

Honolulu Hanauma Bay

Magnificent crescent-shaped

Hanauma Bay

, formed when the wall of a crater collapsed and let in the sea, is renowned as Oahu's best place to snorkel

. Though it makes a nice excursion, and the sea is full of brightly colored fish, overuse has killed off most of the coral near the shore, and the feeding of fish has led to a decline in the range of species.

Tour parties were banned in 1991, and access is now controlled via a visitor center that shows educational videos about the bay's fragile ecology (daily except Tues 9am-6pm; \$3). TheBus #22 ("The Beach Bus") runs by the bay from Waikiki every forty minutes.