



Surf and Turf

Oahu's Turtle Bay Resort

The roiling waves thundering across the north shore of Oahu are known collectively as the “7 mile miracle” by surfers who come from across the world to test themselves on the renowned Banzai Pipeline. While this wall of water has attracted daredevils and daredevil watchers since the early 1960s, the owners of Turtle Bay Resort have over the years complemented the wild surf with 36 holes of outstanding turf to challenge golfers.



Located an hour's drive from Honolulu, the 858-acre resort caters to a wide array of vacationers. Upon arrival to the property, movie-goers instantly experience a sense of déjà vu, as the resort served as the setting for the popular movie *Forgetting Sarah Marshall* starring Paul Rudd, Jason Segal and Mila Kunis. While the film did a fine job of conveying its beauty and elegance, the resort has actually been improved significantly since 2008 when the movie was released. New owners have poured millions of dollars into upgrading most every aspect of the hotel and its many amenities. Its luxurious spa, alone, was doubled to 11,000 sq. ft. and features an open-air treatment room.

The open air golfers seek are two 18-hole championship layouts, one designed by George Fazio and the other by Arnold Palmer. Still another déjà vu experience might overtake golfers on the first tee of either property, as the courses hosted the Golf Channel's The Big Break series in 2005 along with the LPGA's SPS Open at Turtle Bay. Both palm tree-lined courses feature fantastic holes along the ocean along with some other holes cut through forested land.

The 7,218-yard Palmer Course is best experienced from the blue tees (at 6,795 yards) or even the gold tees (at 6,225 yards). Built in 1992, the course sprawls across 180 acres of scenic rolling landscape. Listed as one of the “top 100 public courses in America” by *Golf Digest* and considered by most critics as the best layout on the island, the Palmer Course is characterized by wetlands and sprawling sand bunkers. In total, 15 holes bring water into play.

The course's signature hole is the par-4 No. 17 which features a green perched on the edge of the coastline. A par on this 452-yard gem will definitely make your round.

The Fazio Course was built in 1972 and is far more open and forgiving than the Palmer. Shot placement into the greens is crucial on this 6,628-yard layout. Conditioning on both layouts is impeccable and the greens are smooth and true. The Fazio Course was host to the LPGA's Hawaiian Open as well as the Champions Tour Skins Game that featured the King, himself, along with fellow legends Gary Player and Chi Chi Rodriguez.

Golfers should definitely allow for some down time to enjoy the resort's other amenities. The resort naturally features a top-flight surfing school led by world class expert Hans Hedemann. Far tamer pursuits include wooded running trails and coastal walks along adjacent beaches. Standup paddleboards are another option while yoga can also be enjoyed. For those seeking a bird's eye view of Oahu, consider a helicopter ride over the North Shore coastline which then detours along a mountain range and into waterfall-lined canyons. (Paradisicopters.com).

The best spot for a refreshing beverage on all of Oahu is Surfer, a bar that is a joint effort with *Surfer* magazine and includes many guest appearances by current and former surfing stars.



All guests at Turtle Bay Resort are encouraged to view Oahu through the eyes of local guides. There's a story to be told. Make sure to stop by the Guidepost Experience Center to connect and book activities in the area.

“Aloha” in the Hawaiian language means “Sharing the breath of life.” Turtle Bay Resort provides excellence in accommodations, in golf, in spa services and in breathtaking beauty. Embrace the rich culture of Hawaii and “hang loose” with new friends.

For reservations and more information on Turtle Bay Resort, visit the property's website: www.turtlebayresort.com

