



Traveling to Maui- Tips, Lodging, Restaurants and Attractions (10/09)

[»](#) Mitchell Sacharoff Category: Travel/Destinations Hits: 222



It has been ten long years since I visited Maui and I was thrilled to return. The good news is once you are there the prices are quite reasonable. The bad news is even after summer had ended I couldn't find a flight out of Los Angeles for less than \$650, add another \$60 to check one bag, have lunch, and you are now over \$700. Maui is an island of condos, and that is a great way to go. We stayed at The Palms at Wailea. A beautiful ocean view two bedroom, with slate and granite floors, central air, and as nice as any high end hotel room. All that for \$220 a night. I say save your money for great restaurants and activities. Maui has both. The warm turquoise water of Maui is amazing. I am a snorkel buff, and Maui has some of the most beautiful and colorful fish in the world. Best to buy yourself a good mask and snorkel. You might enjoy a digital underwater camera, Olympus makes a great one. First day there we took the Seafire Snorkeling Adventure to Molokini. Seafire leaves at 7:30 AM out of Kehei, just two minutes from Wailea. Captain Don and his crew are great guides to the undersea world. After a quick 10 minute boat ride we were snorkeling off the crystal clear waters of Molokini. A majestic pair of orange and yellow butterfly fish swam just feet away. You never know what you will see, dolphins, eagle rays, even an occasional reef shark.

Suddenly twenty feet below along the bottom i spotted a four foot yellow eel scurrying for a new rock home. Later Captain Don took us to turtle town, an area just off the coast in viewing distance of Clint Eastwood's home where we swam with a dozen turtles. It was a great kickoff to our Maui trip. All for \$55, drinks and snacks included. The rest of the week I snorkeled every day off the beaches. There are six great snorkel beaches in the Wailea area. Makena just minutes away has a an underwater nature preserve. There i saw another large eel out swimming clear from his rock home. I quickly snapped off some great photos. A local couple took us to white rock beach to enjoy a sunset. After snorkeling we were wading in the water sipping Hinano beer when two spotted eagle rays swam by just feet away. The edge of their fins clipping the surface as they moved. These are the sights that make Maui so special for me.



Maui has legendary restaurants that are a must. First night we ate at Mama's Fish House. Mahi Mahi with a white macadamia nut crust stuffed with lobster and crab. We also loved the seafood panang curry, mght be the best curry dish i ever had.The seared Polynesian beef appetizer was also special. Actor Owen Wilson is a Mama's regular and was a few tables away. Next night we went to world famous Nick's Fish Market in the Fairmount Kealani Hotel. Start with Nick's Sunset, a pina coloda with strawberry and mango. We enjoyed the tomato bisque soup, followed by the Hawaiian pink snapper, which is light and full of flavor. We also loved the rack of lamb. All the restaurants we went to had great desserts, here we had the strawberry panzini. Nick's did not disappoint. Sarento's On The Beach is Nick's sister restaurant and since Maui has the most amazing sunsets time your dinner at Sarento's. If you want a break from fish their veal dishes are wonderful. Also loved the seafood Fra Diavolo, spicy tomato pasta with lobster, scallops, crab leg and

Main Menu

- o Entertainment Film Art
 - o Entertainment
 - o Fashion
 - o Film
 - o Art
- o Food/Wine/Festivals
 - o Los Angeles Dining
 - o Dining Outside of Los Angeles
 - o Festivals Conventions & Shows
- o Travel & Lodging
 - o Travel Destinations
 - o Hotels & Lodging
 - o Transportation and Cruises
- o Music/Theater
 - o Music and Concerts
 - o Theater and Dance
- o Sports,Tennis/Skiing
 - o Tennis
 - o Ski Stories
 - o All Other Sports
- o Resorts/Spas/Health/Products
 - o Spas and Resorts
 - o Health and Products
- o Charities/Benefits
 - o Charities and Benefits
- o Babies/Kids
 - o Babies and Kids