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# Living in Hawai'i

A guide for new NOAA families



Written by NOAA Officers' Family Association of Hawai'i in 2011

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We hope this guide will help you to get settled into your new home on the island of Oahu.

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# Moving Logistics

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## GETTING TO HAWAI'I

The only major Airport on Oahu is Honolulu International Airport. From there you get a shuttle, a car rental or a ride on The Bus.

## TEMPORARY LODGING

Most of the military bases (see page 9) offer inexpensive lodging. The closest lodging to the NOAA offices at Ford Island is the **Navy Lodge at Pearl Harbor** (808-440-2290). Actually located on Ford Island, this lodge is walking distance to the NOAA offices and NOAA pier.

There are beachfront military cottages rentable at **Kaneohe Marine Corps Base**, Bellows and at **Barber's Point** on the West side. Cottages must be booked well ahead of time and they all have short-term limits for occupancy. They each give preference to military ahead of other uniformed service members. You may have to make it clear that NOAA is a uniformed service and that you are not a civilian.

Most of the private hotels on the island are located in Waikiki or on the West shore. The **Hale Koa** is an oceanfront military hotel in Waikiki. It is usually more affordable than other similar hotels.

If you are hoping to stay in another area of the island when you first arrive, you will need to book a vacation home, which is often more expensive but in some ways more convenient and private. [www.vrbo.com](http://www.vrbo.com) is a good resource to find vacation rentals.

## PETS

Hawai'i has strict laws about bringing in animals. There are no snakes in Hawai'i and it is a rabies-free state. Until a few years ago, any pet coming into Hawai'i had a long quarantine. You can now avoid that quarantine by a special qualification process that

takes about 4 months for adult pets (and at least 10 months for puppies and kittens). The Hawai'i State Department of Agriculture oversees this process. More information can be found at: <http://hawaii.gov/hdoa/ai/aqs/info> .

## BUYING A CAR

If you decide to buy a car in Hawai'i, keep in mind that new sales prices may be slightly higher than on the mainland due to shipping costs. There are various new car vendors around Oahu. Used cars are readily available, especially with the transient military population. You don't see many really old cars in Hawai'i because most eventually deteriorate in the salt air. The best places to find used cars are on [www.craigslist.com](http://www.craigslist.com) or in the "lemon lots" on military bases (ask around as they are usually unmarked lots).

## FINDING EMPLOYMENT

For family members seeking employment in the local economy, the major job listings are on [www.craigslist.com](http://www.craigslist.com) and on the local newspaper website, [www.staradvertiser.com](http://www.staradvertiser.com) which links to [www.monster.com](http://www.monster.com). State jobs are listed at <http://hawaii.gov/hrd/main/esd> and City job listings are at <http://www1.honolulu.gov/hr/>. There are also NAF job listings on the base websites and of course the Federal Jobs listing is [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov).

## SERVICES

**Water:** City & County of Honolulu

**Electricity:** Honolulu Electric Company (HECO)

**Cable:** Oceanic Time Warner, DirecTV, Dish Network, Comcast and possibly others.

**Internet:** Oceanic Time Warner, Comcast, Hawaiian Telcom, and possibly others.

**Newspaper:** Honolulu Star Advertiser, Pacific Business News



# Where to Live

At this writing, NOAA is in the process of consolidating most of its offices to Ford Island in Pearl Harbor. This is also the home pier for the Hawai'i-based ships - *Ka'imimoana* (KA), *Hi'ialakai* (HA), and *Oscar Elton Sette* (SE).

## AREAS OF THE ISLAND

Real estate prices are not cheap on Oahu, so prepare yourself for some sticker shock.

**Central Oahu** is closest to Ford Island so commute times will be quickest, especially from Pearl City and Aiea. Because of the nearby military bases, there are numerous housing options from condo to single family home with landlords who are accustomed to renting to transient military. If you live in this area, you will also be close to all of the

amenities of Hickam and Pearl Harbor military bases including the commissaries, exchanges, exercise facilities and medical centers. Millilani and Wahiawa have longer commuting times (30-45 mins at rush hour) but also offer newer construction (mostly condos) for sale or rent on the lower end of the real estate price range. Keep in mind that it will take at least 20-30 minutes to get to the beach from any of these areas (Pearl Harbor is a great port but it's not for swimming). Also, Aiea and Pearl City are home to popular chains like Target, K-Mart, Walmart, Home Depot, etc., but you won't be finding any charming small town center close to base.

**South Oahu** spans the area from the airport to Hawai'i Kai. Generally, locals refer to this area as "Town." When there is no traffic, the H-1 highway provides a breezy corridor to get through this area, however there is often traffic on the H-1, especially headed east in the mornings and west in the afternoons. The airport area itself is very industrial. Just north of the airport is Kalihi. Rents are cheap in this area but quality is generally much lower and crime is a little higher. Chinatown, which is just west of Downtown, offers trendy restaurants, bars and art galleries, but borders on being seedy in areas.

"Downtown" Honolulu, the business district, is situated on Bishop and Alakea Streets. If living in an urban high-rise with views of the ocean appeals to you, and you don't mind paying for parking, then this area may be for you. Downtown itself has little nightlife, but you will have plenty of choices in nearby Chinatown and Aloha Tower. Nuuanu is a quiet, suburban valley on the mountain side of downtown. Like most valleys on the island, it rains more there. This is where the missionaries first settled on the island. It is very convenient to get to downtown via car from Nuuanu but Nuuanu itself has hardly any restaurants or shops. Downtown and Nuuanu are about 10 minutes to Ford Island without traffic but it can take up to 45 minutes at rush hour. From Downtown heading east toward Waikiki, neighborhoods are more urban near the water and more quiet and suburban in the valleys. Manoa valley is home to the University of Hawai'i and as such offers a more historic "college town" feel. Waikiki itself has the same population density as Manhattan when the hotels are near capacity. Homes in Waikiki are all condos or apartments and you will have to pay for parking. Some people love Waikiki for the plethora of shops and restaurants accessible by foot all adjacent to Waikiki Beach and its sunsets and surf breaks. Others eschew visiting Waikiki as much as possible, avoiding the traffic and packs of tourists. Beyond Waikiki to the east is Diamond Head, with its upscale homes, and Kaimuki, a fun, young area with cute bungalow homes and trendy

restaurants and shops. The neighborhoods on the ridges above Kaimuki have beautiful views of both the ocean and the city skyline. Finally, there is the larger suburban area of Hawai'i Kai which has a California-like feel to it, and offers a Costco and various restaurants. Hawai'i Kai may be a viable option for NOAA employees working in town offices, but if you are working at Ford Island, expect an hour drive each way. There is no military base on the South Shore, so you will still need to use the base facilities at Pearl Harbor and Hickam.

**East Oahu** includes Waimanalo, Kailua and Kaneohe. Kailua and Kaneohe are both very accessible to Ford Island and Pearl Harbor via the H-3 highway, a newer highway with brilliant scenery of Kaneohe Bay and the Pacific Ocean and undeveloped valley. While commutes to these areas are 25-30 minutes from Ford Island, many NOAA families choose to live in these areas because there is rarely traffic on the H-3 and it's a beautiful drive. Both towns are very accessible to Kaneohe Marine Corps Base and its many military privileges, including a medium-sized commissary. Kailua is pricey and many of the homes are older, but this family-friendly town is home to two beautiful beaches with small waves. Kailua also has a charming town center with many shops and restaurants. Kaneohe surrounds a gorgeous volcanic bay and as such, you may have luck finding a place with a brilliant water view, although there isn't much sandy beach line in Kaneohe. Kaneohe offers many affordable condos as well as older single-family homes. There is a small mall in Kaneohe as well as many restaurants and stores, although it is not as walkable as Kailua. If you like peace and quiet, you might look into living south of Kailua, in Waimanalo, or north of Kaneohe, in Kaaawa or Kahaluu. These areas are more "country" with a slower pace, less commercial business and longer driving times. Waimanalo has another beautiful and well-loved beach, and more locals and fewer tourists.

**West Oahu** boasts the newest and most affordable real estate as well as beaches with sunset views. For these reasons, this part of the island has a lot of the island's population and therefore a lot of traffic at rush hour (1.5-2 hours). Many military families live in Ewa Beach because the affordable home developments are similar to the mainland and there are many recognizable chain stores nearby. Kapolei is hoping to become Oahu's "second city." It has seen much planned growth in recent years, both in beautiful, more affordable developments and in its new town center which boasts a Target and a Home

Depot among many other well known chain stores. Beyond Kapolei runs the beautiful Waianae Coast. Homes in this area are even more affordable, although they tend to be older; however, the commute times are extremely long. There is no military base on the West Shore, so you will need to use the base facilities at Pearl Harbor and Hickam.

**North Oahu**, better known as the North Shore, is dazzling, but expect another long drive of 1-2 hours to any NOAA office if you live up here. Locals sometimes refer to the North Shore as “country” as in, “I’m going to country to surf today.” Some military families choose to live on the North Shore for the world-famous giant winter waves, great summer snorkeling, the easy-going vibe and the beautiful beaches. However, usually the service member leaves the house very early in the morning to beat the traffic. Haleiwa town has most of the restaurants and shops on the North Shore but there are small communities all along this coast, many of which are more affordable to be close to the beach than say, Diamond Head or Kailua. This area has a smaller-town, friendly feel, but be prepared for the surfer tourist crowd that appears during the winter months and jams up the one main road. There is no military base on the North Shore, but you can use the commissary at Schofield, which is about 20 minutes from Haleiwa.

## OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

### Schools

Every family will have to make their own decision about public or private, but Honolulu Magazine grades all schools in both categories each year. Check it out at:

<http://www.honolulumagazine.com/Honolulu-Magazine/Schools/>

### Transportation

Most people have their own vehicle. Some really ambitious people ride bicycles to work, but don’t expect super-safe or well-respected bike lanes. The Bus ([www.thebus.org](http://www.thebus.org)) is the public transportation system. It is pretty efficient but its ease of use depends on how many transfers you will have to make. We recommend using Google Maps to get directions using the public transportation button to see if it would be worth it for you. There is a light rail planned for West Oahu but it will be many years before that opens.

## Medical Care

Most NOAA families stationed at Ford Island using Tricare Prime use physicians at Makalapa Navy Medical Center at Pearl Harbor or at Tripler Army Medical Center, but you could probably use any military medical facility on the island. All emergency services and labor and delivery services for Tricare Prime are at Tripler. Tripler is notorious for having parking problems (20+ minutes to find a space). It's a good idea to ask around for recommendations once you get here to find a physician.

## Child Care

Each of the bases offer child care programs both in day care centers and in private homes. PATCH is a Hawai'i organization that can make referrals for licensed homes and daycares in the general community ([www.patchHawai'i.org](http://www.patchHawai'i.org)). [www.keikisitters.com](http://www.keikisitters.com) also offers a menu of local babysitters who have passed background checks.

## MILITARY INSTALLATIONS

There are several bases on Oahu as well as some smaller properties that the military utilizes for various purposes. We will only attempt to highlight installations that you would likely use for commerce or leisure. Visit their websites for more detailed information as there are more amenities than we have room to list. Grocery shopping in the local economy is very expensive so make sure you live near enough to a commissary for your own convenience.

### **Air Force**

Bellows [www.bellowsafs.com](http://www.bellowsafs.com)

Located in Waimanalo, this former base is now mainly a recreational facility. You can enjoy the beach, picnic, camp, rent a cabin or rent equipment.

Hickam [www.hickamservices.com](http://www.hickamservices.com)

\* Note: Hickam and Pearl Harbor are now a joint base under one command.\*

Located right next to Pearl Harbor, Hickam itself is a beautifully laid out base. It offers a medium-sized commissary and exchange, movies, bowling, crafts, a 3-par golf course,

beaches, fitness center, veterinarian and more. If you are willing to learn the system, you may also be able to fly for free using the Space-A flights that fly out of Hickam. The Military & Family Support center also offers an abundance of classes which NOAA families are eligible to take including subjects such as getting to know the island, employment, parenting, deployment, financial management and personal development.

## **Army**

Fort Shafter [www.mwrarmyhawaii.com](http://www.mwrarmyhawaii.com)

Located in Honolulu, Fort Shafter is the oldest military base in Hawai'i. The MWR there offers a fitness center which includes a basketball court and a racquetball court. There is also bowling, arts & crafts, and a nine hole golf course.

Schofield Barracks/Wheeler Airfield [www.mwrarmyhawaii.com](http://www.mwrarmyhawaii.com)

As the largest army post, Schofield has a lot to offer. It is especially useful if you live on the North Shore or in Mililani or Wahiawa. There is a pool, bowling, a golf course, a fitness center, arts & crafts, a PX, a commissary and a veterinarian,

Tripler Medical Center <http://www.tamc.amedd.army.mil/>

Tripler is mainly a hospital, but if you have already struggled through parking there, it might be worth your while to use the fitness center or pool. This is also where the VA offices are located.

## **Marine Corps**

Kaneohe Marine Corps Base [www.mccshawaii.com](http://www.mccshawaii.com)

KMCB offers a medium-sized commissary and exchange. Its 18-hole golf course has been voted the best military golf course in the world, with a few holes running along the ocean. There is a pool, fitness center, movie theatre, marina, beaches with lifeguards, various sporting courts and fields, equipment rental, and a scuba store. K-Bay, as a lot of people call it, also has boat rentals. It is highly recommended that you take the boat driving class (and no, it doesn't matter what size ship you are already licensed to drive) so that you can go out and visit the sand bar that only appears at low tide.

## **Navy**

### **NCTAMS**

Located in Wahiawa, this small installation offers a NEX mini-mart, a pool, a bowling alley and a small fitness center.

Pearl Harbor [www.hickamservices.com](http://www.hickamservices.com)

\* Note: Hickam and Pearl Harbor are now a joint base under one command.\*

As a major installation and home to Ford Island, Pearl Harbor has a lot to offer. The NEX is the largest in the world. Pearl Harbor has the biggest furniture selection of all the bases. There is a commissary, pool, large fitness center (with childcare), various courts and fields, equipment rentals and a marina. The Military & Family Support center also offers an abundance of classes which NOAA families are eligible to take including subjects such as getting to know the island, employment, parenting, deployment, financial management and personal development.

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# Shopping

Tip: Many stores and services offer Kamaaina discounts for Hawai'i residents and military. There may also be separate military discounts.

\* For shopping on bases, see the Military Installations section. \*

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## MALLS

Ala Moana: 1450 Ala Moana Blvd., Honolulu, HI 96814, 808-955 9517

Kahala: 4211 Waialae Ave., Honolulu, HI 96816, 808-732-7336

Outlets: 94-790 Lumiaina St., Waipahu, HI 96797, 808-676 5656

Pearl Ridge: 98-1005 Moanalua Rd. #231, Aiea, HI 96701, 808-488-0981

Ward Center: 330 Kamakee St., Honolulu, HI 96814, 808-589-2060

Windward: 46-056 Kamehameha Highway, Kaneohe, HI 96744, 808-235-1143

## GROCERY STORES

Times

Foodland

Whole Foods

Safeway

Don Quijote

## DEPARTMENT STORES

Target:

Honolulu-Salt Lake  
4380 Lawehana Street  
Honolulu, HI 96818

Kapolei Commons  
4450 Kapolei Parkway

Kapolei, HI 96707

Coming soon to Kailua town.

Walmart:

700 Keeaumoko St.  
Honolulu, HI 96814

1141 Kuala St.  
Pearl City, HI 96782

94-595 Kupuohi St.  
Waipahu, HI 96797

95-550 Lanikahuana Ave.  
Miliani, HI 96789

Best Buy

478 Alakawa St.  
Honolulu, HI 96817

98-051 Kamehameha Highway  
Aiea, HI 96751

Home Depot

1021 Kamehameha Highway,  
Pearl City, HI 96782

4600 Kapolei Parkway,  
Kapolei, HI 96707

421 Alakawa St,  
Honolulu, HI 96817

Costco

Hawai'i Kai location  
333A Keahole Street  
Honolulu, HI 96825-3428

Honolulu location  
525 Alakawa St.  
Honolulu, HI 96817

Waipahu location  
94-1231 Ka Uka Blvd.  
Waipahu, HI 96797-4495

## Sam's Club

Honolulu location  
750 Keeaumoku Street  
Honolulu, HI 96814

Pearl City location  
1000 Kam Hwy. #100  
Pearl City, HI 96782

## FUN LOCAL SOUVENIR SHOPS

Haliewa (North Shore)  
Waikiki  
Kailua ( Windward)

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# Culture

This ain't the mainland. Hawai'i is a melting pot of many cultures and nationalities. This state has some unique cultural mores that you might not intuit very quickly on your own, but local people will respect and appreciate you more if you show an understanding of the culture. Here are some basics.

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## SHOES AND SLIPPAHS

Most locals of every ethnicity take their shoes off before entering a home. A shoe rack or footwear left outside a doorway of a residence indicate that shoes should be removed. Even if the host says it's okay to leave your shoes on, it is more respectful to remove them. Garages don't count. Also, don't be surprised to see people barefoot, even in places of business. Until very recently, it was considered okay for children to attend school barefoot, and in some areas, it is still acceptable.

## GREETINGS

In most social situations, women greet and say goodbye to other women and men with a hug and a kiss on the cheek, even when meeting a friend of a friend for the first time. Men just shake hands with each other. In a business situation, usually a handshake is appropriate regardless of gender, but don't be surprised if someone does hug. Traditional handshakes with locals are generally not too firm. A soft handshake is a sign of respect and humility. (Tip: Lean to the left consistently when kissing on the cheek and you are less likely to awkwardly bump heads with someone). Hugs and handshakes are not used to address store clerks, delivery people and other casual acquaintances.

## AUNTIE AND UNCLE

Older people may be called "auntie" or "uncle" by friends, neighbors or even complete strangers. No blood relationship is implied. While "aunties" and "uncles" are often old family friends, it can also be appropriate to address an older stranger as "auntie" or "uncle." This is considered respectful but friendly. The use of formal titles such as "Mr." or "Mrs." feels cold and unfriendly to many island residents.

## FLOWER LEI

People give leis when arriving or leaving the island or to honor a special occasion in someone's life such as a birthday or graduation. Never take the lei off in the presence of someone who gave it to you. (If you have several on, it is sometimes acceptable to give some of your lei to other people to wear.) If you are an expectant mother, you may be given an open-ended lei that is intended to encourage a safe delivery. (Tip: Lei stands at the airport are very affordable and have a great selection.)

## VISUAL AND VOCAL MANNERS

It is considered rude to stare or make excessive eye contact in public places (a.k.a. "stink eye"). In most settings (with the exception of sporting events and concerts), it is considered rude to speak loudly or act as if one is entitled to special treatment. Humility and reserve are considered good breeding. Also, telling someone, "Come," or addressing a child as "Boy" are not considered rude.

## TALKING STORY

Talking story is just chatting or shooting the breeze. Talking story is important for building rapport. Even in business transactions, people often talk story first for a while and then get to the point.

## FOOD

If you are invited to someone's house for dinner or to a barbecue at the beach, always bring something even if the hosts says there is no need. It can be something easy like a bowl of poke or a bottle of wine, but it's the island way for everyone to contribute something.

Due to all the Asian influences in Hawai'i, you are bound to be eating with chopsticks at some point. Do your best to learn to use them if you don't know how, but it's usually okay to request silverware instead. Do not use one chopstick at a time, especially to spear food. Chopsticks are always used together like a pair of tweezers, not a pair of skewers. Never leave chopsticks sticking upright in a bowl of rice nor cross chopsticks on the table or food as these signs signify death. These are the way chopsticks are placed in a bowl of

rice offered to the spirit of a dead person, at their deathbed or on the household Buddhist alter.

## DRIVING

Never honk your horn unless it's an absolute emergency. Try not to be in a rush anywhere because people on Hawai'i roads certainly aren't. People generally aren't great about using passing lanes appropriately. Drivers have a habit of waving to give others the right of way at stop signs and other intersections, even when they do not have the right of way.

## MALAMA KA AINA (RESPECTING THE LAND)

Respect the local beaches and land by cleaning up your trash. It is best to leave items such as rocks, shells, sea creatures, etc., where you found them so all can enjoy. When visiting the Big Island, it is best not to take any sand or lava rock as it is said to anger Pele, a Hawaiian goddess. Some feel this rule applies to all the islands.

## HAWAIIANS

Keep in mind, you are only "Hawaiian" if you are of Native Hawaiian blood. You are not truly "Hawaiian" if you live in Hawai'i, grew up in Hawai'i, or even if you were born in Hawai'i. If you aren't already aware, Hawai'i was a sovereign nation until a group of white settlers seized control of the islands in 1893. The Native Hawaiian queen yielded her throne under protest to avoid bloodshed for her people. In 1898, Hawai'i was annexed as a U.S. territory despite protests from thousands of Hawaiians. In 1941, Hawai'i became a state. There is contention about the legality of this process. There is also disagreement amongst Native Hawaiians about how they should be recognized by the U.S. government and what retributions they should receive from the U.S. government. It is a complicated, contentious issue. You should probably read more about it and talk to many different Native Hawaiians before voicing an opinion on the matter. Even then, you risk offending others because this issue is so sensitive in Hawai'i.

Although white settlers pressured Hawaiians to suppress their culture for decades, a Hawaiian cultural renaissance started in the 1970's. Now, more and more people actually speak the Hawaiian language and make efforts to perpetuate the culture. There are private

schools and scholarships specifically for children of Native Hawaiian blood and homesteads set aside for Native Hawaiian families. There are Native Hawaiian fairs, cultural places and holidays. Give yourself a great gift and learn about this beautiful culture by taking a hula class, listening to Hawaiian music or visiting a heiau.

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# Language

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## HAWAIIAN

Pronouncing Hawaiian is fairly easy once you get the hang of it. There are some more advanced considerations, but to get you started, focus on the vowels. Pronounce vowels as follows:

- a - a in above; e - e in bet; i - ee in see; o - o in sole; u - oo in moon.
- stress rising diphthongs (ae, ai, ao, au, oi, ou, eu, ei) on the first letter and end with a short e, i, o or u e.g., oi sounds like oy in boy, ending with a short "i".

A Hui Hou - Until we meet again  
Aina - Land, earth  
Akamai - Clever, smart  
Aloha - Hello, good-by, or an expression of affection  
E Komo Mai - Welcome  
Haole - A white person (traditionally means foreigner)  
Heiau - Pre-Christian temple or place of worship  
Kai - The sea  
Kamaaina - Native born  
Kane - A man or boy  
Kapu - Sacred, taboo, forbidden, no trespassing  
Keiki - Child, offspring, or children  
Kokua - Help or give assistance  
Lanai - A porch, patio, or balcony  
Mahalo - Thanks, gratitude  
Makai - Ocean, used to mean "toward the ocean"  
Malama - To take care of  
Mauka - Toward the mountains  
Ohana - Family or relative  
Ono - Delicious or tasty, and also a large mackerel type of fish  
Pau - Finished, ended, all done  
Pupu - Snacks or appetizers  
Wahine - Woman, lady

## PIDGIN ENGLISH

In Hawai'i, there is a local dialect of English called Pidgin. Unless fluent, one should not attempt to speak Pidgin English as you can embarrass yourself and possibly irritate others. It is the equivalent of trying to speak with any other regional U.S. accent (such as a Southern accent), thus mocking the local person's way of speaking. Do not assume that someone speaking Pidgin is ignorant or uneducated. Most locals are actually bilingual in a sense that they speak both Standard English and Pidgin. The University of Hawai'i even offers classes about Pidgin.

Pidgin use varies by location but follows the grammatical rules of the Hawaiian language. While mostly derived from English, the vocabulary includes Hawaiian, Japanese and Filipino influences, among others.

Braddah/Brah - Brother; Bro.

Brok' Da Mout - Tastes really delicious; yummy grinds!

Bumbye - When we get around to it; after a little while.

Choke - Meaning "a lot of something"; many; a large amount.

Da' Kine - A whatchamacallit; "you know what I mean?".

Dat - That.

'Ey! - Attention getter, (yell).

Grind - To eat like there's no tomorrow.

Howzit? -What's happening? How's it going?

Junk - Not good; lousy; rotten.

K'Den - OK then; Agreed.

Like Beef? - You want to fight?

Lolo - Stupid or crazy

Mo' Bettah - Real good; great idea. "Mo' Bubbles is Mo' Bettah!"

Talk Stink - Speaking bad about someone.

Try Move - (Please) move out of the way.

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# Things to Do With the Family

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## Honolulu Zoo

There are many exhibits at the Honolulu Zoo that will provide entertainment, including the Children's Zoo. Be sure to visit Rusty the Orangutan as well as the African Sahara exhibits.

Location: 151 Kapahulu Avenue, Honolulu

Tel: 808-926-3191

Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily (closed on Christmas Day)

Tickets: (Kama'aina/Military) Adult \$6.00

Child Ticket Price (ages 4-12): \$3.00

Parking: Entrance is located on Kapahulu Avenue and is metered. Free parking can be found in the Waikiki Shell parking lot which is across the street on Monsarrat Avenue.

Website: [www.honolulu zoo.org](http://www.honolulu zoo.org)

## Twilight Tours at the Honolulu Zoo

Tour the zoo during the evening for a whole different take on animal life.

Location: Honolulu Zoo

Tel: 808-926-3191

Hours: Fridays and Saturdays from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Meet at front entrance at 5:15 p.m.

Tickets: Adult - \$14

Children 4-12 - \$10

Parking: Park in the Honolulu Zoo parking lot (see above)

Website: [www.honolulu zoo.org](http://www.honolulu zoo.org)

## Sea Life Park

Sea Life Park is a beautiful, fifteen minute drive from Waikiki. At Sea Life Park the children will be able to see marine life both below and above water. Getting wet is voluntary.

Location: 41-202 Kalaniana'ole Highway #7, Waimanalo

Driving Directions: Travel Eastbound along H1, eventually the Highway will turn into Kalaniana'ole Highway and will continue through residential Hawai'i Kai and then a more rural area. Continue driving along the coast past Hanauma Bay, the Blow Hole and Sandy Beach. Sea Life Park is located on the left hand side soon after Makapuu Point. The entrance is across from the entrance to Makapuu Beach Park.

Tel: 808-259-2500

Hours: Open daily. 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tickets: Adult - \$29

Kama'aina Adult \$21

Children 3-12 \$14

Parking: Free at the Sea Life Park parking lot.

Website: [www.sealifeparkhawaii.com](http://www.sealifeparkhawaii.com)

## Wet n' Wild Hawai'i

Wet n' Wild Hawai'i is a fun water slide park located on the west side of the island.

Location: 400 Farrington Highway, Kapolei

Driving Directions: The site is on the mountain or mauka side of H-1 on Farrington Highway, approximately 35 minutes west of Waikiki. Take exit 1 (Campbell Industrial Park, Barbers Point Harbor) off the H-1 highway and follow the signs.

Tel: 808-674-9283

Hours: Open daily. Hours vary by season, but generally at least 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Tickets: Adult (12 and older) \$41.99 plus tax

Children (ages 3-11) \$31.99 plus tax

Children under two are free.

Check the park website for promotional pricing. Discounted tickets are available at military ticket offices.

Parking: There is plenty of free parking on site.

Website: <http://hawaii.mywetnwild.com/>

## Children's Discovery Center

The Hawai'i Children's Discovery Center provides a world-class, interactive, participatory learning environment designed to inspire the young and "young-at-heart" to new heights of learning and discovery. The Center provides an environment that encourages children to use their senses of touch, sight, hearing and smell to gain a better understanding of the world around them.

Location: 111 Ohe Street, Honolulu.

Directions: From Ala Moana Boulevard, turn onto Cooke Street heading towards the ocean. Cooke Street will take you into a parking lot across the street from the Discovery Center. If you are on Ward Ave., turn left onto Ahui St. and then make a right onto Olomehani St. The Center is located by Kakaako Waterfront Park.

Tel: 808-524-5437

Hours: Tuesday through Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday: 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Closed on Mondays.

Half days on Labor Day, Christmas Eve and New Years

Closed on Easter, Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Years and any holiday except for Labor Day that falls on a Monday. The Center also closes annually for two weeks following Labor Day.

Tickets: Adults and Children (Kama'aina and Military) \$8.00

Parking: Parking is free and located in the Kakaako Waterfront Park parking lot

Website: <http://www.discoverycenterhawaii.org/>

## Dole Plantation

The pineapple plantation offers a variety of attractions including the [Pineapple Express](#), the [Plantation Garden Tour](#) and the World's Largest Maze.

Location: 64-1550 Kamehameha Highway, Wahiawa

Driving Directions: Take H1 West to H2 North and continue onto Kamehameha Highway. Dole Plantation will be on the right.

Tel: 808-621-8408

Hours: Visitor Center opens daily from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Activities open daily from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Closed on Christmas Day.

Tickets: Pineapple Maze: Adults \$ 6.00

Kama'aina/Military Adults: \$5.00

Children (4-12) \$ 4.00

Train Tickets: Adults \$ 7.75

Kama'aina/Military Adults: \$7.00

Children (4-12) \$ 5.75

Parking: Free on site.

Website: [www.dole-plantation.com](http://www.dole-plantation.com)

## Bishop Museum

Children can visit the planetarium or any one of the permanent or temporary exhibits.

Location: 1525 Bernice Street, Honolulu

Tel: 808-847-3511

Hours: Open Wednesday to Monday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Closed on Tuesdays and Christmas Day.

Tickets: Adults \$7.95

Kama'aina/Military Adults: \$8.95

Children (4-12) \$7.95

Parking: Free on site.

Website: [www.bishopmuseum.org](http://www.bishopmuseum.org)

## Waikiki Aquarium

Children will be able to see an amazing variety of marine life from the tropical Pacific and Hawai'i.

Location: 2777 Kalakaua Ave, Waikiki. The Aquarium is located in Kapiolani Park.

Tel: 808-923-9741

Hours: Open daily, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Closed on Christmas. Special hours on Thanksgiving, New Years Day and some Thursdays during summer.

Tickets: Adults \$9.00

Kama'aina/Military Adults: \$6.00

Youth (13-17) \$4.00

Children (5-12) \$2.00

Parking: Street parking. Also available is the Waikiki Shell free parking (see Zoo).

Website: <http://www.waquarium.org/>

## Fun Factory

Children can play the latest and most popular video games, win tickets and select a prize.

### Market City Shopping Center

Location: 2919 Kapiolani Blvd, Honolulu

Tel: 808-735-4041

Hours: Sunday - Thursday 10 a.m. – 10 p.m.

Fridays and Saturdays 10 a.m. – Midnight

Holiday Eves & School Vacations: 10 a.m. – Midnight

### Pearlridge Center

Location: 98-1005 Moanalua Road, Aiea

Tel: 808-487-2449

Hours: Sunday - Thursday 10 a.m. – 10 p.m.

Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. - Midnight

Holiday Eves & School Vacations: 10 a.m. - Midnight

### Kamehameha Shopping Center

Location: 1620 N. School St, Honolulu

Tel: 808-847-6611

Hours: Sunday - Thursday 10 a.m. – 10 p.m.

Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. - Midnight

Holiday Eves & School Vacations: 10 a.m. - Midnight

### Kapolei Marketplace

Location: 590 Farrington Highway, Unit #27, Kapolei

Tel: 808-674-2166

Hours: Sunday to Thursday – 10:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Friday and Saturday 10:00 a.m. – Midnight

Holiday Eves & School Vacations: 10:00 a.m. – Midnight

### Town Center of Mililani

Location: 95-1249 Meheula Pkwy, Mililani

Tel: 808-623-4383

Hours: Sunday to Thursday – 10:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Friday and Saturday 10:00 a.m. – Midnight

Holiday Eves & School Vacations: 10:00 a.m. – Midnight

Tickets: How much you spend here may vary greatly. It is better if you call the store for more information or visit their website.

Website: [www.funfactorygames.com](http://www.funfactorygames.com)

## Ice Palace

Kids can ice skate and/or entertain themselves in the arcade room.

Location: 4510 Salt Lake Blvd, Honolulu

Tel: 808-487-9921

Hours: Hours and times may change due to holidays, school breaks or special events.

Please call ahead for specific dates and times.

Tickets: General Admission \$ 8.75. Includes skate rentals and applies to all ages.

Adults who are chaperoning children may enter for free if they are not planning on skating themselves.

Website: [www.icepalacehawaii.com](http://www.icepalacehawaii.com)

## Jungle River Miniature Golf

It should take only about 45 minutes to play all 18 holes of golf at this jungle themed golf course. After the game of golf, kids can step into the “actual” jungle complete with fog, tar pit, animal bones, and even Jackson’s chameleons.

Location: 98-1101 Moanalua Road, Aiea

Tip: At Pearlridge Shopping Center next to Toys R Us

Tel: 808-488-8808

Hours: Sunday – Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Friday and Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Closed on Thanksgiving and Christmas

Cosmic Golf on Friday and Saturday evenings after sunset

Tickets: Regular Mini Golf: \$8.00 - all ages.

Cosmic Mini Golf: \$8.50 - all ages.

2 years & under FREE w/ a paid admission.

Check website for coupons and specials.

Website: [www.jungleriverminigolf.com](http://www.jungleriverminigolf.com)

## Glow Putt Miniature Golf

An indoor, glow-in-the-dark miniature golf course located in the Windward Mall.

Location: Windward Mall. 46-056 Kamehameha Highway, Kaneohe

Tel: 808-235-6600

Hours: Monday to Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Sunday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tickets: Adults: \$7.00

Children (Age 5 and Under) \$5.00

Military & Law Enforcement (With ID) \$6.00

Replays (Same Day) \$5.00

Website: [www.glowputtminigolf.com](http://www.glowputtminigolf.com)

## Aiea Bowl

This bowling alley is popular for its night life. However, it’s still open during the day for some good old fashion bowling.

Location: Aiea Heights Shopping Center.

99-115 Aiea Heights Drive, Aiea

Tel: 808-488-6854

Hours: Check website or call as schedule changes frequently.

Tickets: Two games and a shoe rental come out to about \$10.00 each person. Website often has promotions. Remember to bring socks!

Website: [www.aieabowl.com](http://www.aieabowl.com)

## Sunset on the Beach

Catch a free movie in Waikiki! It’s shown on a giant thirty foot screen!

Location: Queen’s surf on Waikiki Beach and across from the Honolulu Zoo.

Tel: No telephone number available.

Hours: Occasional Saturday and Sundays, usually around 7:00 pm or at sunset. There are usually musicians playing and food vendors two hours before the movie begins. Check the website for a schedule.

Tickets: Free!!!!

Parking: Free parking at the Waikiki Shell, and metered parking at the Honolulu Zoo.

Website: [www.sunsetonthebeach.net](http://www.sunsetonthebeach.net)

## Ohana Tours

Before it was known as one of the top tourist destinations throughout the world, Honolulu had already experienced a rich and dynamic history. From the native Hawai'ian lifestyle to oppressive colonialism to towering sky scrapers, Honolulu has endured it all. They will treat you to a two hour, guided walking tour of Honolulu's premier downtown landmarks and attractions. Locals and tourists alike will enjoy the sites with expert tour guides, whose credentials include a graduate level of knowledge about Hawai'i's past and current issues. So bring your walking shoes, bottle of water and an open mind.

Location: Meet official tour guide who wears T-shirt with Ohana Tours logo at King Kamehameha statue, 417 S King St., Honolulu.

Tel: 1 (866) 204-7331

Hours: most Saturday and Sunday mornings from 9am-11am- check the website!

Tickets: Check website.

Parking: The best and closest parking structure is Alii Place, 1099 Alakea Street.

However there are plenty of other parking structures and metered parking in the area.

Website: [www.ohanatours.org](http://www.ohanatours.org)

## MORE IDEAS: MUSEUMS

### Iolani Palace Kama'aina Sundays

Visit Iolani Palace for free! Once a month, usually on the first Sunday of the month (but subject to change), the palace offers complimentary tickets free of charge for Hawai'i residents. Palace guided tours are offered every 15 minutes between the hours of 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Tickets are distributed on a first come, first served basis.

Location: 364 South King Street on the corner of King Street and Richard Street

Tel: 808-522-0822

Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Tickets: Free on Kama'aina Sundays with Hawai'i ID.

Parking: Limited metered parking on the grounds and on nearby streets. However, please be aware that parking on many nearby streets is limited to a certain amount of time and prohibited during morning and afternoon rush hours. Violators may be subject to ticketing and towing.

Website: [www.iolanipalace.org](http://www.iolanipalace.org)

## Honolulu Academy of Arts

Take in some art at the Honolulu Academy of Art. There are several exhibits with over 50,000 works from all over the world.

Location: 900 South Beretania Street, Honolulu

Driving Directions: On the H-1 freeway from Waikiki, take the Lunalilo St. exit and make a left at Ward Ave, and another left on Kinau Street. From downtown or the airport, take the Lusitana exit to Kinau Street.

Tel: 808-532-8700

Hours: Tues-Sat 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Sun 1:00 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Closed New Year's Day, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Tickets: Adults: \$10

Students, seniors, and military: \$5

Children 12 and under accompanied by an adult: Free

Free on the first Wednesday of the month and on the third Sunday of the month

**FREE FAMILY SUNDAY:** The Honolulu Academy of Arts' Free Sunday program sponsored by Bank of Hawai'i is on the third Sunday of the month. The doors are open free of charge from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. for all residents and visitors to browse at their leisure through Hawai'i's premier cultural institution. Between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. there will be free live entertainment, art projects for kids, gallery hunts, and artist demonstrations.

**FREE MILITARY APPRECIATION DAY:** First Sunday of every month free for military personnel and their families. Must show ID

Parking: The Honolulu Academy of Arts maintains two parking lots.

- Art Center lot: Mon-Sat 7 a.m. – 11 p.m., Sun 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

The fee is \$3 for every 4 hours with validation, or \$4 flat rate (evening) without validation or for parking beyond the validation period. Parking during member openings is free.

- 1035 Kinau Street Lot: (Diamond Head of the Admiral Thomas building) This lot is closed to the public during regular museum hours but is open and free during evening and weekend hours until 11 p.m.

The Art Center and Kinau Street lots are controlled by Diamond Parking, Inc.

Website: [www.honoluluacademy.org](http://www.honoluluacademy.org)

## Hawai'i State Art Museum

This museum has the largest collection of works by Hawai'i artists.

Location: 250 South Hotel Street, Second floor, Honolulu. Near Iolani Palace and the State Capitol Building.

Tel: 808-586-0900

Hours: Tuesday-Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.; closed Sunday, Monday and all State and Federal holidays. The museum is also open for First Friday, the downtown gallery walk held on the first Friday of every month, from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Tickets: FREE at all times.

Parking: There is no free parking available for the State Art Museum. You will have to find street parking, park at one of the public parking lots or in the metered parking spaces

in the Iolani Palace Parking Lot. More info about parking lots can be found on their website.

Website: [www.state.hi.us/sfca/](http://www.state.hi.us/sfca/)

## The Contemporary Museum

The exhibitions of this museum are planned to achieve a balance between media, geographic origin, aesthetic points of view, established and emerging artists, as well as exhibitions originated by the Museum and those on loan or traveling. Video is also presented on a regular basis.

Location: 2411 Makiki Heights Drive, Honolulu

Driving Directions: Drive mauka (toward the mountains) along Punahou Street. Turn left on Nehoa Street then a right on Makiki Street. When the road forks, take the left onto Makiki Heights Drive and follow the road up the hill (about a mile). You will see the museum sign on the right and as you turn the corner; the museum entrance will be on your right.

Tel: 808-526-1322

Hours: Tuesday – Saturday: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: Noon – 4:00 p.m.

Closed Mondays & major holidays

Tickets: Adults; \$8

Seniors & Students w/ valid ID: \$6

Children 12 & under: Free

FREE to the public on the third Thursday of each month.

Parking: Parking is free in the TCM parking lot.

Website: [www.tcmhi.org](http://www.tcmhi.org)

## Mission Houses Museum

The museum features three restored houses that provide a unique glimpse into 19th century Hawai'i. There is also an orientation Center, a shop and the Winterbourne Tea Room. This Museum strives to promote cross-cultural understanding of Hawai'i's history, both past and present, and thus it places great emphasis on incorporating contemporary elements into nearly all of its exhibitions. This might be a more serious outing, so the patience and attention span of the children should be considered.

Location: 553 South King Street, Honolulu

Driving Directions: From H-1 Exit onto Punchbowl. Turn left onto King Street. Turn right onto Kawaiaha'o Street.

Tel: 808 531 0481

Hours: Tuesday to Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Tickets: House Tour Admission - Tuesday - Saturday, 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m. & 2:45 p.m.

General: \$10

Kama'aina, Sr. Citizens (55+) & Military -- \$8

Students (6 years - college): \$6

Exhibition Admission for the general public: \$6

Kama'aina Day Admission: Last Saturday of each month, half off for Kama'aina

Parking: There is metered parking available on Kawaiaha‘o Street and South Street. Also, space is available at the Kawaiaha‘o Plaza parking garage located directly behind the museum.

Website: [www.missionhouses.org](http://www.missionhouses.org)

## BOTANICAL GARDENS

There are five distinct gardens forming a unique garden system. The five gardens are located in different ecological settings around the island of Oahu. They offer visitors year-round opportunities to explore unique and diverse plant collections. These gardens are a good place to bring the children for a peaceful walk or picnic while they socialize.

Tel: (all gardens) 808-522-7060

Tickets: Admission is free, except at Foster Botanical Garden.

Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Closed: Christmas Day and New Years Day

Website: [www.honolulu.gov/parks/hbg](http://www.honolulu.gov/parks/hbg)

### Foster Botanical Garden

The advantage of Foster is that it is in downtown Honolulu, so if tree watching becomes too tedious there are other things you can do and you aren't a very long drive away.

Location: 50 N. Vineyard Blvd, Honolulu

Tickets: General (13 years and older): \$5.00

Residents of Hawai'i, 13 years and older with an ID: \$3.00

Child 6-12 years old: \$1.00

Children 5 and under: free

### Hoomaluhia Botanical Garden

Located on the Windward side, the plants here are mostly tropical because of the wet nature of this part of the island. Keep in mind that still water breeds mosquitoes, so mosquito block is probably a good thing to bring.

Location: 47-771 Luluku Road, Kaneohe

Driving Directions: The easiest way to find it would be to go through the Likelike Tunnel towards Kaneohe. From Likelike Highway; turn right onto Kamehameha highway. The first right should be Luluku Road. You can follow Luluku to the end where the entrance to the gardens is. Otherwise you can turn right onto Anoi Road from Likelike, and then another right onto Luluku. The former is probably the longer way there, but you will be traveling along main roads.

### Koko Crater Botanical Garden

Located along the South Shore, the drive itself to this garden might make the visit all worth it. Once you are done exploring Koko Crater, cool off at Sandy Beach or any other of the many beaches in the area. Also, you need to keep in mind that there are no paved

trails or facilities at the Crater, so use the restrooms at the beach park before you begin the hike.

Location: Inside Koko Crater

Parking: Parking available inside Koko Crater at the start of the trails.

## Liliuokalani Botanical Gardens

This is another garden that is located in town. It is small, so it probably won't consume a large part of the day. Liliuokalani Botanical is perfect for picnics especially as Nuuanu Stream flows through it.

Location: North Kuakini Street, Honolulu

## Wahiawa Botanical Garden

This is a garden has a large collection of Hawai'ian Palms and Native plants. This garden was initially started as an experimental garden, located along a forested ravine; it houses plants that live in a tropical rainforest.

Location: 1396 California Avenue, Wahiawa

## MORE PARKS

### Waimea Valley

This park offers a short, paved hike through a beautiful valley to a waterfall. Waimea Valley was a Native Hawai'ian settlement and continues to be considered a sacred place for Native Hawai'ians. Children can learn about Native Hawai'ian history and native plants. There are free daily activities including instruction on lei making, coconut frond weaving, hula and ancient Hawai'ian games. A good perk of coming to Waimea Falls is that you are already right across the street from Waimea Beach. Just be sure to observe and obey all the warning signs posted as waves at Waimea Beach can be very powerful during the winter season.

Location: 59-864 Kamehameha Highway, Haleiwa

Driving Directions: To get onto Kamehameha Highway from the H1 freeway, you take H1 West and exit on the H2 freeway north (exit 8A). When H2 ends, you will be on Kamehameha Highway. At Haleiwa bear right at Highway 83. Take Highway 83 eastbound. Five miles from Haleiwa Town on the right is the entrance for Waimea Valley Park.

Tel: 808-638-7766

Hours: Open daily 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The park is closed on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.

Tickets: Adults \$10.00

Children (4-12) \$5.00

Seniors (60+) \$5.00

Kama`aina Adults \$6.00

Kama`aina Children and Seniors \$3.00

Military Adults \$6.00

Military Children and Seniors \$3.00

Website: [www.waimeavalley.net](http://www.waimeavalley.net)

## Friendship Gardens:

This little known botanical garden allows for great views of Kaneohe. There are one kilometer of non-strenuous hiking trails to guide you through the garden.

Location: Kokokahi Place, Kaneohe

The park is located opposite of Kokokahi YWCA along Kaneohe Bay Drive in Kaneohe.

Tel: There is no telephone available

Hours: During daylight hours

Tickets: Free!

Website: <http://www.friendshipgarden.org/>

## Diamond Head State Monument

The view from the top of Diamond Head is well worth the hike up there. The hike is semi-strenuous with many long flights of steep stairs to climb. Allow 1.5 to 2 hours for a safe, leisurely round-trip hike.

Location: Off Diamond Head Road Between Makapu'u Avenue and 18th Avenue, Honolulu.

Tel: 808-587-0300

Hours: 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Tickets: The state charges \$1.00 a person for walk-ins and \$5.00 for a private vehicle.

Website: [www.hawaiistateparks.org](http://www.hawaiistateparks.org)

## Hawai'i Nature Center

The Hawai'i Nature Center provides an easy hiking trail through Makiki Valley, as well as some interesting exhibits for the kids.

Location: 2131 Makiki Heights Drive, Honolulu

It's way in the back of Makiki Valley.

Tel: 808-244-6500

Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Closed on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's

Check out the HNC website for a calendar of special nature-oriented events.

Website: [www.hawaiinaturecenter.org](http://www.hawaiinaturecenter.org)

## MORE HIKING TRAILS

The following are just a few of the more family-friendly hikes on Oahu. You are encouraged to use the Internet or library to find out as much as possible about a hike

before you go on it. Hawai'i State Parks is the best bet if you have any questions regarding safety or locations. 808-587-0300 [www.Hawaii'stateparks.org](http://www.Hawaii'stateparks.org)

Know your fitness level and that of your companions. Always carry a cellular phone, a basic first aid kit and water and make sure everyone has proper footwear. A flashlight, rain gear, signal mirror, nylon cord, knife, sunscreen, mosquito repellent and food can also be useful things to carry. Be sure to check the weather forecasts to make sure that conditions are appropriate for hiking. Be aware that stream, pond and waterfall water could contain leptospirosis or other disease causing bacteria so never drink from them. Be aware that leptospirosis can also enter the body through broken skin or the eyes and mouth. Never dive or jump into swimming holes or waterfalls as it can be difficult to judge depth and hidden, underwater hazards. Inform a friend of your route and your expected time of return. STAY ON THE TRAIL. Don't litter; pack out what you pack in.

### **AIEA LOOP TRAIL / KEAIWA HEIAU STATE PARK**

Length: 4.5 miles loop

Difficulty: Easy

Type of hike: Forest loop

Locale: Aiea

Hazards: Steep drop-offs at the edge of the trail in some areas.

Hike directions: Take H1 west bound. H1 will run into Highway 78. Get off Highway 78 at the "Aiea" turnoff on Moanalua Road. Turn right on Aiea Heights Drive. Drive into the keaiwa Heiau State Park. This is a beginner trail which starts at the top of Aiea Heights Drive. At the top of the drive is a park. After entering the park the road splits into a one way loop. Park at the first parking area after the split. The Aiea Loop Trail starts at this point.

Hike description: A family level loop trail through Guava and Norfolk pines. The trail makes a 4-1/2 mile loop around a graded ridge. There are some great views of Halawa Valley and the H-3 tunnels. This trail is also used by mountain bikers so be careful around blind corners. About two-thirds of the way around clockwise, there are remains of a WWII airplane crash to the right of the trail down a small gully. The hiking time is 2 - 2 1/2 hours.

### **KA'ENA POINT**

Length: 4 miles round trip if you turn around at the light house.

Difficulty: Easy to the light house. If you continue around the point to the west side, the trail becomes moderate in difficulty.

Type of hike: Shoreline. No elevation gain.

Locale: Northwest shore

Directions to the hike: Take H1 west bound. Take H2 north. H2 will dead-end at Kaukonahua Road. Follow signs toward Mokuleia (will be towards the West). This will dead-end at the Ka'ena Point Trail.

Hike description: Follow the dirt roadway for 2.5 miles. The trail traverses a broad, relatively flat coastal plain marked by a raised limestone reef and sand dunes. Once you reached the lighthouse at the point, you will feel like you have reached the end of the world. The sand dunes and sunsets can be spectacular at Ka'ena Point, but please be respectful of the Hawai'ian ancestral significance of this area. Ka'ena Point was the "jumping off" site for souls departing this life according to Hawai'ian folklore. This is a Natural Area Reserve so please take care to avoid damaging native flora and watch for nesting seabirds, of which some make burrow nests. Waves and currents can be strong and unpredictable at the point so swimming is not advised.

NO DOGS ALLOWED IN KA'ENA POINT NATURAL AREA RESERVE.

## MAKAPU'U POINT LIGHTHOUSE TRAIL

Length: 2 miles round trip

Difficulty: Easy if you turn around at the view point above the lighthouse.

Type of hike: Hot, dry hillside, partly paved. 500 ft. elevation

Locale: Makapu'u

Directions to the hike: The park and trailhead are located off of the Kalaniana'ole Highway (Hwy. 72) at the most southeastern point of Oahu. From Honolulu, take the H1 freeway east until it becomes Highway 72. Follow the road beyond Hawai'i Kai, Hanauma Bay and Sandy Beach Park until you reach the park area adjacent to the highway. From the windward side, take the Kalaniana'ole Highway (Hwy. 72) southeast beyond Kailua, Waimanalo, and Makapu'u Beach Park, after which the road climbs up toward Makapu'u Head. The park will be on the left side of the highway.

Hike description: A parking area offers access to the trailhead. Follow the trail as it climbs up the western side of the ridge. Upon reaching the top of the ridge (about the halfway point), the trail switches back to the north, following the eastern side of the ridge. At this point it levels out somewhat, but still climbs gradually to the summit, where a pair of railed lookouts offer panoramic vistas. To return, retrace your route.

The trail offers outstanding views of O'ahu's southeastern coastline. From the trail's destination at Makapu'u Head, one is rewarded with magnificent views of the windward coast and offshore islets, as well as the historic red-roofed Makapu'u Lighthouse built in 1909 (the lighthouse itself is off-limits). On a clear day, you may even see Moloka'i and Lana'i. The offshore islets are wildlife sanctuaries for Hawai'ian seabirds. This trail is an excellent place to view migrating humpback whales in season (November-May).

Binoculars are suggested for viewing the whales and seabirds.

## KAPA'ELE'ELE TRAIL

Trail Length: 1.2 mi. (round trip)

Difficulty: Easy to Moderate

Type of Hike: Forested and open slopes. 130 ft. elevation gain

Locale: Near Kahana Bay

Directions to hike: From Honolulu, follow Likelike Highway (Route 83) or H-3 over the Ko'olau Mountains and take the Kahekili Highway cut-off. Kahekili becomes

Kamehameha Highway (Route 830). Go through Ka‘a‘awa town and the entry to Kahana State Park is in the coconut grove near the center of Kahana Bay.

Hike description: This trail consists of a 1.2 mile loop on the mountain slope along the western side of Kahana Bay. Park at the Orientation Center and the trail begins on the dirt road by the parking lot. This road corresponds to the former railroad bed for the Ko‘olau Railway that hauled sugar cane grown in Kahana to the Kahuku sugar mill in the late 1800's. From the roadway, the trail climbs a gradual slope to an elevation of 150 feet. The side trail to the kilo site is not signed, but is marked by a grove of ironwoods trees on the upslope side of the trail just past the ko‘a. From this point, the trail drops back down to Kamehameha Highway. This section of the trail is very steep and can be slippery. Follow the highway back to the park entry. This trail offers stunning views of Kahana Bay, Huilua Fishpond and passes two important cultural sites related to fishing in the bay, Kapa‘ele‘ele Ko‘a (fishing shrine) and Keaniani Kilo (lookout). Take the time to sit on the park bench along the trail to enjoy the view. Look across the bay for the rock walls of Huilua Fishpond. Built by Hawai‘ians in the late 1600s, these walls enclose 7 acres of ocean where fish were raised and harvested.

Allow about an hour for the hike.

## MANOA FALLS

Length: 2 miles round trip

Difficulty: easy

Type of hike: Shaded valley hike through tropical rainforest to a waterfall. 600 ft. elevation gain.

Locale: Manoa

Directions to hike: From the H-1, take Exit 23 and turn towards the mountains onto Punahou Street. Punahou Street will become Manoa Road. Drive to the end of Manoa Road past the Lyons Arboretum. Note that Manoa Road splits into Manoa Road and East Manoa Road; stay to the left on Manoa Road at that split. Park (you will probably have to pay an attendant) and cross the foot bridge to the trailhead.

Hike description: An easy stream hike for the family along Manoa Stream leading to a high waterfall. Allow 1.5 hours for the hike.

## MAUNAWILI FALLS

Length: 5 miles round trip

Difficulty: easy

Terrain: Stream, ridge, stream

Location: Maunawili Valley

Directions to trailhead: Take the Pali Highway over the mountains to the Windward side. Turn right onto `Auloa Road after Kamehameha Hwy. At the fork, stay to the left on Maunawili Road. Follow the signs to Maunawili Falls.

Hike description: From trailhead, take trail to 1st stream crossing (right side); cross and follow trail which parallels stream. Go past 10 feet high Torch Ginger to 2nd stream crossing (left side). Cross and continue on cobbled trail to 3rd stream crossing (right side). Cross and follow trail (left) along stream. Note sign marking beginning of State trail (0.7 miles). Continue on trail, turn right to ascend hillside to ridge top on rustic steps. Continue left on ridge to trail sign on left pointing down hillside. Continue down rustic

steps to stream bed. Follow main stream towards Bamboo grove and beyond to Maunawili Expect to get muddy stream crossing and on the trail. Falls with 60-80 feet diameter swimming hole. The path is well worn and is usually easy to follow. Approximate time one way is one hour. Return in reverse order.

## LANIKAI PILLBOXES (A.K.A. KA'IWA TRAIL)

Length: 2 Miles Roundtrip

Difficulty: Starts off medium and then becomes easier.

Terrain: Open, dry ridge line. 600 ft. elevation gain.

Location: Kailua

Directions to Trailhead: From the Pali Highway, continue straight onto Kailua Road into Kailua. Continue through Kailua town (road turns into Ku`ulei) until you reach a T-intersection at a traffic light. Turn right on Kalaheo Road, continuing past Kailua Beach Park, where the road` turns into Kawailoa. Heading into Lanikai, follow the right fork onto Aalapapa Dr., and take a right onto Kaelepulu Drive. When you reach Mid Pacific Country Club (on the right), park in the turnout on the right side of the road, taking note of the No Parking areas. Across the street you will see a dirt trail running along a fence. This is Trailhead. The first part of the trail is very steep and slippery. The first five minutes are the hardest part. Don't attempt it during or after a rainstorm.

Hike Description: The trail climbs up the ridge behind Lanikai on the Windward side of Oahu. It traverses through native and introduced coastal vegetation and ends at the first WWII bunker. The trail receives minimal maintenance from the State of Hawai'i. Hikers are advised to watch their step and not to climb the bunkers. Trail offers 360 degree views of Kailua, the Mokalua Islands and the Ko`olau Mountains. Allow one hour roundtrip.