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# **Your Ideal Hawaii Island Vacation: A Guide For Visiting The Big Island Of Hawaii**

**Your Ideal Hawaii  
Island Vacation**



**A Guide for Visiting the  
Big Island of Hawaii**

**Tyler Mercier  
Chris Mercier**



## Synopsis

Your Ideal Hawaii Island Vacation is a travel guide that describes over 150 spectacular locations on the island of Hawaii. Over 200 photographs (black and white) accompanied by descriptions give you an impression of the island's unique places. Detailed driving directions make it clear how to get to each site. Every site is accessible by a regular car and most are only a short walk or can be seen from the car. The travel guide covers the entire island of Hawaii with maps of each area. Many areas in East Hawaii, barely mentioned in other guides, are covered in great detail from the authors' personal experiences of living there. Guided driving tours and walking tours familiarizes travelers new to the island with the most populated areas of Hilo and Kona. Descriptions of beaches and shopping centers near the South Kohala resorts and Kona hotels are provided for newcomers to the island. The guide describes places in the remote areas of Kau, North Kohala, and Puna that returning visitors and residents may not have heard of before. The guide showcases incredible beaches where Hawaiian royalty lived, coastlines where historic battles were fought, ancient temples, ranches where the Hawaiian cowboy culture was born, and historic towns built during Hawaii's sugar boom. Stories are told from early visitors such as William Ellis, who walked around the island in 1823, and Lucy Thurston, who lived in Kailua-Kona in the 1820's. The historical and cultural settings of each site is organized with descriptions to appeal to both seasoned and armchair travelers. The guide also showcases what is happening now at Kona coffee plantations, macadamia nut factories, and cattle ranches. The guide includes places near the resort complexes, unique island businesses, and recent lava flows. In the chapter on "Driving Hawaii Island" tables with realistic driving times between major sites are included. The driving times take into account areas of low speed limits and traffic congestion. Information about Saddle Road and driving to the Onizuka Astronomy Center on Mauna Kea are included. The guide has no ratings of hotels, restaurants, or tour companies. The authors believe that the most up to date customer reviews of restaurants and resorts are on the internet. The authors, Tyler and Chris Mercier, have lived on Hawaii Island since 2007. They lived in Hilo for two years before moving to the west side of the island near Kona. The authors researched each site using original materials from early explorers and Hawaiian historians to provide the most accurate view of what happened. They visited every site in the book and took thousands of photographs to document every location. The authors created regional maps and tour maps to allow visitors to plan their trips each day and select the sites they want to see. The authors hope that the guide shows the immensity and variety of Hawaii Island to every visitor and encourages them to return.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The authors of this book have my congratulations and gratitude. We, Big Islanders, have needed and desired a book to help us show our Hawaii Island to visiting mainlanders. We have reached a point where we insist visitors rent a car and explore on their own. This book is wonderful at focusing on day trips. It has brief historical information about each site and even the internet site if more knowlege is desired. The book has easy to understand directions and even photos. If a person wants to see a specific site, the index is great. Recent guests went to "Place of Refuge". We advised them to look up "ST.Benedict's Painted Church". The index took them to page 50 -51. They learned the history , when it was built, where it is located, complete with it's physical address. This helpful , well written and well organized book is very user friendly. Both Hawaii residents and visitors will find it useful and informative.

This is written by a husband and wife that live on the Big Island and full of information for someone like me who wants to see the sights but is not terribly athletic. It gives you the basics of many places on the island and a lot of history of the places which I love. It has black and white photos, no glossy pages - just information. If a place mentioned really grabs you - you can look that up on line for

more info and photos. I have it all highlighted and written on and can't wait to bring it to Hawaii with me. It does not include places to stay or eat because, like the author says - places change and you can get all that on the internet. It lays out all that Hawaii island has to offer - you pick what you want to do. If you want to go to the fancy resorts and lay in the sun on the beach - this book is not for you. If you want to see the real Hawaii with it's history - you can't go wrong!

This book is the most user friendly guidebook I have experienced. It is an easy read that takes you to points of interest that are accessible, yet not overly crowded. The tidbits of history, lore and narrative draw you into the experiences transforming you into an active participant rather than a mere observer. A "must read" for the traveler to the Big Island!

Very informative, lots of great information! Would have liked to seen a few color photos but other than that I'm very happy with my purchase.

This is a great book. It not only covered all the sites to see, it told the history of the island,

Wasn't what I was expecting. Black and white photo's and very small print. I ended up buying another travel book.

Wonderful Book ! I have highlighted the entire book !

Excellent guide! The most comprehensive of its kind...synthesizes all what the Big Island of Hawaii has to offer - from driving, walking and historic tours; excursions, events and festivals; beaches and gardens; to finding active lava flows... illustrated through maps, photos, art... Ample valuable tips - all what is needed for planning a perfect vacation.A must have guide - for all those interested in leaving nothing to chance!Teuta S. Rizaj, Professor/Educator and author ofÃ Â The Rhapsody Of The Ant Woman: Poem with Complimentary Drawings

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