Road to Hana Guide

HUAKA’I (the journey)

Before You Begin - The Road to Hana is an very scenic journey along Maui’s northern coastline. There is only one primary road that guests will travel and is fairly well marked by Mile Markers (MM#). Mile markers will reset several times during the drive. Along the way, guests will see incredible landscapes and waterfalls. Below are some of our favorite stops along the way for you to enjoy. Please drive safely and allow local drivers to pass.

Paia Town (MM6) - Known for its bohemian / surfer vibe, Paia is the last major town to stop before getting to Hana Town. Though most of the shops will open later in the morning, there are several excellent places to grab a quick coffee, get gasoline, or enjoy a sit down breakfast before continuing on along the journey.

Ho’okipa (MM8) - Ho’okipa is very accessible from the road and typically has ample places to park. Though this beach is not a suitable for swimming, it is very common for guests to see surfers, wind surfers, and stand up paddle boarders here. It is not uncommon to see turtles on the beach here as well - ensure to keep respectable distance away from any protected marine life as it is actively enforced by the law.

Twin Falls (MM2) - This short water fall hike is a very popular stop for guests as the trail is well traveled and the parking lot is easy to find. The falls are located on private property, however, the land owners welcome guests to enter and sells fruit at the entrance. At times due to high water, the falls may be closed to access.

Garden of Eden (MM10) - This garden is easy to find and has fairly accessible ground for guests to navigate over. Guests will see a variety of species of trees, plants, and beautiful Maui flowers. The Garden of Eden is known for Keopuka Rock Overlook, which was featured in the movie “Jurassic Park”. This is a perfect stop for guest who enjoy taking pictures of beautiful plants and scenery. There is a small entry fee at this stop.

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As beautiful as Maui is, please be aware there are dangers associated with any activity. Please ensure to be aware of such dangers before participating. Further information about safety is available via the Maui County website at: http://www.co.maui.hi.us/. Please enjoy Maui safely and responsibly.

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Kea’anae Peninsula (MM16) - Kea’anae is a large peninsula that jets out into the ocean and this scenic stop is a great place for guests to get out of the car and walk around. This area has both native and non-native species of plants for guests to see along with beautiful views of the ocean. Kea’anae is known for growing a variety of crops such as taro, bananas, yams, and other plants grown by Hawaiian ancestors.

Wailuaiki Falls (MM21) - The falls are located just off the side of the road and provide guests with a very close view of the waterfall. Parking can be quite limited, however, if there is a safe area to park please use caution on the road as there may be oncoming traffic.

Wai’anapanapa State Park (MM32) - Just before approaching the small fishing town of Hana, guests will be able to pull into Wai’anapanapa State Park. This park offers guests scenic views of the coastline, a black sand beach, lava tubes, and a blowhole. Many guests enjoy this stop and pending on conditions of the ocean will swim here as well. Parking is typically readily available.

Hana Town (MM31) - Hana is a very small community in which many guests are relieved to see as the road tends to be less difficult to navigate just before entering the town. This town has several great places to stop to buy a delicious plate lunch and if needed, get gasoline. Hana Bay is another popular spot where locals swim at.

Hamoa Bay (MM50) - Hamoa Bay is arguably one of the prettiest beach on the island of Maui. This scenic beach often has beautiful waters with various shades of blues and greens. The beach has fine sand in which carries into the water, making this an excellent stop to jump in the ocean to swim. Restrooms and freshwater showers are available at this beach.
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Kipahulu (MM42) - For many guests, this is the end of the Road to Hana. This stop offers very scenic views of the crashing waves in a variety of shades of blue. Kipahulu is part of the Haleakala Nation Park (the summit is not accessible from here) and does require an entry fee. Also located in the Kipahulu location is the ‘Oheo Gulch and the well-known Bamboo Forrest hiking trail. Don’t forget your camera at this beautiful stop!

‘Oheo Gulch (MM42) - Also known as the “Seven Sacred Pools”, this location features beautiful pools and falls that cascade down into the ocean. When water levels are safe, guests may swim in the pools, however, guests should be very aware of the dangers of flash flooding here and follow all posted signage. Use caution.

Pipiwai Hiking Trail (MM42) - This trail will take guests to a variety of overlooks, along quiet streams, and through a bamboo forest. The begging of the trail starts off rather plain, as guests continue to hike further along, they will go over foot bridges and a wooden boardwalk. This trail is approximately 2 miles each way and at times can be rather muddy pending on the recent rainfall. We recommend bringing ample water, bug spray, and proper hiking attire.

The Road Beyond Kipahulu - For those guests wishing to continue their journey beyond the Kipahulu region of Maui, we would like to ensure guests are aware of the potential conditions that may be present. We highly encourage guests to use caution and drive safely as there are unstable roads, potholes, down trees, flash flooding and other dangers that may make the journey around the backside of Maui unpleasant. Guests are highly encouraged to be familiar with their rental agreement to ensure this will allow them to travel in this area of the island.

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