

AMERICAN
HORTICULTURAL
SOCIETY

**Tropical Treasures:
Hawaii's Garden Delights
& Lei Day Festivities**

7 Days on Kauai & Oahu

April 27-May 3, 2025

With AHS Host Keith Tomlinson



Dear Friends,

I am delighted to invite you to join the AHS on a breathtaking journey to the Hawaiian Islands of Kauai and Oahu. From ancient lava flows and craggy volcanic peaks to emerald river valleys and fluted sea cliffs, the Hawaiian Islands are an awe-inspiring horticultural and geological wonderland.

Tour lush botanical gardens when closed to the public with the lead horticulturist, and enjoy exclusive tours at beautiful private homes and gardens. Throughout the journey, discover a wide range of natural habitats and a fascinating diversity of marine life, including tropical fish, sea turtles, and possibly humpback whales that migrate to Hawaiian waters for the winter. On relaxed hikes, search for elusive forest birds, sea birds, spectacular geologic formations, and eye-catching endemic plants. On Kauai, tour three lush National Tropical Botanical Gardens, see magnificent views of the Na Pali Coast at Koke'e State Park, and marvel at the "Grand Canyon of Hawaii," Waimea Canyon. Take a short flight to Oahu, home of Pearl Harbor and the renowned Bishop Museum, and explore a variety of culturally significant gardens, including the Lyons Arboretum, the Manoa Heritage Center Gardens, and the Ho'omaluhia Botanical Garden at the base of the Koolau mountains, as well as an extraordinary private garden that will open its doors to our AHS group.

Spring is a time of celebration worldwide, and Hawaii distinguishes itself in unique and culturally rich ways on Lei Day. We will experience a festive parade and Lei Day festival at Kapiolani Park in Honolulu, featuring a lei making competition, crafts on display, and hula performances.

I am thrilled that joining you on this program is AHS Host Keith Tomlinson, who will share his experiences working with the Hawaiian Botanical Society and the Botany Department at the Bishop Museum in Honolulu.

In addition, an optional post-trip extension is also available. On the Big Island, the youngest in the volcanic chain, learn about the ongoing volcanic activity at Kilauea volcano with a resident volcanologist while exploring Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. The extension will also feature visits to the Hawaii Tropical Bioreserve and Garden, the Paleaku Gardens Peace Sanctuary, the Amy Greenwell Botanical Gardens, and a Kona coffee tour.

We hope you will join us for this once-in-a-lifetime AHS adventure to Hawaii. Limited spaces are available, so we recommend making your reservation early.

Warmest regards,



Suzanne Laporte
President & CEO



AHS Host Keith Tomlinson



Recently retired, Keith managed Meadowlark Botanical Gardens in Vienna, Virginia for 23 years. Previously, he worked as the Natural History Education Specialist based in the botany department at Bishop Museum in Honolulu. This work included extensive programming in native Hawaiian plants and interpreting the vast array of introduced tropical species across the archipelago. Keith was Vice President of the Hawaiian Botanical Society while studying Biogeography at the University of Hawaii.

Over the past 40 years, he has visited botanical gardens in 45 countries around the world. Keith is the author of numerous articles on plant conservation, botanic garden travel and environmental education. His work in conservation and outdoor travel has been featured in the New York Times and Wall Street Journal. A Biology Fellow at the Washington Academy of Science, Keith is the recipient of numerous awards, most recently the Land Ethics Award from Bowmans Hill Wildflower Preserve.

In March 2023, Keith led the American Horticultural Society's trip to Morocco, visiting exquisite public and private gardens across the country.

Accommodations

Sheraton Kauai Resort Poipu

Sheraton Kauai Resort Poipu is an oasis nestled on the shores of the world-famous Poipu Beach in Kauai. From this enviable vantage point, the Kauai beachfront resort offers guests intimate access to the Garden Island's charms—spectacular golden-sand beaches, misty sea breezes, and lush tropical rainforests.



Oahu Kaimana Beach Hotel

Kaimana Beach Hotel is an ideal beachfront setting, where Oahu's Diamond Head meets the gentle waters of the Pacific Ocean. Built in 1963, Kaimana Beach Hotel is Waikiki's only boutique property located directly on the sand. Affectionally nicknamed Sans Souci (Without Cares), Kaimana Beach offers a peaceful oasis with breathtaking oceanside and mountainside views.



When you travel with the AHS, you make a difference.

Designed for garden enthusiasts who love to explore horticultural wonders around the world, AHS Travel Study offers exceptional programs that include many exclusive experiences and unique insights. Your participation in an AHS Travel Study program supports the AHS's nonprofit work to increase knowledge among gardeners, inspire passion for plants and the natural world, and encourage responsible stewardship of the earth.

Itinerary

SUNDAY, APRIL 27

Home / Kauai

Fly to Lihue, Kauai, and transfer to the centrally-located beachfront Sheraton Kauai Resort Poipu. This evening enjoy a welcome reception at the hotel.

Sheraton Kauai Resort Poipu (R)

MONDAY, APRIL 28

Kauai

Today includes a full day excursion to the northern side of Kauai. Begin with a private tour of the Limahuli Gardens, home to endangered plants and birds found nowhere else. Here learn about the preservation of native and culturally-significant species and the indigenous traditions highlighting the connection between humanity and nature. Next, visit Kilauea Point National Wildlife Refuge atop a 180-foot ocean bluff, considered the best place in Hawaii to spot rare seabirds. Hawaii's state bird, the Hawaiian goose (nēnē), can also be seen here alongside dolphins, seals, sea turtles, and humpback whales in the ocean below. Lastly enjoy a farm-to-table culinary experience at Common Ground Farm, showcasing the best of local ingredients.

Sheraton Kauai Resort Poipu (B,L,D)

TUESDAY, APRIL 29

Kauai

Venture to the southern side of Kauai to Waimea Canyon State Park. Here, view the magnificent Waimea Canyon, nicknamed the "Grand Canyon of the Pacific." Later, at Koke'e State Park, marvel at the stunning views of the Na Pali Cliffs followed by special tours of the McBryde & Allerton Gardens in Lawa'i Valley. Enjoy the rest of the evening at leisure.

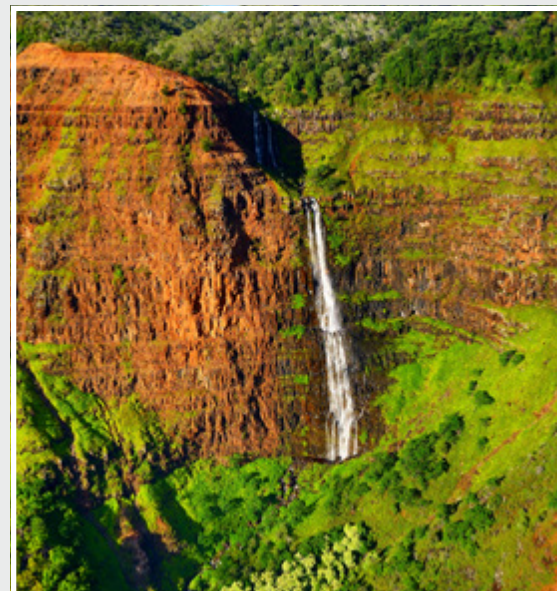
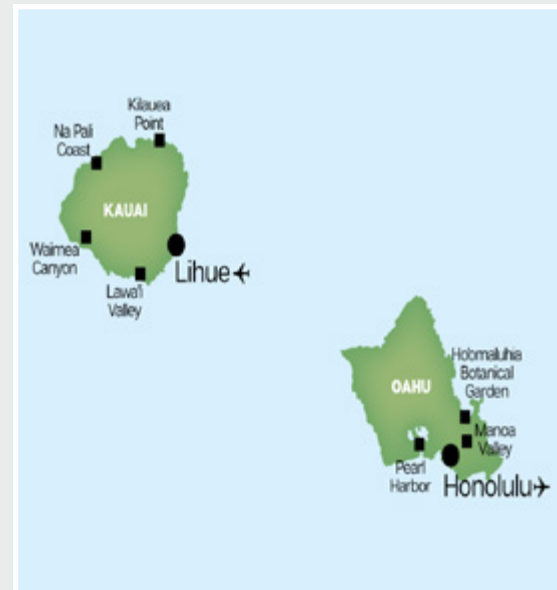
Sheraton Kauai Resort Poipu (B,L)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30

Kauai / Oahu

Take a short flight from Kauai to Honolulu, Oahu, and upon arrival, transfer to Pearl Harbor. Here visit the USS Arizona Memorial and learn about how the attack on December 7, 1941, influenced the United States' entry into World War II. Continue to the Bishop Museum, designated as the State Museum of Natural and Cultural History of Hawaii, and view its vast collections of Hawaiian and other Pacific Island cultural artifacts before checking into the hotel near Waikiki in the late afternoon. This evening is free for independent dining and sight-seeing.

Kaimana Beach Hotel (B,L)



Photos (from top):
Trip Overview
Limahuli Gardens (Maria Luisa Lopez Estivill);
Waimea Canyon (MNStudio)

THURSDAY, MAY 1

Oahu

Today is Lei Day in Hawaii, a statewide spring cultural celebration. Enjoy a colorful and festive parade in Waikiki and experience the largest Lei Day festival in Hawaii at Kapiolani Park. Delight in musical and dance performances and admire displays of intricately crafted lei showcased at the lei making competition exhibit. After an afternoon at leisure, take a sunset tour of the Liljestrand House and Gardens, followed by a drinks reception this evening.

Kaimana Beach Hotel (B,R)

FRIDAY, MAY 2

Oahu

Venture to the picturesque Manoa Valley for visits to the University of Hawaii's Lyon Arboretum, home to over 5,000 species of tropical and sub-tropical plants, and the Manoa Heritage Center, a living classroom dedicated to teaching Hawaii's natural and cultural heritage. Drive over the Pali to the eastern side of the island to visit Ho'omaluhia Botanical Garden at the base of the Koolau mountains and visit a private garden in Waimanalo. This evening gather for a celebratory farewell dinner.

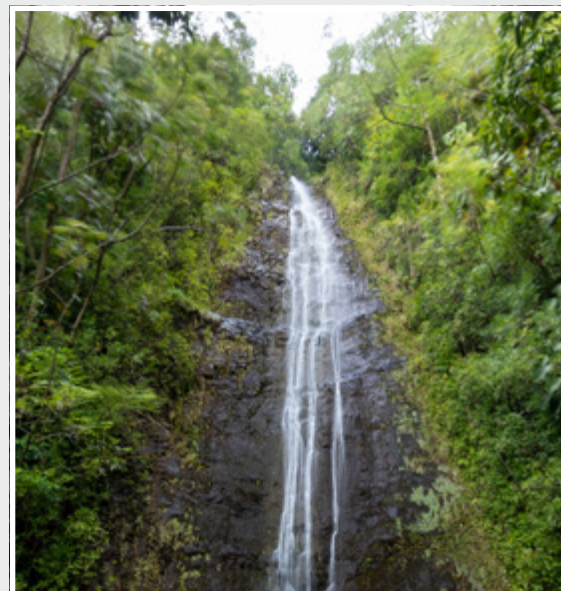
Kaimana Beach Hotel (B,L,D)

SATURDAY, MAY 3

Oahu/Home

Transfer to the Honolulu airport for flights home or to Hilo, Hawaii for a post-trip extension on the Big Island.

(B)



Photos (from top):
Kauai Lighthouse (Izanbar);
Pearl Harbor Memorial (Rocky Reston);
Manoa Falls Waterfal (Eric Dale)

Trip Highlights

Tour the Limahuli Garden & Preserve on the north shore of Kauai with the lead horticulturalist on Monday, when the garden is closed to the public.

Visit a botanist's private home and garden in Waimanalo that is not open to the public to learn about the over 300 varieties of Ti plants (*Cordyline fruticosa*) that he has created using a small paintbrush to cross-pollinate and coax out new colors, textures, and combinations.

Savor local ingredients at a farm-to-table culinary experience at Common Ground Farm.

Venture to the magnificent Waimea Canyon, the "Grand Canyon of the Pacific."

Admire vast collections of Hawaiian artifacts on a behind the scenes tour of the Bishop Museum.

Celebrate Lei Day with music, dance performances, and lei exhibitions at a festival at Kapiolani Park in Honolulu.

Join a University of Hawaii botanist on a tour of the Lyon Arboretum in the scenic Manoa Valley, where over 5,000 species of tropical and sub-tropical plants can be found.

Explore the Native Hawaiian garden at the Manoa Heritage Center, which preserves species and promotes an understanding of their use and beneficial properties.



MAY 3-7, 2025 | OPTIONAL POST-VOYAGE EXTENSION

The Big Island of Hawaii

On the Big Island, the youngest of the volcanic chain, begin with a visit to the Hawaii Tropical Botanical Garden followed by lunch at a private home. At Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, join a resident volcanologist and investigate ongoing volcanic activity at Kilauea volcano. Enjoy the tranquil environment of Pu'uuhonua o Honaunau National Historical Park, the place of refuge, before continuing to scenic Kailua-Kona. In Kona, tour the Amy Greenwell Ethnobotanical Garden and join the Greenwell Farms Kona coffee tour, and later, wander through the Paleaku Gardens Peace Sanctuary followed by a free afternoon to explore and shop in Kona. Celebrate the journey with a final dinner at the hotel.

Further details and pricing will be sent to confirmed participants.



Photos (from top):
Paleaku Peace-Gardens (Richard Isaacman)
Lava flow—Kilauea (Martinmark)



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General Information

AHS TRAVEL STUDY

TROPICAL TREASURES: HAWAII'S GARDEN DELIGHTS & LEI DAY FESTIVITIES

April 27-May 3, 2025

This custom AHS Travel Study program has been created uniquely for AHS members and is offered in collaboration with Criterion Travel.

TOUR COST

Per Person\$8,495
(sharing accommodations)

Single Supplement\$1,995

AHS Travel Study programs are designed to offer immersive experiences and often involve long days filled with exploration and extensive walking on uneven terrain. To participate in a program, it is recommended to be in good physical condition and prepared to walk for a minimum of two miles each day.

RESERVATIONS & PAYMENTS

To reserve space, please email Criterion Travel at res@critteriontravel.com or return the completed reservation form with your \$1,000 per person deposit to: Criterion Travel, 4250 SW Hall Blvd., Beaverton, OR 97005, or fax to (650) 560- 6400. Balance of payment is due January 27, 2025. After January 27, 2025, full payment is due upon registration. Final payment must be made by check or bank transfer.

FLIGHTS

U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates. Participants are responsible for their own air arrangements. Please do not purchase airline tickets until the operation of the tour is confirmed by Criterion Travel. Further information about making flight arrangements will be sent to confirmed participants. When it is time to make flight arrangements, the AHS's flight and travel services provider, Cranky Concierge, provides optional flight and travel arrangement services for a seamless travel experience, including proactive flight monitoring and travel disruption assistance: www.crankyconciierge.com/ahsgardening. You are also welcome to book your air transportation through your local travel agent, an online travel site, or the airline of your choice.

PASSENGER CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS

Upon payment of a deposit, all reservations are subject to the cancellation provisions set forth below and by which the passenger agrees to be bound. Cancellations shall not be effective until they are received in writing and confirmed by Criterion Travel. Deposits are refundable (less a \$250 per person admin fee) if written notice of cancellation is received within 30 days of booking; after that, deposits are 100% nonrefundable. After January 27, 2025 final payment deadline: All payments are 100% nonrefundable, regardless of booking date. For this reason, we strongly urge participants to purchase trip cancellation insurance. No refunds will be made for any part of this program on which you choose not to participate. NOTE: Criterion Travel does not accept liability for any airline cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in conjunction with this tour.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Upon receipt of registration, Criterion Travel will send registrant a Participant Tour Agreement detailing the full terms and conditions for this tour. This document must be signed and returned to Criterion Travel before participant's registration is considered complete and any arrangements can be confirmed.

TOUR PRICE INCLUSIONS

All accommodations, meals, and excursions as specified in the itinerary • Full program of briefings, lectures and presentations • Small group arrival and departure transfers on first and last day based on flight information received from travelers • Baggage handling • Gratuities to porters, waitstaff, guides and drivers • Entrance fees • Welcome and farewell wine receptions • House wine, beer, and soft drinks with welcome and farewell dinners • Bottled water on motorcoaches • Criterion Tour Manager

TOUR PRICE EXCLUSIONS

U.S. domestic airfare • On-tour flights approximately \$150 per person for Kauai/Oahu (main tour) and \$150 per person for Oahu/Hilo (post tour extension), flight costs are added to final invoice to travelers • Medical expenses and immunizations • Private airport transfers • Travel insurance • Optional excursions or deviations from the scheduled tour • Excess baggage charges • Meals not specified in the itinerary; dishes and beverages not part of the included meals; liquor or soft drinks except as noted • Laundry or dry cleaning • Telephone, fax, Internet and email charges • Room service • Other items of a personal nature



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General Information

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel Insurance is not included in the tour cost, but participants are strongly encouraged to purchase a travel protection plan in conjunction with this tour, including coverage of trip cancellation, trip interruption, emergency evacuation/repatriation, medical expenses, lost or damaged baggage, and other expenses and/or losses incurred due to unexpected situations. One travel insurance provider to consider is USI Affinity Travel Insurance Services. For more information on the plan for AHS travelers, visit www.ahsgardening.org/travel. Information is also available at this link regarding optional flight and travel arrangement services.

HEALTH

All participants should be in good health and capable of keeping up with an active group of travelers. By forwarding the deposit for passage, the passenger certifies that he/she does not have any physical or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for him/ herself or other passengers.

AHS TRAVEL STUDY HEALTH AND SAFETY GUIDELINES

At AHS Travel Study, ensuring the health and safety of our guests is our top priority. We strongly advise everyone to take precautions against COVID-19 and other contagious illnesses before and during travel. Please review the Health and Safety guidelines below.

Vaccination: The AHS strongly recommends that all AHS Travel Study participants be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 at the time of travel including a COVID-19 booster shot, if eligible. Guests must still comply with any trip-specific vaccination requirements, including those required by our trip operators.

On-Trip: To ensure the health and safety of program participants, if you are feeling unwell on-tour, please advise your Tour Manager and adhere to current CDC guidelines.

Local Requirements: It is important to note that international destinations and local laws may still enforce full COVID-19 vaccination requirements. In some cases, guests who have not completed their full vaccination regimen may be prohibited from entering specific destinations. For more information, please visit the U.S. Department of State website.

Travel Insurance: We highly recommend purchasing travel insurance. We encourage you to carefully review the various travel insurance options available and select a policy that best suits your needs. Be sure to consider factors such as coverage limits including COVID-19 coverage, medical expenses, trip cancellation/interruption coverage, baggage loss or delay, and other travel-related contingencies.

ITINERARY CHANGES

The itinerary presented for this tour is subject to modification and change by Criterion Travel. Every reasonable effort will be made to operate the program as planned; however, should unforeseen world events and conditions require the itinerary to be altered, Criterion Travel reserves the right to do so for the safety and best interest of the group. Any extra expenses incurred in this situation are the responsibility of the participant.

Complete Terms and Conditions including a Statement of Responsibility will be made available at the time of registration, or in advance upon request. A signed "Terms & Conditions, Release from Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Clause" is required from each applicant prior to participation on the tour.

AHS PROGRAM CONTENT

The AHS and its travel partners reserve the right to take photographs, videos, and audio ("Program Content") during the Travel Study program for editorial, promotional, and commercial use by the AHS or authorized third parties. By making a reservation on an AHS Travel Study program, the participant agrees to allow his/her likeness to be used by AHS or AHS-authorized third parties without compensation to the participant. AHS reserves the right to crop, alter, or combine the Program Content with other images, text, or media at its sole discretion and to use the Program Content in any medium or format, including but not limited to print, digital, or online media. This authorization grants AHS and/or authorized third parties the right to use the photographs, videos, and audio worldwide and in perpetuity, without further consent or compensation. Participants who prefer that their voice and/or image not be used must notify AHS in writing prior to the beginning of the program

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please call: (888) 328-2089 or (650) 328-2089.

To reserve, please complete and return this form by email to res@critteriontravel.com. If paying by check, please return this form with your deposit of \$1,000 per person, payable to Criterion Travel, to:
Criterion Travel, 4250 SW Hall Blvd.,
Beaverton, OR 97005.



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Registration Form

TO REGISTER BY PHONE, CALL:

Criterion Travel at (888) 328-2089

COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM TO:

Criterion Travel , 4250 SW Hall Blvd., Beaverton, OR 97005
or by email at res@critteriontravel.com

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT
AHS TRAVEL STUDY PROGRAM**

Please contact (703) 768-8801. Information is also available
at www.ahsgardening.org/travel.

Name - Participant 1

Name - Participant 2

Preferred Name for Name Tag - Participant 1

Preferred Name for Name Tag - Participant 2

Address

CityState

Zip

Home Phone

Cell Phone

E-mail Address - Participant 1

E-mail Address - Participant 2

ROOMING OPTIONS: (please select)

- Double Occupancy, I will share a room with _____
 - We prefer separate beds
- Single Occupancy
 - I would like a roommate but will pay the single supplement if one cannot be found

TOUR DOCUMENTS:

Criterion Travel will send all documents pertaining to the tour by email to the email address listed above.

- If you wish to receive hardcopy versions of the tour documents by post as well, please check this circle.
Paper documents will not be sent to your home address unless circle is checked.

DEPOSIT (\$1,000 per person):

_____ #of persons _____ Amount Enclosed

- Visa Mastercard American Express Check (make check payable to Criterion Travel)

Card Number

Exp. (mm/yy)

Name as it appears on card

CVV Security Code

EACH PARTICIPANT MUST SIGN

By registering and paying the deposit for this tour, registrant acknowledges he/ she has carefully read and understands all information contained in the tour brochure, recognizes and accepts any risks therein, agrees to be bound by the terms and conditions above.

Signature - Participant 1 / Date

Signature - Participant 2 / Date