

Best Of The Hawaiian Islands

Day 1 ARRIVE IN HONOLULU. Upon arrival to the island of Oahu, you are greeted in the traditional Polynesian way—with a warm aloha and a LEI of fresh flowers. Transfer to your hotel in Waikiki. The remainder of your day is at leisure.

Day 2 HONOLULU. EXCURSION TO PEARL HARBOR. Start the day with a breakfast get-together with your Tour Director to review activities scheduled throughout your stay. Next, a tour of PEARL HARBOR's famous Battleship Row. Listen to a narration of the dramatic air attack of December 7, 1941, and visit the USS Arizona and the impressive MEMORIAL dedicated to the 1,102 men still entombed. You will also have an opportunity to visit the MUSEUM, an excellent way to learn about Pearl Harbor Day, the Japanese strategy and military craft, and the individuals involved in the attack. Then, on to Punchbowl National Cemetery with its beautiful views of Honolulu. Other sights include Chinatown, the Hawaii State Capitol, royal 'Iolani Palace, and the statue of Kamehameha the Great. Tonight, enjoy an included dinner at your hotel. (B,D)

Day 3 HONOLULU. Today is free to relax, swim, enjoy water sports, or laze on the beach. Take the optional excursion to the Polynesian Cultural Center for authentic island arts, crafts, history, music, a dinner buffet, and a spectacular Polynesian show with more than 100 performers. This evening, enjoy an optional sunset cruise with dinner, Hawaiian cocktails, and splendid views of the glittering Waikiki coastline and Diamond Head. (B)

Day 4 HONOLULU–HILO–HAWAII VOLCANOES NATIONAL PARK–KONA. Board a morning flight to the “Big Island” of Hawaii. Upon arrival in Hilo on the east coast, drive to HAWAII VOLCANOES NATIONAL PARK. Here, see Kilauea Crater, rising 4,090 feet above a volcanic wonderland of steaming fire pits, lava tubes, and fern forests. Next, enjoy an included lunch followed by a stop at [LF] PUNALU'U BAKE SHOP to sample the famous Hawaiian sweetbread introduced to the area by Portuguese sugar workers in the 19th century. This traditional favorite is not to be missed! Continue on to Kona, your home for the next three nights. (B,L)

Day 5 KONA. This morning, visit the [LF] KONA COFFEE LIVING HISTORY FARM, a working coffee and macadamia nut farm, where you have the opportunity to learn about the history of Kona's coffee industry and the remarkable pioneers who established these farms. Tonight, join your Tour Director for a festive LUAU, where you have the opportunity to learn to hula, try some traditional Hawaiian specialties like poi, and see captivating performances by Polynesian musicians and dancers. (B,D)

Day 6 KONA. Today is free for independent activities. Find a special place to relax poolside and enjoy the warm tropical sun and balmy breezes, enjoy an optional snorkeling cruise to Kealahou Bay, or join the optional helicopter flightseeing excursion. (B)

Day 7 KONA–MAUI. A morning flight takes you to Kahului on the “Valley Island” of Maui. Drive to the lush 'IAO VALLEY to see the 'Iao Needle, a spectacular volcanic spire. Visit LAHAINA, then continue on to Ka'anapali, your home for the next three nights. The balance of the day is at leisure. (B,D)

Day 8 MAUI. Today enjoy an included CRUISE. From mid-November to mid-April, take a cruise to search for the humpback whales that populate the waters. The remainder of the year features a cruise on the Reef Dancer, a semi-submarine that features an underwater viewing cabin where you can observe marine life and the beautiful coral reef. From the deck of the boat, enjoy beautiful views of

Lahaina. The remainder of your day is at leisure. (B)

Day 9 MAUI. Enjoy a final free day in Maui. Perhaps take an optional excursion to Haleakala National Park, site of the huge volcanic Haleakala Crater, known as the “House of the Sun.” In 1980, this native ecosystem of cinder cones and dense rainforest was designated an International Biosphere Reserve. Another choice is the “Road to Hana,” one of the world’s most impressive drives, with 54 bridges and numerous waterfalls. Alternatively, there’s plenty of time in the afternoon to relax and enjoy your hotel’s facilities and beach. This evening, your Tour Director hosts a special farewell dinner. Wonderful conversation and cuisine make the perfect finale to a memorable Hawaiian vacation! (B,D)

Day 10 MAUI. Your tour ends with breakfast this morning. (B)