

Best of the Islands: KAUA'I



Courtesy Kaua'i Sea Rider Adventures

ADVENTURE

The Octopus' Garden

Kaua'i's Nā Pali Coast is justifiably famous for its epic vistas, but below the surface, there's not much to see: The winter surf pounds this famous coastline, churning up sand and laying waste to the reef. So if you're all about snorkeling, Kaua'i's south shore is a far better bet. Protected from the surf, the south shore's reefs are healthy and thriving and provide a home for some 200 or so indigenous Hawaiian marine species. **Kaua'i Sea Rider Adventures** has guests suited up and in the ocean within minutes of leaving Po'ipū's Kukui'ula Harbor aboard a 24-foot, rigid-hull inflatable boat. "We spend more time in the water than on the boat," says company head Captain Tara. What's more, the locally owned and operated Kaua'i Sea Rider Adventures employs marine naturalists who guide

snorkelers around the reef, pointing out Kaua'i's unique marine life. Look for the white-spotted pufferfish and devil scorpionfish. To contact Kaua'i Sea Rider Adventures, call (808) 332-7238, or visit www.kauaisearider.com.