# Sayit J1USA

# A SLICE OF J1 ADVISE - HAWAII

### INTRODUCTION

Hawaii has been described by previous J1’ers as ‘paradise’, ‘unforgettable’, ‘unbelievable fun’, ‘breath taking’, and ‘the best possible summer experience’ – are you convinced yet?!

The most popular of the islands on which J1’ers choose to live and work is the island of Maui. Maui is known as 'The Valley Island' because of its two large extinct volcanoes divided by a central valley. It's the second largest of the Hawaiian Islands and the most developed of the Neighbour Islands. It's renowned for its fine beaches and some of the world's best windsurfing and surf spots. Maui is considered to be the ‘real’ Hawaii, the Big Island is a bit of a concrete jungle and even the beach is man-made.

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

<http://www.bestplaceshawaii.com/>

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

“Central Maui” (Kahului, Wailuku) is the business and commercial centre for the island (but not too much in terms of late-night entertainment). Just behind Kahului airport is Kanaha Beach Park, a very popular windsurfing beach.

“West Maui” (Kapalua, Ka'anapali, Lahaina) is quite an exclusive resort area of Maui, with the Hyatt, Marriott and Sheraton hotels situated on Ka’anapali, golf courses and fine dining restaurants in Kapalua and Whaler’s Village, which is filled with exclusive shops: Versace, Prada, Ferragamo, Tiffany’s, Gucci etc. The historic whaling town of Lahaina is a popular visitor attraction filled with shops and art galleries, and a major source of entertainment on Maui – so definitely check this area out when job-hunting.

In "South Maui," Kihei and Wailea are popular economical and exclusive tourist areas respectively. There are public tennis and basketball courts, an in-line skating rink at Kalama Park (Kihei), and various scenic beaches throughout Kihei and Wailea.

‘Ka’maina’ is a word that you should become very familiar with for your time in Hawaii. It is Hawaiian for ‘local’ and will get you a discount (of up to 15%) in most stores, parks and taxis. It is also good to know your zip code as it can be requested as a kind of password, to make sure you really are living there.

SOME HAWAII FACTS -There are eight main islands – the biggest is called (creatively) the Big Island of Hawaii!

The Hawaiian alphabet is quite straightforward, there’s only 12 letters

‘Aloha’ has many meanings and there is no real equivalent in English – it’s kind of a combination of ‘hello’, ‘goodbye’, and ‘I love you’

The Islands are an incredible display of natural diversity – 21 of the world’s 22 climatic zones are represented.

**TRANSPORT**

SAYIT can fly J1’ers direct to Maui, so it couldn’t be easier to get there. It is recommended that you hire a car if you have a licence as public transport on a lot of the islands is quite limited, and hiring a car is cheap and a great way to explore the islands.

GETTING AROUND

If you're without a car in Maui — or even if you want a fun change of pace, hop on a trolley, shuttle or train to go shopping. In lieu of a public transportation system, these shuttles in West and South Maui run between the island's major resort areas and shopping centre:

**West Maui Shopping Express** has three routes: **•** Ka'anapali to Lahaina and back **•** Kapalua to Ka'anapali and back **•** Ka'anapali Train Station to the Lahaina Train Station and back The shuttle runs from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily and makes stops at Whalers Village, the Wharf Cinema Centre, Hilo Hattie, the Lahaina Cannery Mall and the Lahaina-Ka'anapali Sugar Cane Train. Fares are $1 one-way; $2 roundtrip; or $2.50 for a full day pass. Information: 1-800-533-8765 or (808) 566-7420.

**South Maui Shopping Express** has three routes: **•** From West Maui (Lahaina/Ka'anapali) to the Maui Ocean Centre & Reserve **•** From South Maui (Makena/Wailea/Kihei) to the Maui Ocean Centre & Reserve **•** From West Maui to the Ocean Centre, to South Maui and back The shuttle operates from 5:50 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. Fares are $5 for a full day-pass on Routes 1 & 2; $10 for full day passes on Route 3. Information: 1-800-533-8765 or (808) 566-7420.

**Sugar Cane Train**: The Lahaina-Ka'anapali Sugar Cane Train provides transportation between the two resort shopping areas of Lahaina and Ka'anapali — plus a scenic tour of six miles of plantation country from the deck of a 1890s-style train! Trains operate daily with numerous runs between the hours of 8:55 a.m. and 4:50 p.m. For information call (808) 661-0089.

**THINGS TO DO**

Maui's gorgeous terrain offers the ultimate in hidden beaches and freshwater pools, lush upcountry forests, breezy coastlines and tall volcanoes. Though this island especially awes visitors with its Haleakala sunrises, stunning coastal views, you can also snorkel a sunken volcano, explore lava tubes or ride a horse through a volcanic crater! Whatever your vacation wish, you'll find it on Maui.

As is widely known, Hawaii is one of the best places on earth for surfing and water sports – so why not become a beach babe/dude for the summer and master the best waves in the world? As well as surfing there are a number of other water sports to try. These include windsurfing, jet skiing and pretty much anything else you can think of. A point to note: you need to be on the Island for at least 30 days before you can start your Padi (diving) course so make sure you register as early as you can. A definite must-do is to snorkel Molokini (a submerged crater) where you are guaranteed to encounter tropical fish of every description and even sea turtles. Check out this website for more information <http://www.mauisnorkeling.net/>

Explore the beautiful waterfalls of Hana and the volcano and lava flow of Haleakala, visit the Seven Sacred Pools and discover the Road to Hana, and for an unforgettable Sunday afternoon take a trip to Little Beach in Makena. Other beaches definitely worth a visit include Baby Beach and Black Sand Beach.

Oahu is worth taking a visit to you can take surfing lessons on the famous Waikiki Beach. Watch world-class surfers charge the big waves on the North Shore and visit the USS Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbour.

If you want to explore the other islands of Hawaii the best way to go about it is to fly. The cheapest airlines for inter-island hopping are Island Air [www.islandair.com](www.islandair.com%20) and Aloha Airlines <www.alohaairlines.com>. It’s also worth hiring a car to fully explore the islands. Kihei Rent-a-Car is very cheap and well worth checking out.

Kamehamaha Day Celebration: Although all the Islands celebrate this event but it is most celebrated on the Big Island of Hawaii. Thousands of people celebrate on June 11th to honour the chief who united the Hawaiian Islands in 1795.

Makawao Rodeo: This takes place on July 4th, with more than 350 cowboys from all over the world; the rodeo livens up Oskie Rice Rodeo Arena. This Hawaiian style rodeo, with rough stock and roping events and features rodeo clowns.

Ukulele Festival Hawaii: This is held in July in Waikiki, there is a free two hour concert that presents the finest ukulele players in the world, along with Hawaii’s top entertainers and national celebrities

Aloha Festivals: This is Hawaii's two month state-wide celebration. It is a celebration of Hawaii's music; dance and history intended to maintain the unique island traditions.

**SOCIAL SCENE**

Some recommended bars and nightclubs include Moose MacGillycuddys, Bamboos, Spatts Nightclub, Blue Lagoon, Paradise Blues, Life’s a Beach, Neptune’s, Hapa’s

Night club in Kihei and Tsunami’s nightclub. A few points to note – Hawaiians don’t take kindly to noise pollution, so if you’re falling out the door of a nightclub at 5am and heading home make sure you do it quietly and keep the Irish rebel songs to a whisper! The beach is a popular drinking area for the Irish and though it is not legal the police are lenient and will allow you to stay put as long as you promise to clean up after you and again keep the noise to a minimum. Also, it’s wise not to annoy the locals – they are very friendly people but make sure to treat them with respect and remember you are on their turf.

**ACCOMMODATION**

Though jobs are easy to get accommodation is not. It is recommended you arrange accommodation before you ever leave Ireland. If you are stuck, hostels are a good place to stay when you arrive, as you will get the opportunity to meet people. But they are not a long-term option and will end up costing you a bit if you decide to stay there for a while. Even hostels get booked up in advance so book early and shop around. Overcrowding is the only way to afford accommodation. You will be paying as much as $600 per week for a two-bed apt, and you will more than likely have to kiss goodbye to your deposit as most places rent on a long term basis. But after the deposit has been divided between everyone it may not be that much and well worth it. The majority of J1’ers who travelled to Maui in previous summers have stayed in the Spinnaker Apartments, 760 Wainee St, Lahaina. Phone: (808) 667 9028. The normal rent in these apartments is approximately $560 per week for a 2-bed apt, or from $70 to $100 per week per person, depending on how many people are sharing. The Ohana Maui Islander and Front Street apartments are worth checking out for accommodation, and the advantage of these two places is that they do not require you to sign a six-month lease.

##### Front St Apartments Ohana Maui Islander

2001 Kenui Place 660 Wainee Street Lahaina, HI 96761-2364 Lahaina, HI 96761

Ph: 808 667 5032 Ph: 808 667 9766

In Kihei one spot to try is Waipuilani Condominiums, 1002 S. Kihei Road, Kihei, HI 96753. Phone: (808) 879 1458. Last year’s J1ers were paying $362p/mth for a 1-bed apt (4 people sharing). The Maui News http://www.mauinews.com/also advertises houses for leasing.

Also have a look at the following hostel websites which might be of benefit to you: [www.mauihostel.com](www.mauihostel.com%20) and <www.northwind-hostel.com>.

**Check out these websites for the best hostel accommodation:** [www.hostelworld.com](www.hostelworld.com%20) or www.hiusa.org

<http://honolulu.craigslist.org/>
<http://www.honoluluadvertiser.com/>
<http://www.hawaiihostelreview.com/>
<http://www.thestateofhawaii.com/apartments.html>

**JOBS**

Like everywhere in the States, the best jobs to secure in Maui are jobs as waiters and waitresses. Most J1’ers secure a job within a week or so, but depending on how vigorously you look the job search can take anywhere from one day to three weeks. We recommend that you try and secure a job or at least an interview before you leave Ireland, that way your first few days in paradise won’t be spoiled by fretting over getting a job. You will probably need to work two jobs, as most employers will not guarantee you a 35-40 hour working week. Previous J1’ers recommend the following spots to look for work:

**Bubba Gump Shrimp** employ between 70 – 100 people, so do definitely apply for a job here (pay is €6.50 p/hr plus great tips, but it is quite cheesy so make sure to be confident and smile!)

889 Front St.

Lahaina, Maui, HI 96761

Ph: (808) 661 3111

Email: lwatase@bubbagump.com

Subway: there are plenty of Subways dotted all over Maui, check out [www.subway.com](www.subway.com%20) for a list of subway restaurants. Pay is generally $7.50p/hr.

**Pizza Express Compadres Mexican Rest. Hard Rock Café**

1819 S. Kihei Rd # D108 1221 Honoapi'ilani Highway 900 Front Street Kihei, HI 96753-7940 Lahaina, HI 96761-1796 Lahaina, Maui (808) 891-2002 (808) 661 7189 (808) 667-7400 $8 per/hr. compadresmaui@aol.com $6.25per/hr plus tips.

**Longhi’s Restaurant**

888 Front St. Lahaina, Maui,

Hawaii, 96761

(808) 667-2288

<www.longhi-maui.com>

The Sugar Cane Train is a tourist train that travels from Lahaina to Kaanapali charting the rich sugar cane heritage of the island. Previous J1’ers have secured jobs on the train as photographers, but even if you don’t get a job there it’s worth taking the tour.

**975 Limahana Pl. Suite #203 Lahaina, Maui, HI 96761** Phone: (808) 667-6851 Fax: (808) 661-8389

Website: www.sugarcanetrain.com

For any of you, who fancy selling body jewellery during the summer, get in touch with tracy@tropicaltoes.com . Tropical Toes has three retail locations in Maui, so check it out – it pays $9 per hour. Visit the website for more information: [www.tropicaltoes.com](file:///G%3A%5CAlan%20Please%20do%20not%20delete%20contents%5CJ12014%5CUpdated%20Slice%20of%20advice%5CSlices%20of%20advice%202014%20for%20season%20summer%202015%5Cwww.tropicaltoes.com)

And of course, all of the retail outlets along Front Street and in Lahaina in general are always worth dropping in to – some include The Gap Inc., ABC Stores, Starbucks and Dairy Queen. An Internet café that has employed J1’ers in previous years is Jungle Joose, The Wharf, Front St., Lahaina. Pay is $10 p/hr plus 10% commission, so worth having a look at.

A point to note: Most employers will insist on a mandatory TB test. It costs $20 per test.

**INFO&TIPS**

Tip between 15%-20% on your restaurant/bar bill or cab-fare. $1 per drink otherwise.

Minimum wage is $7.25 p/h, except in tipping positions where it's $2.83 - $3.09 p/h

If under 21 don't look for bar/waiter/waitressing work. It's not legal to serve drink as a minor.

Take the FIRST job you get, the first 3 weeks are the most expensive of the whole summer; you can always leave when you get another one.

Negotiate when you're taking an apartment, it can't hurt & may save you a fortune.

Buy an air mattress from Sports-Mart

Kit out your apartment with 2nd hand stuff.

Mix with the locals, they're great & your accent will go a long way!

GET AIR CONDITIONING!!!

**WI-FI ACCESS**

<http://www.wififreespot.com/ha.php>

<http://www.hawaiiantel.com/Support/InternetSupport/WiFIHotspots/tabid/1351/Default.aspx>

<http://www.openwifispots.com/city_free_wifi_wireless_hotspot-Wailea_-_Maui_HI.aspx#0,0,14>