

WITH MICHAEL STRAUSS, PROFESSOR AND DEPARTMENT CHAIR OF ASTROPHYSICAL SCIENCES

#### DEAR PRINCETONIAN,

Discover the wonders of the universe on this eight-day adventure to the islands of Maui and Hawaii alongside Michael Strauss, Chair of Princeton's Department of Astrophysical Sciences. Enjoy behind-the-scenes visits to observatories and research facilities, including unparalleled access to the Mauna Kea Observatory Complex on the Big Island of Hawaii and Haleakala Observatory on the island of Maui.

This unique program provides plenty of time to experience Hawaii's natural history with a whale watching catamaran cruise, mountain trail walks, and a geologist-led exploration in Volcanoes National Park. Visit Pu'uhonua o Honaunau, once an important residence and place of refuge for Hawaiian royal chiefs and walk in the North Kohala backcountry, known for its waterfalls and breathtaking views.

Accommodation on this program is luxurious and unique featuring two five-star coastal resorts, and one boutique mountain lodge just outside of Volcanoes National Park. Group size is limited to just 20 participants, so we encourage you to reserve your space today by contacting our partner tour operator, Criterion Travel at: (888) 328-2089.

With kind regards,

Bridget St. Clair

Director

Alumni Education and Travel

Bridget St. Clair

Princeton University





#### STUDY LEADER

**Michael Strauss** is interested in all aspects of extragalactic astronomy and observational cosmology, especially in the context of wide-field imaging and spectroscopic surveys of the sky. He has used large surveys including IRAS and the Sloan Digital Sky Survey, to study the large-scale distribution of galaxies to constrain cosmological parameters, the relationship between galaxy properties and their environment, and the nature and evolution of AGN and quasars at large redshifts. He is now using data from the Hyper Suprime-Cam on the Subaru Telescope to search for distant quasars and study the properties of the galaxies in which they live. He is involved in planning for the next generation of large surveys, including the Prime Focus Spectrograph on Subaru and the Rubin Observatory Legacy Survey of Space and Time.



#### ITINERARY

#### **SUNDAY, MARCH 12**

#### HOME / MAUI

Fly to Maui and transfer to your hotel on the west coast at the base of Haleakala. Gather this evening for a welcome orientation and dinner. Fairmont Kea Lani (D)

#### MONDAY, MARCH 13

#### WAILEA, MAUI

Join a whale-watching cruise along the shoreline of Maui with the Pacific Whale Foundation to observe humpback whales that migrate from Alaska to Hawaii each winter. Enjoy a private tour of the Maui Ocean Center, a three-acre tropical reef aquarium and marine science center with thousands of marine species that can be viewed in living coral reefs. Fairmont Kea Lani (B,L)

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#### TUESDAY, MARCH 14

#### HALEAKALA NATIONAL PARK

Prepare for a day of exploration.

Drive to the summit of Haleakala for a behind-the-scenes tour of one

of the telescopes at the Haleakala Observatory site. Pan-STARRS uses very large digital cameras to observe the entire available sky several times a month, looking for objects such as asteroids and comets that might pose a danger to Earth. The Faulkes Telescope is a 2-metre reflecting telescope, owned by Las Cumbres Observatory Global Telescope Network. Following a telescope tour, enjoy the spectacular vistas at scenic outlooks and marvel at the volcano's moon-like crater. At the Haleakala National Park Visitor Center, learn about the unique geology of the islands and go on a nature walk to search for native birds and endemic plants such as Silversword and Sandalwood. This evening is at leisure to enjoy the resort facilities. Fairmont Kea Lani (B,L)

#### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

#### MAUI / HILO, HAWAII / VOLCANO VILLAGE

Fly from Maui to Hilo, located in a picturesque bay on the windward side of the Big Island. Enjoy time on your own to explore the farmers market, parks, shops, and restaurants in this traditional Hawaiian town. Drive from sea level to Hawaii Volcanoes

National Park at 4,000 feet, observing the dramatic change in botanic and volcanic scenery. *Kilauea Lodge (B,D)* 

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 16

## VOLCANOES NATIONAL PARK

Accompanied by a local geologist, explore Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, including Steaming Bluff, Kilauea Visitor Center, Volcano Art Gallery, and vistas of Halemaumau Crater. Descend along the Chain of Craters Road, noting the pioneer plants colonizing the huge lavadraped mountainsides, and the Mauna Ulu flows. Kilauea Lodge (B,L)

#### FRIDAY, MARCH 17

#### MAUNA KEA / SOUTH KOHALA

This morning visit the Imiloa
Astronomy Center, a community
outreach branch of the University
of Hawaii at Hilo, to gain a deeper
understanding of its mission on a
guided tour. It is the realization of
a dream that started in the mid1990's when educator's, scientist, and
community leaders understood the
need to showcase the connections
between Hawaiian cultural





traditions and the groundbreaking astronomical research being done with the telescopes on Mauna Kea. In the afternoon make your way across the island with majestic mountains flanking both sides of the Saddle road, Mauna Kea (13,796 feet) on your right and Mauna Loa (13,679 feet) on your left. If the Mauna Kea access road is open,\* enjoy a behind-the-scenes tour of one of the telescopes on the summit. From the slopes of Mauna Kea marvel at a spectacular sunset followed by a picnic dinner and stargazing through powerful 11- inch Celestron Schmidt-Cassegrain telescopes. This evening, arrive at the beautiful Fairmont Orchid, set amid tropical gardens, lava formations, and beaches on the South Kohala Coast. Fairmont Orchid (B.L.D)

\*Please note: The road leading to the Mauna Kea Observatory Complex, on the summit of Mauna Kea and at an elevation of 13,796 feet, can close to public access on very short notice due to weather or other issues. Should the summit road be open prior to our visit, we will assess if we can access the Mauna Kea Observatory Complex. If it is closed, learn about the Mauna Kea telescopes at one of the headquarters in Hilo. The Subaru Telescope and Smithsonian's Submillimeter Array Telescope (SMA) are two of several telescope headquarters located in Hilo.

#### SATURDAY, MARCH 18

#### NORTH KOHALA COAST

Enjoy a backcountry excursion in the heart of the Kohala countryside on the windward side of the island. Explore the extraordinary natural history on easy walks that include a series of waterfalls and magnificent views.

Fairmont Orchid (B,L)

#### SUNDAY, MARCH 19

#### KONA COAST

Visit Pu'uhonua o Honaunau, a National Historical Park that was an important residence and place of refuge for Hawaiian royal chiefs. Following lunch at a local restaurant, visit a coffee plantation to see how coffee beans are cultivated and roasted, with the opportunity to savor samples of their fresh-brewed Kona coffee. This evening, celebrate your adventure with a festive farewell reception and dinner.

#### MONDAY, MARCH 20

#### KONA / HOME

Transfer to the airport in Kona for your flights home. (B)



Double occupancy .... \$8,545 per person

Single occupancy ..... \$11,105 per person

An inter-island economy class group flight (Kahului, Maui / Hilo, Hawaii) is at an additional cost of approximately \$150 per person

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

#### PROGRAM RATES INCLUDE

All accommodations, meals, and excursions as specified in the itinerary, including eight deluxe hotel nights • Comprehensive program of briefings, lectures, and presentations • Group transfers for all participants on group arrival and departure dates • All gratuities to porters, wait staff, guides, drivers and personnel for all group activities • Entrance fees • Baggage handling • Welcome and farewell wine receptions • Soft drinks with all group lunches and dinners • Bottled water on motorcoaches • Complete packet of pre-departure information • Professional tour manager throughout the program

#### **AIR ARRANGEMENTS**

U.S. domestic airfare is not included in the program rates. Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc., can help with airline arrangements for this trip and can be reached at (877) 376-1754. You are also welcome to book your air transportation through your local travel agent, an online travel site, or the airline of your choice. Further information about making flight arrangements will be sent to confirmed participants

#### WHAT TO EXPECT

We consider this program to be moderately active. This trip features two islands, some long touring days and many full-day excursions with a faster pace and longer distances. There are a few walks of up to two miles on well-marked, sometimes muddy and uneven trails, and you will be outdoors for several hours at a time, sometimes in the warm tropical sun. On Maui, travelers will venture to Haleakala National Park and Haleakala Observatory (at 10,023 feet) where the weather can be unpredictable and it can be up to 30 degrees colder than at sea level. On the Big Island, should access to Mauna Kea summit (at 13,796 feet) be open, the temperature in the evening can be close to freezing. Higher altitudes may be difficult for some participants, especially coming from sea level. At a minimum, people may be affected with shortness of breath, dehydration, and headache and/or nausea. By forwarding the deposit, the participant certifies that s/he does not have any physical or other limitation that would create a hazard for her/himself or other travelers.



#### **GROUP SIZE**

This program is limited to 20 participants.

#### A NOTE ABOUT COSTS

Tour costs are based upon current fuel prices, taxes, tariffs, and a minimum number of participants. While we will do everything possible to maintain the listed prices, they are subject to change. If there are significant changes, details and costs will be advised prior to departure.

### PROGRAM RATES DO NOT INCLUDE

U.S. domestic and international airfare • Estimated \$150 airfare for one on-tour flight (Kahului, Maui/ Hilo, Hawaii • Medical expenses, immunizations, and COVID-19 testing if required at the time of travel • Travel and trip cancellation insurance • Private transfers or airport transfers outside of group arrival and departure days • Excursions that deviate from the scheduled tour options • Airline baggage charges • Meals not specified in the itinerary; dishes and beverages not part of the included meals; liquor or soft drinks except as noted • Laundry or dry cleaning • Telephone, fax, internet, and email charges • Room service • Other items of a personal nature Complete Terms and Conditions including Statement of Responsibility will be made available to you at time of registration, or in advance upon request. A signed "Terms & Conditions, Release from Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Clause" is required from each applicant prior to participation on the tour.

#### **RESERVATIONS & PAYMENTS**

Please make your deposit check payable to Criterion Travel and mail to: 4250 SW Hall Blvd., Beaverton, OR 97005. You may also fax your credit card information to (650) 560-6400 or email res@criteriontravel.com. For more information or to reserve by phone, contact Criterion Travel at res@criteriontravel.com or (888) 328-2089. Balance of payment is due December 7, 2022. After December 7, 2022, full payment is due upon registration. Final payment must be made by check or bank transfer.

#### **CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS**

Upon payment of a deposit, all reservations are subject to the cancellation provisions set forth below and by which the passenger agrees to be bound. Cancellations shall not be effective until they are received in writing and confirmed by Princeton Journeys. Deposits are refundable until final payment deadline December 7, 2022. For cancellations after December 7, 2022: All payments are 100% nonrefundable, regardless of

booking date. For this reason, we strongly urge participants to purchase trip cancellation insurance. No refunds will be made for any part of this program on which you choose not to participate. NOTE: Neither the Office of Alumni Affairs of Princeton University nor Criterion Travel, the tour operator, accepts liability for any airline cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in conjunction with this tour.

#### **ITINERARY CHANGES**

The itinerary presented for this tour is subject to modification and change by Princeton Journeys and Criterion Travel, the tour operator. Every reasonable effort will be made to operate the program as planned; however, should unforeseen world events and conditions require the itinerary to be altered, Princeton Journeys and the tour operator reserve the right to do so for the safety and best interest of the group. Any extra expenses incurred in this situation are the responsibility of the participant.

#### **DISCLAIMER**

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# WONDERS OF HAWAII MARCH 12-20, 2023

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#### **CONTACT INFORMATION (PLEASE PRINT)**

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0	Enclosed is my check for \$ (\$1,000 per person, payable to Criterion Travel) to reserve place(s) on Astronomy and Natural Wonders of Hawaii				
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ASTRONOMY AND NATURAL WONDERS OF HAWAII
WITH PROFESSOR MICHAEL STRAUSS MARCH 12-20, 2023

# PRINCETON JOURNEYS

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