

# HAWAII: Socials

(Note: This is only a sample tour)

*In 1778, Captain Cook accidentally discovered the islands and named them the Sandwich Islands in honor of the Earl of Sandwich. Whalers, adventurers, merchants all arrived to use the islands as pleasure ports. The first to settle were the missionaries who came to convert the "heathens" to Christianity. Today commercial, governmental and military jobs are the primary economic forces on the island of Oahu. Pearl Harbor is the hub of military installations. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard employs thousands while Tourism ranks as the second most important industry.*

**Day 1:** Depart for **Honolulu**, Hawaii. Transfer to your hotel. Remainder of day is free to relax.

**Day 2:** Enjoy the day and evening at the **Polynesian Cultural Center**. The Center is an idyllic setting for customs, arts crafts and sports that are the heritage of the South Seas region. Enjoy your evening Luau, a Polynesian traditional feast in which a pig and native vegetables are cooked using heated rocks in an underground oven. Polynesian entertainment adds flavor to the colorful proceedings.

**Day 3:** Coach transfer to **Pearl Harbour**. First visit is the USS Arizona. Look at the exhibits. You cannot help but be moved by the pictures you see and the memorial itself, and the fact that 2,403 people were killed that day. Visit to the **Pacific Aviation Museum**. See the hangers that housed the aircrafts and heroes of the War in the Pacific. Then to the **USS Battleship Missouri and the Encampment Program**. Sample life at sea staying overnight in the crew berths, store gear in the lockers, and eat Navy-style meals on the ship's mess deck. Participate in onboard activities that require communication and teamwork in a historical, hands-on environment.

**Day 4:** Disembark the **Missouri** and visit the **USS Bowfin**. Then transfer to the **Punch-bowl**, an extinct volcanic cone that is the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. This cemetery serves as a memorial to men and women who served in the United States Armed Forces. In ancient times Punchbowl was used as a site for human sacrifices. Later your coach will transfer you to hike either **Diamond Head or to Manoa Falls Trail**.

**Day 5:** Morning visit to **Iolani Palace**. Built in 1882, was the royal residence until the overthrow of Queen Liliuokalani in 1893. Also visit the Mission Houses Museums which consist of three storied missionary buildings, containing more than 20 million artifacts of Pacific history. Also see the Kawaiaha'o Church, made of 14,000 pound slabs of coral rock quarried from an offshore reef. Remainder of the day to discover Waikiki.

**Day 6:** Enjoy a stunning coastal drive to the **North Shore**, the famous surfing mecca of Hawaii. See Sunset Beach, the **Banzai Pipeline** and Waimea Bay, notable surfing spots. **Surfing** was invented in Hawaii hundreds of years ago by the native Hawaiians, and popularized around the world by Hawaiian Olympic swimming champion Duke Kahanamoku. See the Lanai Lookout and Halona Blow Hole, Sea Life Park Hawaii, Kualoa Ranch and Waimanalo Bay State Park. Enjoy a stop to snorkel the gorgeous waters. The North Shore is home to Haleiwa Town, the artistic and social hub of the North Shore with its own local style and ambiance. This quaint little plantation town has a wide variety of shops housed in plantation era buildings ranging from high end specialty shops to surf shops to galleries with authentic Hawaiian made goods. Time permitting, drive back to Waikiki via the inland route and stop at the Dole Plantation for a visit to the shop and a chance to learn some interesting facts about one of Hawaii's most popular tourist location.



**Day 7:** Today enjoy the Waikiki area. Wander into the mecca of outdoor carts, shops, and artisan stands and meet the local craftspeople at the International Marketplace. Walk down to the Royal Hawaiian Center on Kalakaua Avenue to shop or discover the Hawaiian culture. The center offers several cultural experiences including from videos on the history of the islands to regularly scheduled entertainment. Learn the traditional art of lei making and participate in a hula lesson. Tonight wander down Kalakaua Avenue to see the traditional torch lighting ceremony of 50 torches that occurs nightly at 6 pm.

**Day 8:** Helicopters, tanks, guns and vacant bunkers welcome you to the **U.S. Army Museum of Hawai'i**. The Museum that tells the military story of Hawai'i, from ancient times to the Gulf War and the War in Iraq. After your visit to the Museum board a **Catamaran** for a relaxing and delightful sail prior to transferred by coach to the airport for your flight home. Aloha to paradise.

## **TOUR INCLUSIONS**

- Return airfare Honolulu
- Transfers
  - o Return airport transfers
  - o 4 days coaching with stops according to itinerary
- 7 nights accommodation with private facilities
- 7 breakfasts
- 3 dinners
- Entrances
  - o Polynesian Cultural Center
  - o Luau
  - o Pearl Harbor
  - o USS Battleship Missouri and the Encampment Program
  - o USS Bowfin
  - o Punchbowl
  - o Entrance fee for Diamond Head hike
  - o Entrance to Iolani Palace
  - o Entrance to Mission House Museums
  - o Snorkeling
  - o Snorkeling gear
  - o Catamaran ride
  - o U.S. Army Museum of Hawai'i

