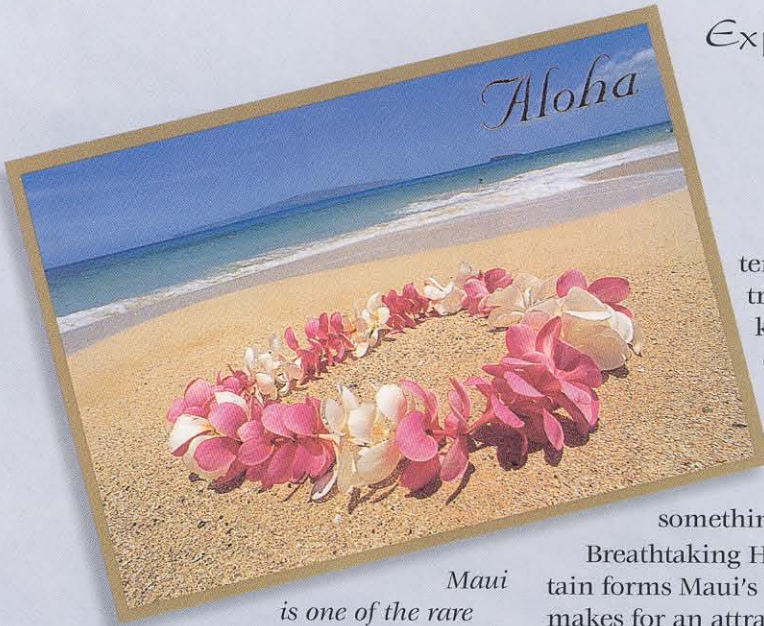


Dreams

Come True in Blue Hawaii

With The
Expert Traveler



Maui is one of the rare pieces of the world that has no "high" or "low" season. That means whenever you're ready for Maui—Maui's ready for you.

The Hawaiian island of Maui may well be the perfect vacation spot. With its steady weather pat-



terns—aided by tradewinds that keep the island cool and breezy—and almost unlimited options for adventure, it has something for everyone.

Breathtaking Haleakala mountain forms Maui's backdrop and makes for an attraction every visitor must experience. 10,023 feet at its summit, Haleakala has both driving and hiking trails, camping facilities and, of course, an incredible abundance of plant and animal life unique to the area. I recommend a morning trip of driving up to the top of the mountain to watch the sunrise, then bicycling down just in time for lunch.

Speaking of lunch, now would be a good time to mention the exquisite cuisine to be enjoyed during your trip to Maui. Of course, coconut and coconut oil can be found in almost any dish. Pineapple and poi (a side dish prepared fresh daily) are other staples in the Hawaiian diet. You'll also be able to get your fill of fresh seafood like mahi mahi and sample the world

famous tropical drinks. And, if you like Asian food you'll find the Hawaiians have adopted many authentic Asian dishes and serve them right alongside their native foods.

Once you've eaten your fill, there's more exploring to do. On your way up Haleakala you'll have noticed the famous Hawaiian sugar cane fields. The stalks of cane, which can grow to about 15 feet, are really something to see. If you're lucky, you may get the chance to taste sugar in its purest form.

If you're planning your trip to Maui anytime from December through May, be sure to plan a whale watching expedition. You'll want to include the whole family in this adventure. During the "winter" months, the endangered Hawaiian humpback whale migrates from Alaska to their winter calving ground in Hawaii. Most of the whales that make the journey end up off the coast of Maui in between Maui, Molokai, Lanai and Kahoolawe, guaranteeing superb sightings. Be sure to take a jacket for the sometimes chilly breezes off the ocean and plenty of film for your camera.



For golfers like myself, the reason Maui is known as the "golf mecca of the Pacific" will be evident the moment you step on the greens. I've played golf all over the world and Maui's beautiful courses with their gently sloping hills and spectacular views framed by the exotic Polynesian flora, are among the best I've seen. Even if your game isn't so great, I promise the view alone is worth every lost ball.

Although you won't want to, at some point you will have to stop and get some sleep. The three major resort and hotel areas include the old whaling towns of Lahaina and Ka'anapali Beach; Kapalua (just up the road a bit,) and Waiumayo (known for its lush tropical gardens). Each of these areas boast excellent shopping, resorts and golf courses. Most hotels will also feature weekly luaus where you can see native performers and partake of sumptuous banquets. (A Hint: If you'd like to experience a "real" luau, visit a local church on Sunday.)

Have fun and see you in blue Hawaii!
-Gig

The Establishment Experience

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About Our Expert:

Travel Specialist Gig Gwin (founder and CEO of Gwin's Travel in St. Louis, Missouri) holds the distinction of being the "most traveled" travel agent in the world. According to Travelers Century Club of Los Angeles, there were 313 countries on this planet as of January 1999. Gig has visited them all – many of them numerous times. Gig's love of travel has taken him on 2200 flights covering 2.2 million air miles, 30 cruises, innumerable trains, motor coaches, taxis, cars and even "hoofing it" when necessary. Local transportation has involved elephants, camels, horses, mules, donkeys and an ostrich.

