The design of the Hawai‘i State Capitol symbolizes the beauty of Hawai‘i. As you meander through the Capitol grounds, you will observe the incorporation of water representing the ocean, the volcanic shapes symbolizing the islands’ origin, and the openness of the central court, signifying not only the sky, but the openness of the Hawaiian people. The Capitol was dedicated on March 15, 1969, and Governor John A. Burns beautifully captured the spirit of Hawai‘i in his opening address to the legislature.

“The open sea, the open sky, the open doorway, open arms and open hearts—these are the symbols of our Hawaiian heritage... It is by means of this striking architecture of this new structure that Hawai‘i cries out to the nations of the Pacific and of the world this message: ‘We are a free people... we are an open society... we welcome all visitors to our island home.’”

**Queen Lili‘uokalani Statue**
Queen Lili‘uokalani became Queen in 1891, and was the last monarch of Hawai‘i. American sculptor Marianna Pineda’s statue depicts the queen holding three documents: the constitution of 1893, a translation of the “Kumulipo,” the Hawaiian creation chant, and the “Aloha ʻOe,” musical score.

**Father Damien Statue**
Father Damien, born Joseph De Veuster in Belgium, was a Roman Catholic priest well-known for his care of those afflicted with Hansen’s Disease, or leprosy, on the island of Moloka‘i in Kalapuna. The bronze statue was designed by Marisol Escobar and depicts Father Damien with scars on his face and his arm in a sling.

**Liberty Bell**
Located on the front lawn of the Capitol building rests a replica of the Liberty Bell, gifted to all states, territories, and the District of Columbia in 1950 by the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

Mahalo for visiting the Hawai‘i State Capitol building, we hope you enjoy your visit.
Hawai’i State Capitol was designed by architects Belt, Lemmon & Lo and John Carl Wemercke & Associates of San Francisco. Construction began in 1965 and the dedication ceremony was held on March 15, 1969. The Capitol building is designed in the Neo-Formalist style, is five stories and primarily constructed of reinforced concrete.

**Column Detail**
The Capitol building has forty, reinforced concrete columns in the style of palm trees, which fan out at the top, and are abundant on all islands. The fourth story of the building features a repetitive pattern of fins, grouped into eight, representing the eight islands in the Hawaiian chain.

**Opening in roof**
The roof is shaped like a volcano, with a 90 square opening, braced with 36 concrete ribs supporting the vertical thrusting roof. The opening creates an open-air courtyard below, ideal for Hawaii’s climate.

**Reflecting pool detail - Hibiscus Flower spout**
The Hawaii State Capitol building symbolizes an island. The building appears to rise from the ocean and is surrounded by a reflecting pool representing the Pacific Ocean. The reflecting pool’s fountain spouts are stylized hibiscus, the Hawaii State Flower.

**The Legislative Chambers**
The two legislative chambers, the House of Representatives and the Senate, sit across from each other and are shaped like a volcano, symbolizing the geological source of the islands. The chambers are comprised of crushed lava rock, clad in cast stone.

**Cofferd Ceiling**
The ground floor features a concrete, coffered ceiling, adding architectural interest and visual variety.

**House and Senate Chambers**
The House and Senate feature contrasting interior designs. The Senate Chamber features a blue color scheme symbolizing the ocean. The House of Representatives chamber was designed to represent earth, or the island beneath our feet, with a warm color scheme intertwining red, orange and warm brown. Artist Otto Peine created chandeliers for each chamber, the sun in the House and the moon in the Senate. Local artist Ruthadell Anderson designed the tapestries in each chamber.

**Aquarius**
At the center of the courtyard is a 36-foot mosaic titled, “Aquarius.” It was designed in 1969 by Tadashi Sato, a Maui artist, and is comprised of 600,000 Italian tiles symbolizing the ocean depicting water reflection and immersed rocks.