

Chapter 1 : Island of Hawaii Travel Guide on TripAdvisor

6 itineraries. Our itineraries are a good place to start planning your vacation to the Big Island. We have made sample itineraries for a 1-, 2-, 3-, 5-, and 7-day visit, and one especially for people visiting Hawaii with cruise ships.

Why did I choose Kailua-Kona exactly? Not Maui or Oahu? I needed a detox, and the Big Island is listed as 1 on U. Rightfully so, by the way. The best part of the whole center? The quiet ocean view nook for reading and meditation. And then just as the luau was ending, this little slice of sunset heaven showed up. Full outfit details here. Photography by Karen Loudon. When you think of Kona, you think of Kona coffee, right? I think that rocks. Are there snakes there? Do not play on rocks. Similar outfit post here. The next adventure to be crossed off my bucket list? Hike through a rainforest. We embarked on a mild, and if I say mild, it means toddler-level-of-exertion, 1-mile hike to the Thurston Lava Tube through Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. Although high amounts of dangerous sulfur dioxide may allegedly be present in certain areas of the park, this felt like the cleanest, most open air I had ever or will ever breathed. Take that, Grand Canyon. This pre-historic lava tube, discovered in , was created several hundred years ago when a river of red lava rushed through solid ground. If you stood where the wind was blowing, the steam was so intense that you essentially put yourself in an outdoor sauna. After we were all warm and toasty, we re-entered what felt like sub-zero temperatures to see Steaming Bluff Overlook. Even with steam coming from every which way and no real way to thrive, gorgeous flowers still bloom among the shrubbery. Once the sun started to set, we hopped back on the bus and headed to the Thomas A. A little background on the museum itselfâ€”In , an earthquake killed , people near Mt. With this disaster, Thomas A. Thurston, a prominent Honolulu attorney and businessman. In , support was forthcoming from world-renown M. I think it goes without saying, a picture in no way does justice to the natural exquisiteness of my experience. Full outfit post here. I went with their popular Islander Bowl, which was topped with fresh strawberries, banana, goji berries, organic coconut shavings, and Hawaiian honey, and I am now officially advocating for a Basik Cafe to be opened in Central Florida. Complacency makes it nearly impossible to love peopleâ€”including yourselfâ€”unconditionally. Off to plan my next adventure!

Chapter 2 : Big Island Travel Guide - Expert Picks for your Big Island Vacation | Fodor's

Big Island Hawaii Travel Guide Born an island of both fire and ice, where land and sea meet in one of Earth's most epic battles, is where we discover the Big Island of Hawaii towering above the crashing waves.

Understand[edit] The 50th state, Hawaii has a rich, diverse origin with many contributors to their history. Currently, its population has an Asian majority, with smaller populations of Native Hawaiians and Caucasian locals. History[edit] Visitors to the Big Island can explore and interact with the 1, years of history of the Hawaiian people – a history that all began on the Big Island. Despite being the youngest island to emerge from the ocean, the Big Island was the first place that Polynesian explorers settled after they traveled across the ocean. Many of the historical parks and museums have ruins, petroglyphs, temples, and artifacts from before the appearance of Westerners on the archipelago. Another says that the islands are named for Hawaiki; also known as the Origin Place, the realm of the gods and goddesses and the afterlife of the Polynesian people. Captain Cook was the first Westerner to discover the islands, landing on Kauai and forging the path for a flood of Westerners arriving on the islands. Cook would be killed the following year in a Big Island harbor following a fracas involving the theft of a ship. Considered the greatest king of the Hawaiian people, King Kamehameha was born sometime between and Much of his personal history is uncertain, passed down through an oral history that relates several different versions. Undisputed is his role in unifying the warring factions of the islands. During his life, Kamehameha moved the royal court to Oahu , but the Big Island remained in his heart and he eventually returned to live out his life in Kailua-Kona. Following Hawaiian custom, the final resting place of the King is secret, to protect his life force or mana. In the second half of the 19th century the Hawaiian population was decimated by Western diseases. Labor shortages occurred across the islands, most heavily affecting the sugarcane industry. Chinese, Japanese, Filipino, Korean and Portuguese immigrants all came to the islands to work in the sugarcane fields. To this day, a majority of the population is Asian, with indigenous Hawaiians a minority. It was also during the 19th century that Pearl Harbor was initially scouted as a location for a Naval Base by the Americans. The tropical location and presence of trade winds combine to make the Big Island a temperate year-round travel destination. However, the weather conditions can change dramatically depending on altitude. Traveling from the shore up to the peaks of the Big Island, you may experience significant drops in temperature and increase in precipitation. Mauna Kea and Mauna Loa are nearly twin peaks. Reaching 13, feet and 13, feet, respectively, there is remarkable elevation across the scant mile width of the island. Tourists should keep this in mind when they venture to the interior of the island. Layers are recommended, including long pants and sturdy boots for any activities away from the beach. Travelers who plan their trip from October through April may experience more precipitation, but the resorts located on the leeward side western side of the island, away from the trade winds, tend to be drier. The warmer temperatures in the summer months can increase the risk of tropical cyclones, but severe storms in Hawaii are very rare. The last category 4 hurricane was Hurricane Iniki in September of Temperature forecasts are only given for the areas of the island at sea level, and will decline sharply as elevation increases. Temperature averages are as follows: Summer averages degrees during the day. Winter averages during the day and at night. Thanks to the trade winds and ocean breezes, the days are rarely uncomfortable and nights are mild and pleasant. People[edit] Native Hawaiians are those who can trace their heritage back to the original Polynesian settlers of the islands. In the ancient history of the island, some accounts credit the Tahitians as following and ultimately conquering the original Polynesian inhabitants of the island. The opposing theory is that newly arrived Tahitians simply pushed the existing Polynesian people into the interiors of the islands, rather than completely eliminating them. Westerners brought with them diseases that the Hawaiians had no defense against, such as smallpox, measles and influenza. With the arrival of Westerners and disease, the population of the islands was crippled, and would never achieve its previous density of indigenous peoples. At the census in , there were approximately , individuals in a population of over one million who considered themselves exclusively Hawaiian, and , who were Hawaiian combined with another race. In present day, the citizens of Hawaii are predominately Asian and White with smaller populations of

Black, Latino, American Indian and mixed race individuals. Hawaiians are known for having a lot of national pride, and that includes the addition of many cultures who immigrated to the islands through their history. Everything from the food on the Big Island to art, religion and philosophy highlight the contributions of many different cultural histories coming together. The word means compassion, sympathy, kindness and grace which is how the Hawaiians approach their daily life. On a smaller scale, Hawaiians are very focused on the family. Extended families frequently live together, or even close friends of the family will be adopted into a nuclear family. Since the 1980s, there have been conservation efforts in place to preserve the Hawaiian language. However, there is a pidgin dialect of Creole composed mostly of slang. For tourists who want to connect with the locals or maybe even blend in, they can sprinkle a few pidgin words through their interaction. Literature[edit] Hawaii conjures images of tropical paradise and the easy life. Many Hawaiian authors are informed by their own experiences and explore societal conflict. Both mainlander and Hawaiian authors set their novels in Hawaii to take advantage of the unique setting. The following books are set in Hawaii, or written by Hawaiian authors. They also make great beach reading: The whirlwind romance between an environmental warrior and an outlaw begins in Hawaii. The story carries the characters through explorations of individualism, bizarre settings and metaphysical outlawism. The novel has had an impact on the cultural consciousness, making appearances in several musical genres and movies. Crichton described the novel as a Jurassic Park-esque informative adventure. In the novel was optioned to become a movie, in development by Steven Spielberg. Chris McKinney is a Hawaiian author who sets his hard-edged fiction in Hawaii. His novels often feature the struggles of the underprivileged classes experiencing societal change. The author, Carol A. MacLennan, is an anthropologist who explores the long lasting consequences of the sugar industry in Hawaii. The slim volume is easy to read and is half hiking guide, half history of the temples, crater and the U. The author is a local television and newspaper journalist born in California who has lived in Honolulu since she was eight. Written by Brother Noland, an acclaimed musician in Hawaii, it covers any kind of mishap the adventurous tourist may encounter on the island. Wild pigs, native plants and navigating in the forest are all covered. Despite strong Hawaiian national pride, the people are all largely supportive of membership in the United States. Congress is typically dominated by democrats, with less than a handful of Republicans elected to congress since becoming a state. The state capital is in Honolulu on the island of Oahu. There are a few non-stop flights from the mainland, mostly from California and Seattle , but it is more common to arrive via Honolulu or Kahului. You should try to get a flight non-stop from the mainland to Kona to save time waiting and walking around the Honolulu airport. Inter-island "hoppers" arrive from all the other islands several times a day. Local flights are available through two main airlines, Hawaiian [10] and Island Air [11] to the two major airports. These airlines provide frequent service between the islands, largely connecting through Honolulu, although there are some non-stop flights from Kona and Hilo to Kahului Maui. Daily round-trip service is also available between Hilo and Kona. Pacific Wings [12] provides fun flights in small prop planes between Hilo, Kona and Kamuela. Keep in mind that an inter-island flight could use up almost an entire day, due to the fact that you must pack, check out of hotel, get to the airport, return rental car, go through all the airport procedures, fly, wait for luggage, get rental car, check in, unpack. In the case of the Big Island, think of the two sides of the island as separate. It takes about 2 hours 15 minutes to drive from Kailua-Kona to Hilo, and about six hours to circle the island. By boat[edit] Although several cruise ship lines operate in Hawaii, there is currently no dedicated inter-island boat service. Get around[edit] On Big Island, you need a car in order to get to most of the interesting beaches, parks or other attractions, or to travel from the Kona coast to the Hilo coast. Places like the green or black sand beaches, or the Mauna Kea summit and astronomical observatories are only accessible by four-wheel drive. Note that car rentals tend to book months in advance, depending on the season. If the major rental companies in Kona [14] or Hilo [15] are fully booked, you can still hope to find a used car to rent via Craigslist. If you only plan to stay around one town, you can also rent a moped [16] or bike [17]. Many budget travelers are unpleasantly surprised by the extremely limited public transport on the Big Island. There are some bus companies offering excursions from Hilo to destinations like Volcano, but they require reservations. As traffic generally flows from the Hilo side to resorts of Waikoloa Resorts in the morning, you can easily make it to the beaches without waking up at by 5: As a large amount of locals take the spirit of

Aloha seriously, hitching is the best way to travel for free throughout the Island. However, keep in mind that you are violating the rental contract by driving on "unpaved roads" let alone some of the four wheel drive only roads. Just keep in mind that you are "on your own" if you get in trouble while violating the rental agreement. Harper Rentals [19] has four wheel drive vehicles that are allowed by contract to drive on unpaved roads. You will pay more for that right. Landmarks[edit] Kailua-Kona was the seat of the Hawaiian royal court for hundreds of years, as well as the permanent resting spot of its greatest king, King Kamehameha. Many of the notable landmarks on the Big Island are related to Kamehameha and the eventual unification he brought to the islands. Visitors interested in the time period surrounding the unification may enjoy seeing one of the largest temples in all of Hawaii, as well as one of the last temples constructed by Kamehameha. Historic Kailua Village is located at the heart of Kona and has plenty of shopping and dining for tourists taking a break from the numerous historic sites. Hilo on the other side of the island is much more of a locals scene and has a number of seaside hotels. Downtown Hilo is a historic town great for walking around and exploring shops, art galleries and restaurants.

Chapter 3 : Sights in Big Island | Fodor's Travel

It takes time to explore the Big Island's stunning landscapes, but the rewards are spectacular. Hawaii's largest island has more than miles of coast from Kona to Hilo and beyond, lined with.

People often times get confused because Hawaii is the name of the entire state of Hawaii, as well as of the Big Island. Whenever we say Hawaii, we mean the entire state of Hawaii. The Big Island is considered the golfing Mecca of Hawaii with 20 diverse and challenging courses and is also known as the sportfishing capital of Hawaii. The diverse activities and natural views here on the Big Island are truly unparalleled. It is considered the most ecologically diverse of all the Islands due to a very diverse range of natural environments. Those who love packing in a broad range of outdoor activities will never be bored on the Big Island. On no other Hawaiian island can you walk in snow and swim in the ocean on the same day! Temperatures here average between 71 and 77 degrees Fahrenheit. It is not uncommon for temperatures to plunge below freezing atop frequently snowcapped Mauna Kea view panorama. Expert skiers with a 4-wheel drive vehicle might like to challenge themselves if the right conditions present themselves! The Five Volcanoes The Big Island is comprised of five distinct volcanoes that through repeated eruptions eventually came to overlap one another to form one solid island. Mauna Kea volcano is considered to be the tallest mountain in the world, measuring a total of 32, feet 9, m from its base on the ocean floor to its summit. Beaches With linear miles km of coastline, the Big Island of Hawaii is home to over one hundred diverse beaches. However, the typical white-sand beaches that the other Hawaiian islands are known for, are rarer here. On the Big Island, you will find four unique types of sand beaches: For many visitors, the Big Island will be their only chance to visit a green sand beach, Papakolea, where the sand was created from olivine crystals. Hilo averages a rainfall of over inches cm and, as you can imagine, the lush tropical flowers and plants here are mesmerizing and awe-inspiring. Kohala Kohala, located on the west shore, has the unofficial claim to fame of being the sunniest spot in the Hawaiian Islands. Luxury resorts combine with a rich cultural history to form a desirable playground for those who like to vacation in style. Waipio Valley To visit Waipio is to get a sense of what paradise truly should be. What makes the Big Island unique? Many would agree that the Big Island is the best Hawaii has offer, a natural beginning, a place where the origins of these volcanic islands are crystal clear and the creation of life awakens a spiritual side of all who explore here.

Chapter 4 : Big Island Hawaii Travel Guide | Hawaii Guide

Guide to the best hotels and things to do in Hawaii - The Big Island. Maps, travel tips and more.

Chapter 5 : Visit Hawaii: Big Island Travel Guide | Diary of a Debutante

At more than 4, square miles, the nickname for the one island actually named Hawaii is apropos: The Big Island is bigger than all the other Hawaiian Islands combined.

Chapter 6 : Big Island Travel Articles

Big Island Guide is your travel resource for everything from hotels to dining and activities in Hawaii. If you are looking for where to stay, where to eat, and what to do on the Big Island, we have the travel tips you need to make your Hawaiian vacation a unique and memorable adventure.

Chapter 7 : Big Island travel guide | blog.quintoapp.com

Big Island Travel Guide The Big Island of Hawaii offers consistent weather year-round, and an incredible array of outdoor activities, shopping, culinary experiences, golf and much more. South Kohala Management is a locally owned

and operated property management company on the Big Island, and we take pride in offering our curated local.

Chapter 8 : blog.quintoapp.com | Big Island - blog.quintoapp.com

Big Island of Hawaii Information & Articles Hawaii Travel Tips. We know Big Island is the biggest and youngest of the Hawaiian Islands; but many say it's also bolder, more majestic, more unique, and even more fascinating than its island counterparts.

Chapter 9 : Hawaii's #1 Guidebook for The Big Island | Hawaii Revealed

Island Diversity. We doubt that it's possible to get 'island fever' on Hawai'i. The aptly named Big Island is fantastically diverse, with miles of highways - and, better yet, byways - to explore.