



Waimea Canyon in Hawaii

Aloha. The third part of our canyon tour leads to Hawaii, to Waimea Canyon. The canyon measures just 16 kilometers and is thus quickly flown through. Therefore, as in the previous parts, it will not only be a flight through the canyon, but you will also be presented with other sights of the small island of Kauai.

Waimea is Hawaiian and means "reddish water", a reference to the erosion of the red rock of the canyon. The canyon was formed by a deep cut in the Waimea River caused by extreme rainfall on the island's central peak, Mount Wai'ale'ale, one of the wettest places on earth.

Enjoy flying and exploring, Koschi.

Flying Tips:

There is a GPS course that can be obtained.

Weather is freely selectable. Live weather is preset.

Use ATC if you like.

HUD in the interior view can be turned off in the settings.

No. of Legs: 2

Total distance: 94 nm

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LEGS

LEG 1: PHLI - HI01

Departure: Lihue (PHLI)
 Destination: Princeville (HI01)
 Distance: 64,1 nm



HAUP-Ha'upu



Distance: 4,6 nm
 Dist. from Dept.: 4,6 nm
 Dist. to Dest.: 59,5 nm
 True Course: 229°
 Magnetic Course: 219°

You will take off from the largest airport on the island, Lihue Airport. After getting your takeoff clearance, fly southwest toward the top of the Ha'upu mountain range, whose summit you will approach at 2,300 feet.

You can also sit back after takeoff and let the autopilot work for a while. There's a GPS course to guide you.

LAWA-Lawai Bay

Distance:	6,1 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	10,7 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	53,4 nm
True Course:	249°
Magnetic Course:	239°

The course now takes you to Lawai Bay, a small but family-friendly beach that is considered an insider's tip for tourists on the island.

On the way you can take a look at Waita Reservoir, just south of the Ha'upu mountain range. The reservoir is one of the largest inland bodies of water in Hawaii, albeit artificial. It is a desirable place for fishing. The mountain backdrop in front of the reservoir served as the movie set for the film Jurassic Park.

PALL-Port Allan

Distance:	4,7 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	15,4 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	48,7 nm
True Course:	283°
Magnetic Course:	274°

Now follow the coast or GPS course to Port Allen.

Originally called 'Ele'ele Landing, terminal owner Kauai Railway renamed it after Honolulu Harbor businessman and financier Samuel Clesson Allen. Captain James Cook landed in this bay. The town was badly damaged by Hurricane Iwa in 1982 but eventually rebuilt.

KAWA-Kawaikini

Distance:	10,3 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	25,8 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	38,4 nm
True Course:	29°
Magnetic Course:	19°

Now you can admire the first canyon, of which there are several on the island. Follow the Koula River, which has cut through the rock here. You will probably have to circle to gain altitude so that you can fly over the top. But do not fly too high. The impressive rocks reveal their full splendor only when you fly below their summit height.

Kawaikini is the highest peak on the island of Kaua'i in the Hawai'i archipelago. It is, as with all mountains of Hawaii, the summit of a volcano, which reaches a height of 1,598 meters above sea level. The mighty waterfalls of the Koula River also served as a backdrop for the movie Jurassic Park.

WEIR-Waimea River

Distance:	10,4 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	36,2 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	28,0 nm
True Course:	238°
Magnetic Course:	229°

Once you reach the top of Kawaikini, turn west. Right next to Koula Canyon is Olokele Canyon, named after the river of the same name that flows through the valley here. Do not follow the GPS course, but steer by hand through the canyon until the Olokele River flows into the Makaweli River and at the very bottom of the valley, into the Waimea River.

A little tip on the side: If you have a lot of text that makes it difficult to fly, but you still want to read it, press the pause button from time to time.

POOS-Po'omau Stream

Distance:	7,3 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	43,5 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	20,7 nm
True Course:	1°
Magnetic Course:	352°

Once in the valley, make a hairpin turn to the north and follow the Waimea River. From there the actual flight through the canyon begins, which you should now fly through by hand again, since the GPS course does not exactly follow the course of the canyon.

Of course, you get a nicer impression of the rock formations if you fly as low as possible. But be careful. There are steep slopes here that can cause you to stall. If you are too low, there is no possibility to turn the plane, because the canyon is quite narrow. Fly at an altitude where you can also enjoy the flight. The canyon is beautiful to look at. When I described the Blyde Canyon in South Africa as the greenest; I think this one is greener.

The lower reaches of the river are called Waimea River, fed by countless streams, while the upper reaches are called Po'omau Stream and even later Waiakoali Stream. This area is considered the rainiest on earth and is almost always shrouded in clouds. If you are not lucky with the real weather, you should set other weather to see well.

PIHE-Pihea

Distance:	4,5 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	48,0 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	16,2 nm
True Course:	25°
Magnetic Course:	16°

Now follow Po'omau Stream and Waiakoali Stream on Mount Wai'ale'ale to the highest elevation of the headwaters, Pihea, across a swampland that is part of Koke'e State Park and also has some paved hiking trails.

Looking at pictures of this peak on the web, it is quite amazing that so many trees are shown in the simulator. The reality looks a little different.

HONAR-Honopu Arch

Distance:	3,1 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	51,0 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	13,1 nm
True Course:	285°
Magnetic Course:	276°

Honopu Arch is one of the most amazing sights along the Napali Coast. Honopu consists of two beaches connected by the Arch, which is 90 feet high and 124 feet wide. It is the largest natural arch in Hawaii and has been featured in several different movies. Some of the most popular movies filmed in the arch include King Kong, Pirates of the Caribbean: Stranger Tides, 6 Days and 7 Nights, and Indiana Jones: Raiders of the Lost Ark.

Honopu Valley is said to be the burial place of the Hawaiian Ali'i kings and for this reason is an absolutely secluded beach along the coast. The only legal way to reach the beach is to swim on land, as boat moorings are not allowed and there are no trails leading to the beach, or just from the air.

WASC-Wai'ahu'akua Sea Caves

Distance:	3,7 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	54,7 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	9,4 nm
True Course:	58°
Magnetic Course:	49°

The coast you are flying along now is already very impressive but already in the next small bay another natural wonder is waiting, the caves of Wai'ahu'akua Sea Caves. Unfortunately, they are not visible from the air and can only be reached from the water. Inside there is then a waterfall that is over 1,000 feet high.

HI01-Princeville



Distance:	9,4 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	64,1 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	0,0 nm
True Course:	87°
Magnetic Course:	77°

Until you can land at the next airfield, in Princeville, and catch your breath, you will fly over some impressive canyons, which will not be considered in this mission. The airfield is private, by the way. Twenty years ago, Princeville Airways operated scheduled service between Honolulu and Princeville. The airfield served the first regular commuter route between Princeville and Honolulu, primarily for Princeville Resort guests. In between, in 2019, Makani Kai Air briefly began twice-daily service between Honolulu International Airport and Princeville Airport. Since then, there has been no commercial air service here.

Princeville is an artificially planned, in addition the northernmost settlement in the U.S. state of Hawaii and is used primarily for tourism purposes.

Originally, the area was a plantation. In honor of the visit of Prince Albert Edward Kauikeaouli Lei O Papa a Kamehameha, who was two years old at the time of his visit, in 1860, but died already in 1862, it was given the name Princeville, which has remained until today. Tourist development began in 1971 with the opening of the Makai Golf Club. In the 1980s, a 9,000-acre (3,600-hectare) resort was developed by Japanese companies Suntory Ltd, Mitsui & Co. Ltd. and Nippon Shinpan Co. Ltd. tourist development and opened in 1986.

Have a safe landing here.

LEG 2: HI01 - HI46

Departure: Princeville (HI01)
 Destination: Hi 23 Airstrip (HI46)
 Distance: 29,8 nm

**KALI-Kalihiwai River**

Distance: 5,7 nm
 Dist. from Dept.: 5,7 nm
 Dist. to Dest.: 24,1 nm
 True Course: 174°
 Magnetic Course: 165°

Another magnificent panorama opens up to you if you now follow the Kalihiwai River, from the Kuhio Highway waterfall to its source. The most beautiful impressions you get here, too, if you don't fly above the peaks. Try to stay as close as possible above the river and steer by hand.

PENP-Pantstealer Point

Distance: 7,5 nm
 Dist. from Dept.: 13,2 nm
 Dist. to Dest.: 16,6 nm
 True Course: 49°
 Magnetic Course: 40°

Pantstealer Point, in Moloaa Bay, is considered a historical landmark that nature has produced and holds a paradisiacal swimming beach with towering cliffs. The first episode of the film series "Gilligans Islands" was filmed in front of this picturesque scenery.

KALA-Kalalea Mountain



Distance:	3,0 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	16,2 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	13,6 nm
True Course:	173°
Magnetic Course:	164°

At the next waypoint, things get movie-dramatic once again. Mount Kalalea is part of the Anahola mountain range and one of the many magical places in Kauai that have graced popular Hollywood movies. "Indiana Jones: Raiders of the Lost Ark," "Six Days, Seven Nights" and "Tropic Thunder" are a few examples.

The mountain mainly includes two peaks - Hokualele peak and Mano peak. Mano is the second peak, which has a unique shark fin-like appearance. Mano means shark in Hawaiian.

In recent years, after the release of the second King Kong movie, the peak became popularly known as King Kong Mountain, as many visitors saw its resemblance to the head of the great, powerful ape. King Kong was the subject of several Hollywood movies, some of which were also filmed in Kauai!

Another peculiar shape of the mountain becomes apparent when viewed in its entirety. Seen from a distance, the strong silhouette formed by the ridgeline against the sky resembles the profile of a woman sleeping with her arms folded behind her back. OK - it doesn't have to be. You have enough imagination yourself for your own figures you can see in it.

SFGL-Smith Family Garden Luau



Distance:	6,0 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	22,2 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	7,6 nm
True Course:	190°
Magnetic Course:	180°

I recommend not taking the direct GPS course on this route, but flying along the more scenic coastline.

A luau is the name for celebrations in Hawaii, derived from the name for taro tips and a term for family celebrations that focus on maintaining social relationships. The combination of hula performance and traditional food is offered on all islands, including here, in a large garden - one of the absolute attractions on Kauai. In addition to the Old Lāhainā Luau, which is considered relatively authentic, luaus with a more Polynesian accent are also offered, featuring dances and customs from Tahiti, Samoa and others.

In addition to the dance performances, traditional Hawaiian food is the centerpiece of the luau, often using an earth oven called an imu. For this purpose, a depression in the earth is lined with hot stones. A kalua pig is wrapped in banana and ti leaves, placed on the stones and covered with earth. Over a period of about nine hours, the pig is baked in the imu.

WAIL-Wailua Falls

Distance:	2,1 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	24,3 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	5,5 nm
True Course:	245°
Magnetic Course:	236°

Just beyond the garden another unique natural spectacle, the Wailua Falls. Wailua Falls - we speak in the plural here because it is a twin waterfall - is 173 feet (52.7 m) high and falls into a large scour, over which a rainbow can almost always be seen. The waterfall is prominent because it is featured in the opening credits of the television series Fantasy Island.

No, I'm not usually a big movie fan but it's crazy how many movies this island has served as a backdrop in. In all the guidebooks, Google, and Wikipedia, as soon as you search for a place on this island, you come across some movie.

KILO-Kilohana Crater

Distance:	3,5 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	27,8 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	2,0 nm
True Course:	233°
Magnetic Course:	223°

And once again gain some altitude and fly over Kilohana Crater. It is a popular destination for tourists, which is driven, hiked and also flown over with safari helicopters. However, in the simulator it is extremely overgrown with trees, so that you have to make an effort to discover a crater at all.

HI46-Hi 23 Airstrip

Distance:	2,0 nm
Dist. from Dept.:	29,8 nm
Dist. to Dest.:	0,0 nm
True Course:	178°
Magnetic Course:	168°

The Hi 23 Airstrip is the last stop of this short but fantastic trip.

From this small airfield, sightseeing flights are offered by various, mostly private, aircraft owners. So if any of your colleagues there look at you askance because they're afraid you might be a competitor, buy them a beer and explain why you're here.

You've landed safely and thus completed this mission successfully. Congratulations. Good luck in your future endeavors and always safe landings. Koschi.