

2026 TRAVEL TIPS & IMPORTANT TRAVEL INFORMATION

Please, **Read the Following & View Your Enclosed Itinerary for Flight Times & Roommates' Names**

- ✓ **You must arrive at your designated airport** listed on your GradWeek itinerary and check-in **well in advance of your scheduled departure time** (online/mobile check-in is not available for group tickets). **Due to increased travel demand and fewer TSA checkpoints, security lines may be longer the usual. We strongly recommend arriving at least 1-hour earlier than the standard 2-hour recommendation.**
- ✓ You **must** have a **valid government-issued Photo ID**, to check-in at the airline ticket counter at the airport for domestic travel and to go through security. Beginning May 7, 2025, every domestic air traveler 18 years of age and older will be required to show a **REAL ID** to travel.
- ✓ **Twin Fin Hotel and Hyatt Place Hotel Guests** – Make sure that you have **signed the hotel's Code of Conduct Form** (provided in your **physical and emailed** Departure Packet) which all guests are **required** to fill out and **turn into GradWeek Staff at your Welcome Orientation**. ****If under 18 years of age at the time of travel, then your parent/guardian signature is required on your form.*** The hotel **will not** allow a traveler to check-in without their signed form.
- ✓ For those participating in H2O Sports Hawaii activities through your Action Pac, a waiver is required. After you make your reservation using the QR code provided during orientation, you will receive an email from H2O with the subject line "ACTION REQUIRED." This email will include a link to complete the required waiver. ****If you are under 18 at the time of travel, you must forward the "ACTION REQUIRED" email to your parent or guardian so they can provide their required signature.***

Getting Ready! – You **MUST** have a current/valid **government-issued Photo ID** (REAL ID-compliant driver's license or state ID card) for your trip to Hawaii (this has been stated on multiple GradWeek documents since registering). If you are **not** a **U.S. Citizen** but you are a permanent legal resident, you need to contact your embassy/consulate for the most up-to-date travel requirements for you to travel domestically. **You will be denied boarding at the airport if you do not have the correct/required travel documents and any changes to your flight will be at your own expense.** ****If you are under the age of 18 and do not have a government issued REAL ID (or Passport as a backup), it is recommended to bring a copy of your birth certificate along with your photo school ID.***

Packing Your Bags! – Be aware that most airlines charge to check baggage, and the costs do vary so try to pack light and **visit your airline's website to view baggage fees and weight restrictions prior to your arrival at the airport**. The **enclosed Flight Itinerary** indicates the airline you will be traveling on, flight check-in information, and roommates for the trip. **Be aware of your item restrictions for carry-on bags** (i.e., liquids, medications, etc.) **by going to the TSA website at www.tsa.gov**. It is highly recommended that you make a photocopy of your travel documentation (like your government issued Real ID), put your phone number on it, and **put that copy** inside your checked luggage, but **make sure your actual ID is securely in your carry-on**. We also recommend putting your toiletries to your carry-on, so you have then handy at all times. To help you decide what essentials to pack, check **Honolulu's** weather forecast online a few days before your trip. **Please Note:** Dress themes for this year's Hawaii events are – Double Trouble (dress like your friend), Stoplight Party (dress in green, yellow, or red), White Out Party (dress in all white), and Pink Paradise (dress in pink). All event themes are optional and subject to change.

Spending Money – We recommend using a debit or credit card and **taking a small amount of cash**. It is always advisable to let your bank know where you will be traveling before your departure. **You can walk to many locations** but if you want, you can take Uber, Lyft, or a Taxi (so plan to have cash on hand for Taxis). **Traveling in groups is the safest and most economical way to go**. The amount of money that you take for your trip is up to you; but \$400 to \$600 is recommended for souvenirs, Action Pac events, transportation, and meals.

Day of Departure to Destination – **Do not be late! You are 100% responsible for your transportation to the local airport. Due to increased travel demand and fewer TSA checkpoints, security lines may be longer than usual. We strongly recommend arriving at least 1-hour earlier than the standard 2-hour recommendation.** **Helpful Tip:** Use the **MyTSA** app to check real-time security wait times and better plan your arrival. We recommend checking your itinerary's assigned airport's website **before your trip** for directions and terminal locations to ensure you know where to go and have plenty of time for flight check-in. **You are required to go to the check-in/ticket counter of your listed airline to obtain your boarding pass (online check-in is not available for group flights) and check-in any luggage that you are not carrying on.** You can be denied boarding if you are late and/or do not have the required travel documents, and you will be responsible for any charges due to changes in flights. After checking in for your flight and passing through security, **please locate your departure gate first** before getting food, using the restroom, or exploring the terminal. This ensures you are in the correct area when it is time to board your flight. If your enclosed Flight Itinerary requires that you change planes, you will not be required to retrieve your checked luggage **until after** you arrive at your final destination (**Honolulu, Hawaii**). When you arrive at your destination, make sure to retrieve any of your checked luggage from the baggage claim and **follow the signs to exit the building**. Look for a GradWeek Staff member wearing GradWeek shirts & ID Badges. They will direct you to the buses that will take you to your hotel. **Do not talk to local vendors trying to sell you a transfer.**

Hotel Only Package Travelers – Your trip package **DOES NOT** include the group airport transfers (unless noted otherwise). So, **if you purchased a HOTEL ONLY PACKAGE** then you are responsible for **arranging your own transfers/rides** to and from the Honolulu airport to your hotel (unless advised otherwise).

At Your Hotel – Once you arrive at your hotel, you will be given a full **Welcome Orientation by a GradWeek Staff** member. They will check you in, explain any events or activities that may be held during your stay, and go over basic guidelines, safety, and rules to make sure your trip is great and worry-free.

- **Action Pac** - Enclosed in your Departure Packet you will find an Action Pac flyer that lists the various activities and price options as well as the application form (which is required to be filled out by the traveler to purchase). **Action Pacs are available for on-site purchase only, with CASH ONLY (U.S. dollars), during the GradWeek Welcome Orientation.**
- **Twin Fin and Hyatt Place Hotel Travelers (this is specific information for those assigned to these hotels)** – Per the hotel's guidelines, during check-in **each person** needs to turn in their **signed** Code of Conduct Form, per the hotel's policy. The hotel will not allow a traveler to check-in without their signed form.

GradWeek Staff – While our staff is available at your destination 24/7, **the Hotel Staff can help you with daily requests, such as more towels, more pillows, and any questions about the hotel, rooming, nearby shopping, restaurants, etc.** **GradWeek Staff are NOT chaperones!** The GradWeek Staff are at the student hotel and available to travelers **on-site 24/7** to ensure the program is running smoothly, which includes: coordinating transfers for all the arrivals and departures, Welcome Orientation, going over rules, providing a **Destination Guide** with an area map, **and, most importantly, will assist with any emergencies or roommate/hotel situations that may occur while on-site.** If a traveler needs assistance **while on the hotel property**, they **MUST reach out to on-site Staff.**

and be patient with both GradWeek and Hotel Staff, as rude behavior will not be tolerated.

Calling Home – Parents want to know you have arrived safely. So, we encourage you to please make either a quick call, send a text, email, etc. home to say you have arrived, it is **highly recommended** to provide them with your room number. It is **very expensive** to make calls from your hotel room and it is not recommended.

Parents/Guardians Wishing to Contact Their Son/Daughter – PLEASE READ THE “HIGH IMPORTANCE” INSERT INCLUDED IN YOUR DEPARTURE PACKET! !

In-room Security Box and Room Inspection – Once you check-in to your room, we strongly recommend that you **use your in-room safety deposit box** (1 per room) to store all your valuables, such as your travel documents, cash, cell phone, tablet, etc. This will ensure that the items are securely locked away when not in use. **Take a few minutes to check that everything in your room is in good shape and working order.** Please **contact the GradWeek Staff or the Hotel’s Front Desk personnel IMMEDIATELY IF you see anything broken, damaged, or not working properly, to ensure you will not be held responsible for preexisting damages.** **If the hotel reports any room or property damage from your room, ALL travelers in the room will be held responsible for paying for those damages regardless of who in the room was at fault. Room doors should NOT be left open and unsecured.** Please be aware that the included travel insurance **DOES NOT** cover you for loss of personal items such as cell phones, tablets, etc. If **ANY** incidences of **theft occur on-site, it MUST be reported** to the **hotel first, and prior to departure home!** While GradWeek will help assist any local authorities if theft or loss occurs, we are **not responsible** for the cost of any cell phone replacements or other personal items.

Ahhh...Paradise! – This is your time to relax and have a fun time. **This does not mean you can do anything you want!** All local laws are strictly enforced in and outside of the hotel, and they **will not tolerate illegal activity, disorderly conduct** (including underage drinking), or property damage. **Travelers caught doing any of the above will be required to pay for any incurred damages and risk being evicted from their hotel at their own expense, with no exceptions!**

GradWeek is not responsible for travelers that lose all or a portion of their vacation due to their behavior issues, violations, illegal actions, or damages and will not be entitled to a refund. Be smart, behave appropriately, be respectful to the locals and other guests, and stay safe by traveling in a group whenever leaving your hotel. **We highly recommend using the buddy system!** Please go out in groups, **especially when going back to your hotel at night.** Always remember that there is safety in numbers, and it is best to always tell a friend if you are leaving the hotel and/or an activity before everyone else. ***No traveler can leave the trip early without checking out with one of the on-site GradWeek Staff Members.**

Policy on Alcohol Consumption – The legal drinking age in Hawaii is 21! **GradWeek does not promote or condone the use of alcohol by its travelers!** Students caught drinking on the hotel premises will be evicted by the hotel immediately with **no refund**, your parents will be notified, you will be responsible for making **new** hotel accommodations and arranging your own transportation home! Each participant chooses whether to follow the rules. All local and federal laws are strictly enforced, and you will be held responsible if caught violating those laws.

Returning Home – GradWeek Staff will post the time you need to be ready to board the airport bus for your flight home in the lobby of the **student hotel(s) the night before departure.** However, before leaving the hotel, your room must be picked up and cleared of all trash. **All registered guests in that room must wait until GradWeek Staff or Hotel Staff have inspected the room for any damage.** Should there be any hotel/room damage, you and your roommates will need to proceed to the hotel front desk **immediately** to take care of the damage costs and pay for any other incidental charges not included in your package price. Before checking out of your room, take a quick look around to make sure you have all your belongings. Once this is done, you will be given the “Ok” to board the bus for the airport. Make sure your luggage gets loaded on your bus and always keep your valuables with you. **GradWeek is not responsible for any items left behind.** Double-check that you have all your belongings before deboarding the airport transfer bus. When you arrive at the airport you are required to go to the check-in counter of your listed airline to obtain your boarding pass and check-in for any luggage you are not carrying on. All baggage is pre-flight inspected by the **US Department of Agriculture.** Inspection stations for check-in baggage are located in front of or at the airline check-in counters. All hand-carried articles will be inspected at security checkpoints. Please be prepared to open and close your baggage and parcels during the x-ray machine inspection process. **If you have a connecting flight, there will be an airline representative available to assist you with gate information to board your next flight home.** Your checked luggage will be automatically transferred to your connecting city and will be available for pick-up at your final destination (home) airport.

How to use the Emergency Medical Coverage – Even though over 95% of our travelers do not encounter any sickness or injury, it still may occur. If sickness or injury occurs that requires medical attention, GradWeek or Hotel Staff can direct you to the medical facility at your destination. The travel insurance plan through **Cultural Insurance Services International (CISI)** does assist U.S. destination (domestic) travelers with trip interruption, however, it does not provide coverage for medical sickness, security evacuation, or personal property/financial instrument. **For policy questions or to receive assistance while traveling, you must call (800) 303-8120, or email claimhelp@mycisi.com and provide policy # GLM N18660234-DT.** The insurance agent will guide you through the policy, and if needed, help you file a claim for reimbursement for your approved medical costs up to the limits of the plan. **Please Note:** all travelers received an email from CISI (enrollments@culturalinsurance.com) containing all policy details and forms.

Money Wire Transfers – Should you run out of money at your destination, GradWeek provides a money wire transfer service for those students who may need additional funds on-site. This service is **only available Monday through Friday from 8:30 am–3:00 pm (PST),** and the required form can be accessed from our website at www.gradweek.com. The **Wire Transfer Authorization** form is located under the **ABOUT US** section, then click on **RESOURCES**. Please print and fill out the form **completely** and **EMAIL** it to info@istours.com **prior to 3:00 pm** Pacific Standard Time (PST), Monday through Friday. The traveler receiving the money on-site can pick up their cash with their photo ID from our 24-hour GradWeek Staff **after 7:00 pm (Hawaii local time).** The wire limit is \$300.00 and there is a \$25.00 service charge **per** wire transfer.

Informational Documents – Please visit our website at www.gradweek.com under the **ABOUT US** section, then click on **RESOURCES** to view all of our valuable travel information and forms we provide including Preparing for Travel Letter, Travel Tips, Destination Guide, Action Pac, and Travel Protection Insurance.

***REMEMBER** – If you misplace your **GradWeek Itinerary, you can always reprint a copy** by logging in to your online account at www.gradweek.com and clicking on **TRIPS >> TRIP ITINERARY.**

HOTEL CONTACT INFORMATION

The Twin Fin Hotel

2570 Kalakaua Ave, Honolulu, HI 96815
(808) 922-2511 | <https://www.twinfinaikiki.com/contact/>

Hyatt Place

175 Paoakalani Ave, Honolulu, HI 96815
(808) 922-3861 | <https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/hotel/hawaii/hyatt-place-waikiki-beach/hnlzw>

Queen Kapiolani Hotel Waikiki Beach

150 Kapahulu Ave, Honolulu, HI 96815
(808) 922-1941 | <https://www.queenkapiolani.com/faqs>

Alohilani Resort Waikiki (parent hotel)

2490 Kalakaua Ave, Honolulu, HI 96815
(808) 922-1233 *or* (800) 367-6060 | www.alohilaniresort.com

