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Known as the Garden Isle, the fourth largest Hawaiian island is a natural wonderland. Kauai has secret waterfall swimming holes, stunning beaches and vast swaths of undeveloped rainforest. One of the wettest places on earth Kauai is one of the greenest and most lush islands in the Pacific. There is still sunshine, great surf and soft sand to enjoy. Travelers who want more sun should stay on the south side of the island, which stays fairly dry most of the year. The North Shore is wetter because of trade winds and the mountain landscape; it is breathtakingly beautiful as a result. The 17-mile long Napali Coast, best explored by hike or a boat tour, is one of the world's most dramatic coastlines with 3,000-foot tall cliffs, green valleys and veil-like waterfalls.

From sprawling luxury resorts to vacation rentals with unbeatable amenities, there's an accommodation for every kind of traveler and at every price point. Here are our picks for where to stay in Kauai including a romantic retreat for couples on the sunny South Shore and a surfer-approved Airbnb in Hanalei Bay.

- Best Overall Luxury Hotel: Grand Hyatt Kauai
- Best Hotel For Couples: <u>Koa Kea Hotel And Resort</u>
- Best Wellness Resort: <u>1 Hotel Hanalei Bay</u>
- Best Family-Friendly Resort: Timbers Kauai
- Best Oceanfront Airbnb: <u>Hale Kamapuaa</u>
- Best Resort Amenities: <u>Koloa Landing Resort At Poipu</u>, <u>Autograph Collection</u>
- Best Beachfront Resort: <u>Sheraton Kauai Coconut Beach</u> <u>Resort</u>
- Best Airbnb For Surfers: <u>The Surfshack</u>
- Best Boutique Luxury Resort: <u>The Lodge At Kukuiula</u>
- Best Value Hotel: <u>Waipouli Beach Resort And Spa By Outrigger</u>

Best Family-Friendly Resort: Timbers Kauai



Timbers Kauai's large condominium accommodations make it one of the most family-friendly resorts on the island. TIMBERS KAUAI AT HOKUALA

Timbers Kauai

Reserve At Booking.com

Who Will Love It: Families of all sizes; nature lovers

All-Star Amenities: Hokuala golf course; spa and gym with an outdoor studio for fitness classes; 17 miles of trails; 40 acres of lagoons for paddle boarding and kayaking; complimentary bicycles

What Not To Miss: Touring the golf course-turned-organic farm that grows traditional Hawaiian crops like kalo, noni and breadfruit

Location: Lihue

Families of all sizes will have room to roam and entertaining activities at Timbers Kauai. The luxury resort community's 47 condominiums and townhomes have two, three or four bedrooms, spacious indoor-outdoor living, and modern design—some even have private plunge pools. Parents and kids will stay busy between activities like biking and kayaking, getting a tee time at the award-winning golf course, enjoying pool and beach time and partaking in spa services and fitness classes. The resort's lei making workshops, ukelele lessons and Hawaiian language sessions help guests experience Hawaii in a deeper way. There's also a fantastic kids club and a 16.5-acre organic farm that guests can tour and even work on for an even more immersive vacation.