

North Kohala

On the green slopes of
Kohala Mountain

, at the northern tip of the Big Island, traditional plantation towns such as
HAWI

survive virtually unchanged - run-down in an appealing sort of way, the
all-purpose stores still floored with creaking planks. Call in at the
spacious Bamboo Restaurant and Bar
(tel 808/889-5555) to enjoy one of the friendliest and most Hawaiian restaurants in the state.

Polulu Valley

, where North Kohala's main artery, Hwy-270, comes to a dead end, is
the last of the chain of inaccessible valleys, and for the moment is
every bit as pristine as Waipio. The fear of tsunami , which led the Hawaiians to abandon these once
densely populated valleys, is probably their best defense against the
rapacity of the developers.