



Chart Your Course with *Peter & Patricia Anderson*

- **THE BEST of OAHU** -

Everyone ventures to Oahu seeking a different experience. Some talk about wanting to find the "Real" Hawaii, some are looking for heart-pounding adventure, some yearn for the relaxing and healing powers of the islands, and others are drawn by Hawaii's Aloha Spirit, where kindness and friendliness prevail. All kinds of memorable experiences can be yours. Imagine yourself hovering weightless over a rainbowed sea of tropical fish, sitting in a kayak watching the brilliant colors of dawn etch themselves across the sky, sipping a mai tai while you take in sweeping views of the South Shore and the Waianae Mountains, battling a magnificent game fish on a high-tech sport fishing boat, or listening to melodic voices chant the stories of a proud people with a proud culture.

The websites for these different attractions and locations can be accessed by "[CLICKING](#)" them if they are underlined and in the **color blue**.

1. **The Best Oahu Experiences**

To have the absolute best experiences on Oahu, be prepared for a different culture, language, cuisine, and way of doing things. Slow yourself down - you're now on an island that operates on its own schedule. To really experience the island, we recommend the following:

Meet Local Folks: Extend yourself, leave the resort and tourist quarters. Go out and learn about Hawaii and its people. Just smile and say "howzit?" which means "how is it?" and you'll usually make a new friend. Hawaii is remarkably cosmopolitan; every ethnic group in the world seems to be here. Its fascinating to discover the varieties of food, culture, language, and customs.

Enjoy the Cuisine: Because of the blending of different cultures, the food in Hawaii is quite different from other places. There are so many flavors that are unique to the islands that many former residents claim that what they miss most about Hawaii is the cuisine. From the hole-in-the-wall restaurants to five-star dining experiences, the food in Hawaii can only be described as "ono" (which means delicious in Hawaiian).

Get Out on the Water: View the islands the way Mother Nature does - from the sea. There are many different boats to choose from, ranging from tiny kayaks to 100-foot sightseeing vessels. Even state-of-the-art boats guaranteed to prevent seasickness are available. You'll take home memories of an emerald island rising out of the cobalt sea with white wispy clouds set against an azure sky colored by the setting sun.

Plunge Under the Water: Don mask, fins, and snorkel and dive into the magical world beneath the surface, where clouds of colorful tropical fish flutter by, craggy old turtles lumber along, and tiny marine creatures hover over exotic corals. Can't swim? No excuse - take one of the many submarines or semi-submersibles, but don't miss this opportunity. If you come to Hawaii and don't see the under-water world, you're missing half of what makes up this paradise

Drive to the North Shore: Just an hour's drive from Honolulu, the North Shore is another world: a pastoral, rural setting with magnificent beaches and a slower way of life. During the winter months, stop and watch the professionals surf the monster waves.

Experience a Turning Point in America's History: The United States could no longer turn its back on World War II after December 7, 1941, the day that Japanese warplanes bombed Pearl Harbor. Standing on the



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deck of the *USS Arizona Memorial*, which straddles the eternal tomb for the 1,177 sailors and Marines trapped below deck when the battleship sank, is a moving experience you'll never forget. Admission is free. Follow this up with a visit and tour of the *USS Missouri* where the Peace Treaty was signed in Toyko Bay ending the War in the Pacific. The *USS Missouri* is located on Ford Island less than a half mile from the *USS Arizona Memorial*.

2. The Best Oahu Beaches

Waikiki Beach: This fabulous stretch of sand is the spot that originally put Hawaii on the tourist map. No beach anywhere is so widely known or so univer-sally sought after as this narrow, 1 1/2-mile-long crescent of soft sand at the foot of a string of high-rise hotels. Home to the world's longest running beach party, Waikiki attracts nearly five million visitors a year from every corner of the planet, in high season, it's packed towel-to-towel, but there's no denying the beauty of Waikiki.

Lanikai Beach: Hidden, off the beaten tourist path, this beach on the windward side has a mile of powder-soft sand and water that's safe for swimming. With the prevailing trade winds, it's also excellent for sailing and wind-surfing. It's the perfect isolated spot for a morning of swimming and relaxation. Sun worshipers should arrive in the morning, as the shadow of the Koolau Mountains (which separate Windward Oahu from Honolulu) blocks the sun's rays in the afternoon.

Kailua Beach: Imagine a 30-acre public park with a broad, grassy area with picnic tables, a public boat ramp, restrooms, a pavilion, a volleyball court, and food stands. Add a wide, sandy beach, great for diving, swimming, sail-ing, snorkeling, board and windsurfing, and you've just described Kailua Beach which is tops on the wind-ward side of the island. On weekends, local fami-lies consider it the place to go. Great on weekdays, when you practically have the entire place to yourself:

Kahana Bay Beach Park: If you didn't know you were in Hawaii, you would swear this beach was in Tahiti or Bora Bora. Picture salt and pepper sand, a crescent-shaped beach protected by ironwoods and kamani trees, and as a backdrop, a lush jungle like valley interrupted only by jagged cliffs. Kahana offers great swimming (even safe for children), good fishing, and perfect conditions for kayaking. Combine that with picnic areas, camping, and hiking trails and you have one of the best beaches on the island.

Malaekahana Beach: If you'd like to venture back to the Hawaii before jet planes brought millions of people to Oahu, back to the days when there were few foot-prints on the sand, then go north in the romantic wooded beach park at Malaekahana. This is a place to sit in quiet solitude or to beach comb along the shore. There's good swimming most of the time and good snorkeling when it's calm, but no lifeguard here. Surprisingly, very few visitors come to Malaekahana Beach: one of the best on Oahu - it's a true find.

Sunset Beach: Surfers around the world know this famous site for its spectacular winter surf – the waves can be huge, thundering peaks reaching up to 15 to 20 feet. During the winter surf season, the best activity here is watching the professional surfers attack the giant waves. In the summer months, Sunset calms down and becomes a safe swimming beach. It's a great place to people watch as you'll spot everybody from wannabe Bay Watch babes to King Kong surfers.

Waimea Bay: Here is one of Oahu's most dramatic beaches. During much of the winter - October to April - huge waves come pounding in, creating strong rip currents. Even expert surfers think twice when confronted with 30-foot waves that crash on the shore with the force of a runaway locomotive. It's hard to believe that during the summer this same bay is glassy and calm - a great place for swimming, snorkeling, and diving. Oh, and by the way, despite what the Beach Boys croon in their hit song "Surfin USA" (Why-a-we-A), the name of this famous surfing beach is pronounced Why- may- ah.

3. The Best Snorkeling & Diving Sites

A different Hawaii greets anyone with a mask, snorkel and fins. Under the sea, you'll find schools of brilliant tropical fish, lumbering green sea turtles, quick moving pine fish, slack-jawed moray eels, and prehistoric-looking coral. It's a kaleidoscope of color and wonder.

Hanauma Bay: It can get very crowded, but for clear, warm, calm waters, an abundance of fish that are so friendly they'll swim right up to your face mask, a beautiful setting, and easy access, there's no place like

like Hanauma Bay. Just wade in waist deep and look down to see more than 50 species of reef and inshore fish common to Hawaiian waters. Snorkelers hug the safe, shallow inner bay - it's really like swimming in an outdoor aquarium. Serious, experienced divers shoot "the slot," a passage through the reef, to gain access to Witch's Brew, a turbulent cove, and other outer reef experiences.

Wreck of the Mahi: Oahu is a wonderful place to scuba dive, especially for those interested in wreck diving. One of the more famous wrecks in Hawaii is the *Mahi*, a 185-foot former mine-sweeper which is easily accessible just south of Waianae. Abundant marine life makes it a great place to shoot photos - schools of lemon butterfly fish and taupe are so comfortable with divers and photographers that they practically pose. Eagle rays, green sea turtles, manta rays and white-tipped sharks occasionally cruise by, while eels peer from the wreck.

Kahuna Canyon: For non-wreck diving, one of the best dive spots in the summer is Kahuna Canyon. In Hawaiian, Kahuna translates as priest, wise man, or sorcerer. This massive amphitheater near Mokuleia is a perfect example of something a sorcerer might conjure up: Walls rising from the Ocean floor create the illusion of an underwater Grand Canyon. Inside the amphitheater, crab, octopi, slipper, and spiny lobsters abound (be aware that taking them in the summer is illegal), and giant trevally, parrot fish, and unicorn tangs congregate. Outside the amphitheater, you're likely to see the occasional shark in the distance.

Shark's Cove: The braver snorkelers might want to head to Shark's Cove, on the North Shore just off Kamehameha Highway between Haleiwa and Pupukea. Sounds risky; we know, but we've never seen or heard of any sharks in this cove and in summer this big, lava-edged pool is one of Oahu's best snorkeling spots. Waves splash over the natural lava grotto and cascade like waterfalls into the pool full of tropical fish. There are deep-sea caves to explore to the right of the cove.

Kapiolani Park Beach: In the center of this beach park, a section known as Queen's Beach or Queen's Surf Beach, between the Natatorium and the Waikiki Aquarium, is great for snorkeling. We prefer the reef in front of the Aquarium because it has easy access to the sandy shoreline and the waters are usually calm. It has the added advantage of being right next door to the Aquarium in case you see any flora or fauna you would like more information about.

4. The Best Golf Courses

Oahu is golf country, with 5 municipal, 9 military, and 20 private courses to choose from. The courses range from 9-hole municipals for beginners to championship courses that even challenge the pros.

Ko Olina Golf Club: (808) 676-5300 - Here's a course that's not only in a beautiful setting but is also downright challenging. In fact, Golf Digest named this 6,867-yard, par-72 course one of "America's Top 75 Resort Courses" when it opened in 1992. The rolling fairways and elevated tees and a few too many water features (always where you don't want them) will definitely improve your game or humble your attitude.

Turtle Bay Resort: (808) 293-8574 - Of the two courses to choose from here, we recommend the 18-hole Arnold Palmer Course (formerly the Links at Kuilima), designed by Arnold Palmer and Ed Seay; Golf Digest rated it the fourth best new resort course in 1994. Palmer and Seay never meant for golfers to get off too easy - this is a challenging course. The front nine holes, with rolling terrain, only a few trees and lots of wind, play like a course on the British Isles. The back nine holes have narrower, tree-lined fairways and water. In addition to ocean views, the course circles Punahoolapa Marsh, a protected wetland for endangered Hawaiian waterfowl.

Makaha Resort Golf Club: (808) 695-9544 - The readers of a local city magazine recently named this challenging, course "The Best Golf Course on Oahu" and the readers of Golf Week rated it one of Hawaii's top 10. Away from the crowds of Honolulu and about an hour's drive, This William Bell-designed course is in Makaha Valley on the leeward side of the island. Incredibly beautiful, sheer, 1,500-foot volcanic walls tower over the course and swaying palm trees and neon-bright bougainvillea surround it an occasional peacock even struts across the fairways. "I was distracted by the beauty" is a great excuse for your score at the end of the day.

Olomana Golf Links: (808) 259-7100 - This is a gorgeous course located in Waimanalo on the other side of the island from Waikiki. The low-handicap golfer may not find this course difficult, but the striking views of the craggy Koolau mountain ridges are worth the greens fees alone. The par-72, 6,326-yard course is popular with local residents and visitors. The course starts off a bit hilly on the front nine but flattens out by the back nine, The back nine have their own special surprises including tricky water hazards.

5. The Best Walks

The weather on Oahu is usually sunny with trade winds providing cooling breezes - perfect conditions for a walk. Below are some of our favorites from city strolls to trails through rainforests.

Diamond Head Crater: Most everyone can make this moderate walk to the summit of Hawaii's most famous landmark. Kids love the top of the 760-foot volcanic cone, where they have 360-degree views of Oahu up the leeward coast from Waikiki. The 1.4-mile round-trip takes about an hour.

Manoa Cliff Trails: Just a 15-minute drive from down-town Honolulu, this walk passes through a rainforest and along a ridge top with nonstop views. The somewhat strenuous loop trail is one you'll never forget but it's more than 6 miles long, gains 1,260 feet in elevation and takes about 3 hours to finish. The trail is part of the labyrinth of trails in this area. The views of the city and the shoreline are spectacular.

Manoa Falls Trail: This easy 2.3 mile hike is terrific for families. It takes less than an hour to reach idyllic Manoa Falls. The often muddy trail follows Wailii Stream and meanders through the forest reserve past guava and mountain apple trees and wild ginger. The forest is moist and humid and inhabited by nothing more dangerous than giant blood-thirsty mosquitoes, so bring repellent.

Chinatown: Honolulu's Chinatown appeals to the senses. The pungent aroma of Vietnamese pho mingles with the ever-present sweet scent of burning incense. The jumble of streets come alive every day with busy residents and meandering visitors; vendors and shoppers speak noisily in the open market. Retired men talk story over games of mah-jong and all contribute to the cacophony of sounds. No trip to Honolulu is complete without a visit to this exotic and historic district.

6. The Best Views

Puu Ualakaa State Park: Watching the sun set into the Pacific from a 1,048-foot hill named after a sweet potato is actually much more romantic than it sounds. Puu Ualakaa State Park translates into "rolling sweet potato hill" which refers to how the early Hawaiians harvested the crop. Don't miss the sweeping panoramic views which extend from Diamond Head across Waikiki and downtown Honolulu, over the airport and Pearl City, all the way to the Waianae range. Catch great photo ops during the day, romantic sunset views in the evening and starry skies at night.

Nuuanu Pali Lookout: Oahu's best-looking side, the windward coast, can be seen in its full natural glory from the Nuuanu Pali Lookout, a gusty perch set amid jagged cliffs that pierce the puffy white clouds that go racing by. A thousand sheer feet below, the island is a carpet of green that runs to an azure Pacific dotted by tiny offshore islets. You'll feel like you're standing on the edge of the world.

Diamond Head Crater: The view from atop this world-famous 720 foot-tall sleeping volcano is not to be missed. The 360-degree view from the top is worth the hike. You can see all the way from Koko Crater to Barbers Point and the Waianae mountains.

Lanikai Beach: This is one of the best places on Oahu to greet the sunrise. Watch the sky slowly move from pitch black to wisps of gray to burnt orange as the sun begins to rise over the two tiny offshore islands of Mokulua. This is a five-senses experience: birds singing the sun up; a gentle breeze on your face; the taste of salt in the air; the smell of the ocean, the sand, the fragrant flowers nearby and the kaleidoscope of colors as another day dawns.

Puu O Mahuka Heiau: Once the largest sacrificial temple on Oahu, today Puu O Mahuka Heiau is a state historic site. Located on a 300 foot bluff, the Heiau encompasses some 5 acres. People still come here to pray. You may see offerings such as ti leaves, flowers, and fruit left at the Heiau. Don't disturb the offerings or walk on the stones (it's very disrespectful). The view from this bluff is awe inspiring, from Waimea Bay all the way to Kaena Point.

7. The Best Places to Discover the Real Oahu

Oahu isn't just any other beach destination. It has a wonderfully rich, ancient history and culture plus people who are worth getting to know. If you want to meet the "local" folks who live on Oahu, check out the following:

Observe the Fish Auction: There is nothing else quite like the Honolulu Fish Auction at the United Fishing Agency, 117 Ahui St. The fishermen bring their fresh catch in at 5:30am (sharp) Monday through Saturday and the small group of buyers bids on all manner of fish. The auction lasts until all the fish are sold. It is well worth getting up early to enjoy this unique cultural experience.

Get a Bargain at the Aloha Flea Market: For \$1.00 admission, it's an all-day show at the Aloha Stadium parking lot where more than 1,000 vendors are selling everything from junk to jewels. Go early for the best deals. Open on Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday from 8am to 3pm.

Buy a Lei from Vendors in Chinatown: A host of cultural sights and experiences are too be had in Honolulu's Chinatown. Wander through this several-square-block area with its jumble of exotic shops offering herbs, Chinese groceries, and acupuncture services. Before you leave, be sure to check out the lei sellers on Maunakea Street (near N. Hotel St.) where Hawaii's find the finest leis.

First Friday in Chinatown: Head to Downtown Honolulu and Chinatown every first Friday of the month and dive deep into Oahu's vibrant art scene. On each "First Friday" you can interact with local artists and artisans sharing their work during a festive night that draws a stylish crowd of visitors and locals. From expressive paintings to powerful cultural exhibits, you'll get to see a diverse sampling of Hawaii's burgeoning artistic talent.

Watch the Ancient Hawaiian Sport of Outrigger Canoe Paddling: From February to September, on weekday evenings and weekend days, hundreds of canoe paddlers gather at Ala Wai Canal and practice the Hawaiian sport of canoe paddling. Find a comfortable spot at Ala Wai Park, next to the canal and watch this ancient sport come to life.

Attend a Hawaiian-Language Church Service: Kawaiahao Church: (808) 522-1333 is the Westminster Abbey of Hawaii; the vestibule is lined with portraits of the Hawaiian monarchy, many of whom were coronated in this very building. The coral church is a perfect setting to experience an all-Hawaiian service, held every Sunday at 10:30am, complete with Hawaiian song. Admission is free.

8. The Best Luxury Hotels & Resorts

Halekulani: (808) 923-2311 - For the ultimate in a "heavenly" Hawaii vacation, this is the place. In fact, Halekulani translates into "House Befitting Heaven," an apt description. When money is no object, this resort is the place to stay. This luxury resort is spread over 5 acres of prime Waikiki beachfront property and offers acclaimed restaurants. The atmosphere of elegance envelops you as soon as you step into the lobby. Even if you don't stay here, drop by at sunset to sip on a Mai Tai at the gracious *House Without a Key* and listen to Sonny Kamehele sing Hawaiian songs as a graceful hula dancer sways to the music.

Royal Hawaiian: (808) 923-7311 - Hidden in the jungle of concrete buildings that make up Waikiki is an oasis of verdant gardens and a shockingly pink building. The Royal Hawaiian Hotel, affectionately called the "pink palace, is known around the world as a symbol of luxury. Since the first day it opened in 1927, the Royal has been the place to stay for celebrities, including Clark Gable, Shirley Temple, President Franklin Roosevelt, the Beatles, Kevin Costner, and others. The location is one of the best spots on Waikiki Beach.

Sheraton Moana Surfrider Hotel: (808) 922-3111 - Step back in time to old Hawaii at the Sheraton Moana Surfrider Hotel built in 1901. Those days of yesteryear live on today at this grand hotel. Entry is through the original colonial porte-cochere, past the highly polished wooden front porch with white wooden rocking chairs and into the perfectly restored lobby with its derailed millwork and intricate plaster derailing on the ceiling. Time seems to slow down here, tropical flowers arranged in huge sprays are everywhere, and people in the lobby all seem to be smiling. Guests are greeted with a lei and a glass of fruit juice. This is a hotel not only with class but also with historic charm.

Hilton Hawaiian Village Resort: (808) 949-4321 - This is Waikiki's biggest resort - so big it even has its own post office. Some 3,000 rooms are spread over 20 acres with tropical gardens, thundering waterfalls, exotic wildlife, award-winning restaurants, nightly entertainment, two brand new, state-of-the-art spas, 100 different shops, children's programs, fabulous ocean activities, a secluded lagoon, three swimming pools, Hawaiian cultural activities, two mini-golf courses, and Waikiki Beach. This place is so big and so complete, you could spend your entire vacation here and never leave the property.

Kahala Mandarin Oriental Hawaii: (888) 261-0068 - Since 1964, when Conrad Hilton first opened the hotel as a place for rest and relaxation, far from the crowds of Waikiki, the Kahala has always been rated as one of Hawaii's premier hotels. A venerable who's who of celebrities have stayed at the hotel, including every president since Richard Nixon, a host of rock stars from the Rolling Stones to the Beach Boys and a range of actors from John Wayne to Bette Midler. The Mandarin is a completely up-to-date resort with exotic Asian touches but retains the grace and elegance of a softer, gentler time in the islands

JW Marriott Ihilani Resort & Spa: (800) 626-4446 - Located in the quiet of Oahu's west coast, some 17 miles and 25 minutes west of Honolulu International Airport - and worlds away from the tourist scene of Waikiki. The Ihilani (which means "heavenly splendor") is the first hotel in the 640-acre Ko Olina Resort. It features a luxury spa and fitness center, plus championship tennis and golf. The plush rooms are spacious with huge lanais and lagoon or ocean views from some 85% of the units. Who misses Waikiki with luxury like this?

9. The Best Resort Spas

SpaHalekulani, Halekulani Hotel: (808) 923-2311 - Waikiki's newest spa, just opened in 2003, is the first spa in Hawaii to explore the heal-ing traditions of the Pacific islands, including Samoa, Tonga, Tahiti, as well as Hawaii. From the time you step into the elegantly appointed, intimate spa and experience the foot massage to the last whiff of fragrant made, their signature scent, this is truly a "heavenly" experience. Try something unique, like the Polynesian Nonu, a Samoan-inspired massage using stones, or the Ton Ton Amma, a Japanese amma massage with ton-ton pounders.

Na Ho'ola Spa in the Hyatt Regency: (808) 237-6330 - Waikiki's first spa, just opened in 2001, is an airy, modern 10,000 square-foot facility with a small fitness center, a sauna, Vichy showers, and a relaxation area. The 19 treatment rooms are twice the usual size with plenty of room to accommodate couples massage.

Abhasa Waikiki Spa in the Royal Hawaiian Hotel: (808) 922-8200 - This contemporary spa, spread out over 7,000 square feet, concentrates on natural, organic treatments in a soothing atmosphere where the smell of eucalyptus wafts through the air. You can experience everything from the latest aromatherapy (soaking in a sweet-smelling hot bath) to shiatsu massages. Their specialty is a cold-laser, anti-aging treatment that promises to give you a refreshed, revitalized face in just 30 minutes.

Mandarin Spa in the Hilton Hawaiian Village: (808) 945-7721 - Opened in the summer of 2001, this spa is located in the new Kalia Tower of the Hilton Hawaiian Village. In the 25 luxury treatment rooms (each with its own exotic private garden), you can choose from a menu of unique treatments like a Javanese Lulur rub, a Balinese facial, or a Hawaiian tropical flower bath. There's also a fitness center with an open-air cardiovascular center, aerobic and fitness classes, a relaxing pool and a meditative area and a full-service salon.

Ihilani Spa at the JW Marriott Ihilani: (800) 626-04446 - An oasis by the sea, this freestanding 35,000 square-foot facility is dedicated to the traditional spa definition of "health by water." This modern, multi-storied spa, filled with floor-to-ceiling glass looking out on green tropical plants combines Hawaiian products with traditional therapies to produce some of the best water treatments in the state. You'll also find a fitness center, tennis courts, and a bevy of aerobic and stretching classes.

10. The Best Restaurants

La Mer: (808) 923-2311 - This is the splurge restaurant of Hawaii, the oceanfront bastion of haute cuisine, a romantic, elegant, and expensive place where people dress up - not to be seen, but to match the ambience and food. It's an open-sided room with views of Diamond Head and the sound of trade winds rustling the nearby coconut fronds. Award-winning chef Yves Gamier, melds classical French influences with fresh island ingredients.

Alan Wong's Restaurant: (808) 949-2526 - One of Hawaii's premiere chefs, Alan Wong, specializes in absolutely the best Pacific Rim cuisine. His restaurant is always packed, the ambience is limited and the location is neighborhood but for serious "foodies" this is heaven. Masterstrokes at this shrine of Hawaii Regional Cuisine: warm California rolls made with salmon roe, wasabi, and Kona lobster instead of rice; luau lumpia with butterfish and kalua pig; and ginger-crust fresh onaga. Opihi shooters and day-boat scallops in season are a must, while nori-wrapped tempura ahi is a perennial favorite. The menu changes daily but the flavors never lose their sizzle.

Chef Mavro Restaurant: (808) 944-4714 - Honolulu is abuzz over the wine pairings and elegant cuisine of George Mavrothalassitis, the culinary wizard from Provence who turned La Mer (at the Halekulani) and Seasons (at the Four Seasons Resort Wailea) into temples of fine dining. He brought his award-winning signature dishes with him and continues to prove his ingenuity with dazzling a la carte and prix-fixe menus.

Roy's Restaurant: (808) 396-7697 - Good food still reigns at this busy, noise flagship Hawaii Kai dining room with the trademark open kitchen. Roy Yamaguchi's deft way with local ingredients, nostalgic ethnic preparations, and fresh fish makes his menu, which changes daily, a novel experience every time. Yamaguchi's special dinners with vintners are a Honolulu staple.

11. The Best Spots for Sunset Cocktails

Sunset Lanai in the New Otani Kaimana Beach Hotel: (808) 923-1555 - The hau tree shaded Robert Louis Stevenson as he wrote poems to Princess Kaiulani. Today, it frames the ocean view from the Sunset Lanai, next to the Hau Tree Lanai restaurant. Sunset Lanai is the favorite watering hole of Diamond Head area beachgoers who love Sans Saud Beach, the ocean view, the mai tail and sashimi platters and the live music during weekend sunset hours.

House Without a Key in the Halekulani: (808) 923-2311 - Oahu's quintessential sunset oasis claims several unbeatable elements: It's outdoors on the ocean, with a view of Diamond Head, and it offers great hula and steel guitar music - and one of the best mai tais on the island. You know it's special when even jaded Honoluluans declare it their favorite spot for send-offs, reunions, and an everyday gorgeous sunset.

Mai Tai Bar in the Royal Hawaiian Hotel: (808) 923-7311 - This bar without walls is perched a few feet from the sand with sweeping views of the South Shore and the Waianae Mountains. Surfers and paddlers ride the waves while the light turns golden and Diamond Head acquires a halo. This is one of the most pleasing views of Waikiki Beach - Sip a mighty Mai Tai and enjoy!

Duke's Canoe Club in the Outrigger Waikiki Hotel: (808) 922-2268 - Its crowded at sunset, but who can resist listening to the top Hawaiian musicians in this upbeat atmosphere a few feet from the sands of Waikiki? Come in from the beach or from the street - it's always a party at Duke's. Entertainment here is tops, and it reaches a crescendo at sunset.

Jameson's by the Sea: (808) 637-6272 - The mai tais here are dubbed the best in surf city, and the view, although not perfect, isn't hurting either. Across the street from the harbor, this open-air roadside oasis is a happy stop for North Shore wave watchers and sunset-savvy sightseers.

BEST OAHU WEB SITES

Hawaii Visitors & Convention Bureau: An excellent, all-around guide to activities, tours, lodging, and events, plus a huge section on weddings and honeymoons.

The Best of Honolulu: From stand-up paddling lessons to frozen yogurt, jazz clubs to dog trainers - we've scoured Oahu to find the best products, services, food and entertainment, all to help you live better in Honolulu.

Oahu Events: Experience one-of-a-kind festivals, cultural performances, stage shows, musical events and sports competitions throughout the year on Oahu.



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**Your Source about living the Hawaiian Lifestyle
on the Island of Oahu**

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