otherwise, you eat at the hotels only, which are excellent.

WATER Maui, Molokai, and Lanai are fragile, isolated ecosystems with few resources and little margin for error in tight times. Even the abundant rainfall of wetter areas drains away quickly, leaving water problems for the increasing population of Maui.

Now and then, water gets out of control. Rogue waves and rip-tides can sweep you out to sea, and occasionally threats are posed by rough surf and even tsunami, or tidal waves, as well as flash-flooding that occurs when tropical rainstorms, usually brief and intense, meet mountains. The runoff down steep slopes poses flash-flood dangers in a downhill waterfall valley or across a road that briefly becomes a raging waterfall course. If you get caught in a storm while hiking by a stream, go immediately to high ground. If driving, park before you get to deep water on a road and wait an hour or two. It will all be gone as soon as the water flows out to sea.

PESTS Bugs love the climate, too. You may see huge red or black centipedes and smaller blue ones (they bite, painfully); delicate, small scorpions (their sting is like a bee sting, according to one victim); several species of terrorizing cockroaches that don't bite; fast, hairy cane spiders (harmless); several sizes of ants; your average fly and superfly; little black pineapple bugs; and mosquitoes that seem to prefer tender flesh fresh from the Mainland. Mosquitoes will breed in vases of flowers and the rain held by a leaf overnight. Imported and hitchhiking plants and animals also thrive in the tropical air, usually at the expense of a former arrival. The history of the Islands is a tale of one species crowding another toward extinction—particularly risky for the rare and delicate native inhabitants, including the vanishing race of pure Hawaiians.

TRAFFIC This is not a problem on Molokai or Lanai, but the Maui roads are inadequate for large crowds, as you'll discover if you land on a loaded jumbo jet flight at local commute time. One of the traffic problem areas is the three miles between Lahaina and Kaanapali Beach Resort. Allow extra time on airport runs, or plan to take a breather if the traffic is bugging you.

You'll also encounter crowds at rental-car stands when big jets arrive. The best policy is to slow down and cool off. Allow more time. Strike up a conversation. Hawaiian time just isn't as *wikiwiki* (speedy) as you're used to, so relax and enjoy it.

POPULATION Maui County grew by 28 percent in the decade before the 2000 census to 128,000 people. The influence of new residents, many of them from California, and increasing economic reliance on tourism has changed the once-insular social culture of islands formerly devoted to agriculture, mostly sugar and pineapple plantations. The multicultural populace of Maui County, like the rest of Hawaii, is a harmonious racial rainbow most of the time, but clouds do appear.

COST OF GOODS Prices are relatively high for food, gas, and other items. On the other hand, the advent of big discount stores and increased retail competition has helped diminish the high costs and increase the choices, at least on Maui. In populations as small as Molokai and Lanai, shoppers are limited to what the ships bring in once a week and what they can make, grow, or catch at home.

These remote islands share many of the same problems that burden other American communities: drugs, crime, and traffic. But open-hearted strangers are welcome, and local people largely rely on kindness, respect, and humor to get along. The skies and seas are truly blue way out here, and there is plenty of spectacular scenery to soothe the soul.

Important Phone Numbers

Here's a list of phone numbers that may come in handy during your stay. For interisland calls, use the area code ☎ 808 before the number. Be aware these calls generally are charged long-distance rates.

- Police, fire, ambulance 911
- Directory assistance 411
- Weather forecast 877-5111
- Marine conditions 877-3477
- Time of day 242-0212 (Maui), 553-9211 (Molokai), 565-9211 (Lanai)
- Kahului Airport 872-3803, 872-3893
- Kapalua Airport 669-0623
- Hana Airport 248-8208

- Molokai Airport 567-6140
- Kalaupapa Airport 567-6331
- Lanai Airport 565-6757
- Office of Consumer Protection 984-8244

Safety Tips

Hawaii is a peaceful state with few violent crimes. Much is invested in the safety of tourists, the state's biggest industry, but the state is not crime-free. We urge you to use the same common sense and self-protective measures you would at home.

- Carry only as much cash or traveler's checks as you need for the day.
- Never leave your luggage unattended until you arrive at your hotel.
- Never display large amounts of cash during transactions, such as at automated teller machines.
- Beware of pickpockets, especially in crowds.
- Carry your purse close to your body.
- Carry your wallet in a front pocket rather than a rear pocket.
- Avoid waiting alone at a bus stop after dark.
- Never leave valuables in your rental car.
- If your vehicle is bumped from behind at night, do not stop; instead, proceed to the nearest public area and call 911 for assistance.
- Leave your hotel room key with the front desk when going out.

