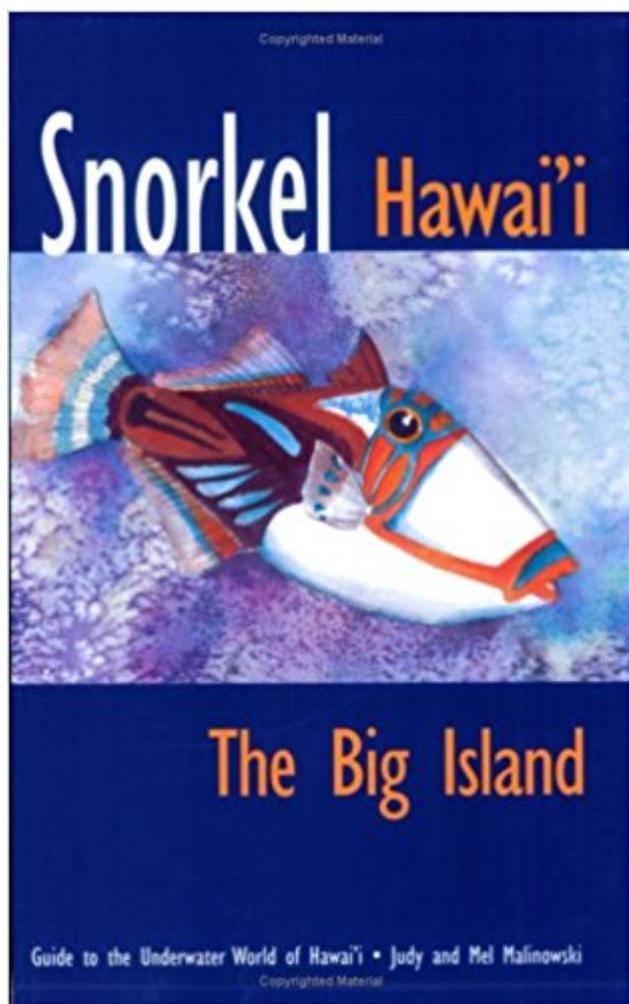


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Snorkel Hawaii: The Big Island, 2nd Edition



Synopsis

Snorkel Hawaii: The Big Island was the first guidebook exclusively devoted to snorkeling on The Big Island of Hawaii. In this 50% longer expanded second edition, even more sites and maps are included, plus updated tips and excursions. From a colorful cover to 54 site descriptions and 38 detailed maps of snorkeling sites, it draws you into the fascinating underwater world that shouldn't be missed by anyone touring the Big Island. As Dave Barry says: "When you finally see what goes on underwater, you realize that you've been missing the whole point of the ocean--it's like going to the circus and staring at the outside of the tent." It is the original in a series of guidebooks that provide more detailed snorkeling information than ever before available for each of the Hawaiian islands in an attractive, easy to carry package. Snorkel Maui and Lanai, and Snorkel Kauai, also available from .com, provides the same detailed coverage of these beautiful islands.

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Customer Reviews

...a series of exceptional guidebooks to the best snorkeling sites in Hawaii...They have achieved a rare balance... -- Greg Ambrose, Honolulu Star-Bulletin, December 15, 1997

An active vacation is memorable for adventure as well as relaxation. Hassles and missteps finding out where to go can raise your blood pressure, and waste your time. Our research will help you quickly locate appropriate sites that fit your interests and abilities, saving your valuable vacation hours. Snorkeling sites in Hawaii are trickier than some calmer parts of the world, so it's best to get good advice before heading out. Everyone's had their share of unpleasant experiences due to

vague directions, as well as outdated or inaccurate information. We have created the Snorkel Hawaii series as that savvy snorkeling buddy everyone needs. We hope you'll enjoy the personal stories we've included; see About the Authors on page 126 if you want to know a little more about us. We have personally snorkeled all the major sites listed. Few of these sites are well-marked. The challenge lies in knowing how to find them quickly, as well as how to enter and exit, and where to snorkel, so you'll have a safe and rewarding experience. Our detailed maps and instructions will ease the uncertainty, saving you time and effort. The Big Island offers some of the clearest water and finest snorkeling sites in all of the Hawaiian Islands. Less developed than the more crowded islands of Maui and Oahu, it retains much of the Aloha spirit even today. Most residents of the Big Island are friendly, relaxed and willing to talk and share their love of this remarkable place. Try to visit it at least once in your life, and by all means don't miss the underwater world. Aloha! --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

The book offers insights you probably wouldn't find on your own. From dangers to hidden must-see places, you will find a treasure trove of information to take advantage of while visiting Hawaii. The book is a directory of the coolest spots to swim, snorkel or just lounge on the beach. Our Hawaii vacation would not have been nearly as fun without having The Big Island to guide us. The book on Kawai is equally informative. Judy did all the homework so you can go straight to the best places to play. So many times directions lead one astray. All of the directions in this book were spot on target. We never got lost and we found every place we were looking for based on the directions in the book.

I've been to Hawaii 5 times, 3 times of which were to the Big Island. I got hooked on snorkeling and I found this book for my second trip there. It is so great to be able to have a table of the various snorkel sites for comparison then go to the description pages for more detail. My only disappointment comes from the fact that my copy is the first edition and this year, some of the directions are now out of date so we made a couple of wrong turns. This is not the fault of the guide but the fault of my poor memory for directions and not realizing there was a new edition. I really enjoy the conversational tone the authors use to relay their experiences when at the particular beaches. It gives the impression that these authors actually visited the beaches instead of relying on the tourist literature. They also provide practical advice for the particular beaches which is helpful since general advice and warnings about snorkeling (which they also provide as a portion of the book) will only get you so far when you're actually at a specific beach faced with the conditions

particular to that beach. I feel this book has really given me access to areas that I may otherwise not have known about or gone to to enjoy the underwater beauty that the Big Island has to offer.

We've used this guide over the past several years and have found it to be exceptionally comprehensive. The book includes general information about diving the big island and then proceeds to give detailed descriptions of the various beaches around the island. We've yet to discover a beach that is not documented in this book. The descriptions for each beach include driving directions, parking information, and beach conditions. Whether you snorkel, dive, or just play in the surf, this book will be helpful. As an experienced diver I enjoy the information about diving conditions, surge, clarity, and species that may be encountered at each site. Many of the beaches are known by several names. This guide includes local names as well as official state names. Whether you plan to snorkel, scuba dive from shore, or just explore some new beaches, this guide is indispensable. This book combined with "Big Island Revealed" and "Hawaii's Fishes : A Guide for Snorkelers, Divers, and Aquarists" by John Hoover and you'll be fully set for any ocean adventures.

While a couple years old at this point, this book still pointed the way for me on a recent week of snorkeling on Hawaii. Excellent descriptions and maps of specific reefs and beaches. Good opening introduction to snorkeling for novices. If you are heading to the big island for snorkeling, spend time before your trip with this book and it will pay huge dividends.

I found this book to be incredibly useful and quite accurate. We needed the detailed directions and instructions to find certain sites and to be fully prepared. It also helped us find some fantastic snorkelling areas, despite high winds and choppy water. I especially enjoyed the pictures corresponding to each site, diagramming the location of reefs and indicating which are "excellent". I would highly recommend this book.

Very handy guide to find the hidden spots, and critical entry points for snorkeling.

This book was great for precise and concise information about where to snorkel on the Big Island. We used it daily to decide where we would go. It also gave information about where it was safe to take our 2 young and inexperienced snorkelers as well as where to park, the easiest place for entry, and which direction to head once you are in the water. I highly recommend this book.

Good info, but some of the information is outdated. As one example, one hotel is marked as the Kona Hilton, but it has not been a Hilton property since about 1994. The book contains some very basic how-to snorkeling information as well as descriptions of access areas.

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