

## POINTS OF INTEREST

**KOLOIKI RIDGE**—Koloiki (“little crawler”) is a narrow ridge that runs toward the ocean, separating Naio Gulch on the left and Maunalei Valley on the right. The two gulches join at the base of Koloiki Ridge at a place called ʻŌihuihu. From there, Maunalei Valley widens to a coastal plain and forms the shoreline. At one time a stream formed in the deep valley and flowed to the ocean, giving life to the land. Now the water flows underground.

**MAUNALEI**—This ancient land division extends from the mountain to the ocean and once supported the only perennial stream on Lānaʻi. The name Maunalei may be translated as “Mountain garland,” so named because of the “garland” of clouds that regularly nestles on the upper mountain slopes. The ancient Hawaiians of Lānaʻi developed an extensive system of loʻi (irrigated pond fields) in which kalo (taro) was planted. The remnants of the system may still be seen in the valley. During the Dole pineapple plantation era, the water from Maunalei was harvested and pumped to reservoirs that supplied the plantation and Lānaʻi City with water. Today the water no longer flows above ground.

**NAIO GULCH**—Naio gulch is named for a native tree known as the “false” sandalwood. Across the gulch, introduced axis deer and mouflon sheep may sometimes be seen grazing on vegetation.

**MAUI**—Across the waters of ʻAu ʻau Channel is the island of Maui. The West Maui mountain range and its summit, Puʻu Kukui, are visible. The communities of Kaʻanapali and Lāhaina are along the coast.

**MOLOKAʻI**—Across Kalohi Channel, is the island of Molokaʻi. Its southern shoreline is dotted with more than 70 Hawaiian fishponds, evidence of advanced aquaculture technology found nowhere else in the Pacific.

**PAILOLO**—The Pailolo Channel separates Molokaʻi and Maui, and directs strong trade winds to Lānaʻi. The trade winds, which have crossed more than 2,000 miles of open ocean, often carry rain-laden clouds to Lānaʻi, so it is possible that passing showers may fall while you are on the trail.

## SAFETY

Please enjoy Lānaʻi safely and responsibly. Nearly 98% of the island is privately owned. The landowner permits use of its property for recreational purposes without charge and does not extend any assurance that the premises are safe for such purposes. Under Hawaiʻi State Law the landowner has no duty to keep the land safe for your entry or use, or to give any warning of dangerous conditions, use, structure, or activity on the land or adjoining property.

When hiking, please consider the following tips:

1. Please stay on the trail. The cover map identifies the route and numbered markers to be followed. The return trip is the same route in reverse.
2. Plan your day and route. Check in with the concierge before departing and give an approximate time of return. Upon your return, let us know you're back. Ask the Concierge about hazards or dangers associated with the activity. Also inquire about the natural conditions of the trails, any posted hunting seasons, weather conditions, and forecast for the day.
3. For your comfort and safety, you are encouraged to bring drinking water, a light sweater or extra clothing, and a first aid kit. There are no potable water sources in uninhabited areas of the island. Take enough water to last three hours. You might also take a lunch. Bottled water and/or backpack lunches are available through the Concierge.
4. If you become lost or injured, remain on the trail or get to the nearest road and flag down a passing vehicle. Explain the problem and wait until help arrives. Your safety is our primary concern. Planning together helps ensure that your days are spent making unforgettable memories. Please join us in respecting Lānaʻi's precious environment, cultural and historical sites and treasures.

For more information about Lānaʻi, please visit the Lānaʻi Culture & Heritage Center at the top of Dole Park in Lānaʻi City, or visit [www.lanaichc.org](http://www.lanaichc.org).

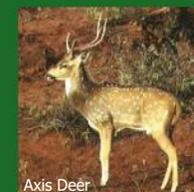
Please check in with Four Seasons Resort Lānaʻi before beginning, and after completing your hike. The Four Seasons Resort Lānaʻi may be reached at (808) 565-4000.

# KOLOIKI TRAIL GUIDE



View from Koloiki Ridge into Maunalei Valley

*Your hike to Koloiki  
is one of the most  
rewarding ways to  
experience the natural  
beauty of Lānaʻi.*



Axis Deer



Sisal Plant



Mouflon Sheep

# KOLOIKI RIDGE HIKE

Departing from Kō'ele, you enter a forest canopy made up of introduced trees (eucalyptus, Christmas berry, and pine) that were originally planted to hold soil in place, block wind, and capture water from passing clouds. As you approach Koloiki ridge, the canopy gives way to filtered sunlight and open vistas of steep ravines, ocean channels, and neighbor islands. Koloiki Ridge offers spectacular views and is subject to brisk trade winds. The deep valley of Maunalei, with its sheer cliff s, opens out to dramatic views of Moloka'i and Maui.

For your convenience, marker signs with numbers and directional arrows are along the trail. The marker numbers correspond to numbered descriptions here.

The hike starts from the back of the Lodge at Kō'ele. Follow the walkway to your right, passing between the Reflecting Pond and the Executive Putting Course. Head uphill toward the Experience at Kō'ele Golf Course Clubhouse.

**Average Hike Time: 2 hours**  
**Round Trip in Miles: 5**  
**Degree of Difficulty: Moderate**  
**Altitude Loss in Feet: 164**

Please check in with the Concierge before departing and give an approximate time of return. Upon your arrival, let us know that you've returned.



## LEGEND

Trail .....

**1** This marker on the path above the Kō'ele golf clubhouse is the start of the trail. Follow the cart path, heading mauka (upland) to the dirt trail.

**2** At this marker you will cross the 17th fairway. Watch for golfers who may be teeing off to your left and up the hill before you cross. To your right, the fairway drops below the trail and into Kaiholena Valley. This valley was a fresh water source in the uplands of Lāna'i in ancient times. The back of the valley is home to several rare endemic plant species only found on Lāna'i. In historic times a large reservoir was built in the valley to catch water for ranch operations, which were where the Lodge at Kō'ele is today.

**3** This marker is set at a thick stand "cathedral" of Cook Island Pines. The pines were introduced to Lāna'i around 1912 for their ability to capture water from passing clouds and fog.

**4** Here you come to a fork in the trail. Follow the arrow and take the trail leading up to your left.

**5** Here the trail passes next to a two million-gallon water tank. Follow the trail mauka along the chain link fence.

**6** At this point the trail narrows to a single track winding uphill through wooded growth. Follow the arrows to the top of the rise and proceed down a section of earthen steps. Please watch your step. The trail is slippery here, particularly when wet. Going downhill, you enter Hulopo'e Gulch, and as you continue down the slope, you pass through a thick stand of introduced strawberry guava (waiawi) trees. This tree is one of several invasive species that are threatening our native forests. Trees like the strawberry guava are aggressive growers that do not have natural controls and crowd out all native vegetation.

**7** At this marker the trail intersects with an old dirt road that was once used to service the tunnels and pipelines that carried drinking water from Maunalei Gulch to Lāna'i City. Axis deer are often seen along the trail. The deer were introduced to Hawai'i in 1865 and brought to Lāna'i in 1920. They are very shy and hard to spot. Sometimes you can hear their high-pitched "bark," which is their alarm sound. Follow the arrows and continue downhill. As you walk downslope along the dirt road, you will see arrows pointing you to the next marker. The predominant trees in this area are pine, eucalyptus, African tulip, and strawberry guava. Along the way you may hear several birdcalls. These are mostly introduced species (almost no native birds remain on Lāna'i). Most notable for their song are the Shama thrush (magpie robin) and the Brazilian and Northern cardinals. You might also hear sparrows, and even turkeys. Continue downhill.

**8** Here, you are at the intersection of the foot trail and Munro Trail. Turn right and follow the Munro Trail up the hill. The trail is named for George Munro, who managed the ranch at Kō'ele from 1911 to 1935. Munro was also a noted naturalist and documented many of the rare native species of plant and bird life during his tenure here. Going up the hill, you will pass through a thick stand of ironwood trees on your right. Like many invasive species, this tree was introduced in the late

1800s as a wind block and to keep soil in place. Munro trail is a jeep trail built by the Hawaiian Pineapple Company in 1955 so visitors could access the beautiful mountain lands of Lāna'i.

**9** You are now in Kukui Gulch, so named for the many kukui (candlenut) trees that grow in the area. The beginning of the gulch is marked by a patch of introduced yellow ginger plants, known as "awapuhi melemele," and valued for their fragrant flowers. The next hundred yards of the Munro Trail is part of the gulch wash and can become quite muddy during our rainy season.

**10** Ironwood trees surround this area. Look to your left and you will see several large sisal plants. The sisal was introduced in the early 1900s and was planted with the intention of using it for natural fiber rope. It was later used as a wind block.

**11** At this point, you have your first glimpse of Moloka'i. The lava stacks, outcrops and perched rocks in this little valley are the products of wind erosion. Several native plants are found here. One of the most noticeable is pūkiawe (Styphelia tameiameia), a distant relative of the common heather. Its small leaves and red, pink, or white berries make this plant stand out in the Hawaiian landscape.

**12** Follow the left turn at the marker here. At this point you will turn off the Munro Trail and proceed on to the spectacular views of Koloiki Ridge. Follow the arrows down the trail—you are almost there.

**13** As you pass this marker, placed on the edge of a small stand of Cook Island pines, you will see incredible vistas of the rugged windward side of Lāna'i. To your left is Naio Gulch. Follow the arrows to the overlook at Maunalei and Koloiki (Marker #14).

**14** Here, you are looking into Maunalei, the largest and deepest valley on Lāna'i. Look toward the ocean and you see the island of Moloka'i to your left and Maui to your right. Please do not get near the cliff edge. Maunalei is a storied place in the history of ancient Lāna'i. During the early days of pineapple production water from the valley was pumped to provide water to Lāna'i City.

An expression of the love Hawaiians have for this landscape is commemorated in the song "Lei Kō'ele," composed by Dennis Kamakahi in the 1990s:

"...Lei Kō'ele i ka ua, hoapili o Maunalei, huapala o Keōmoku, ke aloha o Koloiki..." (...Kō'ele wears the rain like a lei, companion of Maunalei, sweetheart of Keōmoku, the beloved of Koloiki...)

To return to the Lodge at Kō'ele, just reverse these directions and follow the trail markers.

Help us care for the land. Please take only photographs and leave only footprints behind.

*Mahalo nui!*