

HAWAII HISTORY TIMELINE

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6000 BC	The Austronesian Migration begins - it will people the entire Pacific over several millennia
1600 BC	The proto-Polynesian Lapita Culture emerges in island Melanesia
1000 BC	Samoa & Tonga settled - 'the first Polynesians'
500 CE	Tahiti, Raiatea and other Society Islands settled
700	Marquesas settled
800	Hawaiian islands settled from Marquesas and/or Society Islands (Tahiti / Raiatea)
1778	Cook lands at Waimea on Kauai
1779	Cook killed on the beach at Kealahou Bay on the Big Island of Hawaii
1790-95	Hawaiian Chief Paiea unifies Hawaii , Maui, Oahu, Lanai & Molokai - ascends as King Kamehameha I
1810	Kauai and Ni'ihau 'voluntarily' join the Kingdom. First horses and cattle are brought to the islands.
1820	The first missionaries arrive. Lahaina on Maui is made the capital of the Kingdom of Hawaii. Traders (sandalwood), whalers, and ships in need of provisioning & repair frequent the islands.
1835	First sugarcane plantations → explosive growth of sugar industry ensues
1840s	Kamehameha III's land reform fails, largely due to unfamiliarity with concept of land ownership
1843	British occupation (' The Paulet Affair ') for 6 months - ends when American warships visit
1845	Capital moved to Honolulu on Oahu, where it has remained. Hawaiian flag formally adopted.
1850s	Sugar and other labor needs propel immigration from China, Japan, Korea, Philippines, & Portugal.
1874	Kamehameha Dynasty comes to an end. David Kalakaua becomes King in a peaceful transition.
1881	King David Kalakaua, 'The Merrie Monarch', becomes first monarch to circumnavigate the world
1882	Iolani Palace is completed - replete with electric lights, indoor plumbing, and a telephone
1887	King Kalakaua is forced by 'The Hawaiian Rifles' militia to sign ' The Bayonet Constitution '
1891	King Kalakaua dies - Queen Lili'uokalani ascends throne - and rejects The Bayonet Constitution
1893	OVERTHROW OF THE MONARCHY by American sugar barons begins; Queen placed under house arrest
1894	The Republic of Hawaii is founded American Sanford B Dole becomes the first President.
1895	The brief Wilcox Rebellion , an attempt to restore the monarchy, fails
1898	In the wake of the Spanish-American War, Pres. McKinley leads successful campaign for ANNEXATION
1899	James Dole - young cousin of Sanford Dole - plants pineapples on Oahu
1900	'The Organic Act' makes Hawaii officially a TERRITORY of the USA
1901	The first 5-star hotel (Moana Hotel) opens on Waikiki Beach on Oahu - and Hawaii tourism takes off
1940	FDR moves the US Pacific Fleet from San Diego to Pearl Harbor
1941	Japanese attack Pearl Harbor
1941-45	Pearl Harbor and the Hawaiian islands play a key strategic role in US operations during WWII
1959	HAWAII BECOMES THE 50TH STATE OF THE USA
1978	Hawaiian language made an official state language (along with English).
1990	Kilauea on Hawaii erupts, destroying the town of Kalapana and extending the coastline 1000 feet.
1993	President Clinton signs a declaration apologizing for the illegal overthrow of the Hawaiian monarchy.
2009	Hawaiian-born Barack Obama becomes the 44 th President of the USA
2011	Hawaii hosts the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperative summit
2017	Traditional Hawaiian sailing canoe <i>Hokule'a</i> completes 4-year circumnavigation
2018	Kilauea on Hawaii erupts, causing thousands to evacuate and closure of Volcanoes National Park
2022	Mauna Loa on Hawaii erupts - millions of dollars of damage (mostly roads) but no fatalities
2023	Honolulu edges out Los Angeles to become the 3 rd most expensive city in the US (after NY and SF) Wildfire tragically destroys the historic port city of Lahaina on Maui