

Oahu Bars and Restaurants That Have Closed (Updated)

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Well, my favorite two bars have closed! The Ruby Tuesday Mililani bar has been my favorite hang-out for the past 3 or 4 years. It closed for good on 31 Dec 2023.

My favorite bar in Honolulu was Henry Loui's Restaurant. It was close to Fort Shafter where I worked and even closer to the Ceridian Building where I worked part-time. I went there often.



Donna Feldmann (manager and bartender)

About two dozen businesses -- including Henry Loui's, which has been in Mapunapuna for 42 years -- closed by July 15, 2022, to make way for Home Depot.

There were more than 50 bars and restaurants that closed in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This has prompted me to update the list below with some of the more well-known places.

Here are Some Small Business Statistics

We have about 120,000 Small Businesses in Hawaii that employ 260,000 workers which is about 1/2 of the total Hawaiian Workforce.

Most Small Businesses are sole proprietors. There are 57,000 male owned businesses, 37,000 female owned businesses and 20,000 that are owned by both. There were 68,000 minority owned businesses and 10,000 small businesses owned by Veterans. Wow...lots of numbers but it is easy to see where the emphasis is in Hawaii's economy. Our population is about 1,400,000 which helps put these numbers in perspective.

Hawaii is the very worst state to conduct business!

Granted, it may be tough to conjure up much sympathy for America's most spectacular state. But strip away the fabulous beaches, palm trees, hula dancers and surfers, and Hawaii is just one state trying to compete with 49 others, while facing a host of built-in disadvantages.

It is in the middle of the ocean, more than 2,000 miles away from the mainland and the bulk of U.S. resources. The same factors that make Hawaii an expensive place to live—think over \$4 for a loaf of bread or a gallon of gas—also make it an expensive state to govern, and in which to do business. Just for your info, the top three states for doing business are 1. Texas, 2. Minnesota and 3. Utah.

Opening up a new restaurant and/or bar in Hawaii is risking business! However, it is not quite as bad as some Internet sites would have you believe where they say 9 out of 10 restaurants go out of business in the first year. Here are the real statistics compared against all Small Businesses.

Percent That Failed Before:	Restaurants and Bars	All Small Businesses
1 year	60%	30%
5 years	80%	50%
10 years	90%	67%

There are about 3700 Restaurants and Bars in the state of Hawaii with about 2500 of these located in Honolulu and the island of Oahu. It seems like as fast as one restaurant or bar closes, another one opens up somewhere in the state. Apparently, there are a lot of people willing to give this business a try and they all think they are going to succeed.

Why do restaurants, nightclubs, and bars fail so often?

- **Bad Location**
- **Owners Unwilling to Work Hard Enough**
- **Inexperienced Owners**
- **Bad People Management**
- **Hiring Unreliable Employees**
- **Bad Customer Service**
- **Lack of Accounting Skills**
- **Not Paying Required Taxes**
- **State and Federal Government Red Tape**
- **Not Watching their Cash Flow**
- **Too High of Payroll**
- **Poor Food Quality**
- **Not Advertising**
- **Owners Run Out of Money**

There have been hundreds of restaurants and bars come and go in the 50+ years I have been living in Hawaii. I'm going to list some of the more famous ones and a few not so famous ones where I have had a meal or two and a few drinks. I'm pretty sure that my readers have been to some of these restaurants, nightclubs, and bars. I hope this list will bring back some good memories. If I have missed any obvious ones, please let me know.

Legend:

No Asterisks	Never been to the restaurant, nightclub or bar
One Asterisk	Have been to the place only one or two times
Two Asterisks	Have been there a few times (less than 10)
Three Asterisks	Have been there many times (10 to 19)
Four Asterisks	Have been there many-many times (20 to 39)
Five Asterisks	Have been to the bar more times than I can count (40+)

Note: The name of the restaurant or bar that closed after Aug 2015 will be highlighted in yellow.

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LIST OF RESTAURANTS, NIGHTCLUBS, AND BARS ON OAHU THAT HAVE CLOSED

Name of Bar or Restaurant	Location	Comments
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A

Aarons	Atop the Ala Moana Renaissance Hotel	Previously was Nicholas Nickolas - Scenic views of Honolulu and Ala Moana Beach and Ocean.
Ahi Assassins	Honolulu - 2020	Popular spot in Honolulu for fresh poke and ahi plate lunch.
Alakea Bar & Grill **	1192 Alakea St. - Downtown Honolulu	Closed in 2002 - A downtown institution for decades - Genoa Keawe's band hideout.
Ali'i Grill (and Lunch Wagons) **	Downtown Honolulu on Bishop Street – Close to HPU	Owned and operated by my son Mike from 2006 to 2009. He sold it due to the long hours, hard work, and very little profit.
Alley Cat ***	Downtown Honolulu bar down a small alley next to the Hawaii Theater	I used to go there in the early 70s to play pool and hangout.
Andy's Drive-In *	Oneawa St., Kailua	Open from 1957-1999. Sold 3,600 burgers on opening day at 17¢ each.
Arthur's	Foster Tower Hotel, Waikiki	Known for fine (expensive) dining continental cuisine; earned several awards for culinary excellence.
Annabelle's	Top of the Ilikai, Waikiki	Disco nightclub popular with the young crowd - Currently Sorento's.
Aquarium Bar **	Ala Moana Shopping Center, under escalator, behind Muntz Stereo	Back in the 1970s, there were only a couple of bars in the shopping center – I used to stop in there once in a while.
Atlantis	Pacific Beach Hotel, Waikiki	Nightclub that opened in 1979 and rivaled the nearby Point After



ALI'I GRILL



Andy's Drive-In



Brew Moon



Byron's Drive-In



Beacon's Restaurant & Bar

B

Baba Louie's	Waipio Gentry Shopping Center	Brudda Noland and the gang played there during the mid 80's / Currently Nancy's Kitchen
Beacon's Restaurant & Bar ***	Across from Pearlridge Shopping Center, Aiea	Busy place with good food. We used to go there once in a while when I was working at Ft. Shafter.
Big Island Steak House *	Aloha Tower Marketplace – Second floor	I went in there a couple of times for drinks. Rumor has it that this area of Aloha Tower is haunted.
Bill Lederer's Bar & Hotel ****	Hotel & Nuuanu in the Chinatown district	Used to be the most popular saloon in Hawaii. I used to go there after work to play pool. Many of people there were guys that dressed up as women. Currently, it is a police substation.
The Black Orchid	Restaurant Row	Opened by Tom Selleck and Larry Manetti of 'Magnum P.I.' fame; restaurant by day, club by night / eventually became the World Café.
The Black Cat	Hotel near Richards Street across from the Armed Services "Y"	A whiskey bar that sold a shot of whiskey for a quarter.
The Black Rose	Near A'ala Park on College Walk - Downtown	The owner was a Japanese lady named Aki who treated the customers very well. Her fare included king crab legs, prime rib, lobster, bacon-wrapped scallops, ribeye steaks, fried chicken, etc.
Bobby McGee's	Waikiki - Across the street from the Honolulu Zoo	A popular 1980's nightclub – Used to sell toilet bowl souvenir mugs.
Bob's Big Boy Restaurant *****	In Mapunapuna next to the Ceridian (now Kaiser) building - close to Fort Shafter	Closed due to a fire in 2009 and never reopened. I went there often to eat (Breakfast, lunch, and dinner) while working at Shafter and for Ceridian.

Brew Moon Restaurant & Bar **	Ward Center, Kaka’ako	I used to meet my old boss Art Lopkoff at this Microbrewery for lunch and drinks.
The Brown Derby *	Chinatown on Nuuanu near Beretania Street	Louis Armstrong played there – Owner got in trouble for selling heroin.
Burgers on the Edge *	Kapahulu Ave. in Kapahulu Safeway Plaza	Customer designed specialty burgers. I went there once and my special burger was nothing special.
Buzz’s Original Steak House	2535 Coyne St., Mo’ili’ili in Honolulu	Owned by Bobby Lou and Buzz Schneider. Popular place but for some reason I ever went there.
Byron’s Drive-In **	By the Honolulu Airport	A 24 hour “greasy spoon”, featuring plate lunches, burgers, sandwiches, breakfast, and specialties.



Bill Lederer’s Bar & Hotel



Canlis’ Charcoal Broiler Restaurant

C

Canlis’ Charcoal Broiler Restaurant	2100 Kalahaua Ave. in Waikiki	Waitresses wore Kimonos and it was billed as the world’s most beautiful restaurant. Opened in 1947 and stayed in Canlis family until it was sold to Japanese investors in mid-80s.
Chai’s Island Bistro *	Aloha Tower Across from Hooters	HPU purchased most of the Aloha Tower for dorms. Only Hooters and Gordon Biersch Brewery Restaurant are still open.
Char Hung Sut	Chinatown, Honolulu 2020	Famous for Hawaiian-style Chinese Bao.
Cheerleader’s *****	Moanalua Shopping Center by Navy-Marine Golf Course and the Salt Lake area by old COSTCO	This was one of my favorite bars for many years while I was working at Shafter. Had a pool table and a good-looking bartender.

Chi Chi's	Westridge Shopping Center, Aiea	Mexican fare by day, nightclub by night.
The Chowder House	Ward Warehouse	Known to be a regular stop for President Barack Obama.
The Cock's Roost *	Waikiki International Marketplace	A Spencecliff restaurant and bar where Carlos Santana performed before he became famous.
Columbia Inn ***	Kapiolani Ave. by the Newspaper building	One of the most famous restaurants / bars in Honolulu for 60 years. I went there many times for lunch and drinks. Currently a BMW dealership.
Crouching Lion Inn ***	Kaaawa, Kam Hwy right around a bend	This was actually my favorite place to go when traveling around the island of Oahu. Good American food with a great view.
Crow's Nest ***	Waikiki (above the Jolly Rodger)	One of my favorite bars when I lived in Waikiki in 1970.



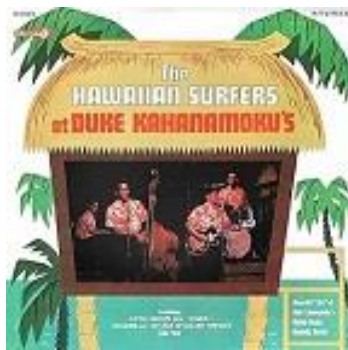
Columbia Inn



Crouching Lion Inn



International Market Place



Duke Kahanamoku's



Don Ho and Duke

D

Dancers **	Sand Island Access Rd.	Gentlemen's club – I went there a few times in my younger years.
Davy Jones Locker **	Waikiki Reef Hotel	“Underwater Bar” to drink and watch the people swimming in the pool.
Dillingham Saimin	Honolulu 2020	Dillingham Saimin closes for good after 64 years in the biz.
Dixie Grill **	Ward Ave & Halekauwila Street	BBQ & bar - catchy letterbox sign in front.
Don Ho's Island Grill ***	Aloha Tower Marketplace	Originally opened by the late and great Don Ho - Hawaii regional cuisine – Great bar by the waterfront.
Duke Kahanamoku's *	Waikiki International Market Place	The place was named for the renowned Olympian athlete - Its top entertainer was Don Ho and it was a spot to catch him singing “Tiny Bubbles”.
The Dunes **	Airport area on Nimitz Highway	Owned by Jack Cione - Featured a naked waiter and had acts as famous as Sammy Davis, Jr. It later became Gussie L'Amours.
Dunkin Donuts ***	Statewide	I used to stop at the Dunkin Donuts in Pearl City to pick up donuts.

E

Eastside Bar & Grill *	University Ave. in Puck's Alley	Sport bar and grill – Popular with UH students - Previously Magoo's Pizza
Elephant & Castle *****	Ka'ahumanu Rd. (across the street from Gyotaku), Aiea	English Pub and restaurant – Good place to hang out and play pool and darts.



Elephant & Castle



Flamingo Restaurant and Bar

F

Fast Eddie's	Kailua	The only nightclub in the area and was popular with servicemen from nearby Kaneohe Marine Corps Air Station
Fisherman's Wharf **	Kewalo Basin, Kaka'ako	Popular place for tourists to go eat – I took my mother there once. There is also a sleazy little bar on the bottom right side which I visited a few times.
Flamingo Chuckwagon and all other Flamingo Restaurants ***	Ward & Kapiolani Kapiolani Kaneohe Pearl City	Family buffet featuring Prime Rib – I went there to eat and drink a couple of times. In fact, I have been to all of the Flamingo restaurants – Good food.
Fort Shafter Skyview Terrace and other Oahu military clubs *****	Fort Shafter – The club was on a high ridge overlooking the airport, ocean, and Kalihi	See write up below.

MILITARY CLUBS ON OAHU

Military clubs were once considered as much a part of military life as the uniform. They were a place which fostered camaraderie since everyone there, whether they be on active duty or retired, has something in common with you by virtue of being in the military. Clubs used to be a place where off-duty personnel would go to hang out. However, military clubs aren't what they used to be - here are a few reasons why the "new" modern military is different from when I served my country in the Navy many years ago:

- There are more married people in the service today
- More military personnel are living off post
- The military and society in general's have an negative attitude toward alcohol (and smoking)
- More military personnel are pursuing healthier lifestyles



Fort Shafter - Hale Ikena Community Club



**Fort Shafter Skyview Terrace Site
(Yes, that is me and my new truck)**

In 1972, they built a new NCO Club up on the hill at Fort Shafter called the Skyview Terrace. It was a great club with a great view but it was so popular that it took away much of the Officer's Club's business. I used to go to both clubs. Actually, the Officer's Club had two buildings - one was called the Roundhouse Restaurant and the main building had both the Officer's club and the Golf Course 19th Hole Bar. In the mid-1970s, the 19th Hole was very busy on Friday nights because this was when they had the strippers in there dancing. But then some officer's wives complained and they stopped this great entertainment. Next, due to a 1987 federal law that stated all military clubs had to be self-supporting, one of the two main clubs on Shafter had to close! Well, you can't close the club where the Generals go! So the Army (in all their wisdom) closed down the popular NCO Skyview Terrace. They later tore down the Officer's Club and built a new Community Club called the Hale Ikena. Later in 2000, they tore down the already closed Sky View Terrace and announced that this is where they are going to build the new USARPAC Headquarters Building.

In 1990, the Army had nine clubs (officer and enlisted) on Oahu. Now they are all gone - closed, tore-down, or converted to Community Clubs. All of the services here reported that patronage in their clubs has dropped. Twenty one (21) military clubs (9 Army, 7 Navy, and 5 Air Force) were closed on Oahu alone. In 1997, the Army shut down the 52-year-old Cannon Club, located on the slopes of Diamond Head - this was once a special place to eat and drink with a great view of Waikiki and the Pacific Ocean. Today, only Hickam Air Force Base maintains a segregated membership-only officers and enlisted club system. The Army and Navy did away with clubs catering separately to officers and enlisted soldiers in 1996.



Fisherman's Wharf



Flamingo Chuckwagon

G

"G's" Bar & Grill ***	94-889 Waipahu St Waipahu, HI	"G's" was owned and operated by a Korean lady named Grace. This is where my part-time job boss and some employees used to go eat, drink, and watch sports. I went a few times and they do have the cheapest beer in town (\$2.50 a bottle). The bar just closed as I'm writing this article.
Gibson Bar *	Chinatown Hotel Street	Swing and Jazz Club

Glades *	Chinatown Hotel Street	“Boys will be Girls” revue live shows – I have to admit that I did go to a couple of these performances.
Gordon Biersch ***	Honolulu Aloha Tower Near the pier. 2020	I enjoyed sitting at the outside bar. We had many parties at this place.
Gussie L’Amours **	Airport area on Nimitz Highway	Live bands (some very well-known such as the Talking Heads and Stray Cats); oil wrestling; mechanical bull riding, etc. – I did go there to ride the bull but I only lasted about 3 seconds.



Gordon Biersch

Historic Downtown Honolulu (Chinatown and Hotel Street): In the 1940s, Chinatown was the epicenter of Honolulu’s entertainment scene. Dance halls catered to plantation workers and military personnel. Nine theaters and 19 brothels operated in greater Chinatown as well as about 50 bars and numerous tattoo parlors. Clubs like the Swing Club, Casino Club, the Paradise Club, the Blue Note, Brown Derby, Two Jacks, Tradewinds, Gibson’s Bar and the Playroom featured swing and jazz. Sarah Vaughn, Ella Fitzgerald, Louis Armstrong and Duke Ellington all played in Honolulu. By the 1960s, all of the brothels, dance halls, and most of the theaters were closed down. However, many of the bars stayed in business until the mid-1990s and longer.



Downtown Hotel Street



Club Hubba Hubba

H

Haiku Gardens Restaurant **	46-336 Haiku Rd, Kaneohe	Haiku Gardens offers views second to none, award-winning food infused with local flavors, and a staff full of aloha. Great place to take family and visitors. I have been there several times – the first time with my mother and my family. Currently is Haleiwa Joe's.
Happiness Lounge **	Ala Moana Blvd., Kaka'ako across from the Gold Bond Building	This is a hostess Korean bar featuring Vietnamese food, karaoke & satellite TV. Since I used to work part-time at the Gold Bond Building, some days I needed a cold beer before going home.
Harpo's Pizza and Pasta	Downtown Honolulu 2020	Closed after 30 years in the downtown business district.
Hawaiian Hut *	Ala Moana Hotel, Atkinson Dr., Kaka'ako	Spencecliff restaurant & Tiki bar; became a club with live entertainment in its later years.
Henry Loui's *****	Mapunapuna, Honolulu	(See Page 1 of this article for details)
Honey's Place *	Kamehameha Hwy, Kaneohe	Live Hawaiian music, food and drink, owned and operated by Honey Ho, Don Ho's mother - first gig for Don Ho. It is currently the site of a bank.
House of Hong *	Lewers St., Waikiki	Billed as "The World's most beautiful Chinese Restaurant"; Cantonese cuisine; rich art of the Orient. One of the few Chinese restaurants I have been to.
Club Hubba Hubba ***	Chinatown Hotel Street	Honolulu's most infamous strip club finally "bit the dust" in late 1990s. There were lots of girls – dancers, porn actresses, and strippers – who have performed here.

My Hubba Hubba Experience: I actually spent a lot of time at Club Hubba Hubba in the early 1970s. No – It's not what you are thinking. I was not a sex fiend sitting in showroom watching strippers day and night. It was a little known fact that one of the best pool tables on the island of Oahu was located in the front lobby area of the Club Hubba Hubba. You could find many of the best Hawaii local pool players there every day. Well, I thought that I was pretty good back in those days so that is where I went to play pool on a regular basis. They sold beer and the scenery wasn't that bad. What more could you ask for?

Hooters ***	Honolulu Aloha Tower (10 Feb 2020)	I enjoyed going to Hooters whenever I was in the downtown area.
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Hungry Lion	Corner of Nu'uaniu Avenue and School Street in the Nuuanu Shopping Plaza	After 27 years, the restaurant in Nu'uaniu known for its mascot and a giant banyan tree rising through the dining room closed (Feb 2003) after losing battles with the tough economy and even tougher landlord.
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Haiku Gardens



Hungry Lion Restaurant



Hooters Honolulu

I

Infinity Nightclub	Sheraton Hotel, Waikiki	During the 1960s and 1970s, this was one of the most popular nightclubs on the island. The Kasuals & Phaze VII bands performed there.
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J

The Jazz Cellar **	Imperial Hawaii Hotel, Lewers St., Waikiki	Live music and dancing. I went in this place 2 or 3 times while I was living at the Reef Tower Hotel on Lewers Street.
Jimbo Restaurant	S King Street, Honolulu 2020	Serving house made noodles with various toppings.
John Dominis	43 Ahui St, Honolulu, HI near the Kaka'ako Water Front Park	One of Honolulu's best Italian restaurants closed on 1 Dec 2010 after 31 years.
Jolly Roger Drive-Inn **	One on Dillingham Blvd. and one at Waialae Ave.	Featured signature sandwiches Suzie-Q, Teri-King and the memorable bacon double cheeseburger.
Jumbo's Drive-In ****	Mapunapuna (near Servco Toyota and Fort Shafter)	I went to Jumbo's often to get my breakfast - usually on my way to work
Just Tacos *****	Mililani Town Center 2019	I found this bar while walking around the shopping center. I liked the bartender Aimee (see picture below) and became a regular customer.



John Dominis



Kenny's Restaurant

K

Kaka'ako Kitchen	Ala Moana Blvd Honolulu 2020	Popular industrial-style plate-lunch haven.
Kalihi Bowling Alley Kam Bowling Alley ***	North King Street Across the road from Kam Shopping Center	Two of the many bowling alleys to close on the island of Oahu. The Kalihi Bowling Alley had a large bar area that I used to visit. It is now a Nissan car dealership.
Kapiolani Coffee Shop *	Honolulu near the Convention Center	Featured Ox Tail Soup, Pig Feet Soup, and Fried Rice.
Kapono's	Aloha Tower Marketplace	Waterfront restaurant/Bar with live music - club founded by Henry Kapono Ka'aihue.
Keone's	Lewers Street, Waikiki	Jimmy Borges personal after-hours club.
Kelly's Coffee Shop and Bronco Bar *****	Nimitz Hwy, Airport Area	24 hour diner, pastry shop, and country and western bar. There are not a lot of cowboy bars in Hawaii. Yes, I spent a lot of time at the Bronco Bar.
Kenny's Restaurant **	Kam Shopping Center in Kalihi	Serving great food (especially the fish) for more than 49 years. Owner decided to sell in large part due to health reasons.
King's Bakery ***	1936 King St, Mo'ili'ili	A coffee shop & bakery; famous for their Portuguese Sweet Bread & fried noodles. I went here many times after the bars closed.
Kobe Japanese Steak House	Waikiki 2020	After more than 40 years of serving-up feasts right before your eyes, Kobe Steak House is closing




Kelly's Coffee Shop and Bronco Bar

L

La Hacienda	Koko Marina, Hawaii Kai	Popular place for Mexican cuisine and a view of the Marina
Lauhala Room *****	On South King near Times Supermarket and across the road from Zippy's McCully	Well, this is the bar I went to almost every night during my single years in Hawaii. It is also the bar that I met my wife Patsy who was the bartender there. They also had a good pool table. This bar was within walking distance from my apartment located across from the Central Union Church on Beretania Street.
Like Like Drive Inn ***	Keeaumoku St, Honolulu 2020	Family owned and operated in Honolulu serving up local favorites and late night dining since 1953.
Little George's *****	Ala Moana Blvd (across the Gold Bond Building)	Little George's had both fine dining (specializing in steak & lobster) and a great bar. I went to the bar often when I was working part-time for Electronics Accounting Systems (EAS) in the Gold Bond Building.
Little Village Noodle House	Chinatown Honolulu Feb 2023	Lively eatery offering traditional Cantonese fare & inventive combos, plus family-style dishes.
Lynn's Delicatessen	Ala Moana Center	A great place to get a Pastrami Sandwich and Potato Salad.

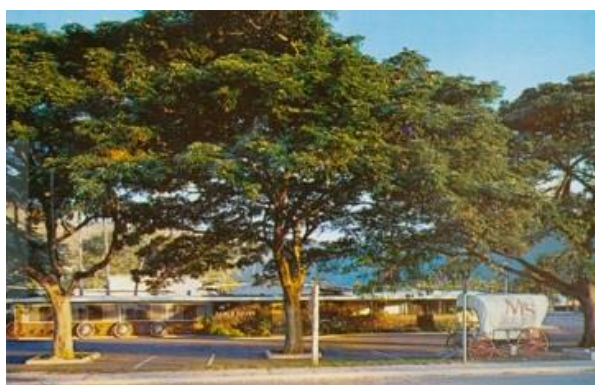


M

Maile Room	Kahala Hilton	Baseball great Joe DiMaggio was one of the first guests to dine there back in the 60's when it opened.
Mama's Mexican Kitchen **	378 N. School St. (between A'ala & Liliha)	Good Mexican food – I have eaten there several times – I like the tamale, refried beans, Mexican rice, and a margarita.
McCully Chop Sui	McCully & S. King St	A local landmark for more than 50 years closed its doors at the end of 2006 – Owner said the lease expired.
Mekong and Mekong II	Kapahulu Avenue and South King Street	Thai Cuisine – Opened in 1977 and went out of business in 2012.
Merry Monarch	Beachwalk and Kalakaua Ave, Waikiki	Live bands
The Mill ****	The Mililani Shopping Center near Foodland 2016 The bartender at The Mill was a very pretty lady named Lourie. She was also my neighbor for a few years. She lived across from the golf course.	
Monterey Bay Cannery ****	Pearl Ridge - 2020	When I worked for DSIS in Aiea, I went to this restaurant/bar often. It had a view of the watercress farm.
Moose McGillycuddy's ***	Pucks Alley near the University of Hawaii	Best hamburgers in town. My friend Donald Chong and I used to go there to eat lunch and drink beer.
M's Ranch House *	Aina Haina - East Oahu	Known as just the Ranch House. Great food – Good place to go for a special occasion.



McCully Chop Sui



M's Ranch House



Monterey Bay Cannery

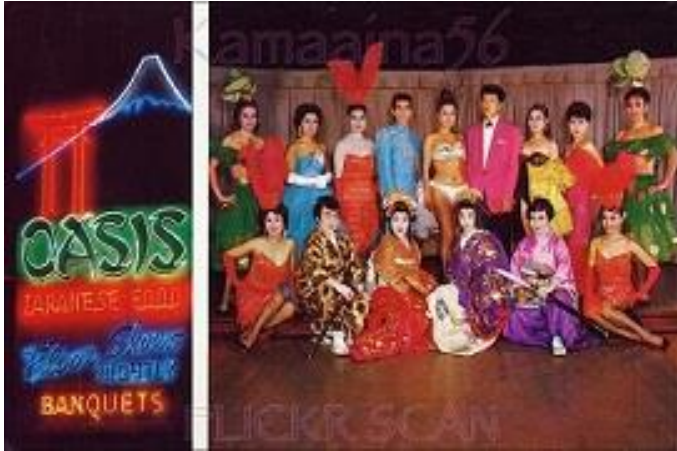
N

New York Deli	1137 11th Ave Kaimuki	American Deli Sandwiches – The pastrami sandwich comes with 11 oz. of meat, potato salad and a big deli pickle.
Nickolas Nicholas	Ala Moana Renaissance Hotel	Amazing views overlooking Ala Moana Beach Park, Honolulu and the Leeward Coast sunset, fine dining with an extensive wine list.
Nick’s Fishmarket	Kalakaua Ave, Waikiki	Nick’s Fishmarket served its last customers in its 41-year history on Feb 5, 2009. The restaurant’s 38 employees were out of work.

O

The Oasis *	Old Waialae Rd.	Japanese Food and floor shows.
Ocean Club *	Restaurant Row, Kaka’ako	Honolulu’s upper “yuppie club” - took over where Studebaker’s left off. Currently M Night Club.
Oceania Floating Restaurant *	Aloha Tower Pier 6	The world’s largest floating restaurant - Chinese cuisine.
Orson’s Bourbon House	Kailua	Andy Wong restaurant - said to be the best restaurant on the Windward side - closed 1997

Outback Steakhouse	Hawaii Kai Towne Center 2020	I go to the Outback in Waipio. I like their steaks and hamburgers. They also have a big bar.
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The Oasis



Oceania Floating Restaurant



Pipeline Cafe



Pat's at Punalu'u

P

Palama Inn	Kalihi	Served lots of Japanese and Filipino dishes. Famous for making a mean pork adobo and miso tako and sashimi.
Pat's at Punalu'u **	Kam Highway in Hauula	Fine dining by the sea. I stopped there a few times for drinks and to go to the bathroom.
Pearl City Tavern *****	Waimano Home Road & Kamehameha Hwy, Pearl City	Tavern opened in 1936 and closed in 1993 - House specialties were steaks, live Maine lobsters and banana drinks at the live Monkey Bar. I loved this place and stopped there often to watch the monkeys. Currently a Dodge new car dealership.

Pieces of Eight ***	Lewers Street, Waikiki	Steak & lobster eatery; in the 1970s, there was a piano bar upstairs and a game room downstairs. I spent a lot of time at this place when living across the street at the Reef Towers.
Pipeline Café	Pohukaina St., Kaka’ako	Popular place for young people with live music & dancing - currently BJ Penn Gym.
Planet Hollywood	Waikiki	Theme restaurant opened by Bruce Willis, Sylvester Stallone and Arnold Schwarzenegger.
Players Sports Bar **	Alakea Street & Beretania Street	A downtown sport bar featuring attractive servers.
The Playroom *****	Downtown just off of Hotel Street	This was my favorite downtown bar in the early 70’s when I was single. There were 2 pool tables, a shuffle board, and dart boards. The manager was a big Hawaiian man who became my friend.
Point After	Hawaiian Regent Hotel which later became the Waikiki Marriot	A very popular nightclub that became the Eurasia nightclub and is currently a Spa.
Pure Platinum	Kuhio Ave., Waikiki	Gentleman club – Good place to go watch several strippers and spent a lot of money. Previously Club Deja Vu; currently the Maddog Saloon.



Queen’s Surf



Pearl City Tavern

Q

The Queen’s Surf Restaurant and Barefoot Bar *	Across from Kapiolani Park at Waikiki Beach	This place is famous with the older generation that visited Waikiki – Including me! But it came to a sad end when it was condemned and torn down in 1971.
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R

Red Baron's Pizza ***	Kamehameha Shopping center	Great pizza! Our Shafter office used to go there for lunch regularly. Masa Genka was our boss then and he loved the Anchovy Pizza with beer. Many times we never made it back to work.
Club Red Rose *	1646 Kona St – Ala Moana Area	Stripper Club known for lewd, immoral and unlawful conduct from the ladies that worked there.
The Round House **	Below Anna Miller's in Pearlridge Center, Aiea	Popular Restaurant and Tiki Bar.
Ruby Tuesday *****	Mililani (31 Dec 23) and Kapolei (21 Feb 23)	I liked the restaurant and bar employees. The bar customers were closer to my age group. Beer and food prices were reasonable. The TV setup was good for watching sports.
Ryans **	Ward Center Honolulu 2021	We had a couple of office lunches there and I thought it was a nice place. They also had food I liked.



Ruby Tuesday Mililani



Sam Choy's

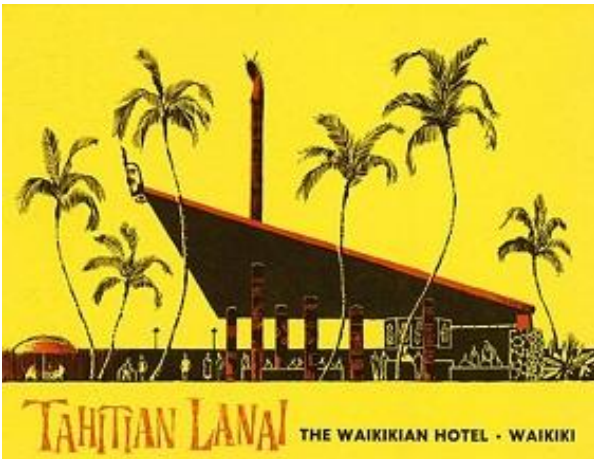


Swing Club (in the 1940s)

S

Sam Choy's Breakfast, Lunch & Crab **	Nimitz Hwy (next to Zippy's and across the road from City Mill)	Hawaii regional cuisine; opened in 1997, closed in 2013 along with the neighboring Aloha Beer Company
Sam Snead's Tavern ****	Navy-Marine Golf Club House – 2nd Floor	Good place to eat and get a few drinks after golfing. I liked the bartender Elle who always treated me good.
The Sandbox ***	Sand Island Access Rd.	Hawaii's home of country western music; Eddie Kamae played there; original Sons of Hawaii played their first pro gig there. I went there several times – They also had pool tables.
Senor Frog's	Royal Hawaiian Shopping Center	Mexican restaurant & cantina bar; after hours nightclub.
The Shack Waikiki *	First floor of the Waikiki Trade Center	Sports Bar featuring burgers and Hawaiian themed decor; live local music & dance club during late night hours.
Shakey's Pizza Parlor **	All locations statewide: Keeaumoku St, Kaneohe, Waimalu & Schofield Barracks	Shakey's decor was that of a large open warehouse with a rustic, dark-lit look; seating were long communal wooden park benches; their pizza cooks would spin pizza dough by the entrance – I liked their pizza
Shipwreck Kelly's ***	Lewer's St., Waikiki	Another of my favorite bars while living in Waikiki.
Shirokiya *	Ala Moana Center - 2022	Shirokiya Japan Village Walk featured a Sprawling food court with an array of Japanese dishes, a French restaurant & an indoor beer garden.
Sizzler ****	All Sizzlers State-wide Kailua – Aiea - Kapalama - Salt Lake - Waipahu	The owner of Hawaii's five Sizzler restaurants abruptly ceased operations on Aug 1, 2013. They went bankrupt. About 120 employees were impacted by the shutdown of the restaurants. I liked the food at the Sizzler.
Sloppy Joe's & Fat Tuesday *	Aloha Tower Marketplace	This nightclub closed in January 1996 after a dispute over back rent. The 10,000-plus-square-foot spot was re-opened by Buffalo Bud's which also closed in June 1997.
South Seas ***	Nimitz Hwy & Lagoon Dr. near the Airport	This attractive round restaurant was popular with the Fort Shafter crowd. It also had a nice bar. It is currently a Kia car dealership.

Stop Lite *	Keeaumoku Street	Best adult entertainment in Honolulu – it was an adult circus show.
Stuart Andersons **	Ward Warehouse	Nice place to have lunch and a few drinks.
Studebaker's	Restaurant Row, Kaka'ako	Failed just like almost every other bar and restaurant in what they now call Restaurant "Death" Row.
Sunset Grill *	Restaurant Row	Served contemporary American food – I ate there a couple of times - currently a medical office.
Swing Club	Hotel Street	Originally a swing and jazz club but by the 1960s had evolved into a bar for Blacks featuring nude dances and pornographic movies. This famous bar closed in 2000. The current tenant moved in as Bar 35.



Tahitian Lanai



Trader Vic's

T

Tahitian Lanai *	Hilton Hawaiian Village, Waikiki	The complete embodiment of what Waikiki should be today, but is now a distant memory. Open in 1957 and closed in 1997.
Territorial Tavern **	Bishop St., downtown Honolulu	Home of Booga, Booga comedy group and the Beamer Brothers.
Texas Paniolo 's Bar *	Waikiki	Country and western bars don't last long in Hawaii.
T.G.I. Friday's *	King & Ward Ave. & Kuhio Avenue in Waikiki	The shutdown came suddenly in June 2007. I never went to the TGIFs in Hawaii but did enjoy going there in Japan.
Three Coins *	Wahiawa	A good family restaurant just like Dot's. Currently is a Zippy's.

Tops Restaurant **	Ala Moana Blvd. and Ena Road in Waikiki	Good place to go eat after the bars close.
Trader Vic's *	Waikiki International Marketplace Waikiki	Interesting tiki bar and restaurant – good place to take tourists.
Top of the I *	Ilikai Hotel Waikiki	Fine dining with a view. Currently is an upscale rooftop Italian restaurant called Sarento's at the Top of the Ilikai.
Trappers	Hyatt Regency, Waikiki	One of Waikiki's most elegant showrooms in its day (1976-91) – also where local jazz acts performed.
Two Jacks *	Lower Hotel Street – Downtown Honolulu	Live jazz music.



Top of the Ilikai

U

Uncle's Fish Market & Grill	Pier 38 Honolulu 2020	Uses the freshest fish from Hawaiian waters to produce an unpretentious seafood experience.
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V

Venus Nightclub	Kapiolani Blvd. (adjacent to Ala Moana Center)	Had drag & male review shows; A dance club - Currently Bar Seven
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Victoria Station *	Downtown Honolulu, next door to Kress right across the street (where Union Plaza is today)	Steak house, hamburgers and fries seasoned in a (at the time) very unique way (paprika, salt and pepper). There was British red phone booth inside.
Village Inn *	Waialae Ave, Kahala	A family restaurant. Was previously Tony Roma's, then became Chin's.

W

Waianae Drive Inn	Farrington Hwy. (Just past Waianae Mall, next to the Adventist Church)	Da' best Hamburger Curry Stew, Laulau & Mac Salad in town.
Waikiki Tavern	Ewa end of Kuhio beach	Food downstairs, and a booze place upstairs.
The Warrior Lounge *	Hale Koa Hotel, Waikiki	This casual quiet indoor lounge was an excellent place for our military and guests to have a drink and relax.
Waterfront Café *	Aloha Tower Marketplace	Bar and grill restaurant by day and a nightclub by night - Previously was Sloppy Joe's & Fat Tuesdays.
Wiki Wiki Drive Inn *	Corner of Harding and King Street	A good place to go eat before the first segment of H1 Freeway was built from Waialae Ave. in Kaimuki to Ward Street near downtown.
Wisteria **	King St, Moi'ili'ili	Very popular place for local and Japanese cuisine – The site is currently a 7-Eleven.
Wo Fat	Corner of Hotel and Maunakea Street, Chinatown, Honolulu	The 123-year-old Wo Fat was Hawaii's oldest and most famous Chinese restaurant when it closed in 2005 – Site is currently an open market.
Woolworth Coffee Shop *	Was located in both the Ala Moana Center & Kahala Mall	One of many shopping center restaurants to close in recent years.
World Café *	Restaurant Row, Kaka'ako	In 1997 they moved to the Nimitz Business Plaza in a large back area warehouse. They survived for a while, then closed to become Volcano Night Club. They then closed as well.

Restaurant “Death” Row's Dearly Departed:

The following Restaurants have failed: Baci, Black Orchid, Blue Zebra, Boomerang's, Carnaval Las Palmas, Jose's Restaurante Mexicana Y Cantina, Kengo's Seafood, Manzo's Trattoria, Meritage Restaurant, Ocean Club, Phillip Paolo's Italian Restaurant, Rose City Diner, Studebaker's, Sunset Grill, World Cafe, and Yanni's. The only successful restaurants are Ruth's Chris, Hiroshi and Vino.



Wisteria Restaurant



Wo Fat Chinese Restaurant

Y

Yacht Harbor Tower Restaurant	Near Ala Moana Beach Park	Had great food & service with Bob Nelson on piano.
The Yum Yum Tree *	All three locations: Ward Center, Kahala Mall & Kailua	Family restaurant that was part of the Jolly Roger chain that closed down.

Z

The Zebra Room ****	Kalakaua Ave., between Young & Beretania	This bar was just around the corner from where I lived in the early 1970s. It opened at 6AM and we used to meet there before going golfing for a couple of early morning cold ones.
Zippy's Pearlridge **	Pearlridge Center, Aiea 2021	This Zippy's restaurant was located in the Sears store. When Sears closed, so did this Zippy's.