

Famous Volcanoes Fact Cards

Mount Vesuvius

Location: Naples, Italy, Europe

Highest Point: 1281m

Eruption Activity: The last instance of an eruption was in 1944. Arguably, the volcano's most famous eruption was in AD 79 which destroyed the Ancient Roman cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum.

Did you know? A famous account exists, written by the Roman author Pliny the Younger, on the AD 79 Vesuvius eruption.

Famous Volcanoes Fact Cards

Krakatoa

Location: Rakata Island, Indonesia, Southeast Asia

Highest Point: 813m

Eruption Activity: The eruption of 1883 created so much ash and dust that the region was plunged into darkness for two and a half days. A series of tsunamis was triggered by the event, which reached as far away as South America.

Did you know? Explosions were said to be heard over 2000 miles away in Perth, Australia when the 1883 eruption occurred.

Famous Volcanoes Fact Cards

Mount St. Helens

Location: Washington, USA, North America

Highest Point: 2549m

Eruption Activity: Mount St. Helens' famous major eruption was in 1980 and is considered to be one of the deadliest in US history. An earthquake triggered a major landslide, followed by the volcanic eruption.

Did you know? Two years after the 1980 eruption, a large area around the volcano was designated as a National Monument. Visitors can now view the crater and the effects of the landslide, while scientific study can be undertaken of the volcano itself.

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"Volcano" by Neil is licensed under CC BY 2

Famous Volcanoes Fact Cards

Mount Tambora

Location: Sumbawa Island, Indonesia,

Southeast Asia

Highest Point: 2851m

Eruption Activity: The explosive eruption in 1815 is considered by many as the largest and most destructive volcanic eruption in recorded history, resulting in at least 10,000 deaths. It remains active with occasional smaller eruptions occurring since.

Did you know? The volcano used to be more than 4000m high but the 1815 eruption was so big, it destroyed the top section completely, blowing the mountain apart.

"Mount Tambora Volcano, Sumbawa Island, Indonesia" by NASA is licensed under CC BY 2.0



Mount Etna

Location: Sicily, Italy, Europe

Highest Point: 3350m

Eruption Activity: Several craters near the summit have been

erupting regularly through the 20th and 21st century.

Did you know? The name has evolved from ancient Greek, which literally means, 'I burn'. It is the highest active volcano in Europe but, despite its volcanic activity, Etna is a huge tourist attraction in Sicily.

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Cotopaxi

Location: The Andes, Ecuador, South America

Highest Point: 5897m

Eruption Activity: This volcano has a long record of violent eruptions. The eruption in 1877 led to volcanic mudflows which reached the Pacific Ocean and the Amazon River more than 60 miles away. The last minor eruption was as recent as 2015.

Did you know? Its height makes it one of the world's tallest volcanoes. Unusually, it has an almost perfectly symmetrical cone shape; the base is covered with grassland but the upper regions are all snow-covered.

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Mount Pelée

Location: Martinique, North America

Highest Point: 1397m

Eruption Activity: Minor eruptions were recorded in 1792 and 1851, however a major incident occurred in 1902, which devastated the local port and resulted in nearly 30,000 deaths (15% of the island's entire population).

Did you know? Its gentle slopes are covered in green forest.





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Mount Ruiz

Location: 80 miles west of Bogota, Columbia,

South America

Highest Point: 5311m

Eruption Activity: In 1985, the volcano erupted twice during the same day. An estimated 25,000 people were killed by the

resulting effects of these eruptions.

Did you know? The volcano is part of the Los Nevados National Natural Park, which also contains several other volcanoes.

"Del Ruiz Volcano and Snowmountain" by Jorge Jaramillo is licensed under CC BY 2.0

Famous Volcanoes Fact Cards

Mauna Loa



Location: Hawaii, USA, North America

Highest Point: 4169m

Eruption Activity: The volcano's last eruption was in 1984. Many other eruptions have occurred previously although the majority were not considered to be violent.

Did you know? Considered the world's largest volcano in terms of area, Mauna Loa is situated in the Hawaii Volcanoes National Park.

volcano in terms

Famous Volcanoes Fact Cards

Eyjafjallajökull



Location: Iceland, Europe

Highest Point: 1666m

Eruption Activity: The volcano famously erupted in 2010 causing severe travel disruption around Europe due to the huge ash cloud.

Did you know? Ash clouds in 2010 were so large that the sky was still completely dark in some areas during the day. The eruption followed a series of minor earthquakes and caused electrical storms.

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