

A possible JGN tour to experience 500 million years history of the Japanese Island

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"Geology and Topography of Japan in Chronological Order" published in January 2017 (Seibundo Shinkosha) shows the 500 million-year history of the Japanese Island using a lot of photographs. The basic policy was to cover all (44) domestic geoparks. In accordance with the purpose of this session, I propose a virtual JGN tour where you can experience the history of the Japanese Island in each geological period. When the formation ages of the highlight geosites that can be the highlight of each geopark are arranged, the characteristic of Japanese geoparks is that more than half of the geoparks in Japan are related to Quaternary volcanoes. In addition, there are about half of the geoparks where the Cambrian to Neogene strata and rocks are the highlights. The geological formations and topography formed in the Quaternary are the highlights of all geoparks. Even in geoparks that span multiple eras, only one era for one geopark can be selected. When the Paleozoic and Mesozoic periods are put together, we can organize geotours across geological era (or period-by-period), and geotours covering geological events that form the Japanese Island (eg, accretionary complex formation, opening of the Sea of Japan, Quaternary volcanism, etc.).

Keywords: geopark, geotour, geological era