

Hanalei Town

Hanalei town is set in a large open awe-inspiring valley. Just 2 minutes after Princeville with its golf, tennis, stables, and health club, you cross the historic Hanalei Bridge and leave behind the world as you know it. You are embraced by verdant mountains and 1000 foot water falls that turn on and off like taps. The road is flanked on one side by the palm lined Hanalei River with the occasional outrigger paddling to or from the ocean. The other side is a patchwork of taro fields alternating between calm waters reflecting the sky, waving heads of maturing taro tops and furrowed rows of dark valley soil. This quilt of blues and silver, greens and browns stretches to the base of the deeply textured mountains with leis of clouds on their tops. Hanalei town is just ahead.



Hanalei is probably one of the most idyllic small towns in America to vacation in. You will find one of the world's best beaches, great restaurants, eclectic stores, historic places, churches, grocery store and activities all within walking distance. The setting is tropical moderated by trade winds with day time temperatures usually from the lower 70s to mid 80s throughout the year. The pace is relaxed. The people are friendly. Music abounds. What you will not find are a gas station, bill boards and 4 lanes roads.

Restaurants

The Hanalei Dolphin on the river, one of the oldest restaurants in Hanalei, has fresh island seafood and stake. L/D

Postcards Café has wonderful vegetarian & fish entrees. The owner is in my book club and frequently surprises us with really excellent appetizers from the restaurant. D
826-1191

Bar-acuda Cafe has a neat tapas menu and unique wine list. D

Hanalei Mixed Plate is my favorite lunch stop to watch the goings on in town and eat Kalua pork and cabbage. L/D
(The 2 lower photos from HMP)



Sushi and Blues has got a beautiful view of the mountains in the early evening and music later on. They have a sushi bar, tables and full dinners. D

Zelos on the corner has a café atmosphere. This is my spot for a margarita and some island fresh fish Mexican fusion dish. L/D

Tropical Taco is a local surfer favorite. Good fresh fish everything. L

There are more, two Pizza places, Wake Up Breakfast Café, Ono Burger and others but I am getting hungry so enough of this. Oh yes, there are a bunch of restaurants in Princeville too. Some have absolutely stunning views of Hanalei Bay and the coast line and have great food. Two with these views must be mentioned.

La Cascata has gourmet Italian, great for a special celebration. D
826-2761

Cafe Hanalei has a Friday evening seafood buffet and a Sunday brunch buffet that are awesome.
B/L/D
826-2760

Stores

There are some really cool ones. On the Road to Hanalei has all kinds of cool things from everywhere. I've gotten gifts & clothes here including my last birthday gift to me which was native basketry from some place in the Amazon. The clothing store in the Dolphin building has desirable island fashions (for everyone) as does the Back Door (younger set) and the Hanalei Surf Company.

Rentals and Lessons

Pedal and Paddle in the Ching Young Village rents snorkeling gear, bicycles and kayaks, beach chairs, and other beach paraphernalia.
826-9069

Hanalei Surf Company rents boards, snorkel gear & offers surf lessons. These are the people to talk to about surf, kite boarding, wind surfing, etc.
826-9000

Kayak Kauai is close to the river and rents Kayaks and offers sea, river, & Na Pali kayak tours, surf and kayaking lessons.
826-9844

Groceries

Big Save in the Ching Young Village is pretty full service with a Subway inside.

Papaya's Health Food store is on the mountain side of the highway across from Big Save.

The Dolphin Fish store has beautiful fresh island fish & maki sushi rolls (soft shell crab if you get there early enough.)

Hanalei Liquor Store is a classic tiny tiny store, maybe the oldest in town, cold beer and good prices on everything. Judy makes ono spam musubi which are a local favorite.

Foodland in Princeville has almost everything you can find on the mainland, including a deli and fresh sushi.

Churches

Amazing Grace Church, Independent
9:30 AM Sunday in the Hanalei School Cafeteria

Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints Hanalei, blue roof past post office

Christ Memorial Church, Episcopal
8:30 AM Sunday
This is the historic stone church on Kolo Road in Kilauea just East of the Shell Station.

St. Williams Catholic Church
9:00 AM Sunday just past stores on right
St. Sylvester's
5 PM Saturday, 7:00 AM Sunday on Kolo Rd. past the school in Kilauea

Wai'oli Huiia Church, United Church of Christ (Congregational)
10 AM Sunday
This is the beautiful historic green mission church. Much of the signing is in Hawaiian. Past the town shops on the mountain side.

Music

(I'll put this together soon.)
Hanalei Gourmet
Sushi & Blues
Hanalei Bay Resort
Tahiti Nui...