

NPCA TRAVEL



The Travel Program of the National Parks Conservation Association

OCT. 16-24, 2022

The National Parks of **HAWAII**

EXPERIENCE

HAWAII'S DIVERSE ECOSYSTEM
AND OTHERWORLDLINESS

TWO ACTIVE VOLCANOES ON
AN EXCLUSIVE TOUR

NPCA'S WORK TO DEFEND
HAWAII'S NATIVE SPECIES

MASSIVE BANYAN TREE ON THE PIPIWAI TRAIL
Haleakalā National Park in Maui, HI



The National Parks of Hawai'i

AVAILABLE DATES: October 16-24, 2022
with optional guided trip extension (October 24-26, 2022)

ACTIVITY LEVEL

Moderate



Min/Max: 12/18

Length of Tour: 9 days/8 nights, with optional extension of 2 days/2 nights

NPCA Member Price: \$6,775 per person double occupancy; \$1,290 single supplement

NPCA Member Price for October 24-26, 2022 trip extension: \$1,545 per person double occupancy; \$280 single supplement

Deposit: \$500 per person due at registration

Arrive/Depart: Hilo (Island of Hawai'i), Hawai'i/Kahului (Island of Maui), Hawai'i

Depart (Trip Extension): Honolulu (Island of O'ahu), Hawai'i

Reservations: Please contact Jared Dial, NPCA's Associate Director of the Educational Travel Program, at **1.800.628.7275** or email the Travel Program at **travel@npca.org**.

Activity Level: Travelers should be prepared for full-day adventures of walking, standing and sitting. This tour includes hikes and long walks on rugged terrain, sandy beaches and uneven lava flows. Hikes during our journey range from 0.5-3 miles. Our Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park hikes will be at an elevation of 4,100 feet with little elevation gain and descent. All hikes are optional. Vehicle transportation may take multiple hours and involve short rides on rough terrain and winding roads up to 10,000 feet elevation. Travelers will spend 6 to 8 hours in a wide range of weather conditions, from hot and humid to cold and misty.

Inclusions: Lodging, all meals (unless otherwise noted in the itinerary), Interisland transportation between Kona/Molokai/Kapalua via chartered plane, all activities, tips and entry fees. Baggage restrictions will apply, especially in the interisland transportation portion of the itinerary.

Exclusions: Airfare to trip start and back from trip end, luggage charges, excess baggage charges between islands, meals not included in the Itinerary, alcoholic drinks, travel insurance, items of a purely personal nature and any items not listed in Inclusions.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Receive expert knowledge from Native Hawaiian guides as you gaze upon ancient petroglyphs
- Take a trip back in time when you visit the National Historic Site where Kamehameha the Great constructed the *heiau* (a place of worship) that helped him unite the Hawaiian Archipelago
- Visit a UNESCO World Heritage Site and an International Biosphere Reserve and witness the extraordinary intersection of Hawaiian culture and conservation
- Learn about NPCA's role in preserving and illuminating deeply significant places of cultural history and resources to ensure a thriving national park system for future generations

Welcome to the beautiful Hawaiian Islands. On this tour, you will travel to four different islands which are located in one of the most remote destinations in the world. Because of its remoteness, Hawai'i hosts one of the Earth's most diverse ecosystems. The state is home to over 10,000 native species and more than 90% of these can only be found here. Hawai'i is also considered the endangered species capital of the world. You'll gain a deeper understanding of NPCA's priorities in improving the Endangered Species Act to safeguard threatened national park wildlife like the many colorful and unforgettable, yet fragile, native bird populations of Hawai'i.

Experience the unique cultural and natural beauty within Hawai'i's national parks by joining expert biologists, naturalists and cultural interpreters who will share their extensive knowledge and perspective of this remarkable place. Meet with park rangers to learn more about the work that is being done to protect the fragile ecosystems and endangered animals and plants which are found nowhere else on earth. Access locations that are off the beaten path and not readily accessible to the general public. Leave with a greater appreciation of the islands, their natural and cultural history and the ongoing challenges to preserve this unique biodiversity.

PU'UHONUA O HŌNAUNAU NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
Big Island, Hawai'i

ITINERARY

DAY 1 OCT 16: Hilo to Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park

Arrive late afternoon in **Hilo** on **Hawai'i Island** and meet your NPCA hosts and trip leader in the lobby of the **Hilo Hawaiian Hotel**. Once the entire group has met, we'll drive to **Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park**. We'll check-in at the historic **Volcano House**, the only hotel located within the vast boundaries of the national park. Enjoy a group welcome dinner in the **Rim Restaurant** overlooking the **Halema'uma'u Crater** of the volcano and learn how NPCA is protecting this cherished and sacred place. **Volcano House (D)**

DAY 2 OCT 17: Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park

Start your day with a class on the *Geologic Formation of the Hawaiian Islands* before heading out to explore the wonders of the youngest of Hawai'i's main islands. Spend the day exploring **Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park** with an expert volcanologist. Drive through the **Steam Vents** area, then visit the overlook into **Kilauea Caldera**. Continue onto **Devastation Trail**, which was formed in 1959 as a result of an eruption from the **Kilauea Iki** crater. Walk through the surrounding 200 year-old forest which was buried by ashes and see how much (or how little) growth has come back. Walk through a lush rainforest to **Nāhuku (Thurston) Lava Tube** before exploring on your own before a group dinner. **Volcano House (B, L, D)**

DAY 3 OCT 18: Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park

After breakfast, an expert guide will take you on a hike through a native rainforest down to the floor of **Kilauea caldera** and back, a distance of 1.5 miles. View the park's efforts on non-native plant eradication and see how well the native *pa'iniu* (lily) and endemic ferns are coming back. There is an optional 0.5-mile detour via **Sandalwood Trail**, which includes passing active steam vents enroute back to the **Volcano House hotel**. After the hike, everyone will have time to have lunch and rest or explore before we travel in vans to traverse the 20-mile long **Chain of Craters Road** – an extraordinary scenic route through some of the park's recent eruptive activity. We still stop along the way to see notable remnants from these eruptions, including a walk to the **Pu'uloa**

Petroglyphs, before heading to the spectacular coast, learning about NPCA's relentless efforts to save magnificent views like these from the threat of haze pollution. We will have dinner at a local restaurant in **Volcano Village. Volcano House (B, L, D)**

OCT 19: Volcano to Kona

DAY 4 Today, we will head out by bus to **Kona**. We will stop at **Punalu'u Black Sand Beach**. If we're lucky you may see the **endangered Hawaiian green sea turtles** sunning themselves on the warm volcanic black sand. Here, your NPCA expert guide will share how they're protecting precious marine habitats from the detrimental effects of ocean warming and sea level rise. We will stop for lunch in **Na'alehu**, the southernmost town on Hawai'i Island (and the United States). After lunch, we will continue to **Pu'uhoonua o Hōnaunau (Place of Refuge) National Historical Park**, which contains one of the most sacred heiau in the islands. After our visit, we will continue to Kona and check into the hotel. Dinner is on your own this evening, either at the hotel or one of the many local restaurants within walking distance. **Courtyard by Marriott King Kamehameha Hotel (B, L)**



Coastline at Black Sand Beach, HI



Lava in Pu'uhoonau o Hōnaunau National Historical Park, HI

DAY 5 OCT 20: Kaloko-Honokōhau National Historical Park & Pu'ukoholā Heiau National Historic Site

Today we will learn about Hawaiian culture from Native Hawaiian experts. First, we will visit **Kaloko-Honokōhau National Historical Park**. The park protects the site of an ancient Hawaiian settlement, encompassing portions of five different *ahupua'a* (traditional Hawaiian land divisions, typically extending from the mountains to the sea). Learn from a native Hawaiian cultural expert about the resources within the park, such as *loko i'a* (fishponds), *kahua* (house site platforms) and *ki'i pōkahu* (petroglyphs). Next, we continue on to **Pu'ukoholā Heiau National Historic Site**. This fortress-like *heiau* was constructed by Kamehameha the Great between 1790 and 1791. You'll also learn about NPCA's commitment to secure critical protections for extraordinary cultural sites like the ones you'll encounter on this day. We will enjoy a picnic lunch at a nearby beach, and then spend some time with local community members who are working to preserve and incorporate cultural practices in their communities. The group will enjoy dinner this evening at a local restaurant. **Courtyard by Marriott King Kamehameha Hotel (B, L, D)**

DAY 6 OCT 21: Molokai – tentative, they are still not accepting visitors yet.

After breakfast this morning, the group will check out of the hotel and proceed to Ellison Onizuka Kona International Airport to board a short charter flight to the island of **Molokai**, where you have a rare opportunity to visit **Kalaupapa National Historical Park**. Surrounded by the tallest sea cliffs in the world (measuring 3,600 to 3,900 feet), Kalaupapa is home to a former Hansen's Disease (also known as Leprosy) settlement to which the Hawaiian government exiled more than 7,000 persons with the disease from 1866 until the 1940's. Your tour will be led by an expert guide and will include a picnic lunch. The group will board another chartered flight

in the late afternoon to Kapalua Airport on **Maui**. Upon arrival, a private shuttle will transfer you to the hotel to check-in. The remainder of your evening is unscheduled, and dinner is on your own. **Royal Lahaina Resort (B, L)**

DAY 7 OCT 22: Maui – Free Day

Enjoy breakfast before heading out to explore the island at your leisure. Your trip leader will be available to make suggestions of things to see and do. A popular option is to take the shuttle to **Lahaina** where you can learn about the colorful past of this old whaling town and its history as the first capital of Hawai'i via the Lahaina Restoration Foundation's self-guided walking tour. Lunch is on your own. The group will gather in the evening to board a private shuttle to the **Old Lahaina Lū'au** for dinner and a fabulous **Polyneesian show**. A private shuttle will be available to bring you back to the hotel. **Royal Lahaina Resort (B, D)**

DAY 8 OCT 23: Haleakalā

This morning, we will depart on a field trip to **Haleakalā National Park**, an **International Biosphere Reserve**. Towering over the island of Maui at 10,023 feet above sea level, **Haleakalā Crater** is the place for an amazing range of landscapes – and skylines. The name Haleakalā means "House of the Sun" in Hawaiian Legend. While taking in the breathtaking views, you'll learn how NPCA is protecting endangered and vulnerable species in Haleakalā, a park with significant climate concern. After a visit to the summit and the visitor's center, we will head down to **Kula** where we will enjoy lunch and visit one of the local farms. Next stop: **Īao Valley State Park** – a lush green valley and a sacred site to the Hawaiian people. It is the historic location of a fierce battle between Maui warriors and the army of Kamehameha the Great. A Hawaiian Cultural expert will share their knowledge of the valley. We will return to the hotel to freshen up before gathering to depart for our final group dinner together at a local restaurant. **Royal Lahaina Resort (B, D)**



DAY OCT 24: Departure Day- Main Program

9 Enjoy breakfast at your leisure and check out of the hotel. You may store your luggage with the bell desk if your flight departs later in the day. Your trip leader will be able to assist you in setting up airport transfers.

OPTIONAL TRIP EXTENSION

DAY OCT 24: Maui to O’ahu & Pearl Harbor

9 If you have selected to participate in the additional two days on O’ahu, you will check out of your room after breakfast and depart via private shuttle for Kahului airport to catch a flight to **O’ahu**. Upon arrival on **O’ahu**, we will drive to **Pearl Harbor National Memorial**, stopping for lunch along the way. At the Memorial, we’ll learn about the events on and surrounding December 7, 1941, the “date which will live in infamy”, when a surprise air attack by the Japanese plunged the United States into World War II. At the visitor’s center, we’ll learn about the history and events which lead up to the attack, then watch a short film. Afterwards, we’ll board a US Navy vessel to take us to the memorial built over the **USS Arizona**, which is the final resting place for over 900 sailors and Marines. After your visit, we will take our private shuttle to **Waikiki** and check into the hotel. The remainder of the day is free for you to explore **Waikiki** and dinner is on your own. **Queen Kapiolani Hotel (B, L)**

DAY OCT 25: Honouliuli

10 This morning after breakfast, we will visit the **Honouliuli Education Center** at the **Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai’i**. **Honouliuli National Historic Site** preserves the history of the largest and longest-used confinement site during World War II. Run by the US Army, the camp held approximately 400 internees and 4,000 prisoners of war after the Japanese attack on **Pearl Harbor**. Designated by President Obama, NPCA and their supporters spent many years advocating for the preservation of Honouliuli to reside under National Park Service management. We will have lunch at a local restaurant, then proceed to the **Honouliuli National Historic Site**. The group will have free time until our farewell dinner in the hotel restaurant overlooking **Diamond Head** and **Waikiki Beach**. **Queen Kapiolani Hotel (B, L, D)**

DAY OCT 26: Departure Day

11 Enjoy breakfast at your leisure and check out of the hotel. Store your luggage with the bell desk if your flight departs later in the day. Your trip leader will be able to assist you in setting up airport transfers.

Please note: This itinerary is subject to change based on weather conditions and park closures related to COVID-19.

Travel Insurance: To protect yourself from the loss of deposit and cancellation fees, you are encouraged to purchase travel insurance. If you need assistance, NPCA recommends contacting Travel Insurance Services through USI Affinity at 1-800-937-1387 or at <http://my.travelinsure.com/npc>; email confirmation packets will include additional details.

Activity Level: Our trips are appropriate for people in good health with overall good mobility. Travelers should be prepared for a full day of physical activity, which can include walking or standing for extended periods (sometimes on uneven terrain) and climbing stairs or ladders. Any physical conditions requiring special attention, diet or treatment should be reported when booking to determine what accommodations can be made.

Traveler Responsibility: Travelers are responsible for choosing an NPCA trip consistent with their ability, fitness and overall health. All travelers are required to complete and return their NPCA waiver of liability, personal information form, flight form and accept Pacific Islands Institute’s Terms and Conditions before being allowed to participate in a trip. Travelers also are responsible for reading and understanding all pre-departure materials and bringing appropriate clothing and gear.

Volcanic landscape, Haleakalā National Park Maui, HI

LODGING

Find comfort and relaxation in each of the hotel properties we carefully selected for your NPCA trip.



The Volcano House (Pāhoā, HI): As the only hotel located within the Hawai’i Volcanoes National Park, the historic Volcano House has been welcoming visitors from all over the world to the summit of Kīlauea since 1846. This iconic inn offers updated guest rooms, and a restaurant and lounge at the edge of one of the world’s most active volcanoes offering an ever-evolving natural landscape.



Courtyard by Marriott King Kamehameha’s Kona Beach Hotel (Kailua-Kona, HI): The newly renovated Courtyard King Kamehameha’s Kona Beach Hotel is a beachfront hotel which features brand-new guest rooms and suites, complete with new island-inspired décor, modern amenities, spacious lanais and sparkling ocean views. Located in the heart of Kona, dozens of shops, restaurants and attractions are all just a short walk away.



The Royal Lahaina Resort (Lahaina, HI): The Royal Lahaina Resort is located beachfront, nestled on an exclusive half-mile stretch of Kā’anaapali Beach. Oceanfront dining is available at the full-service restaurant or stop by the ice cream parlor for a sweet treat. The resort features Hawaiian and Polynesian arts and crafts and a chance to learn how to make lei of flowers and shells.



Queen Kapi’olani Hotel Waikiki Beach (Honolulu, HI): The Queen Kapi’olani Hotel located where “Diamond Head meets Waikiki” and situated steps away from the surf breaks of Waikiki Beach and the bustling shopping and nightlife of Waikiki. Fully renovated in 2018, the hotel offers a retro-chic vibe that reflects Hawai’i’s indoor-outdoor lifestyle, modern conveniences and unobstructed views of Diamond Head and the ocean.

Trip Cancellation Policy: Cancellation notice must be submitted in writing and is effective upon date of receipt.

June 18, 2022	121+ days prior to departure	120-91 days prior	90-0 days prior
Final payment is due	Deposit is 100% refundable minus a \$250 processing fee	75% of trip cost is refunded	No refund

COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOLS

Each of our travel partners have developed robust safety protocols to protect the health of our guests, staff and the communities we visit. **At this time, proof of vaccination is required to participate in this trip.** All tour staff and partners associated with the trip, including drivers, guides, NPCA staff and speakers will be fully vaccinated. As conditions and guidelines continue to evolve, our travel partners are committed to easing concerns and creating flexible options for those interested in rescheduling or booking new travel. Please contact us for details.



Why Travel with NPCA?

EXCELLENT VALUE

Our tours offer NPCA members the opportunity for behind-the-scenes access and unique insights because of our intimate relationship with the national parks. A small portion of your trip cost supports NPCA's mission to protect the parks for present and future generations.

EXPERT TRIP LEADERS

Every trip will be led by at least one NPCA expert, as well as tour operators who provide professionally managed tours in and around our national parks. Your trip leaders, guest lecturers and savvy NPCA staff will give you insights into the flora, fauna and history of each destination, leading lively discussions, and answering your questions.

ENVIRONMENTALLY CONSCIOUS TOUR

NPCA partners with tour operators that support cultural and natural heritage, maximizing the economic benefits in the trip destinations and establishing guidelines for managing environmental impacts. Our goal is to ensure your travel will have a positive impact on the parks so that your children and their children can enjoy them in perpetuity.

CONVENIENT TRAVEL

Everything is included in your tour, such as meals, accommodations, snacks, expert speakers, transportation at the destination and all activities (unless otherwise stated). With NPCA, you can explore the parks without the hassle of planning or the frustration of crowds.

SMALL-SIZED GROUPS

Group size on each of our trips is limited to no more than 18 people to maximize your interactions with the experts, enhance wildlife viewing and boost educational opportunities throughout your experience. Enjoy stimulating conversations with other like-minded NPCA members and supporters from around the country.

SAFETY AND FLEXIBILITY

Your health and safety is our top priority. We have worked with each of our travel partners to develop safety measures for our trips in response to the global pandemic. As conditions and guidelines continue to evolve, our travel partners are committed to easing concerns and creating flexible options for rescheduling travel.

NPCA EXCLUSIVE COLLECTION

Our custom-designed itineraries are designed to give NPCA members exclusive experiences that highlight NPCA's important contributions to park protection and provide special behind-the-scenes access to National Park Service staff, NPCA partners and other local specialists. Our goal is to offer the best itineraries in adventure and educational travel in the places we know best: America's national parks.

NPCA is the only independent, nonpartisan organization dedicated to advocacy on behalf of the National Park System. We are 100% privately funded and we rely on donations from individuals like you. NPCA trips are an exclusive NPCA member benefit. One traveler per group must be an active NPCA member to participate in an NPCA trip. An annual membership starts at \$15 per person. Please make dues payable to NPCA by check or credit card at npca.org.