

Frommer's EasyGuide to the Big Island of Hawaii



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by Joe Sledge

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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An In-Depth Guide to the Natural Wonders, Cultural Heritage, and Outdoor Adventures of the Largest Hawaiian Island

The Big Island of Hawaii, also known as the "Island of Hawaii," is the largest and most diverse of the Hawaiian Islands. It's home to active volcanoes, lush rainforests, pristine beaches, and a rich cultural heritage. Frommer's EasyGuide to the Big Island of Hawaii is the ultimate travel guide for exploring this incredible island.

This comprehensive guidebook provides everything you need to plan your perfect Big Island adventure, including:

- Detailed descriptions of the island's top attractions, including the active volcanoes of Kilauea and Mauna Loa, the lush rainforests of the Hamakua Coast, and the pristine beaches of the Kona Coast.

- Insider tips on where to stay, what to eat, and how to make the most of your time on the Big Island.
- Itineraries for different types of travelers, from those interested in hiking and adventure to those looking for a more relaxed vacation.
- Beautiful color photos and maps throughout.

Whether you're a first-time visitor or a seasoned traveler, Frommer's EasyGuide to the Big Island of Hawaii is the perfect resource for planning your dream vacation.

Natural Wonders

The Big Island of Hawaii is home to some of the most awe-inspiring natural wonders in the world. The island is dominated by two active volcanoes, Kilauea and Mauna Loa. Kilauea is one of the most active volcanoes on Earth, and visitors can witness its fiery eruptions from a safe distance. Mauna Loa is the largest volcano on Earth by volume, and it towers over the island at a height of over 13,000 feet.

In addition to its volcanoes, the Big Island of Hawaii is also home to lush rainforests, pristine beaches, and cascading waterfalls. The Hamakua Coast is known for its towering sea cliffs and waterfalls, while the Kona Coast is home to beautiful beaches and world-class snorkeling and diving.

Cultural Heritage

The Big Island of Hawaii has a rich cultural heritage that dates back centuries. The island was once home to a thriving Hawaiian kingdom, and many of the island's cultural traditions have been preserved to this day. Visitors can learn about Hawaiian history and culture at the Pu'uhonua o

Honaunau National Historical Park, the Kaloko-Honokohau National Historical Park, and the Imiloa Astronomy Center.

The Big Island of Hawaii is also home to a vibrant arts and music scene. The island is home to numerous art galleries and studios, as well as a number of live music venues. Visitors can enjoy traditional Hawaiian music, as well as a variety of other musical genres.

Outdoor Adventures

The Big Island of Hawaii is a paradise for outdoor enthusiasts. The island offers a wide variety of outdoor activities, including hiking, biking, kayaking, and snorkeling. Visitors can hike to the summit of Mauna Kea, the highest mountain in Hawaii, or explore the lush rainforests of the Hamakua Coast. They can also kayak along the Kona Coast or snorkel in the crystal-clear waters of Kealahou Bay.

No matter what your interests are, you're sure to find something to love on the Big Island of Hawaii. Frommer's EasyGuide to the Big Island of Hawaii is the perfect resource for planning your dream vacation to this incredible island.

Itinerary

Here is a sample itinerary for a 7-day trip to the Big Island of Hawaii:

- **Day 1:** Arrive at Kona International Airport (KOA) and pick up your rental car. Drive to your hotel in Kona. Check in and relax. In the evening, enjoy a traditional Hawaiian dinner at a local restaurant.
- **Day 2:** Visit the Pu'uhonua o Honaunau National Historical Park to learn about Hawaiian history and culture. Continue along the Kona

Coast to Kealahou Bay, where you can snorkel in the crystal-clear waters. In the evening, enjoy a sunset cruise along the Kona Coast.

- **Day 3:** Drive to the Volcanoes National Park. Visit the Kilauea Visitor Center to learn about the park's volcanoes. Hike to the summit of Kilauea Iki, a dormant volcano. In the evening, witness the fiery eruptions of Kilauea from a safe distance.
- **Day 4:** Drive to the Hamakua Coast. Visit the Waipio Valley Lookout to enjoy stunning views of the valley below. Continue along the coast to the Akaka Falls State Park, where you can hike to the base of Akaka Falls, one of the most beautiful waterfalls on the Big Island.
- **Day 5:** Drive to the Mauna Kea Observatories. Visit the visitor center to learn about the observatories and the history of astronomy on the Big Island. In the evening, stargaze from the summit of Mauna Kea.
- **Day 6:** Drive to the Kahaluu Beach Park. Relax on the beach and swim in the ocean. Continue along the coast to the Punaluu Black Sand Beach, where you can walk on black sand and see sea turtles. In the evening, enjoy a farewell dinner at a local restaurant.
- **Day 7:** Depart from Kona International Airport (KOA).

This is just a sample itinerary, and you can customize your trip to fit your interests and budget. With so much to see and do, you're sure to have an unforgettable vacation on the Big Island of Hawaii.

Accommodation

There are a variety of accommodation options available on the Big Island of Hawaii, from budget-friendly hostels to

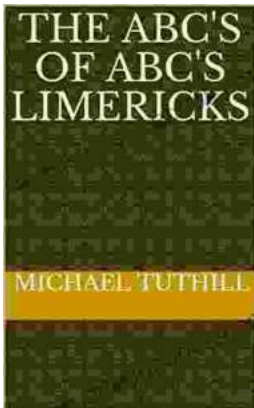


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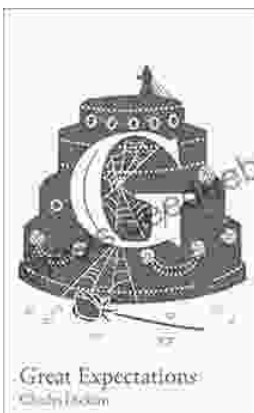
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