

# Fuji Sites Overview

---

Fuji, city, southern Shizuoka ken (prefecture), central Honshu, Japan. It faces Suruga Bay on the Pacific Ocean at the southern foot of Mount Fuji.

Fuji was a post station along the Tōkaidō (“Eastern Sea Road”) during the Edo (Tokugawa) period (1603–1867). Because of its location in the delta of the Fuji River, the city previously had an ample water supply for its large paper industry. Land subsidence resulting from heavy industrial consumption of groundwater in the region caused the city to later turn to other rivers in the area for alternative water sources. The arrival of the Tōkaidō Line (railway) in 1909 contributed to rapid commercial and industrial development.

Fuji produces chemicals, electrical machinery, automobiles, and photographic film. Rice, vegetables, tea, mandarin oranges, and watermelons are cultivated in the surrounding region. Fuji, which is accessible via the Shinkansen (bullet train), serves as a base for the ascent of Mount Fuji and as one of the entry points to Fuji-Hakone-Izu National Park. A college was opened in the city in 1990. <sup>1</sup>

Fujinomiya (富士宮) is a city in Shizuoka Prefecture on the southwestern slopes of Mount Fuji. The city grew up around Fujinomiya Sengen Shrine, the most prominent and important shrine in the region, which is also the traditional starting point of the approach up the mountain. Many visitors still start the climb from Fujinomiya via the Fujinomiya 5th Station, as it is the shortest and one of the most popular routes up the mountain.

Fujinomiya is also home to the Shiraito Falls, one of Japan's most beautiful waterfalls. The falls can be found in the outskirts of the city along the way to the Fuji Five Lakes region on the northern side of the mountain. <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> From [Fuji](#)

<sup>2</sup> From [Fujinomiya](#)



## 1) Mt. Fuji

Mount Fuji (富士山, Fujisan) is with 3776 meters Japan's highest mountain. It is not surprising that the nearly perfectly shaped volcano has been worshiped as a sacred mountain and experienced big popularity among artists and common people throughout the centuries.

Mount Fuji is an active volcano, which most recently erupted in 1707. It stands on the border between Yamanashi and Shizuoka prefectures and can be seen from Tokyo and Yokohama on clear days.

Another easy way to view Mount Fuji is from the train on a trip between Tokyo and Osaka. If you take the shinkansen from Tokyo in the direction of Nagoya, Kyoto and Osaka, the best view of the mountain can be enjoyed from around Shin-Fuji Station on the right hand side of the train, about 40-45 minutes into the journey.

Note however, that clouds and poor visibility often block the view of Mount Fuji, and you have to consider yourself lucky if you get a clear view of the mountain. Visibility tends to be better during the colder seasons of the year than in summer, and in the early morning and late evening hours than during the middle of the day.

If you want to enjoy Mount Fuji at a more leisurely pace and from nice natural surroundings, you should head to the Fuji Five Lake (Fujigoko) region at the northern foot of the mountain, or to Hakone, a nearby hot spring resort. Mount Fuji is officially open for climbing during July and August via several routes.