

This article was first published in the June 2018 issue of the Sylvia Woods Harp Center e-Newsletter. It is part of Sylvia's ongoing series about living on Kauai, Hawaii.

## Kauai Weather

A few winters ago, the weatherman on the nightly local Hawaii TV news said: "Bring out your extra blankets tonight, it is going to get down to a bone-chilling 58 degrees!" The next morning, I gave a Skype lesson to a student in upstate New York. I asked her how the weather was, and she said it was about 16°F. We laughed at what Hawaii considers "bone-chilling!"

I live in the community of Princeville, Kauai. Our annual **HIGH temperature** average is about 81°F (28°C), ranging from an average of 78°F in December and January, to 85°F in July through September. Our annual **LOW temperature** averages about 66°F (19°C), ranging from an average of 62°F in January and February, to 69°F in August and September.

It can get pretty humid here on the north shore. The average annual humidity is 75%. So we LOVE it when the trade winds blow. Trade winds, winds from the north east or east north east, keep the humidity and temperature down, and they blow the vog (volcanic smog) away from the islands.

Kauai's surface ocean water temperatures are also great for surfing, swimming, and snorkeling. They generally range from a low of 73° in February to a high of 80° in October.

So, as you can see, our weather is almost always GREAT! For example, in 2017 I wore shorts or capri pants every single day (no need for long pants!), and I never ever wore "real shoes" of any kind . . . just sandals!



Speaking of shoes . . . or lack thereof . . . I'll continue your education on the way we say things in Hawaii. Flip-flops are called "slippers", or, in Pidgin "slippahs." Also, it is customary to always remove your footwear when entering anyone's home.

One of the many things I love about Kauai is the rain. They don't call this "The Garden Isle" for nothing! But, unlike our flood last month, normally our rain showers are very short . . . like 5 to 10 minutes! And our rainbows are spectacular! Also, I really enjoy that it often rains at night. I keep my windows and sliding doors open almost 365 days per year, and I love waking up in the night to the sound of rain.



Yes, the Hawaiian islands have had more than their fair share of natural disasters in the past few months. But that shouldn't stop you from coming to visit. Except for an itchy-bitsy portion of the north shore of Kauai, and 1% of the Big Island near the volcano, we're open for business. Tourism is an important part of the island economy and has taken a big hit recently. So, plan your Hawaii trip now and come to Paradise!

**ALOHA!**

**(P.S. If you come to Kauai, you can rent a harp from me during your stay, take a lesson with me, or stop by and say hi. Just email me and let me know when you're coming!)**