

Collector's Journal

A Service of Collectors Alliance

2012 Hawaii Volcanoes National Park Quarter - Hawaii

Fourteenth in the America the Beautiful Quarters Collection

Hawaii Volcanoes National Park in Hawaii is featured on the fourth of five America the Beautiful Quarters issued in 2012. The year's set will be completed with the Alaska coin for Denali National Park. Each coin in the series is a limited edition that is struck for only about 10 weeks.

The obverse of each America the Beautiful Quarter is identical, other than the small "P" or "D" under "In God We Trust" to identify the United States Mint that struck the coin for circulation: Philadelphia or Denver, respectively. The portrait of George Washington by artist John Flanagan was first used in 1932 and has appeared on every Quarter since that date.

Each coin in the America the Beautiful Quarters series shows a unique reverse design that honors a National Park or other national site. Coins are also issued for the District of Columbia and the five overseas U.S. territories. The order of issue is the order in which the sites came under federal jurisdiction. As a result, the first coin was for Hot Springs National Park in Arkansas (1832), and the 56th and final coin will be for Tuskegee Airmen National Historic Site in Alabama (1998).

Hawaii Volcanoes National Park was established in 1916 on the "big island" of Hawaii. Covering an area of more than 333,000 acres, it extends from sea level to the summit of Mauna Loa at 13,677 feet above sea level. The park encompasses both Mauna Loa and Kilauea, which are two of the world's most active volcanoes. Mauna Loa last erupted in 1984, while Kilauea has been erupting continuously since 1983. The lava from Kilauea flows about seven miles to the sea.

In addition to the various volcanic features in the park – calderas, cinder cones, lava flows, and black sand beaches, for example – Hawaii Volcanoes is renowned for a surprising array of ecological zones such as seacoast, rainforest, and



alpine. Due to its isolation in the Pacific Ocean, Hawaii developed unique flora and fauna over millions of years, and many species are protected within the park. Visitors to Hawaii Volcanoes can explore the park's diversity, as well as its active volcanoes, thanks to 155 miles of marked trails and more than 60 miles of paved roads.

The reverse of the 2012 Hawaii Volcanoes National Park Quarter captures a volcanic eruption on the east rift of Kilauea volcano. According to local folklore, Kilauea is the home of Pele, the volcano goddess. In the Hawaiian language, "Kilauea" means "spewing" or "much spreading," in reference to the lava flows.

The design for the Hawaii Volcanoes National Park Quarter was selected from among five prospective designs submitted by the U.S. Mint. The other four designs all showed an active volcano in the background and various native Hawaiian dancers in the foreground. As with all America the Beautiful Quarters, the design selection was made by the Secretary of the Treasury (in this case, Timothy Geithner) after consultation with the Secretary of the Interior and various advisory committees.

The Hawaii Volcanoes National Park Quarter was released by the U.S. Mint in August 2012.

Collectors Alliance • 1942 Swarthmore Avenue • Lakewood, NJ 08701

Call TOLL FREE 1-800-997-9843

www.collectorsalliance.com