



ELEVATED VACATIONS

CURATED JOURNEYS. ELEVATED EXPERIENCES.

PREPARED EXCLUSIVELY FOR
ELEVATED VACATIONS CLIENTS

Hawaii

TRAVEL GUIDE



CURATED JOURNEYS.
ELEVATED EXPERIENCES.



www.myelevatedvacations.com



[@elevated.vacations](https://www.instagram.com/elevated.vacations)



Aloha & WELCOME TO HAWAII

From lush rainforests and volcanic peaks to golden beaches and rich island traditions, Hawaii offers unforgettable experiences around every corner. Each island has its own personality—meaning every visit is uniquely yours.



HAWAII AT A GLANCE



TIME ZONE

Hawaii-Aleutian Standard Time (HST). Hawaii does not observe Daylight Saving Time.



CURRENCY

U.S. Dollar
Credit cards are widely accepted.



GETTING AROUND

Rental cars are recommended for exploring beyond resort areas on most islands.



ISLAND HOPPING

Inter-island flights are the primary way to combine islands on a land vacation.



WEATHER

Warm year-round, but conditions can change by island, elevation, and even which side you're on.



PLAN AHEAD

Some of Hawaii's most sought-after experiences require advance reservations—especially during peak travel times.

- Haleakalā sunrise
- Diamond Head hike
- Pearl Harbor
- Nā Pali Coast experiences
- Popular lū'au
- State parks & hiking areas
- Special events & activities

Booking early helps ensure you don't miss out on the moments that matter most.

Christina's TIP

WANT TO EXPERIENCE ALL FOUR MAIN HAWAIIAN ISLANDS?

Consider a Hawaii cruise. It's a convenient way to experience O'ahu, Maui, Kaua'i and the Island of Hawai'i in one vacation without repeatedly changing hotels or arranging inter-island flights.

It's also a great introduction to the islands and can help you decide which one you'd like to return to for a longer stay.



myelevatedvacations.com



@elevated.vacations

O'ahu

HISTORY, CULTURE & ISLAND ENERGY

Home to Honolulu and Waikīkī, O'ahu blends iconic beaches and incredible scenery with some of Hawaii's most significant historic and cultural experiences. From the energy of Waikīkī to the legendary North Shore, it's an island where you can experience a little bit of everything.

BEST FOR:

First-time visitors • History • Dining
Beaches • Surf culture • Families

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

1



PEARL HARBOR



Visit one of Hawaii's most important historic sites, including the USS Arizona Memorial.



4



DIAMOND HEAD (LĒ'AHĪ)



One of O'ahu's signature hikes, with panoramic views over Waikīkī and the coastline.

2



WAIKĪKĪ BEACH



An iconic stretch of Honolulu with beaches, restaurants, shopping and easy access to many activities.

3



NORTH SHORE



Famous for surf culture, beautiful beaches, food trucks and a completely different atmosphere from Honolulu.

5



KUALOA RANCH



Dramatic mountains, valleys and adventure experiences in one of the island's most recognizable landscapes.

6



POLYNESIAN CULTURAL CENTER



An immersive introduction to the cultures and traditions of Polynesia through villages, performances and hands-on experiences.

Venture Beyond Waikīkī

Make time to explore beyond Honolulu. O'ahu's North Shore offers a slower pace, legendary surf beaches, local food stops and beautiful coastal scenery.

ELEVATED TIP



This island is best suited for first-time visitors, history lovers, dining enthusiasts, beach time, surf culture and families.



O'AHU AT A GLANCE



RECOMMENDED STAY
4-6 days



MAIN AIRPORT
Honolulu (HNL)



GETTING AROUND
Rental car recommended for exploring beyond Honolulu.



ISLAND VIBE
Energetic, historic and diverse.



myelevatedvacations.com



[@elevated.vacations](https://www.instagram.com/elevated.vacations)

Maui

SCENIC DRIVES, BEACHES & NATURAL BEAUTY

Maui pairs beautiful beaches and polished resort areas with some of Hawaii's most spectacular natural scenery. From watching the sunrise above the clouds at Haleakalā to winding through rainforest along the Road to Hāna, the island rewards travelers who make time to explore.

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

1



ROAD TO HĀNA



A legendary drive filled with rainforest, waterfalls, coastal ocean views and memorable stops along the way. The journey itself is as much about the experience as the destination.

2



WAI'ĀNAPANAPA STATE PARK



Famous for its striking black-sand beach, lava-rock coastline and lush surroundings.

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

Advance reservations may be required. Check current access and reservation requirements before your Road to Hāna day.

3



HALEAKALĀ NATIONAL PARK



Experience Maui's volcanic landscapes from above the clouds. Sunrise is famous, but other times of day can also be spectacular.

Advance reservations may be required for certain experiences. Check current requirements before visiting.

4



SNORKELING & MARINE LIFE



Maui offers excellent snorkeling opportunities, with colorful reefs, sea turtles and abundant marine life.

5



UPCOUNTRY MAUI



A very different side of the island, with rolling hills, farms, small communities and expansive views stretching from mountains to ocean.

6



WHALE WATCHING



A signature Maui experience during the winter migration season.

SEASONAL

Best viewing December through April.

The Road to Hāna Is About the Journey



The Road to Hāna isn't simply a drive from Point A to Point B. Waterfalls, rainforest, coastal overlooks and roadside stops are part of what makes the day special than rushing toward Hāna.

GOOD TO KNOW

Plan Ahead

Some of Maui's most popular parks, trails and natural attractions may require advance reservations, permits or timed entry. Requirements can change, so check current access information before your trip, especially for sunrise visits to Haleakalā and your Road to Hāna day.



RECOMMENDED STAY
5–7 days



MAIN AIRPORT
Kahului (OGG)



GETTING AROUND
Rental car recommended for exploring the island.



ISLAND VIBE
Scenic • Relaxed
Romantic • Adventurous



myelevatedvacations.com



@elevated.vacations

Kaua'i

THE GARDEN ISLE: WILD BEAUTY & ADVENTURE

Known as the Garden Isle, Kaua'i is Hawaii at its most lush and dramatic. Towering sea cliffs, emerald valleys, waterfalls and deep canyons create an island made for travelers who love nature, adventure and a slower pace.

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES



1

NĀ PALI COAST



One of the most breathtaking coastlines in the world. Explore by boat, helicopter or on foot via the Kalalau Trail. Towering cliffs, hidden valleys and cascading waterfalls create an unforgettable backdrop.

Note: Some trails and access points may require advance reservations or permits.



2

WAIMEA CANYON



Often called the "Grand Canyon of the Pacific," Waimea Canyon offers stunning vistas, colorful cliffs, waterfalls and scenic overlooks.

Note: Park access may require reservations or fees. Check current conditions before visiting.



3

KŌKE'E STATE PARK



High in the mountains, Kōke'e offers lush forests, hiking trails and breathtaking overlooks toward the Nā Pali Coast and Waimea Canyon.

Note: Access may require reservations or fees. Check current conditions before visiting.



4

HANALEI & THE NORTH SHORE



Charming Hanalei Bay, stunning beaches, boutique shops and laid-back island vibes make the North Shore a must-visit.



5

WAILUA RIVER



Kayak the serene Wailua River through tropical rainforest to hidden waterfalls, ancient Hawaiian sites and lush surroundings.



6

KAUA'I BY AIR



A helicopter tour reveals the island's most spectacular landscapes—deep valleys, numerous waterfalls and the stunning Nā Pali Coast from an unforgettable perspective.

THREE WAYS TO EXPERIENCE NĀ PALI COAST



BY SEA Dramatic views looking up at the cliffs, often combined with snorkeling depending on the excursion.



BY AIR Incredible perspective of otherwise inaccessible valleys, waterfalls and coastline.



ON FOOT For appropriately prepared travelers, hiking offers a completely different experience.

GOOD TO KNOW

Plan Ahead

Some of Kaua'i's most popular parks, trails and natural attractions may require advance reservations, permits or timed entry. Requirements can change, so check current access information before your trip, especially for North Shore and Nā Pali Coast experiences.



KAUA'I AT A GLANCE



RECOMMENDED STAY
4–6 days



MAIN AIRPORT
Lihue (LIH)



GETTING AROUND
Rental car strongly recommended



ISLAND VIBE
Lush • Peaceful
Adventurous • Romantic



Keep plans flexible. Kaua'i's tropical weather can affect hiking, boating and helicopter excursions.



myelevatedvacations.com



@elevated.vacations

Hawai'i

THE BIG ISLAND

VOLCANOES, ADVENTURE & EXTRAORDINARY LANDSCAPES

The Island of Hawai'i is a land of incredible contrasts, where volcanic landscapes, lush rainforests, waterfalls and striking coastlines can all be experienced on one island. Its immense size and diverse terrain make it ideal for travelers looking for adventure and experiences unlike anywhere else in Hawaii.



SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

1



HAWAI'I VOLCANOES NATIONAL PARK



Explore volcanic craters, lava fields, steam vents and scenic drives while learning about the forces that continue to shape the island.

2



MANTA RAY NIGHT EXPERIENCE



An unforgettable experience as gentle manta stars glide and feed in the evening waters along the Kona coast.

3



PUNALU'U BLACK SAND BEACH



A stunning black sand beach known for Hawaiian green sea turtles. View wildlife respectfully from a distance.

4



KONA COFFEE COUNTRY



Visit local coffee farms on the sunny slopes above Kona, tour the plantations and enjoy freshly roasted Kona coffee.

5



HILO & WATERFALLS



Lush rainforests, charming Hilo town and beautiful waterfalls create a refreshing contrast to the drier Kona side.

6



MAUNA KEA & STARGAZING



Experience incredible high-elevation landscapes and some of the clearest night skies in the world.

THREE WAYS TO EXPERIENCE KĪLAUEA



BY CAR

Explore scenic roads, overlooks and volcanic landscapes throughout Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park.



ON FOOT

Hiking allows you to experience the volcanic landscape much more closely, with trails ranging from easy walks to more challenging routes.



BY AIR

Helicopter tours can provide a completely different perspective of Kīlauea and the enormous volcanic landscape surrounding it, subject to weather, volcanic conditions and flight restrictions.

Volcanic activity, viewing conditions and access can change. Check current conditions before your visit.



ELEVATED TIP



DON'T UNDERESTIMATE THE DISTANCES

The Big Island truly lives up to its name. Experiences that appear relatively close on a map can require significant driving time.

Plan your days geographically, and leave yourself enough time to enjoy each area rather than spending your vacation in the car.

And don't overlook the beaches. With so many unique sights to explore, it's easy to fill every day with activities. Save some time simply to relax and enjoy the island's beautiful coastline.



BIG ISLAND AT A GLANCE



RECOMMENDED STAY
5-7 days



MAIN AIRPORTS
Kona (KOA)
Hilo (ITO)



GETTING AROUND
Rental car strongly recommended



ISLAND VIBE
Adventurous • Diverse
Volcanic • Unhurried



CHOOSE YOUR HOME BASE CAREFULLY. Kona/Kohala and Hilo offer very different experiences. Where you stay can significantly affect driving time to the experiences you want to prioritize.



myelevatedvacations.com



@elevated.vacations

Hawaii Essentials

WHAT TO KNOW BEFORE YOU GO



1 ✈️

ISLAND HOPPING

Flying Between Islands

Inter-island flights are the primary way to travel between the Hawaiian Islands on a land-based vacation. If combining islands, remember that changing islands takes more time than the flight itself once you account for airports, rental cars and hotel changes.

2 🚗

GETTING AROUND

Plan on Driving

A rental car is one of the easiest ways to explore beyond the main resort areas on most islands. Driving distances can be deceiving because of winding roads, traffic and terrain, so avoid planning days based solely on mileage.

3 🧳

PACK FOR MORE THAN THE BEACH

A few useful extras you may not think to pack for a Hawaiian vacation.

Pack for more than the Beach



SWEATER OR WARM LAYER

Higher elevations can be surprisingly cold—especially at sunrise, sunset and on volcanic summits.

Yes, even in Hawaii!



LIGHTWEIGHT RAIN JACKET

Useful for rainforests, waterfalls and changing weather conditions.



WATER SHOES

Great for rocky shorelines, waterfalls and water activities.



STURDY WALKING / HIKING SHOES

Essential for volcanic terrain, trails and uneven surfaces.



REUSABLE WATER BOTTLE

Stay hydrated on sightseeing days, hikes and excursions.



SMALL BACKPACK

Perfect for carrying water, a warm layer, rain jacket, sunscreen and other essentials during the day.



WATERPROOF PHONE POUCH OR DRY BAG

Keep your phone and valuables safe on boat trips, beach days and in wet conditions.



PORTABLE CHARGER

Long days and lots of photos can drain your battery quickly.



MOTION SICKNESS REMEDY

Worth packing if you're sensitive to winding roads or boat travel.

4 🌊

OCEAN, REEFS & WILDLIFE

Respect Hawaii's natural environment: never touch coral or marine life, keep a respectful distance from wildlife, and always follow posted ocean-safety guidance.

5 ☁️

HAWAII'S MICROCLIMATES

Sunshine at your resort doesn't necessarily mean sunshine everywhere you're headed. Weather can vary dramatically between the windward and leeward sides of an island and at higher elevations.

Check conditions for where you're going—not just where you're staying.

6 📋

PLAN AHEAD, BUT VERIFY

Some of Hawaii's most popular parks, trails and attractions may require reservations, permits or timed entry. Requirements can change, so check current information while planning your trip.

The best souvenirs are the memories we make along the way.



myelevatedvacations.com



@elevated.vacations

The Spirit of Aloha

A Little Hawaiian Culture to Take With You

1 The Meaning of Aloha

Aloha is more than a greeting. It expresses love, affection, compassion and kindness. It's a way of living that values connection—to one another and to the world around us.

2 The Meaning of a Lei

A lei is a beautiful expression of aloha. Traditionally given to welcome, honor, celebrate, show affection or say goodbye, lei may be made from flowers, leaves, shells and other natural materials. If you receive a lei, accept it graciously—it is a meaningful gesture.

3 What Is a Lū'au?

A lū'au is a traditional Hawaiian gathering that features food, music, storytelling and hula. Today's lū'au offer visitors a chance to experience the warmth of Hawaiian hospitality and Polynesian culture.

Did You Know?

The word lū'au originally referred to the taro leaves used in traditional dishes—and later came to mean the feast itself.

4 Speak a Little Hawaiian



Aloha

Love, affection, compassion; also used for hello and goodbye



Mahalo

Thank you; gratitude



'Ohana

Family



Keiki

Child or children



Mauka

Toward the mountains/inland



Makai

Toward the ocean



Pono

Righteousness, goodness; doing what is right



Pau

Finished or done



'Ono

Delicious



Kama'āina

A longtime resident of Hawai'i; literally "child of the land"

5 The Story of Hula



Hula is an ancient Hawaiian tradition that tells stories through graceful movement, chant (oli) and song (mele). It shares history, genealogy, values and the deep connection between the people and the land.

6 Before You Head Home

Hawai'i has special agricultural rules designed to protect ecosystems on the islands and the mainland. Certain fruits, plants and other agricultural items may be restricted when leaving Hawai'i. Check current requirements before packing agricultural products to take home.



'A'ohe pau ka 'ike i ka hālau ho'okahi.

All knowledge is not learned in one school.

May your travels continue to open your heart, broaden your perspective and inspire a lifetime of discovery.

Until your next adventure,

♥ Christina

Elevated Vacations



myelevatedvacations.com



@elevated.vacations