

Shinmoedake

Coordinates: 31°54′42″N 130°53′00″E﻿ / ﻿31.91167°N 130.88333°E﻿ / 31.91167; 130.88333

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Shinmoedake (新燃岳) is a volcano in Kagoshima Prefecture, Kyūshū, Japan, and a part of the Mount Kirishima cluster of volcanoes.^[1] It is believed to have formed between 7,300 and 25,000 years ago.^[2]

Eruptions from Shinmoedake were recorded in 1716, 1717, 1771, 1822, 1959, 1991, 2008, 2009, and 2011.

Shinmoedake is also notable for having been used as a location in the 1967 James Bond film, *You Only Live Twice*, as the volcano in which the villains' secret rocket base is located.^[3]

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2011 eruptions

The 2011 eruptions began on 19 January. On 26 January, at 7:30 AM, increased eruption activity spewed ash over the surrounding area. The ash closed four railroad lines, and some airline service was cancelled due to heavy ash in the air. It was the largest eruption from Shinmoedake since 1959.^[4] On 27 January, the volcano alert level was raised to 3.^[1]

On 1 February, an even larger eruption sent smoke up to 2.5 km in the air and threw volcanic bombs up to 1.5 km.

During February 2011, a lava dome formed in Shinmoedake's crater.^[5] On February 17, an evacuation advisory was put in place for the Miyakonojo area for 2,500 people after heavy rains threatened to produce lahars, and at least 63 people evacuated.^[6]

Shinmoedake

Shinmoe-dake



Shinmoedake erupting in January 2011

Elevation 1,421 m (4,662 ft)

Location



Kagoshima Prefecture, Kyushu, Japan

Range Mount Kirishima

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Geology

Type Active stratovolcano

Age of rock over 1,300 years

Last eruption March 13, 2011

On 13 March, two days after the 2011 Tōhoku earthquake, the volcano once again erupted.^{[7][8]} The eruption forced the evacuation of several hundred residents.^[9]

Gallery



Shinmoedake in July 2008.



Satellite image of Shinmoe-dake in February 2011.



Shinmoedake & Takachihonome in December 1998.

References

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- [^] Experts warn recent Japanese volcanic eruptions similar to those 300 years ago (<http://www.yomiuri.co.jp/dy/national/T110129003347.htm>) Jan. 30, 2011. Yomiuri Shimbun
- [^] "Japan volcano Mount Shinmoedake, scene of Sean Connery 'You Only Live Twice' James Bond film, erupts" (http://www.nydailynews.com/news/world/2011/01/27/2011-01-27_mount_shinmoedake_scene_of_sean_connery_you_only_live_twice_james_bond_movie_eru.html?r=news) , *NY Daily News*, Thursday January 27, 2011
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- [^] "Japanese volcano erupts" (<http://www.timeslive.co.za/world/article965229.ece/Japanese-volcano-erupts>) . Times Live. March 13, 2011. <http://www.timeslive.co.za/world/article965229.ece/Japanese-volcano-erupts>. Retrieved 2011-03-13.
- [^] Kennedy, Helen (March 13, 2011). "Hundreds flee in Japan after Shinmoedake volcano begins spewing ash, boulders" (http://www.nydailynews.com/news/world/2011/03/13/2011-03-13_hundreds_flee_in_japan_after_shinmoedake_volcano_begins_spewing_ash_boulders.html) . *New York Daily News*. http://www.nydailynews.com/news/world/2011/03/13/2011-03-13_hundreds_flee_in_japan_after_shinmoedake_volcano_begins_spewing_ash_boulders.html. Retrieved 13 March 2011.

External links

- BBC article on the January 2011 eruption (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-pacific-12331811>)
- Explosive eruptions observed. January, 2011: YouTube (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J2575Z_jTUw)
- Mount Shinmoe Video Archive (<http://volcano.videohq.tv/search/label/Japan?&max-results=9>)

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