

HAWAII

SIGGY AND HEATHER | TRIP TO CANADA / HAWAII | 22-24RD OCTOBER 2016

Goodbye Hawaii

It is the end of our trip. We are at the airport waiting for the departure and will soon be home. Our trip here has been all that we hoped that it would be. We came to Hawaii to support Chad whilst he competed in the World Championships. He decided not to because he felt it would be very badly organised. It certainly was - so his stance was well and truly vindicated. We are very proud of him and enjoyed ourselves meeting many of his friends/associates and admirers. Yes, admirers!! He has been the most relaxed and the happiest we have seen him for a very long time.

Two days ago we went for our first bike ride in Hawaii. We rode around the local streets of Lanakai and were very impressed with the lovely, homely neighbourhood. The ocean is extraordinarily beautiful - the colour of the water is to die for. Yesterday - our last day - we went down to the south coast and loved the cliff scenery and ocean views. The afternoon was spent cleaning up the house and preparing an evening meal for Chad and Kathleen and Chad's employer - Chad Kapper and son. A couple of Aussies turned up as well. The meal was not wonderful, but the company was. Great to see the convivial interaction between the two Chads.



It is thought that Hawaii was first settled by sailors from Tahiti who may have stumbled across the islands by accident. They enjoyed their time in paradise for hundreds of years before a second wave of settlers arrived, again from Tahiti. This more aggressive group quickly subdued the locals, creating a strict hierarchical caste system which endured till only recently. The last king died in 1819. White explorers then started to arrive on Hawaii's shores. Their presence introduced diseases and almost completely decimated the local population (from 300k to 30k). Today, 20% of Hawaiians are of Japanese descent - a legacy of landowners urgently needing labourers to work local farms.



TRAVELLERS We always take our head rests and noise cancelling headphones with us on every trip. Feels much better than it looks.



EMERGENCY ANYONE? Saw fire brigade truck carrying a surf board on the other coast last week. This one, on east coast, had a jet ski as well. Ready for all contingencies. Wonder if the firemen arrived in wet suits?



BRIGHT SPECIMEN Can't believe the psychedelic colours of this local gecko species. Certainly couldn't miss it on the white stairs.



PHOTOS



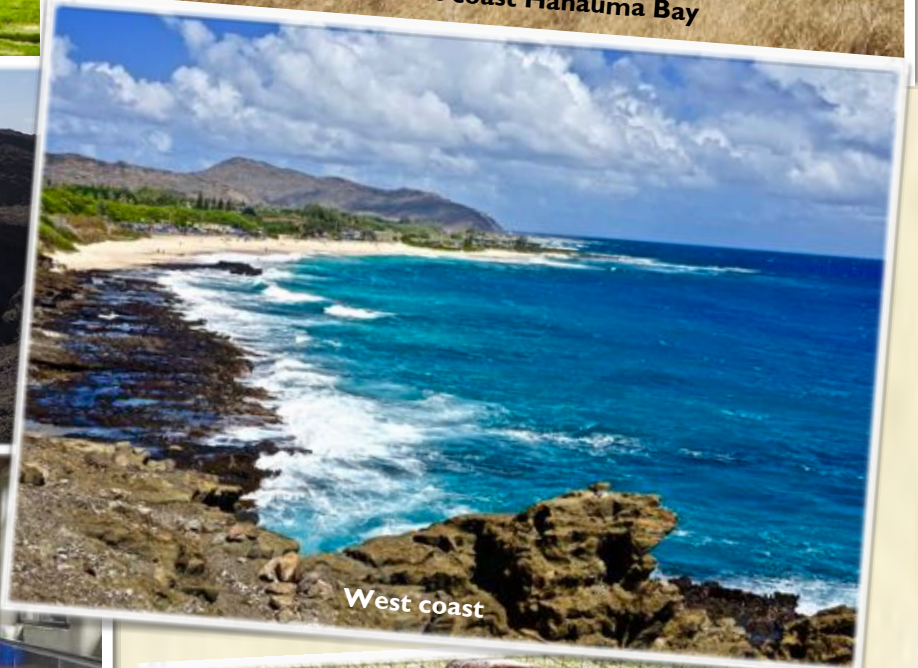
South west coast



South west coast Hanauma Bay



West coast



West coast



The two Chads