



COURTESY GRAND WAILEA



ALOHA

getaways

Story | KATHRYN HUNTER

Leave your cares on the mainland. Sand and sun await at these three idyllic and distinctive escapes in the Hawaiian Islands.



OFF THE BEATEN PATH AT
TRAVAASA
HANA, MAUI



COURTESY TRAVAASA HANA



Tucked away amid a lush landscape of green fields and palm trees, Travaasa Hana is a setting that captures the essence of Hawaii’s true spirit—remote but never lonely, wild but also warm and inviting. The morning sun first greets the island here on the resort’s rocky shoreline, where Maui’s eastern edge meets the blue-green waters of the Pacific. Travaasa’s Sea Ranch Cottages, each with its own private lanai, provide an incomparable vantage point on the sunrise at sea.

Travaasa is an experiential resort, featuring five unique, customizable paths of exploration: Adventure, Culinary, Culture, Fitness and Spa & Wellness. A complete escape is fashioned for the visitor; rooms lack television, radio or clocks, though Wi-Fi is available. The to-do list at Travaasa includes only the enjoyable and extraordinary, from learning to play the ukulele or crafting a lei to taking an outdoor yoga class or mastering the art of Polynesian cooking. travaasa.com/hana

BEACH

A complimentary shuttle ferries guests to nearby Hamoa Beach, a peaceful, picture-perfect crescent of white sand. Travaasa also offers throw net fishing, bamboo pole fishing and an outrigger canoe adventure on Hana Bay.

SPA

The award-winning Spa at Travaasa Hana focuses on natural elements and techniques, providing a wide range of massages, healing rituals and beauty treatments. The Hana Organic Cocomint Signature Body Treatment and Massage incorporates locally grown cacao. In addition to nine treatment rooms, the indoor/outdoor spa includes a lava rock whirlpool, private garden, steam room, cold plunge pool and relaxation room.

DINING

Ranging from classic Hawaiian dishes to innovative fusion cuisine, the menu at restaurant Ka’uiki highlights Hana-grown, ocean-to-table ingredients. To bring some of the island flavor home with you, take advantage of the resort’s in-depth learning experiences on regional dishes and mixology.



BEACHFRONT GRANDEUR AT THE GRAND WAILEA, MAUI

Grand Wailea, a Waldorf Astoria Resort, boasts a treasure trove of amenities and attractions. Fronting the famous Wailea Beach, the resort encompasses 40 acres, with 780 guest rooms and 52 suites. Throughout the grounds, public areas feature a prized and varied collection of more than 80 works of art, valued at roughly \$30 million. The Wailea Canyon Activity Pool, a series of nine connected pools complete with whitewater rapids, slides, rope swings and the world's first water elevator, is a favorite stop for families. Three 18-hole championship golf courses and an 11-court tennis complex are located nearby, and Wailea also has a specially designed pool for scuba training. Grand Wailea's wealth of entertainment, retail and dining options ensures that a guest's every need can be satisfied without leaving the property. grandwailea.com

BEACH

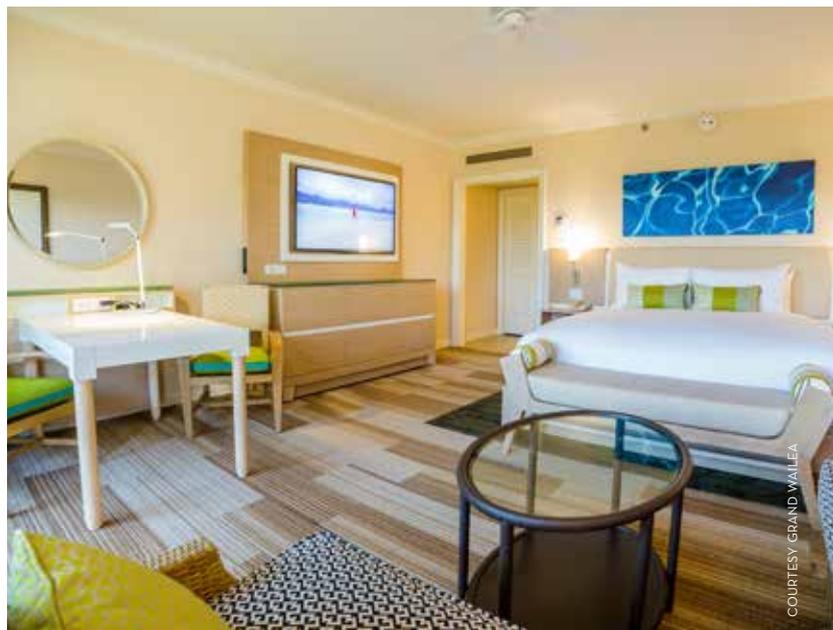
Rated one of the top beaches in the world, Wailea Beach is a dazzling playground of golden sand and gentle waves. Guided tours or equipment for kayaking, stand-up paddleboarding, Boogie boarding and snorkeling are available.

SPA

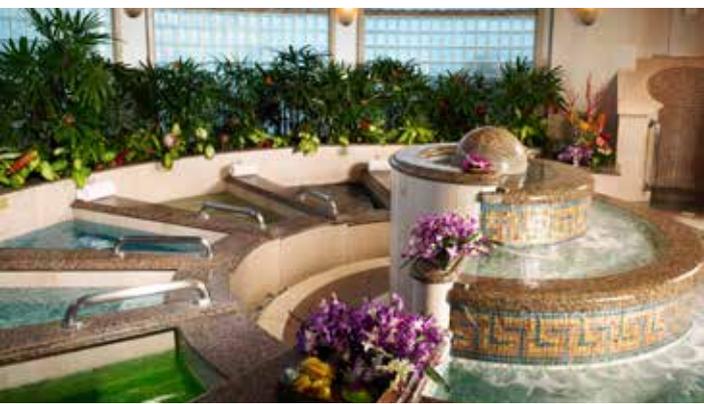
The largest spa in Hawaii, the aptly named Spa Grande comprises 50,000 square feet and offers more than 100 beauty and body treatments. Before your appointment, experience the complimentary Termé Wailea Hydrotherapy Circuit, a series of relaxing water therapies that includes a Roman tub, saunas, cascading waterfalls, Swiss jet showers, a Japanese furo and five exquisite Hawaiian sea salt baths.

DINING

At restaurant Humuhumunukunua'ia, enjoy exotic and upscale dining above a saltwater lagoon filled with tropical fish, selecting your own lobster from the waters below. Bistro Molokoni is a casual spot for lighter fare, and the Grand Dining Room serves a daily breakfast buffet and special Sunday brunch. Visit the swim-up Grotto Bar to sip a cocktail beneath a waterfall, and for an unforgettable sunset or starlit dinner, arrange for a private cabana on Wailea Beach.



COURTESY GRAND WAILEA

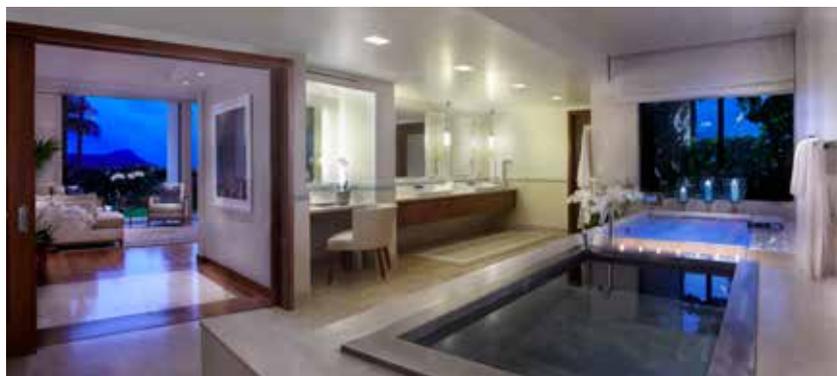


URBAN ELEGANCE AT HALEKULANI, OAHU



COURTESY HALEKULANI





Meaning “house befitting heaven,” Halekulani is a trademark of Hawaiian elegance. The well-known luxury hotel is located in Waikiki on the beach, offering unobstructed views of Diamond Head and the Pacific. Halekulani celebrated its 30th anniversary last year, and previous hotels on the site, which bore the same name, were welcoming guests as early as 1907.

Though surrounded by urban bustle, Halekulani remains a place of serenity and quiet sophistication. Rooms are furnished almost entirely in shades of white—the better to showcase the brilliance of the scenery—and most accommodation options boast ocean views. The heated, 82-foot freshwater pool is an icon—the bottom displays a splendid orchid mosaic comprised of 1.2 million South African tiles. halekulani.com

BEACH

The beach fronting Halekulani is small and intimate, and hotel guests can take advantage of a daily surf demo or morning stretching class on the sand. The fabled Waikiki Beach is also just a stone’s throw away.

SPA

The award-winning Spa Halekulani features treatments ranging from Polynesian bodywork to Asian-inspired facial therapies and hair and nail-care options. Facilities include seven relaxation suites, steam showers, therapy beds and an outdoor recreation area, as well as lavish spa suites for couples. A highlight for 2015 is the new, once-a-month Living-Well Lecture Series from resident lifestyle coach Kamala Skipper, which is complimentary to guests.

DINING

All of Halekulani’s restaurants offer stunning views of the sea. For a romantic evening, reserve a table at La Mer, which specializes in French-style cuisine infused with fresh tropical ingredients. At Orchids, renowned for its Sunday brunch, enjoy a casually elegant, al fresco dining experience. The ever-popular bar and restaurant House Without a Key is the place to go for a relaxed atmosphere and nightly Hawaiian music under the property’s century-old Kiawe tree.