



Dining on The Big Island

You are here: [Shopping and Dining](#) > Dining on The Big Island

Local Kine Grinds

'Grinds' is island pidgin for food. If you decide to have a quick meal at a casual diner, the terms on the menu may confuse you. Here are translations of the names of local kine 'grinds':

Ahi Poke: Raw tuna chunks marinated in soy sauce and other stuff.

Huli Huli Chicken: Barbecued chicken in a sweetened soy and pineapple sauce.

Laulau: Pork, beef fish, or chicken wrapped in Taro leaf (laulau) and steamed.

Limu: A seaweed used as a condiment in some Hawaiian food such as poke.

Loco Moco: Hawaiian breakfast food - hamburger patty and egg over rice, covered in gravy.

Malasada: A Portuguese doughnut (without a hole). The best is at Tex Deice-In in Honoka`a

Manapua: a white bun with a BBQ diced pork filling.

Plate Lunch: Two scoops sticky rice, one scoop macaroni salad, and a meat or fish.

Pupus: The Hawaiian term for appetizers.

Saimin: A noodle soup, often made with fish or chicken stock and garnished with green onions and a slice of fish cake.

Spam Musubi: A lump of room-temperature rice topped with a slice of Spam lightly browned in soy, all held together with a strip of nori seaweed.

Teri Beef or Chicken: Beef or chicken marinated in a sauce of soy, ginger, onion, and sugar and grilled.



Island Recipes

If you get sentimental for traditional Island food and drink you will likely find a recipe [here](#) to satisfy you.



[Click here to purchase vintage Hawaiian posters](#)

Good Grinds [\(map\)](#)

There are endless opportunities to dine well on The Big Island. Here are some places that we recommend to our vacationing friends that have great food but won't break the budget.

Family Friendly

- Bubba Gump Shrimp Company ([menu](#)), Kailua-Kona ([review](#))
- Fireside Food Court and [other eateries](#) at the [Parker Ranch Center](#), Waimea
- Kona International Market Food Court, Kailua- Kona
- Island Fish and Chips, Kings' Shops, Waikoloa Resort ([review](#))
- Kona Coast Shopping Center Food Court, Kailua-Kona
- The Food Court at the [Queens' MarketPlace](#), Waikoloa Beach Resort
- The Lava Rock Café, Volcano Village (not inside the the park) ([review](#))
- Waiakea Food Court Pavilion, Prince Kuhio Plaza, Hilo
- What's Shakin', Pepeekeo, near Tropical Botanical Gardens ([review](#))

Local's Eateries

- Hawaiian Style Café, Waimea (great breakfasts) ([review](#))
- Kamuela Deli, Waimea Center, Waimea ([review](#))
- Killer Tacos, in the industrial area, Kailua Kona ([review](#))
- Kona Brewing Company and Brew Pub, Kailua-Kona ([review](#))
- Café 100, Hilo ([review](#))
- Manna's Korean BBQ, Crossroads Shopping Center, Kailua-Kona ([review](#))
- Minnie's, Kapa`au ([review](#))
- Tex Drive In, Honoka`a ([review](#))
- The Coffee Shack, Hwy 11 between mile markers 108 and 109 ([review](#))
- The Snack Shack (across from the King Kamehameha statue), Kapa`au
- U-Top-It (behind [Island Lava Java](#)) Kailua Kona ([review](#))

Casual Dining

- Bamboo Restaurant and Gallery, Downtown Hawi ([review](#))
- Café Pesto, Lower Level, Kawaihae Shopping Center and in Hilo ([review](#))
- Huggo's, Kailua Kona ([review](#))
- Huli Sue's BBQ, Waimea ([review](#))
- Kamuela Provision Company, Hilton Waikoloa Resort ([review](#))
- Merriman's Market Cafe, Kings' Shops, Waimea Beach Resort ([review](#))
- Quinn's Almost By The Sea, Kailua- Kona ([review](#))
- Sabroso Grill, Kawaihae Harbor area ([review](#))

Good Grinds [\(map\)](#)

Here are our recommended restaurants sorted by location. Click on the map link above for more information about each one.

Key:

\$ = \$5-\$20 pp,
 \$\$ = \$15 - \$35 pp
 \$\$\$ = \$25 - \$50 pp

Captain Cook

[The Coffee Shack](#) (\$)

Hawi and Kapa`au

[Bamboo](#) (\$)
[Minnie's](#) (\$)
[The Snack Shack](#) (\$)

Hilo and Hamakua Coasts

[Café 100](#) (\$)
[Café Pesto](#) (\$-\$)
[Tex Drive-in](#) (\$)
[Prince Kuhio Food Court](#) (\$)
[What's Shakin'](#) (\$)

Kailua Kona Area

[Bubba Gump Shrimp Co.](#) (\$-\$)
[Huggo's](#) (\$\$)
[Island Lava Java](#) (\$)
[Killer Tacos](#) (\$)
[Kona Brewing Company](#) (\$)
[Kona Coast Shopping Center](#) (\$)
[Kona International Market](#) (\$)
[Le Bourgogne](#) (\$\$\$)
[Manna's Korean BBQ](#) (\$)
[Quin's Almost-by-the-Sea](#) (\$)
[U-Top-It](#) (\$)

Kawaihae

[Café Pesto](#) (\$-\$)
[Sabroso Grill](#) (\$-\$)

Waikoloa Resort Area

[Imari](#) (\$\$)
[Island Fish and Chips](#) (\$)
[Kamuela Provision Co.](#) (\$\$)
[Merriman's Market Café](#) (\$\$)
[Queens' MarketPlace](#) (\$)
[Roy's](#) (\$\$)

Waimea

[Fireside Food Court](#) (\$)
[Hawaiian Style Café](#) (\$)
[Huli Sue's BBQ](#) (\$-\$)
[Kamuela Deli](#) (\$)
[Merriman's](#) (\$\$\$)

Volcano Village

[Kilauea Lodge](#) (\$\$)
[The Lava Rock Café](#) (\$)

Special Occasions

- Imari, (sushi and teppanyaki) Hilton Waikoloa Resort ([review](#))
- Kiauea Lodge, Volcano Village ([review](#))
- La Bourgogne, (French Cuisine) Kailua-Kona ([review](#))
- Merriman's, Waimea ([review](#))
- Roy's ([menu](#)), King's Shops, Waikoloa Beach Resort ([review](#))