

## Mount Mihara Volcano - Izu-Oshima Island, Japan



Oshima is the large, mostly submerged stratovolcano that forms an 11 x 13 km island, Izu-Oshima. Oshima's highest point is 2,486 feet in the air. Oshima is capped by a 4-km-wide caldera with a central cone called Mount Mihara (Mihara-yama). Mihara has been the site of numerous historical eruptions. There are more than 40 parasitic cones found within the area. Sometimes called the Izu Oshima volcano, after the name of the island it is on. (Not to be confused with the Oshima Oshima volcano (island) which is up north near Hokkaido.)



The Izu-Oshima or Mihara Volcano is one of the most active volcanoes in Japan. It has generated relatively large-scale eruptions every 30–40 years for the past 200 years. As more than 30 years have passed since the last eruptions in 1986–87, volcanic activity is expected to resume in the near future. To help elucidate the current and future state of the volcano's magma system, the temporal evolution of the recent magma plumbing system was investigated through a petrological and geochemical analysis of its basaltic lavas and pyroclastics. It is important to monitor the deeper magma chamber to predict future volcanic activity.





Izu-Oshima is a 2-hour boat ride from Tokyo and has been a beautiful getaway island.

