

Kaua'i



History of Kaua'i

Kaua'i is best known as a place to relax and rejuvenate while surrounded by nature. But this breathtaking place is also home to a rich history. As you journey around the island, step into the past and experience these sites yourself.



FERN GROTTTO

1. WAI'OLI MISSION HOUSE

See how life was in Kaua'i over 160 years ago. This early missionary home was built in 1837 and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

2. FERN GROTTTO

This natural lava rock grotto fringed by hanging ferns was once an exclusive destination for Hawaiian royalty. Open-air boats offer guided tours of the area.

3. WAILUA RIVER

Take an adventurous kayak journey up the Wailua River. Tour this serene area with a guide and hear about where royalty once ruled.

4. KAUA'I MUSEUM

Deepen your understanding of Kaua'i's history at this treasure trove of art and culture. See stunning vintage photographs and colorful feather *lei*.

5. ALAKOKO FISHPOND

Alakoko Fishpond, or Menehune Fishpond, is on the National Register of Historic Places and is unique because it was built on a river. The resulting brackish water means both fresh and saltwater fish can survive here. The fishpond is rumored to have been built by mythical Menehune, Hawai'i's mischievous little people.

6. GROVE FARM SUGAR PLANTATION MUSEUM

Visit the Grove Farm Homestead and learn how plantation owners and workers lived more than a century ago. Tours are by reservation only.

7. THE SUGAR MONUMENT

This commemorates Hawai'i's first commercial sugar plantation in 1835 when sugar replaced whaling and sandalwood as the state's principal industry.