




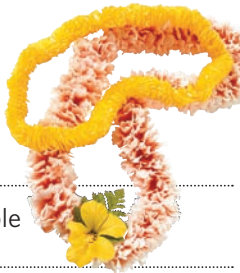







• VACATION PLAN-OFF

**A veteran travel writer goes head-to-head with a Virtuoso travel advisor to plan a **seven-day Maui vacation**. May the best-value (and most hassle-free) trip win.**

	DO IT YOURSELF	VIRTUOSO TRAVEL ADVISOR
 <b>Two first-class tickets from LA to Maui</b>	\$4,191 on a major carrier	\$3,776 on Hawaiian Airlines (\$415 savings)
 <b>Rental car or transfers</b>	Overlooked (oops)	Rental car for seven days: \$249
 <b>Six nights at Four Seasons Resort Maui at Wailea</b>	\$4,890 for an ocean-view room	\$4,890 for an ocean-view room, including breakfast and an upgrade on arrival depending on availability ( <b>\$420 value - \$960 with room upgrade</b> )
 <b>Blue Hawaiian Helicopters' 90-minute all-island tour</b>	 <p>\$359 per person</p>	 <p>\$359 per person</p>
 <b>Lele luau</b>	\$220 per couple	\$220 per couple
 <b>Snorkeling</b>	 <p>\$357 per couple for trip to Molokai with Molokai Outdoor Activities</p>	\$80 per person. "I prefer Molokini Crater – a volcanic ocean caldron with calm waters – and Turtle Town, where clients snorkel with green sea turtles on a beautiful reef. You can do both in a five-hour trip. Put the \$197 savings toward a sunrise bike ride from the top of Haleakala volcano or a trail ride at Ironwood Ranch, Hawaii's largest pineapple plantation."
 <b>Planning fee</b>	\$0	\$250
 <b>Grand Total</b>	\$10,376 for two, plus <b>13 hours and 38 minutes'</b> planning time	★ <b>\$10,263 for two (\$10,014 without the rental car), plus one 15-minute phone call</b>