22. Iwakisan

Continuously Monitored by JMA

Latitude: 40°39'21" N, Longitude: 140°18'11" E, Elevation: 1,625 m (Iwakisan) (Triangulation Point)





Overview of Iwakisan, taken from Ajigasawa on November 30, 2009 by the Japan Meteorological Agency

Summary

lwakisan is an andesite stratovolcano. The main stratovolcano is composed of gently sloping flanks and a steep upper volcanic edifice. A collapsed crater 800 m in diameter is located at the summit. It was filled in, forming two lava domes, one being the current summit of lwakisan. Three flank volcanoes exist at the western and southern feet of the volcano, and many explosion craters at the summit and on the volcano's flanks. The horseshoe-shaped Akakurazawa crater, located on the northeastern side of the summit, is the site of a large collapse. The avalanche deposits at the northeastern foot of the volcano of the volcano have produced many hummocky topographies. Eruptions within recorded history have been phreatic. The volcano is prone to producing lahars. Earthquake swarms occur frequently over a roughly 10 km area to the northeast. The SiO₂ content is between 54.9 and 63.7 wt %.

Red Relief Image Map



Figure 22-1 Topography of Iwakisan.

1:50,000 scale topographic maps (Kawaratai, Hirosaki, Ajigasawa and Goshogawara) and digital map 50 m grid (elevation) published by the Geospatial Information Authority of Japan were used.

Chronology of Eruptions

- Volcanic Activity in the Past 10,000 Years

The history of eruptions before 1600 is incomplete, and details are unavailable for many areas of the volcano's prehistoric activity, but the lava domes which make up the summit are considered to be less than 10,000 years old.

Period	Area of Activity	Eruption Type	Main Phenomena / Volume of Magma
10 ka	Chokaisan	Magmatic	Lava dome.
		eruption	
6 ka		Magmatic	Tephra fall.
		eruption	
6 ka?	lwakisan summit	Magmatic	Lava dome.
		eruption	
3 ka		Magmatic	Tephra fall.
		eruption	
3 ka?	lwakisan summit	Magmatic	Lava dome.
		eruption	
3 ka?	lwakisan summit	Magmatic	Lava dome.
		eruption	
3←→2ka	Torinoumi crater summit	Magmatic	Lava dome.
		eruption	

* Reference documents have been appended with reference to the catalog of eruptive events during the last 10,000 years in Japan, database of Japanese active volcanoes, and AIST (Kudo and Hoshizumi, 2006) for eruptive period, area of activity and eruption type. All years are noted in calendar years. "ka" within the table indicates "1000 years ago", with the year 2000 set as 0 ka.

 $A \leftarrow \rightarrow B$: Eruption events taking place at some point between year A and year B

A?: Eruption event apparently occurred in year A, but there is a possibility that it actually occurred in a different year.

Historical Activity

Year	Phenomenon	Activity Sequence, Damages, etc.
1571 (Genki 2)	Volcanic activity?	February 15 to 17. Glowing.
1600 (Keicho 5)	Moderate: Phreatic	February 22 and July 23. Tephra fall, lahar. The eruptive activity occurred at the Torinoumi
	eruption (producing	crater.
	lahar)	Tephra fall and lahar on February 22. Torinoumi crater explosion and volcanic block and
		sand ejection. Earthquake, tephra fall. Tephra fall and lahar on July 23. Earthquake. (VEI 3)
1605 (Keicho 10)	Volcanic activity?	April 10. Glowing.
1618 (Genna 4)	Phreatic eruption?	January 31. Tephra fall.
1672 (Kanbun 12)	Earthquake	June 27 and July 28. Collapse caused by earthquake
1686 (Jokyo 3)	Volcanic activity?	March 23. Glowing.
1770 (Meiwa 7)	Volcanic activity?	February 3. Rumbling, glowing.
1782 to 1783 (Tenmei 2 to	Phreatic eruption	November to June. Tephra fall. The eruptive activity occurred at the Torinoumi summit
3)		crater.
		Rumbling, volcanic block and sand ejection, new crater formation.
1845 (Koka 2)	Phreatic eruption?	April 4. Volcanic plume, sulfur emission. The eruptive activity possibly occurred at the Torinoumi crater.
1863 (Bunkvu 3)	Small-scale:	March 23. Tephra fall, Volcanic blocks. (VEI 1)
	Phreatic eruption	
1970 (Showa 45)	Earthquake and hot	January 9. M4.6 near Tsuruta. Temperature rise at Dake Onsen, some withering and dying
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	spring anomaly,	of trees.
	fume	
1972 to 1973 (Showa 47 to	Earthquake	November 5 to August. Maximum magnitude of M4.1 at northeastern foot of the volcano.
48)		
1976 (Showa 51)	Earthquake	October 6. Rumbling at approximately 13:00 at Dake Onsen, at the foot of the volcano.
1977 (Showa 52)	Earthquake	July 10. Earthquake swarm accompanied by rumbling at eastern foot of the volcano for
		approximately 30 minutes, beginning at 6:30. The area with the greatest number of felt
		earthquakes was Susono, in the city of Hirosaki, approximately 7 km east of lwakisan.
		Maximum JMA scale seismic intensities of 3 to 4. Maximum magnitude of M4.4.
1978 (Showa 53)	Fume	May 6. A high level of fumarolic activity was detected at Akakurazawa.

Year	Phenomenon	Activity Sequence, Damages, etc.
1985 (Showa 60)	Earthquake	November. Earthquake swarm at northeastern foot of the volcano, with a maximum magnitude of M3.6.
1986 (Showa 61)	Earthquake	March 2. Earthquake swarm at southwestern foot of the volcano, with a maximum magnitude of M4.5.

* Reference documents have been appended with reference to the catalog of eruptive events during the last 10,000 years in Japan, database of Japanese active volcanoes, and AIST (Kudo and Hoshizumi, 2006) for eruptive period, area of activity and eruption type.

Recent Volcanic Activity



Figure 22-2 Number of earthquakes per day (September, 2007, to June 30, 2012).

Data provided by Hirosaki University. Observation began on September 4, 2007. Count criteria: Hyakuzawa (Hirosaki University) Amplitude of 1.0 µm/s or more, S-P time of 2.0 seconds or less



Figure 22-3 Shallow VT seismic activity (blue circles) and deep low-frequency seismic activity (red circles) observed by a regional seismometer network (October 1, 1997, to June 30, 2012). Epicenter distribution (upper left), space-time plot (N-S cross-section) (upper right), E-W cross-section (lower left) and magnitude-time diagram (lower right).

Information on Disaster Prevention

①Hazard Map

Iwakisan Hazard Map (Wide Area Version) February, 2002 (Heisei 14) - Published by Aomori Prefecture - Editorial supervision by Iwakisan Hazard Map Deliberating Committee

Source: Iwakisan Hazard Map

Created: February, 2002

Created by: Aomori Prefecture (Department of Prefecture Land Development, River Erosion Control Bureau)

Iwakisan Hazard Map URL:

http://www.pref.aomori.lg.jp/kotsu/build/dosha_keikai_itiran.html



Social Circumstances

- Hirosaki City: 182,593 (as of October 1, 2011)
- Ajigasawa Town: 11,839 (as of October 31, 2011)
- Nishimeya Village: 1,541 (as of October 31, 2011)
- ②National Parks, Quasi-National Parks, Number of Climbers
 - Tsugaru Quasi-National Park

Number of sightseers: 817,000 (according to Aomori Prefecture sightseeing statistics from 2009)

Number of vehicles using Iwakisan Skyline in 2011: 18,371

Number of people using Iwakisan lift in 2011: 23,653

(Numbers of vehicles and people courtesy of Iwaki Skyline Co, Ltd.)

 $\textcircled{3}{\sf Facilities}$

None

Monitoring Network

Wide Area



* Monitoring sites with multiple observation instruments are indicated by small black dots, and other symbols indicate types of monitoring.

1:200,000 scale regional maps (Aomori and Hirosaki) published by the Geospatial Information Authority of Japan were used.



Figure 22-4 Regional monitoring network.

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