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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **'ROMANCE ME MAUI': RECOGNIZING MAUI'S MOST DREAMY ASPECTS**

**MAUI**, Hawai'i – Through the introduction of its "Romance Me Maui" campaign, the Maui Visitors Bureau (MVB) embraces the island's status as the leading destination for weddings, honeymoons, anniversaries and other romantic occasions; and shares Maui's "love-liest" secrets with media worldwide.

The Hawaiian Island group known as Maui Nui - Moloka'i, Lāna'i and Maui - is rich with beauty and *aloha*, the spirit of love that pervades every aspect of the Hawaiian culture. Maui has long been the destination of choice for romance visitors. These couples come to Maui seeking a reprieve from the busyness and stress of their daily lives, searching for a place that represents to them the beauty of their own budding love, a place to celebrate their joining as husband and wife, or maybe even a place to revive the spark of a long-lost romance.

By educating this market segment not only about the gorgeous natural beauty of Maui Nui and the magic of its many diverse environments, but also about the value of Maui's convenient location and abundant service options, MVB can speak directly to these romance-seeking visitors and encourage them to make Maui the setting of their lifelong memories.

The "Romance Me Maui" campaign shares the statistics that position Maui as one of the top wedding and honeymoon destinations in the world, and describes how Maui's popularity launched an industry that thrives today. Destination brides can choose the perfect backdrop for their wedding from among Maui's hundreds of charming chapels and spectacular beaches.

Honeymooners have a bevy of dreamy, romantic places, once-in-a-lifetime activities, special package deals and amenities available at their fingertips. And Maui's appeal is only heightened by the fact that visitors can easily island-hop between three beautiful and unique islands—all in one day, if they choose!

“Romance Me Maui” is MVB’s fourth campaign since the late 1990s which has allowed Maui to focus, through public relations efforts, on a market segment that shows the greatest potential for growth at a specific time. In 1997, MVB launched “Maui Loves Kids!”, targeting the family travel market. In 2003, it launched “Maui For Life!” which focused on wellness and Hawaiian cultural practices, along with Maui’s spas and the island’s power to heal mind, body and spirit. In 2005, MVB introduced “Mālama Maui,” describing the agriculture, culture and ecology of Maui and the growing consciousness of aloha ‘āina, or love of the land. The “Romance Me Maui” campaign followed in November 2007.

The careful targeting of each successful campaign has enabled Maui to reap the economic benefits of increased tourism, and to further position itself as a world-class destination - one of the most desirable in the world.

“Our visitors are eager for romance, to create memories that they can cherish for a lifetime,” said Terry Vencl, MVB’s executive director. “By recognizing those romantic aspects of our beautiful islands, along with the practical aspects that make it so popular and convenient for destination weddings and honeymoons, we encourage visitors to have their own ‘love affair’ with Maui Nui - a place that will welcome them back again and again on the most special occasions of their lives.”

*pau/end*



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## A MAUI LOVE AFFAIR

**MAUI**, Hawai'i - Rarely do people say they *like* Maui. Instead, what people profess to is something deeper, something more permanent, in fact: they *love* Maui. Year in and year out, Maui visitors repeat the same mantra: "We don't want to leave!" Married on Maui, they form a bond with the island - falling in love with the place as they fell in love with each other.

And Maui makes it so easy to fall in love. To fall into an endless, lovely romance that quickens the breath and fills the heart; that wraps visitors in warm breezes and fills their senses with the fragrance of plumeria; that gently rocks them in salty waves and whispers in the palm fronds above long, golden stretches of sunlit beach. Romance that stays with a couple from pastel sunrise to glowing sunset; and on into the starlit night.

Once "Maui'd," a couple retains that romance for a lifetime. And so they come back – for honeymoons, anniversaries, vow renewals – knowing that returning to the island is like walking into the arms of a trusted friend – a physical sense of peace, well being and joy.

Maui is the top destination in the world for weddings and honeymoons. In 2007, nearly 20,000 destination weddings (in which both bride and groom were non-residents) took place in Hawai'i, according to the State Department of Health, which issues marriage licenses. Of those weddings, an overwhelming majority was held on Maui: 8,561 weddings; compared to 5,986 in Honolulu; 3,070 on Kaua'i; and 1,762 on the Hawai'i Island.

In the month of May 2006 alone, Maui was the site for a stunning 969 weddings, more than any other island. For the year, Honolulu's highest monthly wedding count topped out at 651,

while Maui consistently produced an average of 750 weddings each month. And that's not counting marriages in which either the bride or groom, or both, are Maui residents - bumping the total number of Maui weddings in 2006 up to 9,577.

“Maui is the ideal spot for both a wedding in paradise and a honeymoon all in one,” says wedding coordinator Carolee Higashino, owner of A White Orchid Wedding, Inc. “After having traveled to many of the world's ‘top wedding destinations,’ I can truly say, Maui nō ka ‘oi – Maui is the best. Hands down: the pristine beaches, luxurious hotels and spas, the romantic, tropical escapes infused with an exotic cultural experience will not disappoint even the most discerning customer.”

One aspect of Maui's appeal lies in its convenient proximity to the Mainland U.S., paired with its wonderful “far away” feeling as part of the most isolated archipelago in the world. Floating in the vastness of the Pacific Ocean, the Hawaiian Islands are entities to themselves. In fact, the Ancient Hawaiians believed each island was a complete spiritual body, populated with the plants and animals necessary for its survival.

Ruled for many years by King Kahekili, Maui was won in 1790 by Kamehameha the Great. Kamehameha later named the town of Lahainā on Maui's sun-kissed West shore, the capital of the united Hawaiian kingdom. Lahainā remained a seat of power for almost 50 years, attracting whalers and missionaries who made use of the area's bountiful resources and added to the island's colorful history. Later industries brought sugarcane and pineapple to the slopes of Haleakalā, the island's dormant volcano, and the region's economy thrived.

Maui remains, as Hawai'i's second-largest island, amazingly pristine - offering both the native wilderness of Hāna and the upscale resorts of Wailea, the deep history of Lāhaina and the modern conveniences of Kahului, the family farms of Kula and the billion-dollar industries of the Maui Research & Technology Park in Kihei.

Maui has been called the heart chakra of the Hawaiian Islands, a place that opens the heart and calms the mind. The island hosts a rainbow of races, religions and cultures - a warm and gracious people. Residents are still cognizant of Hawai'i's old-style ways (particularly on the island of Moloka'i, which maintains the highest concentration of native Hawaiians), and they still take the time to talk story, watch the sunset, and extend easy hospitality. With temperatures averaging a balmy 75 to 85 degrees, cooled by soft trade winds, visitors find all the little worries just slipping away. Strolling along Maui's Keawakapu Beach at sunset, holding hands with the one you love, just try thinking of anything other than romance!

In the 20th annual *Condé Nast Traveler* Readers' Choice Awards Poll, Maui captured “Best Pacific Island” (for the 17th consecutive year) and “Best Island in the World” for the 13th time. Maui is also consistently ranked at the top of *Travel + Leisure's* “World's Best Top 10 Islands.”

The island's elite status isn't hard to understand. Maui is home to stunning native flora and fauna; hidden tropical waterfalls; rolling pastureland; steep, rocky cliffs; and some of Hawai'i's most stunning sunsets, framing the islands of Maui Nui: Maui, Molokini, Kaho'olawe, Lāna'i and Moloka'i. With red, black and white sand, Maui's beaches have consistently been chosen by “Dr. Beach” Stephen Leatherman as ranking among the best beaches in the U.S. Kapalua,

Kā'anapali and Wailea beaches have also been named among his top 40 choices as the "healthiest" beaches in the country, based on water quality, amenities, safety and environmental factors.

Maui's thriving wedding and tourism industries treat brides, grooms and honeymooners to a banquet of one-of-a-kind memorable experiences: world-class, award-winning spas; fine dining with nationally recognized chefs; artistic and cultural entertainment; championship golf courses; unique Maui-made mementos and luxury goods; a bevy of adrenaline-pumping or romantically engineered activities; polished service from whale-watch guides to resort concierges; bliss-filled beach days and the kind of photo backdrops brides dream about. "What more can you ask for in a wedding experience?" says Carolee.

Maybe just one more thing: "aloha," or compassionate love – and Maui supplies that in abundance. "If you want to look where aloha starts, go to any archaeological site on Maui, sit down, clear your mind, listen and feel, and you will feel aloha," says Ed Lindsey, a widely regarded Native Hawaiian *kupuna* (elder) and president of Maui Cultural Lands, Inc. "It will come from deep in your heart, with deep emotion."

Hawaiians are living practitioners of aloha. Couples marrying on Maui pick up on the island's natural deep aloha and feel it increase their own love and joy. "Love yourself, respect yourself, then spread it out to other people," Ed says. "When you leave here, you should be beacons of aloha, spreading the light." Of course, it's leaving Maui that's always the hardest part...

*pau/end*



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## **DESTINATION: MAUI – THE WEDDING INDUSTRY'S SUCCESS STORY**

**MAUI**, Hawai'i – When Carolee Higashino opened the doors of her Wailuku-based wedding planning business 17 years ago, there were only four other people doing what she was doing. The booming Maui wedding industry of today was little more than a whisper. But as the years went on, and Carolee's business, A White Orchid Wedding, Inc., continued to grow and prosper, other businesses began to pop up around the island.

Today, there are over 300 wedding coordinators on Maui. "It's crazy!" Carolee laughs. "I have seen many businesses come and go, but overall the industry just gets stronger and stronger."

In 2007, A White Orchid Wedding was ranked among the *Pacific Business News*' "Fastest 50" growing companies in Hawai'i for the sixth time. According to Carolee, much of her business comes from referrals. Word is spreading along the bridal coconut wireless that weddings on Maui are the ultimate in romance. With its warm climate, miles of gorgeous beaches, tropical foliage and photo-perfect sunsets, Maui deserves its international reputation as *the* place to get married.

Destination weddings are big business on Maui, with close to 9,000 weddings held on the island last year by non-residents. "Maui is, without a doubt, the top destination wedding location," says wedding coordinator Tammy Ash Perkins, author of "*The Best of Hawai'i Wedding Book*." It's the weather, the palm trees, the beach; everything our venue itself has to offer is very appealing to mainland and overseas couples."

In addition, Tammy says, Maui has the feel of an adventure, something out of the ordinary. “Brides today are breaking that traditional in-the-church, in-the-hometown mode,” Tammy says. “They’re trying to have a wedding that’s more of an expression of their true personality - something beautiful and fun.”

For many couples, Maui is a natural fit - the central meeting point between two families in two very different places: Australia and San Francisco; Korea and Texas; New Zealand and San Diego. For U.S. citizens, the convenience of not having to worry about passports, foreign money and foreign language is a big draw.

Tammy says 75 to 80 percent of her business comes from the mainland U.S., with the second largest percentage from Canada, and third largest from Australia. She has also been coordinating more weddings for French visitors, thanks in part to a staff member who speaks fluent French. “I think that part of Europe is really becoming more aware of their options to come to Hawai‘i,” she says.

In the eight years since Robyn I‘aea began publishing *Pacific Rim Weddings* magazine (recently changed to *Pacific Weddings*), she says the majority of her subscriber base remains heavily West Coast. “But our subscribers are definitely much more international than ever before,” she says.

What draws these visitors to Maui? For many couples - like Kelly Patterson and Afshin Devani, who married in a sunset ceremony on the Sheraton Maui’s oceanfront lawn - they may have fallen in love with Maui on vacation. Having a wedding on Maui means always having the island as a very special place to come back to year after year to celebrate.

Some couples may never have set eyes on the island. What makes its charms so irresistible? According to Gabrielle Longhi, owner of Blue Sky Weddings, the draw is a simple one. “Brides come here because they want the beach and the ocean,” Gabrielle says.

And Maui rolls out more than 30 miles of beach for romantic-minded couples: from the endless golden sands of ‘Oneloa in Mākena, to the silhouette of Pu‘u Keka‘a framing the ocean in Kā‘anapali.

Simple, intimate beach weddings will always be the Maui standard, but increasingly, weddings are becoming larger and more elegant, with more couples opting for private estate and resort weddings. Maui’s coastlines are bejeweled with hundreds of world-class resorts, staffed with wedding experts; as well as exquisite private estates that the island’s many wedding coordinators can find and secure for visiting couples.

Some of Maui’s most popular resorts have recently undergone renovations to bring them up to an even more dreamy level. For example, Four Seasons Resort Maui at Wailea wrapped up a \$50-million renovation project with refurbished guestrooms and suites; a museum quality art collection, featuring the original works of Hawai‘i’s finest artists; and a new premium steak and seafood restaurant, Duo. Master hale builder Francis Sinenci constructed three new oceanfront Hawaiian hale for The Spa in the traditional Hawaiian style.

The Renaissance Wailea Beach Resort will be rebuilt as an ultra-luxury hotel, to be called Baccarat after the French maker of fine crystal. The Wailea Baccarat will have 193 units, with 13 low-rise buildings that include units up to four bedrooms. The new resort and spa is expected to open in 2010.

The Royal Lāhaina Resort in Kā'anapali completed \$33 million in renovations, refurbishing the guestrooms and suites in its 12-story Lāhaina Kai Tower and adding new “island-inspired” art and décor. In addition, the resort replaced all bedding, carpet and paint in its garden and oceanfront cottages and redecorated the lobby and dining areas.

The Ritz-Carlton, Kapalua, is completed an extensive \$180 million transformation and re-opened in January 2008, featuring 445 remodeled guestrooms and the addition of one- and two-bedroom residential suites. The resort will add a 14,000-square-foot spa offering Hawaiian- inspired treatments, private outdoor shower gardens and new couples cabanas; along with an oceanview fitness center and yoga studio, expanded lobby area and restaurants, all with Hawaiian-inspired design.

Four The Four Seasons Resort Lāna‘i at Mānele Bay has opened a 13,582-square-foot oceanview ballroom and terrace called Hale Halawai (“meetinghouse”). The state-of-the-art space (which cost more than \$10 million) is perfect for large weddings or corporate and social events, designed to accommodate a full buyout of the resort: 500 guests for dinner; 600 for a reception.

Hawaiian traditions and the loving spirit of aloha lend themselves naturally to the romance of a marriage ceremony. A Hawaiian marriage ceremony offers couples a spiritual approach that connects with the host culture.

“Ancient Hawaiians were not monogamous; there was no ‘forever and ever,’” says Hokulani Holt, director of cultural programs at the Maui Arts & Cultural Center and respected kumu hula or hula master. “The continuation of the race was the main reason to bring couples together. Were there marriages for love? Surely. Was there love involved? Definitely. But the main purpose was continuation of the race.”

In ancient Hawai‘i, marriage rites were mainly reserved for the ali‘i (chiefs), and it is from this ancient union of highly respected beings that today’s traditions have evolved. Western adaptations have added new elements to the essential spirit of ho‘ao pa‘a - the binding of a man and woman in a lasting union.

Roselle Bailey, a respected Native Hawaiian kupuna (elder) and kumu hula (hula teacher) in the Maui community, occasionally performs weddings as a licensed kahu. She incorporates in her ceremonies what she calls “the essence of a Hawaiian wedding, plus whatever the couple would like that is special to them.”

Today, Hawaiian ceremonies typically include a kahu (minister) wearing a kihei, or shawl, and an elaborate lei or lei po‘o. He or she may blow the pū, or conch shell, and perform chants, prayers and blessings. These include the exchange of lei – often an open lei woven from fragrant maile leaves for the groom, and a sweet-smelling lei of tiny white pīkake blossoms for

the bride. Sometimes the couple gives lei to their new families, symbolizing their joining together.

The typical Maui destination wedding doesn't begin and end with the big day. According to Robyn I'aea, couples tend to extend the celebration on both sides of the event. "A majority of couples will come to Maui and usually be here for at least a week with family and friends,"

Robyn says. "They may have different events the week prior, like going to a lū'au or a sunset sail one night, and then maybe having a brunch the day after the wedding."

Weddings on Maui have the support of an entire industry humming behind them. This is no isolated island where it would be hard to find that perfect centerpiece. Brides have all the options of a mainland wedding: ministers of all faiths, musicians of all varieties, white doves or butterflies for release, flowers of every description, whatever brides need to make their ceremony unique and special.

And here's the big surprise: a Maui wedding won't break the bank. While it's certainly possible to go all out and indulge every fantasy a bride has ever had for her wedding day – and yes, many brides do, just ask Tammy Perkins! – many couples find out it's relatively the same or less expensive to have the festivities on Maui versus the mainland.

"Currently, I have a bride who got quotes on a mainland wedding for \$30,000; now all her family is flying over and doing it here on Maui for \$25,000," Tammy says. "She's pretty happy to be saving \$5,000 for their honeymoon!"

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## GOING TO THE CHAPEL... AND WE'RE GONNA GET MAUI'D...

**MAUI, Hawai'i** - Not every Maui wedding is a beach wedding! This is good news for the majority of destination wedding couples who prefer to wed in a church.\* With Maui's more than 100 churches, temples and synagogues countywide, there are plenty of places to tie a traditional knot. Houses of worship are woven into the tropical landscape, testimony to Maui's strong spiritual nature and diverse religious history. Humble missionary-built chapels in classic white-steeple-style, solemn rock-hewn churches framed by coconut palms, or gigantic Buddah staring serenely out to sea all showcase Maui's abundance of religious, and often historical, island churches.

Early Hawaiians observed *kapu* (strict religious and social guidelines) enforced by the kings and their gods, and built enormous *heiau* (temples) for religious practices. Their faith centered on a deep respect for the 'aina (land). Only *ali'i* (chiefs) had marriage rites. But with the abandonment of the *kapu* system, the arrival of Christian missionaries and the eventual religious conversion of the royal family, the face of Hawaiian religion would change forever. The first Christian marriage ceremony was in 1822, just two years after New England Protestant missionaries reached Hawai'i. In 1823, Maui's first church was established. Queen Ka'ahumanu embraced her new Protestant faith by forbidding Hawaiian idols, *heiau* and *hula*. For a while, non-Christian marriages were illegal. However, increasing conflicts between established Protestant ministers and Catholic newcomers prompted King Kamehameha III to declare religious freedom in 1839.

Religious beliefs further diversified after 1850, when Maui's sugar and pineapple

plantations attracted workers from around the world. The Chinese introduced Confucianism, Taoism and Buddhism. Later, Japanese, Puerto Ricans, Koreans, Filipinos, Portuguese, Russians, Germans and Scandinavians would all arrive, each bringing their own faith and religious practices. Today, marriage ceremonies in Maui reflect a multitude of ethnic customs, including the Filipino “money dance,” the Japanese tradition of folding 1,001 origami cranes, Chinese fireworks and Hawaiian *lei* exchange. Maui’s diverse religious culture is also depicted visually in churches’ array of architectural styles.

Most churches with active congregations open their doors to destination wedding couples for a stated donation. Brides and grooms are advised to plan ahead for the necessary approval, paperwork, counseling and other requirements that individual churches may require.

If you’ve ever listened to The Eagles’ song “The Last Resort,” the lyrics allude to a landmark neon sign: “Jesus Coming Soon” crowning Lāhaina’s **Jehovah’s Witness Church**. The sign is still brightly lit today! But Lāhaina’s historic and memorable churches go back even further to its busy port days, when tussles between missionaries and whalers led to occasional riots.

**Waialua (Wayne’s) Congregational Church** in Lorain is Maui’s first Christian church. Despite a turbulent history, referenced even by James Michener in his novel *Hawaii’s*, today’s Waialua Church stands proud after many resurrections. Built by Hawaiians in 1823, it was Lorain’s first stone building and it took three years to create a two-story structure with a purported 3,000-person capacity. Unfortunately, 16 years of relentless winds quickly deteriorated the structure, requiring a complete overhaul by the congregation. This would not be the last time. Kaua‘ula Valley windstorms wreaked havoc again in 1858, bringing down the steeple, bell and part of the roof. Repairs were laid to waste when the church was torched by royalists protesting Hawai‘i’s annexation to the United States in 1894. From the ashes, Wainē‘e Church was rebuilt yet again, but a 1947 fire damaged it. Then in 1951, it collapsed completely under the impact of 80-mile winds hitting its weakened structure. A rebuild and rededication in 1953 included the addition of a social and dining hall and the new name “Waiola” (water of life). Today, the church remains a Lāhaina favorite for weddings, supported by a resilient congregation. Adding to its *mana* (spiritual energy) are numerous Hawaiian *ali‘i* (royalty) laid to rest in the adjacent cemetery.

Another popular wedding site is Lāhaina’s **Holy Innocents Episcopal Church**. This modest one-room chapel features beautiful arched wooden doors, traditional pew seating, open beam construction and is most remembered for artist DeLos Blackmar’s 1940 paintings of colorful endemic birds, plants, rainbows and a Hawaiian Madonna. Episcopal missionaries built their first church in 1862. The church was later relocated across the street to its present site (once the residence of Queen Lili‘uokalani). This area is close to the sacred Hawaiian ponds of Moku‘ula, once the spiritual and political power center for all of Hawai‘i, now filled in as a county park. An active congregation sings Tongan and Hawaiian hymns, runs a preschool in outlying buildings, and is host to frequent weddings.

**Lāhaina Jodo Mission Cultural Park** is an exquisite site for larger gatherings, handling up to 500 guests. Built on the sacred grounds of Pu‘unoa Point (which means “the hill freed from taboo”), in a residential neighborhood near Lāhaina’s Mala Wharf, the Jodo Mission features the largest Buddha statue outside of Japan (3.5 tons, 12 feet high). The glistening

bronze Buddha was installed in 1968 to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Japanese in Hawai‘i. The Buddha sits high on a stone platform above the spacious manicured garden crowned by the West Maui Mountains. A 90-foot tall copper-roofed pagoda and traditional Buddhist temple complete the compound. Inside the temple, paintings by famed Japanese artist Hajin Iwasaki adorn the ceiling and walls. The garden’s natural tranquility is further augmented by its palm-tree beachfront setting and gorgeous views of Lāna‘i and Moloka‘i. A sand-strewn graveyard next door adds to the solemn beauty.

The **Maria Lanakila Church**, in the heart of Lāhaina Town, was built in 1873 on the foundation of Maui’s first Catholic church established in 1858. Today’s majestic stone church is a larger replica of the original adobe building. A splendid interior offers vaulted ceilings along with beautiful paintings said to be gifts to the church from Hawaiian royalty. A soaring bell tower, grassy and palm tree-studded grounds, and the church’s proximity to hotel and restaurant reception sites make this a fabulous wedding selection.

Another monumental Catholic church is Upcountry Maui’s **Holy Ghost Mission**. Dubbed the “wedding cake church” because of its silvery white octagonal shape topped off with a cupola bell tower, it graces the slopes of Haleakalā overlooking the island’s lowlands. The church’s unique design was created by Father Beissel and said to be inspired by churches he had seen abroad or an attempt to replicate the queen’s crown. It was built by Kula’s growing Portuguese Catholic community - sugar plantation contract workers who chose to stay on as farmers and ranchers. The land was donated, and local ranchers funded construction by holding weekly cattle auctions and volunteering their labor. In 1894, it was complete. An elegant interior of pale pink sets off the specially commissioned hand-carved Stations of the Cross and intricate altar by noted Austrian woodcarver, Ferdinand Stuflesser. Now listed on both the Hawai‘i Register of Historical Places and the National Register, restored with a 1994 renovation, the Holy Ghost Mission makes a supreme romantic setting for an Upcountry wedding.

In central Maui, the **Kepaniwai Park’s Heritage Gardens** at ‘Īao Valley offer a gorgeous, multicultural wedding site with several “chapels” to choose from. Created in 1952 as a tribute to Maui’s diverse ethnic heritage, replica 1850s-style Asian, Caucasian and Hawaiian architecture include a Hawaiian grass shack, a Chinese pagoda and moon gate, a Japanese teahouse and garden, a Filipino bamboo house, a Portuguese villa and outdoor oven, and a New England salt box. These are set in lush Hawaiian landscaping around ‘Īao Stream, creating a lovely tropical backdrop popular with wedding photographers. While not technically churches with active congregations, any of these buildings can play host to a religious ceremony. The valley site leading up to the dramatic ‘Īao Needle rock formation is significant spiritually and historically for Hawaiians. It was here that a bloody battle was fought, as Kamehameha I drove Maui’s warriors up into the hills to achieve victory and domination over Maui.

Located in the small-town county seat of Wailuku, **Ka‘ahumanu Congregational Church** is a New England-style church that honors Queen Ka‘ahumanu for her conversion to Christianity. Set on grassy lawns under shady monkeypod trees, adjacent to Maui County’s administrative buildings, the church fronts a small missionary museum. Built in 1876 by Edward Bailey, the church features beautiful steps, a tall steeple and landmark chiming

clock. Visitors and residents often remark that Wailuku is the best representation of real, local Hawai'i. Weddings here are guaranteed to be cooler, and also offer close proximity to 'Iao Valley for further picture taking.

In the lush rainforests of Maui, at the end of the notoriously winding Hāna Highway is the town of Hāna, offering one general store, a small grocery store, gas station and restaurant. Yet Hāna's population of approximately 2,000 residents supports more than 10 churches, including Mormon, Buddhist, Catholic and Congregational. The town's remote location is favorable for smaller wedding parties seeking anonymity and peaceful surroundings. Guests usually choose to stay at the luxurious Hotel Hāna Maui, a 96-room resort and spa at the center of town. Right across the street is the historic **Wananalua Congregational Church**. In 1838, missionaries symbolically built their New England-style church over a ceremonial heiau as an end to paganism. Constructed from local volcanic rock, coral and koa wood; today's Wananalua Church embraces the Hawaiian culture and language in their services.

Just past Hāna and the pools at 'Ohe'o Gulch (a popular day hike destination) is the quaint whitewashed **Palapala Ho'omau Congregational Church** perched on a beautiful ocean bluff. Many historic churches appear to be in remote, tropical locations today, but were originally built in close proximity to thriving Hawaiian communities. This serene, humble church constructed of rock and stucco displays a painted depiction of Jesus Christ enrobed in the yellow and red feather cloaks worn by Hawaiian royalty. Palapala Ho'omau Church is most noted for the 1974 gravestone of famed aviator, Charles Lindbergh, who lived in Kīpahulu.

Another church that once supported a population of 75,000 Hawaiians in 1853, today borders the scattered Huelo community of just over a hundred residents. **Kaulanapueo Church** is a plain square church, with three-foot-thick stone and cement walls, gray tin roof and plantation green steeple. Yet despite its simplicity, it is surprisingly pretty. Surrounded by a finely groomed lawn, coconut palms and well-tended graveyard, the Calvinist-style church makes an ideal wedding venue. Red *ti* plants protect the perimeter (said to ward off evil spirits), and the interior is essentially unchanged from its early days with wooden benches and pulpit, and no stained glass or ornamentation to distract from worship.

It doesn't get any more charming than **Keolahou Hawaiian Church** in North Kihei. Picture perfect for small weddings, this truly Hawaiian-feeling chapel is painted plantation green with white trim and matching white picket fence. Classically simple with a front porch and small bell tower, beneath a few palms on a trim lawn, Keolahou is located across the street from a white sand beach in a bustling commercial and tourist community.

Kihei is also home to the **Beit Shalom Synagogue**, one of Maui's larger Jewish organizations. Traditionally, Jewish weddings take place under a *chuppah* (or *huppah*), an open-sided tent or flowing cloth held by four poles above the bride and groom. Representing the home the couple will make together, and reminiscent of nomadic ancestors, these romantic canopies are widely available in Maui. Fairly portable (although some synagogues offer permanent structures onsite), the *chuppahs* are often set up on the beach or a grassy oceanside lawn.

Probably the most posh wedding venue in Maui is the non-denominational **Seaside Wedding Chapel at the Grand Wailea Resort & Spa**. Centered in the resort's meticulously planned and landscaped grounds, in the middle of a peaceful lagoon, this sought-after New England-style chapel is rich in detail and Disneyland-like miniature perfection. Four enormous Hawaiian - themed stained glass windows, integral to the façade, depict rainbows and island scenes; Italian crystal chandeliers hang from its vaulted red oak ceiling; mahogany walls and cherrywood pews deck out the inside. A soaring steeple ornamented with a clock encases chapel bells, rung to announce nuptial celebrations. Unlike many of the island's historic open-air churches, this chapel has air-conditioning! An adjacent tropical flower garden and gazebo provide additional photo backdrops, cake-cutting and toasting locations. Plus, the resort has a grand spa for pre-wedding pampering, as well as ballrooms and gardens for after-parties.

Hopping over to the island of Lānaʻi, a picturesque wooden church called **Kalokahi o Ka Mālamalama Church** is the best place for a traditional church ceremony. Like the rest of Lānaʻi City, it was constructed in the late-1800s plantation era to serve the pineapple laborers. Surrounded by tall Norfolk Pines atop a grassy knoll, this lovely little church offers services spoken in Hawaiian. A gazebo at the **Four Seasons Resort Lānaʻi, The Lodge at Kōʻele** is another popular chapel-like option.

Lānaʻi was once the designated stronghold for the **Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints**, but today only a commemorative plaque on the road between Mānele Bay and Lānaʻi City honors the City of Joseph, established in 1854. The community struggled with environmental hardships and eventual loss of leadership when Mormon missionaries were called back to the mainland for the 1858 Utah expedition. When Walter Murray Gibson arrived here in 1861, he consolidated 26,000 acres in the name of the church, but the settlement was soon disrupted with Gibson's excommunication. In 1865, the LDS church reestablished itself in Lāʻie, Oʻahu, where its membership flourishes today. On the island of Molokaʻi, churches abound, numbering upwards of 30, some attributed to Father Damien who cared for the lepers banished to the peninsula. **Saint Philomena Church** in Kalawao is one such church. Started as a small chapel built by Brother Bertrand in 1872, this became Father Damien's first home when he took shelter sleeping under a nearby *hala* tree. Eventually, with the assistance of Kalawao's residents, they expanded the church and brightened the inside with a rainbow palette. Other churches include Father Damien's second Catholic church, **Our Lady of Sorrows** (1874), and **St. Joseph's Church** (1876).

Couples in search of the perfect chapel to stand as witness to their sacred wedding vows will have no shortage of options in Maui Nui!

*\*85 percent of marriages take place in a church or synagogue, according to Hallmark.com.*

*pau/end*



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## **MAUI-MADE ROMANCE**

**MAUI**, Hawai'i - Maui's distinctive romantic appeal is quantified by its large numbers of destination weddings and honeymooners, as well as by its numerous "Top 10," "Best of," "Most Romantic" designations - but the island's true qualities can only really be understood by being here. Centuries of aloha-based culture, breathtaking natural beauty and an established vacation industry have created a unique, romantically charged destination like no other.

For lovers seeking a never-to-be-forgotten experience for a proposal, wedding, honeymoon, anniversary or vow renewal, Maui Nui (the islands of Maui, Moloka'i and Lāna'i) offers unique romantic settings and activities for every celebration.

Couples in love may claim to be "walking on air," or "floating," but how about the opportunity to drift hand-in-hand 800 feet above the ocean in a tandem parasail? West Maui Parasail suggests a champagne toast mid-air while overlooking West Maui, Lāna'i and Moloka'i. They'll even attach a "JUST MAUIED" banner to the two-seater harness for a playful photo opportunity. Or take to the Maui skies in a helicopter! Air tours of secluded sandy beaches or inaccessible mountain waterfalls are wonderful, but imagine landing in those remote paradises to picnic under a palm tree, take a dip in a cool mountain pool, or better yet, exchange vows. Helicopter pilots and accompanying videographers often perform double duty as ministers and musicians, helping to create the memory of a lifetime.

Everyone knows about the spectacular sunsets in Maui, and that picture-perfect golden hour. But how about the sunrise? At an elevation of 10,023 feet, Maui's dormant volcano Haleakalā

(House of the Sun) is the best place to observe celestial events; so good in fact, that Haleakalā has been selected for the world's largest solar telescope. (The plan to build a 143-foot telescope is not without controversy for this sacred Hawaiian mountain.) When the sun rises over the 22-mile diameter crater, it casts pinks, reds and golds across its sandy ridges. Early risers are rewarded with an awe-inspiring stillness, a vast unworldly beauty, surprisingly crisp air, and perhaps for that lucky bride-to-be, the sun's rays sparkling on a new diamond ring!

At night, Star Gazers Maui offers large computerized telescope viewing along with hot chocolate, cozy down jackets and dinner. A great time for couples to snuggle up on Haleakalā's summit is in August, during the Perseid meteor showers. Resident astronomers also provide private stargazing tours for starry-eyed lovers, maybe from a hotel rooftop, or even the deck of a sailboat.

Once a month, beneath the full moon, Maui Buggy Rides offers a romantic drive for two along the moonlit lanes of Upcountry, Maui. Settle into the cozy plush seats of an open-air carriage, open a bottle of "Maui Splash!" pineapple and passion fruit wine from the local Maui's Winery, watch for the sacred pueo (Hawaiian owl) with its protecting presence, listen for the haunting drumbeat of the huaka'i pō night marchers (Hawaiian warrior ghosts), and talk story about Maui myths and legends. Horse and buggy clip-clop past grassy pastures, eucalyptus groves and panoramic island views stretching to the Pacific.

Maui's Upcountry also offers lovebirds unusual opportunities like pitching in for evening chores at a local goat farm and even milking the goats! Famous for its cheeses, Surfing Goat Dairy hosts romantic walking tours with the herd. Amble over lush green pastures amid butterflies, dragonflies, pheasants and occasional wild deer. Pet and feed the goats, sample over 20 varieties of goat cheese, learn about cheese-making and tuck in a barbecue steak for dinner. After all, Upcountry Maui is paniolo (cowboy) country, and Ulupalakua Ranch still has over 2,000 breeding cattle across 20,000 acres of land.

And what romantic getaway is complete without an indulgent spa day? Maui's boutique and mega-spas showcase the uniquely Hawaiian lomi lomi massage, adding warm lava stones, sea salt scrubs, volcanic ash masks, and kukui, pīkake and plumeria oils. The 50,000-square-foot Grand Wailea Spa, reputed as one of the best spas in the U.S. by travel magazines, is known for its Roman-style architecture, aromatic baths and therapeutic showers. The Spa at the Four Seasons Resort Lānai's at Mānele Bay offers private spa evenings for up to eight guests (perfect for bridal parties!), complete with pineapple tea, exclusive run of the facilities, spa treatments and pūpū (appetizers). And nothing is more romantic than the "child-free/adults only" summer months at the Hotel Hāna-Maui, where a couple's massage in the tranquil Asian-inspired garden can be followed by a sunset soak in a private Sea Ranch Cottage hot tub.

Couples visiting Hāna will want to hike two miles up the stunning Pools at 'Ohe'o, to where Waikamoi Falls crashes 400 feet into a crystal pool. A well-maintained trail and wooden walkways traverse through cow pastures, dense bamboo forests and over playful streams. Another special spot is the Paul Fagan memorial cross on the grassy hill above the Hotel Hāna Maui. Dedicated to the hotel's builder, this serene overlook is a perfect place for a proposal, a picnic or watching the warm, sun-kissed colors slip from the slopes of Haleakalā,

to the town of Hāna and out to the ocean.

It was in Hāna that one of the most passionate love affairs in Maui's history took place. Chiefess Kamaka, a daughter of the chief of Hāna, loved to surf at Keanini along the west corner of Hāna Bay. One day, Chief Kiha-a-Pi'ilani, the son of the ruling chief of Maui, joined her at the beach, and Kamaka taught him how to ride the waves on her heavy olo board of wiliwili wood. But one long wave carried them to the beach together, and they lay together on the sand and made love. Unfortunately, Kamaka was betrothed to Kiha's brother, Lono, and when she became pregnant by Kiha, the dispute that followed turned into an epic battle.

Passionate love memoirs and Hawaiians' sacred genealogies were conveyed for hundreds of generations through the art of hula, a beautiful dance that depicts stories. Dancers in a hālau (hula schools) dedicated their lives to learning the steps of the dance and its spiritual significance. Hawaiian hula chants often included a mischievous "intimate" double entendre within its poetic imagery, while the accompanying sensual movements shocked the early Protestant missionaries, causing them to demand that dancers cover their bodies. The abandonment of kapu (the governing social and spiritual system) paired with increasing missionary influence, forced hula into the shadows for years, until 1874 when King David Kalākaua restored hula to the public domain through an extravagant inauguration re-introducing his culture's lost arts. Today, visitors can see authentic Hawaiian hula at many cultural events and lū'au. One of the most acclaimed is the Old Lāhaina Lū'au in Lāhaina. Here in lush oceanfront grounds, a morning program offers visitors an opportunity to learn the dance steps and the greater meanings behind them, while enjoying a bountiful buffet breakfast and the ever-present aloha spirit. Old Lāhaina Lū'au also coordinates spectacular island-style weddings for brides and grooms who wish to share Maui's sensual magic with their guests.

And it's not just Maui's old-style song and dance that warms the heart. Maui's contemporary music scene will sweep any melody-loving, romance-seeking visitor off their feet. Hawaiian music is recognized with its own Grammy category and credited with the introduction of slack-key guitar and the 'ukulele's popularity. Home to many world-renowned musicians, both Hawaiian and mainstream, Maui is a place where listening to a mega-star jam session in a small roadside bar is not an uncommon experience. Additionally, the Maui Arts & Cultural Center with its two indoor stages and outdoor amphitheatre brings in diverse big-name entertainers from around the world. And for a truly Maui-made evening, the "Wailea Nights" dinner show with Hapa at Mulligan's on the Blue is just the ticket. Barry Flanagan's spectacular guitar playing, in harmony with Nathan Kawai Aweau's accompaniment and Hawaiian vocals, captivates a dining audience with heartfelt aloha.

For many honeymooners, Maui Nui's glorious outdoors hold the key to adventures that will be remembered for a lifetime. One of the most special adventures listed in any guidebook is the chance to ride a mule down the world's highest sea cliffs to Moloka'i's Kalaupapa National Historical Park. Traversing 26 switchbacks for almost three miles, visitors enter the isolated settlement of Kalawao with permission from the current residents. Infamous as the 1865 "leper" colony (today, leprosy is known as Hansen's Disease), this spectacularly beautiful site is surrounded on three sides by the Pacific Ocean. Here, the revered Father Damien eventually sacrificed his own life caring for the infected community, his simple

gravestone now standing as a reminder of the suffering that continued until a cure was finally discovered in 1946. A hike afterwards through native forest to the sacred six-foot-high Phallic Rock may add some spice to a couple's visit. Hawaiians believed that Ninahoa, the male fertility god, turned to stone here. Women who wished to conceive would bring offerings and spend the night, and rocks from the area were used to make other land more fertile. Hawaiians still pay tribute here, and the rock should be held in reverence and respect.

Adventures aside, classic island romance can be as simple as a rubber raft. Start the day off floating in the warm ocean, side by side on an inflatable rubber mat. The calm, shallow waters of Lāhaina's Baby Beach (behind the largest Buddha statue outside of Japan) are an excellent setting for this tranquil activity. As the sun sinks lower, The Secret Service, a professional romance concierge, can set up a table for two on the sand and enlist a personal chef to create a gourmet meal à deux. Paired with a chilled bottle of "tiny bubbles," attentive service, and a magnificent Maui sunset, luxurious oceanfront dining doesn't get any more magical than this!

A thriving industry of romance professionals, from wedding planners to concierges (some resorts even have Directors of Romance), can assist couples with every imaginable detail, from fresh tuberose leis to conch blowing, tiki torches to rose petal hearts, hula dancers to moonlit escapades. The island sets the stage for a love affair poised against tropical warm waters and exotic floral and fauna, while centuries of rich history and a warm and passionate culture inspire the script. From here, the romance is up to that very special couple...

*pau/end*



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## **THE MAUI NUI PLAYGROUND: MAUI, LĀNA'I, MOLOKA'I**

**MAUI, Hawai'i** – As sea levels rose, the ancient mega-island forming Maui Nui (Greater Maui), became five individual landforms: Maui, Moloka'i, Lāna'i, Kaho'olawe and the crater rim of Molokini. Today, this distinctive island cluster, within visual distance of one another, creates a perfect playground for romance. The great humpback whales know this, convening here every winter to mate and give birth in the warm waters between the islands. Hawaiian ali'i (chiefs) also chose the western shores of Maui for their royal retreats. Today, convenient ferry service and flights connect the three largest and habitable islands of Maui, Moloka'i and Lana'i. As each Maui Nui island is unique, island-hopping is recommended!

Moloka'i has been dubbed the "friendly" isle, but it is best described as the "most Hawaiian" of the eight principal Hawaiian Islands. While only the fifth largest at 260 square miles with a population of 8,000 residents, 40 percent of residents can claim Hawaiian descent, the most of any island. In ancient Hawai'i, this reclusive island was home to powerful spiritual leaders, and often given clemency in time of war due to strategic martial alliances and the residence of venerated priests. Today, true to its roots, Moloka'i remains very rural, relaxed and cognizant of old-style Hawaiian ways. Still a stronghold of religious practice, Moloka'i has numerous churches island wide. Many are picturesque and historic, ideal for small wedding ceremonies. Island wedding planners also coordinate breathtakingly scenic beach weddings along Moloka'i's miles of empty shoreline.

Historic monuments of authentic Hawaiian culture abound on Moloka'i. A visit here is not complete without a pilgrimage to Phallic Rock, an auspicious altar to fertility; the Kaloko'eli Fishpond, estimated between 700-800 years old; and the Ili'ili'opae heiau (temple); believed to

be one of the largest in all Hawai'i. As the birthplace of Hawai'i's hula, each May, the festival of Ka Hula Piko honors its hula heritage. Here is also the site of the infamous 1865 leper colony of Kalaupapa, where martyr Father Damien dedicated his life caring for Hawai'i's banished. A cure for Hansen's disease (leprosy) in 1969 thankfully ended this era, and today visitors (with permission) can visit the private and still populated historic settlement via a 3,000-foot descent on mule back.

Today, Moloka'i reflects the strong desire of the people to live off the land, as their ancestors did. The island offers greater opportunities than anywhere else in Hawai'i to witness or partake in an ongoing authentic cultural lifestyle. Local fishermen cast their nets out into Moloka'i's rich ocean "refrigerator"; paniolo (cowboys) ride the working 65,000-acre Moloka'i cattle ranch; hunters stalk wild boar in the forests; taro farmers work knee-deep in muddy lo'i (terraces); and 'ohana (family) gather to eat and talk story. Visitors can get a taste of the local farming community with a visit to family-owned Purdy's Macadamia Nut Farm or a tour of the Coffees of Hawai'i Plantation.

Besides Moloka'i's rich culture, the island's stunning geography and untouched natural reserves make it one of the most classically romantic paradises in Hawai'i. Boasting the world's highest sea cliffs; Hawai'i's tallest waterfall and longest white sand beach; almost 3,000 acres of rainforest sanctuary full of indigenous and endemic plants, insects and birds; and the windswept Mo'omomi Dunes; Moloka'i is the ultimate fantasy backdrop for any love affair. Outdoor enthusiasts seeking independent or organized hiking, biking, horseback riding, kayaking and fishing excursions will find plenty to do here. Rental cars are available for self-exploration, or personal guides may be hired for an informative ramble around the island.

The trendy new concept of "lamping," or luxury camping, is at its best here in Moloka'i Ranch's Beach Village. A shore side camp offers a "beach-and-barbecue lifestyle" with open-air bathrooms, solar-heated water, outdoor dining hall, and canvas two-bedroom dwellings pitched on wooden platforms. Each "tentalow" is furnished for maximum comfort, and a camp host supplies an array of sports equipment. On the hill above, the spacious Lodge at Moloka'i Ranch provides full resort amenities and guestrooms for those more accustomed to four solid walls. Near the main town of Kaunakakai, the Hotel Moloka'i offers quaint oceanfront open-air bungalows. Private homes and bed & breakfasts also make great getaways. No matter the accommodation choice on Moloka'i, it's important to remember this island moves slowly, island-style, making Moloka'i best suited for couples who have a mutual interest in (and respect for) the outdoors, history and culture, and won't mind roughing it a bit.

For a posh and indulgent honeymoon vacation, do as the celebrities do and stay on the smaller island of Lāna'i. Once the largest pineapple plantation in the world – Dole Pineapple – responsible for as much as 75 percent of the world's commercial pineapple supply, this island is still owned almost exclusively by one man, David Murdoch. Originally, Lāna'i was sparsely populated by Hawaiians, their folklore praising a banished Hawaiian prince who finally rid the island of evil spirits to make it habitable. Today, the island supports a resident base of just over 3,000 people, mostly multi-cultural decedents of the plantation workforce recruited from Korea, the Philippines, Japan, China and Portugal.

Lānaʻi City was built in the 1920s by the Dole Pineapple Company to serve and house plantation laborers. Constructed at the center of the island, this charming town is laid out in a classic grid pattern with numerical and alphabetical streets. One-story buildings line the perimeter of a large square park. Towering pines create a rustic, ranch-like feel and are also credited with catching clouds, leading to the town's cooler climes. A beautiful spire church, three general stores, a movie house, a library, a few administrative buildings and real estate offices, a small hotel and a handful of cafes and art galleries round out the town. Quaint one-room plantation cottages with outdoor "privies" are clustered to the south. After the pineapple plantation closed in the early '90s, upscale tourism took its place. Residents now primarily staff the island's two luxury resorts: the Four Seasons Resort Lānaʻi at Mānele Bay and the Lodge at Kōʻele.

Despite its small size, Lānaʻi offers honeymooners and other visitors plenty of interesting options for a relaxing or invigorating afternoon. Popular activities include browsing the art galleries, horseback riding, skeet shooting (sporting clays), archery, tennis, four-wheeling, hiking the eight-mile Munroe trail, visiting the red rock Keahiakawelo "Garden of the Gods," and walking the black sand Kaiolohiʻa "Shipwreck Beach." Microsoft legend Bill Gates chose Lānaʻi for his wedding ceremony, discouraging paparazzi by booking up hotel rooms and

helicopters island wide. Other celebrities who have retreated here for rest and relaxation include Emeril Lagasse, Roger Ebert, Dave Barry, Jane Seymour, Guy Buffet and Kanye West.

Nestled above Lānaʻi City is the Four Seasons Resort Lānaʻi, The Lodge at Kōʻele. It's easy to see why this 102-room mountain-style hunting lodge with large dual-sided fireplace, cozy reading nooks, fine dining, elegant bar and game room is consistently raved about by travel publications like Conde Nast. Attentive staff greet arriving guests with fresh flower lei, offer refreshing beverages and lead them to comfortable seats for check-in and orientation. Honeymooners can relax on a comfy veranda lounger, partake in an afternoon lobby tea, try lawn bowling or croquet, steal a kiss in the orchid greenhouse or take a dip in the spa pool. A labyrinth of pathways for strolling the manicured grounds lead to romantic gazebos, Japanese gardens, waterfalls and bridges arching over koi ponds. At night, moonlight reflects off a peaceful lake gracing the back of the grounds.

Visiting celebrities treasure the island's championship golf courses, along with its privacy. Golfing begins with the 18-hole, par-72, "Experience at Kōʻele" golf course, designed by Greg Norman and Ted Robinson. Spectacular fairways are enhanced by a forest setting, gorgeous ocean vistas and wandering wildlife, and made formidable by steep slopes, foggy weather and a signature hole some 300 feet above its fairway. Avid golfers will also enjoy the Jack Nicklaus-designed "Challenge at Mānele." Also an 18-hole, par-72 championship course, it rambles along red rock cliffs directly above the ocean. Warm sunshine, salty breezes and a dramatic signature hole spanning an ocean gulch make it one of the world's most memorable courses.

Honeymooners may divvy up their stay between properties, but sun worshipers are sure to choose the 236-room Four Seasons Resort Lānaʻi at Mānele Bay. The resort pampers guest with spacious oceanview guest rooms, a luxurious spa and fitness center, and an open-air lobby and dining room that overlook the Hulupoʻe marine preserve and sandy beaches at

Manele Bay. Boat restrictions in the vicinity make both bays superb for snorkeling and diving. Here too, spinner dolphins are likely to frolic. Tucked between the two bays is Pu‘u Pehe (Sweetheart Rock). According to the legend, a jealous husband confined his lovely wife to a sea cave where she would be out of reach to other men. A storm ensued, and she was swept into the ocean and drowned. Her distraught husband buried her on the rock and then leapt to his own death.

On a smaller scale, the 10-bedroom Hotel Lāna‘i and caretaker’s cottage is a charming option for Lāna‘i honeymooners - and it’s right in town. Built to house VIP visitors during the plantation era, the Richardson family opened it as a hotel in 1996. With all the trimmings of historic charm, this country inn is also home to a restaurant notably recognized by food critics.

The island of Maui may be the most popular choice for destination weddings and honeymoons, but that doesn’t spoil its romantic appeal! As the most cosmopolitan of the three islands, it still offers serene destinations but with a more diverse array of accommodations, activities and wedding services. Catering to more mainstream tourism, Maui is the place to attend a lū‘au, shop for souvenirs, take an informative bus tour, and dine out every night at different restaurants.

Most popular for wedding parties are the resort meccas of Kā‘anapali, Kapalua and Wailea. For a serene “Lāna‘i-like” luxury resort, the Hotel Hāna-Maui is a close approximation. And those seeking a bit of Moloka‘i on Maui will want to look Upcountry or to the North Shore. Private estates are becoming more and more popular as wedding sites, with many providing secluded gardens for catered dinners, manicured grounds perfect for hosting large events, and bed & breakfast packages for the newly wedded. Maui restaurants happily book out their facilities, providing a more intimate urban-style celebration, with everything from rooftop to outdoor lānai-style settings.

If deciding between the beautiful islands of Maui Nui is too difficult, adventurous couples can incorporate all three into one romantic agenda. True stories: one wedding party tied the knot on Lāna‘i, then flew the bridal party by helicopter to the Grand Wailea for post-wedding pampering. Another began their journey in the seaside town of Lāhaina, then married aboard a yacht while sailing to Lāna‘i, celebrated at Mānele Bay and then departed via helicopter to Moloka‘i for a quiet honeymoon.

Making it easy to island-hop, Maui Eco-Adventures offers a “Land, Air & Sea 3-Island Adventure” as part of their personal guide services. A private helicopter flies honeymooners across the ‘Au‘Au Channel to view the world famous tropical waterfalls and rainforests of Moloka‘i, and then across the ocean to the resorts of Lāna‘i. Their personal guide services can even create weddings in remote locations, such as in the beautiful valley at Maui’s Makamaka‘ole Falls, with flowers floating down the streams. “If you can imagine the dream, we can make it reality!” says Maui Eco-Adventures owner Geoff Brown.

Couples need only bring their ultimate desires, and Maui Nui will provide the rest...

*pau/end*



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### **“ROMANCE ME MAUI” FACTS & TIDBITS**

- The majority of couples choosing Hawai'i for a destination wedding marry on the island of Maui.
- Destination weddings have doubled in the past 10 years, spawning “Weddingmoons” (where couples honeymoon at their destination wedding location) and the “Honeymoon Registry” (in lieu of traditional gifts, friends and family contribute to travel registries for hotel nights, spa services, dining and activities). Maui Nui remains at the forefront of this trend, consistently receiving recognition for its broad-spectrum romantic appeal.
- Traditional hometown weddings average 165 guests. Destination weddings draw one-third of that guest count.
- 99% of all newlyweds take a honeymoon. 20% of Americans travel annually for romantic vacations, including destination weddings, honeymoons and anniversaries. 10% of all travel destinations include a beach location.
- Honeymooners outspend the average traveler more than three times (just over \$3,000), plan their vacations earlier (approximately seven months in advance), and stay just over one week.
- Maui's largest proportion of honeymooners is first-time visitors to the islands and

predominantly from the East Coast.

- Ways to express love or wedding sentiments in Hawaiian:

Aloha	Love
Aloha au iā ‘oe	I love you
E kipa mai	Welcome
Ku‘uipo	Sweetheart
‘Ohana	Family
Male‘ana	Wedding
Kahu lio	Groom
Wahine male hou	Bride
Ho‘omaika‘i‘ana	Our wedding day
Hele mai ‘oe i ko maua male ‘ana	Come to our wedding
E ho‘omau maua kealoha	May our love last forever
Mahalo	Thank you
Hau‘oli la ho‘omana‘o	Happy anniversary
- Maui Nui colors: Maui Pink  
Lāna‘i Yellow  
Moloka‘i Green
- Maui Nui flowers: Maui Lokelani (cottage rose)  
Lāna‘i Kauna‘oa (native dodder)  
Moloka‘i Pua kukui (white kukui blossom)
- Instead of “Here Comes the Bride,” popular Maui selections are:  
Ke Kali Nei Au (Hawaiian Wedding Song)  
Somewhere Over the Rainbow by Israel Kamakawiwo‘ole  
Ku‘u Lei, Ku‘u Ipo by Hapa
- Great for toasting: *Tiny Bubbles* by Don Ho
- Popular Maui-theme wedding favors include:
  - beach flip flops (“slippers” in Hawai‘i)
  - fresh flower, shell or kukui nut lei
  - coconut husk candles
  - floating plumeria or orchid candles
  - woven palm frond fans
  - disposable waterproof cameras
  - seashell picture frames
- Maui bridal party gifts often include:
  - Hawaiian Heirloom Jewelry
  - personalized beach bags & towels
  - decorated, “jeweled” slippers
  - spa treatments

- “OOT” (Out of Towner) welcome baskets are a current trend. These often include:
  - Maui maps
  - Maui postcards
  - sunblock
  - Maui roasted coffee
  - macadamia nuts
  - souvenirs (hula doll dusters, miniature tikis)
  
- Popular Maui cake flavors:
  - haupia (coconut pudding)
  - liliko‘i (passion fruit)
  - guava
  - mango
  - pineapple
  - macadamia nut
  
- ...and cake toppers:
  - miniature hula girl & boy
  - fresh orchids
  - seashells
  
- Popular Hawaiian ceremonial touches:
  - lei exchange (maile for the groom, pīkake for the bride)
  - giving lei to family
  - blowing of the pū (conch)
  - torch lighting
  - hula dancer
  - ‘ukulele player
  - oli (Hawaiian chant)
  
- Popular beach-style ceremonial touches:
  - “sand ceremony” (pouring sand from two vessels into one)
  - parasols for the guests or bridal party
  - strewing fresh flowers on the sand
  - making a temporary walkway of stones or flowers
  - providing rubber slippers for guests (or better yet, going barefoot)
  - “trashing the dress” (bride wears her dress into the ocean for amazing photos)
  
- Popular Maui wedding wear:
  - fresh flowers in the hair instead of a veil
  - white strapless or backless “slip” dress for the bride
  - white or ivory aloha shirt instead of suit & tie or tux for the groom
  - slippers or foot jewelry instead of heels or dress shoes
  - tropical print summer dresses for bridal party
  - lei po‘o (head wreath) for the kahu (minister)

- Best places to kiss:
  - Lānaʻi Puʻu Pehe, Mānele Bay
  - Molokaʻi Moaʻula Falls, Hālawā Valley
  - Maui Everywhere!
  
- Top 5 romantic Maui Nui activities:
  - sunrise at Haleakalā
  - helicopter ride over Molokaʻi's stunning sea cliffs
  
  - snorkeling at Cathedrals on Lānaʻi
  - taking surfing lessons in Kihei
  - sunset dinner sail (and/or whale watch)
  
- Maui sunset times:
  - close to 6 p.m. in winter
  - close to 7 p.m. in summer
  
- Top 5 romantic Maui Nui activities **after** the sun goes down:
  - lūʻau dinner show
  - stargazing at Papohaku Beach on Molokaʻi
  - enjoying Maui's talented live music scene
  - sampling a Lava Flow (pina colada with strawberry ribbon) or Hula Pie (made with Hawaiian coffee)
  - honeymooners' choice...!

*pau / end*



## **‘ROMANCE ME MAUI’ RESOURCES**

### **ASSOCIATIONS**

#### **Maui Visitors Bureau**

1727 Wili Pā Loop; Wailuku, Maui, HI 96793; Ph: (808) 244-3530; Toll Free: (800) 525-6284  
info@visitmaui.com  
www.visitmaui.com

#### **Moloka‘i Visitor Association**

2 Kamō‘ī Street, #200  
Kaunakakai, Moloka‘i, HI  
Ph: (808) 553-3876 or (808) 553-5221; [www.molokai-hawaii.com](http://www.molokai-hawaii.com)

#### **Lāna‘i Visitors Bureau**

431 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite A  
Lāna‘i City, Lāna‘i, HI 96763  
Ph: (800) 947-4774; [www.visitlanai.net](http://www.visitlanai.net)

#### **Hawai‘i Visitors & Convention Bureau**

2270 Kalakaua Avenue, Suite 801; Honolulu, O‘ahu, HI 96815; Ph: (800) 464-2924  
info@hvcb.org  
www.gohawaii.com

#### **Maui Chamber of Commerce**

313 Ano Street; Kahului, Maui, HI 96732; Ph: (808) 871-7711; Fax: (808) 871-0706  
info@mauichamber.com  
www.mauichamber.com

#### **Maui Wedding Association**

[www.mauiweddingassociation.com](http://www.mauiweddingassociation.com)  
[www.mauiweddingnetwork.com](http://www.mauiweddingnetwork.com)

#### **County of Maui**

[www.co.maui.hi.us](http://www.co.maui.hi.us)

## **MEDIA**

### **Pacific Weddings Magazine**

Pacific Rim Publishing Group, Inc.

Contact: Shawna Keough

54 N. Market Street; Wailuku, Maui, HI 96793; Ph: (808) 242-6835; Toll Free: (877) 233-3310

weddings@pacificweddings.com

www.pacificweddings.com

### **Hawai'i Bride & Groom Magazine**

Contact: Julie Ann Aragaki

47-472 Hui Kelu Street; Kane'ohe, O'ahu, HI 96744; Ph: (808) 428-1596; Fax: (808) 531-8980

julie@hawaiiibride.com

www.hawaiiibride.com

### **Maui Nō Ka 'Oi Magazine**

90 Central Avenue; Wailuku, Maui, HI 96793; Ph: (808) 242-8331; Fax: (808) 242-8339

trina@mauimagazine.net

www.mauimagazine.net

### **Mana'o Radio 91.5 FM**

P.O. Box 1145; Wailuku, HI 96793; Ph: (808) 244-2032

www.manaoradio.com

## **ROMANCE / WEDDING PROFESSIONALS**

### **A White Orchid Wedding**

*Wedding Coordination*

Contact: Carolee Higashino

1961 Vineyard Street; Wailuku, Maui, HI 96793; Ph: (808) 242-8697; Toll Free: (800) 240-9336

Fax: (808) 242-6853; carolee@whiteorchidwedding.com

www.whiteorchidwedding.com

www.waileaweddings.com

### **Blue Sky Weddings**

*Wedding Coordination*

Contact: Gabrielle Longhi

Ph: (808) 283-8014; Toll Free: (800) 362-6851

www.blueskyweddings.com

### **Tropical Maui Weddings**

*Wedding Coordination*

Contact: Lori Scott

P.O. Box 127; Kahului, Maui, HI 96733; Ph: (808) 875-6700; Toll Free: (877) 628-4933

Fax: 808-875-8410; lori@tropicalmauiweddings.com

www.tropicalmauiweddings.com

**Dolphin Dream Weddings**

*Wedding Coordination*

Contact: Vickie Jackson

P.O. Box 10546; Lāhaina, Maui, HI 96761; Ph: (808) 669-8787; Toll Free: (800) 793-2933

Fax: (808) 669-6868; info@dolphindreamweddings.com

www.dolphindreamweddings.com

**A Dream Wedding: Maui Style**

*Wedding Coordination*

Contact: Tracy Flanagan

143 Dickenson Street, Ste. 201; Lāhaina, Maui, HI 96761; Ph: (808) 661-1777:

Toll Free: (800) 743-2777

Fax: (808) 661-0072; dreamwed@maui.net

www.adreamwedding.net

**First Class Weddings, Inc.**

*Wedding Coordination*

Contact: Tammy Ash Perkins

230 Hāna Hwy., Ste. 11; Kahului, Maui, HI 96732; Ph: (808) 877-1411

Toll Free: (800) 262-8433

www.firstclassweddings.com

www.hawaiiweddingbook.com

**Weddings Hawaiian Style**

*Wedding Coordination*

Contact: Cece Scoppettone

188 Kamako'i Loop; Kihei, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 875-8460; Toll Free: (888) 583-9529

Fax: (808) 879-8059; weddings@weddingshawaiianstyle.com

www.weddingshawaiianstyle.com

**The Secret Service**

*Romance Concierge Services*

Contact: Georgian "George" Marshall

3500 L. Honoapi'ilani Hwy., Ste. 17F; Lāhaina, Maui, HI 96761; Ph: (808) 264-7326;

Toll Free (877) 628-4568

www.mauromancepackages.com

**Concierge Connection**

*Concierge Services*

Contact: Sandi Ioakimi

P.O. Box 29; Kihei, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 875-9366; Toll Free: (888) 875-9366

Fax: (808) 875-9201

info@mauiconcierge.com

www.mauiconcierge.com

**Enchanted Weddings of Maui**

Contact: Lisa Villiarimo

P.O. Box 1481; Pu'unēnē, Maui, HI 96784; Ph: (808) 871-2400; Toll Free: (800) 648-8697

Fax: (808) 871-2422

info@mauiweddingvows.com

www.mauiweddingvows.com

**Exquisite Events**

Contact: Jackie Wolf

2053 S. Kihei Road, Ste. 2C; Kihei, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 875-2772

jackie@exquisiteeventsmaui.com

www.exquisiteeventsmaui.com

**Hawai'i Wedding**

Contact: Kevin Rebelo

2703 Pu'uho'olai Street; Kihei, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 891-1208; Toll Free: (800) 859-0072

Fax: (808) 891-1233

info@hawaiiwedding.com

www.hawaiiwedding.com

**Precious Maui Weddings**

83 Maika'i Loa Street; Pukalani, Maui, HI 96768; Ph: (808) 573-6686; Toll Free: (866) 573-6686

Fax: (808) 573-4757

info@preciousmauiweddings.com

www.preciousmauiweddings.com

**Island Wedding Memories**

Contact: Leah Robb

688 Imihale Street; Kihei, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 870-1736; Toll Free: (800) 811-9577

Fax: (808) 891-2480

lrobb@islandweddingmemories.com

www.islandweddingmemories.com

**Mākena Weddings**

Contact: Laurie Terry

194 Kamako'i Loop; Kihei, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 879-7149; Toll Free: (877) 879-7149

Fax: (808) 875-8834

alapaki@maui.net

www.4mauiweddings.com

**Maui Me**

Contact: Susan Souter

120 Pe'ahi Road; Ha'ikū, Maui, HI 96708; Ph: (808) 575-2002; Toll Free: (800) 865-3270

Fax: (808) 575-9744

coordinator@mauime.com  
www.mauime.com

## **CHURCHES / MINISTERS**

### **Waiola Church**

535 Waine'e Street, Lāhaina, Maui, HI 96761; Ph: (808) 661-4349; Fax: (808) 661-1734

### **Lanakila Ihi'ihī O Jehova O Na Kava**

Ke'anae, Maui, HI (no physical street address)

### **Wananalua Congregational Church**

10 Hau'oli Road; Hāna, Maui, HI 96713; Ph: (808) 248-8040

### **Palapala Ho'omau Church**

Route 31, 1 mile south of 'Ohe'o Gulch; Kīpahulu, Maui, HI 96713

### **Kaulanapueo Church**

Huelo, Maui, HI (no physical street address)

### **Huialoha Church**

Kaupo, Maui, HI (no physical street address)

### **Pā'ia Hawaiian Congregational Church**

246 Hāna Hwy., Pā'ia, Maui, HI 98779

### **Keolahou Church**

177 S. Kihei Road; Kihei, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 879-4693

### **Ka'ahumanu Church**

103 S. High Street; Wailuku, Maui, HI 96793; Ph: (808) 244-5189

### **Saint Gabriel's Church**

Wailua, Maui, HI (no physical street address)

### **Maria Lanakila Church**

712 Waine'e Street; Lāhaina, Maui HI 96761; Ph: (808) 661-0552

### **Saint Anthony's Church**

1627 Mill Street; Wailuku, Maui, HI 96793; Ph: (808) 244-4148

### **Holy Ghost Church**

Lower Kula Road; Waiakoa, Maui, HI 96790; Ph: (808) 878-1091

**Wo Hing Society**

858 Front Street; Lāhaina, Maui, HI 96761; Ph: (808) 661-5553

**Lāhaina Jodo Mission**

12 Ala Moana; Lāhaina, Maui, HI 96761; Ph: (808) 661-4304

**Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church**

561 Front Street; Lāhaina, Maui, HI 96761; Ph: (808) 661-4202, Fax: (808) 661-8677  
holyinno@aloha.net

**Lāhaina Jehovah's Witness**

75 Pu'unoa Place; Lāhaina, Maui, HI 96761; Ph: (808) 661-3330

**Beit Shalom Synagogue**

634 Alulike Street; Kihei, Maui, HI; Ph: (808) 874-5397  
www.mauijews.org

**Judicial Services Hawai'i**

Contact: Judge Boyd P. Mossman

P.O. Box 880061; Pukalani, Maui, HI 96788; Ph: (808) 250-7654; Fax: (808) 573-5805  
boydpm@earthlink.net

www.boydpmossman.com

**Lisa Porter**

686 Makawao Avenue; Makawao, Maui, HI 96768; Ph: (808) 572-4020; Fax: (808) 572-4020  
lisaportero1@hawaii.rr.com  
www.lisaportermaui.com

**Pia Aluli**

4790 Lower Honoapi'ilani Road; Lahinā, Maui, HI 96761; Ph: (808) 669-5034; Fax: (808) 669-2580  
paluli@hawaii.rr.com

**Inlight Productions**

Contact: Reverend Gary Canier

P.O. Box 1493; Kihei, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 283-0539  
gary@reverendgary.com

www.reverendgary.com

**LĀNA'I****Kalokahi o Ka Mālamalama Church**

Kō'ele, Lāna'i, HI

## **MOLOKA'I**

### **St. Philomena Church**

Kalaupapa, Moloka'i, HI; Ph: (808) 567-6238

### **St. Joseph's Church**

Highway 450 at Mile Marker #11, Moloka'i, HI

## **WEDDING VENUES**

### **Resorts / Hotels**

#### **Grand Wailea Resort Hotel & Spa**

3850 Wailea Alanui Drive; Wailea, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 875-1234; Toll Free: (800) 888-6100

[www.grandwailea.com](http://www.grandwailea.com)

#### **Four Seasons Resort Maui at Wailea**

3900 Wailea Alanui Drive; Wailea, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 874-8000

Fax: (808) 874-2244

[www.fourseasons.com/maui](http://www.fourseasons.com/maui)

#### **Royal Lāhaina Resort**

2780 Keka'a Drive, Kā'anapali, Maui, HI 96761; Ph: (808) 661-3611; Toll Free: (800) 222-5642

[www.hawaiihotels.com](http://www.hawaiihotels.com)

#### **Hotel-Hāna Maui**

5031 Hāna Highway; Hāna, Maui, HI 96713; Ph: (808) 248-8211; Toll Free: (800) 321- 4262

Fax: (808) 248-7264

[weddings@hotelhanamaui.com](mailto:weddings@hotelhanamaui.com)

[www.hotelhanamaui.com](http://www.hotelhanamaui.com)

#### **Hyatt Regency Maui Resort & Spa**

Contact: Laura Amerio - Wedding & Catering Manager

200 Nohea Kai Drive; Lāhaina, Maui, HI 96761; Ph: (808) 667-4430; Fax: (808) 667-4712

[lamerio@hyatt.com](mailto:lamerio@hyatt.com)

[www.maui.hyatt.com](http://www.maui.hyatt.com)

#### **Maui Prince Hotel**

Contact: Leo Tai

5400 Mākena Alanui; Kihei, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 875-5843; Toll Free: (800) 368-844

Fax: (808) 875-5802

[ltai@mauprince.com](mailto:ltai@mauprince.com)

[www.princeresortshawaii.com/maui-prince-hotel.php](http://www.princeresortshawaii.com/maui-prince-hotel.php)

#### **Sheraton Maui Resort**

2605 Kā'anapali Parkway; Lāhaina, Maui, HI 96761; Ph: (808) 661-0031  
Fax: (808) 661-0458  
www.sheraton-maui.com

## **LĀNA'I**

### **Four Seasons Resort, Mānele Bay**

Akiko Suzuki, Conference Services & Catering Manager  
P.O. Box 631380; Lāna'i City, Lāna'i, HI 96763; Ph: (808) 565-2427  
Fax: (808) 565-2444  
akiko.suzuki@fourseasons.com  
www.fourseasons.com/manelebay

### **Four Seasons Lodge at Kō'ele**

One Keomoku Highway, P.O. Box 631380; Lāna'i City, Lāna'i, HI 96763; Ph: (808) 565-4000  
Fax: (808) 565-4561  
www.fourseasons.com/koele

## **Boutique Hotels**

### **Pioneer Inn**

658 Wharf Street; Lāhaina, Maui, HI 96761; Ph: (808) 661-3636  
Fax: (808) 667-5708  
www.pioneerinn-maui.com

### **Kula Lodge and Restaurant**

15200 Hwy. 377; Kula, Maui, HI; Ph: (808) 878-2517  
www.kulalodge.com

## **LĀNA'I**

### **Hotel Lāna'i**

828 Lāna'i Avenue; Lāna'i City, Lāna'i, HI 96763; Ph: (808) 565-7211;  
hotellanai@wave.hicv.net  
www.hotellanai.com

## **MOLOKA'I**

### **Hotel Moloka'i**

Kamehameha V Highway; Kaunakakai, Moloka'i, HI 96748; Ph: (808) 553-5347  
info@hotelmolokai.com  
www.hotelmolokai.com

## **Private Estates, Gardens & Unique Sites**

**Keali'i Nui Botanical Gardens**

Contact: Lasha Crandall  
655 Haumana Road; Ha'ikū, Maui, HI 96708; Ph: (808) 572-4100  
Fax: 808-572-4600  
lasha@wbii.org  
www.mauiestate.com

**Olowalu Plantation House**

810 Olowalu Village House; Olowalu, Maui, HI 96761

**A Beautiful Hawai'i Wedding**

Contact: Sherry A. Boonstra Barbier  
P.O. Box 10355; Lāhaina, Maui, HI 96761; Ph: (808) 667-4663; Toll Free: (800) 847-0761  
Fax: (808) 669-9199  
sherry@oldlahaina.com  
www.oldlahainawedding.com

**Maui Tropical Plantation**

1670 Honoapi'ilani Hwy.; Wailuku, Maui, HI 96793; Ph: (808) 244-7643; Toll Free: (800) 451-6805  
Fax: (808) 242-8983  
pattyokuda@hotmail.com  
www.mautropicalplantation.com

**Kepaniwai Park's Heritage Gardens at 'Īao Valley State Park**

'Īao Valley Road, Wailuku, Maui, HI; Ph: (808) 984-8109  
www.hawaii.gov/dlnr/dsp/maui.html

**Maui Ocean Center**

192 Ma'alaea Road; Wailuku, Maui, HI 96793; Ph: (808) 270-7083  
Fax: (808) 270-7070  
lorim@mauiocenter.com  
www.mauiocenter.com

**Ali'i Kula Lavender Farm**

1100 Waipoli Road; Kula, Maui, HI 96790; Ph: (808) 878-3004  
www.aliikulalavender.com/index.html

**Old Lāhaina Lū'au**

1251 Faont Street; Lāhaina, Maui, HI 96761; Ph: (808) 667-1998  
www.oldlahainaluau.com

**Maui's Winery**

Highway 37; Keokea, Maui, HI; Ph: (808) 878-6058  
www.mauiwine.com

**Island Star Sailing Excursions**

P.O. Box 381; Lāhaina, Maui, HI 96767; Ph: (808) 669-7827; Toll Free: (888) 677-7238

Fax: (808) 878-3574  
islandstar@maui.net  
www.islandstarexcursions.com

## **ACCOMODATIONS**

### **Condominium Rentals Hawai'i**

Contact: Stephanie Raikes  
362 Huku Li'i Place, Ste. 204; Kihei, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 879-2778  
stephanie@crhmaui.com  
www.crhmaui.com

### **Maui Tradewinds Vacation Rentals**

Contact: David Dantes  
4320 Une Place; Ha'ikū, Maui, HI 96708; Ph: (808) 573-0066  
Fax: 808-573-2217  
tradewds@maui.net  
www.mauitradewinds.com

### **Aloha Destinations/McCoy Travel & Cruise Center**

Contact: Melissa McCoy  
355 Hukilike Street, Ste. 207; Kahului, Maui, HI 96732; Ph: (808) 893-0388  
weddingmoons@alohadestinations.com  
www.alohadestinations.com

## **PHOTOGRAPHERS / VIDEOGRAPHERS / WEBCAST**

### **Gordon Nash Photography**

Contact: Gordon Nash  
535 Lipoa Pkwy., Ste. 188B; Kihei, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 875-9503; Toll Free: (888) 286-5979  
Fax: (808) 442-0096  
aloha@gordonnash.com  
www.gordonnash.com

### **Tad Craig Photography**

Contact: Tad Craig  
120 Hāna Hwy. #9, Ste. 310; Pā'ia, Maui, HI 96779; Ph: (808) 579-9571  
Fax: (808) 579-9520  
tad@tadcraigphotography.com  
www.tadcraigphotography.com

### **Maui Wedding Imagery**

Contact: Vincent Salamander  
483 S. Kihei Road, Ste. 214; Kihei, Maui HI 96753; Ph: (808) 357-6979; Toll Free: (888) 386-

8083

Fax: (808) 878-8580

info@mauiweddingimagery.com

www.mauiweddingimagery.com

**Mike Sidney Photographer**

Contact: Mike Sidney

2200 Main Street, Ste. 540; Wailuku, Maui, HI 96793; Ph: (808) 249-2808; Toll Free: (888) 505-2808

Fax: (808) 249-2818

mike@mikesidneyphotographer.com

www.mikesidneyphotographer.com

**Photography by Shasta Rose**

Contact: Shasta Rose

P.O. Box 329; Kihei, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 572-8766; Toll Free: (866) 874-8755

mauiphoto@hawaii.rr.com

www.photographybyshasta.com

**Photography By Thomas**

Contact: Matthew Thomas

1135 Makawao Avenue, Ste. #103-285; Makawao, Maui, HI 96768; Ph: (808) 572-5140

matthew@photographybythomas.com

www.photographybythomas.com

**Robert K. Mahler**

Contact: Robert Mahler

727 Waine'e St., Ste. 201; Lāhaina, Maui, HI 96761; Ph: (808) 667-2271; Toll Free: (800) 298-2271

Fax: (808) 667-5795

coordinator@alohamoments.com

www.alohamoments.com

**Yolanda Pelayo**

Contact: Yolanda Pelayo

107 West Kuiaha; Ha'ikū, Maui, HI 96708; Ph: (808) 281-3435

hola@yolandaphoto.com

www.yolandaphoto.com

**Aihara Visuals**

Contact: Kimberlee Aihara

P.O. Box 880485; Pukalani, Maui, HI 96768; Ph: (808) 268-9554

Fax: (808) 572-3686

aiharavisuals@hawaii.rr.com

www.aiharavisuals.com

**Amity Mason Photography**

Contact: Amity Mason  
90 Pukolu Way; Wailea, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 281-4662  
amity@amitymason.com  
www.amitymason.com

**Brian Sturgis Photography**

Contact: Brian Sturgis  
55 Lepo Place; Ha'ikū, Maui, HI 96708; Ph: (808) 572-6425  
info@weddingphotographer-maui.com  
www.weddingphotographer-maui.com

**John Carty Photography**

Contact: John Carty  
5095 Napilihau Street, Ste. 109b-294; Lāhaina, Maui, HI 96761; Ph: (808) 276-8733  
www.johncarty.com

**Lizada Photography**

Contact: Ceasar L. Lizada  
303 Huaka Street, Kihei, Maui HI 96753; Ph: (808) 874-6102; Toll Free: (866) 874-6102  
Fax: (808) 874-8558  
lizadaco01@hawaii.rr.com  
www.lizadaphotography.com

**Making Maui Memories Photography and Videography**

Contact: Jillian Ackemann  
P.O. Box 1913; Kihei, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 875-8461; Toll Free: (800) 878-1583  
Fax: (808) 875-8461  
jillian@mauiphoto.com  
www.mauipphoto.com

**Bright Light Productions**

Contact: Cindy Paulos  
P.O. Box 84; Wailuku, Maui, HI 96793; Ph: (808) 283-2488; Toll Free: (877) 881-4888  
cindy@tiki.net  
www.mauiweddingvideo.com

**Live Webcast**

Contact: Stephan Boeker  
248 Pakalana Place; Kihei, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 270-3027  
stephan@livemauiwebcast.com  
www.livemauiwebcasts.com

**Maui Island Video**

Contact: Dan & Jeane McMahan  
10 Keola Place; Makawao, Maui, HI 96768; Ph: (808) 573-2336  
mauiislandvideo@hotmail.com

## **CAKES**

### **Stillwells Bakery and Café**

1740 Ka'ahumanu Avenue  
Wailuku, HI 96793  
808-243-2243

### **Broke Da Mouth Cookie Company**

190 Alamaha Street, Ste. B  
Kahului, HI 96732  
808-873-9255

### **Maui Bake Shop & Deli**

2092 W. Vineyard Street  
Wailuku, HI 96793  
808-242-0064

### **Maui Wedding Cakes**

Contact: Casey & Cheryl Logsdon  
Ph: (808) 874-5932; Toll Free: (866) 537-8888  
Fax: (808) 874-1832  
weddingcake@hawaii.rr.com  
www.mauiweddingcakes.com

### **Maxwell's Cakes & Cookies**

P.O. Box 13236; Lāhaina, Maui, HI 96761; Ph: (808) 669-4494; Toll Free: (866) 500-2253  
Fax: (808) 669-6747  
jay@maxwellscakes.com  
www.maxwellscakes.com

### **Ghiselani Wedding Cakes**

Contact: Marie Ghiselani Audant  
2860 Ualani Place; Pukalani, Maui, HI 96768; Ph: (808) 385-0481  
Fax: (808) 572-4991  
designercakes@mauicakestore.com  
www.mauicakestore.com

## **CATERERS / LIQUOR**

### **Larry Mischle Caterer Extraordinaire**

Contact: Larry Mischle  
281 Kaikea St; Kihei, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 281-1913  
Fax: (808) 879-1183  
larry@mauiweddingcaterer.com  
www.mauiweddingcaterer.com

**Hāli‘imaile General Store**

900 Hāli‘imaile Road; Makawao, Maui, HI; Ph: (808) 572-2666  
www.bevgannonrestaurants.com

**Mr. Wine**

808 Wainē‘e Street; Lāhaina, Maui, HI 96761; Ph: (808) 661-5551  
www.mrwinemaui.com

**Hawai‘i Liquor Superstore**

Contact: Stephen Blateric  
270 Dairy Road, Ste. 130; Kahului, Maui, HI 96732; Ph: (808) 877-8778  
Fax: (808) 873-8488  
stephenhls@comcast.net

**FLORISTS**

**Asa Flowers**

Contact: Asa Ige  
1063 Lower Main St., Suite C-202; Wailuku HI 96793; Ph: (808) 249-8845  
www.asaflowers.com

**Bella Grace Flowers**

Contact: Mandy L. Grace  
415 Dairy Road, Ste. E-201; Kahului, Maui, HI 96732; Ph: (808) 268-2512; Toll Free: (866) 628-3624  
Fax: (808) 442-0801  
info@bellagraceflowers.com  
www.bellagraceflowers.com

**Dellables**

Contact: Della Peacock  
P.O. Box 791404; Pā‘ia, Maui, HI 96779; Ph: (808) 344-1811  
della@peacock.com  
www.dellables.com

**Flowers by Melissa**

Contact: Melissa Rupert  
P.O. Box 323; Kula, Maui, HI 96790; Ph: (808) 878-3903

Fax: (808) 579-8033  
flowersbymelissa7@msn.com  
www.mauiflowers.com

**Maui Blooms**

Contact: Jennifer Dillon  
P.O. Box 29; Kihei, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 268-2512; Toll Free: (800) 451-0618

Fax: (808) 875-9201  
info@mauiblooms.com  
www.mauiblooms.com

**Maui Elegance Floral Design**

Contact: Leah Robb  
688 Imihale Street; Kihei, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 870-3124  
Fax: (808) 891-2480  
lrobb@mauifloraldesign.com  
www.mauifloraldesign.com

**Maui Sunset Florals**

Contact: Shari Pierson  
P.O. Box 1911; Kihei, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 879-9923  
Fax: (808) 879-9929  
shari\_pierson@yahoo.com  
www.mauisunsetflorals.com

**Nāpili Florist**

5095 Nāpili Street; Nāpili, Maui, HI 96761; Ph: (808) 669-4861  
www.napiliflorist.com

**Think Silks**

Contact: Marcia Williams  
239 Waipahe Place; Kihei, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 283-2577  
Fax: (808) 879-4689  
marcia@thinksilks.com  
www.thinksilks.com

**FORMAL WEAR / ALTERATIONS / BRIDAL**

**Elly's Formal Wear and Bridals**

Contact: Elly Ewbank  
1770 South Kihei Road; Kihei, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 879-7010; Toll Free: (888) 522-5477  
Fax: (808) 879-7280  
info@ellysformalwear.com  
www.ellysformalwear.com

**L'amour Wedding / Bridal Salon**

Geanelli Lewis  
222 Papalua Street, Ste. 221; Lāhaina, Maui, HI 96761; Ph: (808) 667-5822; Toll Free (800)  
886-  
5313;  
Fax: (808) 667-5811

formalwear@lamourwedding.com

**Lāhaina Towne Tuxedos**

Contact: Mary Vosika

845 Wainē'e Street, Ste. 101; Lāhaina, Maui, HI 96761; Ph: (808) 667-4040; Toll Free: (877) 984-

4040

Fax: (808) 667-9226

info@mauituxedos.com

www.mauituxedos.com

**Mauishirts.com**

222 Papalua Street, Ste. 219; Lāhaina, Maui, HI 96761; Ph: (808) 661-1536; Toll Free: (866) 628-

4626

Fax: (808) 661-1562

mauiman@mauishirts.com

www.mauishirts.com/hawaiian-wedding-apparel.html

**Hanabound**

Contact: Marlys-Violet Spencer

P.O. Box 979; Pu'unēnē, Maui, HI 96784; Ph: (808) 269-1152

hanabound@yahoo.com

www.hanabound.net

**Mahana Maui**

*Bridal Jewelry*

Contact: Lauren Dunn

P.O. Box 71540; Pā'ia, Maui, HI 96779; Ph: (808) 280-3327

Fax: (808) 572-0636

mail@mahanamaui.net

www.mahanamaui.net

**SPAS / SALONS / NAILS**

**Makeup by MeiLi**

Ph: (808) 280-2989

www.mauiweddingmakeup.com

**Massage Maui**

Contact: Lisa Berthust

145 N. Kihei Road; Kihei, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 874-8799

Fax: (808) 874-5414

info@massage-maui.com

www.massage-maui.com

**Natural Nails By Mimi**

Contact: Michele A. Evangelista (Mimi)

P.O. Box 631552; Lānaʻi City, Lānaʻi, HI 96763; Ph: (808) 280-1730

Fax: 808-565-8009

mimi@tiki.net

www.naturalnailsbymimi.com

**On Location Styling**

Contact: Heather Green

P.O. Box 790812; Pāʻia, Maui, HI 96779; Ph: (808) 276-5750

info@onlocationstyling.com

www.onlocationstyling.com

**Enderbodies Day Spa**

Contact: Kaatee Kemper

33 Lono Ave., Ste. 380; Kahului, Maui, HI 96779; Ph: (808) 877-7525

enderbodies@aol.com

**Hyatt Regency Maui Resort & Spa**

Contact: Josay Fernandes

200 Nohea Kai Drive; Lāhaina, Maui, HI 96761; Ph: (808) 667-4725

Fax: (808) 667-4739

jfernandes@hyatt.com

www.maui.hyatt.com

**Mandara Spa**

Contact: Michael Lanzo

3700 Wailea Alanui Nui Drive; Wailea, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 891-8774

Fax: (808) 891-8025

michael@mandaraspaspa.com

www.mandaraspaspa.com

**La Fleur Nail Salon, LLC**

Contact: Steve Ababan

2395 S. Kihei Road, Ste. 116; Kihei, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 879-8689

Fax: (808) 879-8770

lafleurplumeria@gmail.com

www.mauinailsalon.com

**ENTERTAINERS / MUSICIANS / D.J.S****Brooks Maguire**

*Guitar*

180 Dickenson Street, Ste. 120; Lāhaina, Maui, HI 96761, Ph: (808) 280-8801  
www.brooksmaguire.com

**Kahaiali'i Productions**

*Hula, Lū'au, Music, D.J.*

Contact: Wilmont K. Kahaiali'i, Jr.

213 Akeke Place; Lāhaina, Maui, HI 96761; Ph: (808) 283-9651

wilmontk@maui.net

www.mauiweddingmusician.com

**Michael K & The Chapman Stick**

Contact: Michael Kollwitz

843 Wainē'e Street, F5, Ste. 708; Lāhaina, Maui, HI 96761; Ph: (808) 205-9300

Toll Free: (888) 784-5478

michael@michaelkollwitz.com

www.michaelkollwitz.com

**Island Magic, Inc.**

*Magician*

Contact: Al Loha

P.O. Box 6; Kahului, Maui, HI 96733; Ph: (808) 874-2591; Toll Free: (800) 874-2591

magic@al-loha.com

www.al-loha.com

**Rosewood Productions**

*Classical Guitar*

Contact: Vance Koenig

P.O. Box 876; Kula, Maui, HI 96790; Ph: (808) 276-1085

rosewood@maui.net

www.mauiguitar.com

**Sound Wave Recording & Sound**

*D.J., Wedding Sound, Recording*

Contact: Billy Arbour

1672 South Kihei Road; Kihei, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 874-5175

soundwaverecording@yahoo.com

www.soundwaverecording.net

**Cambria Moss, Violinist**

Contact: Cambria Moss

1993 South Kihei Road, Ste. 21; Kihei, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 283-6945

cambria@mauiweddingmusic.com

www.mauiweddingmusic.com

**Geoffrey C. Naylor, Harpist**

Contact: Geoffrey C. Naylor

2695 Lia Place; Ha'ikū, Maui, HI 96708; Ph: (808) 280-1829  
geoffrey96708@hawaiiantel.net

**Ginny Morgan**

*Harp, Cello, Flute, Sax, Ensembles*

Contact: Ginny Morgan

745 Mililani Place; Kihei, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 879-4453

Fax: (808) 879-4453

gmorgan@maui.net

www.mauiharpmusic.com

**Heavenly Harps of Hawai'i**

*Harp, Vocals, Ensembles with Violin, Flute, Cello*

Contact: Celia Canty

P.O. Box 1571; Kihei, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 870-6050

Fax: (808) 879-1996

harpinfo@heavenlyharps.com

www.heavenlyharps.com

**Paradise Island Music**

Contact: Ken Stover

490 Miki'oi Place; Kihei, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 875-4840

Fax: (808) 879-3998

kstover@maui.net

www.paradiseislandmusic.com

**RENTALS**

**Island Rents**

Contact: Rachael Barnard

300 Ohukai Road, Ste. C-206; Kihei, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 879-5330

Fax: (808) 878-3830

info@islandrentsmaui.com

www.islandrentsmaui.com

**STATIONERY / FAVORS / MAUI-MADE**

**Island Paperie**

Contact: Megan Crossley

737 Lower Main Street, Suite B-2; Kahului, Maui, HI 96793; Ph: (808) 244-1166

Toll Free: (800) 466-1223

aloha@islandpaperie.com

www.islandpaperie.com

**Pixel Printing & Office Center**

Contact: April J. Mendes & Aimee Souza  
380 Huki Li'i Place, Ste. 108; Kihei, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 874-1299  
april@pixelhawaii.com  
www.pixelhawaii.com

**Take Home Maui**

121 Dickenson Street; Lāhaina, Maui, HI 96761; Ph: (808) 661-8067  
www.takehomemaui.com

**Hawaiian Island Prints**

Contact: Sara Gadarian  
P.O. Box 10339; Lāhaina, Maui, HI 96761; Ph: (808) 667-7979  
Fax: (808) 667-7979  
wedsara@aol.com  
www.hawaiianislandprints.com

**MISCELLANEOUS WEDDING**

**Heavenly Petals of Maui**

*Freeze Dried Wedding Bouquet Preservation*

Contact: Gengi DeBoer  
47 Luakaha Circle; Kihei, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 875-7172  
heavenlypetalsofmaui@hawaii.rr.com  
www.heavenlypetalsofmaui.com

**Dave's Metal Detecting**

*Lost rings on the beach*

Contact: David Sheldon  
P.O. Box 882; Kihei, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 879-0972; Cell: (808) 276-5302  
davski@mauibuilt.com

**TRANSPORTATION**

**Sunshine Helicopters**

1 Kahului Airport Road, Hangar 107; Kahului, Maui, HI 96732; Ph: (808) 871-0722  
www.sunshinehelicopters.com.

**Blue Hawaiian Helicopters**

Contact: Jan Lovejoy  
105 Kahului Heliport; Kahului, Maui, HI 96732; Ph: (808) 871-8844  
jan@bluehawaiian.com  
www.bluehawaiian.com

**Carey Hawai'i/Town & Country Limousine**

Contact: Kathy Barr

333 Waipalani Road; Ha'ikū, HI 96708; Ph: (808) 572-3400  
limomau@yahoo.com  
www.hawaiilimo.com

**Akina Aloha Tours**

Contact: Cassie Akina  
P.O. Box 933; Kihei, Maui, HI 96753; Ph: (808) 879-2828  
Fax: (808) 879-0524  
cakina@akinatours.com  
www.akinatours.com

**Weddings on Horseback**

Contact: Rev. Adrianna Levinson  
P.O. Box 1419; Makawao, Maui, HI 96768; Ph: (808) 573-8652  
adrianna@aloha.net

**ACTIVITIES**

**Maui Horse 'n Buggy Rides**

Ph: (808) 572-4027  
www.mauihorsenbuggy.com

**Best Hawai'i Activities**

Contact: Sherry Boonstra Barbeir  
252 Lahainaluna Road; Lāhaina, Maui, HI 96761; Toll Free: (877) 661-6655  
www.besthawaiiactivities.com.

**Parasail in Paradise with Kā'anapali Parasail, Lāhaina Parasail and West Maui Parasail**

*Offered seasonally from May 16-December 14*

Ph: (808) 661-4060  
www.westmauiparasail.com

**Surfing Goat Dairy**

3651 'Oma'opio Road; Kula, Maui, HI 96790; Ph: (808) 878-2870  
www.surfinggoatdairy.com

**Maui Arts & Cultural Center**

One Cameron Way; Kahului, Maui, HI 96732; Ph: (808) 242-2787  
www.mauiarts.org

**Pacific Whale Foundation**

300 Mā'alaea Road, Ste. 211; Wailuku, Maui, HI; Ph: (808) 879-8811; Toll Free: (800) 942-5311  
www.pacificwhale.org.

**Lāhaina-Kā'anapali & Pacific Railroad**

975 Limahana Place, Ste. 203; Lāhaina, Maui, HI 96761; Ph: (808) 667-6851  
www.sugarcanetrain.com

**Maui Eco-Adventures**

180 Dickenson Street, Ste. 102; Lāhaina, Maui, HI 96761; Toll Free: (877) 661-7720  
www.ecomaui.com

**Skyline Eco-Adventures***Ziplines*

P.O. Box 880518; Pukalani, Maui, HI 96788; Ph: (808) 878-8400  
info@skylinehawaii.com  
www.skylinehawaii.com

**Star Gazers Maui**

70 Hau'oli Street, Ste. 412; Wailuku, Maui, HI 96793; Ph: (808) 281-9158  
jim@stargazersmaui.com  
www.stargazersmaui.com

**MOLOKA'I****Moloka'i Coffee Plantation**

99-910 Iwaena Street; Aiea, Moloka'i, HI 96701  
www.molokaicoffee.com

**Purdy's Natural Macadamia Nut Farm**

Harry K. (Tuddie) Purdy III & Kammy Purdy  
P.O. Box 84, Ho'olehua, Molokai, HI 96757; Ph: (808) 567-6601; toll Free: (800) 567-755  
www.molokai-loha.com/macnuts

**Moloka'i Mule Ride: Moloka'i's Kalaupapa National Historical Park**

P.O. Box 200; Kualapu'u, Moloka'i, HI 96757; Ph: (808) 567-6088; Toll Free: (800) 567-7550  
www.muleride.com

**HONEYMOON REGISTRIES****The Big Day**

Ph: (800) 304-1141  
mediainquiries@thebigday.com  
www.thebigday.com

**Marriott Resorts & Hotels**

www.marriottregistry.com

## **Starwood Resorts & Hotels**

www.spghoneymoons.com

## **MARRIAGE LICENSE**

State of Hawai'i

Department of Health, Marriage License Section

P.O. Box 3378; Honolulu, HI 96801; Ph: (808) 586-4544

www.hawaii.gov

Download Application: <http://www.hawaii.gov/health/vital-records/vital-records/marriage/index.html>

### **Maui Nui Designated Marriage License Agents**

Maui (808) 984-8210

Lāna'i (808) 565-6411

Moloka'i (808) 553-3663

*Note:* Hawai'i offers a "Reciprocal Beneficiary Relationship" registration between any two unmarried persons (who are legally prevented from marrying), including same-sex couples, thus extending certain privileges associated with marriage to the registered couple. Civil unions and same-sex marriages are not recognized.

*\*\*Note: Listed resources do not constitute a comprehensive directory and are only a sampling.*