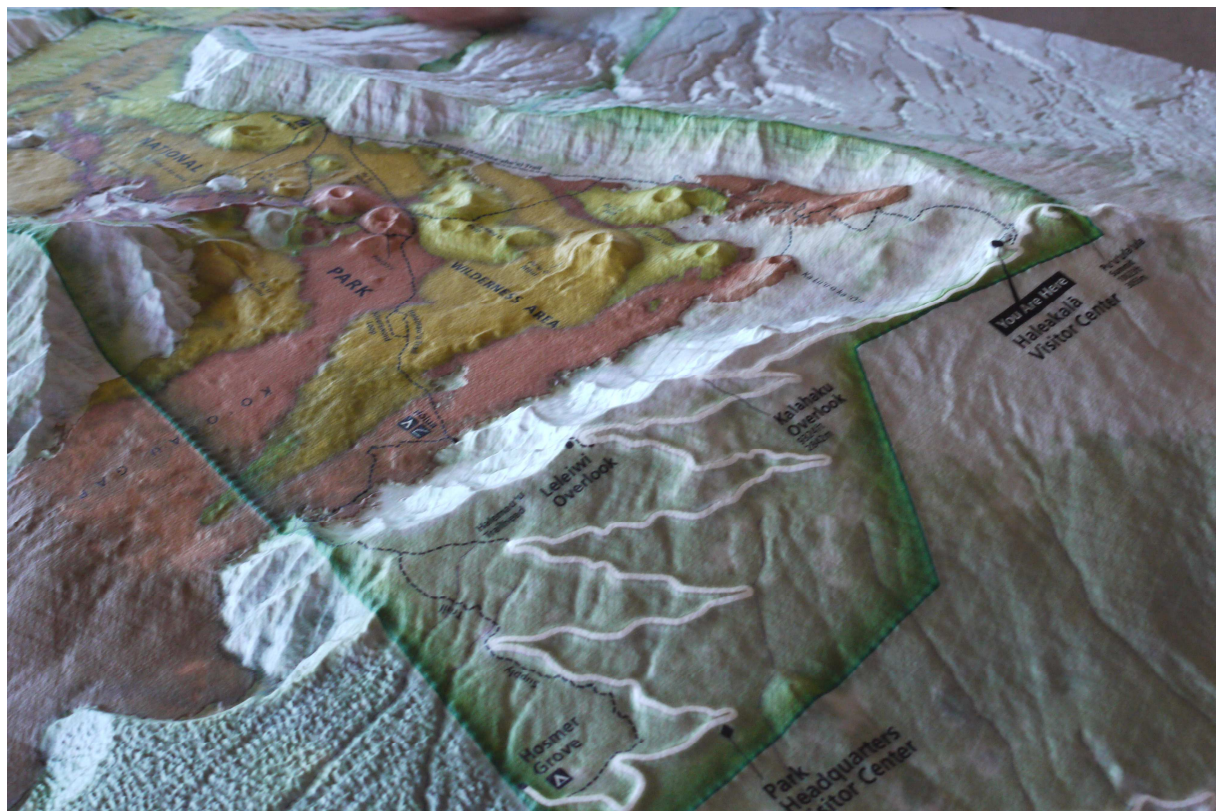


# Haleakalā National Park





# Summit Area

The summit of Haleakalā is an island atop a volcanic island, with its own distinctive climate and habitats. Its cinder desert is sometimes frozen and seemingly barren. Yet a variety of creatures and unique plants like the 'āhinahina (silversword) have adapted to the summit's extremes.

Despite the contrasts to seashores of Maui, the summit is connected to the rest of the island in critical ways. The upper slopes capture moisture to nourish the rainforest of Kīpahulu and feed the streams and waterfalls in the valleys. The summit also preserves portions of the original Hawai'i, including native vegetation and evidence of the early inhabitants.

## Please...

**Respect the 'āina (land).** Many people consider the park lands to be sacred. Be mindful.

**Stay on designated trails.** Off-trail hiking can kill unseen plants and animals or destroy cultural resources.

**Leave things as you find them,** including rocks (possibly animals' or plants' homes).

**Leave nothing behind,** including orange peels, toilet paper, nutshells (decomposition is slow).

**Help keep nēnē (Hawaiian goose) wild.** NO FEEDING OR APPROACHING. Tame nēnē often get hit by cars.

**Limit group size** to 12 or less.

**Enter on foot only.** No bicycles.

**No pets allowed on trail.**

**Clean boots of dirt and seeds.**

**Camp in designated areas only (permit required).**

## Things to do

**Trails** explore the cinder desert on Keonehe'ehe'e (Sliding Sands Trail) and native subalpine shrubland on Halemau'u Trail.

**Scenic overlooks** provide vistas of volcanic features and island panoramas.

**Naturalist programs,** inquire at either visitor center

**Bird watching** at Hosmer Grove Nature Trail and Halemau'u Trail

**Picnicking** at Hosmer Grove or Headquarters Visitor Center

**Camping** at Hosmer Grove, available on first-come, first-served basis (no permit required); for wilderness camping at Hōlua and Palikū, required permit is available at the visitor center during operating hours

## You are responsible for your own safety

**Be prepared for extreme and sudden weather changes.** Dress in layers. Bring rain gear.

**Be alert for symptoms of altitude sickness:** headache, nausea, dizziness, shortness of breath.

**Protect yourself from sun.** Cover up, and use sunscreen, hat, sunglasses.

**Carry and drink lots of water.**

