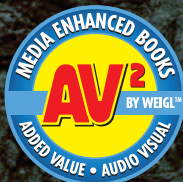


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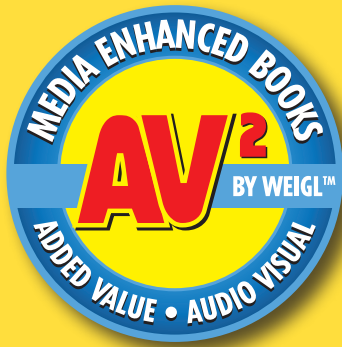


MAUNA LOA

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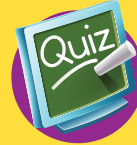
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MAUNA LOA

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A Massive Wonder

Mauna Loa rises more than 13,000 feet (3,962 meters) above the Pacific Ocean. It is the largest volcano on Earth. Mauna Loa is a shield volcano. This type of volcano has gently sloped sides that look like a warrior's shield. The gradual rise in height is the result of more than 150 separate eruptions.

People have been living near Mauna Loa for thousands of years. Despite predicted eruptions, they continue to do so. Visitors and those living near Mauna Loa may witness a hot **lava** flow up close.



Mauna Loa is one of five volcanoes that make up the island of Hawai'i.

Mauna Loa is home to a variety of plants. Some, such as the silversword, are found at higher elevations. Others grow closer to the volcano's base.



Mauna Loa Facts

- Mauna Loa is approximately 60 miles (97 kilometers) long and 30 miles (48 km) wide.
- Mauna Loa covers 2,035 square miles (5,270 square km).
- When measured from the sea floor, Mauna Loa is 56,000 feet (17,059 m) high—taller than Mount Everest.
- In 1984, Mauna Loa erupted and covered 18.5 square miles (48 sq. km) with lava. The lava created 0.3 square miles (0.7 sq. km) of new land offshore.
- The name Mauna Loa means “long mountain.”
- Mauna Loa first erupted more than 700,000 years ago.