

At $\frac{9}{10}$ mile past the 6 mile marker (it's one of the few on the *left* side of the road) is a dirt turnout. A trail leads to *four waterfalls*. Many of the waterfall trails along the highway are in this section. But this one's harder to get to and is in ADVENTURES on page 237.

Between the 9 and 10 mile markers on the Hana Highway is the **Waikamoi Nature Trail**. Two nature loops—one about 10 minutes, the other about 30—make a pleasant place to stretch your legs a bit, but it's not a hugely compelling hike. It's good for families, and you gain,

at most, 200 feet. If you venture past the main trail, a pretty waterfall awaits. See **HIKING** on page 202 for more. No restrooms here.

Waikamoi Stream just before the 10 mile marker is usually dry, but after a heavy rain it can be a giant cauldron with a large waterfall up the mountain and a slippery trail to a smaller one. You'll know whether to bother by the amount of water flowing under the bridge.

Soon you come to the **Garden of Eden** (572-9899). Pretty tough name to live up to; it's an arboretum and botanical

Kamehameha Fights to the Death

Just before Holoakai Road between the 15 & 16 mile markers (on Hwy 36) there is a hill visible a mile up mauka. This hill became famous during the time of Kamehameha, the only king to conquer all the islands. While he was here battling for Maui in the late 1700s, the Maui king's top warrior was sent with troops to repel Kamehameha. One night Kamehameha camped at that hill and paraded his war god Ku around the camp to see how the feathers on the head of the god would look. It was believed that the more erect the top feathers bristled, the better the battle would go. The feathers cooperated. The next day a fierce battle was fought beyond the hill at a place called Kokomo. Though most battles were fought by lower ranking soldiers, here Kamehameha himself fought in a battle to the death with Maui's top warrior. Kamehameha had practiced making war since he was a child, even going so far as to have some of his top men surprise him from time to time by throwing spears at him when he wasn't looking, just to keep him sharp. (He prided himself on being able to dodge or catch as many as five spears thrown at once.) The battle was begun as most Hawaiian battles were—both leaders on opposite sides of the battlefield hurled insults back and forth to stir up each other. When the Maui warrior landed a particularly cruel blow (accusing Kamehameha of having no royal blood, but rather descending from slaves—yes, the Hawaiians did keep slaves), Kamehameha roared. Both leaders shot sling stones at each other. Then they charged each other with spears. Hand to hand, Kamehameha landed a vicious blow with his leiomanu, a club studded with shark's teeth, opening the Maui warrior's chest. The Maui warrior stabbed Kamehameha with a wooden dagger, but Hawaii's future king finished off his opponent with his club. Maui's top warrior was slaughtered on the field of battle in front of the Maui troops who were so demoralized that the taking of Maui became inevitable.

garden. The \$10 per person entrance fee seems a little high at first, but you soon realize that this is a meticulously maintained and very beautiful garden. Everything is scrupulously labeled. You can either drive it or walk a separate path. They have a picnic area with good views down the coast, if you're looking for a place to eat that sandwich you brought with you, and there's a restroom.

At $\frac{9}{10}$ mile past the 10 mile marker on the ocean side of the road is a turnout with a telephone pole. There's a well-worn path to the right. Take it for a couple of minutes, and you'll be treated to a view of a particularly large waterfall that the vast majority of drivers miss. Plunging about 200 feet, **Lower Puohokamoa Falls** drops into a large pool as drivers, blissfully unaware of its existence below, rush along on their way to Hana. The trail continues and gets steeper as it meanders into the valley, but the latter part is treacherous.

Just past the 11 mile marker is a path to **Upper Puohokamoa Falls**. The landowner (Garden of Eden) has erected a wall and won't allow people to access it from the near side. Perhaps they simply want you to visit their garden and view the falls from their property instead. Fortunately, they don't own the land on the far side (the state does), and from there you'll find a trail to the falls.

A half mile past the 11 mile marker there's a small turnout on the far side of the bridge and a trail that leads 30 seconds or so to a pool and small waterfall



Most drivers (top) have no idea that they are passing Lower Puohokamoa Falls. A short trail takes you to this vantage point.

called **Haipua'ena Falls**. It's worth a stop. There's another, larger falls just upstream, but the trail to the second falls, even on a dry day, has a short stretch where it's easy to fall. (An ugly fall at that.) Not worth it; stay at the first waterfall.

Past the 12 mile marker you come across the **Kaumahina State Wayside** with its restrooms. The **restrooms** at Ke'anae 5 miles ahead are usually less crowded, even though there are fewer of

