Travel Trends

by Chanin Victor

Secluded Rainforest Hideaway Near An Active Volcano Offers The Perfect Hawaii Escape

If you love nature and are looking to escape the hustle and bustle of everyday life, staying at the Volcano Village Estates on the Big Island will be an unforgettable Hawaiian experience.

Located in Volcano near the northeastern side of the island—and within walking distance of Hawaii Volcanoes National Park—the boutique-style Volcano Village Estates is the quintessential secluded rainforest hideaway with a Big Island bed and breakfast experience. Set back away from Highway 11 on Hale Ohia Rd. for privacy, you'll find three different lodging options. The historic Dillingham Residence is the centerpiece and can be reserved by room (three possibilities) or combined and reserved altogether to create a larger space for larger groups traveling together. Families will also love the roomier modern bungalows, while couples will enjoy one of the six cozy Volcano rainforest cottages.

The Bungalows are the Perfect Family Destination Or Romantic Retreat

Whichever lodging option you choose, each accommodation has a unique charm that makes it suitable for different travelers. The bungalows—like the Pele Bungalow—are ideal for family travel. With soaring

loft ceilings and higher-end finishes, Pele is modern luxury. There is a full kitchen, dining room, and sitting area. A separate bedroom and bathroom area can accommodate two people. If you have a 3rd or 4th person, the 'pune' or sofa in the living room folds into a double bed. Heated towel racks warm enormous cotton towels to wrap around you after the shower. Fluffy bathrobes are in the closets, so it feels just like home. With the rainforest just out your window, you could easily spend a week

in this spacious and luxurious hale (Hawaiian for 'house').

A stay in any of the bungalows—built around 2015—is cozy and magical. All have heated floors, artistic lighting, modern designs, and eclec-

tic Hawaiian furnishings.

Pro Tip: Pack light rain jackets, comfy sweats, and waterproof shoes as you are in a rainforest, and it can be chilly and wet early in the morning and at night.

Insider Tip: An additional bungalow is accessible through an adjoining door of Pele. The Poliahu Bungalow has a king-size bed and full bathroom. These two bungalows, when combined, make an excellent retreat for a bigger group.

The more private sanctuary of the Cottages is suitable for a smaller family or a romantic haven for couples. This beautiful property has everything you'd need and is perfect as

a home base for exploring the Big Island.

Why is Volcano Village Estates such a special place?

The service and attention to detail at Volcano Village Estates are stellar. After booking a bungalow, the innkeeper will contact you and help you plan the best way to get to the Volcano Village Estates once you land in Hawaii. Routes depend on your arrival airport (Kona or Hilo). A stop at a grocery store on the way is suggested and if you're planning to hike or explore Volcanoes National Park while there, you might consider bringing a portable cooler for perishables. Keep in mind restaurants close early.

Insider Tip: Be sure to get some poke while on the Big Island. It's a native Hawaiian cuisine of diced raw fish, and the Foodland on Mamalahoa Hwy has some killer sauces. Get into the aloha spirit while on the Big Island by trying different Hawaiian favorites.

One highlight of Volcano Village Estates is the authentic Hawaiian breakfast, complete with tropical fruits. The breakfasts are delivered to the refrigerators the night before with heating instructions for the morning. Guests can get up at their leisure or eat when they're hungry. An ideal start to your day could be waking up with the sun, warming breakfasts in the oven, and blasting music on the built-in surround sound.

As daylight disappears each night, you'll love relaxing in the modern

comforts of the inviting Bungalow. The outside lanai is off the living room and has a wood deck, an intimate firepit with chairs, and a soothing jacuzzi. After hiking through Volcano National Park, unwinding in the private hot tub at night is relaxing and surreal. The beckoning rainforest, only footsteps away, gently glows in the moonlight as a light mist falls;

it's heavenly. The only sounds you'll hear all night long are the rain drips and the Coqui (tiny tree frogs) chirp,

If you go…

Volcano Village Estates are in the city of Volcano, on the Big Island of Hawaii.

11-3968 Hale Ohia Rd, Volcano, HI 96785 || (808) 967-7986 || volcanovillageestates.com

Price:

Cottages start at $275/night || Bungalows start at $320/night || DIllingham Residence starts at $1075/night || The Pele Bungalow (mentioned above) starts at $720/night

Holiday and peak season prices are higher. Rates include breakfast, jacuzzi and parking.

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