

A full-page photograph of a tropical beach at sunset. The sky is a deep purple and blue, with wispy clouds. The sun is a bright, glowing orb on the horizon, casting a long, shimmering reflection on the ocean and the wet sand. To the left, a rocky coastline is covered in lush green vegetation and several palm trees. The ocean waves are breaking gently onto the shore, creating white foam. The overall mood is serene and idyllic.

the BEACHES *of* HAWAII

Gorgeous coral reefs call to divers as Mai Tais beckon beach bums. Whichever way you choose to relax, the Hawaiian Islands can oblige.

the BEACHES *of* HAWAII'

SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION

Immerse
yourself in
Hawaii's
beach culture.



Learn to surf by world champions.
Jump into an outrigger canoe and
surf to shore. There are many
Waikiki hotels, but none that
captures the heart of the ocean
quite like Outrigger Resorts.

Find out at outrigger.com



Diverse, laid-back and full of charm, the Islands of Hawai'i are a coveted getaway, intoxicating travelers with pristine beaches, sun-drenched shores, isolated coves and dramatic views from nearly every angle. For some beachgoers, tranquil seclusion and tropical beauty define a beach's excellence. Others imagine posh hotels and lively crowds. From great family destinations and honeymoon hideaways, to ideal spots to catch some waves or just chill in the sand, here are some of the best beaches the Aloha State has to offer.

HAWAII ISLAND

Hāpuna Beach offers prime swimming, sunbathing and body surfing in the summer. Clean and well-maintained, the beach features ivory sands that slope gently into a sandbar that extends about 25 yards into the ocean. Abundant fish and coral make for superb snorkeling and the wide beach offers plenty of sand on which to sprawl. Be aware that thundering waves and strong rip currents dominate the winter months.

The picturesque Punalu'u Beach is famous for its jet-black sand, as well as its endangered green sea turtles, which often can be seen basking on the sand. The beach is one of the few areas the turtles choose to lay their eggs. The black sand formed when molten lava spilled into the water, quickly cooling and breaking into granules.

The green sand at Papāhōkōlea Beach gets its color from olivine crystals created from volcanic eruptions years ago. Getting to the beach isn't easy, but those who make the journey are rewarded with one of the best views on Hawai'i Island.

KAUAI

Protected by a reef that makes it safe for snorkeling and swimming, Ke'e Beach is nestled among the lush vegetation of guava plants, ti flowers, coconut palms and ironwood trees. The clear blue waters are teeming with fish and underwater amazement.

One of Hawai'i's prettiest beaches, Hanalei Bay is a semi-circle of sugar-white sand and blue-green water with a backdrop of awe-inspiring waterfalls and emerald mountain peaks wrapped in mist. A favorite surf location in the winter, the bay attracts swimmers, windsurfers, kayakers and paddle boarders in the summer.

MAUI

Sun-seekers should have no problem finding a prime spot to lay down a towel at

Ka'anapali Beach, which boasts three miles of white sand and crystal clear water. A paved walkway links posh resorts, spas, open-air restaurants and shops. The best snorkeling is around Black Rock, where cliff diving at sunset is a Maui must-see.

Families with small children appreciate the tranquil setting and gentle waters of Kapalua Beach. Located in West Maui, this cul-de-sac beach is bordered by swaying coconut palms and fringed by lava rocks. Snorkeling is good here, with plenty of coral and marine life not too far offshore.

O'AHU

Once a playground for Hawaiian royalty, Waikiki Beach is Honolulu's most popular destination. Located at the foot of a string of high-rise hotels, the narrow crescent beach offers good swimming, surfing and diving year-round.

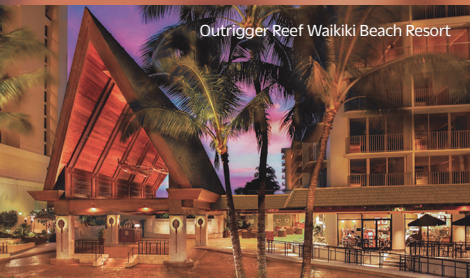
With its clear waters, fine white sand and swaying palm trees, Lanikai Beach is one of Hawai'i's postcard-perfect beaches. Sparkling turquoise waters sheltered by a protective offshore reef provide ideal swimming conditions, while prevailing onshore trade winds make this a popular place for sailing and windsurfing.

The Ko'olau mountain range provides a dramatic backdrop to Kailua Beach, which is a mecca for swimming, windsurfing, parasailing, kayaking and boogie boarding. Located in a residential area, the beach is seldom crowded on weekdays.

Hanauma Bay is O'ahu's most famous snorkeling spot, thanks to its shallow shoreline water, abundant marine life and white sand. Formed thousands of years ago by a volcanic crater, the bay is protected from all but the largest ocean swells. A Marine Education Center offers a variety of exhibits and a short video educating guests about this "living museum."



CATCH A WAVE
with surf legends and the
beach boys of Waikiki.



Outrigger Reef Waikiki Beach Resort



Outrigger Waikiki Beach Resort



Where can you be welcomed like
family in a paradise far from home?

Find out at Outrigger.com

HAWAII FIJI AUSTRALIA THAILAND GUAM MAURITIUS UPCOMING: MALDIVES CHINA VIETNAM

See your travel agent or call 800.688.7444


OUTRIGGER
RESORTS