

Discover HAWAII!

October 5-13, 2014

See the Total Lunar Eclipse October 7, 2014!



Dear Friends:

Join us to see the **Total Lunar Eclipse** in Hawaii, **October 7th**, and to explore the natural wonders of Hawaii—from lava flows to massive tree ferns. We will also show you some of the astronomical observatories which generate an enormous amount of information about our solar system, galaxies, black holes, and beyond!

In Hawaii, earth's forces create new land right before our eyes, as lava streams forth from volcanoes rising 33,000 feet from the ocean floor. The Pacific is home to a profusion of life—from whales to sea turtles, colorful birds and endemic flowers—many of which we can see walking trails.

More than a thousand years ago, indigenous people followed the stars across the Pacific from Tahiti to settle Hawaii, and brought Polynesian culture with them. In recent centuries, European explorers followed the same stars across the Pacific and discovered Tahiti, Hawaii, and New Zealand!

Our journey will begin in Kailua-Kona—on the dry side of the Big Island of Hawaii—where old black ribbons of lava flow to the sea. In the evening, we will enjoy the **Total Lunar Eclipse**.

We will cross the island between the two largest volcanoes on Hawaii, Mauna Loa and Mauna Kea. En route, we will



visit the W.M. Keck Observatory headquarters near the famous Parker Ranch to learn about their discoveries.

We will drive to the summit of Mauna Kea, at 13,796 feet, and see sunset from the mountain top near some of the world's largest observatories. We will return to Onizuka Visitor Center to look through telescopes at the wonders of the universe as seen from 19°N latitude.

At Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, we will see ancient lava formations which built the island from hot molten lava as it flows to the sea.

At the world class 'Imiloa Astronomy Center of Hawaii we will explore the Hawaiian cultural and navigational understanding of the stars with real-time information obtained from the 13 telescopes on the Big Island.

Throughout our journey, we will enjoy leadership by outstanding naturalists, **Rob and Susan McGovern**, and guest astronomical experts.

We invite travelers with an appetite for adventure and discovery to explore the day and night wonderland of our 50th state and enjoy the **Total Lunar Eclipse!**

Sincerely,

Margaret M. Betchart
President,

Betchart Expeditions Inc.

ITINERARY

Day 1 Home to Kailua-Kona, Hawaii

Expedition members fly from their nearest gateway city to Kailua-Kona on the Big Island of Hawaii. Transfer on your own to the *King Kamehameha Kona Beach Hotel (3 nights)*. Welcome dinner and trip orientation. (D)

Day 2 Kealakekua Bay

Today we will explore Kona for an introduction to the marine world, people, and heritage of Hawaii. We will take a snorkeling boat off the coast to Kealakekua Bay Marine Reserve to enjoy the undersea wonders of Hawaii. Hawaii has over 1,200 species of fish and we will see some of the most colorful schooling varieties. Afternoon at leisure. Briefing in preparation for the Total Lunar Eclipse tomorrow. (B,L)

Day 3 City of Refuge, Galaxy Garden & Total Lunar Eclipse

This morning we'll visit the City of Refuge, Pu'uhonua o Honaunau National Historical Park where ancient Hawaiians pardoned sinners who found sanctuary within its lava walls. Also visit the Galaxy Garden, designed by Jon Lomberg, who is on The Planetary Society's Advisory Council. Walk in the model of the Milky Way Galaxy and see the center's black hole and the position of the Earth to scale. This evening we will view the Total Lunar Eclipse! (B)

Day 4 Onizuka Visitor Center & Mauna Kea Observatories

This morning we'll drive along the shoulder of Mauna Kea to the cowboy town of Waimea. Here we'll visit the administrative offices of the Keck Observatory, see the displays, and learn about their research with the world's largest optical and infrared telescopes sitting atop Mauna Kea. We will then drive up the Saddle Road to the Onizuka Visitor Center at 9,300 feet on the south slope of Mauna Kea. With 4-wheel drive vehicles we'll visit the summit of Mauna Kea at 13,796 feet to view the many observatory domes. See the sun set into the Pacific Ocean and then return to the Onizuka Visitor Center for an evening to view southern constellations and deep sky wonders. Evening drive to Hilo. *Hilo Hawaiian Hotel (2 nights)*. (B,D)

Day 5 'Imiloa Astronomy Center

The 'Imiloa Astronomy Center is surrounded by most of the headquarters of the different observatories and is the focus of astronomy education in Hawaii. We will visit the center, attend a planetarium presentation, and see the many interactive displays on astronomy,



Hawaiian voyaging, and other fields of science. Learn how today's astronomers use different wavelengths of the spectrum to explore our vast universe and the beginnings of life. (B)

Day 6 Caltech Submillimeter Headquarters & Pacific Tsunami Museum

This morning we will visit the headquarters of the Caltech Submillimeter Observatory where they have a collection of eight radio telescopes directed to proto-stars and the envelope of cosmic dust surrounding their formation. Learn about their research on local galaxies that adds new understanding to the development of the universe. Afternoon visit to the Pacific Tsunami Museum. See the computer simulation and documentaries, but it is the first person histories of survivors that you will long remember. Drive to Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. *Volcano House (3 nights)*. (B)

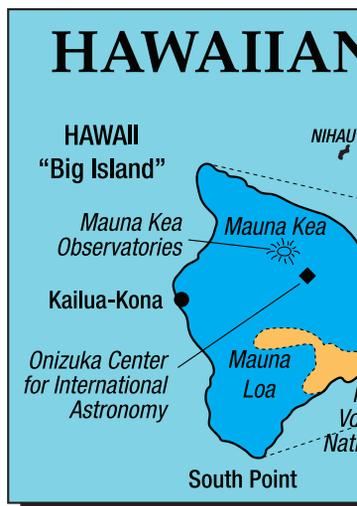
Day 7 Hawaii Volcanoes National Park

We'll start the day with a visit to the Jaggar Museum surrounded by an *ohia* and tree fern forest for an introduction to the natural history of the park. We'll have a late morning visit near the Halemaumau Crater, which has been active since 2007.

LEADERSHIP

Leading this expedition will be **Robert and Susan McGovern**. Rob was born in Ireland and led overland tours from England to India for many years. He then settled in Hawaii, where he has lived for 25 years. Rob leads natural history trips in Hawaii for Betchart and other organizations, including the Volcano Art Center near Hawaii Volcanoes National Park.

Susan was born in Hawaii and worked as a seasonal ranger and now works as a volunteer at Hawaii Volcanoes Park. She has a special interest in Hawaiian art and music, and loves to participate in cultural activities such as hula, language, chanting, ukulele, and songs. Rob and Susan look forward to sharing the delights of the Lunar Eclipse and Hawaii with you!

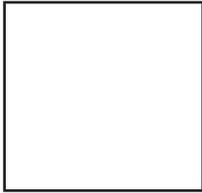




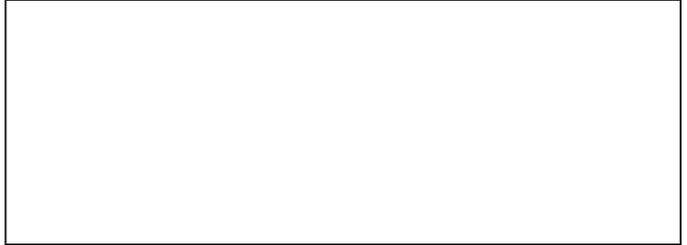
**BETCHART
EXPEDITIONS** Inc.

**SigmaXi • The Planetary Society
AAAS Travels • ACS Expeditions**

For Members & Friends of AAAS, Sigma Xi, ACS & Planetary Society
17050 Montebello Road, Cupertino, CA 95014-5435



FIRST CLASS



*See the Total Lunar Eclipse!
Discover Hawaii!
October 5-13, 2014*

COSTS & CONDITIONS

Expedition Fee: \$3,495 per person twin share for 9 days (plus air fare from the mainland to Kailua-Kona, Hawaii, with return from Hilo).

Singles: We encourage singles to register on a "twin share" basis. Should you desire single accommodations, the single supplement is \$695. If you do not have a roommate and we cannot assign one, you must pay the single supplement.

What to Expect: This expedition is for the travel enthusiast who would enjoy exploring the natural wonders in Hawaii and seeing the Total Lunar Eclipse, October 7, 2014! We will learn about superb observatories and telescopes in Hawaii which discover sights literally "Out of This World!" Also explore the Big Island of Hawaii including the Kona coast, with important historic locations and great snorkeling. We will travel by 15-passenger van and 4-wheel drive to the summit of Mauna Kea at 13,796 feet, then observe the night skies from the Onizuka Visitor Center.

See lava flows in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, and visit some of the world class observatory administration centers in Hilo. Typically, it will be in the 80's along the coast to the 30's to 50's at the summit of Mauna Kea. If you have any questions,

please consult your physician before you register. This expedition will be a tremendous experience for travelers with an appetite for adventure and discovery who would like to explore the day and night wonderland of our 50th state. (No smoking in vehicles, during lectures, or meals, please.)

Expedition Fee Includes: Land transport by boat or vans; 8 nights accommodations in first-class hotels, twin share with bath; 8 breakfasts, 1 lunch, and 3 dinners; Hilo group out transfer; group entrance fees; baggage handling; leadership, administration.



Expedition Fee Does Not Include: Air fare to Kona with return from Hilo; six lunches, five dinners; independent airport transfers; optional activities; personal items such as alcoholic beverages, laundry, phone calls, bottled water, soda, snacks, or personal insurance.

Airfares & Airline Ticketing: Please make flight arrangements directly with the airlines to arrive in Kona by 4:00 pm October 5, and to depart from Hilo after breakfast October 13.

Cancellations & Refunds: The initial deposit for this expedition is refundable up to 60 days before departure less a handling fee of \$100 per person. There will be no refund for any cancellation after the 60-day period unless your place can be resold, then only the handling fee of \$100 is withheld. There are no refunds for unused meals, accommodations, or other expedition features. Trip cancellation insurance will be offered; it will cover preexisting medical conditions if purchased within 21 days of the date on your confirmation letter and full trip payment.

Questions: Please contact **Taunya DeYoung, Betchart Expeditions Inc.,**

Telephone: **(800) 252-4910** (USA)

or: **(408) 252-4910** (International)

Fax: (408) 252-1444

Email: Taunya@betchartexpeditions.com

On the Web: www.betchartexpeditions.com

Explore One of the Greatest Mysteries of All Time!

**In Search of
AMELIA EARHART
June 17-July 3, 2015**



The disappearance of aviators Amelia Earhart and Fred Noonan in 1937 is regarded as one of the 20th century's greatest historical mysteries. Many solutions have been advanced, but the only one supported by hard evidence is that they landed and died on Nikumaroro Atoll. **Please call for a brochure: (800) 252-4910.**

