



Coexistence with natural disasters and the tale of rich land.

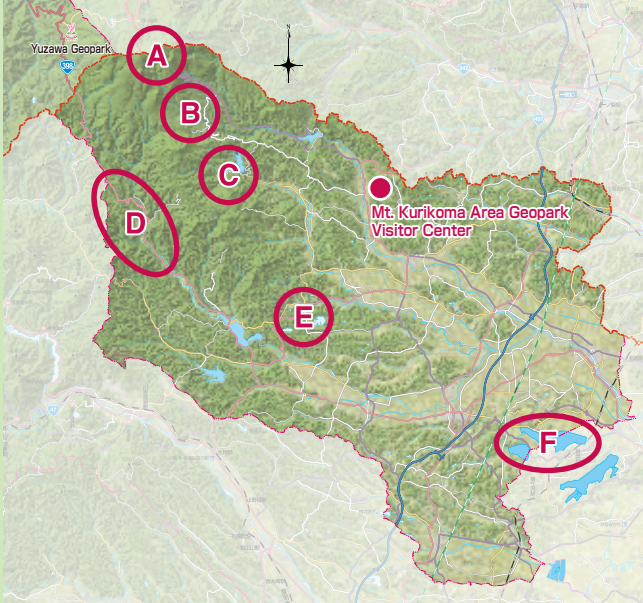
Numerous mountain disasters were caused by the 2008 Iwate-Miyagi Inland Earthquake. Reoccurring floods and cold weather damage plagued the land. The works of our ancestors who overcame countless natural disasters through collaboration and combining each other's wisdom nurtured the rich lands and diverse culture of the area. At Mt. Kurikoma Area Geopark, we hope to share our experience with people in future times. In order to do so, we aim to develop our community sustainably by utilizing the topography and landscape of Mt. Kurikoma Area Geopark on education, academic research, tourism, and disaster risk reduction.



A scene of Mt. Kurikoma still covered in snow as rice is planted in the plains below.



A: Mt. Kurikoma (Kurikoma volcano) B: Sekai Yachi Genseikaen C: Landslide upstream of the Aratozawa Dam



D: Collapsed areas in Kogawara, Sakashita, and Azabu E: Hosokura Mine F: Izunuma, Uchinuma

The use of 1/25,000 scale was approved by the President of the Geographical Survey Institute for the creation of this map. (Approval Number: 72-GISMAP41561 2018)

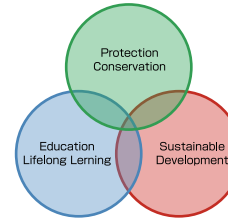
Enjoy the Earth at the Geopark!

Geopark is a place for visitors to can commune with Earth and enjoy Geotourism where visitors can learn about the planet Earth.

Through observation of mountains and rivers, visitors can learn about the formation as wells as the structure of the environment at Geoparks. Through the observations, visitors can cogitate upon the interaction between the environment and the ecosystem as we as human activities.

Think of the rocks beneath your feet, the universe beyond the Earth, from billions of years in the past to time beyond measure in the future, the mountains, rivers, ocean, the atmosphere, and all living beings on Earth. Here at Geopark, visitors can cogitate upon the entirety of Earth.

We are also striving to achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



Concept of Geopark



Access

About 30 minutes by car from Wakayanagi-Kannari IC / About 40 minutes by car from the Tsukidate IC / About 40 minutes by car from JR Kurikoma-Kogen Station



Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (March - November) / 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (December - February)
Days off: Tuesday (Or the day after national holidays), New Year(December 29~January 3)
Admission: Free

Contact: Kurihara City Geopark Promotion Office (Mt. Kurikoma Area Geopark Promotion Council)



5 Higashikibune, Kurikoma-matsukura, Kurihara, Miyagi 989-5372
TEL 0228-24-8836 FAX 0228-45-5936
<https://www.kuriharacity.jp/geopark/>

Mt. Kurikoma Area Geopark Visitor Center



Mt. Kurikoma Area Geopark Visitor Center



Entrance



Visitors can obtain information such as the summary of Mt. Kurikoma area Geopark, seasonal tourist spots, event/tour information, and many other related information here at the visitor center.



The workings of the land Exhibition Room 1

From Mt. Kurikoma, which could be considered the symbol of the area, to the vast plains filled with rice paddies, the Mt. Kurikoma Area Geopark shows the history of the land on an enormous scale that dates 100 million years into the past.



Theater

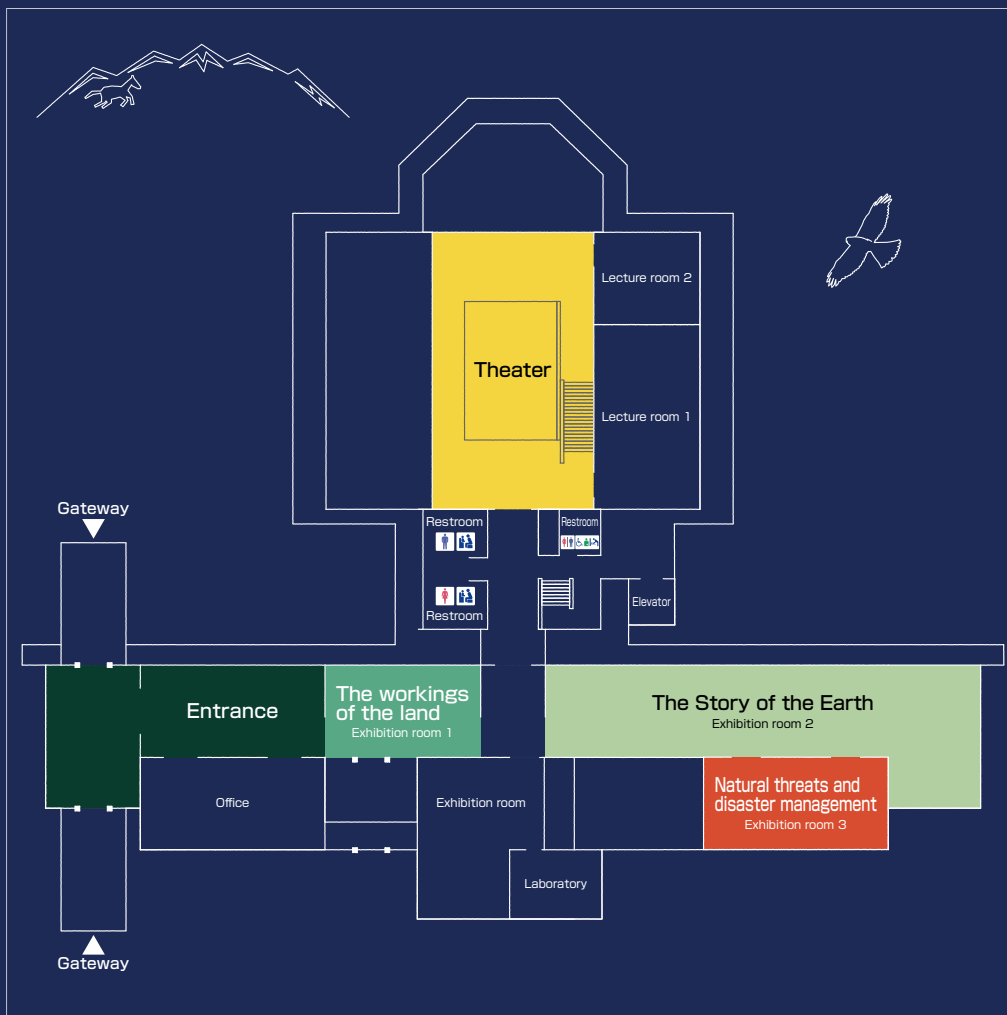


Visitors can experience the memories of the earthquake that facilitated the formation of the Mt. Kurikoma Area Geopark through video projected onto the two 400 inch screens.

Mt. Kurikoma Area Geopark Visitor Center

The Mt. Kurikoma Area Geopark Visitor Center is an activity center facility in the Mt. Kurikoma area certified in 2015 as a Japanese Geopark.

While Mt. Kurikoma Geopark visitor center is an educational facility visitors on the geography, ecosystem, and the history of human activities in the area, we also hope that visitors can utilize this facility as a hub for tourism in order to allow more people to enjoy the Geopark.



About the Visitor Center

- 1 Learn about how the area was formed
- 2 Learn and experience natural disasters and disaster management
- 3 Learning and research use
- 4 Get information about tours and activities

When you're ready, go out and see the real thing!



The Story of the Earth Exhibition Room 2



The Mt. Kurikoma Area Geopark has a vast diversity of landscapes and variation in elevations over a small 40km East to West span, with the highest point at the summit of Mt. Kurikoma, which is 1,626 meters, and the lowest point at just 5 meters above sea level in the Izunuma and Uchinuma area. These areas are divided into zones based on characteristics of the terrains in Mt. Kurikoma Geopark. Visitors can learn about the plains, hill, terraces, mountains, and Mt. Kurikoma itself here.



There are georamas and displays of the most symbolic parts of each zone, so when visiting the actual location you know what to look for. There is a large aerial photo covering the floor, showing a bird's eye view from the Izunuma and Uchinuma to the summit of Mt. Kurikoma, so visitors can get a real feeling for the distinctive features of the landscape and the workings of humans and nature.

Natural threats and disaster management Exhibition Room 3



Various natural disasters have struck this area, including the Iwate-Miyagi Inland Earthquake in 2008. There are also exhibitions that use the memories and experience of these disasters for disaster management and mitigation.



Experiential exhibitions work in concert with panels to teach visitors the perspective necessary to face natural disasters. Visitors also are able to think about what they can do to manage and mitigate disasters.