

Night Driving Safety Checklist – Hawai‘i Island

Before You Drive

- Fuel tank at least half full
- Headlights, brake lights, and turn signals working
- Windshield clean inside and out
- Download offline maps (cell service may drop)
- Check weather, fog, rain, and volcanic haze

While Driving

- Reduce speed on unlit or narrow roads
- Watch for wildlife (pigs, goats, cattle, nēnē)
- Expect sudden rain, fog, or volcanic haze
- Dim high beams early for oncoming traffic
- Pull over safely to let locals pass

High-Risk Areas After Dark

- Saddle Road (Daniel K. Inouye Highway)
- South Point Road
- Rural Puna backroads
- Ka‘u District roads
- Roads with lava rock shoulders

Emergency & Assistance

- Emergency (Police, Fire, Medical): 911
- Non-emergency Police (Hawai'i County): 808-935-3311
- Roadside assistance via insurer or auto club
- Rental car emergency number (check your rental agreement)

Note: Cell service may be limited. Stay with your vehicle when safe and conserve battery power.

Towing & Roadside Planning

- Availability varies by district and time of day
- Rural areas may have long response times after dark
- Strongest coverage near Kona and Hilo
- Limited nighttime service on Saddle Road and Ka'ū District

Note: Save roadside assistance information before driving at night.

If Something Feels Wrong

- Slow down immediately
- Avoid standing water or dense fog
- Turn back if visibility drops

Calm guidance for real Hawai'i travel — BigIslandCopilot.com

This checklist is for general guidance only and does not replace local advisories or emergency services.