



Planning Your Visit to Hanauma Bay

Obtaining a Permit*

City Ordinance requires all groups to obtain an education permit prior to visiting Hanauma Bay Nature Preserve. The permit is for two hours, of which, about 30-45mins are devoted to an educational orientation.

- Contact Hanauma Bay Education Program (HBEP) at least two weeks prior to date of requested visit. Call early to guarantee your preferred date.
 - ✓ Phone (808) 397-5840
 - ✓ E-mail: hanauma@hawaii.edu
- Be prepared to give:
 - ✓ Name of group & contact person
 - ✓ Phone, fax, email, and mailing address
 - ✓ Number of individuals in group (45 per permit, maximum)
 - ✓ Age or grade level of group
 - ✓ Date of requested visit
 - ✓ Time of requested visit:
9:00am, 11:00am, 1:00pm or 3:00pm
- * **Each group is allotted a maximum of 2 hours at the bay, including a mandatory orientation.**
- HBEP will forward your permit request to the City & County Park Office. A permit application will be drawn up and emailed to you. At that time, please review the necessary information, sign, and email or fax back to the park office.
- If approved, the permit will be signed by the park manager and emailed back to you. **Please make sure each driver has a copy of the permit when you visit.**

On-Site Procedures

- Buses may not park at the bay. They may drop-off and pick-up in the bus-loading zone only. Personal vehicles (cars, vans) may park in the parking lot for a \$1 fee.
- If the parking lot is full, groups with permits will still be admitted to the park. Simply identify yourself to the park staff and show them your permit.
- An HBEP representative will meet the group outside the main entrance to the education center. Groups will not be accommodated earlier than their permitted time. **Please be prepared to present your permit when you meet our staff members.**
- There is a \$7.50 entrance fee for all non-residents 13 years or older. (Admission is free for Hawai'i residents with proper ID) **Please have payment for the entire group together** to expedite entry (cash & credit cards only). The HBEP representative will escort the group leader to the ticket window to pay the fee.
- The HBEP representative will lead the group through the education center for a private, mandatory 30-45 min. orientation before the group proceeds to the beach.

* No commercial groups will be permitted.

Additional Park Information:

Directions to Hanauma Bay

Take Kalanianaʻole Highway(Route 72) heading toward Koko Head (east from leeward O`ahu or south from windward O`ahu). Signs indicate the turnoff into the Hanauma Bay parking area. Commercial vehicles must drop off passengers in the commercial loading zone only and may only stay for a maximum of 15 minutes.

Hours of Operation

Park: 6:00am – 6:00pm daily (*add one hour to closing for summer hours*)

Life Guards on Duty: 7:00am – 5:30pm

* *It is possible to hire an off-duty lifeguard to accompany school groups who wish to swim. Please contact the Ocean Safety & Lifeguard Services at 922-3888.*

Snorkel Rental: 7:30am – 5:00pm

Tram: 8:00am - 5:30pm

Food Concession: 8:00 am – 4:30pm (kitchen closes between 3:00-3:30 pm)

Gift Shop: 8:00am – 5:00pm

Facilities Available

Education Center Classroom: equipped with video, audio, DVD, and data projector; can be closed for presentations and other educational activities by the Education Program staff.

Restrooms: in upper picnic area, in the education center, and on the beach

Changing Rooms: in the restrooms on the beach

Showers: several locations on the beach

Drinking Fountains: near beach showers, gift shop, and snack bar

Picnic Areas: picnic tables in the upper park

Equipment Rentals: Contact Snorkel Rental Shop 808-396-9956 for information

Telephones: near upper picnic area restrooms & next to women's restroom on the beach

What to Bring

Group Permit: to present to park staff (a copy for each driver) ****REQUIRED**

Sun Protection: sunglasses, hats, sunblock

Rain jacket (rain is rare at the park, but if it does rain, there is not much shelter)

Footwear: athletic sandals are ideal if both walking in sand and along ledges, slippers acceptable if only going in the sand and the water.

Swimsuit & towel (if going in the water)

Personal Off-duty Lifeguard (if going in the water)

Drinking Water: to avoid multiple trips to the drinking fountains with thirsty students

First Aid Kit: for minor bumps and scrapes (lifeguards also have supplies and will assist with first aid)