

Mt. Yufu



The top of Mt. Yufu showing the traces of past volcanic activities.

Mt. Yufu is considered to have experienced a series of major eruption 2000-2200 years ago from the survey results of volcanic products. Due to the eruption, pyroclastic flow was caused and a large amount of volcanic ash ejected, creating a lava dome on the mountaintop. As no other eruptions are recorded in historical documents, it may be said that these 2000 years have been dormant.

Yufuin and its charm

Yufuin Hot Spring located at the foot of Mt. Yufu has been developed with a harmony between the nature and the dwelling environment. With charms like abundant nature, beautiful landscape, amazing events, many museums and craft workshops, this hot spring resort attracts about four million visitors a year.



Lake Kinrin in a morning fog



Hiking at Mt. Yufu



Mt. Yufu in a morning fog

Mt. Tsurumi Mt. Garan



Mud volcano at Mt. Garan

Mt. Tsurumi is an active volcano whose last eruption was about 1200 years ago. Fumarole gas is still ejecting at Akaike on the north side of the mountaintop. But, the mountaintop itself is safe without the influence of volcanic activities and visitors can go there easily by ropeway service.

Mt. Garan is a lateral volcano located on the north side of Mt. Tsurumi. This volcano is thought to have erupted in 867 A.D. from historical records and volcanic survey. Active ejection of fumarole gas and activities of a mud volcano are still continuing.

"Beppu Hattou" and "Jigoku" tour

With the blessing from volcanoes, hot springs in Beppu produce as much as 130,000kl of hot water per day, the largest volume in Japan. This enormous hot water has created a hot spring resort called "Beppu Hattou" (eight major hot springs of Beppu) and unique geothermal pits called "Jigoku" (hell).



Onizuka Jigoku (Blood Pond Hell)

Umi Jigoku (Sea Hell)



Steam spewing in Beppu City

Mt. Yufu, Mt. Tsurumi, and Mt. Garan are "active volcanoes" designated by Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA). (According to the JMA definition, Mt. Tsurumi and Mt. Garan are collectively called "Mt. Tsurumi, Mt. Garan".) The Oita Prefectural Government and local municipalities are promoting disaster prevention measures against volcanic activities so that people can safely enjoy this blessing of the volcanoes. For more information on hazard maps, please contact the following section.

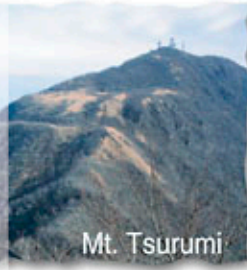
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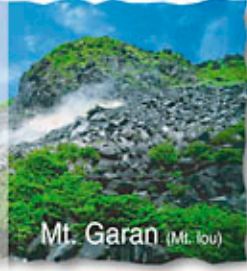
Active Volcanoes in Oita (Beppu and Yufuin Areas)



Mt. Yufu



Mt. Tsurumi

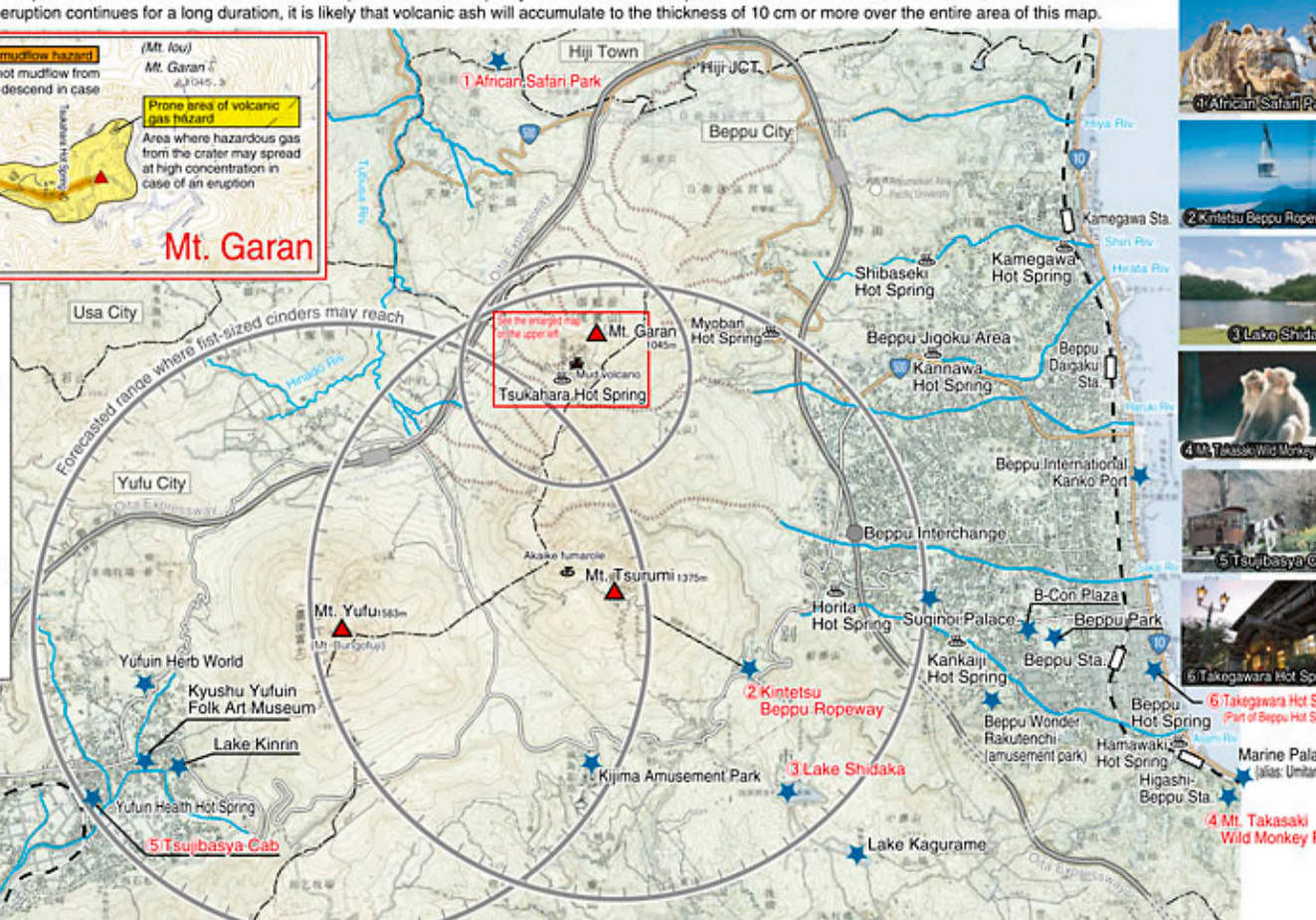
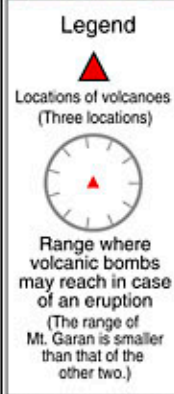
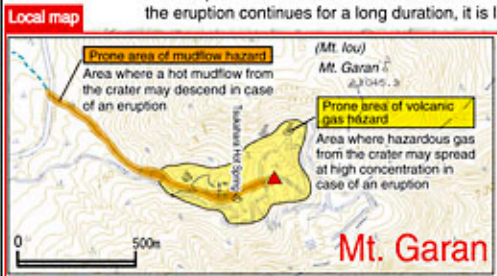


Mt. Garan (Mt. Iou)

View from Mt. Kiyozuka in Hiji Town

Sabo Division, Civil Engineering and Construction Department, Oita Prefectural Government

This map shows the areas where volcanic bombs (cinders of fist size) may reach in case an eruption is caused at Mt. Yufu, Mt. Tsurumi, or Mt. Garan. When the eruption continues for a long duration, it is likely that volcanic ash will accumulate to the thickness of 10 cm or more over the entire area of this map.



Important note

- 1 Mt. Yufu has not erupted for more than 2000 years, and Mt. Tsurumi and Mt. Garan for more than 1200 years. This map was prepared to provide for a volcanic eruption from quiescence.
- 2 A large-scale eruption does not start abruptly. So, there is enough evacuation time before the start of an eruption.
- 3 Considering from past records, it is highly unlikely that Mt. Yufu, Mt. Tsurumi, and Mt. Garan will erupt simultaneously.



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