The Island of O‘ahu
The Heart of Hawai‘i®

Points of Interest

Aloha Tower—Honolulu’s familiar landmark was the tallest building in the state upon completion in 1926. Open to visitors and offers an excellent view of the harbor area.

Beaches—Miles of white sandy beaches surround the island. There’s a beach for everyone to enjoy. Swimming, surfing, snorkeling, fishing or a picnic.

Bishop Museum and Planetarium—“Smithsonian of the Pacific”, the Museum houses the world’s foremost collection of Hawaiian and Polynesian artifacts.

Byodo-In Temple—Japan’s 900 year old architectural treasure is duplicated in exact detail at the Valley of the Temples Memorial Park. Carp pool, nine-foot Buddha statue, and tea house in a beautiful Oriental garden beneath the majestic Ko‘olau Mountains.

Chinatown—Unlike the Chinatowns in other American cities, this section of downtown Honolulu is an exciting place to shop, restaurants and markets displaying not only Chinese goods but wares and foods typical of the countries of Hawai‘i’s early-day immigrants.

Contemporary Museum—On the expansive grounds of a beautiful old estate overlooking Honolulu, the museum displays a fine gallery of modern art and sculpture.

Diamond Head—This world renowned landmark, an extinct volcano, is said to have once been the home of Pele, the Fire Goddess. A .7 mile hike to the crater lookout.

Dole Plantation and World’s Largest Maze—Everything you wanted to know about pineapples. How it grows, how it tastes fresh from the field, its history and how it changed Hawai‘i.

Foster Botanic Garden—Remarkable botanic displays in a 20-acre setting in Honolulu.

Hale‘iwia Town—Gateway to O‘ahu’s legendary North Shore, Hale‘iwia is filled with local style and rustic ambiance. Stroll through shops and charming art galleries, then enjoy a quiet lunch and refreshing shave ice snack, Hawai‘i’s take on the snow cone.

Hanauma Bay—A delightful sea cove in Koko Head Park, its rugged grandeur was created by volcanic action 10,000 years ago when Pete made her last attempt to find a home on O‘ahu, as legend tells. A favorite spot for swimming, picnicking and snorkeling.

Hawai‘i Maritime Center—2,000 years of Hawaiian seagoing history on exhibition plus the square-rigged Falls of Clyde and the Hokule‘a’s Polynesian sailing canoes.

Hawai‘i Plantation Village—Many ethnic groups came to Hawai‘i to work in sugar cane plantations. Village/camp reproductions showcase their unique lifestyles.

Hawaiian Waters Adventure Park—25 acres of wet fun including: a mega wave pool, tube cruising river, 4 & 7 story waterslide complexes and more.

Honolulu Academy of Arts—Registered state and national historic place, renowned for an extensive collection of Asian and Western art.

‘Iolani Palace—Only throne room under the American flag, where Hawai‘i’s last two monarchs lived and ruled. Completed in 1882, the building has been entirely renovated.

Kaneele Cave—Near Makua just before the end of Farrington Highway, Kaneele the sharkman deity is legend to have made his home in this cave.

Kawaiha‘o Church—Dedicated in 1842, the “Westminster Abbey” of Hawai‘i offers Sunday services in Hawaiian and English.

King Kamehameha Statue—A dedication to the ruler who united the Hawaiian Islands.

Kualoa Ranch and Activity Club—Outdoor activities abound for the young at heart at this playground and working ranch.

Mission Houses—Oldest existing buildings erected by the first missionaries arriving in 1820. Located in the civic center area, also the locale of many other historic sites.

Mormon Temple—Built in beautiful Lili‘u in 1920, it is the first Mormon Temple to be constructed outside of Salt Lake City.

National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific—Punchbowl or Piiowina, literally translated “Hill of Sacrifice,” is the final resting place of thousands of World War II, Korean and Vietnam war veterans.

Nu‘uanu Pali—O‘ahu’s scenic masterpiece, at the head of Nu‘uanu Valley, is where Kamehameha I defeated O‘ahu in a bloody battle in 1795, forcing thousands of warriors over the precipice, to meet death on the jagged rocks below, thus adding O‘ahu to his realm.

Pearl Harbor—The USS Arizona Memorial, above the sunken battleship, is a tribute to American soldiers killed during the attack on December 7, 1941. The USS Bowfin, a restored World War II submarine marks submarine activity during the war. The USS Missouri is known for its involvement in WWII where Japan signed Her surrender.

Polynesian Cultural Center—Experience seven different Polynesian villages including: Fiji, Tonga, New Zealand, Tahiti, Samoa, Marquesas and Hawai‘i.

Queen Emma Summer Palace—Queen Emma and King Kamehameha IV summered here. A beautifully restored Victorian touch of royal Hawaiian located in Nu‘uanu Valley.

Royal Mausoleum—Resting place of Hawai‘i’s former rulers.

Sea Life Park—Located at Makapu‘u Point, the park features an outstanding display of Hawai‘i’s exotic marine life. The 300,000-gallon Hawaiian Reef Tank houses 2,000 island specimens. Interact with dolphins, walk the reef tank or join in other programs.

Tantalus/Round Top Drive—Just minutes from downtown Honolulu, enjoy panoramic views of the skyline below and the lush rainforest abundance on this hillside of wildlife, flowers and trees of guava, banana, eucalyptus and ginger.

Waimea Bay—Home of the prestigious Eddie Aikau big surf contest. Surfers from around the world participate in the exhilarating sport of big wave surfing during the winter months.

Waimea Valley Audubon Center—Once a heavily populated Hawaiian village, today, wander through the 1,800-acre rainforest and botanical garden to a beautiful waterfall.