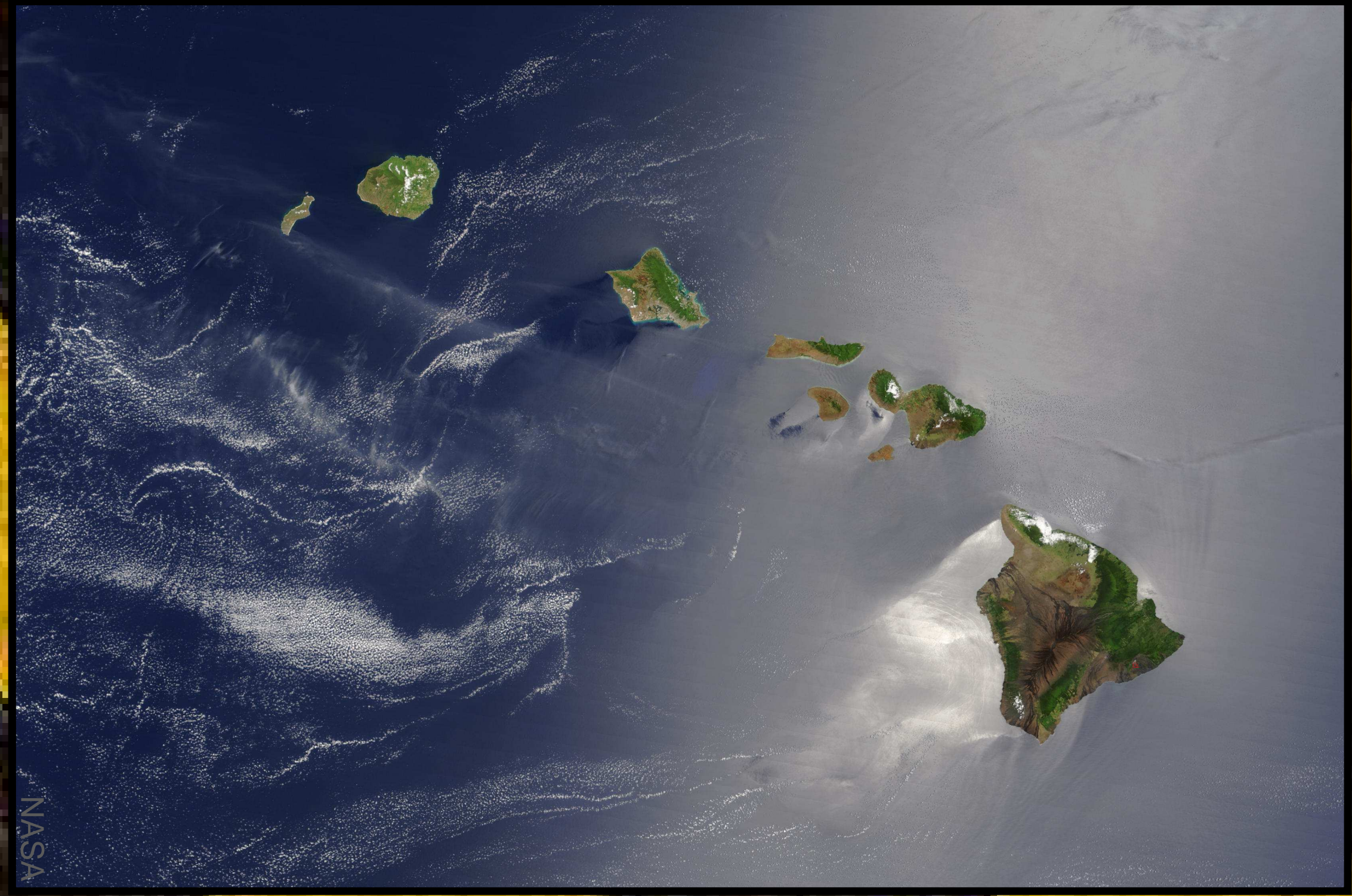


# Hawaii

Hawaii is actually a chain of island volcanoes, created as the Pacific plate moved over the mantle plume.



The Big Island of Hawaii is made up of several volcanoes. The largest, Mauna Loa, is bigger than Mount Everest – but most of it is under water.

Kilauea (pronounced kill-owe-way-ah) on the Big Island is possibly the most active volcano in the world.

Hawaiian eruptions are spectacular, but because they are not as dangerous as explosive volcanoes, they are a major tourist attraction.



These volcanoes often have many active vents. Vents can form in craters, or in chains called **fissures**.



Lava is a major hazard on Hawaii – it often destroys buildings and roads. The other major hazard here is volcanic gas. Parts of the island are often closed due to toxic gas clouds.

**Laze** is a lethal cloud of hydrochloric acid created when lava meets the sea.

