

Beaches, Beaches, Beaches

In the condo there's a blue soft covered book titled *Maui Revealed*. It's a comprehensive guide to the best and esoteric on Maui. I think I've been to all of them - and, as with everything - have strong opinions.

Per my opinion: Maui Kamaole is located near ALL the 'best' beaches on Maui. Not a fan of the very southern beaches along Makenna - too wild, too steep of an undertow, and most days the waves literally spit you out on very hard sand. Not a fan of far West beaches - weather can be magnificent in Wailea/Kihei area and pouring rain with high winds at Kanapali or Kahana beaches. Beaches along North-Eastern side are beautiful, and worth seeing the magical dance of kite boarders. The shores are rocky and the water fierce. On north shore, lunch at Mama's is always fun - \$\$\$\$. The little town of Makawow has a great glass blowing studio, Hot Island Glass, and some cute shops. My favorite place for a sandwich, pastry (most divine cinnamon raisin pastries - located on trays up by the checkout), is **Mana Foods** on Baldwin Ave in Paia (Pie-e-a) - a throwback to Santa Cruz 80's.

My favorite beach is accessed directly across the street and just about 1/8 mile south of the Kihei Boat Launch. Keawakapu (Key AUV a ka pu) Beach. It's a string of beaches where you can snorkel, swim, and enjoy sun or shade. Water access is gentle, and you'll know where to enter the water, because that's where people are in the water.

Easy peasy to wonder through the numerous resort properties to enjoy a beach side lunch, find a good deli, and enjoy a cool tropical beverage. If you walk further, there's a 'beach' path that skirts all the major resorts. From the path, on Friday evenings you can catch the 'fire' show at the Marriott luau (without dinner and a chair - \$85 savings, lol). Very easy to walk the entire stretch and find the different beaches.

Walking all the way to the Fairmont Kea Lani is about 3.2 miles one way. Along the way, it's worth seeing the resort grounds, including the lobby and Botero sculptures at the Grand Wailea.