

Anyway, Hukilau Beach is yet another beautiful windward beach with fantastic views of Goat Island to the left, Pulemoku Rock directly offshore, and La'ie Point on the right. There's not much shade here. The right side of the beach is partially protected by reef and is often safe to swim. That end also has its own beach access at the end of Halelaa Street, but the NO PARKING sign usually convinces people to park at Hukilau Park. If you feel like walking, you could stroll  $\frac{2}{3}$  mile along the beach to the point nearest Goat Island, then wade to its offshore beach. Or park closer—see Malaekahana Beach. Most of the beach users here are students from nearby Brigham Young University. Showers available. Closed Sundays.

*It's not hard to see why this hidden stretch of shoreline, which you can't see from the road or from nearby La'ie Beach Park, is affectionately called Bathtub Beach.*

#### ❖ Goat Island/Moku'auia Island



This island is 720 feet off Malaekahana Beach. It has two beaches of its own, and the one to the left is fantastic. It's a classic, curving sandy beach with awesome swimming most of the time, thanks to the protection offered from the two points and an offshore reef. And since you need to swim to it (really, wade to it up to your chest unless the ocean's raging—you'll need reef shoes since the bottom's uneven and sharp), it's never crowded. What a *great* getaway. See directions to Malaekahana Beach below. Sometimes, especially in winter, waves can wrap around Goat Island and slap each other right where you'll be wading. You may get bumped around a bit if that's happening. Huge surf means you don't go.

In the mid-1800s, this small island was the home of a Hawaiian lawyer who kept two mistresses here. When

the king of Hawai'i learned of this, he ordered the lawyer arrested. You know what they say...never mess with a lawyer, even if you're a king. The attorney did some research and found out that his offshore island wasn't recorded on any of the king's maps. So he declared that it wasn't part of Hawai'i and that he was now king of his own island. (Even in the 1800s, lawyers will be lawyers.) The ploy worked, and the Hawaiian king left him alone.

#### ❖ Malaekahana Beach

One of the less-appreciated beach parks near the northern tip of the island. The beach is a mile long and has pretty good swimming if you wear reef shoes (since the nearshore waters are rocky). Near the northern (left) end there are several

beach cabins. You can actually rent these—see CAMPING on page 163. Malaekahana seems to be one of those beaches that stays unknown to most visitors, so odds are you'll be sharing it with mostly residents. Offshore is Goat Island (see above) with its exclusive beach that you need to wade to.

Between the towns of La'ie and Kahuku on Hwy 83. There are two entrances. The first (southern) one is closest to Goat Island and has more facilities. The second one leads to the cabins.

#### ❖ Kahuku Golf Course Beach

Think of it as a rose with thorns; look but don't touch. More specifically, don't swim. That's because there's a pretty impressive rip current that's usually present here. But the good news is



*What makes the beach on Goat Island so special? 'Cause ya gotta earn it, brah...*

