



Aloha!

Welcome to the Hawai'i State Capitol. We know you will enjoy your visit to the building where the executive and legislative branches of our state government reside.

The capitol is a great symbol of our democracy. The state laws that affect people's lives are created here. Those of us that work in this structure are privileged to serve the people of Hawai'i.

Please take the time to appreciate the wonderful architecture and its surroundings. You will find much of its beauty mirrors that of our island state.

As you explore the capitol, we hope it will give you a glimpse inside Hawai'i's government, and of what makes the 50th state unique.

We extend our best wishes to you and mahalo for visiting us.

Sincerely,

LINDA LINGLE
Governor

The Executive Chambers

The fifth floor of the Hawai'i State Capitol houses the offices of the governor and lieutenant governor. The governor is the head of state and oversees all state agencies and their functions. The lieutenant governor assumes the powers of the governor when she is unable to perform the duties of the office. The lieutenant governor also acts as Hawai'i's Secretary of State.

As you walk into the executive chambers of the governor's office, you will observe much of it is built of native koa wood. Portraits of past governors line the walls. Flanking the entrance to the governor's ceremonial room are two glass cases. Items on display come from Hawai'i's Bishop Museum, along with memorabilia from dignitaries who have visited with Hawai'i's governors. The display also includes a moon rock and a Hawai'i state flag carried to the moon by astronauts, gifts to the state from NASA. Inside the ceremonial room is a large koa desk. Here the governor signs bills into law and greets visiting dignitaries.



Lt. Governor
JAMES R. "DUKE"
AIONA, JR.

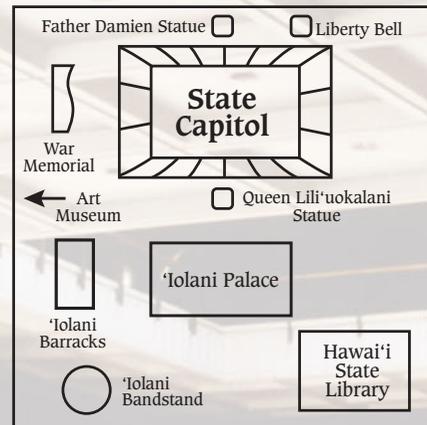


MAP OF THE CAPITOL AREA

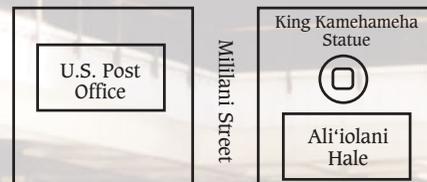


Eternal Flame

South Beretania Street



South King Street



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR CAPITOL TOURS

Hawai'i State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813
Phone: (808) 586-0178
Fax: (808) 586-0019
Email: gov.info@hawaii.gov

Call for hours or reservations.

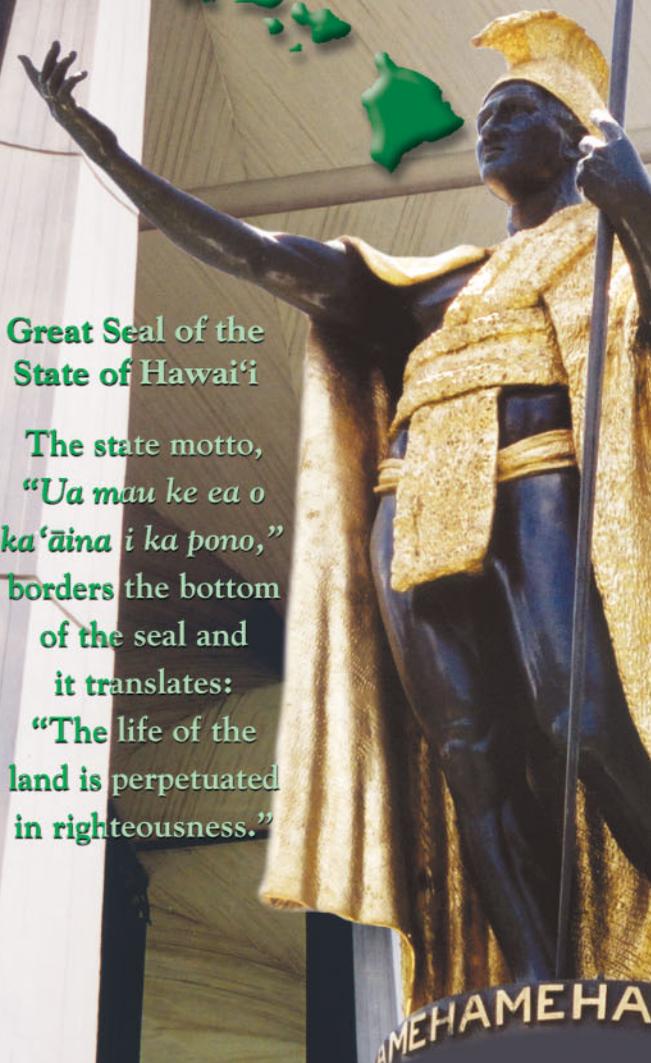
If auxiliary aids or special services are requested, please notify the Tours Program ten days prior.

Hawai'i State Capitol



Great Seal of the
State of Hawai'i

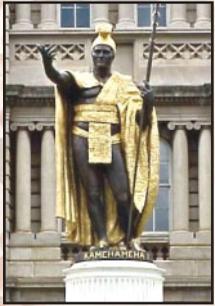
The state motto,
"Ua mau ke ea o
ka'āina i ka pono,"
borders the bottom
of the seal and
it translates:
"The life of the
land is perpetuated
in righteousness."





Capitol Monuments

KING KAMEHAMEHA THE GREAT



The statue of Kamehameha I stands in front of the Ali‘iolani Hale, the Hawai‘i Supreme Court Building on King Street across from ‘Iolani Palace. He was the first Hawaiian monarch to unite all of the islands under one rule. The statue is a creation of Thomas Gould.

On special occasions this statue, along with that of Queen Lili‘uokalani, will be draped in leis.

THE LIBERTY BELL

Given to Hawai‘i by the federal government in 1950, the bell stands for freedom and democracy.



THE KOREAN/VIETNAM WAR MEMORIAL



Dedicated in 1994, the wall is a memorial to those patriots from Hawai‘i who gave their lives for

freedom. Above each of the memorials is a Hawaiian inscription, in remembrance of the soldiers who died in the Korean war and Vietnam conflict.

THE ETERNAL FLAME

The eternal flame burns as a tribute to the men and women of Hawai‘i who have served in our armed forces in the defense of freedom and liberty.



QUEEN LILI‘UOKALANI

Lili‘uokalani’s statue, created by Marianna Pineda, is holding three documents in her hand. The documents are “Aloha ‘Oe,” a song written by the queen, the constitution of the kingdom, and “Kumulipo,” the Hawaiian chant of creation.



FATHER DAMIEN

The statue facing the Beretania Street entrance is of Father Joseph Damien de Veuster. He was known for his work on the island of Moloka‘i where he tended to the physical and spiritual needs of leprosy-stricken people. He spent 16 years on Moloka‘i, until he eventually caught the disease and died from it in 1889. His statue was created by Marisol Escobar.



WASHINGTON PLACE

Across from the state capitol on Beretania Street is Washington Place, the historic home of Hawai‘i’s Governors.

Washington Place was also the residence of Hawai‘i’s last reigning monarch, Queen Lili‘uokalani. The home was named after George Washington by Kamehameha III. Governor Linda Lingle is the first governor not to live in the manor, turning it into a state museum.

Next to the capitol is the Hawai‘i State Art Museum. The work of various Hawai‘i artists are showcased in the museum. Admission is free.



The Capitol Building

As you observe this structure you will notice its volcanic shape, symbolic of the islands’ birth. The building is surrounded by water, like our island state, and the columns rise like coconut trees, which are in abundance on every island.



A pattern of eight columns repeats throughout the building, representing the eight major islands in the Hawaiian chain.



Hanging from both entrances of the capitol is the state seal. The year 1959, when Hawai‘i became a state, is posted above two figures. One is King Kamehameha I. The other is the Liberty Goddess.

The capitol, open from the entrances to the roof, welcomes the sun, rain and trade winds. Its design symbolizes the openness of the islands and its people. In the center of the atrium is the “Aquarius” pool, by artist Tadashi Sato, which symbolizes the changing colors of Hawai‘i’s ocean.

Inside the capitol are the legislative chambers, which are also volcanic shaped. The Hawai‘i legislature is made up of the 25-member Senate and the 51-member House of Representatives.



The chandeliers in the legislative chambers were designed by artist Otto Piene. The “Moon,” in the Senate, is made of polished aluminum and chambered nautilus shells. The “Sun,” in the House of Representatives, is made of gold-plated copper and brass.

The tapestries hanging in the chambers are composed of warm earth colors. In the House is a cool motif, while sky colors are presented in the Senate. They were designed by Ruthadell Anderson.

