

WELCOME TO LĒ'AHĪ



What's in a Name?

Lē'ahi is the Hawaiian name for the crater. If translated as "brow of the 'ahi fish", the name reflects the profile of the crater as seen from Waikīkī. Lē'ahi can also mean "wreath of fire" and refer to the navigational fires lit on the summit to assist canoes travelling offshore.

In the late 1700s, Western explorers mistook the calcite crystals in the crater for diamonds. Thus, the name Diamond Head.

Hawai'i's Natural Landmark

Diamond Head Crater is O'ahu's premier natural landmark. It is recognized around the world as a symbol of Hawai'i. Diamond Head is unique for its geology, natural landscape, military history and scenic views.

Diamond Head was declared a National Natural Landmark in 1968. The crater is recognized as an excellent example of a tuff cone with a typical erosional pattern.

Public Access Area

The crater was a restricted military reservation from 1906 to 1976. A portion of the crater was opened for recreational use in 1976. Today, more than a million people visit the crater each year. Most visitors hike the historic trail to the summit to enjoy the spectacular views of Waikīkī.

You are welcome to visit the park area shown on the map. The other areas are used by Civil Defense, FAA, and Hawai'i National Guard and are restricted. For your safety, stay on designated trail and avoid the restricted areas.

