

LIBERTY CALL

Waikiki ... Home to Urban



His arms outstretched, Duke Kahanamoku (top), welcomes tourists from around the world to the famous tropical locale. Duke was called Hawaii's unofficial ambassador. He appeared in motion pictures of the day and spread the Aloha spirit wherever he went. He was also called one of the original Waikiki beach boys who spent their days repairing fishing nets, surfing and singing to the unique sounds of the Hawaiian ukulele.

Standing under Indian Banyan "walking trees" is a statue of Mohandus Ghandi (above and right), the man of peace made his impact on people around the world by his example and teaching of peaceful demonstrations of civil disobedience. His efforts eventually freed his people from British rule.



Waikiki Revisited: Urban Legends

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If you've been to Oahu, you've probably visited Waikiki several times. It's hard to pass up the glamour spot of Hawaii with all its multi-million dollar beachfront hotels, high-rise apartments, tourist shops, high-end clothing and specialty outlets, plate lunch shops, pricey restaurants and all the nightlife of a fairly large city.

Not to mention it's one of the most romantic getaways on earth frequented by honeymooners from all over the world.

But, while busily looking for bargains or gifts to send home to envious family or friends, or while looking for a bite to eat, the perfect spot on Waikiki's golden sands or just having fun, it's easy to miss some remembrances to some of Hawaii's and the world's

influential people. Heading east at the entrance to Waikiki at the fork of Kalakaua and Kuhio stands a statue of King David Kalakaua.

The U.S. credits him with signing an exclusive agreement for the use of Pearl Harbor.

The treaty, signed by President Grover Cleveland in 1884, allowed the U.S. to maintain a coaling and repair station in the harbor of the "Pearl River" for the use of U.S. vessels.

He was a popular king who prided himself on his self-education and on taking care of his people.

He owned a square-rigger ship and traveled the world meeting royalty and different peoples from around the world.

A few hundred yards up Kalakaua Avenue stands the newly erected World War II monument and park.

The monument, on Fort DeRussy grounds, is dedicated to servicemen who participated in the war. Fort DeRussy is also the home of the Hale Koa hotel.

Although run by the Army, the hotel's manages acres of prime land, is home to a museum, barbecue and picnic areas, recreational pools and prime Waikiki beachfront.

The area is popular among servicemen, retirees and their families from all branches of service.

Walking through, just a few yards past the heart of Waikiki's double-sided shopping and hotel front district stands the polished bronze figure of the Hawaiian surfing and Olympic gold winner, Duke Kahanamoku. His arms outstretched, he welcomes tourists from around the world to the famous tropical locale.

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bassador. He appeared in motion pictures of the day and spread the Aloha spirit wherever he went. He was also called one of the original Waikiki beach boys who spent their days repairing fishing nets, surfing and singing to the unique sounds of the Hawaiian ukulele.

Nearing the end of Waikiki standing under Indian Banyan "walking trees" is a statue of Mohandus Ghandi.

The man of peace made his impact on people around the world by his example and teaching of peaceful demonstrations of civil disobedience. His efforts eventually freed his people from British rule.

Oahu is called the gathering place and for whatever reason you might gather there, it might add a little more to your time here to see the monuments to some of the people who have shaped the island, its culture and its people.