

ISLAND OF HAWAI'I KĪLAUEA QUICK FACTS

KĪLAUEA VOLCANO

- An active shield volcano, erupting nearly consistently for the past 35 years (since January 1983).
- 90 per cent of the volcano's surface is covered by lava flows younger than 1,000 years.
- About 20 per cent of those flows are less than 200 years old.
- The summit, located within Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park is home to Halema'uma'u Crater. Halema'uma'u filled with magma in 2008, its glow a popular visitor attraction for 10 years (the magma retreated late April 2018).
- The island of Hawai'i is the youngest and largest (4,028 square miles in the Hawaiian Island chain and still growing).

CAN I VISIT THE ISLAND OF HAWAI'I?

- All airports and flights are operational.
- Local businesses and tour companies outside of the active areas (summit and Lower East Rift Zone/Lower Puna) are open.
- 2/3 of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park is closed, the Kahuku Unit remains open.
- Park rangers are available at various locations in Hilo and Volcano Village (Volcano Art Gallery).
- No other island in the Hawaiian Islands is affected.

SHOULD I BE WORRIED ABOUT THE VOG OR LAZE?

Kīlauea has been erupting for 35+ years and vog is not new to residents and some visitors. It can be more pronounced during periods of elevated volcanic activity, and also depends on wind strength and direction.

VOG: also known as volcanic smog, reaches different areas of the island depending on wind direction and speed.

LAZE: a byproduct of lava-ocean interaction, forms as hot lava boils seawater to dryness. This process results in a localized white plume of laze. Laze is dangerous at the site however, it does not travel around the island or float to other areas.

SO₂: sulfur dioxide occurs in concentration near active lava flows. Anyone working near the vents (e.g. scientists) must wear gas masks to protect themselves from the concentrated fumes.

ASH: generated by steam- and/or gas-induced collapse events at the summit.

Persons with compromised respiratory disorders or cardiovascular disease can learn about the possible health impacts and who is most likely to be affected at <https://vog.ivhnn.org/health-effects-vog>.

[EPA Air Monitoring Viewer](#)
[Vog Forecast](#)

[Current Conditions](#) (statewide)
[Ashfall Forecast](#) (model)

HOW CAN I SEE THE LAVA?

It is best to contact an activity provider directly to check on current conditions, availability, pricing, cancellation policies, etc.

BY LAND: Currently no access. Road blocks are in effect for everyone's safety. Violators risk fines and arrests.

BY AIR: Please check with air tour companies for more information. A few options can be found [here](#). FAA flight restrictions are currently in place. NO DRONES ARE ALLOWED.

BY SEA: There are four Coast Guard-approved and permitted boat operators. Please contact them directly or visit their websites for more information.

Hawaiian Lava Boat Tours: www.hawaiianlavaboattours.com 808-640-0806

Kalapana Cultural Tours: www.kalapana-cultural-tours.com 808-345-4964

Lava Ocean Tours: www.seelava.com 808-966-4200

Moku Nui Lava Tours: www.mnlavatour.com 808-938-1493

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR A STATE OR ISLAND MAP, VISIT www.gohawaii.com

CURRENT STATUS (Aug. 15, 2018)

- According to USGS, Kīlauea has remained relatively quiet since August 4. With no further collapse events at the summit, and with the exception of a small, crusted-over pond of lava deep inside Fissure 8 cone and a few scattered ocean entries, no lava is flowing in the Lower East Rift Zone (LERZ). Despite the pause, local hazards may still exist.
- In early May 2018, new fissure eruptions began in the LERZ of Kīlauea Volcano. Since then, 24 fissures have opened up, 6,000 acres have been covered (approximately 9.375 square miles or about 0.2% of the entire island), 700 homes destroyed, and 1,600 acres of farms buried or isolated.
- 2/3 of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park remains closed, the Kahuku Unit is open.