



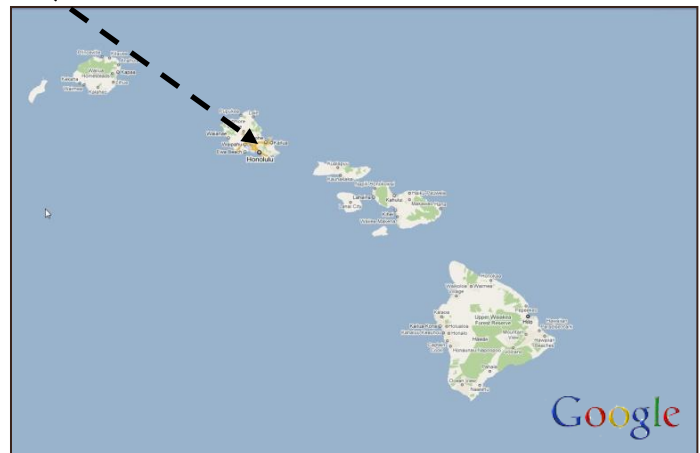
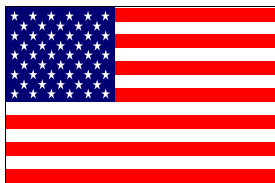
Trekking the Planet

Discovering the Cultural and Natural Significance of the World



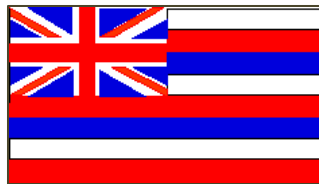
Where are we now?

- Darren and Sandy are in Honolulu, Hawaii, United States, located at 21° N and 157° W.
- We have traveled approximately 2,617 miles (4,212 kilometers) from our starting point in California.





*Iolani Palace. You can visit it today in Honolulu.
(source: Wikipedia.org)*



Hawaii State Flag

Did you know?

Captain Cook was killed in Hawaii in 1779 during a fight with islanders over a stolen boat.



source:
os8thsoth.wikispaces.com

People and Culture

- Hawaii is the 50th U.S. state and one of only four states to be recognized as an independent nation before becoming a state.
- The earliest inhabitants came from other Pacific Islands and the Hawaiian language shares similarities with other Polynesian dialects.
- British explorer Captain James Cook discovered the islands in 1778, naming it the Sandwich Islands; note that the British Union Jack is part of Hawaii's state flag.
- The kingdom of Hawaii was united under King Kamehameha I and was sovereign from 1810 to 1893; the only royal palace in the U.S. (Iolani Palace in Honolulu) still stands.
- Hawaii was annexed as a U.S. territory in 1898.
- The Hawaiian language alphabet has only twelve letters: vowels (A,E,I,O,U) and consonants (H,K,L,M,N,P,W).

Nature and Environment

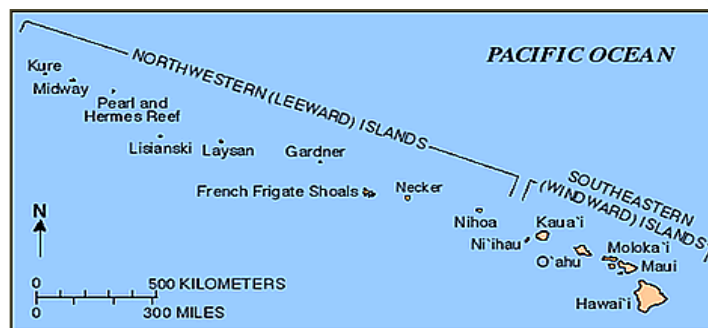
- Hawaii is one of the most isolated populated areas on earth. It is over 2,400 miles (3,800 kilometers) from the United States mainland, over 3,800 miles (6,100 kilometers) from Japan and 4,900 miles (7,800 kilometers) from China.
- Mauna Kea, on the island of Hawaii, is a dormant volcano that is 13,796 feet (4,205 meters) tall. It is actually the tallest mountain on earth, from top to bottom to its ocean base, at over 33,000 feet (10,000 meters) tall.
- The state is actually increasing in size because of the continual lava fall that adds land mass.
- The island of Kauai is the wettest spot on Earth with an average rainfall on Mt Waialeale of 397 inches (10.1 meters).
- More birds have become extinct in Hawaii than in any other part of the world. Twenty-six species have died out and 27 more are endangered.



(Mauna Kea (source: KnowledgeRush.com))

Hawaii is big!

Hawaii consists of eight, larger populated islands and 124 smaller, uninhabited islands. When measured from east to west, Hawaii is the widest state in the US.



source: To-Hawaii.com

Our Plans

- After five days at sea from San Diego, California, our ship will spend one day in Honolulu on the island of Oahu, and the next day on the island of Kauai.
- Next, we will have five more days at sea and head below the equator to the Southern Hemisphere and our arrival in Pago Pago, American Samoa.
- Keep those questions coming and we will try to answer them in the next week while we are at sea.

More Hawaii Facts

- Hawaii is the only state not geographically located in North America
- It has the highest population density of any state
- Tourism is Hawaii's largest industry

More Information

- <http://www.to-hawaii.com/fun-facts.php>
- <http://www.history.com/topics/hawaii>
- <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hawaii>
- <http://www.iolanipalace.org/>
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mauna_Kea
- <http://geography.about.com/cs/captaincook/a/jamescook.htm>

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