

IZUOSHIMA GEOPARK MAP

Feel the Breath of the Earth!

Be amazed by the Earth!

Experience the vigour of nature!

A Geo Station Okata Port

Let's go first when we arrive at Okata port!

Above the passenger waiting room on the second floor, you can receive information and the latest news from the Izu Oshima Geopark. When arriving at Okata Port, be sure to make use of this information before starting your journey. And, on your way home don't forget to stop by and plan your next trip.

Opening Hours: Open until the last voyage on days that Okata Port is designated as the departure port

1 Akappaige (Red Hill)

A red hill that rises from the sea

This hill is the remnants of a volcanic eruption where magma was ejected up into the sky, rapidly falling and accumulating around the volcanic crater. The pieces of magma erupted at high temperatures, and as they came into contact with the air minerals in the magma oxidized and turned red. Over time the volcano was eroded by waves, creating this natural observatory that overlooks the sea.

2 Cape Nagane

Nature's very own "pier"

In 1338, lava erupted from a fissure vent in the mountains, reclaiming the lowland areas of Moto-machi Village as it flowed down into the sea. At the time the land extended roughly 100m further, however the fragile rock was gradually eroded by waves, and as the coastline retreated, this pier-like strip of hardened lava was all that remained.

3 Hamanoyu (Open Air Hot Spring)

Relax with a Volcano!

Due to the eruption of 1986, the groundwater in Motomachi District was heated by magma, turning it into a natural hot spring. Hamanoyu is best enjoyed during dusk, where the sea and sky are stained a brilliant red as the sun sinks beyond Izu Peninsula in the West. A local middle school's pool, which utilized the underground water, was also turned into a hot spring!

B Izu Oshima Volcano Museum

Travel the world's volcanoes!

Here you can learn not only about the volcanoes of Izu Oshima, but also those from around Japan and the world. You can also enjoy the impressive 4K theatre which introduces the secrets and beauty of the Izu Oshima Geopark.

Opening Hours: 9am to 5pm, open every day (excluding some unscheduled closures)

Entry Fee: Adults ¥500, Children (Elementary and Middle School) ¥250

4 The Great Road Cut

Like a giant layered cake

Approximately 100 eruptions over 20,000 years formed this beautiful layered structure. This strata was discovered in 1953 when the mountain was excavated in order to build a road. Although it looks like the rock has been folded, each eruption actually moulded to the originally bumpy landscape, creating the wave-like bends in the rock. These stripy rocks tell the story of the island's long and volcanic history.

5 Sanohama Beach

A soft, black beach

This black beach was formed by the accumulation of volcanic ash, volcanic sand, and eroded volcanic rock that was washed down through the valley. The black color absorbs a lot of heat in the summer sun, enough to burn your feet! Every year sea turtles lay their eggs in the sand. Because of the sand's heat it appears that the eggs develop faster than those laid further south.

Enjoy a Flower Relay

~The Flower Island of the East Coast~

Surviving through harsh eruptions and strong sea winds, robust flowers can be seen blooming across the island throughout the entire year.

Spring

- Oshima cherry tree** (Wild cherry blossoms paint the island white.)
- Viola mandshurica** (These pretty purple flowers are a sign of spring.)
- Styrax japonica** (A flowery ceiling. Best viewed from below.)

Summer

- Lilium platyphyllum** (These large flowers stand out against the dark lava flows.)
- Hemerocallis fulva** (Orange speckles sway in the sea breeze.)

Autumn

- Azalea** (The highlight of spring, these pink flowers decorate the mountains.)
- Chrysanthemum pacificum** (Yellow pompons dance upon silver-lined leaves.)

Winter

- Camellia japonica** (A winter-blooming flower loved by the islanders!)
- Vitex rotundifolia** (A sea of purple by the coast.)

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IZUOSHIMA Coastline Area MAP

a legend

- Toilet
- Gas Station
- Hot Spring
- International Camellia Garden of Excellence
- Shrine
- Parking
- No vehicles allowed
- Special Protection Zone in National Park

The following acts are prohibited under Nature Park laws within Special Protection Zone in National Park.

- Use of vehicles
- Collection of plants, animals and/or rocks

7 Detailed map of Toshiki

9 Detailed map of Kakinohara Beach

10 The morning sunshine is refreshing.

9 You can see dikes from here.

10 If you have time walk down to the harbour too!

4 Each season brings a different view!

10 This pool is surrounded by a lava flow!

6 Imasaki

Thrilling seaside cliffs

During a violent volcanic eruption, hot magma flowed into the ocean and formed many hills. Over time the edges of these hills were eroded by waves, leaving the steep cliffs we see today. We can tell the eruption was violent as rocks of many different sizes can be found within the cliffs. In volcanic islands such as these, there is a constant battle between sea and volcano.

7 "Bomb Saqs" of the Toshiki Coast

Like scattered cushions

During a particularly explosive eruption, ejected rocks landed in a layer of volcanic ash, compressing the ash into hard craters. The ejected rocks and leftover imprints of the collision remain here, expressing the immense power of the eruption. From the shape of the imprints, it is estimated that the rocks were thrown from the eruption that formed the volcanic crater in Habu Port, a whopping 500m away. (The cliffs have been eroding and the rocks are collapsing.)

8 Habu Port

Turning a crater into a port!

In the early 9th century, a volcanic crater formed during an eruption, and became a lake. In 1703 the Genroku earthquake caused a tsunami which destroyed the edge of the lake, connecting it to the sea. People removed the remaining large rocks, and opened Habu Port in 1800. As the surrounding cliffs provide protection from strong winds the port flourished until the mid-1900s. Furthermore, the beauty of the port attracted many poets and artists, who left many Oshima masterpieces in their wake.

9 Kakinohara Beach

Strange towers of layered cinder

When magma came in contact with ocean water, a violent eruption occurred sending cinders high into the sky, forming this strange scene where they fell. In the surrounding earth you can see lots of "volcanic beans". These round "beans" are formed when volcanic ash accumulates around the outside of volcanic fragments containing a lot of water.

10 Fudeshima Island

An ancient volcano

Fudeshima Island is the remnant of an ancient volcano, which was active several hundred thousand years ago, long before the birth of Izu Oshima. Following the end of its volcanic activity, it was gradually eroded by waves, leaving only its hard volcanic pipe behind. On the cliff opposite Fudeshima Island you can see many grey lines - dikes - formed by magma breaking up through the rock.

11 Sakurakabu Cherry Tree

Estimated at 800 years old!

Roughly 500 years ago in a large eruption, the area surrounding the Sakurakabu Cherry Tree was covered with a huge lava flow. As the tree was growing on a slightly raised area, it was left untouched while the surrounding trees were destroyed. Thus, the lone Sakurakabu Cherry Tree stood out on the landscape, and became a landmark to passing ships.

12 Oshima Park Zoo

The zoo's hills are made from lava!

This zoo utilizes the natural terrain formed during the Edo Period when lava erupted from Mt. Mihara and flowed toward the sea. After the initial lava cooled, it was then pushed up by a later lava flow, creating this rocky hill. It makes the perfect environment for Barbary sheep, which naturally live upon steep mountains.