

SUGAR TRAIN

This is a story of a tourist rail line that arose from the demise of the sugar industry in Hawaii. The **Lahaina, Kaanapali & Pacific Rail Road** runs for 10 km through old sugar growing country on the island of Maui. The sugar industry ceased in 1969 but the short line was saved by a dedicated group for tourist operation.

Running to a daily schedule since 1970 the line carries tourists and locals back and forth between the port town of Lahaina and the urban and resort area of Kaanapali. Along the way the little train traverses a 100 m long curved wooden trestle, crosses resort and housing estates built since 1969 and passes through 3 golf courses on the defunct sugar fields.



Golf carts must stop at signals on each grade crossing before crossing the tracks to make for the next tee!

The loco was originally a 0-4-0 Porter from logging country in Ohio. Rebuilt as a 2-4-0 the loco is no longer wood fired; the tender was converted for oil many years ago. The rail company maintains extra carriages and spares in an old roundhouse at Kaanapali.

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At the end of the line the loco uses a small wye to change ends, refills with water at a traditional American overhead tank and stops for



oiling, greasing and photo opportunities at Puukolii station. Each trip features a live narration of the sugar industry and stories of the rise of the Sugar Train.

After further stories about the railroad the narrator bursts into Hawaiian song for the remainder of the journey.

