

LOCAL ACTIVITIES:

Tips for travel to Hawai'i provided by Sue York, President of the Ewa by Gentry Community Association. Sue has lived in Hawaii since 1967 and is a "Million Miler" on United Airlines.

For the History-buffs:

Ancient Hawai'i is considered the time up to European contact, generally applied to Cook's (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Death_of_James_Cook) visit in 1778.

Heiau date from ancient Hawai'i (<https://www.manoaheritagecenter.org/moolelo/kuka'o-o-heiau/what-are-heiau/>). You can visit heiau on all the islands; some are State parks, others are National Parks. To see petroglyphs from this era, visit the Big Island (<https://www.nps.gov/havo/learn/historyculture/puuloa.htm>), and be sure to make the visit to Volcano National Parks. You can arrange for a day-trip from Oahu on Hawaiian Airlines, and you will need a rental car. The Big Island has other interesting historical sites, including King Kamehameha's Summer Palace (<https://daughtersofhawaii.org/>).

Hawaii is the only state to have royal palaces. Iolani Palace is a convenient bus ride (see Mission Houses information) and so is Queen Emma's summer palace. You need tickets, and I suggest making those plans as early as possible.

Protestant Missionaries arrived in Honolulu in 1824. The Mission Houses' Museum (<https://missionhouses.org/>) is conveniently located on bus routes from Waikiki (and is across the street from Iolani Palace). Both Apple Maps and Google Maps direction features provide detailed From/To information for using TheBus (<http://www.thebus.org/>)

U.S. military presence in Hawai'i generally dates from 1820 (<https://www.history.navy.mil/research/library/online-reading-room/title-list-alphabetically/u/the-us-navy-and-hawaii-a-historical-summary.html>).

'Onipa'a, or the overthrow of the Hawaiian Monarchy (<https://www.onipaakakou.org/>) was facilitated by US Naval Forces. The result was the establishment of a coaling station and manned shore batteries.

Ever watch "In Harm's Way" with John Wayne? The house he shared with a fellow officer in the film is located at the Fort Kamehameha shore battery. Ft. DeRussy was also a shore battery. Located in Waikiki, visit the museum located in the surviving concrete bunker (<https://history.army.mil/museums/hawaii/moh/index.html>). The Army attempted to remove this structure in the 1980's, but had to revise the plans for the Ft DeRussy complex because the necessary to reduce the structure to rubble would have also blown out all the nearby hotel windows!

The Massie Case, (http://moses.law.umn.edu/darrow/trialpdfs/MASSIE_CASE.pdf), or (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Massie_Trial) is another dark chapter for the US Navy in Hawai'i. You can visit Joseph Kahahawai's grave at Puea Cemetery.

"From Here to Eternity" was filmed at Schofield Barracks. The barracks quadrangles are still in use, and Schofield Barracks has its own museum (<https://history.army.mil/museums/hawaii/tlm/index.html>). Or you can visit Lanai Lookout (https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Products-g29222-d1675966-Lanai_lookout-Oahu_Hawaii.html) and imagine Burt Lancaster and Deborah Kerr in the surf.

If you are looking for a definitive history text, "A Modern History of Hawai'i" by Linda Menton is available on Amazon. This is the text used by Ninth Grade students and offers suggested activities to further explore historical events. "To Raise a Nation - A Historical Novel of Hawaii" by Mary Cooke explores the missionary experience.

The most visited attraction in Hawai'i is the Arizona Memorial (<https://www.nps.gov/perl/index.htm>). There is a high demand for tickets to ride a small boat from the shore-based museum to the actual memorial. MAKE RESERVATIONS EARLY for these boat tickets.

While the attack on Pearl Harbor started the US involvement in WWII, the war was brought to an end with the signing of Japanese surrender on the USS Missouri, (<https://ussmissouri.org/plan-your-visit/tours/#>) berthed next to the USS Arizona Memorial. While you are on Ford Island at the USS Missouri, visit the Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum (<https://www.pearlharboraviationmuseum.org/tickets/>), my son is a big fan of the flight simulator!

For TV and Film buffs:

The Allerton National Botanical Garden on Kauai (<https://ntbg.org/gardens/allerton/>) and Kualoa Ranch on Oahu (<https://www.kualoa.com/>) will seem very familiar to fans of the Jurassic Park franchise.

Sorry, the original Magnum, P.I. location was demolished a few years ago, but filming of other Hawaii-based shows is done near Diamond Head (<https://filmoffice.hawaii.gov/hawaii-film-studio/>).

The Elk's Lodge in Waikiki has been a popular location (<https://www.elkslodge616.org/>).

Camp Erdman (<https://www.ymcahonolulu.org/camp-erdman>) will bring back "Lost" memories.

For the Eco-Tourist:

There is no place like Hawai'i. We are the most isolated inhabited island chain in the world.

Understand how the islands formed (<https://education.nationalgeographic.org/resource/chain-islands-hawaiian-hot-spot>), where we get our fresh water (<https://www.boardofwatersupply.com/water-resources/oahu-water-history>) to appreciate how special is this place we call home.

BEWARE of hiking on private property! Many online resources purport to reveal secret hiking trails, but for your safety and to respect those who call Hawaii home, please stick to trails sanctioned by the State (<https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/dsp/hiking/hiking-in-hawaii/>). When you venture off on non-sanctioned trails, you put your self a great risk, mostly from falling off the trail, or you may get caught in a flash flood (did you read how we get fresh water), or a rock slide (<https://www.onlyinyourstate.com/hawaii/sacred-falls-landslide-tragedy-hi/>), or more recently (https://www.huffpost.com/entry/video-boulder-crashes-hawaii-home-woman-nearly-hit_n_63d96f85e4b01e92886d969b).

Malama 'aina—take care of the land and help to maintain our biodiversity. Hawaii is home to many threatened and endangered species, (<https://hawaiibiodiversity.org/te-and-species-of-concern/>). Please don't show up in an online selfie with an endangered turtle or seal, and please do not urinate in the crater at Kilauea Volcano. On Oahu and by bus, you can visit

Hauanama Bay (<https://hanaumabaystatepark.com/>)

Shark's Cove is named for a shark-shaped rock in the cove (<https://www.hawaii-guide.com/oahu/sights/sharks-cove>)

Ka'ena Point (<https://www.gohawaii.com/islands/oahu/regions/leeward-coast/kaena-point>)

If you travel to the outer islands, be mindful that many locations are now restricted access. I like to use GoHawaii as a resource, (<https://www.gohawaii.com>) and the local county websites for up-to-date information

Kauai (<http://www.kauai.gov/>)

Maui/Lanai/Molokai (<https://www.mauicounty.gov/>)

Hawaii Island (<https://www.hawaiicounty.gov/>)

Oahu-City and County of Honolulu (<https://www.honolulu.gov/>)

The Waikiki Aquarium is a must see (<https://www.waikikiaquarium.org/>)

The Honolulu Zoo (<https://www.honoluluzoo.org/>) is at the Diamond Head of Waikiki, across the road from the aquarium.

A quick bus ride will take you to the University of Hawaii at Manoa (<https://manoa.hawaii.edu/landscaping/plants/index.php>) or the Lyon Arboretum (<https://manoa.hawaii.edu/lyon/>). The campus is famous for its plant life (<https://www.hawaii.edu/news/2020/03/16/uh-manoa-tree-campus-usa-2019/>). While on campus, visit the bookstore, and maybe grab lunch from a lunch wagon. While some facilities reflect a post-statehood building boom, there are many beautiful structures, (my favorite is the Korean Studies building).

Like local grinds (food)

Zippy's is the local food franchise (<https://www.zippys.com/>)

Uncle Clay's Shave Ice (<https://houseofpurealoha.com/>) is best visited by bus.

Eat family style and try lots of local favorites at the Side Street Inn (<https://sidestreetinn.com/menu/>)

Rainbow Drive In (<https://rainbowdrivein.com/>)

Waioli Tea Room (<https://waiolikitchen.com/history/>)

Off the tourist path, look for eateries in Kaimuki, and along Kapahulu Avenue

Museums:

<https://honolulumuseum.org/>

<https://www.bishopmuseum.org/>

<https://www.onlyinyourstate.com/hawaii/free-little-known-museums-hi/>

Helpful Tips:

Make reservations and make them as early as you have travel dates. Even if you have visited the islands before, post-COVID events have reduced access to restaurants, tours, and rental cars!!

Bring a light rain jacket, preferably with a hood. Rainy season is generally November through April, but showers are possible every day. Sometimes called Mauka or Trade Wind showers these blessings are usually short and light, but it is always a good idea to be prepared. Our prevailing winds tend to be strong, making umbrellas useless.

May through October is the "dry" season. Less drenching downpours, but is also Hurricane season. As the weather pattern shifts between wet and dry seasons, we are prone to some hot, humid, breezeless days. If we do get a breeze, it is a weak trade wind (coolish), or Kona winds (from the south and hot/humid). Kona winds can also increase air pollution (from smog, and sometimes vog—volcano fumes).

WEAR SUNSCREEN. If at the beach, select from <https://savethereef.org/about-reef-save-sunscreen.html> [Once upon a time, I had a job at the old Kaiser Hospital in Waikiki. No kidding, every day I directed sunburned tourists to the emergency room].

For more activity ideas, please click [HERE](#).