


**Moose McGillycuddy's****310 Lewers St. • 923-0751**

A pretty hoppin' place at night with live music and dancing upstairs. The food is ordinary pub food—nothing special. Burgers, sandwiches and lots of pupus (appetizers) at lunch, add some Mexican, chicken and beef at dinner. They have a long happy hour from 4–7 p.m. Go for the music and night life, not for the food. **\$7–\$12** for breakfast (unless you order their *12-egg* omelette for \$19), **\$8–\$15** for lunch, **\$10–\$18** for dinner. On Lewers Street just mauka (toward the mountain) of Kalakaua.

**Ocean House****2169 Kalia Rd. • 923-2277**

 It's so nice when you have a restaurant with a beachfront location, good food and good service that doesn't soak you on prices. Don't get us wrong. It's not cheap, but you get your money's worth here. It's mostly seafood with some steak, and the seafood selection is impressive with portions that are more than generous. (Their awesome coconut lobster skewers make a wonderful appetizer for two.) Flavor combinations are well chosen and commensurate with more expensive restaurants. An easy place to recommend. **\$20–\$38** for dinner. At the Outrigger Reef on the Beach at Kalia and Beachwalk. Reservations recommended.

**Oceanarium****2490 Kalakaua Ave. • 921-6111**

 You decide to open a restaurant in ultra-competitive Waikiki. If you don't have a killer beachfront location, how can you stand out? Answer: Build a 3-story, 280,000-gallon saltwater aquarium, stock it with enormous stingrays, reef fish and maybe a shark or two. At 12:30 p.m., 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. each day you send in a SCUBA diver to feed the fish. Then spread the tables around this ultimate restaurant eye-candy.

The results are impossible to resist. The food's acceptable. Breakfast buffet for **\$18**, lunch is off-the-menu seafood (which we felt a little guilty ordering since their friends might notice through the glass), burgers, steak, chicken and salads. Dinner is a prime rib and seafood buffet for **\$34**. We might not have given them an *ono* without the fish tank, but its inclusion makes this place a winner. Service is friendly. **\$9–\$18** for lunch. Upstairs is a more upscale steak and seafood restaurant called **Neptune's Garden (921-6112)**, but the views at the tank's top aren't as good, and the prices upstairs are **\$30–\$50**. Oceanarium is a perfect place for breakfast and lunch, and you can usually get a table without a reservation then (but you might want to make one anyway). Dinner reservations are recommended. In the Pacific Beach Hotel on Kalakaua near Lili'uokalani. If you have something special (proposing marriage, birthday, etc.), they'll lower a sign about it into the tank if you ask 'em to.

**Perry's Smorgy****2380 Kuhio Ave. • 926-0184**

All buffets all the time. The food ain't exactly gourmet, but it's cheap and you can keep eating till you're tired. On the corner of Kuhio and Kanekapolei. They have a scenic, outdoor courtyard—an unusual luxury for such a good price. **\$8** for breakfast, **\$9** for lunch, **\$12** for dinner.

**Planet Hollywood****2115 Kalakaua Ave. • 924-7877**

The food can be good here—but you can't count on it. The menu is steak, ribs, sandwiches, pasta and pizza. The L.A. lasagna is different—it's in tubes and fried. Though you probably won't return again and again, Planet Hollywood is worth a visit once just to see the endless movie eye candy that adorns the walls and ceiling. From the DeLorean used in *Back to the Future* to a statue of Rocky Balboa, the place is stuffed with memorabilia. This chain has come back from the bankruptcy

abyss twice and now has fewer than a dozen U.S. restaurants—down from 95 in the late '90s. On Kalakaua near Beachwalk. **\$10–\$32** for lunch and dinner.

**Rainbow Lanai****2005 Kalia Rd. • 949-4321**

You won't find a quiet little nook here. They serve 400–600 breakfasts a day. If you get a good table, it'll have nice beach and ocean views. The food's so-so and overpriced. Eat here out of convenience, not desire. Breakfast buffet is **\$26** (or you can spend almost that much on off-the-menu items like \$18 omelettes), lunch is **\$10–\$25**, dinner, which is steak and seafood, is **\$20–\$45** or a buffet for **\$34**. At the Hilton Hawaiian Village.

**Shorebird Beach Broiler****2169 Kalia Rd. • 922-2887**

 The sort of place many people are looking for. Excellent location next to a beach without getting hosed on the prices. Railing tables are especially good (since you can almost hang your hand onto the sand), but even tables farther back take good advantage of the view. The breakfast buffet is a bargain at **\$13**. Dinner is steak and fish served rare...very rare...OK, raw. You cook it yourself on their enormous grill. Salad included. If you don't feel like cooking (or want to eat from the railing tables), you can order off the lunch menu at dinner, which is sandwiches, burgers, fish and chips, or fish tacos. **\$13** for breakfast, **\$9–\$15** for lunch, **\$15–\$26** for dinner. At the Outrigger Reef on the Beach at Kalia Road and Beachwalk.

**Terrace Grille****2424 Kalakaua Ave. • 923-1234**


It's nice to have choices. Breakfast is an overpriced buffet at **\$25**, or you can choose from the overpriced off-the-menu items. Lunch is sandwiches and burgers, soups and salads—not *quite* as overpriced. In short, convenient if staying at

the Hyatt, but not worth walking there just for this. **\$9–\$20** for breakfast and lunch. At the Hyatt Regency in Waikiki.

**Tiki's****2570 Kalakaua Ave. • 923-8454**

Their trademark is the retro-Hawaiian decor—sort of a '50s look. The food's so-so; not great, not bad, but they tend to over-salt things. Fresh fish, sandwiches, pasta, fish tacos, short ribs, fish and chips, and burgers at lunch. Add prime rib, steak and shrimp at dinner. Some tables have nice views of the Kapahulu Ponds across the street. Try the coconut butterscotch bread pudding. Decent at lunch, a touch better at dinner. **\$10–\$20** for lunch, **\$10–\$35** for dinner. At the corner of Kalakaua and Paoakalani at the Waikiki Beach Hotel.

**Twist at Hanohano****2255 Kalakaua Ave. • 922-4422**

 It's impossible to talk about this place without starting with the flawlessly sculpted view. It's from the 30th floor of the Sheraton Waikiki. You got Waikiki Beach on the left side (which we prefer) and the sunset and lights of Honolulu on the right. This vantage point is unmatched from any other restaurant and is a million dollar view. (You better start thinking in those terms from here on.) The menu is structured so you have 3, 4 or 5 course meals. You mix and match and can add wine paring to your meal, which they do well. But they are so stingy on the pour that you'll be forgiven if you think the serving is actually the tasting sample. The food is outstanding (with similarly small portions) and features mostly seafood and steak with an island-inspired twist (hence the name). The service isn't exactly lavish. They give you lots of breathing room which can be welcome at times, but frankly we'd like a bit more attention given the prices. Speaking of which, it's a wallet-choking **\$70–\$150** per person.