



Special Reopening Advisory

Profound changes, new dangers

Most of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park closed on May 11, 2018 due to increased volcanic and seismic activity of Kīlauea volcano. Over the next twelve weeks large lava flows covered land southeast of the park destroying over 700 homes and devastating residential areas in the Puna District. At the same time, the summit area of the park was dramatically changed by tens of thousands of earthquakes, towering ash plumes, and 62 massive collapse explosions. The events caused profound damage to park infrastructure unprecedented in the park's 102 year history including building damage, rock falls, deep cracks in roads and trails, and numerous breaks to water and sewer lines. **Now, with the eruption paused, there is no molten lava to see in the park.** As the park reopens and recovers, visitors should take extra precautions to remain safe during their visit. Visitors should expect limited services and parking, long lines, and no potable water.

WARNING: HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS



Park areas remain unstable and unsafe from thousands of recent earthquakes and caldera collapses.



- **Stay on open trails and roads!** Closed trails and roads are dangerous, do not enter.
- **Stay away from cracks and sinkholes.** Falls into cracks have seriously injured and killed people. Cracks have unstable edges, do not approach them!
- **Rockfalls are unpredictable.** Pay attention and keep away from all cliffs.
- **Wear sturdy shoes and long pants,** falling on lava rock is like falling on broken glass.
- **Do not hike after dark.** Even those who know the area must be cautious due to new hazards.

Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park is a wild place. The dramatic landscape of Kīlauea is constantly being shaped by powerful and uncontrollable natural forces. Respect the dangers of this dynamic natural process and stay out of closed areas.