



Pride of America



Waikiki Beach sunset

HAWAII CRUISE

January 18, 2023 – 11 Days

A 7-day cruise among the Hawaiian Islands on Norwegian's Pride of America

By mid-January, many people are longing to get away from snow in the Interior or rain at the Coast. Some head to Mexican beaches, Arizona, or California. How about a cruise in Hawaii? Many cruises leave from the mainland and take 5 or 6 days at sea to reach Hawaii. Norwegian Cruise Lines has registered their ship *Pride of America* in the USA, so they are able to offer this week-long cruise leaving from Honolulu. The cruise features 5 ports on 4 of the Hawaiian islands: Honolulu on Oahu, Kahului on Maui, Hilo and Kona on Hawaii, and Nawiliwili on Kauai. The ship stays overnight in Kahului and Nawiliwili, giving you extra time to explore the area and enjoy services on shore. Come to Hawaii and escape from the Canadian winter.

Activity Level: 1



26 Meals Included:

10 breakfasts, 9 lunches, 7 dinners

Fares per person:

\$7,480 twin; \$11,075 single – Category BB (balcony)

\$7,530 twin; \$11,175 single – Category BA (balcony)

Other categories may be available.

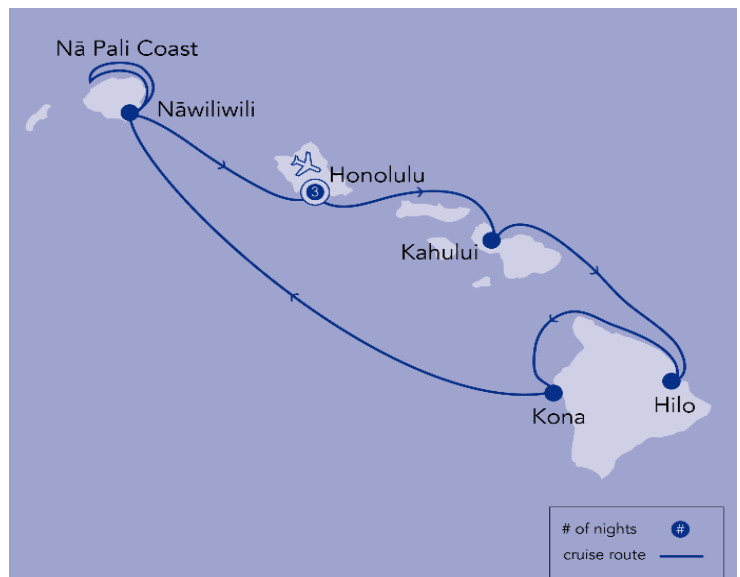
Please add 0.4% GST.

Experience Points:

Earn 105 points on this tour

Redeem 105 points if you book by September 15, 2022.

Departure from: Lower Mainland



ITINERARY

Day 1: Wednesday, January 18

Meet the other Wells Gray travellers at Vancouver Airport. Our flight on WestJet leaves at 10 am and takes about 6½ hours to Honolulu. Hawaii time is two hours earlier than Pacific Time. **Welcome to Hawaii.** A transfer is provided from the airport to the Outrigger Beachcomber Hotel in Waikiki where we stay three nights. This hotel has a superb location on Kalakaua Avenue surrounded by shops and restaurants, and across from the bustling **International Marketplace**. All rooms have a balcony with ocean view (partial or full), coffee and tea, wi-fi, and free local and international calls (60 minutes per day). Hotel amenities include an outdoor pool, hot tub, and fitness centre. Maui Brewing Company is the hotel restaurant and breakfast is included each day here. The hotel is a block from **Waikiki Beach** with a convenient walkway from Kalakaua Avenue to access the sand and ocean.

Accommodation: Outrigger Waikiki Beachcomber

Day 2: Thursday, January 19

Honolulu is the bustling commercial centre and capital of the Hawaiian Islands. Our locally-guided tour has a theme of Pacific Historic Parks and the involvement of Hawaii in World War II. Pearl Harbor and the **USS Arizona Memorial** feature prominently in this story. We also tour the enormous battleship **USS Missouri** where General MacArthur signed Japan's surrender in 1945 in Tokyo Bay. This evening, take a stroll along Kalakaua Avenue and choose one of a myriad of restaurants for dinner; Cheesecake Factory is a favourite, directly opposite the hotel.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Outrigger Waikiki Beachcomber

Day 3: Friday, January 20

Today's tour circles the **island of Oahu** with highlights such as Hanauma Bay lookout, Byodo-In Buddhist Temple, lunch at Kualoa Ranch, the wild surf of the north coast, and Dole Plantation. You should go for a walk on Waikiki Beach and watch a colourful sunset or the fireworks.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Outrigger Waikiki Beachcomber

Day 4: Saturday, January 21

The morning is free time. A transfer is provided at noon to the cruise terminal and we board the **Pride of America**. An embarkation lunch buffet is served in the Aloha Café. Explore the ship this afternoon. You may want to be on deck or your balcony at 7 pm as we cast off and cruise away from Honolulu. Enjoy your first wonderful dinner on board in one of the two main dining rooms or the five specialty restaurants. Later, take in the entertainment in the Hollywood Theatre or one of the lounges.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Pride of America*

Day 5: Sunday, January 22

Pride of America docks at **Kahului** on the north coast of **Maui** at 8 am. This is the major shopping centre for Maui residents. Our guided tour for four hours travels from the sugar cane plains to the top of **Haleakalā Volcano**, ascending 3,055 metres in 37 switchbacks. The summit provides an awesome view over Maui and the colourful crater is a photographer's dream. There are walking trails to different viewpoints and a small visitor centre. Bring a jacket as it is a lot cooler up there than on the ship. We return to the ship for a late lunch, then the afternoon is free time. The ship stays docked at Kahului overnight.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Pride of America*

Day 6: Monday, January 23

The ship stays in Kahului all day, sailing at 6 pm. You can book a shore excursion to a different part of Maui, or wander on your own.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Pride of America*

Day 7: Tuesday, January 24

The *Pride of America* arrives at **Hilo** on the east coast of **Hawaii, the Big Island**, at 8 am and departs at 6 pm. This is the wet or windward side of the island and has a jungle-like environment. Today's six-hour tour has many highlights. We follow Banyan Drive through a beautiful group of banyan trees, then stop at Liliuokalani Gardens, King Kamehameha Statue, and Rainbow Falls.

Akaka Falls is 135 metres tall and trails lead to several viewpoints. After a picnic lunch, we visit Panaewa Zoo, tour the **Mauna Loa Macadamia Nut Factory** (with samples), and walk on the Richardson Bay Black Sand Beach. It is a comprehensive tour of half of the Big Island, with much variety. During the evening, the ship cruises along the rugged coastline, providing views of **Kilauea Volcano** which has been erupting regularly since 1983.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Pride of America*

Day 8: Wednesday, January 25

Overnight, we cruise around Hawaii Island and anchor at **Kona** on the west coast and the island's dry side. This is a tender port, meaning that you take a small boat ashore instead of disembarking onto a dock. We arrive at 7 am and depart at 5:30 pm. Do as you wish today – stroll the town or book a shore excursion.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Pride of America*

Day 9: Thursday, January 26

Kauai is the westernmost of the five major islands. It is the island where Hawaiians vacation, a circle of steeply rumped green velvet known for its primeval splendour and nicknamed The Garden Isle. The ship docks at 8 am at **Nawiliwili Harbor** near Lihue, the largest town. Today's four-hour tour



visits awesome **Waimea Canyon** which is 16 km long, up to 1,000 metres deep, and filled with vivid colours of red and green. We also stop at Hanapepe Lookout and a blowhole called Spouting Horn. The ship stays overnight at the dock.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Pride of America*

Day 10: Friday, January 27

This is a free half-day to do as you wish while the ship remains in Nawiliwili. A recommended shore excursion is a boat ride along the Wailua River to the romantic Fern Grotto where several weddings may be held every day. After departure at 2 pm, the ship cruises slowly along the rugged **Na Pali Coast** where cliffs rise 300 metres from the ocean. Tonight is our last evening on board *Pride of America* and you may want to reserve an elegant dinner in one of the specialty restaurants.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Pride of America*

Day 11: Saturday, January 28

We arrive back in **Honolulu** and disembark the *Pride of America*. Our locally-guided tour visits highlights of Honolulu such as the Governor's Mansion, State Capitol Building, Chinatown, Iolani Palace, Kawaiahau Church, and the Mission Homes. We also stroll through the **Punchbowl National Cemetery of the Pacific** which honours men and women of the US Armed Forces. The tour ends at Honolulu Airport, then we fly in mid-afternoon on WestJet to Vancouver.

Meals included: Breakfast

PRIDE OF AMERICA

Pride of America was launched in 2005 and was completely refurbished in 2016. Carrying 2,186 passengers, she is one of the smaller vessels in the Norwegian fleet of 17 ships. *Pride of America's* gross tonnage is 80,000 and she is 279 metres long with 11 decks and 10 elevators. Facilities include the Hollywood Theatre for live entertainment, 12 bars and lounges, duty-free shops, beauty shop, library, games room, internet access, spa, fitness centre, 2 pools, and 5 hot tubs.

Pride of America is a USA-registered ship which is unusual in the cruise industry. This allows her to operate exclusively in Hawaii, whereas most ships are required, under the Jones Act, to stop at a foreign port during every cruise. There is no casino because of these regulations. She has 927 crew and many are Americans instead of the predominately international staff on other ships.

Pride of America offers 15 places to eat. The complimentary dining rooms include Liberty and Skyline, and Aloha Café is the buffet. The five specialty restaurants are Cagney's Steakhouse, Jefferson's Bistro (French), Moderno (Brazilian), La Cucina (Italian), and Teppanyaki (Asian), each with gourmet menus. Your tour fare includes the extra fee and gratuities for two dinners in these specialty restaurants. You can also dine in the privacy of your stateroom by ordering from the room service menu (extra fee). You can enjoy a different venue for each of your seven dinners on board. You should reserve in advance for specialty restaurants and you can show up when you are ready for the main restaurants.

Staterooms have television, music, telephone, safe, and bathroom with toilet, sink, and shower or bathtub. A great variety of stage shows is presented in the Hollywood Theatre and Norwegian is known for its extravagant entertainment. Every day has a full schedule of optional activities: dance class, bridge, bingo, shuffleboard, table-tennis, karaoke, board games, and fitness classes.

Your tour fare also includes a beverage package while on the ship – a variety of alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks up to \$15 each. Gratuities are included. You can order your favourite beverage from your restaurant table or at any lounge. When ordering wine, you can have a glass, but not a bottle.

Other included amenities are a US\$100 shipboard credit per stateroom (can be used for any purchases on board), a shore excursion credit of US\$50 per stateroom per tour, and 250 minutes of free internet use.

Roland's recommendations

Roland and Anne Neave, owners of Wells Gray Tours, travelled on the *Pride of America* in January 2020 and are planning to accompany you on this cruise. They have some personal recommendations.

- Consider splurging and booking a suite. The ship has 72 suites of different sizes and layouts. Suites get lots of perks such as breakfast and lunch complimentary in Cagney's, priority seating for dinners, reserved seating in the centre section of Hollywood Theatre until 5 minutes before showtime, daily appetizers delivered at 5 pm, fancy chocolates for bedtime, and even a butler for personal service. If you are interested, our office staff can check for available suites and quote the fare.
- They were impressed with the menu, food, and service in Jefferson's Bistro (French restaurant) and La Cucina (Italian restaurant), but your choices will depend on your culinary preferences.



WHAT'S INCLUDED


- Flight from Vancouver to Honolulu and return
- Current air transport taxes and fuel surcharges
- Airline luggage fee for 1 suitcase per person
- 3 nights of hotel accommodation & taxes
- Transfer from Honolulu Airport to hotel
- Tour to Pearl Harbor and area
- Pearl Harbor museums
- *USS Arizona* Memorial
- *USS Missouri* battleship tour
- Tour around island of Oahu
- Byodo-In Buddhist Temple
- Trolley tour around Kualoa Ranch
- Dole Plantation
- Transfer from hotel to cruise terminal
- 7 days and nights on board *Pride of America*
- Cruise gratuities
- Port charges and cruise taxes
- US\$100 per stateroom shipboard credit
- Entertainment and other services on the ship
- Beverage package on ship with gratuities
- 2 special restaurants on ship with gratuities
- \$50 per stateroom credit per shore excursion
- 250 minutes of free internet use
- 4-hour tour on Maui to summit of Haleakalā
- 6-hour tour on Hawaii Island
- Liliuoklani Gardens
- Rainbow Falls & Akaka Falls
- Panaewa Zoo
- Mauna Loa Macadamia Nut Factory
- 4-hour tour on Kauai Island
- Waimea Canyon
- Driving tour of Honolulu highlights
- Punchbowl National Cemetery
- Gratuities to guides & drivers on 6 Hawaii tours
- Knowledgeable Wells Gray tour director
- Luggage handling at hotels and ship
- **26 meals:** 10 breakfasts, 9 lunches, 7 dinners

TOUR NOTES

- **Roland Neave**, Wells Gray Tours' owner, plans to be your tour director, along with his wife, Anne. They were impressed with the *Pride of America* in January 2020 (see notes on page 4) and looking forward to going again. This is not intended to be the annual President's Cruise where the Neaves host a daily reception, but one get-together is planned.
- **Six shore excursions included:** On many cruises, shore excursions are a significant additional expense. During this cruise, three shore excursions are included in Kahului, Hilo, and Nawiliwili. Before and after the cruise, three tours are included on Oahu. The tours range up to six hours and visit some of the highlights of each island. Attraction admissions are included and three longer tours have lunch included. Shore excursions are not included for your second days in Kahului and Nawiliwili, and in Kona. You can reserve those on the ncl.com website or on board. Your \$100 shipboard credit (per stateroom) can be used to purchase tours of interest here and you get a \$50 discount (per stateroom) on each Norwegian shore excursion.
- **Importance of booking early:** Norwegian has confirmed a block of staterooms for this tour and they are normally held until 4 months before sailing. However, any unsold staterooms can be taken away from us at any time if the ship fills and this has happened on the last five Hawaii cruises. We had to waitlist disappointed customers, even though we had seats available on the motorcoach. This cruise is especially popular with travellers staying for an extended time in Hawaii. Also many Hawaii cruises were cancelled due to Covid during January to March 2022, and those customers will be filling ships in 2023. **Please book early.**



Akaka Falls on Hilo tour

 **Activity Level 1:** Light activity including short distances to walk and some stairs during the shore excursions. At Kona, you board the ship's tenders to go ashore. The coaches cannot carry a scooter or motorized wheelchair. There can be longer walks in the airports; request a cart or wheelchair in advance if this could be an issue for you. If Activity Level 1 could be challenging, you are urged to bring a companion to assist you. The tour director, local guides, and drivers have many responsibilities, so please do not expect them, or your fellow travellers, to provide ongoing assistance.

TOUR POLICIES

Payments: A deposit of \$600 per person is requested at the time of booking and balance is due September 15, 2022. By paying the deposit, you agree to the Terms & Conditions, Activity Level and Cancellation Policy outlined.

Cancellation Policy: Up to August 15, 2022, the cancellation charge is \$100 per person. From August 16 to September 15, the cancellation charge is \$300 per person. From September 16 to October 15, the cancellation charge is 30% of the tour fare. From October 16 to November 15, the cancellation charge is 70% of the tour fare. After November 15, there is no refund.

Fare Changes: Changes to taxes or currency exchange rate and surcharges from the airline, cruise line and other tour suppliers can occur at any time and are beyond the control of Wells Gray Tours, therefore, Wells Gray Tours reserves the right to increase fares due to such changes until departure.

Travel Insurance: A Comprehensive Insurance policy is available through Wells Gray Tours and coverage is provided by Travel Guard. Policies purchased at deposit include a waiver of the pre-existing condition clause, otherwise policies can be purchased no later than at final payment. Please contact us for details.

Food Allergies: You must notify us no later than at final payment if you have a food allergy.

Home pickups are available within Greater Vancouver for an additional charge of \$50 per person round trip. Transfer is to and from YVR. Please request no later than at final payment.

Photo Credits: Norwegian Cruise Lines (*Pride of America*), Roland Neave (Waikiki, Waimea Canyon, ship's pool deck, Akaka Falls), Wikimedia (Haleakala Crater)

Experience Points: This tour earns 105 e-points. Each time you travel on a Wells Gray tour, you earn Experience Points, or e-points. One e-point equals \$1. Redeem your points on select tours or accumulate enough points to earn a free tour! Redemptions offered until September 15, 2022.

Consumer Protection BC Licences: Kamloops 178, Vernon 655, Kelowna 588, Penticton 924, Victoria 65842

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