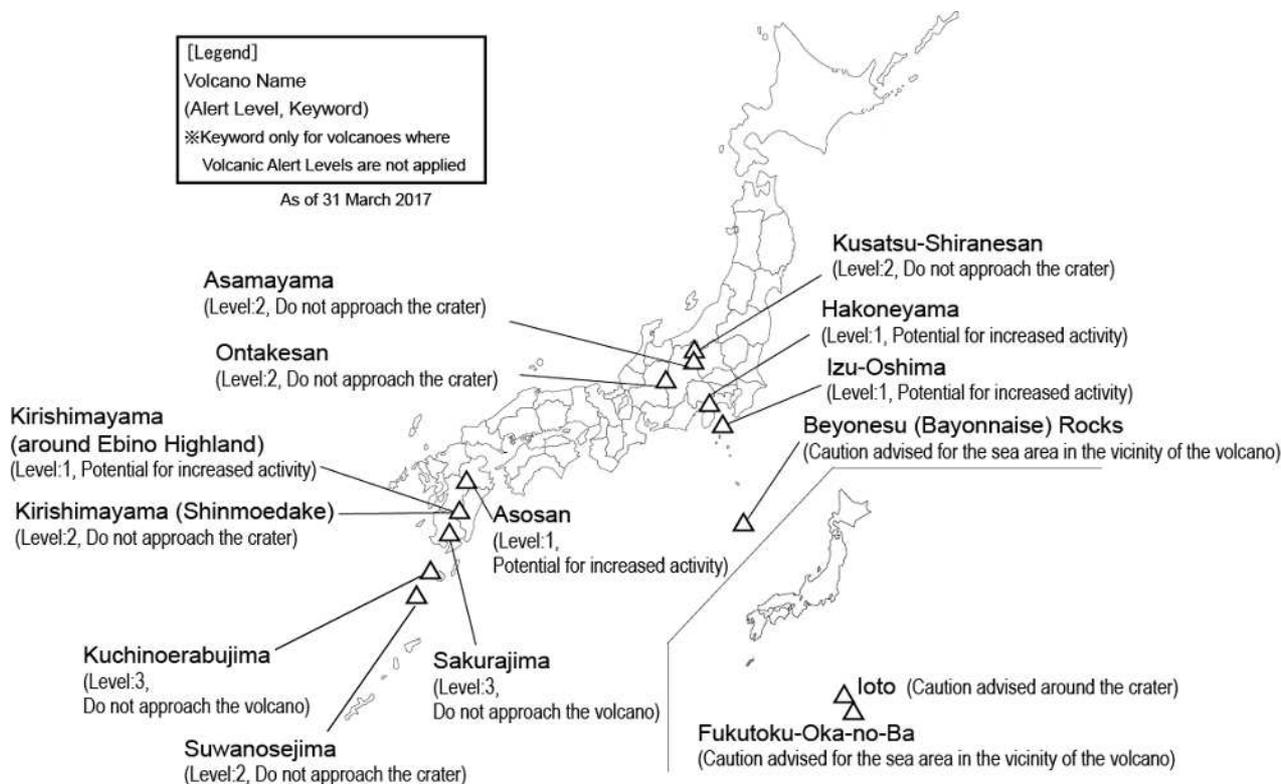


Monthly Volcanic Activity Report (March 2017)

Japan Meteorological Agency



Kusatsu-Shiranesan (Alert Level: 2)

According to the Tokyo Institute of Technology, the chemical compositions of water in the Yugama crater have shown the changes indicating ongoing increased volcanic activity since 2014. Changes in data from continuous geomagnetic total intensity observation (considered indicative of a temperature rise beneath Yugama) were seen from May 2014, but stopped around July 2014.

Asamayama (Alert Level: 2)

The number of imperceptible volcanic earthquakes in very shallow parts immediately under the summit crater has remained high. Also amount of volcanic gas (SO₂) emissions have remained at high levels and weak volcanic glows were occasionally observed, so volcanic activity is now quite high.

The potential for small eruptions affecting areas around the crater remains.

Ontakesan (Alert Level: 2)

No eruptions have been recorded since October 2014, indicating a declining trend in volcanic activity. However, the potential for small eruptions remains as plume activity from a line of craters and seismic activity have been ongoing.

Hakoneyama (Alert Level: 1)

Volcanic seismicity has remained at low levels. No remarkable changes have been seen in data of ground deformation.

However, fumarolic activity on some fumaroles around the Owakudani has remained at high levels.

Izu-Oshima (Alert Level: 1)

Data from ground deformation observation showed that long-term extension of the baseline caused by magma supply to areas deep underground remains ongoing, although fluctuations in the extent of deformation are observed.

Beyonesu (Bayonnaise) Rocks Warning upgrade on 24 March

In aerial observation conducted on 24 and 25 March in collaboration with the Japan Coast Guard (JCG), discoloration on the sea surface around Myojin Sho was reported.

Due to the potential for minor submarine eruptions, JMA issued a Volcanic Warning (sea area) at 15:00 on 24 March.

Ioto (Near-crater Warning)

Volcanic seismicity has remained at relatively low levels.

Continuous GNSS measurement showed repeated rising trend and static state.

Fukutoku-Oka-no-Ba (Near-sea-area Warning)

In aerial observation conducted on 24 March in collaboration with the Japan Coast Guard (JCG), discolored water was reported.

According to observations conducted by Hydrographic and Oceanographic Department/HOD, 3rd Regional Coast Guard Headquarters, the Japan Maritime Self Defense Force (JMSDF) and JMA so far, discoloration or other anomalies have frequently been identified in the water surrounding Fukutoku-Oka-no-Ba in recent years.

Asosan (Alert Level: 1)

No eruption has been recorded since the eruption on 8 October 2016.

Amplitudes of volcanic tremors occasionally showed slight increases, but have generally remained low.

Amounts of volcanic gas (SO₂) emissions have remained generally at relatively high levels at 700 – 1,400 tons a day.

No remarkable changes in tiltmeter observation data related to volcanic activity have been seen. The extension of the baseline indicating inflation of a magma chamber, which is considered to be present in deeper parts of Kusasenri, was observed since around July 2016 in the results of continuous GNSS measurement, but has stopped since mid-November.

Kirishimayama (around Ebino Highland) (Alert Level: 1)

There were no signs of any eruption that may affect the area near the crater, but the thermal anomaly zone continues to expand, and new hot water generation has been observed.

Kirishimayama (Shinmoedake) (Alert Level: 2)

Volcanic seismicity increased from 13 to 15 March, but has since remained at low levels. No volcanic tremors have been recorded.

There was no remarkable change related to volcanic activity according to tiltmeter-based observation

According to continuous GNSS measurement data, ground deformation indicating deeper magma chamber inflation at several kilometers northwest of Shinmoedake stopped around January 2015.

Sakurajima (Alert Level: 3)

At the Minamidake summit crater, an eruption at 18:03 on 25 March sent a pyroclastic flow approximately 1,100 m southward. This was the first eruption since 26 July 2016 at Sakurajima, and minor eruptions have subsequently occurred.

No eruptions were observed at the Showa crater.

The magma chamber inflation under the Aira Caldera is ongoing. The data collected may indicate a possibility that the eruptions continue.

Kuchinoerabujima (Alert Level: 3)

No eruption has been observed after the very small eruption on 19 June 2015.

Volcanic seismicity has generally remained at low levels.

Amounts of volcanic gas (SO₂) emissions had remained 100 - 200 tons a day.

According to a field survey, no remarkable changes were seen in plume emissions and distribution of thermal anomalies.

The potential for eruptions on the scale of the one that occurred on 29 May 2015 is low, but eruptions may still occur because the number of very shallow volcanic earthquakes around the Shindake crater has remained high and volcanic gas (SO₂) emissions have been higher than before the eruption on August 2014.

Suwanosejima (Alert Level: 2)

Eruptions have occasionally occurred at the Otake crater and volcanic activity has remained at high levels.

The potential for eruptions affecting areas around the crater remains.