

Hawaii - Kona Area Things To Do:

Kona is on the Big Island.

Once you arrive at Kona International Airport:

- To go to Waikoloa Village you will be traveling North on Hwy 19
 - Distance is about 20 miles
- To go to Kona you will be traveling South on Hwy 19
 - Distance is about 5 miles

Note – Costco is a great place to stock up on supplies. Costco is South of the Airport, about the 2nd exit East on Hwy 19 (about 2 miles South of the Airport). I do not remember the exit but the locals can provide directions.

Beaches:

The best beach we found in Kona area is next to the Mauna Lani Resort. Note, all beaches in Hawaii are open to the public. This beach has a life guard on duty and is very good for snorkeling. Also there is a café within walking distance where food and drink can be obtained.

How to get to this beach from Waikoloa Village:

1. On Hwy 19 go North.
2. Take the Mauna Lani exit (West/Left). This is about 2-3 miles from Waikoloa Village.
3. You will continue pass the Shops at Mauna Lani and a big circle.
4. Once you pass the circle you will see a sign to the General Store. The parking lot to access the beach is across from the General Store.
5. The walking distance from the parking lot to the beach is about 1 mile or 20 minutes. You will be walking on a path that will take you through the lava rocks. Once through the lava rocks you will pass a lagoon on the left. Once you get to the ocean, go left. You will walk over an old rock bridge to the beach area.
6. You will have access to lounge chairs. Remember to bring your own towels and snorkel equipment.
7. The walk is worth it, the beach and snorkeling is great...

Good Restaurants:

In Waikoloa Village:

- * Roy's (fresh Fish)
- * Big Island Steakhouse (Hawaiian BBQ Ribs)
- * Waikoloa Beach Resort Golf Course Restaurant (fresh fish)
- * The Marriott has a good luau and early bird specials feature the catch of the day, sour/salad, and dessert for \$25.95.

In Kona:

- * The Kona Inn (fresh fish)
- * Hugo's (fresh fish)
- * Quinn's by the Beach (local favorite)

* Say Choy's (local favorite)

In Waimea:

Note, Waimea is about a 25 - 30 minute drive from Waikoloa Village. Take Hwy 19 North to Waimea. Waimea is about 2,500 feet above sea level. It might be a good idea to take a light jacket in the evening. This is a good break from the weather on the beach.

* Merriman's (great food!) this was one of my favorite spots. Best to have reservations – 808-885-6822.

* Edelweiss (German restaurant great rack of lamb) Best to have reservations – 808-885-6800.

Other:

Good local brews – from the Kona Brewing Co. – Longboard. Note, you can buy this at Costco.

Fair Winds offers a great snorkel cruise. Great burgers and super great snorkeling! Take the morning cruise, cost \$99.00 per person. (800) 332-7288.

Golfing and whale watching are other fun things to do.

Most of all – don't get into any hurry, relax, and have mucho fun...

Mike