

Hawaiian Style Magazine reviews photographic monograph by David Leaser

Tropical Gardens of Hawai'i
190p. hard cover
\$32.95
Mutual Publishing

HONOLULU, HI -- Hawaii may boast more rich gardens and florid National Parks than any other state. This tome is a guidebook to—and visual celebration of—all that lush tropical splendor. It's all here: the swaying palms, the fragrant flowers, and the rainbows of color from orchids, plumeria, and hibiscus.

David Leaser, a member of the International Plant Propagators Society, faithfully and lovingly escorts readers on a visual tour of each of the state's wonderful gardens. The book is broken into sections for each Island; separate chapters cover the individual gardens on that Island. Chapters are brief on text, but an abundant display of striking photographs gives readers detailed visual documentation of the gardens., While giving fine descriptions of each of the gardens themselves, Leaser also deftly slips in "just enough" interesting historical details about the history and botany of Hawai'i.

A useful appendix provides contact information and directions to each garden listed, making this book an invaluable resource. Leaser has crafted a book just as a gardener would do for a garden and the results are a lush tome that will be enjoyed for many seasons to come.

Hawaiian Style Magazine (<http://www.hawaiianstylemagazine.com>) is a lifestyle magazine that focuses on homes, cooking, gardening, and travel, with an emphasis almost exclusively on the Hawaii. The magazine is published monthly.