

## Maui Roadsters West Side & Lahaina Driving Route

On the way to Lahaina, the overlook near McGregor (aka Papawai) Point is a great place to pull over and take in the views of South Maui. As you approach the Pali tunnel, look up at the surrounding hillsides to spot remnants of the original lava rock road that winds along the slopes. The beaches just past the Pali tunnel (Papalaua to Ukumehame Park on Hwy 30 between mile markers 11-12) are a very popular spot for locals camping during the weekend but are relatively empty during the rest of the week. You can drive right up to them but be careful not to park too far in the sand or you might get stuck.

As you pass through the quiet “town” of Olowalu it’s hard to believe this pit stop on the road to Lahaina was once a large Hawaiian settlement and a place of refuge for those who had committed a crime against a royal family member. Today Olowalu is sparsely populated cultural reserve with just a few stores and a juice stand on the right side of the road. Skip the fruit stand, but if you love pie, you must stop at Leoda's Pie Shop as you pass through. The pies are to die for and they also have great sandwiches if you want to have a picnic. Make this stop on the way to Lahaina as turning left on the way back can be very, very challenging.

Once a whaling town teeming with sailors, charming Lahaina is now filled with adventurers of a different kind, exploring its waterfront galleries, shops, restaurants, and shows. Front Street is the main drag and is worth a stroll (or at least a cruise through). Browse the galleries and boutiques, linger over a lunch of fresh fish and local grinds, or enjoy the shade of the immense banyan tree that marks the heart of the town. This incredible tree was only eight feet tall when it was planted in 1873 and now covers an entire acre! If you're interested in a bite in this area, Lahaina has no shortage of restaurants overlooking the action. Kimo's in the center of town is an extremely popular spot for lunch or dinner on their waterfront lanai. Fleetwood's on Front Street, owned by Mick Fleetwood, the drummer and co-founder of Fleetwood Mac, has a rooftop patio with fantastic views (opens at 5pm). Further down Front Street you'll find Honu, Mala and Frieda's across from Lahaina Cannery Mall featuring great food and beautiful views just a few feet from the water.

North of Lahaina, you can stroll the 1.5-mile Ka'anapali oceanfront path fronting the string of resorts along this famous beach. Leilani's and Hula Grill located in the Whaler's Village Shopping Center are popular oceanfront restaurants in the center of it all. On the north end the path culminates at the Sheraton Black Rock Resort, know for its excellent snorkeling and cliff diving.

From Lower Honoapiilani Road you can access Napili Bay and Kapalua Bay, two of the most beautiful beaches on the island that are separated by a lava point. The Sea House Restaurant at the Napili Kai Resort overlooks Napili Bay and has good food and even better views. Take a few minutes to walk north along the ocean path that runs in front of the restaurant/resort for interesting lava formations and breathtaking views of Napili Bay and the island of Molokai.

The Kapalua Coastal Trail is an easy, beautiful walk that starts at the public access parking lot for Kapalua Beach and winds a mile and a half along the coast to DT Fleming Beach. Both the beginning and end of the trail are paved. In between there are sections of gravel, dirt, and boardwalk. By far the most spectacular part of the trail is the first two-thirds – from Kapalua Beach to Oneloa Beach. Along the way you'll see beautiful beaches, rugged coastlines, native plants, lots of turtles, and multi-million dollar homes, condos, and resorts.

Dragon's Teeth (Makalua-Puna Point) is a spectacular rock formation jutting into the ocean in front of the Ritz-Carlton. You can access it from the north end Lower Honoapiilani Road where it meets Office Road. Park in the small lot and follow the footpath along the north side of the golf course. To the north in front of the Ritz, DT Fleming Park is a great beach you can drive up to with full facilities, and Honolua Bay a bit further up the road has lookout areas on both the north and south sides.

The furthest north we allow the Speedsters to go is mile marker 38.5 (parking lot half mile past mile marker 38) where you'll have views of the Nakalele Blowhole. The one mile round trip hike to the blowhole is across lava rock so wear sturdy shoes, use extreme caution and stay on dry ground as people have been sucked into the blowhole or washed off the ledge and out to sea. You can also see the heart-shaped rock to the right of the blowhole.

The Nakalele Blowhole is the turn around point for your West Maui exploration in our Speedsters as the road becomes very narrow and scary past there, with steep drop offs and many fatalities. Give us a call or text at 808-339-6204 after the Pali tunnel (mile marker 10.4) if you're heading back to our garage. Please note traffic often backs up going north into Lahaina after 2pm and coming back south from Lahaina after 3pm until about 6:30pm. Let us know if you have any questions or if there is anything we can do to make your Speedster adventure more enjoyable. Mahalo!

\*\*\*Be sure to take all valuables with you when leaving the car as unfortunately break-ins occasionally occur\*\*\*