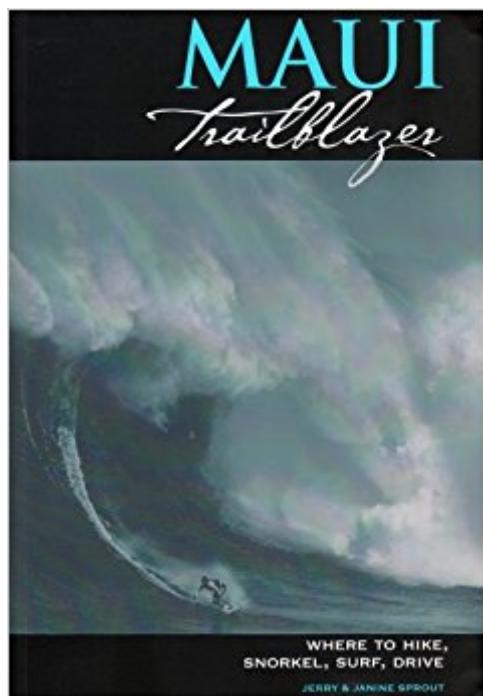


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# Maui Trailblazer: Where To Hike, Snorkel, Paddle, Surf, Drive



## **Synopsis**

ALOHA! HAPPY HAWAII ADVENTURES!A guide for families and outdoor adventurers alike, Maui Trailblazer 2011 covers all of the island, and includes day trips to the neighboring islands of Molokai, Lanai, and Molokini.Clear directions and concise descriptions lead to all of Maui's well-known attractions, as well as to hidden discoveries that Trailblazer readers have come to expect.137 different hikes and strolls to tropical rain forests and remote valleys, coastal bluffs and lava caves, Haleakala crater and the Hana Highway, cascading waterfalls, beaches, ridgetops, towns, whale-watching perches, historic sites, and archeological ruins.Among the 44 snorkeling spots are hike-to coves and the secret places that tour boats go. Kayakers can pick from about 20 put-ins.Surfers can select from 38 beaches and decide whether to boogie, board, or body surf. Onlookers will find the best places to watch the surfers, windsurfers and kite-boarders ride the big ones.The text is complimented by 10 maps and 240 photographs. Driving tours-nine of them-take readers to all the attractions, natural wonders, and historic sites.A Resource Links section provides numbers for free visitor information and recreational outfitters, as well as hand-picked accommodations and local restaurants to suit every budget and taste bud.A Best Of section lets you pick the right activity to suit your mood and the day. Appendices include free hula shows, farmer's markets, what to pack, climate, history, fauna, and a Hawaiian glossary.This new and completely revised third edition for 2011 includes a Trailblazer Kids section for adventuring families.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

In both layout design and content, the very model of what a user-friendly outdoor guide should be.

From the Maui Weekly, January 11, 2006, "Turns out my favorite Maui guidebook has five siblings. It's a family of great books. All the island Trailblazers (Maui, Kauai, Hawaii the Big Island and Oahu) are big on hikes, and really tell you everything you could possibly need to know to hike safely and enjoyably in each area described. They are equally complete in their snorkel site coverage and drives. In reading and using Trailblazer guides, you are encouraged to exercise your best judgement and show all the spirit of aloha you can muster."

For a second trip to Maui this year, we decided to forgo the usual spots that everyone knows about (who doesn't know about everything in Maui Revealed by now?), and wanted to get out to be more active. This is the perfect book for that. Every trip is clearly described, activities are highlighted throughout, and it's very easy to sort through by activity, region, attractions, etc. Unlike some guidebooks, this one doesn't sugar-coat every trail/beach/etc. - so you actually feel like you're getting honest advice about what to expect and how to spend your precious vacation time. My favorite tips related to weather - like which trips to save for days when the rest of the island was getting rain, or what to do in the morning before afternoon showers popped up. Highly recommended, worth the cost and weight to carry along.

This book made my birthday trip to Maui very enriched. Some of the places listed/described here are not found on any of my other tourist guides, and were "not to be missed" places. I never would have found some of these places without the general guidance in the book, and my own perserverance. This is where it lost a star, as I think some of the detailed directions in the hard to find places could have been a little better. I got lost a few times, but I just made it all part of the adventure.

After taking a look at a few other books on traveling Maui, I decided on Maui Trailblazer (MT). Having been to Maui once before, I wanted my next trip to be a bit more off the beaten path. This book provided just the information I was looking for. The "Best Of" section is a great overview of the island, and would keep you busy for two weeks. The maps divide the island in sections, which is a fabulous way to plan to see all you can. In fact, the beginning of each chapter provides a planned day trip for each of the sections. The descriptions of trails and locations are very specific, but if you don't have a good knack for details, you'll probably want to bring a friend. If you're both bad at

directions, this probably isn't the book for you. I found one piece of information that was outdated, but there was a note that access was going to be limited for a period of time. That timeframe had been extended, I guess. Overall, MT helped me to have a great second trip to Maui finding places I wouldn't have found on my own. And, of course, you'll love Maui, and the authors do a great job of helping you to appreciate it as well.

Good for ideas, but you will need to do more research beyond the book to plan any of these activities, I bought it out of particular interest in finding surf destinations and found it lacking.

I love this series. They are great for those who enjoy outdoorsy activities like hiking and snorkeling. Other activities, including swimming, biking and scuba are also covered. The descriptions and directions of the locations are spot-on. I own "Trailblazer" books for Maui, Kauai and Hawaii, and they are thorough and helpful when planning the activities for my trip itineraries.

I took this book with us on two week trip to Maui where I planned to do a lot of hiking with my husband and 11-year old daughter. When I looked at the book before the trip, I was happy there was a special section on where to hike with kids. Once we went to Maui, I found the book less helpful especially when I compared it with the information in other books. I agree with a previous reviewer that "Maui Revealed" has all the information you need on hiking plus much more. "Maui Trailblazers" suggested hikes in some areas where "Maui Revealed" stated trails were closed or it was across private land where you need a permit. I found the explanations of the hikes in Trailblazers a bit round about and not as clear as "Maui Revealed". Also there were no maps of the hikes as there were for some of the hikes in Maui Revealed. I also used a book called "Day Hikes Hawaii" by Robert Stone. That one was also more helpful than Trailblazers because there were maps for every hike. The section on kids in Trailblazers also was not as good as expected for example: "Swinging Bridge" is a closed trail and "Sliding Sands" and "Pipiwai" are difficult for kids. I also did not like the way Trailblazers was organized with driving, hiking, surfing and snorkeling information all together in each geographic section again with lots of verbal explanation. When we went on hikes we used other books that gave more concise information specifically on a hike and maps. We never carried "Trailblazers" with us while hiking while we took others. Trailblazers was an expensive book with no resell value. I bought it based on the rave reviews. It was not a good purchase.

This book was very comprehensive for Maui. I got the eBook, which worked very well on my iPad app. I really loved how it described all of the activities you could do along a particular path, rather than making you look each type of activity up separately (although you had that option if that is what you prefer). If you are going to Maui, I would get this book!

I bought this book to get an idea of where to hike on Maui -- without hiring a guide to show me the way. I won't know if this is successful until later in the year when I finally get to go to Maui. What this book does do, though, is point out the best places to do activities. Then you can do further research in other books. I'm not gonna spend more money on another book! But I will, however, use this book as the basis for doing more research on the internet just to justify what the book states as the best To Dos in Maui.

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