

# Big Island of Hawai'i



Download our complete driving overview map:  
[hawaii-guide.com/big-island/big-island-hawaii-maps](http://hawaii-guide.com/big-island/big-island-hawaii-maps)

## Airports:

### West (Leeward) Side:

Ellison Onizuka  
 • Kona International Airport at Keāhole  
 IATA Airline Code: KOA

### East (Windward) Side:

• Hilo International Airport  
 IATA Airline Code: ITO

## Best Time to Visit:

for Best Weather:      for Less Crowded:  
 • April-May              • August-September

for Whale Watching:  
 • January-February

## Where to Stay:

for Best Quality Accommodations:  
 • Kailua-Kona area or along the Kohala (Gold) Coast

for Most Secluded / Romantic Getaways:  
 • Short Term Rental in the town of Volcano

## Must See & Do:

**Best Attractions:**  
 • Hawaii Volcanoes National Park  
 • Pololu Valley Overlook  
 • Akaka Falls State Park  
 • Hawaii Tropical Botanical Garden

**Historic Sites:**  
 • Puuhonua or Honaunau  
 • Pu'ukohola Heiau

**Best Beaches:**  
 • Hapuna Beach Park  
 • Makalawena Beach  
 • Manini'owali (Kua Bay)

**Best Hiking:**  
 • Kilauea Iki Trail  
 • Papakolea Green Sand Beach

## Recommended Eats:

**Laulau:**  
 • Kaaloa's Super J's (Cpt. Cook)

**Loco Moco:**  
 • Koji's Bento Korner (Hilo)

**Mixed Plate:**  
 • Broke Da Mouth Grindz (Kona)

**Shave Ice:**  
 • Original Big Island Shave Ice Co. (Waikaloa)

**Malasadas:**  
 • Punalu'u Bakeshop (Na'alehu)

## Drive Times:

From Kona Airport (KOA) to...	Time	Miles
Hapuna Beach	25 - 40 minutes	25 miles
Volcanoes NP	2 - 2.5 hours	102 miles
Hilo	1.5 hours	75 miles
Kailua-Kona	10 minutes	10 miles
Kealakekua Bay	40 - 50 minutes	25 miles
Waimea	45 min - 1 hour	37 miles
From Hilo Airport (ITO) to...	Time	Miles
Hapuna Beach	1.5 hours	78 miles
Volcanoes NP	30 - 50 minutes	31 miles
Honoka'a	40 - 60 minutes	45 miles
Kailua-Kona	1.5 - 2 hours	79 miles
Waimea	1 - 1.5 hours	65 miles



Check out our full Big Island Guide: [hawaii-guide.com/big-island](http://hawaii-guide.com/big-island)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
<b>Big Island (Kona)</b>	81/66°F	81/66°F	82/67°F	83/69°F	84/70°F	85/72°F	86/73°F	87/73°F	86/73°F	86/72°F	84/70°F	82/68°F
	1.7"	0.9"	1.1"	0.5"	0.6"	0.4"	0.6"	0.8"	0.7"	0.6"	0.9"	1.8"
<b>Big Island (Hilo)</b>	79/64°F	79/64°F	79/65°F	79/66°F	81/67°F	82/68°F	82/69°F	83/69°F	83/69°F	83/69°F	81/67°F	79/65°F
	9.8"	9.0"	12.1"	12.4"	8.0"	7.6"	10.8"	9.8"	9.1"	9.7"	12.1"	10.3"