February in Hawaii

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Life's a beach

-- rating the best

marine scene

A wide but shallow reef shelters a sandy, fish-filled lagoon where summer water temperatures sometimes approach bathlike highs. When the lagoon is calm, this is the place for snorkeling 101. However, use caution during high surf conditions, when the lagoon can resemble a washing machine.

sun splash

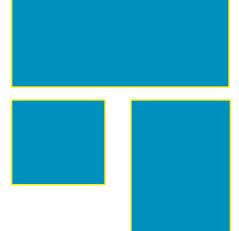
Expect summertime highs in the 80s, but don't be surprised by tradewind showers in winter.

flotsam and jetsam

Forget the seashells; it's the memories of looking at the cliffs of the NaPali that you'll take home with you. sports report
Snorkeling and swimming.

beach bummbers

The nearby heiau, or ancient rock temple, was the site of one of Hawaii's most important hulas schools. Punishment for a performance lapse reportedly was death. Today, you may want to punish yourself if you forget your beach gear; there is no rental shop, snack bar or umbrella stand within miles.



At the very end of Kauai's North Shore road lies Ke'e Beach, gateway to the majestic Na Pali.