

HAWAII - Big Island

The biggest and youngest island that was built from five volcanos. Known for Mauna Kea (the highest point of Hawaii), this island is a dual experience of lava rock on one coast and lush tropical on the other.

Hotel Recos

Hilton Waikoloa Village

It is a great hotel with three towers. There is a spa, waterslides, several pools, shops, restaurants (check out Provision Company & Kona Tap Room), and a train connecting all the different towers.



Marriott Waikoloa Beach Resort & Spa

This highly-rated hotel has a swimmable beach, private lanais, an infinity pool, a waterslide, ocean activities, a spa, and golf. Shopping and dining at the Kings' Shops and Queens' MarketPlace are within walking distance.



Things To Do

DolphinQuest Swim (@ Hilton Waikoloa)

Right at the hotel! Swim and interact with amazing bottlenose dolphins in a natural sandy beached lagoon. There's a great place to watch and take photos as well. Book early because it gets full fast!



Manta Ray Night Snorkel (Kona)

A favorite by far! Swim with giant manta rays just offshore at night. Hang on to a floating platform that lights up to attract the rays. Manta sightings are guaranteed! All equipment is provided, and it is easily done without experience.



Ziplining Adventure (Umauma Falls)

See the Big Island from the air! This 9-line zipline adventure takes you over treetops, waterfalls, and rivers. There are 4 dual lines, so you can do side-by-side races, too! The views are spectacular! All equipment is provided.



Private Deep Sea Fishing (Kailua Kona)

An amazing fishing expedition to find a big shark. You get to set the lines and troll the sea! You learn about the art of fishing from the experts. All equipment and tackle provided!



Polynesian ATV Tour

Take an action-packed ATV ride and experience Polynesian culture! You can drive solo or have a guide drive it for you. The ride goes through trails and stops at villages, so you can learn the rich history and heritage of Samoa, Tonga, Fiji, and Hawaii.



Snorkeling Cruise (Kona)

Cruise the Kona coastline from Kealahou Bay. You will receive snorkeling instructions and equipment on the boat. Then, you will jump into the water and see amazing creatures up close. The boat also has a huge water slide. Snacks and drinks will be available, too!



Volcano National Park - Electric Bike Ride

This is a fun, easy-riding fat-tire e-bike tour that brings you up close to the active volcano landscape. Your guide takes you past wild craters and seaside vistas. Bikes, helmets, snacks, and water are provided.



Atlantis Submarine (Kona)

Dive deep below the waters off Kona, and see an entire world of fish and marine creatures. The wildlife and colorful reef are up close just outside porthole windows. It's a great way to see the underwater without getting wet!



Other Recos

Food

[Roy's](#) - Hawaiian-inspired, great dinners

[Tommy Bahama](#) - delicious dinners

[Tex Drive-In](#) - best Hawaiian donuts (good on a day in Hilo)

[LavaLava Beach Club](#) - casual, on the water

[Pueos Osteria](#) - awesome Italian & pizza

Getting Around

We recommend renting a car for this island. It is very spread out, and the sites and tours are easily reachable by car.

Don't miss **Mauna Kea** (drive up and bring layers of clothes), and take an afternoon to visit **Hilo** for a tropical oasis and great hikes.

Shopping

[Queens Marketplace](#) - in Waikoloa, outdoor mall, some souvenirs

[Shops At Mauna Lani](#) - boutiques, small grocery, authentic coffee shops

[Kona Inn Shopping Village](#) - small vendors, galleries and souvenirs

[Coconut Grove](#) - in Kona, by the ocean, fun vendors

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