

Wild Hawaii

March 24-31, 2011

\$3,875 per person, double occupancy

\$875 single supplement

WHY WE PICKED IT This is Hawaii Beyond the Beach—a place of natural wonders and wildlife that few tourists ever see. In the company of expert guides, scientists, and researchers, we explore on land and by sea the Big Island's diversity of life.

PACIFIC ISLANDS INSTITUTE Award-winning Pacific Islands Institute is dedicated to providing positive cultural interactions; ensuring practices are culturally and environmentally sensitive and appropriate, giving back to communities, and protecting, sustaining and respecting indigenous cultures and environments.

THE NWF CONNECTION Hawaii struggles to protect its native wildlife—which includes 317 listed threatened and endangered species—from a number of threats ranging from invasive plants and animals to habitat destruction. Rising temperatures and sea level from global warming will likely add to these challenges. But even as the 50th state encounters unique environmental problems, they are also devising unique solutions. On this trip we get a balanced account of the successes and challenges facing the islands.

Please see the reverse side for a complete day-by-day itinerary. To ask questions or to reserve your place on this tour, please call 800-606-9563 or e-mail expeditions@nwf.org.



March 24—Fly independently to Hilo Airport (airport code ITO), where a single group shuttle departs at 3:00 p.m. Welcome to the Big Island! At 800,000 years the Big Island is the youngest of the island chain, however, it was the first island discovered by voyaging Polynesians. We are privileged to spend the next three nights at the Kilauea Military Camp, a beautiful campus of cottages inside the boundaries of Volcano National Park. *Overnight: Kilauea Military Camp D*

March 25—Depart via Crater Rim Drive for an excursion to discover Hawaii's Volcanoes National Park and the geological wonders of this amazing place. Witness the phases of Madame Pele's (Hawaii's Goddess of Fire) creation of new land as our volcano expert takes you on an exploration through one of nature's most exciting National Parks. Take short leisurely hikes into a tropical rainforest, alive with native birds, lush foliage and ferns. Experience a walk through an extinct lava tube, as well as over new lava formations and steam vents while learning the cultural and historical significance around Kilauea. *Overnight: Kilauea Military Camp B, L, D*

March 26—There were 140 species of birds in Hawaii when Europeans first arrived on the islands. Today, half of those are extinct. Of the remaining, about one-half are critically endangered. At the Keauhou Bird Conservation Center, learn about the main problems that are affecting the wild populations of endemic Hawaiian birds. View the efforts that are being made to restore the native bird population, a private experience not available to the general public. Our evening night lava adventure will head to a site of recent activity as conditions permit. Hike with our volcano expert over the lava flows during the late afternoon. As night sets in, look back

to view the glow of the lava under the surface. A picnic dinner will be provided at dusk. *Overnight: Kilauea Military Camp B, L, D*

March 27—Today we travel across the island via the southern route, our destination Kona. Along the way we'll stop at Punaluu to see the "black sand" sand beach where one can often see turtles near the shore feeding on seaweed or sunning on the warm volcanic black sand. Visit one of the most sacred heiau (place of worship) at the Puuhonua o Honaunau (Place of Refuge) National Park before arriving at our next hotel. *Overnight: Outrigger Keauhou Beach Hotel. B, L, D*

March 28—Experience Kohala's stunning beauty and rich history with a fun off-road adventure by touring vehicle and relaxed trail walk. Learn the legends and stories of the area while enjoying dramatic views of Pololu Valley, charming foot bridges, historic taro terraces, and intimate waterfalls. Bring your swimsuit as you will have the opportunity to cool off and swim at a waterfall. *Overnight: Outrigger Keauhou Beach Hotel. B, L, D*

March 29—Enjoy part of today at your own pace, then look for whales and dolphins as we head out to our snorkel area. Our first snorkel excursion will be in the late afternoon to explore the colorful reef fish and the beautiful undersea world. Enjoy sunset on board while dining on a light dinner, and get ready for a majestic, inspiring, and awesome experience as you snorkel in darkness. Now we look for graceful manta rays as they feed on the plankton attracted to your night light. Truly, one of the world's most memorable ocean experiences. *Overnight: Outrigger Keauhou Beach Hotel. B, D*

March 30—Visit the only seahorse farm in the world dedicated to preserving the endangered seahorse and seadragons with over (30) species in their living gene bank. View cutting edge technology as you hold seahorses and learn about their natural history at this organic marine aquafarm. Continue on to enjoy an authentic backyard luau experience as a local family opens their home and hearts and welcomes you as a part of their "ohana" (family). Help prepare the traditional Hawaiian feast, learn the hula and a few Hawaiian words as well as the true meaning of Aloha on your final evening in the islands. *Overnight: Outrigger Keauhou Beach Hotel. B, D*

March 31—A group shuttle takes us to Kona Airport (KOA) for departures home after 12:00 noon. Aloha! *B*

Questions and Reservations

Call: 800-606-9563

E-mail: expeditions@nwf.org

Online: www.nwf.org/expeditions

Cancellation Policy \$500 deposit per person

Full refund minus \$250 per person prior to December 22, 2010

Full refund minus \$500 deposit per person from December 22, 2010-January 23, 2011

50% of the entire tour cost from January 24-February 23, 2011

No refunds after February 23, 2011

TOUR PRICE INCLUDES: All accommodations, all transportation, all meals as listed in the itinerary (b=breakfast, l=lunch, d=dinner), a carbon-neutral offset, all sites and excursions as specified, entrance fees to all sites, professional tour management throughout the entire program, gratuities for staff at hotels and restaurants included in the itinerary, taxes and service charges throughout, complete pre-departure materials to help you prepare for your tour. **NOT INCLUDED:** Airfare to and from arrival/departure airports, optional guide and tour manager gratuities, alcoholic beverages, personal expenses such as laundry, souvenirs, and film.



EXPEDITIONS

Wildlife Ahead