Hawaii



Por many people, Hawaii conjures up classic tropical island images: swaying palm trees, tropical beaches and colourful local dress. These mid-Pacific islands are indeed all of this and more. The capital, Honolulu, on the island of Oahu, is home to vibrant nightlife, one of the world's most famous surf beaches, Waikiki, and the battleship memorials of Pearl Harbor.

Neighbouring Maui is known for its beautiful beaches, wide range of outdoor activities, the historic town of Lahaina and the mighty Haleakala volcano. Hawaii, also referred to as the 'Big Island', is largely undeveloped, but its main attraction is Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, where some of the world's most active peaks are constantly increasing the size of the island.

Kauai offers perhaps the most remarkable scenery, including the spectacular Waimea Canyon and the dramatic Na Pali cliffs, where sheer-sided verdant ravines plunge to the surging blue sea below. There are several smaller islands to explore too, such as Lanai and Molokai, where turtles lay their eggs on empty beaches and a more traditional Polynesian culture still dominates.



1 Waikiki Beach, Oahu Learn to surf, or relax beneath the palm trees on this worldrenowned beach.

2 Pearl Harbor, Oahu Visit the memorial of the sunken USS Arizona and learn all about the day in December 1941 that lead to the USA entering the Second World War.

3 Volcanoes

Hawaii Volcanoes National Park offers a close-up view of the new lava floes of Kilauea Volcano.



Waikiki Beach, Oahu

4 Lahaina, Maui

This former whaling port is one of Hawaii's most historic towns.

6 Kalalau Trail, Kauai Kauai's magnificent Na Pali coastline can be admired from this superb hiking trail.

6 Waimea Canyon, Kauai

Combine one of the islands' most impressive landscapes with a visit to nearby Kokee State Park.

Molokai

Explore this unspoiled island with its traditional Hawaiian way of life.



USS Arizona Memorial, Pearl Harbon



Sandy beach, Maui

Audley in Hawaii

Hawaii is the perfect place for a beach stay at the end of a touring holiday in western USA or Canada, although there is so much to see and do here that it is also a wonderful destination in its own right. We have carefully designed our trips to combine the main sights with the smaller, less-visited Hawaiian islands to ensure you get a taste of traditional Polynesian culture. We can organise hire cars for those who want to explore at their own pace and flights between islands for those who want to see a bit more of the archipelago. Our specialists can advise you on where to go and where to stay, according to your preferences.

Accommodation

The Hawaiian islands offer a wide range of hotels, from high-rise, full-service resorts to small boutique properties. We also have a selection of locally owned character country inns and bed and breakfasts that provide a personal experience and lots of local charm.



Waimea Canyon, Kauai

Find out more

For suggested itineraries and practical information about travel in Hawaii, please see our website.



www.audleytravel.com

Interactive maps and features, further suggested itineraries, accommodation, climate information and articles written by our specialists.



To Discuss your plans with our USA specialists **01993 838 755**



Sitting by a waterfall, Maui

Oahu

Oahu is the best known and most commercial island, and is often called the 'Gathering Place'. It is the third-largest of Hawaii's islands and contains almost 80% of the archipelago's entire population. The capital, Honolulu, is the centre for commerce and industry, while nearby Pearl Harbor, scene of the devastating WWII Japanese air attack, is a poignant place to visit. Honolulu's celebrated Waikiki Beach, although commercial, offers a large, beautiful stretch of golden sand with Diamond Head promontory forming an impressive backdrop. Waikiki has a wide variety of accommodation, restaurants and nightlife, all within easy walking distance.



Waikiki Beach, Oahu



Hula girl on the beach

Outrigger Reef on the Beach, Waikiki, Oahu

Situated just steps from Waikiki Beach and its restaurants, this large oceanfront hotel has recently been refurbished. There's an outdoor swimming pool and sun deck, a spa, and a range of water-based activities. Rooms come with modern amenities and overlook either the city or the beach; many also have a private lanai (patio).

Maui

Maui is the second-largest island and is where you will find Haleakala National Park, the centerpiece of which is an enormous dormant volcano; its summit is the highest point of the island, and affords spectacular views of Molokai, Lanai, Kahoolawe, and the Big Island. The interior consists of grasslands, tropical rainforest, streams and waterfalls, while white sandy beaches are scattered along the coast. Highlights include the small town of Hana, set amid lush tropical vegetation, and the historic port of Lahaina, a charming community of artists.

INN AT MAMA'S FISH HOUSE, PAIA, MAUI

Enjoying a secluded setting just steps from a stretch of sandy beach on Maui's north shore, the Inn at Mama's Fish House offers a number of attractive beachfront and garden cottages. Each is decorated in traditional Polynesian style including local wood craftsmanship and artwork. The luxury beachfront cottages each have a fully equipped kitchen and private covered patio with ocean views, while garden cottages have an enclosed private patio with a barbecue.



Surfer in Maui



The Na Pali Coast, Kauai

Kauai

Kauai is geologically the oldest of the islands and is also one of the wettest spots on Earth. The combination of rainfall and sunshine gives the island a lush, green appearance. Literally awash with rivers, streams and waterfalls, and with the Waimea Canyon and the dramatic cliffs of the Na Pali Coast, Kauai is a beautiful island to explore.

ASTON WAIMEA PLANTATION COTTAGES, KAUAI

This development of authentic plantation homes is set by the ocean in a peaceful 27-acre coconut grove close to Kauai's Waimea Canyon and the Na Pali Coast. The property has been faithfully restored with period-inspired furnishings and there is an oceanfront swimming pool. The cottages have their own unique charm, with full kitchen facilities and a front porch overlooking the lawns and gardens. There are also a number of hotel rooms available with a shared kitchen.



Aston Waimea Plantation Cottages, Kauai



Volcanoes National Park, Hawaii



Green sea turtle, off Hawaii

Hawaii

Hawaii, or the 'Big Island' as it is known locally, is the largest of the state's islands and is home to Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, where the only continuously active volcano in the USA, Kilauea, is enlarging the landmass every year. Hawaii is the youngest island in the archipelago and is twice as large as any of the others. It is dominated by Mauna Kea, the highest peak in the archipelago. Most of the island's west side is dry and comprises expansive ranch lands, and is where the famous Kona coffee is grown. On the western coast you can discover the bay where Captain Cook was killed, while in the east of the island lies the largest town, Hilo.

THE PALMS CLIFF HOUSE INN, HONOMU, HAWAII

Overlooking Pohakumanu Bay on the eastern side of the island, the Palms Cliff House is conveniently located within easy driving distance of Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, Mauna Kea's summit, historic Hilo town and the more modern resorts on the Kona coastline. Set on a private three acre estate where a palm-lined drive leads to this attractive Victorian property, the inn has eight well-appointed oceanfront rooms and suites with private patios.



Kilauea lava hitting the ocean

Volcanoes National Park Day Trip

One of the highlights of a trip to Hawaii is a helicopter flight over Hawaii Volcanoes National Park to view some spectacular volcanic activity, which cannot be seen by car or on foot. The Chain of Craters Road descends 3,700 feet from the summit of Kilauea Volcano to the sea, and has repeatedly been blocked by lava flows - more than nine miles of the road have been covered since 1986. This is where the lava flows into the ocean and sends up plumes of volcanic gas and smoke. Getting an aerial perspective of this natural phenomenon is a memorable experience.