



# MAUI

## The Magic Isle

by Bekah Wright

**T**he Hawaiian Islands may seem a world away to an east coast resident. Visiting them though, is worth the effort. Each of the six major islands is unique. Maui is no exception with its world-renowned beaches, majestic Haleakala volcano, and the infamous road to Hana. Spend time on the island and it's easy to understand why Maui is called "The Magic Isle."

### FOUR SEASONS RESORT MAUI AT WAILEA

A stay at the Four Seasons Resort Maui is an escape unto itself. Situated on 15 acres overlooking Wailea Beach, the property is ideal for making the most of Maui's southern coastline. This Mobil Five Star and AAA Five Diamond resort recently underwent a \$50 million renovation with 380 deluxe guest rooms decked out in contemporary, Hawaiiana style.

Book an oceanfront suite and wake up to a view of the Pacific. Two balconies—one for dining, the other for lounging—open onto ocean panoramas. Perfect for relaxing indoors is the oversized, marble-tiled bathroom with a stereo system to accompany leisurely bubble baths. Both the living room and bedroom have HD-ready 42-inch plasma TVs, DVD players with photo card slots, as well as an alarm clock that hosts iPod and MP3 players. And when it comes time to sleep, the bed is, in a word, intoxicating.

But that's not all the hotel offers. After a good night's sleep, stroll through the open-air lobbies and take in a bit of culture with the Four Seasons' world-class artwork collection from artists who live, work or were born in Hawaii. Guests who want to energize should check out the lower lobby's alfresco cardiovascular machine area with its ocean views. Adjoining are weight

and aerobics rooms (check out complimentary classes that range from spinning to urban rebounding).

A game room has shuffleboard, pool tables, foosball, video games and ping-pong for friendly competitions. Shoppers can hone their craft in the lower lobby's five different stores. In addition, a shuttle is available for transport to the nearby The Shops at Wailea.

The Spa's Asian décor soothes, as do the myriad body treatments, massages and facials featured on the treatment menu. Fun to sample are signature services and energy work. Two to try—*Jin Shin Do* to get the *chi* moving or aquacranial therapy that's conducted in the ocean.

Best of all may be the 180-minute Hawaiian Ceremonial Lomi Lomi massage performed by two therapists in a traditional hale, or thatched-roof hut, set on a bluff overlooking the sea.

You can also be pampered in the resort's poolside cabanas Poolside Spa Tapas, mini spa treatments that come in 20-, 30- and 40-minute increments with special attention paid to the head, scalp, neck, shoulders and feet.

The perfect spot for lounging during the day is an umbrella-canopied two-seater situated on a bluff just steps away from Wailea Beach. When hitting the waves is called for, the resort's concierge can arrange for guest use of beach gear such as boogie boards.

If the mood for adventure strikes, the concierge can make reservations for water activities from sea kayaking to snorkeling. One outing not to miss—the complimentary, 45-minute guided outrigger canoe venture hosted by the resort Monday through Friday between the hours of 7AM. and 10AM. While paddling around the cove, be on the lookout for sea turtles taking their morning swim. Water weary guests can hit the fairways at Wailea Golf Club or Makena Golf Course. Tennis buffs can practice their volleys on the resort's two courts or at the Wailea Tennis Center.

Sunset is marked by the sound of a conch shell blowing as a torch lighter makes the rounds of the resort lighting tiki lamps. The best places to take in twilight are the



restaurant, will be extended to your rehearsal or wedding dinner. Carlo prefers that the initial contact be by phone, you can then make arrangements to meet and discuss your preferences. Most people choose Northern Italian dishes, but they can accommodate other types of cuisine as well. If any of your guests, or you yourself have special needs (allergies or vegetarian requests) they will make sure that there will be a selection available. Every detail will be discussed so you don't have any surprises. From the appetizers, the wine before dinner, to after dinner drinks, Antonio Capece will make sure it is taken care of. They will accommodate your color scheme and advise you on where you can get flowers locally. Antonio's prime concern is that everything be perfect in every way. Catering is also available and he can fax you sample menus to look over.

Two or three months notice should be enough, but in the prime spring wedding season more may be necessary. Don't forget, Mother's Day and Graduation is around the same time, and Amici is a popular venue.

The restaurant holds about 20 downstairs, but the upstairs seating will hold 40 or so. It's a private and intimate spot to linger over an exquisite meal with your guests. It's also ideal for a romantic candlelit dinner for two. Ask for the table by the window, it has a lovely view of Carytown. The restaurant is housed in an old

building dating back to around 1930. There is also outside seating, so keep that in mind when you make your plans.

"Older couples like to linger and enjoy the meal, while younger dinners can't wait to get out and party," says Capece., although who wouldn't want to linger over a meal at Amici. "If you're going out after the rehearsal dinner, try and have it two days before the wedding. You want to look your best when you get married, and you may not if you're up all night." A bit of

experienced advice you might do well to heed. But no matter how long you want the space for, Amici's will accommodate you. Just let them know your preferences. Ask for Kate Turpin or Carlo Gianone, they're the ones who will be guaranteeing that your celebration at Amici will be everything you want.

The restaurant is in Carytown, so there is plenty to see and do for you and your guests both before and after the meal.

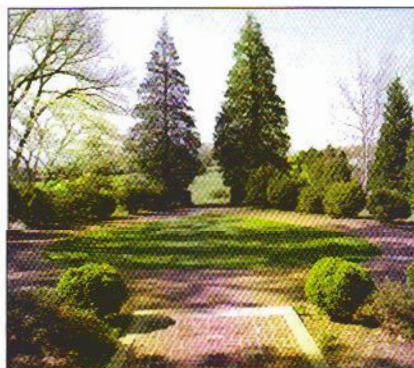
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Virginia  
Bride

resort's three dining venues. At the newly opened DUO Steak and Seafood Restaurant, Chef de Cuisine Noel Badillo cooks up fare like Opakapaka with Pineapple-Papaya Salsa or Thai Red Coconut Curry. Be sure to try the spectacular Japanese Kobe Beef New York Steak.

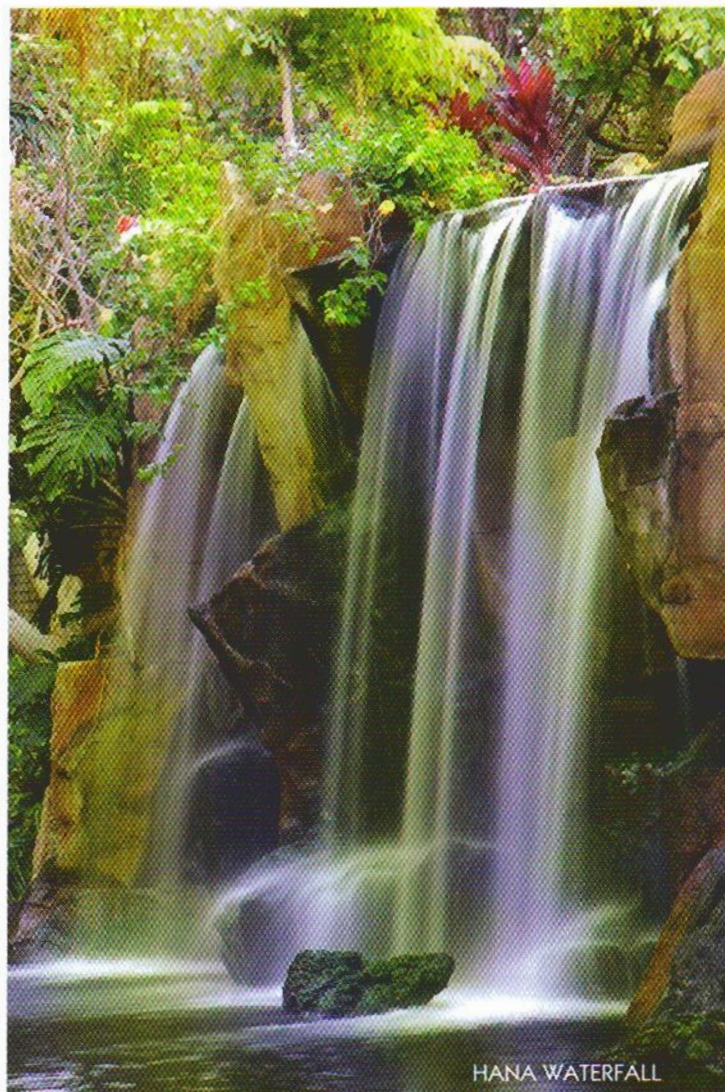
Check out breakfast at DUO as well, where the Belgian waffles with coconut syrup are outstanding. The other two restaurants are Ferraro's Bar E Ristorante where Chef Paolo Luna serves authentic Italian cucina rustica or Wolfgang Puck's Spago Maui for a blend of Hawaiian and California cuisine with Pacific Rim flavors. Later, kick back in the Lobby Lounge for cocktails and live music. Sending guests off to slumber—nightly turndown service.

## EXPLORING THE ISLAND

**T**aking leave of Maui's breathtaking beaches may be difficult, but the island's upcountry is equally striking. Making a statement in a big way is Haleakala, one of Maui's two volcanoes. Make the 38-mile ascent to the 10,230-foot summit to catch sunrise or sunset and it's evident why the volcano was called "House of the Sun." High above the clouds, the summit is the best spot for gazing down into the volcano's Manhattan-sized crater. Get up close and personal through a Pony Express Tour's horseback ride along Sliding Sands Trail into the crater floor.

After working up a hunger, plan stops at nearby Ali'i Lavender for the Garden Tea Tour (their scones are out of this world!), the Surfing Goat Dairy to partake of the cheese and Ulupalakua Ranch for burgers followed by wine tastings at the adjoining Tedeschi Vineyards. Leave time for exploring Makawao, a lazy cowboy town with a quaint main street filled with boutiques, shops and galleries.

While there take in the Makawao Rodeo or a polo match. Close out the day with dinner just down the road at Chef Bev Gannon's Hali'imaile General Store.



**J**ust as Hawaii's islands are distinctive from one another, so are the different areas of Maui. Such is the case with the North Shore and H na. The historic sugar plantation town of Paia on the North Shore is great fun to explore with its shops and galleries. Duck into Jacques North Shore Restaurant and Bar,

Flatbread Company or Café Des Amis for a bite to eat. Better yet, grab picnic makings from Mana Foods and head out to Ho'okipa Beach Park for watching some of the world's best windsurfing.

From Paia, head down Route 360, otherwise known as the Road to H na. Though the 37-mile drive can be challenging due to twists, turns and one-lane bridges, it also comes with rewards of unexpected waterfalls, bamboo forests and cliff-side views of the Pacific.

Bear in mind that the trip takes two and a half hours one way when planning activities on this side of the island. Some to consider—snorkeling in H na Bay at the pier next to a small burger joint called Tutu's (cool off with a cone of Hawaii's Roselani Tropics ice cream while you're there),





SUNSET CRUISE



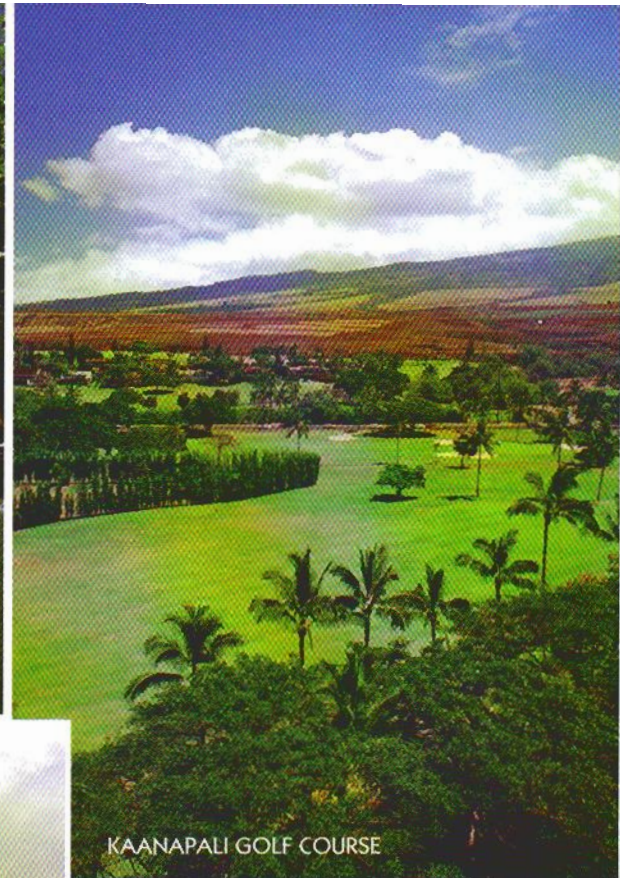
BAMBOO FOREST, HANA



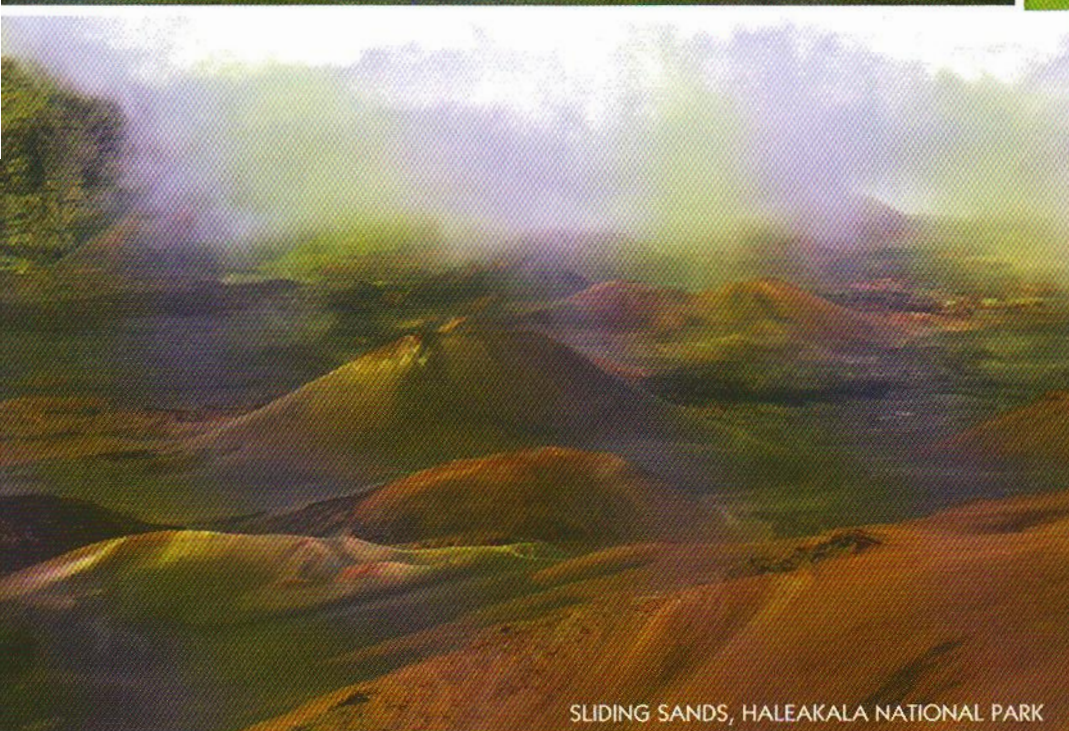
BLACK SAND BEACH



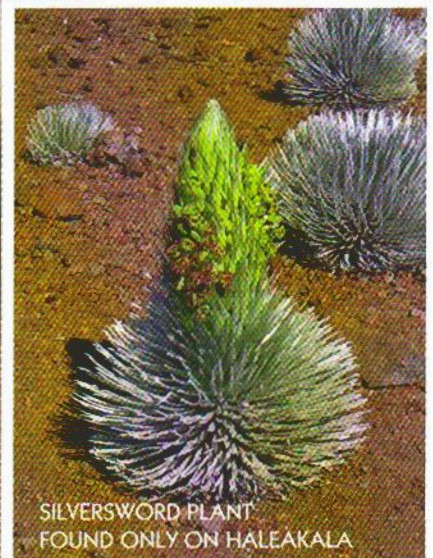
FRONT STREET, LAHAINA



KAANAPALI GOLF COURSE



SLIDING SANDS, HALEAKALA NATIONAL PARK



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visiting the H na Cultural Center, hiking to Fagan's Cross, soaking in the sun on the black sand beach of Wainapanapa State Park and exploring the other side of Haleakala National Park at Kipahulu.

Allot another day for exploring Maui's western shore and the historic whaling town of Lahaina. Front Street is prime for shopping and becoming part of the bustling waterfront's action. Lahaina is also the jumping off point for many snorkel and scuba expeditions from the island. One to join—Trilogy's Discover L na'i All Day Sunset Sail. Stay late to enjoy Lahaina's many excellent dining venues including Gerard's, David Paul's

Lahaina Grill, Mala Ocean Tavern and Penne Pasta Café.

Combining dinner and a show is the Old Lahaina Luau with traditional Hawaiian cuisine, music, cultural dances and island crafts taking center stage. Another way to learn about the island is through Maui Theatre's presentation of *'Ulalena* where music, dance and acrobatics come together in the telling of the mythical story of Maui's creation.

Still to explore—Kapalua, where Hawaiian legend says heaven meets the earth. Golf lovers will know the area as the site where the Mercedes Championships are held each year. Visitors can take lessons at the Kapalua Golf Academy, and then get in

Virginia  
Brite



SEA TURTLE

some practice at the nine-hole putting green before hitting one of three 18-hole golf courses.

After experiencing many of Maui's gems, the feeling that only the surface of everything the



WIND SURFING

island has to offer has been scratched will prevail. No worries. A return trip is in the stars. After all, Maui is The Magic Isle.

For more about the Four Seasons Resort Maui visit [www.fourseasons.com](http://www.fourseasons.com). To learn more about Maui visit [www.visitmaui.com](http://www.visitmaui.com).

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