


Wahoo Seafood Grill & Bar**4-733 Kuhio Hwy • 822-7833**

Kapa'a—Ya gotta be willing to ignore the shortcomings here. Great outdoor ambiance courtesy of the large coconut grove and Sleeping Giant, if you can ignore the annoying traffic noise coming from Kuhio Hwy. Some really good and creative seafood entrées, if you can ignore the poor appetizers and very poor bar concoctions. The bananas and cream dessert is fantastic, if you can ignore the fact that the port you ordered with it comes 2/3 of the way through the dish. In short, a seafood restaurant (plus some steak) with pretty solid entrées, but everything else seems to have holes. **\$25–\$50** for dinner. On Kuhio Hwy, mauka side, just south of Foodland.

EAST SHORE CHINESE**Garden Island Barbecue****4252 Rice St. • 245-8868**

 Lihu'e—Despite the name, it's a Chinese restaurant with a local twist, *not* a BBQ. The selection is dizzying—over 150 items! (And no, we haven't tried every one.) Portions are good and the price is reasonable. There will almost certainly be something that interests you. Service is lightning fast. Although the food's not the greatest, you ain't paying for the greatest. You're paying for a large selection, large portions, and you want to get in and out fast. So you're getting what you pay for; hence the ONO. **\$8–\$12** for lunch and dinner. At Rice and Hardy. Closed Sunday.

Ho's Chinese Kitchen**3-2600 Kaunualii Hwy • 245-5255**


Lihu'e—We don't want to sound mean, but since our very first edition this has been the most consistently hideous food on the island. We've taken "friends" here just to punish them. But Ho's is still here,

so they must be doing something right. We just don't know what it is. **\$7–\$12** per person. In Kukui Grove Center.

Pacific Island Bistro**4-831 Kuhio Hwy • 822-0092**

Kapa'a—A difficult one to classify. Basically Chinese with a Pacific Rim twist. The menu has lots of compelling choices, including the tasty Peking duck. Other items include flaming satay New York, pot roast chicken and pork tenderloin. Execution is their problem. In the Kaua'i Village Shopping Center. **\$12–\$25** for lunch and dinner.

EAST SHORE INDIAN**Shivalik Indian Cuisine****4-771 Kuhio Hwy • 821-2334**

 Kapa'a—Here's a good time to remind you that we review restaurants relative to your other dining options here. Shivalik wouldn't stand out in a big mainland city. (And certainly not in India.) But hey, you're in Kaua'i. And if you're in the mood for an all-you-can-eat lunch buffet, Shivalik fills the need quite nicely. The flavors are good; it's not just quantity over quality. The décor is simple (mirroring their strip mall location). The 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. lunch buffet (**\$14**) is a bit on the pricey side, especially since drinks are \$3–\$5 extra, and there's no salad. But you get about 10 different dishes to choose from, and Indian lovers can't be too choosy here. Nothing is too spicy (loved the tandoori chicken). The curries are more of the spoon type than the dipping type, and they could put a little more love into the naan bread. (Ask for it fresh, but don't expect a smile.) You can order off the menu as well, but it gets pretty expensive. Located in the Waipouli Town Center near Foodland. The ONO is for the lunch buffet only. **\$18–30**.

EAST SHORE ITALIAN**Bobby V's****4-788 Kuhio Hwy • 821-8080**

Kapa'a—This one's tough. Our readers seem to like it, and the folks here are super nice and friendly, but flavors seem muted and lacking to us, and they skimp a bit on the toppings. The ambiance is somewhat homey and the service prompt. Pizza, calzone and pasta. **\$10–\$18** for lunch and dinner, sometimes open later than most. Across from Waipouli Town Center. Parking extremely limited.


Café Portofino**3481 Hoolaulea Way • 245-2121**

Lihu'e—Their view alone creates a very tasty atmosphere for those fortunate enough to get a railing table. Kalapaki Bay waves create a background hum that can enhance any food. The owner is Italian, and some of the flavors smack of the real Italy, for good and bad. (After spending a month in Italy, we came to expect good wine and bad bread—just like this restaurant.) But the quality has slipped lately, and we've had to pull their ONO. At the Kaua'i Marriott. **\$25–\$50** for dinner.

JJ's Pizza Pie**4-1345 Kuhio Hwy • 822-5743**

Kapa'a—A little pizza place behind the ABC Store in Roxy Square. You order from a window and take it to go, or use their small outdoor gazebo area. They don't offer pizza by the slice, but their whole pies are generous with the toppings. The crust is crisp and thin, and the overall results are hearty and filling. Flavors aren't bland but they aren't... quite right either. Because everything is made fresh, consider going for a stroll or calling ahead 'cause it can take over 30 minutes. Closed Sundays. Cash only. **\$10–\$15**.

Kaua'i Pasta**4-939B Kuhio Hwy • 822-7447**

 Kapa'a—A pretty easy place to like for the most part. Expect a few pastas and four sauces, plus paninis and Parmesans for lunch, add pizzettas and some specials at dinner. The quality is good for the price and portions ample except for the tasty bread that they are so stingy with. Their lunch salads are very large and they are happy to split them, so consider ordering only one per couple. You can add chicken breast to any pasta for \$5, or add meatballs for a crazy \$10. Well chosen wine and beer list, but they'll ding you for \$15 if you BYOB. Lunch is **\$10–\$25**, dinner is **\$15–\$30**. On Kuhio Hwy behind Taco Bell. If you walk through the restaurant, they have another dining room and nice lounge in the back, and the atmosphere seems to be most casual in the front. They also have a location in Lihu'e at 3-3142 Kuhio Hwy that is *not* as good—no ONO there.

EAST SHORE JAPANESE**Hanama'ulu Café, Tea House & Sushi Bar****3-4291 Kuhio Hwy • 245-2511**

Lihu'e—Japanese and Chinese served in a *delightful* atmosphere. There are gardens out back, a koi pond and individual tea rooms (if you reserve one with a group). The food here isn't the highest quality, but portions are good considering the price. \$8 will get you a heaping plate of their famous crispy fried ginger chicken. On the main highway (56) just outside of Lihu'e in Hanama'ulu. Hours can be squirrely; call to verify. **\$9–\$15** for lunch, **\$12–\$25** (more if you go nuts on the sushi) for dinner. Mosquitoes can be a problem at times. Closed Monday.