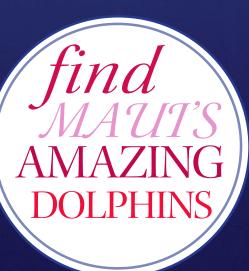
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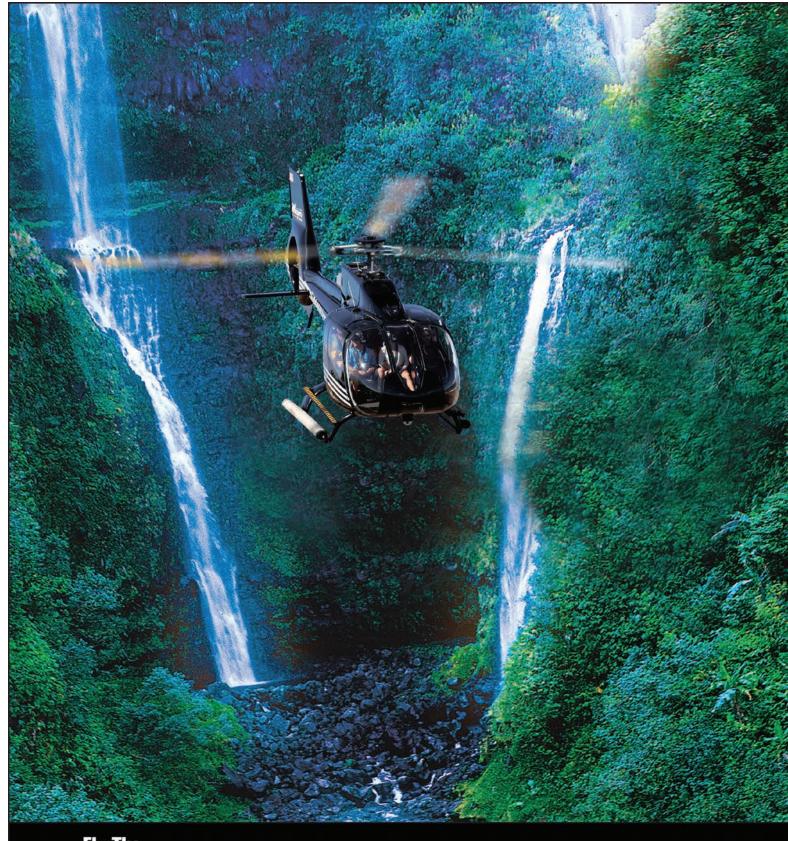
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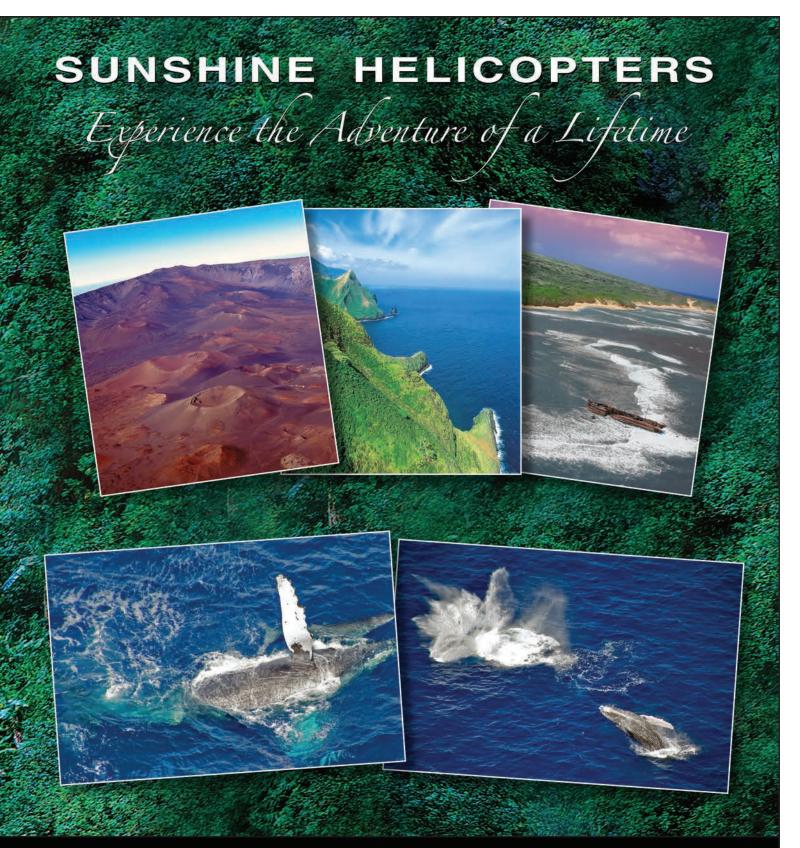
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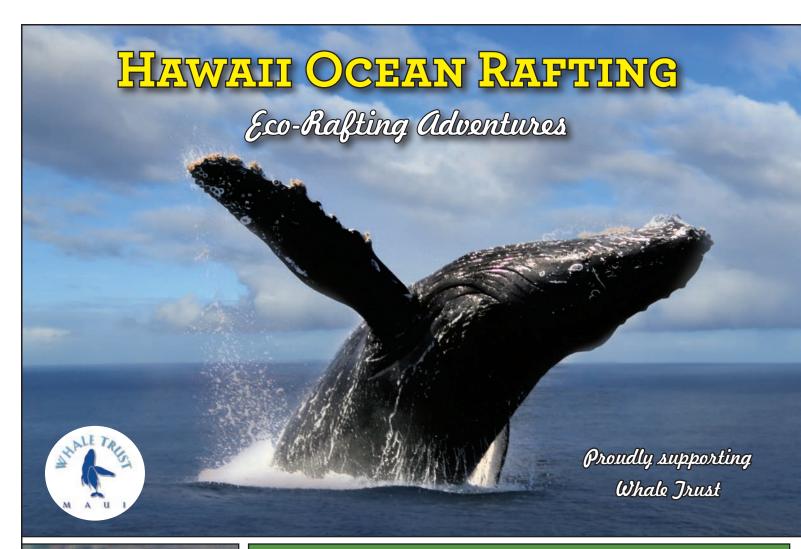
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how to choose

Okay, so you've decided that 100% without a doubt, you're going whale watching. Bravo, you've made a very smart decision. Flying thousands of miles to Maui and not going whale watching is sort of like ordering a fantastic meal when you're really hungry and not eating it. So, now that you're settled on seeing the humpbacks, the next choice is – and it's really important – what type of boat do you want to go on? The choices are endless, so we've created the following guide to help you out. Enjoy!

SIZE matters

Group size refers to the number of passengers onboard. This number depends upon the type of boat, tour and company policy. Smaller boats tend to allow for a more intimate & personal experience and may cost a little more, whereas larger boats accommodate larger groups, sometimes allowing up to 149 passengers or more, and may cost a little less.

TIP

Ask in advance:

"How many people does your boat carry?"

TUSH cush

Not all boats are created equal. Cushioned seats with a backrest can make all the difference, no matter what type of boat you choose. At the same time you'll need to be aware of seating configurations, as some boats set their seating up in a way that results in some unlucky passengers getting stuck in the middle, meaning you better run in order to get a good seat!

TID

Ask in advance:

"Do all your seats have cushioned backrests?"

FAR or close

The law states that no boat can approach a whale closer than 100 yards. However, if whales approach the boat, that's perfectly ok. Smaller boats are more maneuverable and can get to the whales faster, something exciting but not for everyone. Plus, some of the smaller and faster rafts can get a bit wet and rough, so make sure to find the right match for your whale watching style.

TIP

Ask in advance:

"Does your company guarantee whale sightings?"

PLACE of harbor

There are five places that boats depart from Maui. Maalaea is the biggest harbor, about 45 min. – 1 hour from most hotel areas. Kihei boat ramp is closest to Kihei & Maalaea, but trickier for boarding. Lahaina Harbor, Mala Wharf and Kaanapali are close to all West Maui hotels and condos, but Lahaina Harbor offers the most consistently calm waters for boarding & whale watching.

TIP

Ask in advance:

"Where do you leave from?"

XTRA

stuff

Considerations like having a bathroom, shaded seating, space to move around and railings for toddlers are all important things to think about. Also, if features like an onboard restroom. front row seating, kid discounts and hydrophones are important, check in advance. And be aware that not all boats allow young children to go on their whale watch trips.

TIP

Ask in advance about any features that are important to you.



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LETTER

from our

FEATURED PHOTOGRAPHER

Witnessing a forty-five foot, 90,000-pound animal drive its entire body out of the water, in full breach of its watery environment, is a simply amazing thing to witness. It's just one of the many spectacular behaviors of the humpback whale.

We who live on Maui, and all those who visit during whale season, have ongoing access to this wonderful privilege. Every year, greeted with great anticipation, a majority of the North Pacific humpback whale population returns to Hawaii to mate and give birth. Most of those come to Maui.

This privilege is not to be taken lightly. Conditions on our planet are rapidly changing. Our behavior, as human beings, needs to be both educated and respectful in order to allow humpback whales the free space they need to continue their success as a species. We almost wiped them out 50 years ago.

As you enjoy the Humpback Whale Show, please think about all that you can do to support and respect them, as well as all other ocean inhabitants. Their lives, and eventually ours, depend on the very health of the oceans and the reefs.

Be part of the success of life on our planet.

It's All About the Love..... MartyWolff

WINTER 2019









Feature Stories:

An Inside View of Humpback Behavior

Learn about the shows the whales put on each year, and why the researchers think they're doing it.

- 23 Best Snorkel Boat Trips A great resource to make sure you not only choose the best type of snorkel trip, but the best boat too.
- **26** From Baby Whale to Adult Learn how fast the humpbacks grow, both in size and weight.
- **29** Best Ocean Adventures Our personal recommendations for every type of ocean adventure.
- **Whale Behavior Guide** Filled with photos and descriptions of what you'll see when you're out there whale watching.
- **34** Best Whale Watch Tours A list of our recommended whale watching trips and boats.

- **37** History of Whaling on Maui From past to present, Lahaina has always been the humpback capital.
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Alaska to Hawaii and back. **49** The Annual Maui Winter

- **Music Festival** Find out how to get free admission to the most beautiful underwater symphony in all the world.
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- **60** Mapping out the Whales Where to find the humpbacks, aka Megaptera Novaeangliae.



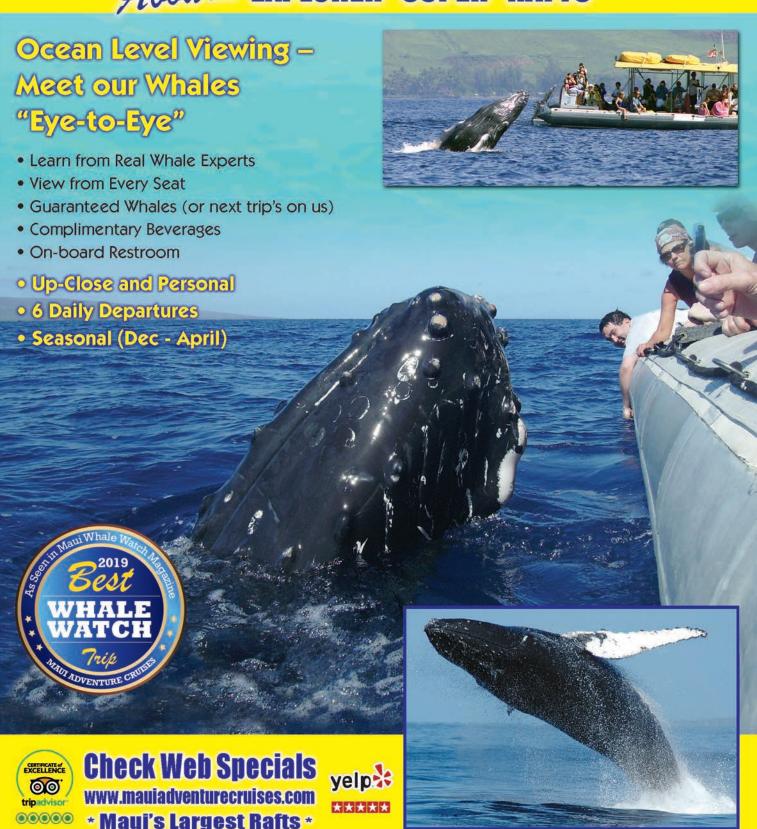
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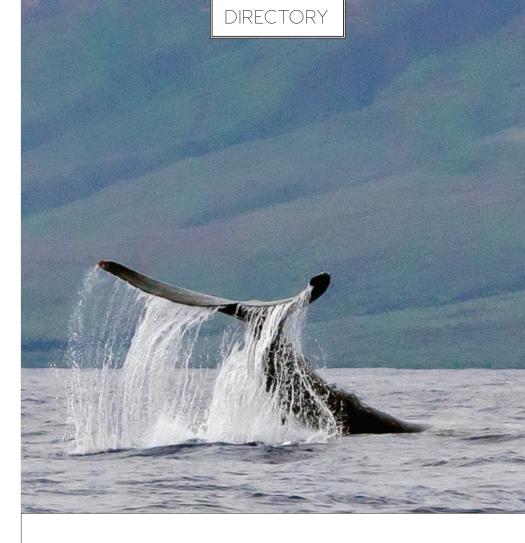
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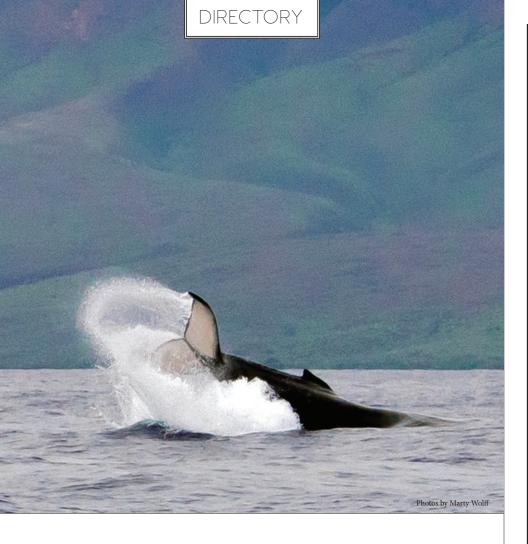
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Dining Out & Tasty Treats

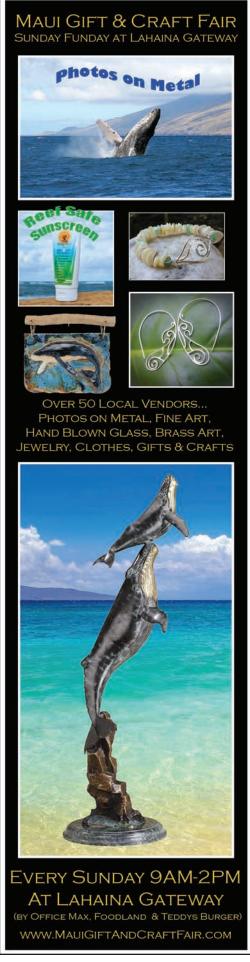
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An inside view of

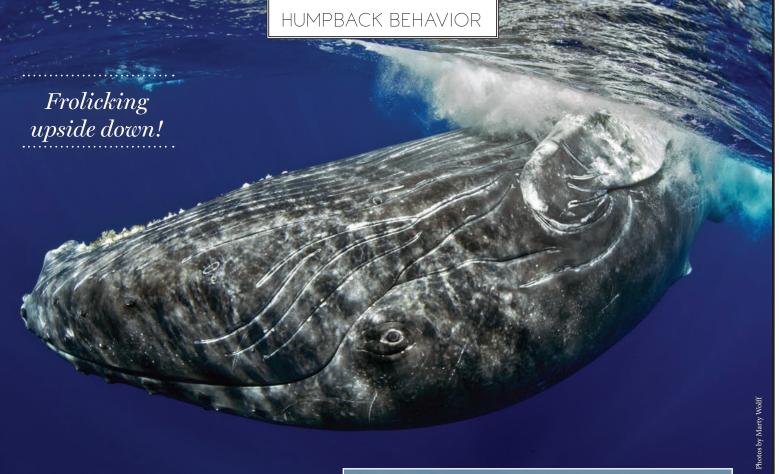


BEHAVIOR

hales, the gentle giants of the sea, are some of the most fascinating creatures on Earth, and humpback whales in particular are real crowd pleasers with their amazing acrobatics. They can be seen in Hawaii's near shore waters

during winter, and their impressive athletic displays are often visible from miles away, making them a favorite for whale watchers.

Although whales spend 90 percent of their lives beneath the surface of the ocean, the small percentage of time they spend exhibiting surface displays provides plenty of thrills for us human observers. The question is, why are humpbacks one of the few whales that put on such exhibitions? Is it for fun? A way of communicating? Are these antics designed to catch prey, help navigate, or



to court other whales? Leading researchers are weighing in and, armed with extensive studies, some interesting explanations are emerging. With all the information collected, the question of why humpbacks breach (a behavior frequently witnessed by whale watchers) is still not known.

Breaching is the most amazing feat of physical strength in the animal kingdom. Humpbacks breach by thrusting themselves up out of the water and into the air, sometimes from head all the way to tail, which is called a "full breach." The power it takes for a 66,000 pound adult whale to breach is the equivalent of you trying to swim up and fly out of the ocean with 10 Hummers strapped to your back. Imagine trying to do that!

The four most common theories to explain why humpbacks breach are: it's fun, to get rid of parasites, as a territorial display to keep threats away, and to communicate. The truth is, there's no definitive proof as to why they do this. The only thing that every researcher agrees upon is that witnessing a breach is a magnificent sight. Although the motivation behind breaching has been difficult

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to pinpoint, explanations for other behaviors are not so elusive. For example, in a recent study conducted by Dr. Jim Darling for the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary, it was reported that males often utilize one of two techniques to gain access to females. They either perform aggressive displays and fight other males in order to gain dominance, or they form coalitions with other males in order to cooperate in accessing females.

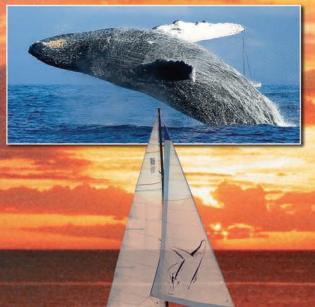
Darling also confirmed that humpbacks have been known to give care to injured whales. In fact, in 1996, researchers on Maui witnessed a male with his pectoral fin wrapped around another whale that had died. The compassionate whale kept trying to push the other up to the surface, protecting him for hours on end.

Another curious humpback behavior is called spyhopping. This is when the whale brings its head up and out of the water, essentially treading water,

(continued on page 20)

SCOTCH MIST SAILING

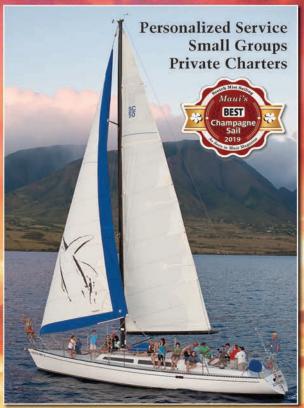








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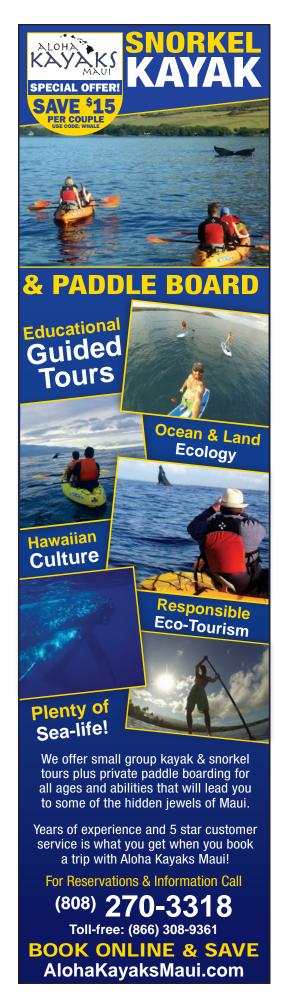
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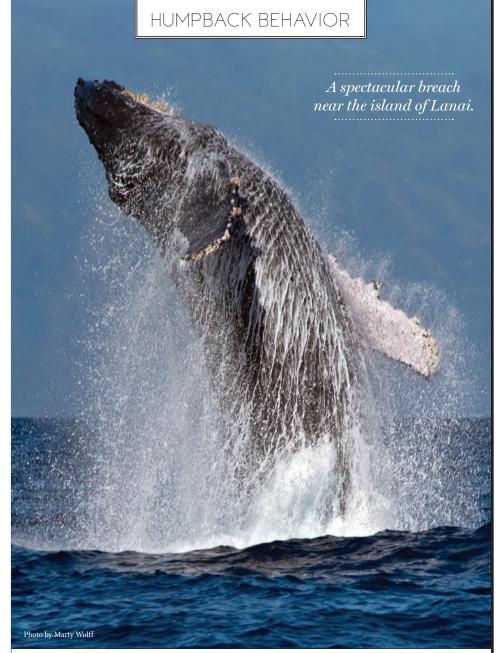
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sometimes for up to a minute or longer. In this situation, the purpose of their behavior is very clear: they're checking things out with their eyes (which, by the way, are about the size of grapefruits).

Spyhopping often occurs during a "mugging," when the whale becomes focused on the boat and makes it impossible for the captain to leave due to the 100 yard law. These "muggings" are what everyone hopes for on a whale watch.

Other behaviors such as peduncle and tail throws, head lunges, and bubbling (see our Humpback Whale Behavior Guide on page 30), have all been clearly confirmed by scientists as being aggressive in nature. Once again, where some behavioral studies result in clear answers, others, like

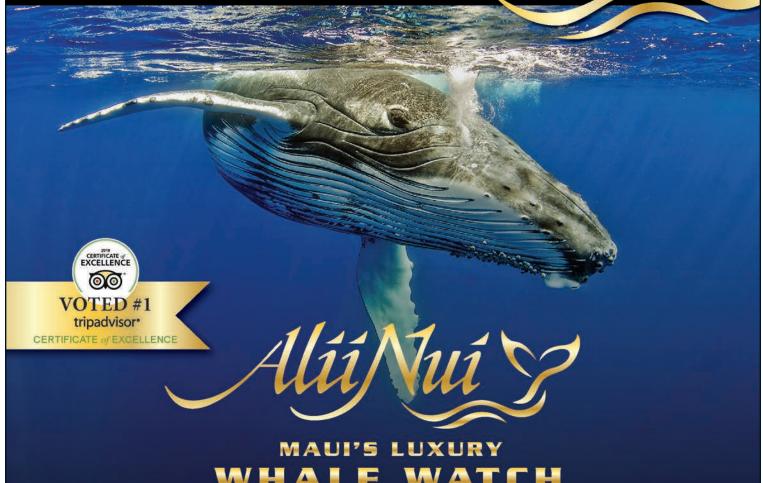
research surrounding the study of whale songs, don't provide sufficient data to have one single answer.

Although it's known that most of the documented singing occurs during the breeding season, males are the only ones singing. All whales in one population sing the same song, and singing generally stops when one whale joins the singer; the reasons for the song is still unknown. Hypotheses range from the idea that songs are sung to attract females, to ward off or demonstrate status to other males, or as a geographic location indicator for other whales.

The truth is, until we're able to directly communicate with the amazing humpbacks, the reason why they breach, spyhop, and sing will in all likelihood, remain a mystery.

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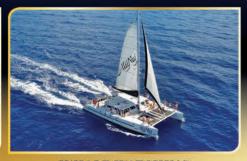
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Not every boat or snorkel adventure is right for everyone. This handy quick guide will help you choose the boat that's right for you.

GREAT FOR KIDS & SENIORS

Some boats and adventures are definitely suited more for kids and seniors than others. These boats will always have both sunny & shady seating and restrooms. Both the larger, smoother, stable ships, and smaller, private boat charters are perfect for the entire family. Our editor's choices are indicated below.

Larger, more stable catamarans: Agua Adventures 808-573-2104 Hawaii Ocean Project 808-667-6165 Intimate private charters: Makai Adventures 808-495-1001

PERFECT FOR ROMANCE

If you're looking to create memories that will last a lifetime, with that someone special that's on vacation with you in Maui, then a sailing cruise or a romantic dinner cruise is the ticket. Both of these trips are perfect to celebrate your love, or for falling in love all over again. Our editor's choices are indicated below.

Sail Boats & Dinner Cruises:

Ali'i Nui Sailing & Dinner Cruise 808-875-0333 Kainani Sails 808-495-1001 Maui Classic Charter Sailing . . 808-879-8188 Maui Princess Dinner Cruise ... 808-667-6165 Scotch Mist Sailing Charters .. 808-661-0386 Trilogy Sailing Excursions 808-495-0999

WET, WILD & FUN

If you're looking for a snorkel adventure that will keep you close to the water the entire time, then you'll want to hop aboard a high-speed raft or a kayak. Both of these types of trips are perfect if you're after adventurous fun! Our editor's choices are indicated below.

Ocean Rafting Adventures:

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MAUI'S KEIKI KOHOLA

By Rachel Cartwright



Each winter, the waters of the Au'Au Channel between Maui and Lanai become an impromptu nursery for a new generation of humpback whales.

The Keiki Koholā Project is a small, local research organization with a big goal; their aim is to protect this unique playground and ensure the health and safety of humpback whale mother and calf pairs within this special area.

In the Hawaiian language, "keiki" means young one, the term "koholā" refers to whales, so Keiki Koholā means young whale. The youngest humpback whales begin their lives in Maui's warm, protected waters. Pregnant humpback whales swim over 3000 miles to reach this perfect nursery. For moms-to-be, their goal is get beyond the range of their key

predator, the transient Orca, as baby whales would be perfect Orca snacks. So they travel south, and at the end of their migration they give birth to a 2,000 lb. baby. Newborn calves measure 12 –15 feet in length, they can't hold their breath for long and they can't even swim very well. The warm, calm waters of Maui provide the perfect place to raise these young whales.

The Keiki Koholā Project conducts research that can be directly applied to help protect this unique area. Dr. Rachel Cartwright leads the scientific work, Captain Amy Venema, of Ultimate Whalewatch, handles logistics and John and Dan Cesere, of Cesere Fine Art Photography, bring their photographic skills to the team. Students and local volunteers also assist the team on the water.

Through their research, the team has identified 2 key stages in the development of young calves. The youngest calves are typically very active; this builds up muscles and improves their swimming abilities. For maturing calves, the priority is growth, so they spend 50% of

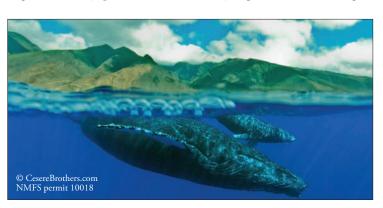
their time at rest. Thanks to mom's fat-rich milk, healthy calves gain 50 lbs in weight each day. The waters of the channel comprise critical habitat for mother and calf pairs during this time. Moms and calves carefully choose their resting spots, so if you're out on the water, give resting moms and calves lots of space. This is a great way to help ensure that these young whales get the best possible start in life.

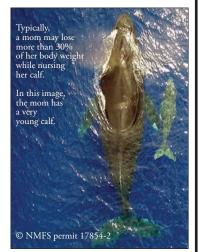
As climate change impacts our oceans, humpback whales face new and daunting challenges. Warming of the waters inyoung their feeding grounds is reducing food availability, and this is especially stressful for moms with young calves. So right now is the time when humpback whales really need our help.

Here's what you can do:

The warm, sheltered waters around Maui offer a safe and secure haven for humpback whale mother and calf pairs. Here's how you can help during your vacation to safeguard this special place:

1. If you go out whale-watching,





choose a reputable boat company and ask the company how they support the protection of this area.

- 2. If you go out kayaking or paddle-boarding, be sure to follow the rules. Stay at least 100 yards away and don't leap-frog in front of traveling whales. Give mother and calf pairs extra space. Rest is really important for these pairs and they are easily disturbed.
- 3. Choose one thing you can do to help protect our oceans. Ditch the straw, offset your air travel or join an environmental organization. Get involved and make sure your voice is heard.

For more information visit the Keiki Koholā Project website at www.caringforcalves.org.

Check out the latest press release from the National Marine Sanctuary at sanctuaries.noaa.gov/news/.

Note: Images obtained during permitted research activities conducted under permit 10018, 17145 and 17854-2.

Ultimate Whale Watch provides financial support to whale researchers who are publishing legitimate science, as well as support such as boats and volunteers to assist with research. Here's a list of some of them whom you can contribute to directly, and the research they have published.

Robin Baird

Cascadia Research Collective Toothed Whales and Dolphins Contact: CascadiaResearch.org

Dr. Rachel Cartwright

The Keiki Kohola Project Protecting Humpback Habitats Contact: CaringForCalves.org

Dr. Meagan Jones

Whale Trust Maui Whale Research & Awareness Contact: WhaleTrust.org

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Note: On July 18, 2012, one of Maui's most celebrated researchers for over 34 years, Dr. Dan R. Salden, passed away. He is missed by all.



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From baby to adult









At Birth

First Year

Six to Ten Years

Adult Humpback

After 11 months inside mama, they come out at about 10-20 feet in length weighing up to 2.5 tons. If you see a tiny whale with a bent flipper, you're looking at a newborn calf.

While learning how to eat fish, the calf nurses, drinking up to 130 gallons of milk each day. Each month they put on as much as 2,000 pounds in weight and grow a foot in length.

By the end of the first year, that adolescent can expect to be as large as 24 feet and 26,000 pounds - now that's a big baby!

This is when humpbacks are considered to have reached their maturity and are able to have babies of their own. At this stage, a male will be around 35 feet, and females average about 40 feet - yes, the girls are bigger!

Fully grown humpbacks reach up to 62 feet long and tip the scales at 79,000 pounds. On average, moms have a baby every couple of years. If they don't get caught in nets, hit by a boat, or killed by a predator, humpbacks can live as long as 80 years. That means over their life, a humpback could theoretically have 35 or more children. Can you imagine?

Humpback moms always stay close to their calves.





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Maui Adventure Cruises	50
Scotch Mist Sailing Charters808-661-03	86
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THE HUMPBACK WHALE BEHAVIOR COUNTY OF THE HUMPBACK WHALE BEHAVIOR Photos by Marty Wolff

Breach THRUSTING



One of the most exciting whale behaviors is breaching, where the humpback uses its tail to launch itself out of the water, and then lands back on surface with a tremendous splash. Sometimes you'll be lucky and see two or three whales breach side by side. Some researchers think this behavior may be a form of whale play or to dislodge parasites from the skin.

Spyhop HEAD RISE



When a humpback whale rises up toward the surface of the ocean with its head out of the water and its mouth closed, it's called spyhopping. Some researchers believe this activity allows the whale to "spy on" activity occurring above the surface. Often a humpback will come up to a boat and "check out" the passengers, a great treat for everyone on board.

Pec Slap FLIPPERING



Humpbacks have the longest pectoral fins of all whales - up to 15 feet in length, a third the size of their body. When a whale rolls on its back or side and slaps the water's surface with one or both of its fins simultaneously, it's known as a pectoral slap. It's thought that this slapping of fins may serve as a communication signal to other whales, but has not been proven as of yet.

Tail Slap



This is where a humpback raises its tail flukes out of the water and slaps them forcefully on the surface. It's often repeated as many as 35 times in a row! A whale can perform this action by either slapping the ventral (under) side of the flukes on the water, or in reverse by slapping the dorsal (top) side instead.

Rollover FLOAT BELLY UP



Most of the time, when a whale rolls onto its back and exposes its belly, it's a normal behavior and doesn't indicate any type of injury. One of the benefits for us, though, is that the white on their belly provides a strong contrast to the ocean surface and the dark color of the rest of their body, making them much easier to spot while whale watching.

BubblingAGGRESSION



While underwater, the whale releases a controlled stream of air, creating a mass of bubbles. This behavior can occur from the primary escort, or his challengers, as a protective or evasive maneuver. Bubbling creates a visual screen, and makes it harder for other humpback whales and predators to follow underwater.

Although there are hundreds of subtle behaviors displayed by humpbacks, the ones listed below are the most common:

Tail Throw PEDUNCLE SLAP



This is an extremely energetic display where the humpback throws its tail out of the water in a crack-the-whip fashion. In the process, it slaps its peduncle (the muscular rear portion of the body) on the surface as it crashes back into the water with astounding force. This can be done by escort males to ward off a particularly challenging male.

Jaw Clap AGGRESSION



This can commonly be seen in competitive or surfaceactive groups when males are competing for a female. This is where the whale opens its mouth wide enough for you to see the baleen (humpback's natural food filtering system) and closes its jaws, clapping them together. They do this with so much force and vigor that you can often even hear a loud "snap."

Blow SPOUTING



Whales are air-breathing mammals, and a blow is when the whale exhales air and water from its nostrils (called blowholes), producing a spray that can reach up to 15 feet in height. Humpback whales have two blowholes on the top of their heads and will typically blow between two and ten times before diving back under the surface.

Fluke Up A TYPE OF DIVE



A fluke up dive occurs when a whale lifts its tail upward as it begins to dive, revealing the ventral (underside) area, or the flukes. Researchers photograph the flukes to identify individual whales. It is usually a signal that the surface activity is over and that the whale is diving down underwater for a longer period of time.

Lunge **HEAD SLAPPING**

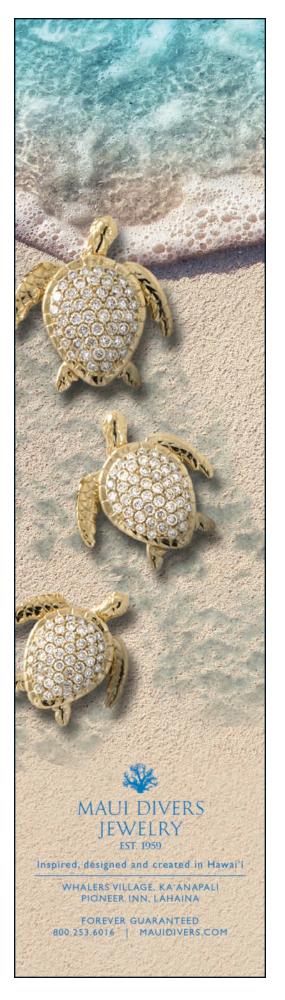


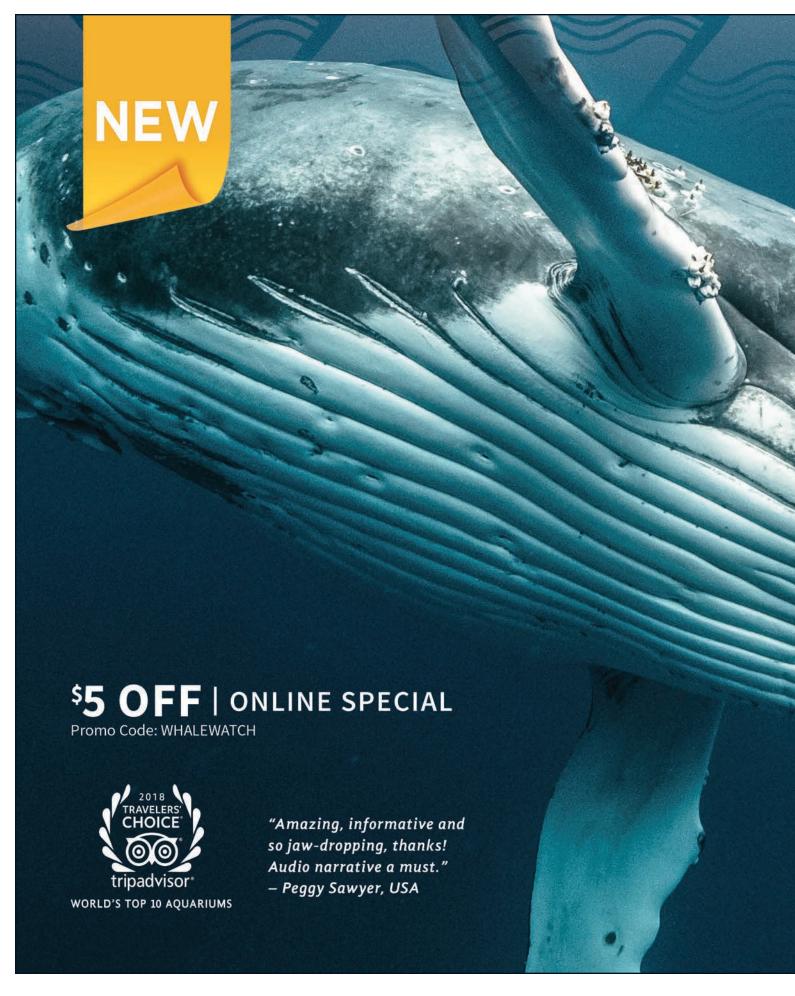
Head lunging is clearly competitive behavior where a humpback thrusts its head forward while raised above the water, often landing on another male (ouch!). This behavior is common in groups of whales where male escorts and challengers are competing for proximity to a female, or for hierarchy within a group.

Round Out PEDUNCLE ARCH



As whales come up to breathe, the motion with which they rise may cause the top hump of their back to be exposed above the water, often followed by their tail flukes. Typically a peduncle arch will be followed by a dive back down. This rounding behavior is how people came to name these whales "humpbacks."





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If you're here on Maui and just picked up this magazine, you must be interested in seeing the humpback whales! Well, these pages will help you discover the best whale watch adventures on Maui. So, get your cell phone out and get ready to make your reservations for front row seats to the greatest show on Earth!

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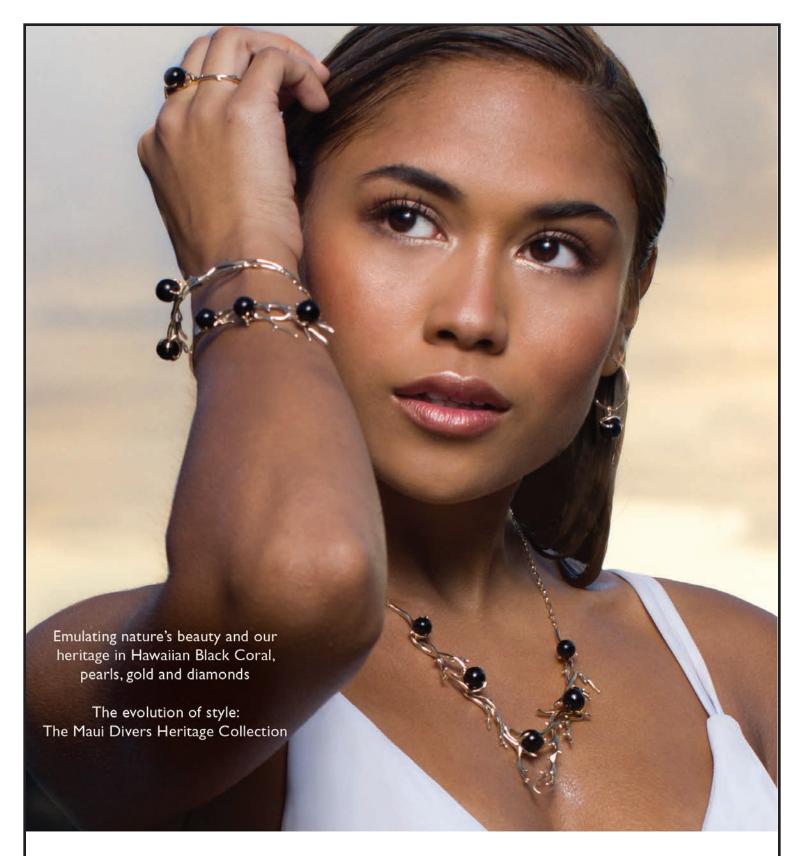
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MAUI DIVERS JEWELRY

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Humans have engaged in whaling since prehistoric times, but as ships grew bigger, and the demand for whale oil increased, more whales were killed. By the end of the 1800s, many whale populations were almost depleted.

As far as Maui and whaling goes, it wasn't until around 1820 that North American whalers first began arriving in the Hawaiian Islands. Over the next 40 years, the small town of Lahaina became the whaling capital of the Pacific. During this period in American history whale oil was used for heating, lighting lamps, and in industrial machinery; while whale bone (which is actually the baleen strips that hang from a whale's upper jaw to filter food) was used in corsets, skirt hoops, umbrellas, and buggy whips.

Although it was a cruel trade, the whaling industry became the primary source of jobs and economic growth in Hawaii for about 40 years. Twice yearly, whaling ship crews sailed to Lahaina and Honolulu to restock provisions, make arrangements to transport



to celebrate...

HUMPBACKS HAVE NOT ALWAYS BEEN SAFE IN HAWAII



NATIVE HAWAIIANS HUNTED MANY TYPES OF MARINE LIFE

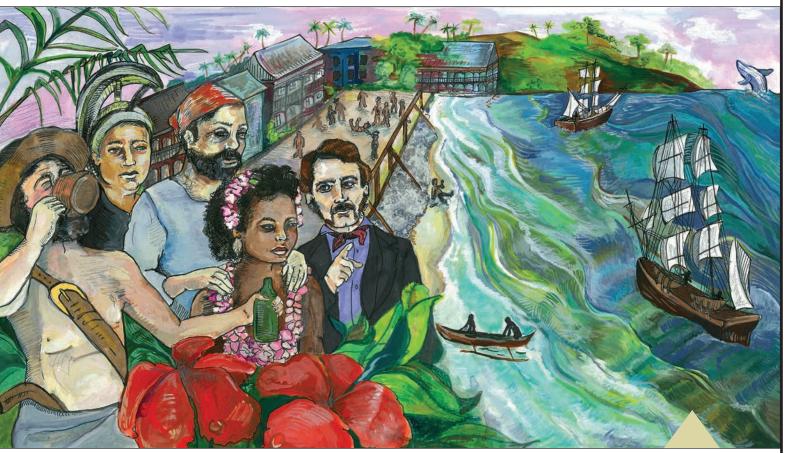


WHALERS CAME TO MAUI JUST TO HAVE SOME FUN



MISSIONARIES TRIED TO **CONTROL THE WHALERS**

HISTORY OF WHALING



Whaling Port of Lahaina By Ryane Acalin

their bounty of oil and whale bone back to mainland America, and to allow crew members time to rest and relax. More than 100 ships stopped in Hawaii in 1824, and over the next two



Maui Discovered, Map of Maui By Dave Stevenson

decades the industry flourished so much that by 1846 an astounding 736 ships arrived in the Islands that year.

But it wasn't all good times for the people of Hawaii, or for the sailors coming off the whaling ships. Hawaiian chiefs

and Christian missionaries had to establish laws regulating drinking, gambling, and prostitution. These laws weren't always followed. In fact, in 1851, the Hale Paahao Prison was constructed out of coralblock stones from the old fort on Lahaina's waterfront. Missionary and whaler clashes were common, and the prison served the purpose of trying to keep the peace between everyone on Maui.

Because the life of a sailor was arduous, and the journey could last up to five years, thousands "jumped ship" each year in Hawaii, which left whaling ships short of men. Since Hawaiians were natural watermen, they were popular replacements and these Hawaiian sailors, called

(continued on page 40)

"sailamokus," traveled

around the world.



THE

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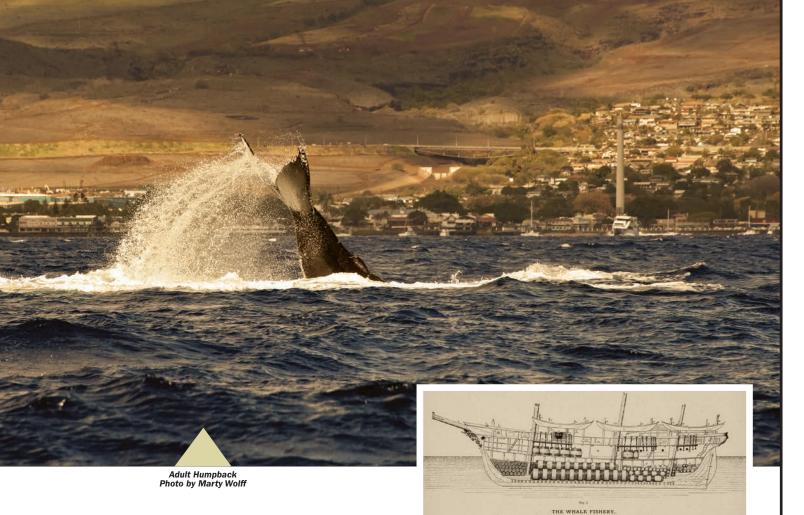
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Visiting whalers prompted the cultivation of many vegetables, fruits and cattle on Maui. Because the whalers weren't crazy about the traditional Hawaiian diet of fish and poi, Hawaiians started finding alternatives by growing potatoes and other types of vegetables. This provided ship crew members with plenty of items to choose from on their visits to Maui, and for their long voyages.

Hawaiian cowboys, called paniolos, corralled, raised, and began slaughtering wild cattle. These cows were direct descendants of those gifted to King Kamehameha by Captain George Vancouver in 1793.

SHIPS WERE BUILT TO STORE WHALE OIL.

In 1790, try-works, large pots that boiled the blubber and turned it into oil, were installed on ships along with areas to store barrels of whale oil.

Based on scarcity of humpback whales in archeological sites and their perceived lack in Native Hawaiian art, petroglyphs and stories, it has been suggested that humpbacks are relatively recent arrivals to the Hawaiian Islands. Although the chronology

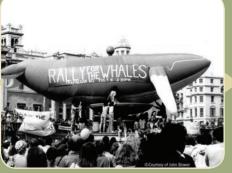
LEARNING TO LOVE THE WHALES: A PROGRESSION THROUGH THE AGES

WHALING THROUGH THE 1800s



Whales were caught and slaughtered for oil, meat and other necessities.

FIRST PROTESTS STARTED IN EARLY 1900s



Protesting... When extinction became a real possibility, people stood up.

FIRST WHALE WATCH TOURS STARTED IN 1955



By the late 1970s tours begin in earnest, creating a huge boom in the economy.

HISTORY OF WHALING

of the humpbacks' debut requires additional research, they were intensively hunted around the Hawaiian Islands by colonial whalers beginning in the mid-1800's. Several whaling stations were situated on Maui, and they included employees of whaling companies that were manned exclusively by Native Hawaiians.

The whaling industry took a severe toll on all whale populations throughout the world, particularly the sperm, blue and right whales. Ultimately, several events conspired to bring about a demise of whaling in the age of sail. First, in 1849, the California gold rush caused many whalers to abandon their ships. Then, from 1861 to 1865, many Northern whaling ships were sunk by Southerners during the Civil War. And finally, the discovery of petroleum oil in 1859, plus ice disasters in the Arctic, hastened the demise of whaling from tall ships. Although North Pacific humpbacks

continued to be hunted by American, Soviet, and Japanese whalers, relatively few of the classic sailing ships survived into the twentieth century.

So where does that leave Lahaina and the whales? Well, today Lahaina is still a whale capital of sorts, but now it's for whale watching. In fact, it's estimated that approximately 6,000 to 7,000 of these wonderful creatures spend the winters in Maui's breeding and calving grounds. We even have our very own designated whale sanctuary: the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary is the only preserve in the U.S. dedicated to a marine mammal.

If you want to learn more about the whalers and their experiences here on Maui, check out the Whalers Village Museum in Kaanapali. See where we were, and how far we have come today. Open daily from 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m (subject to change). Admission 12 years and under is free, just \$3 for adults! Have fun, and enjoy the humpbacks of Maui!

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Hawaii's whale watching industry plays a strong role in the state's economy, as it brings in over \$20 million of revenue per year. Due to their growing population and amazing acrobatic behaviors, humpbacks are being given lots of credit for revenue and job growth in the islands. Although whale watching cruises are available at most harbors around the state, Maui is one of the premier destinations in the world for whale watching.



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Be ready! Things happen very suddenly! Keep your camera up in the ready position, eyes on the water, with your finger on the trigger!



Don't spend a lot of time looking at what you just shot! It just wastes battery life & you'll miss opportunities for the next shot!

Other Tips for Great Photos

Settings

Set your ISO to 400. Set your camera to the continuous shutter setting (fastest for over water, slowest for underwater). If you have continuous auto-focus, use that. Set your speed setting (1/250th for over water, 1/125th for underwater).

Underwater

Hold your camera very still while under the surface. Most underwater action is slow, so let the animal come into your view.

Over Water

Be ready - most humpback action happens fast and at a distance, so zoom your telephoto to maximum.

DSLR Options

If you're using a DSLR, a 300mm lens is recommended, and a 300mm wide angle zoom is ideal to get distant action, fill the frame easier, and have the capability to open up for close action and panoramas. Set the camera on aperture priority to F8 or F11. The key is to keep your shutter

speed at 1/500th of a second or faster, if possible. If it's less, go to a smaller aperture setting or set 1/500th for shutter speed and let the aperture do what it does. If your sensor can handle a higher ISO setting, go to 500 or 640. Pictures might be a bit noisy, but the shutter speed will increase.

ENJOY & GET READY TO TAKE HOME SOME AMAZING PHOTOS!

- By Marty Wolff

THE GREAT, LONG HUMPBACK WHALE MINISTRACTION THE GREAT, LONG HUMPBACK WHALE

HUMPBACK BRAIN POWER

Humpbacks may use the magnetite in their brains, in conjunction with the Earth's magnetic field, to navigate.

HUMPBACK AUDIBLE COMMUNICATION

Researcher John Calambokidis believes humpbacks may use long distance sounds or songs as cues in order to navigate, often in a straight line for miles.

Humpbacks travel at a speed of 3-6 mph, but can cruise at up to 20 mph for short distances.

But they don't all migrate at one time. In fact, some don't migrate at all - a phenomenon that still has researchers baffled. Imagine swimming non-stop for 3,500 miles or more! Every year, in early fall, humpback whales begin an incredible journey from the Gulf of Alaska to Hawaii. These gentle giants travel about 3,500 miles from their feeding grounds in polar waters to the warm waters of the Hawaiian Islands over a period of four to eight weeks.

(continued on page 46)



HUMPBACK ECHOLOCATION

Alison Stimpert of the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology says that 'megapclicks', aside from being attempts to capture prey, may also be used to detect the sea floor.





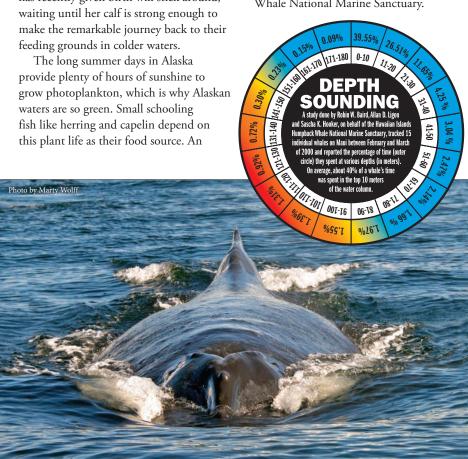
Most humpbacks that live in the waters of the North Pacific migrate to warm water areas to give birth to their young. This usually happens from November to April. Then, when spring arrives, they travel back to cool northern waters to feed and rebuild their supplies of blubber. Whales that live in the Antarctic region do exactly the opposite due to opposing seasons. From December to April, they feed in the Antarctic, then migrate north to areas near the equator from May to September.

Some marine researchers believe humpbacks stay an average of just a few weeks in Hawaiian waters before migrating back to Alaska, but depending upon breeding circumstances, it can be longer. Recently impregnated females are likely to return north right away, but a female who has recently given birth will stick around, waiting until her calf is strong enough to make the remarkable journey back to their feeding grounds in colder waters.

adult humpback whale can easily eat over 2,000 lbs. of these little guys in a single day. Sometimes, when humpback whales migrate, they travel in groups called "pods" that are spaced fairly far apart. Since whales need to eat a lot every day, by scattering themselves, they are more likely to find a suitable feeding place. Because of Hawaii's location in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, the water is relatively nutrient free (which is why our waters are so clear and blue), and too warm to support enough of the humpback's food to sustain them year round. So, during their stay here, humpbacks are said to be "on a diet," living off their accumulated fat reserve, called blubber.

While in Hawaii, humpbacks congregate mainly in two areas - around the four islands that make up Maui County, and near the Penguin Banks southwest of Molokai. But during the past eleven years, researchers have also noticed more humpbacks around the other Hawaiian Islands and even into the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

The waters surrounding our beautiful islands have become such an important humpback whale habitat that in 1992, the U.S. Congress designated critical areas as the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary.





Humpbacks are listed as an endangered species; they're protected by both federal and state regulations. The Sanctuary encompasses a variety of marine ecosystems, including seagrass beds and coral reefs, and promotes the management, research, education, and long-term monitoring of the humpbacks. For more information on the exact location of the sanctuary, see our Sanctuary Map (page 60). If you're here on Maui, celebrate their long journey by going out on a whale watch adventure and capturing some amazing photos of the fabulous humpbacks. (See Marty's photo tips on page 43)



Experiencing Maui from the air is awesome, to say the least. But during whale watch season you may just be lucky enough to view something very few people in the world ever witness...the whales from above!



And if you're wondering which one of the helicopter companies is the best to view Maui and the Humpback Marine Sanctuary from

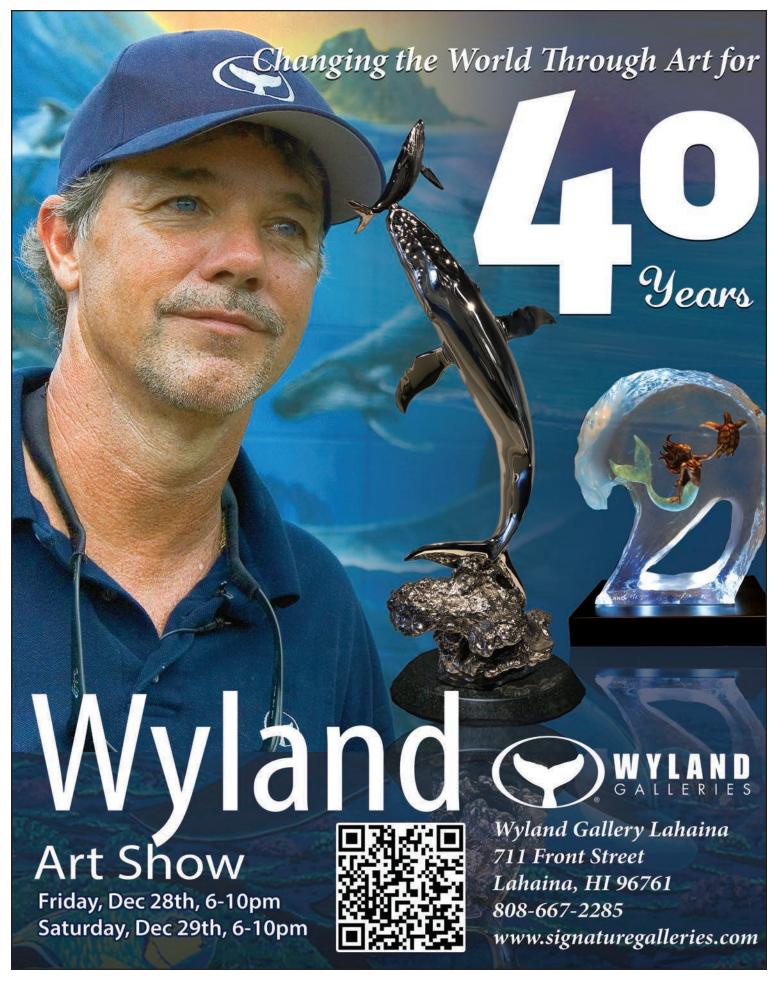


Yep, year after year, Sunshine Helicopters and their Black Beauties are Maui's Favorite. So, if you're thinking about experiencing the island of Maui and its beauty from above (which no one should ever miss), call Sunshine Helicopters at the number below. And, if you want to try and see whales on your helicopter tour, be sure to mention it at time of booking!

(808) 873-8779

SunshineHelicopters.com





The Maui Winter Humpback Music Festival



THE WHALE SONGS BEGIN EVERY
WINTER ON MAUI WHEN THE
HUMPBACKS ARRIVE.

The price of admission? Just dunk your head under the ocean anywhere in the National Humpback Marine Sanctuary and get ready for a symphony of sounds that will tickle your ears.

Did you know male humpback whales emit patterns of regular and predictable sounds that are remarkably similar to human musical compositions?

(continued on page 50)

WHALBY STEREQ

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They produce a series of repetitious noises at varying frequencies, and these sequences are known as whale songs. Marine biologists say the songs are among the most complex in the entire animal kingdom. And although humpback whale songs are famous, researchers are finding that other species of large whales also sing complex songs.

Male humpback whales are often heard singing on calving grounds during the breeding season. Researchers like Dr. Jim Darling from Whale Trust have studied these songs in an effort to determine why whales sing.

Why are the whales singing?

Well, the bottom line is researchers don't know. There have been several ideas proposed and investigated, including whether songs attract females, ward off other males, or define territory. However, none of these theories have been proven conclusively. In fact, some recent studies have shown that males' songs actually attract other males, rather than females, usually for brief, friendly encounters. While these underwater singers typically perform alone, they have been found singing while acting as an "escort" in the immediate vicinity of a female.

On occasion, singing occurs in competitive groups comprised of one female and multiple males. What is agreed upon by most is that the songs probably facilitate the mating process in some way. While the songs seem to be connected to mating season, other sounds or calls can be heard throughout the year.

How do whales make the songs?

Humpbacks have no vocal cords and no air is emitted from their bodies while they're singing. So how do they produce this eerie, yet beautiful song?
Researchers believe humpbacks
"sing" by moving air through
valves and sacks in their
respiratory systems, similar to
taking the end of an inflated
balloon and slowly squeezing the
air through it.

How can you hear the songs?

If you're here during whale season (from December though April, or even May), you have several choices while on Maui. Grab a mask and snorkel, put your head under the ocean and listen. The closer the whales are, the louder their song will be. Of course, it helps to be in an area that whales frequent, like the Humpback Whale Marine Sanctuary (see the map on page 60). Black Rock Beach in Kaanapali is a great place, as the sound vibrates off the underwater coral wall where the sound is intensified.

Another option is to go on a

whale watching cruise that has a hydrophone. This is a microphone they place underwater to broadcast live whale songs on board through speakers. Also, some cruises combine whale watching with the opportunity to snorkel, so you may hear them through the hydrophone as well as underwater when you're swimming. Very cool.

Other Noises Whales Make.

In addition to songs, whales emit several other sounds referred to as "social sounds." Unlike whale songs, which are sung exclusively by males, "social sounds" are short noises made by both males and females. In addition to these "social sounds," whales also use surface-generated sounds like breaching and slapping to attract the attention of other whales in the area.

On any given day, all male humpbacks in Hawaii will be



singing the exact same song, even though the song changes as the season progresses.

This year's song will start off where last year's song ended, which attests to whales' amazing memory capacity. Often described as mournful or even scary, there's no other sound in the world like it. As the songs hit their low notes, if you're under the water, your entire body will literally vibrate with the pulse of the melody.

When you go on your whale watching cruise (you've just gotta do that while you're on Maui), or go snorkeling (which you also have to do) be sure to listen to the beautiful whale songs. It's one of the greatest mysteries of the animal kingdom. After hearing it, the memory is sure to stay with you as one of the highlights of your vacation. If you can't wait, and want to listen to the whales right now, go to the Whale Song Project at www.WhaleSong.net - they feature recorded whale songs and live songs when the whales are in Hawaii, all for free.

WHALE SOCIAL SOUNDS

Wop - A call from a mother to her calf.

Thwop - A call between whales and not limited to mothers and calves.

Grunt - A call when pods are joining together.

Cry - A call made by a male when competing with other males to join a female, heard mainly in competitive groups.

Underwater Blow - This is often used to distort other males' vision or confuse them, and sounds very loud underwater to all other males.

Source: Humpback Whale Acoustic Research Collaboration (HARC), Four Year Study published in Australian Geographic Issue 95.

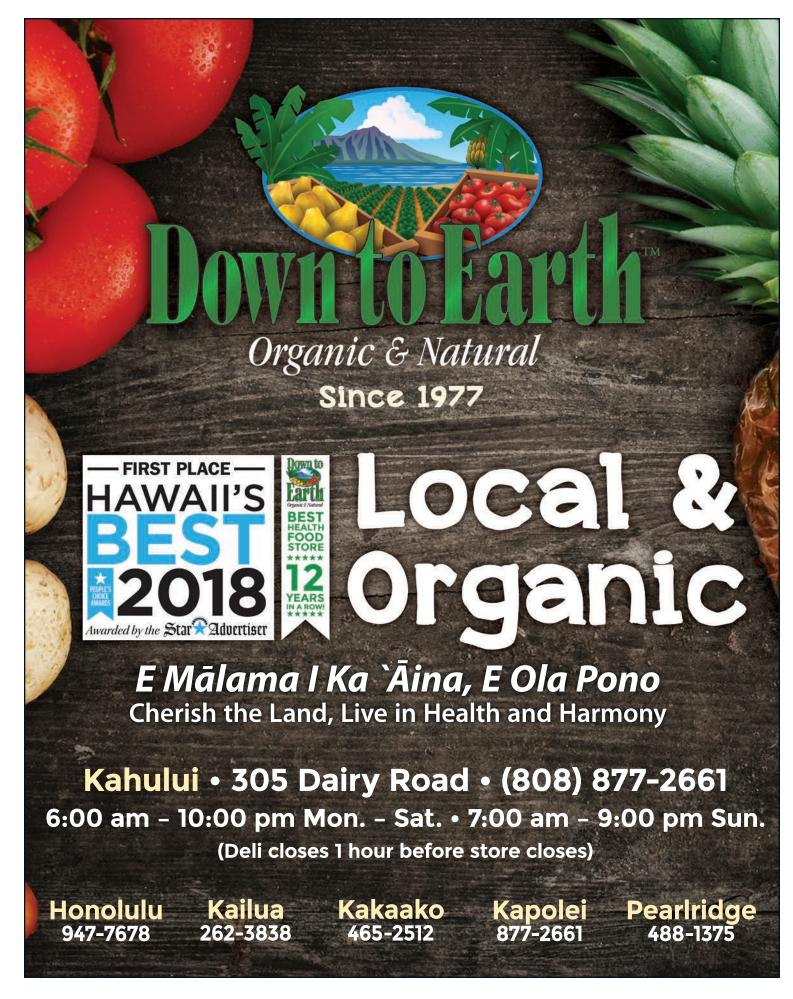


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A day out on the water whale watching can be hungry business! After spending time enjoying the majesty of these gentle giants, treat yourself and your loved ones to a great meal while you relive the day's amazing events...

IAHAINA

Aloha Mixed Plate 1285 Front Street (808) 661-3322

Betty's Beach Cafe 505 Front Street (808) 662-0300

Breakwall Shave Ice Co. 658 Front Street (808) 661-4900

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Lahaina Sushi Ko was the dream of both Chai and Kookie to serve the type of food they enjoyed eating to others. It's a quaint restaurant in the heart of Lahaina that serves some of the very freshest and most delicious sushi you'll ever eat. Open for both lunch and for dinner.

844 Front Street (808) 419-6268 LahainaSushi-ko.com **Bubba Gump Shrimp Co.** 889 Front Street (808) 661-3111

Captain Jack's Island Grill 672 Front Street (808) 667-0988

Cool Cat Cafe 658 Front Street (808) 667-0908

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658 Front Street across from Banyan Tree (808) 661-4900 DTHMaui.com







Breakfast Served Daily Monday through Saturday from 8am - 11am Sunday from 8am - 12pm





Lunch Served Daily Monday through Saturday from 11am - 5pm Sunday from 12 noon - 5pm



Dinner Served Nightly 5pm till Midnight

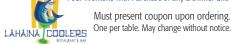




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Penne Pasta

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Olowalu General Store

General Store, Plate Lunch, and Sundries Mon. - Sat. 5:00am - 7:00pm Sun. 6:00am - 6:00pm



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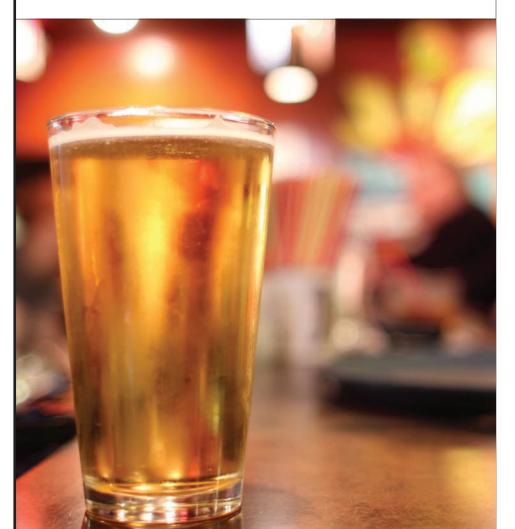
900 Front Street in Lahaina (808) 667-0791 Pi808.com

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dinner entree

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Fat Daddy's

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Maui Tacos

2411 S. Kihei Road (808) 879-5005

Moose McGillycuddy's

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Nalu's South Shore Grill

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South Maui Fish Company

22 Alahele Place (808) 419-8980

Aloha Thai Fusion

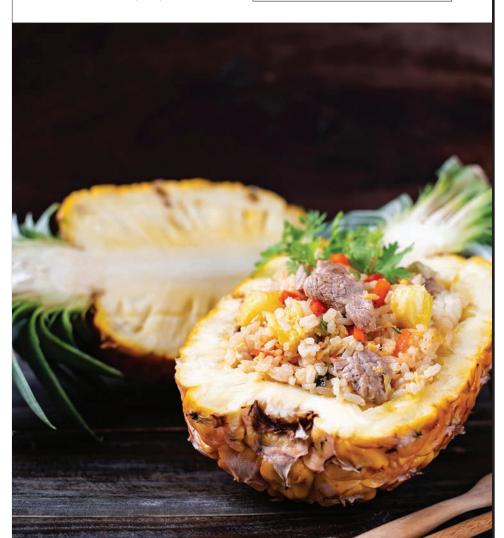
5 Star Thai & Hawaiian Fusion Food 10:00am - 9:00pm

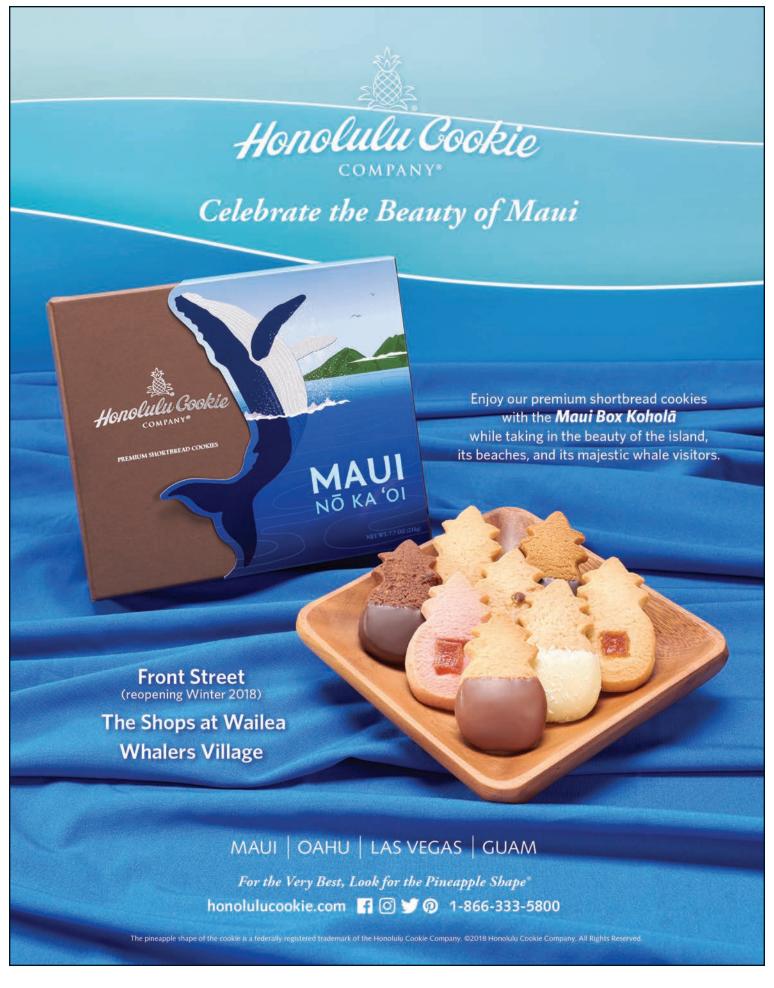
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Longhi's Wailea

3750 Wailea Alanui Dr. (808) 891-8883

KAHULUI - CENTRAL MAUI

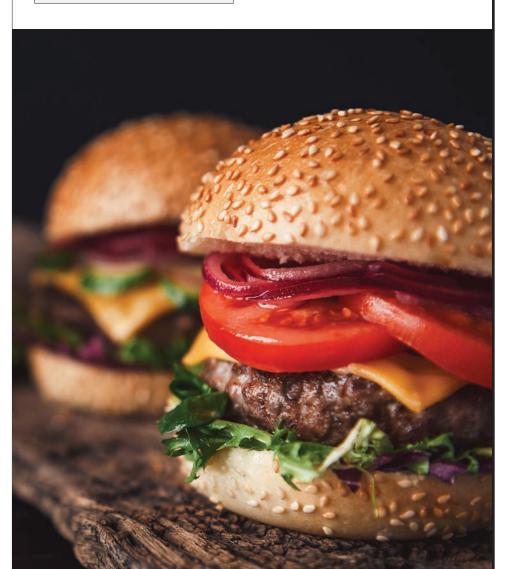
Brigit & Bernard's Garden Cafe 335 Hoohana Street (808) 877-6000

Maui Tacos

275 W. Kaahumanu Ave. (808) 871-7726 58 Ho'okele St. (808) 793-3931

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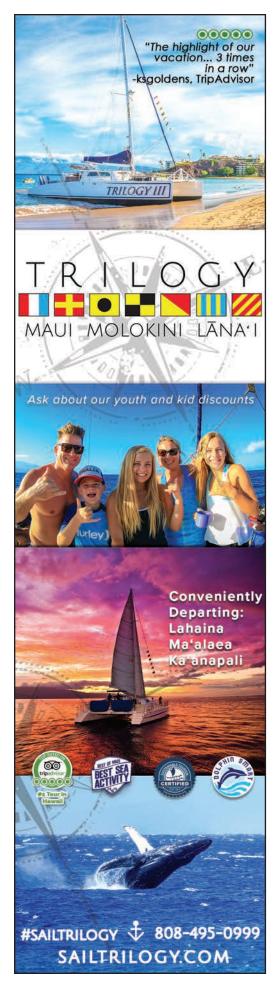
100 Hana Highway (808) 579-8030

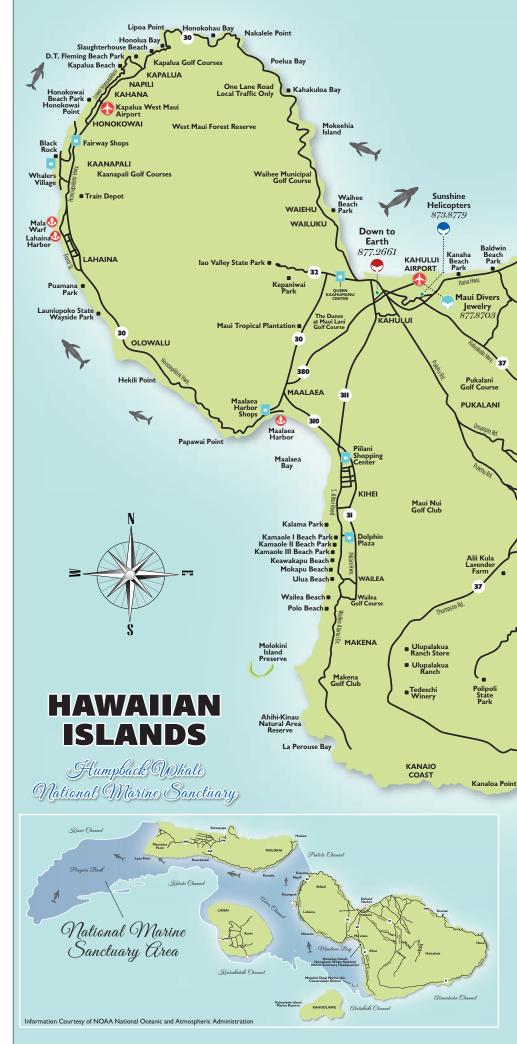
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Map of WEST MAUI Aloha Kayaks Maui 270.3318 Olowalu General Store 667.2883 South Pacific Kayaks 875.4848 MCGREGOR POINT 0 Whale Watching **TURNOUTS & LOOKOUTS** 1. McGregor Point 13. Wahikuli Beach Park

- Papalaua Beach
- Ukumehame Beach Park 15. Kaanapali Beach
- Mile Marker 14
- Olowalu Beach
- Awalua Beach
- Launiupoko Beach Park
- Puamana
- 9. Shark Pit
- 10. Lahaina Harbor
- 11. Baby Beach
- 12. Mala Wharf

- 14. Hanakaoo Beach Park
- 16. Black Rock
- 17. Kahekili Beach
- 18. Honokowai Beach Park
- 19. S-Turns
- 20. Kahana Beach
- 21. Napili Bay
- 22. DT Fleming Beach Park
- 23. Slaughterhouse
- 24. Honolua Bay







Whale Watching TURNOUTS & LOOKOUTS

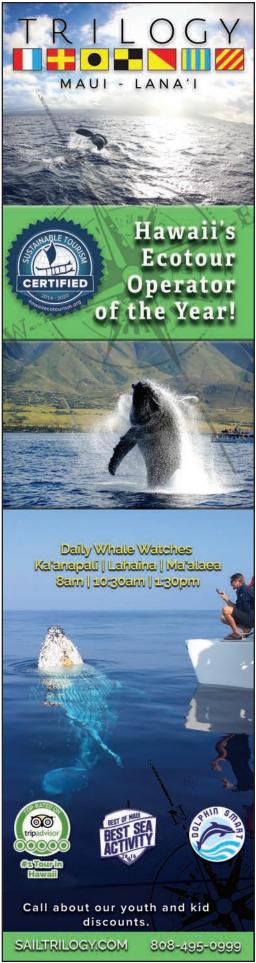
- 1. La Perouse Bay
- 2. Big Beach
- 3. Makena Beach
- 4. Makena Landing
- Poolenalena Beach Park
- Polo Beach Park
- 7. Wailea Beach
- 8. Ulua Beach
- 9. Mokapu Beach Park
- 10. Keawakapu Beach
- 11. Kamaole Beach Park III
- 12. Kamaole Beach Park II

- 13. Kamaole Beach Park I
- 14. Punahoa Beach
- 15. Charley Young Beach
- 16. Cove Park
- 17. Kalama Park
- 18. Chang's Beach
- 19. Kalepolepo Beach Park, Fishpond & Humpback Sanctuary Visitor Center
- 20. Memorial Park
- 21. Sugar Beach
- 22. Kealia



SOUTH MAUI





© Maui Whale Watch Magazine

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Research Direct promotes
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that protect our oceans,
whales and marine life.

- 100% of all Hawaii Ocean Project Research Direct funds collected support genuine research.
- There are NO Hawaii Ocean Project director salaries.
- 💎 There are NO Hawaii Ocean Project administrative fees.
- A portion of profits go to the actual ocean researchers.

WHO ARE THE RESEARCHERS?

All of the Research Direct Recipients are respected, genuine researchers who are peer reviewed and published. Here is a short list of where Research Direct funds will go:

CENTER FOR WHALE STUDIES



Dr. Joe Mobley

Dr. Mobley has been involved in research on marine mammals since 1980. He has authored or coauthored dozens of articles, book chapters and reports primarily on the subject of humpback whale behavior and more recently, the effects of underwater sound. His work has been featured in National Geographic Explorer and BBC Science/Technology series, among other nature productions. He is currently a professor at the University of Hawaii.

CASCADIA RESEARCH COLLECTIVE



Dr. Robin Baird

Dr. Baird's research primarily focuses on aspects of the biology and ecology of Hawaiian odontocetes, assessing population structure, population size, movements, habitat use and behavior. He also continues long-term studies of both mammal-eating and fish-eating killer whales. Much of his research has been collaborative in nature. Dr. Baird recently published The Lives of Hawaii's Dolphins and Whales: Natural History and Conservation.

WHALE TRUST MAUI



Dr. Meagan Jones

Meagan Jones has led whale research and education programs in Hawaii for over twenty years. Bridging marine science, education and conservation programs around whales and their natural environment helped lead to the founding of Whale Trust Maui. Her research focuses on the natural behavior and communication of whales, especially as it relates to reproduction. Dr. Jones is also a marine science education developer at the University of Hawaii Maui College.



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