We invite you to join us as we explore the botanical wonders of Hawaii, with leadership by two excellent naturalists.

Hawaii is one of the most botanically rich locations in the world! It has more than 25,000 species of plants, nearly half of which exist only in the Hawaiian Islands. The state is also famous for its subtropical weather, mild ocean breezes, Polynesian culture, and diverse bird and marine species.

The Hawaiian archipelago has existed for tens of millions of years and was colonized by wind blown seeds and insects, migrating birds, and floating vegetation washing on shore. From these random beginnings the natural world evolved. It is beautiful, unique, and a true paradise.

Hawaii offers the inquisitive traveler many opportunities to see native flora and fauna in forest reserves and in the national and state parks. Botanic gardens, arboreta, and estates focus in part on preserving native species and, in some cases, endangered species propagation. The gardens also are wonderful places to see tropical trees, bushes, and flowers from all over the world.

On this botanical adventure, we will explore the finest botanical gardens on the island of Oahu, the Big Island of Hawaii, and the Garden Island of Kauai, including the geological marvels and native Hawaiian trees, plants, and birds at Hawaii Volcano National Park. Majestic Waimea Canyon and Kokee State Park will be a delight. From the brilliant red i’iwi bird to the Koa and Kukui trees, Hawaii is filled with natural wonders for you to discover!

Come join us for lifelong memories of these splendid islands!

Debbi Edelstein,
Native Plant Trust
Day 1  Boston or San Francisco to Honolulu
Depart Boston, San Francisco or other gateway cities to Honolulu. Meet your expedition leaders and transfer to the Aston Waikiki Beach Hotel (4 nights). Welcome dinner.

Day 2  Wahiawa & Foster Botanical Gardens
Our introduction to the botanical world of Hawaii will begin today at Wahiawa Botanical Garden with an introduction to the tropical rainforests of Hawaii, with epiphytes, tall tree ferns, orchids, and large aroids, including native Hawaiian plants and trees. In the afternoon visit Foster Botanical Garden, established in 1853, with massive trees from around the world and an extensive Hawaiian portion. The orchid garden is the biggest in the islands. L

Day 3  Native Forests of Koko Crater & Lyon Arboretum
This morning we will drive inland to the Lyon Arboretum. This location gets more rainfall so the tropical rainforest is taller. The native collections are diverse along with introduced palms, heliconias, gingers, aroids, bromeliads, and spices from all over the world. In the afternoon walk the trail at Koko Crater Botanical Garden, established 60 years ago in an extinct volcanic crater to display the dry vegetation surrounding Honolulu. See Oh'i'a, *Metrosideros* sp., *Hala*, *Pandanus* sp., *wiliwili*, *Erythrina sandwicensis*, *hau*, *Hibiscus tiliaceus*, and many bushes and flowers. L

Day 4  Ho'omaluhia Botanical Garden
Depart for the Ho’omaluhia Botanical Garden in Kane’ohe. The garden is situated at the base of the majestic Ko’olau Mountains, with emphasis...
on Polynesian plants and palms. There are also extensive native Hawaiian plants and ethnobotanical exhibits. This afternoon, we will explore historic Honolulu. L

Day 5  Fly to Hilo on the Big Island
This morning, we will fly from Honolulu to Hilo on the Big Island of Hawaii. Upon arrival we’ll see Akaka Falls which plummets 422 feet into a stream-eroded gorge. We’ll then visit the Hawaii Tropical Botanical Garden.

This garden is a nature preserve and sanctuary with a living seed bank and a study center for plants and trees of the tropical world. We’ll walk the Heliconia Trail, Banyan Canyon, and explore Bromeliad Hill to see and photograph the native and introduced trees, bushes, and flowers. Hilo Hawaiian Hotel (3 nights). L

Day 6  Native Forests & Lava Flows at Hawaii Volcano National Park
Today, we’ll explore the geologic and botanical wonders at Hawaii Volcano National Park. We’ll drive on the open portion of the Crater Rim Road, and will stop at the Volcano Museum. See Halemaumau Crater, continuously active since 2007. In the afternoon, we’ll explore a forest of Ohi’a lehua and Metrosideros collina. Look for Koa and Kukui, trees with many understory berry producers, ferns, and epiphytes. We’ll also walk in an island of native vegetation at the “kipukapuaulu,” a remnant forest surrounded by lava fields. L

Day 7  Kalopa State Recreation Area & Lava Tree State Monument
We’ll have a quick stop at Rainbow Falls this morning to see the cascading water in the morning light. We’ll then walk trails through Kalopa State Recreation Area to look at the native trees, bushes, and flowers. The trails are well maintained and offer many species of native plants.
Visit Lava Tree State Park which has the best examples of lava that rapidly flowed through a forest leaving hardened lava molds in its wake. Walk the nearly flat trail through a forest of *Ohi'a lehua, Metrosideros collina*, with a thick understory of ferns, *ohelo, Vaccinium sp., Coprosma sp.*, and many other plants. L

**Day 8  Fly to Kauai & National Tropical Botanical Garden**

This morning we will fly to Kauai, arriving about midday. Transfer to the Aston Islander on the Beach Hotel (3 nights) on the south coast. In the afternoon begin the tour of the National Tropical Botanical Garden, former site of Queen Emma and King Kamehameha IV's garden home. It is now the site of the Allerton Garden, a landscape architecture masterpiece named one of the ‘50 Places of a Lifetime.’ Allerton Garden is part garden, part art exhibit and entirely unique. Visitors are guided through expertly crafted garden rooms that feature exotic plants, sculptures, and water features. The Allerton Garden also has a rich history as a Hollywood film location for many notable movies and TV shows. See the towering roots of the famous Moreton Bay fig trees featured in blockbusters like *Jurassic Park* and *Pirates of the Caribbean.*

We will also visit the McBryde Tropical Garden which has the largest collection of native Hawaiian flora in the world. L

**Day 9  Limahuli Garden & Preserve & Kilauea Lighthouse**

Depart for the Limahuli Gardens on the north shore of Kauai, home to dozens of endangered plants and birds. The Garden was selected by the American Horticultural Society as the best garden in the U.S. for having demonstrated the best environmental practices of water, soil, and rare plant conservation. We’ll walk the green pathways to discover native species as well as traditional Hawaiian agriculture.

In the afternoon, we’ll stop at the picturesque Kilauea Lighthouse. It is a conservation success in getting Laysan albatross to nest and protect the red-footed boobies and other seabirds. With a predatory exclusion fence both the seabirds and native plants are reproducing well. The ocean view is spectacular and will offer dramatic photographs. L
Day 10  Waimea State Park and Canyon

We will depart for Waimea State Park and the famous Canyon. The Waimea Canyon is about 10 miles long and 3,000 feet deep with nearly horizontal bands of lava showing the succession of flows that built the island. The scenic canyon will offer high elevation plants and Acacia koa. We’ll have lunch at the small museum. Koke’e State Park is gateway to the Alakai Swamp and the Na Pali coast viewpoint. The dramatic Na Pali coast is seen from about 4,000 feet, after a short walk.

With its hundred or more inches of rain each year, the native forest is thick with ohia lehua, Metrosideros, pukiwe, Styphelia tameiameiae, iliahi, sandalwood, Santalum sp., and the many trunked koa, Acacia koa. We’ll celebrate our Hawaiian botanical adventure this evening at a Hawaiian luau! L,D

Day 11  Kauai to Honolulu & Home

We’ll depart on flights to Honolulu & home today.

RESERVATIONS  #1561 NPT

Yes! I/we want to join the Discover Botanical Hawaii Expedition, April 1-11, 2020, offered by the Native Plant Trust in association with Betchart Expeditions Inc. Please reserve ___ space(s). As a deposit, I/we enclose a check for ___ ($1,000 per person) payable to Betchart Expeditions Inc. Trust Account.

Name(s) ___________________________ Age ______

Address ________________________________________________________

City ___________________________ State ____ Zip ______

Phone: Home (______) __________ Work (______) __________

Email Address ________________________________________________

Membership in Native Plant Trust: ___ Yes ___ No

Accommodations Preference:

___ Twin  ___ Single  Twin Share: ___ with a friend or

___ Nonsmoker  ___ Smoker  ___ assign a roommate

Signature ___________________________________ Date ____________

Signature ___________________________________ Date ____________

Please Mail To:  Hawaii 2020
Betchart Expeditions Inc.
17050 Montebello Road
Cupertino, CA 95014-5435

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Map by April Milne.

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**Trip Fee:** $4,845 per person from Honolulu plus in-tour air fare of approximately $495 per person. Flights are approximately $1,295 from Boston; LAX or SFO are approximately $795 per person.

**Expedition Fee Includes:** Group airport transfers; transport by 15-passenger vans; accommodations twin share in first class hotels; lunches Days 2 - 10, 2 dinners; group entrance fees; leadership, administration.

**Expedition Fee Does Not Include:** Air fare to Hawaii or in-tour air fare (quoted separately); independent transfers; breakfasts and most dinners; phone calls, alcoholic beverages; gratuities to leaders; trip cancellation insurance; baggage handling; and other personal expenses.

**What to Expect:** This expedition is planned for travel enthusiasts who would like to explore the botanical and natural wonders of Hawaii, with leadership by two excellent naturalists. The expedition is a wonderful botanical journey of discovery to superb botanic gardens, natural areas, and Hawaii Volcano National Park.

Explore reserves on the dry side and wet side of the islands. See spectacular Waimea Canyon, and the Na Pali Coast. The trip is planned for travelers with an appetite for adventure, learning, and discovery with a botanical slant! (No smoking in vehicles, during lectures, or meals please.)

**Air Fare & Airline Ticketing:** Air fare quoted is an estimate for flights to Honolulu from Boston, Los Angeles or San Francisco. Please book your flights directly with the airlines to arrive the afternoon of April 1st by 4:00 pm or before. In tour flights are ticketed by Betchart Expeditions Inc. and all passengers fly as a group.

For air questions, please contact Taunya (800) 252 4910.