## Mount Fuji

Location: Japan

Mount Fuji, also known as Fujisan, is a volcanic mountain located in central Japan, with an elevation of 3,776 meters (12,388 feet). It has been an important cultural symbol and spiritual icon in Japan for centuries. Mount Fuji has a long history of human activity, dating back to at least the 7th century when it was first climbed by Buddhist monks seeking spiritual enlightenment. The mountain's distinctive shape and prominent location made it a popular subject for Japanese art and literature, including the famous woodblock prints of Hokusai and Hiroshige. During the Edo period (1603-1868), Mount Fuji became a site of pilgrimage for the common people, with the government establishing checkpoints and providing accommodations along the way. In the 19th century, foreign travelers began to visit Mount Fuji, and it became a popular destination for Western tourists. In modern times, Mount Fuji remains an important symbol of Japanese identity and culture, and it has been designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is also a popular destination for hikers and climbers, with several trails leading to the summit. Despite its popularity, the mountain has also been the site of

several disasters, including a major eruption in 1707 that buried nearby villages in ash and caused widespread damage. Today, scientists closely monitor the volcano for signs of activity and have implemented safety measures to protect nearby communities in the event of an eruption.