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Plumeria Flowers are wonderful diverse

When we think of plumeria colors, it's usually yellow, white or pink hues that come to mind. Many new hybrids are now available, producing brilliant rainbows, complex patterns, and interesting shapes. Beware of online scams: there are NO BLUE PLUMERIA!

Both traditional plumeria and new hybrids are planted in the grove

We love the diversity! Petal shapes can be twirled, pointed, broad, cupped and even spidery. Flower sizes of 2 ½"-3" are typical, but many new hybrids are huge: 5-6". Some flowers are very flat, making them very conspicuous; others reflex, or curl backwards, looking like little colored balls. If you see petal tips twist to a point, that's called 'pagoda tips' and it usually occurs in hot weather.

Bloom clusters, called inflorescences (inflos for short) are also diverse. Some plumeria bloom all at once in a big ball-shaped cluster, making the tree light up with color. Other inflos bloom a few flowers at a time, creating a very long season. Some inflos are pendulous, forming long stems that seem to drip flowers.

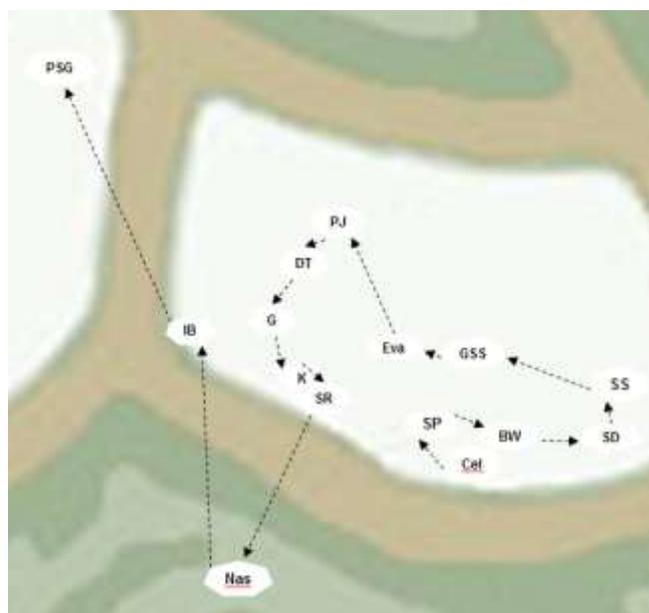
Petals also vary in thickness. This thickness affects its 'keeping quality', or how long it stays fresh when picked – an important consideration when making leis or floral arrangements.

Let's explore these characteristics in the grove. Quite a variety is planted here, but not all of the trees bloom at the same time.

Important! Unlike most other flowering plants, the color, pattern, shape and size vary widely due to any or all of the following:

- Local temperatures, particularly nighttime lows
- Sunlight exposure
- Fertilizer use, particularly micronutrients

In addition, the tree's maturity and root system vigor make a substantial difference in the flower quality. Don't be surprised to see the flower's appearance change, sometimes radically, as your plant gets stronger.



- **Celadine:** the most famous of the yellow plumeria, she has an excellent scent and very good (over 10 days) keeping quality due to her thick petals. Her flower size and coloration is very consistent, making her a perfect choice for lei making.
- **Scott Pratt:** we love his red flowers with black veins, but the bronze, upward pointing leaves are simply gorgeous.
- **Bali Whirl:** a mutation of Celadine, each flower has 8-10 petals instead of the standard 5 or occasional 6. Other varieties can randomly produce extra petals, but only Bali Whirl consistently blooms with this structure.
- **Sundance:** she sports excellent, well defined stripes on her backward curved blooms.
- **Sunstar:** instead of blooming all at once, she blooms one after another on the stem, forming a pendulous stream of flowers.
- **Guillot's Sunset:** the color of these gorgeous blooms is influenced by the amount of sunlight each inflo receives. Walk around the tree, and notice the variance between blooms in the shade vs. in full sun.
- **Evalani:** because the older blooms fade to a lighter color, her bouquets looks like there are many different flowers on one inflo.
- **Purple Jack:** he needs warm temperatures to change from pink to lavender, and when it's hot, he's a very bright purple color.
- **Dragon Tears:** in cooler temperatures, her blooms sport oval, pale yellow petals. As the heat rises, her petals become longer, twist, and develop bright orange yellow streaks and intense red tips.
- **Gina:** a beauty no matter what the temperature. She's a rich intense rainbow when the weather is cooler and fiery brick red with a white rim when it's hot. Her petals are very thick, and she can form pagoda tips in all temperatures.
- **Kimo:** a real chameleon, his flowers vary from yellow to orange to deep red. With heat, his flower shape changes from rounded to elongated.
- **Super Round:** the petals are so circular that the entire flower is almost perfectly round. Round petals are common in Thai varieties.
- **Nassau:** each flower has an interesting propeller shape, with the petals being narrow at the base and broad near the tip.
- **Irma Bryan:** take a close look at the center of her red blooms. You'll see a notch in the petal right before the center.
- **Peachglow Shell:** not all plumeria flowers open flat. Shell petals, such as this beautiful rainbow, stay upright. During very hot weather the petals will lay flat.

Please don't break off branches! Some plumeria are difficult to grow, and damaged trees die when uncaring visitors snap pieces off. An abused tree is sad sight, especially when plumeria are readily available in stores or from friends.

Take your time and stroll through the rest of our grove, and enjoy the many blooms. As more trees are planted, mature and bloom, this walking tour and other, more in-depth tours will be expanded. Enjoy!