

*Pride of Maui*  
CULTURAL  
PROTOCOL GUIDE



# MAUI WATERFALLS

Understanding Sacred Sites (Wahi Pana)

## Basic protocols

- ✓ Remove sunglasses when addressing cultural sites
- ✓ Speak quietly near waterfalls
- ✓ Ask permission before entering
- ✓ Leave natural elements undisturbed
- ✓ No stacking rocks or building cairns

## Hawaiian Terms & Meanings

- ✓ **Wahi Pana:** Sacred place
- ✓ **Mālama 'Āina:** Care for the land
- ✓ **Kapu:** Sacred, forbidden
- ✓ **Mauka:** Mountain side
- ✓ **Makai:** Ocean side
- ✓ **Wai:** Freshwater
- ✓ **'Āina:** Land

## Cultural Significance

- ✓ **Waterfalls:** Sacred boundaries between realms
- ✓ **Freshwater (wai):** Source of life
- ✓ **Native plants:** Traditional gathering areas
- ✓ **Ancient walls/structures:** Archaeological sites
- ✓ **Pools:** Traditional gathering places

## Respectful Practices

- ✓ Ask permission before gathering
- ✓ Never remove rocks/plants
- ✓ Avoid loud behavior
- ✓ Follow posted signs
- ✓ Support local stewards
- ✓ Learn sites' names/history

## Preservation

- ✓ Stay on marked trails
- ✓ Pack out all trash
- ✓ No graffiti/markings
- ✓ Report damage
- ✓ Support conservation efforts