

## Attractions

Choosing which attractions to visit during your Maui vacation can be daunting. So much to see and do and so little time! Many of Maui's top visitor attractions, from museums and gardens to historic sites, have a nominal fee, but others are free. Reference the maps in the introduction to locate the attractions.

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*In Hawaii, a man neither rises to heights nor sinks to real depths. He develops acute Polynesia which is related to the Mexican manana . . . a realization that tomorrow will be very like today, that nothing is of colossal importance beyond the moment. The days slip away uncounted, a month, a year, a life-time passes with nothing to mark its passing except a blur of happiness, tainted only by a vague feeling that he "should do something about something."*

—Don Blanding, *Hula Moons*, 1930

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The following profiles provide basic information on the attractions, such as location, hours of operation, and cost. Each also features a rating for five age groups and a brief description. Given on a five-star scale, the ratings don't guarantee that a certain segment of visitors will love or hate the attraction, but they do provide a reliable evaluation of each group's typical reaction. For example, some teenagers want to visit historical sights, but more want to go to the beach. Together, the information, ratings, and descriptions will help you plan an itinerary pleasing to all members of your family or group.

## MAUI COUNTY ATTRACTIONS

Attraction Name	Type of Attraction	Authors' Rating	Region
Alexander and Baldwin Sugar Museum	Museum	★★★	Central Maui
Bailey House Museum	Museum	★★★	Central Maui
Baldwin Home Museum	Museum	★★★	West Maui
Haleakala National Park	National Park	★★★★	Upcountry Maui
Hana Cultural Center	Museum	★★★	Hana
Hawaii Experience Theater	Theater	★★★½	West Maui
Hawaii Nature Center	Museum	★★★★	Central Maui
Hui Noeau Visual Arts Center	Gallery	★★★	Upcountry Maui
Kepaniwai Cultural Park	Gardens	★★★	Central Maui
Kula Botanical Garden	Gardens	★★★	Upcountry Maui
Lahaina-Kaanapali and Pacific Railroad	Hawaiian Railway	★★★	West Maui
Maui Ocean Center	Aquarium	★★★★	South Maui
Maui Tropical Plantation and Gardens	Historic Home and Country Store	★★★	Central Maui
Molokai Museum and Cultural Center	Museum	★★★	Molokai
Tedeschi Winery	Winery	★★★	South Maui
Whalers Village Museum	Museum	★★½	West Maui
Wo Hing Temple Museum	Museum	★★½	West Maui

## MAUI COUNTY ATTRACTIONS BY TYPE

Attraction Name	Authors' Rating	Region
<b>Aquarium</b>		
Maui Ocean Center	★★★★	South Maui
<b>Gallery</b>		
Hui Noeau Visual Arts Center	★★★	Upcountry Maui
<b>Gardens</b>		
Kepaniwai Cultural Park	★★★	Central Maui
Kula Botanical Garden	★★★	Upcountry Maui

MAUI COUNTY ATTRACTIONS BY TYPE (continued)		
Attraction Name	Authors' Rating	Region
<b>Historic Home</b>		
Maui Tropical Plantation and Country Store	★★★	Central Maui
<b>Museum</b>		
Alexander and Baldwin Sugar Museum	★★★	Central Maui
Bailey House Museum	★★★	Central Maui
Baldwin Home Museum	★★★	West Maui
Hana Cultural Center	★★★	Hana
Hawaii Nature Center	★★★★	Central Maui
Whalers Village Museum	★★½	West Maui
Wo Hing Temple Museum	★★½	West Maui
<b>National Parks</b>		
Haleakala National Park	★★★★	Upcountry Maui
<b>Theater</b>		
Hawaii Experience Theater	★★★★½	West Maui
<b>Train Ride</b>		
Lahaina-Kaanapali and Pacific Railroad	★★★	West Maui
<b>Winery</b>		
Tedeschi Winery	★★★	South Maui

## Maui's Attractions Rated and Ranked

### Alexander and Baldwin Sugar Museum

**Location** 3957 Hansen Road, Puunene, Central Maui

**Phone** (808) 871-8058

**Web site** www.sugarmuseum.com

**Hours** Monday–Saturday, 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

**Admission** \$5 adults, \$2 children ages 6–18

**When to go** Anytime

**How much time to allow** 45 minutes

**Authors' rating** ★★★; A look at Maui's sugar plantation history.

**Overall appeal by age group**

Preschool ★½	Teens ★★½	Over 30 ★★★½
Grade School ★★	Young Adults ★★★	Seniors ★★★½

**Description and comments** In a converted 1902 superintendent's six-room home, visitors gain a sense of plantation life from the viewpoint of a sugar planter who controlled the Island economy. The museum features artifacts, photographs, tools (including a red Cleveland Model 336 trench digger), and other relics of an era gone by.

**Bailey House Museum**

**Location** 2375-A Main Street, Wailuku, Central Maui

**Phone** (808) 244-3326

**Web site** [www.mauimuseum.org](http://www.mauimuseum.org)

**Hours** Monday–Saturday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

**Admission** \$4 adults, \$1 children ages 7–12

**When to go** Anytime

**How much time to allow** 1 hour

**Authors' rating** ★★★; Worth a stop for history buffs.

**Overall appeal by age group**

Preschool ★½	Teens ★★½	Over 30 ★★★½
Grade School ★★	Young Adults ★★★	Seniors ★★★½

**Description and comments** The missionary-era Bailey House, built in 1833 of lava rock and native woods, sits on land given to the missionaries by Hawaiian chiefs. Hawaiians attended reading and writing classes here, using Hawaiian-language books printed on Maui. Today, the Bailey House displays Hawaiian artifacts, including tapa, weaving, featherwork, and tools made out of stones, shells, and bones. A gallery of paintings—all from the late 1800s—portrays the beauty of the Valley Isle, and a stroll through the outside gardens reveals rare native plants, a koa wood canoe, and a surfboard once used by legendary surfer/swimming champion Duke Kahanamoku. A gift shop offers crafts, apparel, Hawaiian music, and books.

**Other things to do nearby** The Hawaii Nature Center and Kepaniwai Park are a short drive away.

**Baldwin Home Museum**

**Location** 120 Dickenson Street, Lahaina, West Maui

**Phone** (808) 661-3362 or (808) 661-3262

**Hours** Daily, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

**Admission** \$5 for families, \$3 for individuals, \$2 for senior citizens

**When to go** Anytime

**How much time to allow** 1 hour

**Authors' rating** ★★★; A peek into Hawaii's missionary era.

**Overall appeal by age group**

Preschool ★½	Teens ★★★	Over 30 ★★★½
Grade School ★★	Young Adults ★★★	Seniors ★★★½

**Description and comments** This two-story structure was the home of Reverend Dwight Baldwin, a Protestant medical missionary from 1838 to 1871. Today, the home and its grounds, lovingly restored by the Lahaina Restoration Foundation, give visitors a glimpse of what life was like for 19th-century missionary families in Lahaina. On display are various household items and furniture, photographs, and other historic artifacts. Ask for a free self-guided tour map of Lahaina's other restored treasures.

**Other things to do nearby** Located at Dickenson and Front Streets, the Baldwin Home is one of several historic sights in Lahaina.

### ***Haleakala National Park***

**Location** The park extends from the 10,023-foot summit of Haleakala down the southeast flank of the mountain to the Kipahulu coastline near Hana. The summit area is accessible from Kahului via Routes 37, 377, and 378. The park's Kipahulu area, at the east end of the island between Hana and Kaupo, can be reached via Highway 36. Driving time is about 3–4 hours each way.

**Phone** (808) 572-4400

**Web site** [www.nps.gov/hale](http://www.nps.gov/hale)

**Hours** Park Ranger Headquarters is open daily, 7:30 a.m.–4 p.m. The visitor center is open daily, sunrise–3 p.m. (Overnight camping is permissible. The Hosmer Grove Campground in the summit area, located just inside the park's entrance, can be used without a permit; all other camping areas require permits.)

**Admission** \$10 per vehicle. The entrance fee is good for 7 days.

**When to go** Anytime. Haleakala is renowned as a setting for dramatic sunrises and sunsets, although most people come for the sunrise. Be sure to arrive at least 30 minutes before either event.

**How much time to allow** Half a day or more, depending on whether you plan to spend time hiking or taking part in one of the park's programs.

**Authors' rating** ★★★★★; One of the great natural wonders of the world.

**Overall appeal by age group**

Preschool ★★	Teens ★★★★★½	Over 30 ★★★★★
Grade School ★★★	Young Adults ★★★★★	Seniors ★★★★★

**Description and comments** Haleakala ("House of the Sun"), a dormant volcano that last spilled lava a bit more than 200 years ago, was designated as a national park in 1961. The park consists of nearly 29,000 acres, most of it wilderness. In the summit area, see the park headquarters and Haleakala Visitor Center, which houses a variety of cultural and natural history exhibits. Rangers are on duty and can be a tremendous help in making the most out of your visit. In the Kipahulu area, see the Kipahulu Ranger Station/Visitor Center. Each facility has a selection of books, maps, postcards, and other souvenirs for sale.

**Touring tips** Check the park's bulletin board for a schedule of daily programs and guided hikes. Obey all posted warning signs. It can be cold at the summit, so be prepared. Due to the high elevation (nearly 2 miles high) and reduced oxygen at the park, anyone with a heart or respiratory condition is advised to check with a doctor before visiting.

### **Hana Cultural Center**

**Location** 4974 Uakea Road, Hana

**Phone** (808) 248-8622

**Web site** [www.planet-hawaii.com/hana](http://www.planet-hawaii.com/hana)

**Hours** Daily, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

**Admission** Donations accepted

**When to go** Anytime

**How much time to allow** 1 hour

**Authors' rating** ★★★★★; A reward after the long journey to Hana.

**Overall appeal by age group**

Preschool ★★	Teens ★★★★★½	Over 30 ★★★★★
Grade School ★★★★★½	Young Adults ★★★★★	Seniors ★★★★★

**Description and comments** This cultural center is home to more than 500 artifacts, 600 books, 680 Hawaiian bottles, and 5,000 historic photographs of the Hana district. Opened in 1983, the nonprofit museum houses Hawaiian quilts, poi boards, stones, kapa, ancient tools, fish hooks, gourd bowls, stone lamps, and a century-old fishing net. Also featured are tributes to some of Hana's most notable citizens. The cultural

center also includes a series of old Hawaiian *hale* (houses), the historic Hana courthouse, and a jailhouse.

### Hawaii Experience Domed Theater

**Location** 824 Front Street, Lahaina, West Maui

**Phone** None available

**Hours** Daily, 9 a.m.–11 p.m.

**Admission** \$7 adults, \$4 children ages 4–12. If you purchase \$25 worth of merchandise at the gift shop, you receive a free ticket to the show.

**When to go** Anytime

**How much time to allow** 50 minutes

**Authors' rating** ★★★½; a pleasant diversion in the heart of Lahaina.

**Overall appeal by age group**

Preschool ★★★	Teens ★★★½	Over 30 ★★★½
Grade School ★★★½	Young Adults ★★★½	Seniors ★★★½

**Description and comments** A planetarium-like theater with a domed screen more than three stories high, this attraction features a spectacular 40-minute film shown every hour.

**Other things to do nearby** Historical attractions in downtown Lahaina, including the Wo Hing Temple and Baldwin Home Museum, are within easy walking distance.

### Hawaii Nature Center

**Location** 875 Iao Valley Road, Wailuku, Central Maui

**Phone** (808) 244-6500

**Web site** [www.hawaiiinaturecenter.org](http://www.hawaiiinaturecenter.org)

**Hours** Daily, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

**Admission** \$6 adults, \$4 children ages 4–12

**When to go** Anytime

**How much time to allow** 1 hour

**Authors' rating** ★★★★★; Good hands-on learning experience.

**Overall appeal by age group**

Preschool ★★★	Teens ★★★★★	Over 30 ★★★★★
Grade School ★★★★★	Young Adults ★★★★★	Seniors ★★★★★

**Description and comments** The Nature Center's Interactive Science Arcade features more than 30 interactive exhibits celebrating Maui's

natural environment. The main exhibit hall features an amazing 10-foot-high, 30-foot-long, three-dimensional replication of four streams that feed into the Iao Stream. Aquariums, rain-forest explorations, arcade games, telescopes, and live insect and animal exhibits are among the other highlights. The gift shop features an extensive selection of nature-themed merchandise. All proceeds go to environmental education programs for Maui elementary-school children.

**Touring tips** The best is Rainforest Walk, a guided tour into the wet, wonderful world of Maui where you meet carnivorous creatures and exotic plants under the rainbow. Tickets include price of admission; \$30 adults, and \$20 children ages 5 and older.

**Other things to do nearby** Kepaniwai Cultural Park and the Bailey House Museum.

### ***Hui Noeau Visual Arts Center***

**Location** 2841 Baldwin Avenue, Makawao; 1 mile below Makawao town, Upcountry Maui

**Phone** (808) 572-6560

**Web site** [www.maui.net/~hui](http://www.maui.net/~hui)

**Hours** Monday–Friday, 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m. Gallery hours are Saturday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

**Admission** Donations accepted

**When to go** Anytime

**How much time to allow** 1 hour

**Authors' rating** ★★★; A haven for art lovers

**Overall appeal by age group**

Preschool ★★	Teens ★★★	Over 30 ★★★½
Grade School ★★½	Young Adults ★★★	Seniors ★★★½

**Description and comments** Occupying a beautiful nine-acre estate in Makawao, this nonprofit art center features works by both local and international artists. The estate itself is a historic landmark (built in 1917 for Harry and Ethel Baldwin) dotted with pine and camphor trees and adorned with an immaculate formal garden and reflecting pool. The arts center features classes and workshops for aspiring artisans, and exhibits are open to the public on Saturdays. The gift shop offers a selection of original artworks, note cards, books, and other gift items.

### ***Kepaniwai Cultural Park***

**Location** Iao Valley Road, Central Maui



**Phone** No phone

**Hours** Daily, 7 a.m.–7 p.m.

**Admission** Free, self-guided tour

**When to go** Anytime

**How much time to allow** 1 hour

**Authors' rating** ★★★; A pleasant stop if you're in the area.

**Overall appeal by age group**

Preschool ★★	Teens ★★★	Over 30 ★★★½
Grade School ★★½	Young Adults ★★★	Seniors ★★★½

**Description and comments** Picturesque gardens and architectural pavilions representing Hawaii's ethnic groups.

**Other things to do nearby** The Hawaii Nature Center and Bailey House Museum are nearby.

### ***Kula Botanical Garden***

**Location** 0.7 miles from Kula Highway, on Kekaulike Avenue (Highway 377) in Kula, Upcountry Maui

**Phone** (808) 878-1715

**Hours** Daily, 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

**Admission** \$5 adults, \$1 children ages 6–12

**When to go** Anytime

**How much time to allow** 90 minutes

**Authors' rating** ★★★; A botanist's dream come true.

**Overall appeal by age group**

Preschool ★★	Teens ★★½	Over 30 ★★★
Grade School ★★½	Young Adults ★★½	Seniors ★★★½

**Description and comments** Kula, blessed with a mild, cool climate and fertile soil, is the home of this five-acre wonderland originally owned by Princess Kekaulike. Opened in 1969, the garden today features more than 1,700 tropical plants, including exotic flora such as proteas, heliconias, orchids, anthurium, and gingers.

### ***Lahaina-Kaanapali and Pacific Railroad***

**Location** 975 Limahana Place, Suite 203, Lahaina, West Maui

**Phone** (808) 667-6851 or (808) 499-2307

**Hours** 12 rides scheduled daily, beginning at 10 a.m.

**Admission** \$16 adults, \$10 children ages 3–12 (round-trip)

**When to go** Anytime**How much time to allow** 90 minutes**Authors' rating** ★★★; A short train ride offering views of the West Maui coastline.**Overall appeal by age group**

Preschool ★★★½	Teens ★★	Over 30 ★★
Grade School ★★★	Young Adults ★★	Seniors ★★★½

**Description and comments** The “Sugar Cane Train,” with its 1890s locomotive and distinctive whistle, was used by the Pioneer Mill to transport sugar crops until the early 1950s. Today, the train shuttles visitors between Lahaina and the resort area of Kaanapali. The six-mile route through a cane field lasts about 40 minutes each way. A friendly conductor shares the history of Maui’s sugar industry.

### ***Maui Ocean Center***

**Location** Maalaea Harbor Village, 192 Maalaea Road, South Maui**Phone** (808) 270-7000**Web site** [www.mauiocceancenter.com](http://www.mauiocceancenter.com)**Hours** Daily, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.**Admission** \$20 adults, \$13 children ages 3–12, children under age 3 are free. Senior citizens and military personnel, 10 percent discount.**When to go** Anytime**How much time to allow** 2 hours**Authors' rating** ★★★★★; A must-see for anyone interested in understanding Island marine life.**Overall appeal by age group**

Preschool ★★★★★½	Teens ★★★★★	Over 30 ★★★★★
Grade School ★★★★★	Young Adults ★★★★★	Seniors ★★★★★½

**Description and comments** The star attraction is a 600,000-gallon ocean aquarium tank with a walk-through acrylic tunnel that lets you get a good view of the more than 2,000 inhabitants, including a six-foot tiger shark and other sharks, spotted eagle rays, mahimahi, triggerfish, sea turtles, eels, and a dazzling array of colorful reef fish. Other exhibits include a supervised touch pool for kids, allowing them to hold sea critters; interactive displays about the humpback whale; and smaller aquariums affording a close look at eels, shrimp, coral, and other sea life. The Reef Cafe and Seascape Cafe and Bar provide food and drinks, and the large gift shop carries logo and ocean-themed goods.

**Other things to do nearby** The Ocean Center overlooks busy Maalaea Harbor, where cruise boats come and go. Try combining a trip to the aquarium with a snorkeling tour to look at the sea creatures in the wilds.

### ***Maui Tropical Plantation and Country Store***

**Location** 1670 Honoapiilani Highway, Central Maui

**Phone** (808) 244-7643

**Hours** Daily, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

**Admission** Free. Tram tours cost \$10 adults and \$4 children ages 5–12 (plus tax).

**When to go** Anytime

**How much time to allow** 75 minutes

**Authors' rating** ★★★; When you want to know more about tropical crops, this is the place. Pick up fresh fruits at the country store.

**Overall appeal by age group**

Preschool ★★	Teens ★★★	Over 30 ★★★★★
Grade School ★★½	Young Adults ★★★★★½	Seniors ★★★★★

**Description and comments** From the visitor center, head out to the plantation's 50-acre garden, which is filled with tropical plants, including pineapple, sugarcane, papaya, guava, star fruit, anthuriums, and protea. A restaurant and plant nursery are also available.

**Touring tips** Narrated 45-minute tram tours of the garden are available. The first train leaves at 10 a.m.; the last train leaves at 3:15 p.m.

**Other things to do nearby** The Bailey House Museum is a mile or so to the north.

### ***Molokai Museum and Cultural Center***

**Location** On Kalae Highway, just west of Kaunakakai, Molokai

**Phone** (808) 567-6436

**Hours** Monday–Saturday, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

**Admission** \$3 adults, \$1 students ages 5–18

**When to go** Any time

**How much time to allow** 1 hour

**Authors' rating** ★★★; Not terribly exciting, but filled with history.

**Overall appeal by age group**

Preschool ★½	Teens ★★½	Over 30 ★★★
Grade School ★★	Young Adults ★★★	Seniors ★★★★★½

**Description and comments** The museum is located in a converted sugar mill that was established in 1878 by Rudolph Wilhelm Meyer, an engineer and surveyor who arrived on Molokai in 1851 and married a Hawaiian princess. Now listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the mill houses original machinery and other artifacts from the island's sugar plantation days. Guided tours and Hawaiian cultural programs are offered.

### **Tedeschi Winery**

**Location** Ulupalakua Ranch, about 10 miles past the junction of Highways 377 and 37 in Kula, Upcountry Maui

**Phone** (808) 878-6058

**Web site** [www.mauiwine.com](http://www.mauiwine.com)

**Hours** Daily, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Guided tours are held daily, 9:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.

**Admission** Free

**When to go** Anytime

**How much time to allow** 1 hour

**Authors' rating** ★★★; Worth a taste for wine lovers.

**Overall appeal by age group**

Preschool ★½	Teens ★★½	Over 30 ★★★
Grade School ★★	Young Adults ★★★	Seniors ★★★

**Description and comments** Tedeschi Vineyards is known for its Island-style wine, including Maui Blanc Pineapple Wine, a popular fruit-forward novelty souvenir. Wines are available for tasting and purchase at the tasting room in the King's Cottage, once used as a retreat by King Kalakaua. Hawaii-made specialty goods, books, and gifts are also on sale.

**Touring tips** The tour explains how the wines are processed and bottled. But it's not necessary to take a tour to enjoy sampling the wines and walking through the shady lawns and gardens.

### **Whalers Village Museum**

**Location** Whalers Village (3rd floor), 2435 Kaanapali Parkway, Kaanapali Beach Resort, West Maui

**Phone** (808) 661-5992

**Web site** [www.whalersvillage.com](http://www.whalersvillage.com)

**Hours** Daily, 9:30 a.m.–10 p.m.

**Admission** Free

**When to go** Anytime

**How much time to allow** 1 hour

**Authors' rating** ★★½; Displays and historic artifacts about whaling, to entertain the family if they get restless shopping.

**Overall appeal by age group**

Preschool ★★	Teens ★★½	Over 30 ★★½
Grade School ★★½	Young Adults ★★½	Seniors ★★½

**Description and comments** This museum traces the history of Lahaina's colorful whaling era, roughly from 1825 to 1860. Among more than 100 items on exhibit are a six-foot model of a whaling ship, harpoons, maps, logbooks, and an extensive collection of scrimshaw.

### Wo Hing Temple Museum

**Location** Front Street, Lahaina (between Papalaua and Lahainaluna Streets), West Maui

**Phone** (808) 661-3262

**Hours** Daily, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

**Admission** Donations accepted

**When to go** Anytime

**How much time to allow** 30 minutes

**Authors' rating** ★★½; Good for historians; young kids will be bored.

**Overall appeal by age group**

Preschool ★	Teens ★★	Over 30 ★★½
Grade School ★★	Young Adults ★★½	Seniors ★★★

**Description and comments** A Buddhist shrine is the centerpiece of this restored 1912 Chinese temple, which provides a revealing look at how early Chinese settlers lived in Lahaina. Old photographs and artifacts are also on exhibit. A cookhouse (built separately from the main building to reduce the risk of a house fire) sits just to the right of the building. Two Hawaii films shot in 1898 and 1906 by Thomas Edison are among the highlights. The temple is affiliated with Chee Kung Tong, a Chinese fraternal society with branches throughout the world.

**Other things to do nearby** The Baldwin Home Museum is nearby.

