

Windsurfing areas on Maui

Ho'okipa

Definitely experts only. Big waves in the winter, and often in the spring and fall. Often more congested than an L.A. freeway at rush hour.

Spreckelsville

Also called Sprecks, probably one of the windiest places on Maui. Gets crowded in the afternoon, so get there early for a parking place. Be prepared to speak some German, French, or Italian.

Camp One

Just south of Sprecks, it tends to have more wind swell waves in the summer. You can almost reach out and touch the jets as they fly overhead.

Kanaha

About a mile from the airport, is a great place to learn, with a long beach and side-onshore wind. It can also have some great waves in the winter. Kook's Beach, just upwind, is a good beginner's place.

Kihei

South side of Maui, about 2 miles from the Maui Research & Technology Center, there's a great beach called Mai Poina 'Oe 'Iau ("Forget Me Not"). Summer swells can bring in some nice waves at times. Watch out for the reef at low tide.

◦ How can you be sure you look like a tourist when in Hawai'i?

(the following is from real live episodes!)

✓ No matter how hot it is, always wear black shoes with black socks when you wear shorts. And always have your shirt tucked in.

✓ Always call the mainland the "States," and then try and figure out which country Hawai'i is in.

✓ Rent a red convertible, drive it very slowly, and always look everywhere except at the road.

✓ Speak Spanish when you don't understand the local lingo.

✓ Mispronounce all the Hawaiian words, then give up, thinking they all sound the same anyway.

✓ While at the north shore of any island in the middle of summer, stop and ask where the big waves are.

✓ Before drinking from a water fountain, ask if the water should be boiled first.

✓ When windsurfing in the middle of summer, when the water is well over 80 degrees, always wear a full-length wetsuit and hood.

Aloha!