HOW TO BEST SPEND YOUR TIME

If you have

Limited Time...

- Visit Kilauea Visitor Center; See Orientation Movie
- Visit the Volcano Art Center
- Take Crater Rim Loop Drive
- Stop at Hawaiian Volcano Observatory Overlook
- Walk Thurston Lava Tube Loop Trail

Moderate Time...

- All of the Above PLUS
- Walk Halema'uma'u Overlook and Devastation Trails

Half Day...

- All of the Above PLUS
- Drive Chain of Craters Road to Park's Coastal Area
- Visit Waha'ula Visitor Center

Full Day...

- All of the Above PLUS
- Walk 'Earthquake' and Kipuka Puaulu Trails
- Take a hike: rigorous -- Kilauea Iki Loop Trail OR moderate -- Sandalwood/Sulphur Banks Loop Trail
In this unusual land of active volcanoes, understanding and heeding the following important safety precautions can help you avoid potential vacation 'spoilers'.

HIKING: STAY ON MARKED TRAILS. Earth cracks, hundreds of feet deep, may be anywhere. A fall can be deadly. Thin, shelly, uneven, unstable surfaces may be hollow beneath and make walking difficult.

Keep your children under control. Many trails are on the edges of steep cliffs.

Protect yourself from severe sunburn and dehydration caused by the sun's intensive rays. Wear a hat, use sunscreen lotion, and carry plenty of water.

VOLCANIC FUMES: Heed warning signs for noxious fumes which can compound heart and respiratory ailments.

VOLCANIC COASTLINE: Expect strong winds, high waves, and dangerous, unpredictable surf conditions while visiting the coast. See cliffs and coastal lava flows, though superbly scenic, are treacherous. WATCH YOUR CHILDREN!

ALL OF THE CONDITIONS DESCRIBED ABOVE ARE REAL HAZARDS! FAILURE TO HEED THESE IMPORTANT PRECAUTIONS CAN RESULT IN SEVERE INJURY, SERIOUS ILLNESS OR DEATH.

DRIVING TIPS: Always drive defensively, courteously and carefully. Watch for bicyclists, pedestrians, and slow moving equipment. Park roads are scenic drives, not freeways. Weather can change dramatically .. sunshine turns to mist and fog. Slow down and enjoy this dynamic parkscape.

VOLCANIC ERUPTIONS: During eruptions, special attention and precautions must be taken for your safety. Areas around eruptive vents are closed during eruptions. Highway congestion and traffic jams are common. BE CONSIDERATE AND ALERT. Airborn debris from eruptions [Pele's hair, pumice and cinder] can cause limited visibility, eye irritation or bodily injury. THOUGHTLESS AND IMPATIENT DISREGARD FOR THESE PRECAUTIONS CAN CAUSE SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH TO YOURSELF AND OTHERS.

NEED MORE INFORMATION AND HELP?

Check with our information desk staff at either Kilauea or Wah'ula Visitor Center for additional information about the park, its features and timely safety messages and changes in park conditions. For in-depth information, books and audio-visual materials are available at sales centers operated by the Hawaii Natural History Association at each of the Visitor Centers.