

Mount Kilauea

This is a shield volcano which can be found in Hawaii. It is one of the largest active volcanoes in the world and has erupted over 60 times. It is 1247 m above sea level and the summit is made up of a lava lake which is believed to be the home of the Hawaiian volcano goddess, Pele.

Mount Kilauea has been erupting continuously since 1983! Most of the lava enters the sea but has been known to flow in other directions, destroying many homes.

Popocatépetl

This volcano is nicknamed 'El Popo'. After 50 years of being a dormant volcano, it burst back to life in 1994.

In April 2012, rock fragments, ash and water vapour were thrown up high in the air creating an ash cloud. This cloud was launched 2 km into the sky and caused huge transportation problems. A similar situation occurred again in both 2013 and 2014.

Popocatepetl is found in Mexico and is 5426 m tall. The name means 'Smoking Mountain' in Aztec.

Mount Vesuvius

Located near Naples, Italy, this volcano has a very famous history. It is 30 miles wide at its base and is estimated to be about 17,000 years old. In the last 2000 years it has erupted a total of 50 times, with the last eruption taking place in 1944 during World War 2. It has two cones which are 3 miles apart and is known as a stratovolcano because of its cone like shape.

The most famous eruption took place in 79AD, when Vesuvius erupted for an entire day, killing thousands of people and burying the nearby city of Pompeii. Archaeologists returned to Pompeii to discover that bodies and other items had been well preserved by the hardened ash.

Visitors can climb the volcano to almost reach the summit where they can see ash being released from the crater.

Krakatoa

Krakatoa sits on the Ring of Fire and is located in Indonesia. The 1883 eruption generated the loudest ever sound in history and could even be heard in Australia (nearly 2000 miles away). Thousands of people died and entire villages were decimated mostly due to the tsunami which followed the powerful explosion.