

## THINGS TO DO ON OAHU

### **Polynesian Cultural Center**

At the 42-acre Polynesian Cultural Center, immerse yourself in the customs of the real Polynesia as natives demonstrate the arts of dancing with fire, making jewelry from plants, climbing 50-foot trees in bare feet and more with the new "Go Native!" activities. You can also take a leisurely canoe ride through the Center, learn Tongan spear throwing, do the Haka war dance of New Zealand, swim with hundreds

### **Pearl Harbor**

One of the most popular landmarks in Hawaii, Pearl Harbor is the largest natural harbor in the state and also the only naval base in the United States to have the distinction to be recognized as a National Historical Landmark. Pearl Harbor offers visitors a variety of ways to learn about the history and the events of the past. To honor this history, this historical landmark has been preserved with four museums which include an emotionally touching memorial, a battleship which saw the tides of war and the beginnings of peace, a fully restored World War II submarine, and an aviation museum complete with fighter planes and flight simulators.,

### **Hanauma Bay**

Hanauma Bay Nature Preserve, one of the most spectacular natural resources in Hawaii, is reaping the benefits of over a decade of moves to re-establish its pristine marine ecosystem. Since 1990, it has been restored and maintained to accommodate about three million visitors who visit this ever popular site every year. Get educated about the wide variety of marine and aquatic animals that make this bay their home, all the while you have some fun in the sun at this beautiful island treasure!

### **Sea Life Park**

At the Sea Life Park, Hawaii's marine life comes alive in a dazzling display that will entertain and delight. Located just 15 miles from Waikiki on Oahu's beautiful and scenic Makapuu Point, Sea Life Park is a world-class marine attraction perched between the majestic Koolau Mountain Range and breathtaking Makapuu Beach. See dolphins dance, sea lions sing and penguins perform in this magical place.

### **Honolulu City Tour**

You'll visit Punchbowl Crater, home of the National Cemetery of the Pacific and into the downtown area for a look at the State Capital and Washington Place, former home to Hawaiian Royalty and Hawaii's Governors. A stop at the state landmark, the King Kamehameha Statue, will be made, allowing for photo opportunities. View the only royal palace on American soil – Iolani Palace; Kawaiahaeo Church – where services are still held in the native Hawaiian language; and the Mission Houses. A drive through the colorful Chinatown district completes this informative day.

**Kualoa Ranch:** Since the time of the Ancient Hawaiians, Kualoa Ranch has been one of the most sacred places on Oahu. Learn about its rich history and experience all of the natural beauty which flourishes in this amazing locale. The two major areas of the ranch, the northern half which includes Ka'a'awa Valley, is the site of most of the movie locations, and the southern half includes Hakipu'u Valley, is home to the 800 year-old Moli'i fishpond and Secret Island. Both areas are unbelievably beautiful and absolutely unforgettable! Enjoy a day of fun-filled and exciting which will leave you with cherished memories of a unique and wonderful Hawaiian adventure. Both areas are unbelievably beautiful and absolutely unforgettable! Enjoy a day of fun-filled and exciting which will leave you with cherished memories of a unique and wonderful Hawaiian adventure.

### **Pacific Aviation Museum**

Located within former WWII airplane hangars on Pearl Harbor's Ford Island, the recently opened Pacific Aviation Museum preserves the history of Hawaii's Pacific Aviation during this rich era of American History. Be prepared to learn everything you ever wanted to know about this aviation history of this era as you peruse through this incredibly immersive aviation museum complete with interactive simulators and exhibits showcasing authentic WWII fighter planes and bombers.

### **Banzai Pipeline**

Sit back on the pristine beaches of Oahu's North Shore and watch the surfing experts tackle the merciless waves of the Banzai Pipeline which break over shallow reefs just 50 to 100 yards offshore. The monstrous waves of Pipeline make this one of the most dangerous surf spots in the world, but also the most dynamic to watch. Let the pros tackle the surf as one of our many sightseeing tours take you to see the sport of Hawaii's Kings!

### **Diamond Head**

One of the most recognizable landmarks in all of Hawaii, the iconic silhouette of Diamond Head is highlighted along the skyline just beyond Waikiki. Called Leahi (brow of the tuna) by ancient Hawaiians, it was named Diamond Head by 19th century British sailors who thought they discovered diamonds on the crater's slopes. These "diamonds" were actually shiny calcite crystals that were in fact, worthless. Formed more than 100,000 years ago, the crater was used as a strategic military lookout beginning in the early 1900's and was named a National Natural Landmark in 1968. Today, this 760-foot volcanic crater is a popular hiking destination, as thousands of visitors and local residents hike to the summit every year to bask in the panoramic views of Waikiki and Oahu's south shore.

### **Punchbowl Cemetery**

A great memorial and a place of rest for many soldiers, the National Cemetery of the Pacific - Punchbowl Cemetery is located in the area that ancient Hawaiians referred to as the "Hill of Sacrifice." 776 men and women that were protecting Pearl Harbor at the time of its bombing were buried here first while other Pacific Islanders that sacrificed their lives were added throughout the years. Anyone is more than welcome to come and visit, learn the rich history of the memorial, and pay your respects for those that give us inspiration and pride.

**Waikiki:** Waikiki, or "spouting water" in Hawaiian, was once the playground for Hawaiian royalty, and today it is a beautiful and lively gathering place for visitors from around the world. Home to the beautiful Waikiki Beach, Waikiki brims with world-class shopping, unforgettable entertainment and a rich historical culture. Enjoy a wide variety of tours and activities from an authentic luau, thrilling surfing lessons, and so much more!

**Pali Lookout:** From this steep precipice of the high cliffs of Nu'uauu, the views of the lush green Ko'olau Mountains are breathtaking and the Pali Lookout is a popular place for panoramic views and perfect picture taking opportunities. The wise old Hawaiian grandpas and grandmas tell us stories about how King Kamehameha won a war atop these treacherous cliffs and his victory in this epic battle was the unification of the Hawaiian Islands. Don't let your guide forget to mention the mysteries of the Nu'uauu area and the myths and legends that are vital to know while crossing this history-steeped mountain.

**Waimea Bay:** Waimea Bay is home to the beautifully preserved Waimea Audubon Society - Waimea Falls Park, and is also one of the greatest surf spots on the island. Surfers attest to the best winter surf with waves climbing upwards to over 30 feet while summer provides a much calmer shore break perfect for scuba diving and cliff jumping. As you head right across the street into the valley, Waimea Falls Park fills 1800 acres of verdant foliage, colorful Hawaiian flowers and thundering waterfalls. Enjoy cultural presentations, walking tours, hula shows and the cool pools below the waterfall which is perfect for swimming. Experience, imagine and be transported back to ancient Hawaii.

**Dole Plantation:** Enjoy "Hawaii's complete pineapple experience" at the Dole Plantation. Just a fruit stand in the early 1950's, it soon became a booming industry employing hundreds of local residents and processing thousands of pounds of pineapple every day! Still in operation today the Dole Plantation is a wonderful way to taste and experience the sweetness of Hawaii. You can even tackle the World's Largest Maze and take a ride on the fun Pineapple Express Train! Located on the Northern side of the island of Oahu, Dole Plantation is just a short drive to the old Haleiwa town and the world famous surfing beaches sporting the best waves.