

“The world will turn to Hawai‘i as they search for world peace because Hawai‘i has the key . . . And that key is Aloha!”

ALOHA, a poem written by Hawai‘i’s treasured kupuna, Auntie Pilahi Paki, was encoded into law in 1986. HRS §5-7.5.

The Aloha Spirit is the coordination of mind and heart within each person. It brings each person to the Self. Each person must think and emote good feelings to others. In the contemplation and presence of the life force, “Aloha,” the following unuhi laulā loa [translation] may be used:

- Akahai** meaning kindness (grace), to be expressed with tenderness;
- Lōkahi** meaning unity (unbroken), to be expressed with harmony;
- Olu‘olu** meaning agreeable (gentle), to be expressed with pleasantness;
- Ha‘aha‘a** meaning humility (empty), to be expressed with modesty;
- Ahonui** meaning patience (waiting for the moment), to be expressed with perseverance.

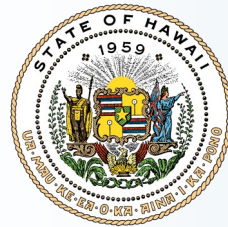
These are traits of character that express the charm, warmth and sincerity of Hawai‘i’s people. It was the working philosophy of native Hawaiians and was presented as a gift to the people of Hawai‘i.

Aloha is more than a word of greeting or farewell or a salutation.

Aloha means mutual regard and affection and extends warmth in caring with no obligation in return.

Aloha is the essence of relationships in which each person is important to every other person for collective existence.

Aloha means to hear what is not said, to see what cannot be seen and to know the unknowable.



Hawai‘i State Capitol



Aloha and mahalo for visiting the Hawai‘i State Capitol. We hope you will find your visit to be a memorable one.

Begin your self-guided tour on the ground entry level at the makai (ocean) end, facing the statue of Queen Lili‘uokalani.



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The “**Spirit of Lili‘uokalani**,” created by Marianna Pineda, stands between ‘Iolani Palace and the State Capitol. Queen Lili‘uokalani became the first female ruler of the Kingdom of Hawai‘i in 1891. The Queen valued her people and organized schools for Hawaiian children. She was also a talented musician and composer. Most of all, she was a steadfast, dignified queen who put her people first.



Behind the statue to the right, you will see **‘Iolani Palace**, the only royal palace on American

soil. After the overthrow of the monarchy in 1893, the palace was renamed the Executive Building for the Republic of Hawai‘i (1894-1898), the Territory of Hawai‘i (1898-1959) and the State of Hawai‘i until the present State Capitol building was finished.

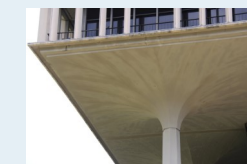
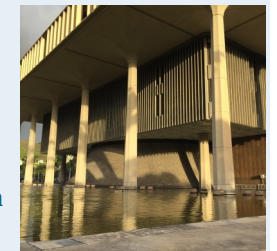
Shortly after Hawai‘i became a state on August 21, 1959, John Carl Warnecke & Associates of San Francisco and Belt, Lemon & Lo of Honolulu were selected as the architecture firms. A groundbreaking ceremony took place on November 10, 1965. The Capitol was completed four years later, dedicated by Governor John A. Burns on March 15, 1969.



Bronze replicas of the **State Seal** are suspended by chains at both entrances of the Capitol. Designed by Viggo Jacobsen in 1895 for the Republic of Hawai‘i, the original seal was changed to reflect statehood in 1959. The shield in the center has a star and pulo‘ulo‘u sticks, representing the 50th state and the authority and power of government, respectively. The sun above and the phoenix below the shield are symbols of a new era. King Kamehameha the Great who unified the Hawaiian Islands stands to the left and the Goddess of Liberty stands to the right. Taro leaves, banana leaves and maidenhair fern signify the fruitfulness found in Hawai‘i. Written at the bottom of the circle is the state motto: UA MAU KE EA O KA ‘ĀINA I KA PONO. It means the life of the land is perpetuated in righteousness.



The vision for a modern and functional place of democracy was one of beauty and dignity. Look at the sides of the building and you will see that the structure is set in **reflecting pools** which symbolize the Pacific Ocean. This unique design of the Hawai‘i State Capitol centers around the birth of the islands from the sea. Like a volcano, the sloped chamber walls spring from the surface of these pools. Other symbolic features of the building include the forty columns that fan out at the top like **palm trees** and the water



spouts above the reflecting pools with the **hibiscus** flower motif.





In the **courtyard**, there are four planter benches, each with a **kukui nut tree**. This tree is a symbol of enlightenment and a source of food, light and medicine for the Hawaiians. The kukui nut tree is also the state tree of Hawai'i.

The courtyard incorporates the elements of nature, allowing the sun, wind and rain to stream in. Instead of an enclosed rotunda as seen in most capitol buildings, the center of the courtyard soars overhead to an **open crown** with the sky as its dome. The light, airy style is perfect for the gentle tropical climate of Hawai'i, welcoming citizens throughout the year.



Lying at the center of the courtyard is the **"Aquarius,"** a 36-foot mosaic made with over 600,000 Italian smalti [tiles]. Tadashi Sato of Maui created the mosaic based on his painting, also entitled "Aquarius," which reflected his love of the ocean. From an upper floor, you can envision the sparkling waters, submerged rocks and playful shadows of native shore waters.



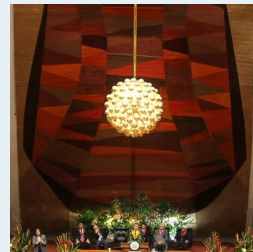
The **House of Representatives Chamber** and the **Senate Chamber** sit on opposite sides of the courtyard. During floor sessions, the public can enter into the **spectator gallery** and watch the legislators in action.



The **Senate Chamber** is filled with the cool colors of the ocean, sand and sky. Hanging from the center is the **"Moon"** light sculpture designed by Otto Piene, a pioneer in kinetic art. Wired with a color-changing sequence, the sculpture glows with different hues behind the polished aluminum and 630 nautilus shells. On the sloped, curved wall is an abstract mural tapestry designed by Honolulu textile artist, Ruthadell Anderson. This masterpiece, assembled with separately woven panels of wool knots on linen warps, measures close to 40 feet in height.



The **House of Representatives Chamber** is decorated with warm earthy tones and another tapestry by Ruthadell Anderson to complement the room's color scheme. The **"Sun,"** also designed by Otto Piene, is made with 132 gold-plated copper and brass orbs which emit prisms that cast pale rainbows on the ceiling.



On the mauka (mountain) entrance of the courtyard stands the **"Martyr of Moloka'i,"** a bronze statue of Father Damien designed by Marisol [Escobar]. Born as Joseph De Veuster in Belgium, Father Damien was a Roman Catholic priest who volunteered to go to Moloka'i in 1873 to care for the outcasts afflicted with leprosy. He lived and worked on Kalaupapa for 16 years; alongside the patients, he built chapels, organized schools and choirs, provided medical care for the living and buried the dead. The simplicity of the statue's design reflects the artist's decision "to undertake the work directly and simply in much the same way Father Damien did his work." In 2009, Pope Benedict XVI canonized Father Damien as Saint Damien of Moloka'i.



To the left of the statue lies a replica of the **Liberty Bell**, which was presented to the Territory of Hawai'i in 1950. The U.S. Treasury Department produced 55 of these replicas for states and territories to ring on patriotic occasions.



Look across the street and you can see the **Eternal Flame**, an abstract copper and bronze sculpture. Created in 1974 by Bumpei Akaji of Kaua'i, a 442nd Regimental Combat Team veteran, this memorial burns endlessly in remembrance of the December 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor.



On the left of the Eternal Flame is **Washington Place**, former home of Queen Lili'uokalani. Since 1921, Washington Place served as the official residence for the Governor of Hawai'i.



In the Capitol, hearing rooms and offices for the State's 25 Senators and 51 Representatives are located on the upper floors. The fourth floor is also home to the **Office of the Governor** and the **Hawai'i Public Access Room**. The Hawai'i Public Access Room provides citizens with services and equipment to participate in the legislative process and is the only fully staffed facility of its kind in the nation. Head up to the fifth floor to take a look at the **Executive Chamber**. The doors and much of the room is built with **koa**, an indigenous hardwood. Inside the Executive Chamber is the **Governor's Ceremonial Room** where he greets visiting dignitaries, holds press conferences and signs bills into law.



Governors of the State of Hawai'i



William F. Quinn, the last Territorial Governor, served as the first elected State Governor from 1959 to 1961.



John A. Burns was a Honolulu police captain prior to entering politics and served as Governor from 1962 to 1974.



George R. Ariyoshi, first governor of Japanese-American ancestry, served from 1974 to 1986 and is remembered for guiding the State past its first economic recession.



John D. Waihe'e III, first elected governor of native Hawaiian descent, served from 1986 to 1994. He came into office when the economy was booming.



Benjamin J. Cayetano, first governor of Filipino-American ancestry, served from 1994 to 2002. He was Lt. Governor under Governor Waihe'e.



Linda Lingle was the first female and first person of Jewish descent to be elected as Governor of the State of Hawai'i, serving from 2002 to 2010.



Neil Abercrombie served as Governor from 2010 to 2014. He had a 40-year political career as a State House Representative, Honolulu City Councilman, U.S. Congressman and Governor.



David Y. Ige is the first governor of Okinawan ancestry, inaugurated on December 1, 2014. He spent 34 years as an electrical engineer and also served in the Senate for 28 years.