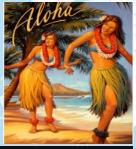
VIRTUAL VACATION



Week 2-3

Puna to Hawaii Volcanoes National Park

Aloha Hawaii

On the next leg of our trek we ventured from the Puna National Forest Reserve to the Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. This trip took 27 miles to conquer and along the way we saw landmarks that all had to do with the aftermath of volcanic eruptions.

Hawaii Volcanoes National Park to South Point Park

The next 28 miles that we passed dealt with volcanic craters and museums and lead to unusual beaches, including a beach with green sand.



Send Your Advice on Staying Motivated!

I would like to include tips on how to stay motivated and active and I want to hear them from you!

Send any tips and tricks you have used during this program to degreger@eiu.edu and you could be featured in a newsletter with a motivational quote!



Kalapana

The first attraction that we passed was the town of Kalapana. It gained its notoriety when lava flow from the Kupaianaha vent destroyed and partly buried most of the town, as well as Kalapana Gardens and nearby Royal Gardens subdivisions. Thousands of tourists flock to this location when the lava is set to flow again.



Thurston Lava Tubes

500-year old lava caves located within Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. Lava caves like this are formed when a river of lava gradually builds solid walls and a ceiling. When the lava flow stops and the last of it passes downhill, a cave is formed. A tropical rainforest awaits you at each end of the tubes. Research areas like this around the National Park.

Devastation Trail

Devastation Trail is a trail at Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. The paved trail allows visitors to explore the site of 1959 eruption of Kīlauea Iki crater that caused volcanic rain and volcanic class that can still be seen today.



Volcano House

We stayed at the Volcano
House hotel overlooking
Halemaumau Crater which
has been operating since it
was a grass shack in 1846.
Even Mark Twain once stayed
here on his visit to Hawaii.





Halemaumau Crater

Steam vents plume from this massive crater, known as the home of Pele, the volcano goddess. In 1967, this crater was filled with a lake of lava that eventually drained away. Great respect should be paid at this sacred site. This is located close to the Thomas A. Jaggar Museum named after the initial researcher of volcanic activity. Learn more about the Thomas A. Jaggar Museum.



Green Sand Beach

Green Sand Beach is named Papakolea. The green sand gets it's color from olivine crystals created from eruptions to a dormant volcano years ago. Nestled in Mahana Bay, this is truly a unique place and one of only two green sand beaches in the world.

South Point Park

South Point Hawaii (also known as Ka Lae) is the somewhat out of the way but remarkable place that is famous for being the southernmost point in the United States. South Point Hawaii is a fantastic place to get away from more crowded areas of the Big Island and experience the vast beauty and power of the ocean.



Banyan Tree House

This journey was concluded by spending a night at the Banyan Tree House. A unique type of hotel that really ties together all the sites that were passed. This hotel has a transparent roof to allow a view of the rainforest.





