



Japan's Highest Peak Mt. Fuji

Rising 3,776 meters to meet the sky from nearly the geographical center of the chain of islands that is the Japanese archipelago is the nation's highest peak, Mt. Fuji. The beautiful shape of the mountain as we know it today was created by volcanic activity that began approximately 10,000 years ago. An icon of Japan, Mt. Fuji can be seen in its magnificence stretching skyward from as far away as Tokyo on a clear day. Mt. Fuji is well known overseas, with many visitors to Japan each year making a trip to the mountain to see it with their own eyes.



LEFT: Mt. Fuji is able to adopt a variety of poses depending on the season or even the time of day. • ABOVE: Mt. Fuji by moonlight.





TOP LEFT: When viewed from the far shore of Lake Tanuki, the sun rises directly above Mt. Fuji on only two days each year. This phenomenon is known in Japan as "Diamond Fuji."

FAR LEFT: An umbrella cloud caps the peak of Mt. Fuji.

LEFT: Mt. Fuji in a sea of morning cloud.

TOP RIGHT: Mt. Fuji with autumn foliage in the foreground.

RIGHT: Mt. Fuji seen from an altitude of 4,800 meters. Although Mt. Fuji has been dormant for some 300 years, it remains an active volcano.



PHOTOS: SHIGEKI YAMASHITA