

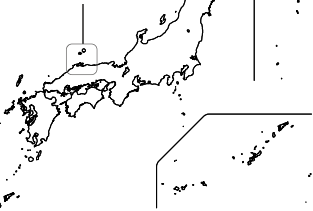
Daisen-Oki National Park

National
Parks
of Japan



National Parks of Japan

Daisen-Oki National Park



National parks are designated by the government of Japan based on the Natural Parks Act as natural scenic areas representing the country. From Hokkaido in the north to Okinawa and the Ogawara Islands in the south, there are 34 officially designated national parks, which are visited by more than 300 million people a year. National parks not only provide natural scenic beauty but also are the gold mines of such attractions as wild plants and animals and history and culture. The national parks of Japan are characterized by the fact that they contain various environments, including forests, agricultural lands, and villages. While some places offer opportunities to explore natural sites that have remained virtually intact over the years, others contain areas that blend traditional lifestyles with the surrounding natural environment, allowing visitors to experience Japanese history and culture. Please visit a national park, and fully enjoy Japan's beautiful natural environment and its changes through the four different seasons.

Characteristics

Mountains, islands, and the sea, where myths and mountain worship have long been kept alive in people's daily life

Daisen-Oki National Park is a park marked with varied scenery consisting of four areas, including a mountainous area on the east where there is a series of many mountains, an active volcano zone on the west, coast, and isolated islands. The mountainous area consists of a variety of elements that include dynamic volcanic landforms, rich forests, and a vast grass-covered plain. Depending on the location, visitors can savor views of unique mountains and diverse plants and animals that adapted to the environment. The coast and islands feature a range of seashore landscapes formed by a combination of complicated factors, such as volcanic activity, crustal changes, climate changes, alluviation and erosion, in addition to the biological environment unique to the coast and islands plants and animals factors as ocean currents. In addition, the Japanese mythology, *Kunibiki Shinwa* (which tells that this area was created by a deity who brought the land from beyond the ocean and connected to this place), was set in this area, and the area retains the traditional deep relationship with nature, inhabitants, and their lives.

[Date of Designation] February 1, 1936 [Area] 35,097 ha
[Related Prefectures] Tottori, Shimane, Okayama



Matenagai Cliff

Wild Animals and Plants Ecosystem

I Mountainous Area

Mt. Daisen is covered by abundant forests, and above all, it is marked by one of the largest natural beech forests in western Japan, which spreads over the mountain at 800 m to 1,300 m above sea level, and the wind-swept shrub zone of Japanese Yew trees growing at 1,300 m above sea level and above. There also are beech forests on Mt. Kenashi and Mt. Sanbe, as well as the evergreen forest and cool-temperate forest on Mt. Mitoku. Another characteristic of this park is the wide distribution of grasslands, which are represented by the ridgeline of Hiruzen and the summit and foot of Mt. Sanbe. On Mt. Daisen, the wind-swept shrub forest zone situated at 1,300 m above sea level is populated by alpine flora, such as *Phyllodoce nipponica* Makino, *Gaultheria adenobrix*, *Geranium shibokianum* Matsum, and *Veronicastrum japonicum* (Nakai) T. Yamaz. var. *australe* (T.Yamaz) T.Yamaz, and showcases splendid alpine meadows in early summer. A deciduous broadleaf forest lies across the hillsides, which is inhabited by a great variety of flora, including the spring ephemeral dogtooth violets, as well as *Luchderfia japonica*. The grassland of each area is a habitat and growing environment of rare grassland fauna, and of particular note is *Melitaea protomedea* protomedea, which only survives on a few grasslands around the Chugoku Mountains.



Japanese Yew



A Beech Forest in Mt. Kenashi



Veronicastrum japonicum var. australe



Oki salamander



A seaweed forest of Chibu



Black-tailed gull (Fumi-shima Island)

Conservation Efforts

– One-Tree, One-Stone Campaign for Mt. Daisen summit – Although the majority of the summit became a bare land with a rapid increase of climbers, thanks to the efforts of the public and private sector and the One-Tree, One-Stone Campaign conducted by the Mt. Daisen Summit Protection Group established in 1985, climbers started to bring designated nursery trees and stones to the summit, and as a result, the past vegetation is showing signs of recovery. This activity has been ongoing even at present.

– Natural environment conservation activities in Kagamiganaru –

The foot of mountain of Mt. Zoyama, situated on the north side of Kagamiganaru, constitute a large field of Japanese pampas grass and mountainous marshland that were previously a pastureland and meadow. In order to preserve them, maintenance operations and surveys have been in place with the cooperation of the investigative commission consisting of persons with relevant knowledge and experience and related organizations, municipalities, and local organizations.

– Collaboration with the Oki Islands UNESCO Global Geoparks –

In Oki, the local residents are proactively supporting the Geoparks, and the Ministry of the Environment is pursuing initiatives to preserve the excellent natural environment and culture of Oki and ensure their sustainable use in cooperation with the Geoparks in many ways, including events and lectures to interact with nature, extermination of invasive plants, creation of environmental education programs, and the installation of information signs.



Contact List

Chugoku-Shikoku Regional Environment Office
11F, Okayama Joint Government Building No. 2,
1-4-1 Shimoishii, Kita Ward, Okayama City, Okayama Prefecture
700-0907
TEL: 086-223-1577 FAX: 086-224-2081
URL: <http://chuhikokuken.go.jp/>

Mt. Daisen / Hiruzen Area
Daisen-Oki National Park Office
4F, Yonago Regional Joint Government Building,
124-16 Higashi-cho, Yonago City, Tottori Prefecture
683-0067
TEL: 0859-34-9331 FAX: 0859-34-9330

Shimane Peninsula Area / Mt. Sanbe Area
Matsumae Ranger Office
5F, Matsumae Regional Joint Government Building,
134-10 Mukojima-cho, Matsumae City, Shimane Prefecture
690-0841
TEL: 0852-21-7626 FAX: 0852-21-7639

Oki Islands Area
Oki Ranger Office
55 Johoku-cho, Okinoshima Town, Oki County, Shimane Prefecture
685-0016
TEL: 08512-2-0149 FAX: 08512-2-0150

Daisen-Oki National Park Website
<https://www.japan.travel/national-parks/parks/daisen-oki/>



f Facebook
i Instagram

大山隠岐国立公園/
Daisen-Oki National Park
@daisen_oki_nationalpark



Publisher: Ministry of the Environment
Published in: 2024

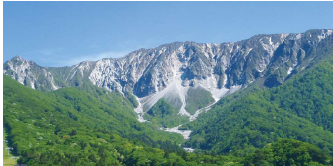
* The Highlights Map was compiled for the purpose of providing an overview of a designated area. Please be aware that it may contain inaccuracies.



Terminology and Features

I Mountainous Area

The mountainous area encompassing Mt. Daisen, Hiruzen, and Mt. Sanbe was mainly formed as a result of volcanic activity. Mt. Daisen, the highest peak in the Chugoku region (1,729 m above sea level), is a volcanic mountain marked by a lava dome formed over the stratovolcano with bluffs on the northern and southern cliff that extend to the mountain top presenting rough mountain scenes. The Hiruzen Three Peaks (consisting of Mt. Kami-Hiruzen, Mt. Naka-Hiruzen, and Mt. Shimo-Hiruzen) are also volcanic mountains. The foot of the mountain is the Hiruzen Highland, which was formed as a result of a volcanic eruption purchasing a lake. In addition, Mt. Sanbe has a lava dome and three lakes in circumference, which were also made by volcanic activity.



Northern cliff of Mt. Daisen



Mt. Sanbe

I Coast/Islands

The Shimane Peninsula was thought to be separated from the mainland during previous fault events, and later the Izumo Plain, Matsue Plain, and the Yumigahama Peninsula formed as a result of alleviation of rivers on the mainland, reconnecting to the mainland once again. The foundation of the Oki Islands was created during ancient volcanic activity, and the land sank into the sea and connected to the mainland repeatedly as a result of crustal and climate changes that followed, which formed isolated islands about 10,000 years ago. After the lengthy process just described, a submerged beach and raised beach were formed. Additionally, as the peninsula eroded from the wintry seasonal winds and ocean waves, a great variety of seashore landscapes encompassing sea cliffs, cave mouths, and caverns were generated.



Bessoku (Kijima Island) (Candle Island)



Kojima Beach (Raised beach)



Kogata Coast

Culture

I Mountainous Area

Mt. Daisen has been traditionally worshipped as a sacred mountain and since the initial opening of the Daisenji Temple took place during the Heian era (the 8th to the 12th century), it was crowded with many worshippers up to the Edo era (the 17 to the 19th century). Today, there still is the pilgrimage route (Daisen-michi Trails) on the mountain as a remnant from those days. In addition, Mt. Senjo and Mt. Mitoku, which are honored as the Hoki Sanrei along with Mt. Daisen, have been regarded as the place of mountain worship since days of old. By contrast, there are grasslands across Mt. Sanbe and Hiruzen, where people engage in cattle breeding and other operations to make a living. Today, some places still inherit the tradition of "controlled field burning" to help new grass bud by burning unnecessary plants.

I Coast / Islands

Both the Oki Islands and Shimane Peninsula are the setting of Japanese mythological tales, which tell the beginning of the country of Japan such as *Kunibiki Shinwa*. The Shimane Peninsula in particular has a number of historical sites and landmarks associated with the myths, including the Izumo Taisha Grand Shrine, which is said to have served as the center of the ancient Izumo culture about 1,500 to 3,000 years ago, as well as the Hinomisaki Shrine, and Kaka no Kakedo.



The Torii gate of the Daisenmichi Trail (Yokote-michi Trail)



Mt. Iritsuka Sakuragi Shrine Main Hall



Daisen Grand Shrine



Controlled field burning of Mt. Sanbe and Nishinohara

Activities

I Mountainous Area

The mountainous area consists of a variety of elements that include dynamic volcanic landforms, rich forests, vast grass-covered plains, and the unique biological environment. Here, you can enjoy its nature throughout the year by trekking, cycling, camping, snow sports, and cultural and religious experiences.

I Coast / Islands

The coast and islands feature a range of seashore landscapes and a unique biological environment, and they retain traditional beliefs and a deep relationship with nature, inhabitants, and their lives. Here, you can enjoy such activities as camping, marine sports, trekking, and cruising.



Downhill cycling from the midrise of Mt. Daisen to the Sea of Japan



Snow Flat Bites (Hiruzen Highlands)



Kureto Sightseeing Boat (Kaka no Kakedo)



Wapasa Night (Daisenji Temple)



Sea Kayaking (Oki Islands)

National Parks Etiquette

Please keep in mind the importance of nature and observe the following while staying in the national park so that everyone can enjoy.



Do not litter.



Do not pick flowers and plants.



Do not feed any wildlife.



Do not catch/capture any wildlife.



No smoking is permitted while walking.



Bonfires shall be built within the designated area only.

- Camping is allowed in the campground only.
- Vehicles are allowed on the road and parking lot only.
- Please do not leave the boardwalk or trail. Stay on it to protect the vegetation.
- Please note that heavy traffic and street parking happen in the vicinity of the Daisenji ski area during winter. Visitors to the ski area are advised to park vehicles in the Makihara Parking and take a shuttle bus.
- As a safety measure for hikers and climbers, both climbing and descending notifications must be submitted along with sufficient preparation and plan in advance.
- Prior to hiking or climbing, prepare yourself well, and make sure to use washrooms before you start. You are also advised to bring your own portable toilet.

*Mt. Misen summit and the mountain shelter of Murodani are the only locations with available public toilet facilities on Daisen mountain paths.

01 | Jodogaura Coast



Here visitors can savor the commanding view of archipelago seascapes consisting of a wide variety of rock formations. The beach is equipped with footpaths and a viewing platform.

02 | Shizen-Kaiki-no-Mori Forest

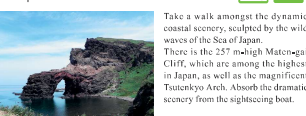


In Mt. Daimanji, there is an approximately 800-year-old huge Chihhi-sugi Japanese Cedar tree. A natural forest of cedar trees in the vicinity has been protected as an object of worship for nature since long ago.

03 | Akiya Coast



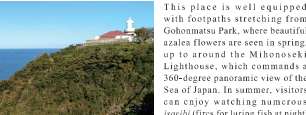
04 | Kuniga Coast



05 | Sekiheki (Red Cliff)

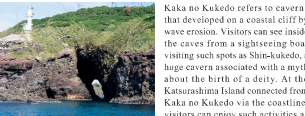


06 | Mihnoseki

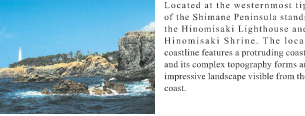


This place is well equipped with footpaths stretching from Gohomatsu Park, where beautiful azalea flowers are seen in spring, up to around the Mihnoseki Lighthouse, which commands a 360-degree panoramic view of the Sea of Japan. In summer, visitors can enjoy watching numerous iwashi (fish for larval fish at night) sparkling on a lot of squid-fishing boats, and also experience the scooping of flying fish using a big net. Every morning at Miho Shrine, visitors can participate in the ritual of making offerings to its enshrined deity.

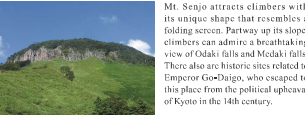
07 | Kaka no Kukedo (Cave)



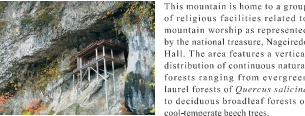
08 | Hinomisaki



09 | Mt. Senjo



10 | Mt. Mitoku



11 | Mt. Daisen



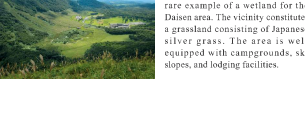
12 | Oku-Daisen/Kagamiganaru



13 | Hiruzen Three Peaks



14 | Mt. Kenashi



Colonies of dogtooth violets grow on Mt. Kenashi, while natural forests of beech and other trees flourish on the slopes. This mountain top also affords fantastic views, such that visitors can see as far as Mt. Daisen, the Hiruzen Three Peaks, and the Yomigahama Peninsula on clear days.

15 | Mt. Sanbe



16 | Mt. Kenashi



17 | Mt. Kenashi



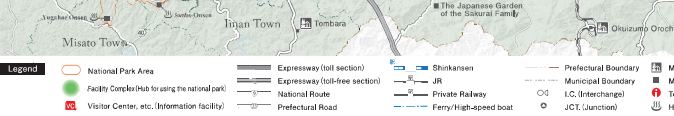
18 | Mt. Kenashi



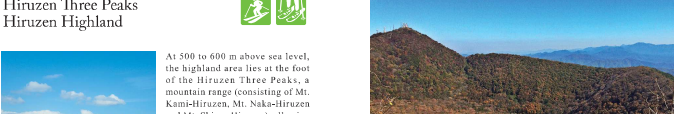
19 | Mt. Kenashi



20 | Mt. Kenashi



21 | Mt. Kenashi



22 | Mt. Kenashi



A group of mountains that include Mt. Ouzbe, Mt. Mousabe, Mt. Kousabe, and Mt. Magasabe encircle Marouchike Pond. From the grassland at the base to the surrounding ponds and the natural forests on the hillsides, the mountain exhibits various landscapes.

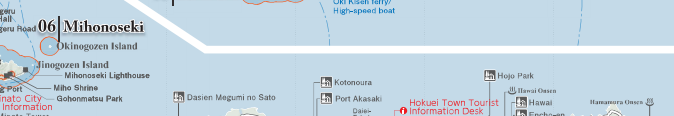
23 | Mt. Kenashi



24 | Mt. Kenashi



25 | Mt. Kenashi



26 | Mt. Kenashi



27 | Mt. Kenashi



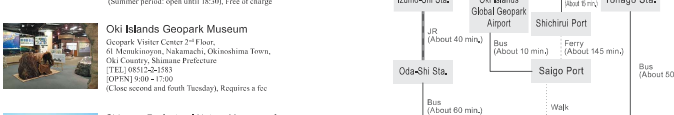
28 | Mt. Kenashi



29 | Mt. Kenashi



30 | Mt. Kenashi



For confirmation on the details about areas, etc., please inquire with the applicable national park office or other facility.