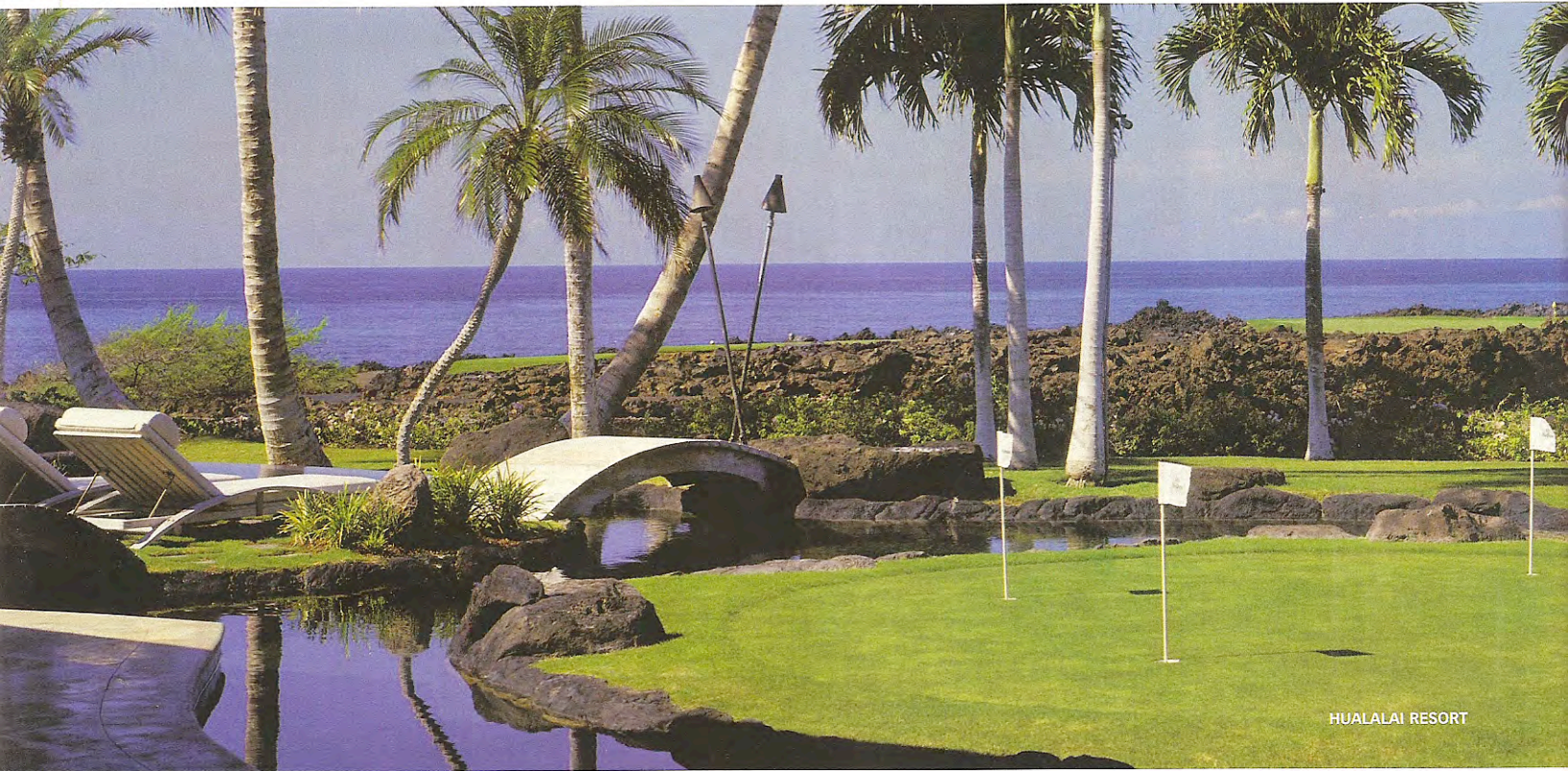


The Big Island



HUALALAI RESORT

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

At just over 4,000 square miles, the island of Hawaii, better known as the Big Island, is twice the size of all the other Hawaiian Islands combined. The scenery is a study in contrasts: The isle has 11 of the world's 13 climate zones, two of the planet's most active volcanoes and the tallest sea mountain in the world.

For a bit of "city" life, Hilo, on the island's northeastern side, is a charming town with sprawling parks and wood storefronts that house restaurants, shops, galleries and museums. On Wednesday and Saturday mornings, the town center teems with people shopping the local farmers' market for handmade arts and crafts, jewelry, flowers, fruits and vegetables, and other gourmet treats.

ISLAND LIVING

Big Spenders: The most coveted real estate at Mauna Lani Resort is (no surprise here) oceanfront, with lots costing \$7 million and homes

priced at \$24 million. Neighborhoods to look into include Pauoa Beach, Ke Kailani and 49 Black Sand Beach. All three have private beach clubs, with spa and fitness facilities, as well as access to all of Mauna Lani Resort's amenities. As of press time, only one oceanfront lot was available; and the sole waterfront residence on the market was Hale Maluhia, a \$24 million abode in the 49 Black Sand Beach enclave. The six-bedroom, seven-bath compound sits on 2.2 acres and has 6,557 square feet of living space, including a private gym and a billiard room. **808.885.6688, www.maunalanirealty.com.**

Resort Revelers: Located on the Kona-Kohala Coast, Hualalai Resort is an ideal destination for those looking to get away without having to sacrifice resort-caliber services. Custom homesites are offered in several of the resort's neighborhoods, and are selling for between \$2.4 and \$10 million. The Waiulu Street residence, however, is the crème de la crème of current listings. This seven-bedroom estate is located on the signature 17th hole of the Hualalai Golf Course, with

WHO WOULDN'T LOVE AN ISLAND WHOSE BACKYARD CONSISTS OF FIELDS OF LAVA ROCK AND ENDLESS MILES OF THE PACIFIC?

Facts of the Matter

Kilauea Volcano has erupted continuously from its east rift zones since 1983.

More than 300 archaeological sites have been discovered in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, including Pu'uloa Petroglyphs, an area on the southern side of Kilauea where 23,000 petroglyphs have been found.

The island's tallest waterfall, Hi'ilawe Falls, cascades down 1,300 feet and is located in Waipio Valley on the Hamakua Coast.



the Pacific Ocean just steps away. Selling for \$24.9 million (furnished), the 10,484-sq.-ft. abode has 2,476 square feet of covered lanai, a gourmet kitchen and an infinity pool. **808.325.8500**, www.hualalairesort.com/dreamhome.

Outdoor Enthusiasts: Kukio, an oceanfront residential community north of Kona, emphasizes an outdoor-oriented lifestyle, with two Tom Fazio-designed golf courses and an open-air fitness center. Its signature Outdoor Pursuits program includes a dedicated staff of recreation-management experts whose goal is to help residents experience the island's abundant alfresco activities. Homeowners can try their hands at outrigger canoe paddling, sailing, fishing and hiking.

Kukio homes bring the outdoors in, thanks to private gardens, open-air showers, spacious lanais and alfresco kitchens. The diverse residential offerings include villas with detached guesthouses; quarter- to two-acre homesites and estate homesites. Prices range from \$1.75 to \$27.5 million. **808.325.4040**, www.kukio.com.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

If golf is your thing, the Big Island is your place. Mauna Lani has the Francis H. I'i Brown North and South Courses. Hualalai boasts both the Tom Weiskopf-designed Keolu Golf Course and The Hualalai Golf Course, a Jack Nicklaus Signature Design. Plus, Kukio has a 10-hole short course and 18-hole golf course, both designed by Tom Fazio. **808.885.6622**, www.maunalani.com; **808.325.8480**, www.hualalairesort.com.

Spas are also in welcome abundance, with the open-air Kukio Spa, the 25,000-sq.-ft. Mauna Lani Spa and the much-lauded Hualalai Sports Club and Spa.

Hawaiian cuisine is at its best at The Hualalai Grille by Alan Wong, where the menu melds Asian and Hawaiian flavors. The bill of fare at the award-winning CanoeHouse at Mauna Lani Resort is Pacific Rim-focused and includes dishes with an emphasis on locally grown produce. —J.Q.

Lanai



KOELE VALLEY

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

You know you've escaped the rat race when the nearest town has one gas station, a single grocery store and a town center that can be walked in 10 minutes flat. That town is Lanai City, population roughly 3,000—a charming throwback with a smattering of cafes, art galleries and quaint shops.

Elsewhere around the island, adventurers will find plenty of hiking trails, remote beaches and secluded spots for fishing, snorkeling and scuba diving. Or go with the mellow flow, and do nothing at all.

ISLAND LIVING

The Getaway Artists: “People are looking to get away,” says Mary Hakoda, vice president of sales for Castle & Cooke, the developer of the Oceanview at Manele and Upcountry Koele luxury developments. “Lanai rejuvenates their souls. They get to unwind and relax.” Change your latitude and your attitude at Oceanview at Manele, where turnkey condos in the Terraces and Palms neighborhoods fetch between \$1.9

and \$2.5 million. At press time, the Terraces were 99 percent sold out and the Palms had six units remaining. For those with custom home dreams, there are three 1.7- to 2.5-acre lots at Kaluako'i Estates selling for \$5.5 to \$6.2 million. **800.505.2624, www.lanailuxuryhomes.com.**

The Highlanders: Those who prefer long-sleeves to tank tops and pine trees to palms will feel right at home at Upcountry Koele. The cooler climate and stands of towering koa and pine trees feel worlds away from Manele's coastal atmosphere, though the amenities—access to a Four Seasons Resort—are much the same. The Pines, single-family detached condos with views of the surrounding Koele highlands and golf course, boast three to four bedrooms and range in size from 1,630 to 2,166 square feet—all for a cool \$1.1 to \$1.7 million. **800.505.2624, www.lanailuxuryhomes.com.**

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Tee up at the Four Seasons' The Challenge at Manele or The Experience at Koele. The 18-hole, par-72 Jack Nicklaus-designed Challenge is built

THE ISLAND OF LANAI IS BOTH PEACEFUL AND RUGGEDLY BEAUTIFUL, NOT TO MENTION A BLISSFULLY SUBURBIA-FREE RESPITE.

Facts of the Matter

The island's 89,600 acres include a diverse geography of dry, desertlike terrain; tropical rainforest; cool, mountain highlands; and 47 miles of coastline.

About seven miles outside of Lanai City lies Garden of the Gods, an otherworldly plateau strewn with reddish-brown rock formations caused by thousands of years of erosion. According to ancient Hawaiian legend, the boulders were dropped there from the sky by the gods tending their gardens.

The nine-mile, dirt Munro Trail dead-ends at the island's highest point—the 3,370-foot Mount Lanaihale.



THE CHALLENGE AT MANELE

atop lava ledges, with three holes situated on the cliffs above Hulopoe Bay, a backdrop so awe-inspiring, it's likely to distract you from your game. The Experience, designed by Greg Norman and architect Ted Robinson, begins 2,000 feet above sea level. Its signature hole, No. 17, starts at a 250-foot elevated tee, leading to a fairway bordered by a lake on one side and lush forest on the other. www.fourseasons.com.

Other sporting options include The Stables at Koele, a must for the equestrian set, and the Lanai Pine Sporting Clays and Archery Range, a state-of-the-art facility that features a 14-station sporting clay course, a 12-station archery range, a skeet field and a six-station air-rifle range (both located at the Four Seasons Resort Lanai, The Lodge at Koele). 808.565.4000, www.fourseasons.com/koele.

After all that activity, the Spa at the Four Seasons Resort Lanai at Manele Bay can smooth out any kinks. Signature treatments include the Ali'i banana coconut scrub and a cooling ti-leaf wrap. 808.565.2000, www.fourseasons.com/manelebay. —J.Q. EW



THE PALMS