

Highlights of Hawaii - Maui & Big Island - NUMB

8 days: Kahului to Kailua-Kona

What's Included

- Luau
- Volcanoes National Park excursion
- Pu'uhonua o Honaunau National Historical Park visit
- Free time in Kihue and Hilo
- Internal flight
- All transportation between destinations and to/from included activities

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and G Adventures. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

VALIDITY: Valid for all trips departing May 16th, 2017 and onwards

Itinerary

Day 1 Kahului

Arrive at any time.

Welcome to Maui! There are no planned activities today, so check into the hotel and explore.

Arrival Day and Welcome Meeting

1h18:00

The adventure begins tonight. Feel free to explore before your welcome meeting, but make sure you're back in time to meet the group. After introductions, your CEO will review the details of your tour. Please note that normal check-in times apply at our start hotels, but you can usually store your luggage for the day if you arrive early.

Day 2 Kahului

Free day for optional activities on Maui. In the evening, grab a lei and get into the aloha spirit at a traditional luau.

Today is the first of two free days to explore Maui. Opt to take a surf lesson, go whale watching (seasonal), snorkel, or just relax.

Free Time

Kahului Morning

Opt to kickstart the adventure in Maui by watching the sunrise over Haleakala volcano, try a surf lesson, or enjoy free time on the beach.

Private Vehicle

Kahului - Lahaina

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Luau

Lahaina

Music? Check. Traditional Hawaiian feast? Check. Hula? Check! Feel true Hawaiian *hokipā* (hospitality) at a local luau. This traditional Hawaiian party is world famous, and is a must do for any visitor to the islands. Grab a lei and get ready to get down like the locals.

Private Vehicle

Lahaina - Kahului

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Meals included: Dinner

Day 3 Kahului

Enjoy a second free day on Maui. Opt to travel the Road to Hana or take a sailing trip to the neighbouring island Lana'i.

Free Time

Kahului Full Day

Enjoy a free day to explore Maui. Opt to travel the Road to Hana, go sailing off the coast, or snorkel in search of sea turtles.

Optional Activities - Day 3

Road to Hana

Hana

70USD per person

Take a day trip along the "Road to Hana" - this windy road circumnavigates the island and is the only connection to the small town of Hana on the east side of Maui. Stop by black sand beaches, towering waterfalls, and see how the real islanders live.

Day 4 Kahului/Hilo

Catch a flight to the island of Hawai'i (aka the Big Island) and transfer to the town of Hilo.

Private Vehicle

Kahului - Kahului Airport

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Plane

Kahului Airport - Hilo International Airport

Look! Up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's... yup, it is a plane, actually.

Private Vehicle

Hilo International Airport - Hilo

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Day 5 Hilo

Enjoy a free day in Hilo.

With free time in Hilo, opt to visit Wailuku River State Park to see the colourful mist of Rainbow Falls and the Boiling Pots, a series of pools carved by lava that give the appearance that they're bubbling. Alternatively, check out the town of Hilo or go kayaking in Hilo Bay.

Free Time

Hilo Full Day

The Hilo region of the Big Island is perfect for outdoor activities and home to a number of cascading waterfalls. Get out and explore!

Day 6 Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park

Travel to Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park and discover the lava flows and martian-like landscapes during a full-day excursion in the park.

Take in the vast scenery and flowing lava from above on an optional helicopter flight.

Due to recent volcanic activity, Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park is currently closed. For departures in 2018, we will instead be taking a day trip to visit other beautiful sites on the island. Start by visiting Akaka Falls - this towering 442ft tall waterfall is accessible after a short hike through the lush rainforest, with the chance to see wild orchids, bamboo groves and draping ferns. After, we'll continue to Waipio Valley. Known locally as "Valley of the Kings," this sacred site to the Hawaiian people was once home to as many as 10,000 inhabitants before Captain Cook's arrival to the island. It is more modernly known for its black sand beaches that stretch the valley shoreline.

Private Vehicle

Hilo - Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Volcanoes National Park Excursion

Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park

Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park is home to one of the world's most active volcanos, Kilauea. Every day enough lava erupts to cover a 30 km road. Discover the park's lava lakes and tubes, and watch as lava flows into the ocean - creating a show of fire and steam!

Private Vehicle

Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park - Hilo

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Day 7 Hilo/Kailua-Kona

Travel to the town of Kailua-Kona, stopping at Pu'uuhonua o Honaunau National Historical Park en route.

Private Vehicle

Hilo - Pu'uuhonua o Honaunau National Historical Park 2h-2h30m 160km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Pu'uuhonua o Honaunau National Historical Park Visit

Pu'uuhonua o Honaunau National Historical Park

Pu'uuhonua o Honaunau was an important site in ancient Hawaiian society. If someone were to break one of the religious laws, known as kapu, they would be sentenced to death. The only way to avoid this punishment was to elude their pursuers and make it to this site. Today, this protected area still houses the royal grounds, a temple that held the bones of past chiefs, and many carved wooden statues. Take time to explore the park and get a glimpse into the history of Hawaii.

Private Vehicle

Pu'uuhonua o Honaunau National Historical Park - Kailua-Kona 30m-1h 37km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Day 8 Kailua-Kona

Depart at any time.

Departure Day

Not ready to leave? Your CEO can help with travel arrangements to extend your adventure.

What's Included

Luau. Volcanoes National Park excursion. Pu'uuhonua o Honaunau National Historical Park visit. Free time in Kihue and Hilo. Internal flight. All transportation between destinations and to/from included activities.

Highlights

Chill out on Maui's beaches, Learn the meaning of hookipa (hospitality) at a luau, Heat things up at Volcanoes National Park, Explore Pu`uhonua o Honaunau National Historical Park

Dossier Disclaimer

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Itinerary Disclaimer

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

Important Notes

1) Please note that on domestic flights within North America, baggage fees are not included in the ticket price and are subject to additional payment at check-in. Should you choose to check a bag on internal flights within Hawaii, the cost is approx. \$25 USD (1st checked bag; additional charges if checking more than one bag). Checked bags must be below 50lbs (22.5 kg).

Group Leader Description

This G Adventures group trip is accompanied by one of our group leaders, otherwise known as a Chief Experience Officer (CEO). The CEO will be the group manager, leader and driver - this person is experienced in the routes travelled and will organize and lead the meal preparations and has experience in cooking a variety of local and international dishes for large groups.

As the group coordinator and manager, the aim of the CEO is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. While not being guides in the traditional sense, you can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of the countries visited on the trip, including historical, cultural, religious and social aspects. They will also offer suggestions for things to do and to see, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends.

We also use local guides where we think more specific knowledge will add to the enjoyment of the places we are visiting - we think it's the best of both worlds.

Group Size Notes

Max 13, avg 10.

Meals Included

1 dinner

Transport

Private vehicle, plane, walking.

Solo Travellers

We believe solo travellers should not have to pay more to travel so our group trips are designed for shared accommodation and do not involve a single supplement. Single travellers joining group trips are paired in twin or multi-share accommodation with someone of the same sex for the duration of the trip. Some of our Independent trips are designed differently and solo travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

Accommodation

Hotels (7 nts).

Joining Hotel

For details of your joining hotel please refer to your tour voucher, G Account, the G Adventures App or contact your travel agent.

Joining Instructions

Arriving at Kahului Airport:

Welcome to Maui, please collect your luggage and choose between the following transportation options.

Roberts Hawaii Express Shuttle

The Maui Airport Shuttle Service counter is located in the Baggage Claim area. No reservations are needed. Counter Hours: 5:30 am until the last flight. The express shuttle offers one way transportation to your hotel for \$10. First two bags & one personal carry on are included.

Public Transport

The Maui Bus stops at marked locations fronting the terminal. All of the routes are operated seven days a week, including all holidays. No transfers are given on any of the routes. All vehicles on the routes are ADA accessible. Take either Bus 35 or 40 2 stops to Kamehameha Ave./Kahului Shopping Center. From here, walk about 8 minutes to your hotel. Single Bus Fare is \$2.00 or a daily pass is \$4.00.

* Route 40 (Upcountry Islander) -- Operates every 90 minutes from 6:00 a.m. to 10:11 p.m.

* Route 35 (Haiku Islander) -- Operates every 90 minutes from 5:30 a.m. to 9:40 p.m.

One (1) Medium-sized suitcase, duffle bag, or carry-on bag allowed, no larger than 22"H x 14"W x 9"L and must fit and be placed under the passenger's seat or on the passenger's lap so that they do not protrude to another seat.

Taxi

Airport taxis are located fronting the baggage claim area. The fare from the airport to your hotel during non-rush hour periods is approximately \$13-15, plus driver tip. Metered Rate \$3.00 per mile.

Please note that Day 1 is an arrival day and no activities have been planned for that day other than your welcome meeting in the evening, so you can arrive at any time.

Your CEO will organize a short meeting in the evening, during which you will meet other tour participants and receive information about general and specific aspects of the trip. A welcome note will be left for you in the hotel so you have all the necessary information regarding the meeting time. If you arrive late, s/he will leave you a message detailing what time and where you should meet the next morning.

Arrival Complications

We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to commence your trip as scheduled, please refer to the emergency contact details provided in this dossier and contact us as soon as possible. If you have a pre-booked transfer, and you have not made contact with our representative within 30 minutes of clearing customs and immigration, we recommend that you make your own way to the Starting Point hotel, following the Joining Instructions. Please apply to your travel agent on your return for a refund of the transfer cost if this occurs.

Emergency Contact

Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call the G Adventures Local Representative. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please leave a detailed message and contact information, so they may return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

G Adventures Local Representative (Boston)

During office hours (Weekdays, 6:00am-9:00pm EST)

From outside the USA: 1-412-423-8143

From within the USA: 412-423-8143

After hours emergency numbers

From outside the USA: 412-423-8143

From within the USA: 412-423-8143

If you are unable for any reason to contact our local representative, please call the numbers listed below, which will connect you directly with our 24 hour Sales team, who will happily assist you.

Toll-free, North America only: 1 888 800 4100

Calls from UK: 0344 272 0000

Calls from Germany: 0800 365 1000

Calls from Australia: 1 300 796 618

Calls from New Zealand: 0800 333 307

Outside North America, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the UK: +1 416 260 0999

Checklist

Documents:

- * Flight info (required) (Printouts of e-tickets may be required at the border)
- * Insurance info (required) (With photocopies)
- * Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- * Required visas or vaccination certificates (required) (With photocopies)
- * Vouchers and pre-departure information (required)

Essentials:

- * Binoculars (optional)
- * Camera (With extra memory cards and batteries)
- * Cash, credit and debit cards
- * Day pack (Used for daily excursions or short overnights)
- * Ear plugs
- * First-aid kit (should contain lip balm with sunscreen, sunscreen, whistle, Aspirin, Ibuprofen, bandaids/plasters, tape, anti-histamines, antibacterial gel/wipes, antiseptic cream, Imodium or similar tablets for mild cases of diarrhea, rehydration powder, water purification tablets or drops, insect repellent, sewing kit, extra prescription drugs you may be taking)
- * Flashlight/torch (Headlamps are ideal)
- * Fleece top/sweater
- * Footwear
- * Hat
- * Locks for bags
- * Long pants/jeans
- * Moneybelt
- * Outlet adapter
- * Personal entertainment (Reading and writing materials, cards, music player, etc.)
- * Reusable water bottle
- * Shirts/t-shirts
- * Sleepwear
- * Small travel towel
- * Sunglasses
- * Toiletries (Preferably biodegradable)
- * Watch and alarm clock
- * Waterproof backpack cover
- * Windproof rain jacket

Warm Weather:

- * Sandals/flip-flops
- * Shorts/skirts (Longer shorts/skirts are recommended)
- * Sun hat/bandana
- * Swimwear

Visas and Entry Requirements

All countries require a valid passport (with a minimum 6 months validity). Contact your local embassy, or consulate for the most up-to-date visa requirements, or see your travel agent. It is your own responsibility to have the correct travel documentation. Visa requirements for your trip will vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. We keep the following information up to date as far as possible, but rules do change and sometimes without warning. While we provide the following information in good faith, it is vital that you check yourself and understand that you are fully responsible for your own visa requirements.

Spending Money

Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping. Please also remember the following specific recommendations when planning your trip.

Money Exchange

The United States currency is the US Dollar (USD).

Credit cards are accepted almost everywhere in the US and can be used to purchase small and large items. When purchasing products or services with a foreign credit card in the USA, you may be charged additional fees by your credit card company for foreign purchases.

Credit cards and debit cards are very useful for cash advances but you must remember to bring your PIN number (be aware that many ATM machines only accept 4-digit PINs). Both Cirrus and Plus system cards are the most widely accepted debit cards. Both Visa and Master Cards are the most widely accepted credit cards. While ATMs are commonly available, there are no guarantees that your credit or debit cards will actually work check with your bank before you travel. A visit to an ATM can be arranged on Day 1 and other days of the trip.

Do not rely on credit or debit cards as your only source of money. A combination of US Dollars as cash (preferably smaller bills, 5's, 10's and 20's), traveller's cheques and credit cards is best. Currency exchange is best obtained prior to travel or at the airport, currency exchange is very difficult to find in the USA and most banks do not accommodate.

Always take more rather than less, as you don't want to spoil the trip by constantly feeling short of funds.

As currency exchange rates can fluctuate often we ask that you refer to the following website for daily exchange rates: www.xe.com

Emergency Fund

Please also make sure you have access to at least an additional USD \$200 (or equivalent) as an 'emergency' fund, to be used when circumstances outside our control (ex. a natural disaster) require a change to our planned route. This is a rare occurrence!

Tipping

It is customary in North America to tip service providers such as waiters, bartenders and taxi drivers, at approximately 15-18%, depending on the service. Tipping is an expected - though not compulsory - component of your tour program and an expression of satisfaction with the persons who have assisted you on your tour. Although it may not be customary to you, it is of considerable significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels. There are times during the trip where there is opportunity to tip any local guides used. Recommendations for tipping local guides would range from \$2-8 USD per activity depending on the quality and length of the service; ask your CEO for specific recommendations based on the circumstances and culture.

Optional Activities

Hana

- Road to Hana (70USD per person)

Safety and Security

Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your group leader has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it deemed necessary, due to safety concerns. Your Chief Experience Officer (CEO) will accompany you on all included activities. During your trip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy and explore at your leisure. While your CEO will assist you with options available in a given location, please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgement when selecting an activity in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions.

Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards), have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our CEOs to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s).

Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk. [Read more about travel safety](#) for ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling.

Medical Form

Our small group adventures bring together people of all ages. It is very important you are aware that an average level of fitness and mobility is required to undertake our easiest programs. Travellers must be able to walk without the aid of another person, climb 3-4 flights of stairs, step on and off small boats, and carry their own luggage at a minimum. Travellers with a pre-existing medical condition are required to complete a short medical questionnaire, which must be signed by their physician. This is to ensure that travellers have the necessary fitness and mobility to comfortably complete their chosen trip. While our leaders work hard to ensure that all our travellers are catered for equally, it is not their responsibility to help individuals who cannot complete the day's activities unaided. Please refer to the physical ratings in this Trip Details document for more information.

Please note that all passengers traveling to Antarctica are required to fill out this questionnaire.

The medical questionnaire can be found online at www.gadventures.com/medical-form.

A Couple of Rules

Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk. Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for our travellers. Our philosophy of travel is one of respect towards everyone we encounter, and in particular the local people who make the world the special place it is. The exploitation of prostitutes is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our group leader has the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they use prostitutes.

Travel Insurance

Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your leader, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy we require that at a minimum you are covered for medical expenses including emergency evacuation and repatriation. A minimum coverage of USD200,000 is required. G Adventures can provide you with the appropriate coverage. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. Some tours include adventure activities that require extra coverage (e.g. crampon use); please review your itinerary and make sure that you are covered for all included activities. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

Planeterra-The G Adventures Foundation

The Planeterra Foundation planeterra.org is a Canadian non-profit organization that helps empower local people to develop their communities, conserve their cultures, and create humane and supportive systems for their endeavours. Planeterra provides capacity building and catalyst grants to get community social enterprises off the ground. These businesses address local challenges by providing benefits for indigenous people, empowering marginalized women, and granting disadvantaged youth access to education, employment, and brighter futures. Planeterra also works to ensure these businesses have a thriving customer base by integrating programs into G Adventures' itineraries globally.

G Adventures is Planeterra's largest corporate donor, covering all operating costs so 100% of your donation will bring opportunity to people in need.

Dollar-a-Day Program

G Adventures' Dollar-a-Day Program provides travellers with the opportunity to give back to the people and places visited on our tours by donating one dollar for every day you are on trip. 100% of these donations go directly to support community development projects worldwide that are implemented by Planeterra.

Feedback

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us that we'll give you 5% off the price of your next G Adventures trip if your feedback is completed on-line within 30 days of finishing your trip. Your tour evaluation will be e-mailed to you 24 hours after the conclusion of your trip. If you do not receive the tour evaluation link in the days after your tour has finished, please drop us a line at customerservice@gadventures.com and we will send it on to you.

Newsletter

Our adventure travel e-newsletter is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from G Adventures, subscribe at www.gadventures.com/newsletters/

Stay current on how our company invests in our global community through our foundation - Planeterra. Sign up for [Planeterra's monthly news](#) to learn more about how to give back and support the people and places we love to visit.

Minimum Age

You must be 18 to travel unaccompanied on a G Adventures tour. For minors travelling with a guardian over 21 years old, the minimum age is 12.

International Flights

Check-in times and baggage allowances/restrictions vary by airline and can change at any time. For the most up-to-date information for your flight, please contact your airline. We recommend checking in online in advance to avoid potential delays at the airport.