

Welcome to Hawaii ~ 50th State

If you have not been to Hawaii before, be prepared for a lifestyle that is probably different from what you have experienced in the past. The following information has been compiled from a variety of sources, including the Bank of Hawaii. We hope it will be helpful to you and help make your life in Hawaii more enjoyable.

Hawaii was admitted to the United States as a State in 1959. You don't need a passport, visa or health certificate. We use American money and our water is some of the purest in the world. The population on the seven main Islands is approximately 1,000,000 with around 800,000 living on the Island of Oahu. Honolulu and most of the industries and businesses are on Oahu. Kauai is the wettest Island and also probably the most beautiful. Maui has Haleakala, a spectacular dormant volcano, as well as ranch land, the whaling towns of Lahaina and Kaanapali, Kihei and Wailea, areas of beautiful white sand beaches, golf courses, and luxury hotels. Molokai, known as the "Friendly Island", is much like "old" Hawaii with a slower life style and a minimum of resort areas. Hawaii, the "Big Island", has some of everything, from active volcanoes, deep sea fishing in Kona, upcountry ranching, quiet Hilo, beautiful nurseries and spectacular waterfalls. Niihau, the smallest populated Island, is privately owned and cannot be visited.

Almost all travel to Hawaii is via airline. Most of the flights are destined in Honolulu, but more and more are flying directly to and from Maui, Hawaii and Kauai. There are also a number of local airlines, which travel back and forth constantly from Island to Island. Everyone living in Hawaii for any period of time should make an attempt to see each of the major Islands as the scenery and life style on each one is different.

The population is made up of many different nationalities and races and no one race has a large majority. The major make-up of races is Caucasian, Japanese, Chinese, Filipino, Samoan, Tongan and Hawaiian. Our language, of course, is English, although many local people speak pidgeon English (which takes some getting used to) and Hawaiian words are often interspersed into normal conversations.

TIPS FOR SETTLING IN

Phone Service: A telephone is essential so that friends, you never knew you had, can call you before they plan their Hawaiian vacation to see you. Hawaiian Telephone furnishes the primary telephone service statewide. New residences can establish service by applying in person to one of several Phone Marts or by calling 643-3456. A deposit ranging from \$60 to \$120 may be requested depending on whether or not you already have phone jacks installed in your residence. This deposit is of service. It usually takes from three days to one week to establish service.

The directory assistance number is 1411. There is no charge until you've used up your "numbers" quota - 10 directory assistance calls a month. Then you will automatically be billed 20 cents per information call. There is no charge to call anywhere on Oahu.

You may rent or buy your phones at the telephone company's Phone Mart outlets, or you may purchase your own elsewhere.

If your apartment or home is equipped with phone jacks, service should begin the day after you establish your account. If phone jacks need to be installed, plan on a three- to four-day wait for service to begin.

Welcome to Hawaii ~ 50th State

Electricity: Everyone needs power! Hawaiian Electric Company provides all electricity on Oahu. Service can be established in just one day (sometimes the same day of your call if you're early enough) by calling 548-7311. Applicants need to give the address of service and appropriate credit references. A \$75 deposit is required to set up service, refunded when service is terminated and outstanding bills have been paid. Residents are billed monthly.

Hawaii imports 90% of its energy supplies, so even though fuel isn't required for winter heating, your power bills may be higher than you are used to. The typical family of four consumes about 40% of its electricity to heat water for showers, baths, washing dishes and clothes. Energy conservation receives top priority in government and in business. Information on energy conservation may be obtained from Hawaiian Electric.

If you've moved into a home or apartment whose former tenant has an outstanding bill, you will probably have to prove you are who you are. ("You wouldn't believe how often people say they're someone else to avoid paying their bill", says one electric company official.) In some cases you may have to pay a visit to the electric company and bring with you your rental agreement or escrow papers and some identification. The average residential bill is around \$60 a month.

Gas: Gas service is not available in many homes here, so please check before calling for a gas service you may not actually need. New customers should call 526-0066 for information and service. A refundable \$55 deposit is required. When calling for service, be ready to give your address, appropriate credit references and a list of appliances using gas.

Water: Hawaii, although surrounded by water, depends on winter rain to fill the underground aquifers. If rainfall is less than anticipated conservation measures are sometimes brought into effect. Remember that water is a very precious commodity in Hawaii. Voluntarily conserve use whenever possible; it will keep your bi-monthly bill down.

Each county administers its own water supply system. However, some resort communities have installed private water systems to serve their own residents.

The water company requires no deposit. To have a water meter installed or turned on, call 527-6184 before noon to begin service the same day. A \$10 charge may be assessed if you call after hours and request water that day. If the water is already on, simply call the water company to transfer service to your account.

The price of water seems cheap – 84 cents for a thousand gallons. The kicker is the sewer charge - \$20.50 for two months. An average water bill including the sewer charge is around \$35 for two months.

Refuse Collection: Each county administers a public refuse collection program. On Oahu, residential communities are serviced with a twice-weekly pickup. Some town house and condominium projects contract for private refuse collection. Call the Refuse Collection Office at 523-4685 for service and schedules. Refuse must be placed on the sidewalk in trashcans, bags, or tied neatly. There is no separate charge in Honolulu for residential refuse collection.

DOCTORS AND DENTISTS

Two associations provide referral services. To locate a medical doctor, call the Honolulu county Medical Society at 536-6988. To find a dentist, call the Hawaii Dental Association at 536-2135. Both are 24-hour numbers.

Welcome to Hawaii ~ 50th State

HOSPITALS

Here are the hospitals on the Island of Oahu.

- Castle Medical Center, 640 Ulukahiki Street (Pali Highway at Waimanalo junction), 263-5500.
- Kahuku Hospital, in the North Shore community of Kahuku, 293-9221.
- Kaiser-Permanente Moanalua Medical Center, 3288 Moanalua Road, 834-5333.
- Kapiolani Women's and Children's Medical Center, 1319 Punahou Street, 947-8511.
- Kuakini Medical Center, 347 N. Kuakini Street, 535-2236.
- Queens Medical Center, 1301 Punchbowl Street, 538-9011.
- St. Francis Medical Center, 2230 Liliha Street, 547-6011.
- Straub Clinic and Hospital, 888 S. King Street, 523-2311.
- Wahiawa General Hospital, 128 Lehua Street, 621-8411.

NEWCOMERS CLUBS

Social clubs on Oahu help new arrivals to plant Island roots. One of the best ways to get to know a new place to live is to meet people there who are in the same situation you are. One of the most convenient ways to do this, is through a newcomers club.

Oahu has several such groups, but the largest is the Newcomers Club of Honolulu, a nonprofit organization whose purpose is to "extend a warm Aloha to newly arrived residents, helping to make their transition to Island life as pleasant as possible".

The club has more than 300 members and offers a wide variety of activities, ranging from sports like golf, tennis and bowling, to walking tours, parties, get-acquainted coffee hours and gourmet dinners in members' homes. The club has a newsletter, and prints brochures containing practical information on subjects apt to interest newcomers – for example, how to get around on "TheBus", or how to get a Hawaii driver's license and auto registration.

The club also holds frequent lunches at some of Honolulu's finest restaurants. Various community leaders – such as the mayor and city prosecutor – have been featured as speakers at these luncheons.

Club dues are \$10 a year per member. If you want more information on this club, write to: Newcomers Club of Honolulu, P.O. Box 25613, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96825.

For people living across the Pali, there's also a Windward Newcomers Club with more than 200 members. Like the Honolulu Newcomers Club, this organization sponsors numerous enjoyable activities that help "malihinis" (or newcomers) to get adjusted to Island life. For more information about this group, write to: Windward Newcomers Club, P.O. Box 753, Kailua, Hawaii, 96734.

COPING WITH LOCAL CUISINE

Rice: You may have moved here thinking you like rice. Don't worry. After your first few months chances are you'll loathe the sight of the stuff. People in Hawaii eat rice with everything: with roast beef, with chili, with spaghetti, with – and this is particularly hard to swallow – with bacon and eggs.

And what rice. It sticks together and is often put on the plate with an ice cream scoop so it ends up in symmetrical little white mounds.

People in Hawaii eat medium grain rice often buying it in 25-pound bags at the grocery store, and cooking it in an appliance rarely seen on the mainland, an automatic rice cooker. If you stay long enough, sooner or later you will accept the fact that rice is the staff of life. You will learn that it is a serious faux pas to invite local folks to a meal and not serve rice. The day you buy your own automatic rice cooker is the day you begin to blend in with the Island scene.

Noodles: People in Hawaii eat pasta, but they also eat dozens of varieties of Oriental noodles. The Chinese often serve noodles hot, with meat and vegetables. The Japanese also have a cold noodle dish served with sesame seed dressing. But everyone in Hawaii eats saimin, long curly noodles served in broth.

Welcome to Hawaii ~ 50th State

Saimin: is a comfort food. Mothers serve it to children. People eat it when they're sick or when their stomachs are upset or when they can't figure out what else to eat. Saimin is so ubiquitous in Hawaii that even McDonald's sells it.

It's disconcerting for newcomers to find themselves expected to eat saimin with only chopsticks. The chopsticks are for plucking out the noodles and whatever other goodies might be in the broth: soft wonton, Chinese cabbage, bits of Spam, slices of pink and white fish cake. It is perfectly all right to drink the broth.

Spam: It may be a holdover from the days when Hawaii imported very little fresh meat, but people in Hawaii eat 3 1/2 times as much Spam per capita as people on the Mainland, 10, 270 cans of the stuff every day. They also have a yen for canned corned beef and Vienna sausages. This is one local custom you may not wish to emulate, but try not to say, "Spam?! Who eats Spam?" when local folks are in the room.

Raw Fish: Perhaps to make up for eating so much canned meat, people in Hawaii eat their fish raw. *Sashimi* is small slices of fresh fish served with a mustard-shoyu sauce. Although many Mainlanders shudder at the thought of raw fish, sashimi is quite good and not particularly fishy. More challenging is poke, which is raw fish chunks often mixed with seaweed. *Tako poke* is made with (cooked) octopus. Some varieties of Japanese sushi contain raw fish, but the large slices of rolled sushi you are offered at parties usually do not.

Macaroni Salad: For no known reason, macaroni salad has become a staple of local cuisine. Some Island chefs put a great deal of effort into their macaroni salad, adding potatoes, peas, tuna, and sometimes even crab to the basic mix.

The Plate Lunch: The typical plate lunch defines local cuisine: two scoops of rice, one scoop of macaroni salad, and an entrée. Some of the entrees that have found their way onto the standard plate lunch menu need no introduction: beef stew, fried chicken, roast pork, chicken curry. But here is a short guide to some other popular dishes:

Teri Beef or Chicken. Teri is short for teriyaki, a marinade made of soy sauce, ginger, garlic and brown sugar. Warning: Teri sauce in Hawaii is sometimes a sugary sweet brown glop that owes more to the worst moments in American cuisine than it does to real teriyaki sauce.

Pork or Chicken Katsu: The Japanese equivalent of veal cutlet or chicken fried steak. A heavily breaded cutlet, deep-fried, cut into strips, and served with a tangy sweet-sour sauce.

The Hawaiian Plate: Typically includes *kalua pig* (baked pork, served shredded and heavily salted), *lomilomi salmon* (salmon flakes with tomato and green onions), *poi* (the pasty starch from the taro root), and *haupia* (a coconut pudding). Here is a tip if your plate includes a *lauau*: you don't eat the shiny green it leaves on the outside, but you do eat the darker green cooked taro leaves on the inside.

The Korean Plate: You'll want to try Korean *kalbi*, beef ribs marinated in a hot sesame oil-based sauce. On the side of the Korean plate will be a small portion of what looks like cabbage dotted with red pepper. Called *kim chee*, it is best approached with moderation.

Keep an open mind and an adventurous palate. Without these, moving to Hawaii can be torture. With them it can be a delight. A dozen cultures have contributed to Island cuisine. Whole worlds of flavors await those who seek them out. Enjoy.

ANIMAL IMPORTATION

If you are planning on bringing a household pet such as a dog or cat, it must go through quarantine at the Animal Quarantine Station for a period of 120 days. There are no exceptions to this rule and the purpose of the quarantine is to protect our Islands from rabies. You can visit your pet while it is in quarantine, but the visiting hours are limited. Most other animals cannot be imported into the State. The fee for dogs is \$466, for cats \$412. For further information contact the State Department of Agriculture, Animal Quarantine Station, 99770 Moanalua Road, Aiea, Hawaii, 96701. Phone number is 488-8461.

Welcome to Hawaii ~ 50th State

CAR IMPORTATION

All automobiles brought into Hawaii must have a Hawaii Vehicle Permit. The permit must be obtained within 10 days of arrival. The automobile may be used in Hawaii for one year, or until your Mainland plates expire, whichever occurs first.

The Vehicle Permit may be obtained at the City Finance Department, located at 1455 S. Beretania Street. It is necessary to submit a current certificate of registration from the previous State, the bill of lading with the date of arrival in Hawaii, a safety inspection certificate, evidence of no-fault insurance and payment of necessary fees. Hawaii State safety inspections can be obtained at service stations displaying a special approval sign. Vehicle registration fees are based on vehicle weight. Office hours are from 7:45 am to 4:15 pm weekdays. For additional information, call 942-3745.

New Hawaii arrivals with valid licenses from another State can drive with these licenses until they expire and then must apply for a Hawaii driver's license. Licensees from out of State under 18 years old must immediately apply for a Hawaii driver's license. When you apply for a new license you must have a Social Security Card and out of State license and must fill out an application, have an eye test and take a written exam.

TRANSPORTATION

"TheBus" is our only form of public transportation other than taxis. "TheBus" travels the entire Island and during peak traffic hours there are many express busses from outlying neighborhoods. Children under 6 ride free, school children from grades 1 through 12 pay 25 cents, adults pay 60 cents and senior citizens can apply for free bus passes. If you are a frequent bus rider, you may also purchase one month bus passes (\$15 for adults, \$7.50 for students) from various banks. You can get free transfers from one bus to another as long as you are going in the same direction. Drivers do not give change, so make sure you have the proper change before you get on. Information on bus routes and schedules may be obtained by calling 531-1611.

Like the western part of the United States, most people in Hawaii drive their own cars, contributing to heavy traffic during the early morning and late afternoon hours, so a 20 minute trip at noon could take 40 minutes at 7am or 5pm. Also, a high percentage of children attend private schools, which also contributes heavily to the early morning traffic.

Most drivers in Hawaii are polite. If you are turning left in heavy traffic, it won't take too long before someone will stop and let you turn. We always stop for pedestrians. Jaywalking is against the law. Speed limits vary even from one section of the freeway to another, so it is a good idea to keep watch. And most of all remember; don't honk your horn unless disaster is imminent. It is considered rude.

TIME

Hawaii is two hours earlier than the West Coast for half the year and 3 hours earlier when the rest of the country goes on Daylight Savings Time. We do not use Daylight Savings Time. So when communicating with the Mainland, remember when you are just having your first cup of coffee at 7:00, in California they are ready for the 9:00 coffee break. Communications with the Orient also take some planning, as there are long time differences as well as a difference in the day. (When it is 8:00 am Friday here, it is 2:00 am Saturday in Japan). All phone calls on the Island of Oahu are toll free.

POSTAGE

Since we are a part of the United States, postage rates are the same as on the Mainland. All first class mail goes air mail and there is only a small difference in price between air mail and surface for packages.

Welcome to Hawaii ~ 50th State

MEDIA

There are 27 AM and 20 FM radio stations covering almost any type of entertainment you wish. We also have 10 national and local VHF/UHF television stations and all the cable channels, which are available on the Mainland. Some of our programs are aired here one week later than the Mainland and often sporting events are "satellite" delayed, so they can be aired in prime time. Don't make any bets on a football game with a friend on the Mainland unless you are sure it hasn't been played yet. Oceanic Cablevision services most of Oahu and the Neighbor Islands. Call 836-3700 for cable hook-up.

There are two local daily newspapers; the Advertiser in the morning and the Star Bulletin in the afternoon. They are separate papers, but their classified sections are joint, so the same ad appears in both papers. Subscription rates range from \$10.50 per month for 7-day morning or evening subscriptions in Honolulu, to \$13.50 per month on the Neighbor Islands. Call 538-6397 for more information. There are also a number of local magazines, such as Honolulu Magazine and Aloha Magazine and the monthly Hawaii Business Magazine as well as the weekly business newspaper, Pacific Business News.

Hawaii has a State library system for which you need a library card. You can apply for a card at any branch.

COST OF LIVING

Hawaii is more expensive than most places on the Mainland. If you are coming from San Francisco, Orange County or New York, you probably won't notice much of a difference, but if you are coming from the Northwest, Midwest or South, you will probably be in a state of shock. But please bear in mind that almost everything has to be imported. We do not have a self-sustaining economy. Our housing is also more expensive, but that will be covered later. There is an up-side, however. Because of our year-round mild climate, you do not need winter clothes and it is not necessary to heat or air condition your home. Also, there are many, many entertainment features, which are very cheap or free.

The beaches are free and available to everyone and many people enjoy year-round hiking, barbecuing, and concerts under the stars, snorkeling, scuba diving, shell hunting, surfing and sailing. The UH has a basketball, football and baseball program that is avidly supported.

HOUSING

As in any metropolitan area, housing is more expensive close to Honolulu than it is in the rural areas, but of course, the farther out you live, the more time you will spend commuting. Many of your single-family homes are single wall construction, one floor, no basements, and lot sizes can be as small as 3,500 square feet. Typically, lot sizes are smaller here than most places on the Mainland. We have a very limited amount of land, much of it reserved for agriculture or too hilly for development. More and more people move here all the time, creating more competition for available housing and so prices continue to rise. The housing, which is being developed, is farther and farther out, creating longer distances for commuting if you work in the downtown area. Condominiums are a very popular alternative to single family living. There are many within easy driving to town and on the average they are less expensive than single family homes.

There are two methods of land ownership in Hawaii, which you will hear frequently. The first is "fee simple," which means you own the land and all the improvements on it. Most homes on the Mainland are "fee simple." Much of the land in Hawaii, however, is "leasehold." This means that you own the home, but someone else owns the land under it and you pay rent to them for a specified period of time (usually 55 years) at a specified rate. Usually the rent will be fixed for only a portion of the lease term and will increase as time goes by. Several years ago the Supreme Court of the United States allowed the State of Hawaii to condemn residential land, pay the land owner for the land and then resell the land to the lessees. There are a number of restrictions on this and it is a complicated subject, but the end result is that more and more leasehold land is being sold by the landowners and so more fee simple single family homes are becoming available. The Supreme Court decision does not apply to condominiums (the majority of which are leasehold), but condominium condemnation is coming before the legislature more and more frequently and a number of land owners have been offering to sell the land under condominiums.

To give you a better idea of the various areas on Oahu, there is a numbered map attached.

Welcome to Hawaii ~ 50th State

AREA # 1

This is a mix of light industrial and residential. The airport is in this area. There are a number of condominiums in the Salt Lake area. It is close to several military installations and so is popular with military personnel. Most of Salt Lake is fee simple and prices for condominiums are in the \$110,000 to \$300,000 range, while single family homes range from \$350,000 to \$700,000, and on occasion \$1,000,000 plus located on the Honolulu International Country Club. Commuting time to downtown in peak hours is 20-30 minutes.

AREA # 2

This is the area called "town." Waikiki is in this area, so is the University of Hawaii, the largest shopping mall, Ala Moana, and the buildings that comprise the downtown financial district. This is the most densely populated area. Makiki is a neighborhood that is predominantly high-rise condominiums. Prices vary widely starting from as low as \$123,000 to a high in the millions for a luxury penthouse. Manoa and Nuuanu are single family neighborhoods.

These are very desirable locations for living because they are close to downtown and much of the area is fee simple. The residential areas are mostly older homes and quite local in flavor. The areas are also quite mixed, i.e., expensive homes situated next to very modest homes, and older single family homes next to modern high rises. Again, prices can go into the millions depending on lot size and condition of the home.

AREA # 3

This is a very planned and well-developed area. It is almost entirely single family. Our more affluent citizens make their homes here. The neighborhoods are referred to as Diamond Head, Kahala, Waialae-Kahala, Waialae Golf Course, Waialae Nui, Waialae Iki, Aina Haina, Hawaii Loa Ridge, Niu Valley, Kuliouou and Hawaii Kai. This is the order of the communities geographically along the coastline up to the mountains, with the exception of Kaimuki, St. Louis Heights and Wilhelmina Rise, which are situated behind the Diamond Head and Kahala areas. Kaimuki, St. Louis and Wilhelmina areas are older and have panoramic views due to their being built on hills. The roads up these hills are narrow and the lots are small, but they are fee simple and very popular. Prices range from \$400,000 - \$800,000. With Diamond Head and Kahala being the most expensive and with Hawaii Kai being the least, the homes range from \$2,000,000 down to \$350,000 for non-beachfront. Beachfront commands \$5,000,000 to "sky is the limit."

Hawaii Kai also has some very nice townhouses and condominiums with ocean views, as well as many located on the Marina, where boating and other water sports abound. Several of the newer single family subdivisions are also located on the Marina. Townhouses tend to have 3-4 bedrooms and range from \$350,000 to \$700,000. Condominiums range from \$200,000 up. Single family homes on the Marina range from \$700,000 and up.

AREA # 4

This is the Kailua / Kaneohe area, called the Windward side because the trade winds blow from the ocean, through Kailua toward Honolulu. They are bedroom communities. Kailua is a small town with beautiful beaches, and a small shopping area. It has mostly single family homes, a few nice town houses and small condominiums and one high-rise. Prices for single family homes go from around \$350,000 up, depending on neighborhood. Townhouses and high rise prices range from \$185,000 up depending on size and location. Kaneohe is a larger town with a large, modern shopping center and a small industrial area. It has oceanfront, but no beaches. There are also a number of townhouses in the Temple Valley area. Commute time from Kailua town at peak times is approximately 30-40 minutes and from Kaneohe 35-40 minutes, depending on location.

Welcome to Hawaii ~ 50th State

AREA # 5

This is occupied by Brigham Young University, which operates the Polynesian Cultural Center at Laie, a few hardy people who commute daily to work, but mostly retired, average Americans. The Turtle Bay Resort and golf course is located at Kahuku. There are few vacation rental properties. These are available in two extremes – small condos and large, luxurious homes on the ocean. A great deal of this area is better referred to as being on the ocean rather than the beach because it is also the windward side and during certain tidal periods there are only sea walls, no beaches.

AREA # 6

This is the area often referred to as the "North Shore," where many of the surfing championship trials are filmed at such places as Sunset Beach and the Banzai Pipeline. It is also the home of Hawaii's Polo Club at Mokuleia. The little town of Haleiwa is known for its artists and galleries and is a charming, easy-going community. Beachfront homes are available in this area at prices considerably lower than Kahala to Hawaii Kai, but the drive to town takes well over an hour even in noon-peak hours.

AREA # 7

This part of the Island contains most of the pineapple and sugar plantations as well as military bases such as the Army's Schofield Barracks. There is a cluster of condominium apartments near the latter, most of which are rented to military personnel. Wahiawa is the major shopping area.

AREA # 8

This is the Leeward Coast of Oahu stretching to the tip of the Island known as Kaena Point. It has the driest weather and the most hours of sunshine per day, along with beautiful, often deserted beaches. The surfing beach at Makaha is world famous and is surrounded by several popular ocean front condominiums. The Sheraton Makaha Resort in Makaha Valley is bounded by two championship golf courses. Also in Makaha Valley are several high rise condominiums along with a large townhouse development. Prices are comparatively low and range from \$130,000 to a high of \$250,000 for two bedroom fee simple units. Single family homes range from \$200,000 - \$450,000 with beachfront over a million. The drive to town at peak times is at least one hour, but can be made in 30 minutes at other times due to the excellent freeways.

AREA # 9

This is the second most densely populated area on Oahu and becoming more so as the development of the Ewa Plain proceeds. Most of the so-called "affordable" housing projects are being built here. Pearl Harbor and the nearby Pearlridge Shopping Center are located here. Some of the community names are Makakilo, Mililani, Waipio, Aiea, Waipahu and Pearl City – all very popular with military families because of their proximity to Pearl Harbor, Hickam Air Force Base and Barbers Point Naval Air Station, as well as easy freeway accesses to downtown. Condominiums and town houses range from \$150,000 to \$300,000. Single family homes range between \$450,000 and \$800,000. The price climbs as you get closer to town. Commute time to downtown at peak hours is about 45 minutes.

When you first drive around the Island it will seem very confusing. Almost every street name is unpronounceable and begins with a "K" and is approximately 17 letters long. However, don't be discouraged. It does get easier as time goes by. We do not use East, West, North and South as directions here. After a few days you will realize that you are traveling only in four directions – "mauka" (going toward the mountains), "makai" (going toward the ocean), Diamond Head (going toward Diamond Head – or East) or Ewa (going toward the town of Ewa, or West). And don't give up if you get lost. If you continue in the same direction, eventually you will return to where you started – it is an Island after all. The best map to get you acclimated is the fold-out kind you get from the gas station. You will find that in a fairly short time you can get around quite easily without it – just remember to watch for the two-streets that suddenly become one-way (naturally always the opposite way from the one you are going).

Welcome to Hawaii ~ 50th State

SCHOOLS

About one child in every six attends private school on Oahu. Public elementary schools cover kindergarten through 6th grade, intermediate schools are 7th and 8th grade and high schools are grades 9-12. Some are more highly rated academically than others.

There are over 100 private schools in Hawaii, which are licensed by the State Department of Education and require them to offer instructions meeting the State's minimum standards. Tuition can range from a few hundred dollars a year, to several thousand dollars a year. Some of the more prestigious private schools are usually the most expensive and difficult ones to get into. Applications usually have to be made January for entry the following September. There are also a number of good, small Catholic schools, some co-educational. Costs vary, but average around \$2,000 - \$3000 per year. Admittance here too, is limited by facilities available. For detailed information on schools you may write to the Department of Education, P.O. Box 2360, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96804.

The University of Hawaii has 40,000 students, over half of which are day students at the main campus in Manoa. It also has a four-year branch in Hilo on Hawaii and there are six two-year community colleges. Tuition for residents is on the low side for a major State University. The four private colleges in the State are Chaminade University, Brigham Young University-Hawaii Campus, Hawaii Loa College and Hawaii Pacific College, all on Oahu.

RELIGION

Hawaii offers a wide variety of religions from Buddhism to Christianity, Judaism and Shintoism. There are many different churches and temples within these major classifications.

WEATHER

Hawaii enjoys some of the most delightful weather in the world. From April to October the temperatures range from the low 70's at night to the high 80's during the day. Winter weather, from November through March, is normally cooler from the mid 60's to around 80 degrees. Evening showers throughout the year are common, although it does rain considerably more during the winter months, but it is an unusual day in Honolulu when there is no sun at all. We normally have trade winds, which blow from the Northeast at 5-15 miles per hour, but occasionally we have "Kona" winds which come from the south. Often the weather at this time is very humid and it usually brings a storm. We have occasionally had hurricanes, but they are infrequent.

The dress in Hawaii is geared to the weather. Most men wear Aloha shirts or sport shirts to work, so you can put your suits in storage. Only a few restaurants require jackets at night. The wear for women is equally casual and summer dresses can be worn all year. Many businesses allow muumuus at the office.

HAWAIIAN TIME

Because of our warm weather and Polynesian outlook, things move more slowly than they do on the Mainland. No one is in a very big hurry. If you are invited for cocktails at 6pm, don't plan on arriving before 6:15 at the earliest, or you will be considered impolite and may find the hostess still in the shower. This is called "Hawaiian Time" and permeates every level of life. If the plumber says he will be there Tuesday, don't expect him till Thursday, and anything coming from the Mainland in January, may not arrive until the middle of February. Just because the speed limit on the freeway says 55mph, don't expect the cars in the fast lane to go that speed. They are just as likely to be doing 40 or 45mph. It can be very frustrating if you are coming from an area where time is very important, but just remember that it has always been like this and you aren't going to change it. Your life in Hawaii will be much more fun if you learn to relax and enjoy it.