

Hawaii volcano stops erupting, putting an end to stunning lava show

June 21 2023



This webcam image provided by the U.S. Geological Survey shows the summit of the Kilauea volcano in Hawaii, Tuesday, June 20, 2023. An eruption of the Hawaii volcano that began nearly two weeks earlier has come to a pause, scientists said. Kilauea, one of the most active volcanoes in the world, began erupting June 7 after a three-month pause, displaying fountains of glowing red lava without threatening any communities or structures. Credit: U.S. Geological Survey via AP

The nearly two-week eruption of a Hawaii volcano, one of the most active in the world, has come to a pause, scientists said.

After a three-month hiatus, [Kilauea began erupting again June 7](#)—displaying fountains of glowing red [lava](#) without threatening any communities or structures.

Crowds of people flocked to the Big Island's Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, which offered safe views of the lava.

Scientists declared the [eruption](#) paused again Monday when it rapidly declined in the afternoon, the U.S. Geological Survey's Hawaiian Volcano Observatory said. Still, some lava continues to flow on the [crater floor](#), which may continue for days as the lava cools, the observatory said, adding that scientists will continue to monitor the volcano.

On Tuesday afternoon, only small, faint pockets of red could be seen on the [USGS livestream](#) that showed bright bursts of lava on the eruption's first day.

The previous night, park rangers could still see lava through cracks on the hardened surface of the lava lake, which provided "still pretty good viewing," said Jessica Ferracane, park spokesperson.

"Park visitation still robust," she said in an email, adding that the [parking lot](#) was full Tuesday at the Kilauea Visitor Center.



In this photo provided by the U.S. Geological Survey, is an eruption taking place on the summit of the Kilauea volcano in Hawaii, on Friday, June 16, 2023. The eruption that began nearly two weeks ago has come to a pause, scientists said. Kilauea, one of the most active volcanoes in the world, began erupting on June 7 after a three-month pause, displaying fountains of glowing red lava without threatening any communities or structures. Credit: U.S. Geological Survey via AP



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Kilauea, Hawaii's second largest volcano, erupted from September 2021 until last December. For about two weeks in December, Hawaii's biggest volcano, Mauna Loa, was also erupting on Hawaii's Big Island.

After a short pause, Kilauea began erupting again in January. [That eruption lasted for 61 days](#), ending in March.

A 2018 Kilauea eruption destroyed more than 700 homes.

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