

GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2016



1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Jeju UNESCO Global Geopark (2010, Asia Pacific Geopark Network)

- Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation

2010/2014



2. GEOPARK FIGURES

- Number of Geopark staff: 7 members including 1 geoscientist
- Number of Visitors: Total number of the visitors: 15,852,980(2016), 13,664,395(2015)
- Number of Geopark events:
 - 6th 2016 Jeju Suwolbong Geotrail: organized by Jeju Government Geopark team
 - Geo festival (Mt. Sanbang and Yongmeori Geotrail event and Geo Culture event) : organized by Jeju Tourism Organization.
- Number school classes realize Geopark educational programmes
 - Jeju Geopark Guide Education programs: four times
 - Local residents and students education programs: nine times
- Number of Geopark press releases
 - News articles and TV broadcastings: over ten releases



Secrets of Jeju's north west
 Exploring Jeju's north west, and its surroundings with professor Min Young Chee
 By Min Young Chee, minyoungchee@naver.com

Jeju Island's north west
 In the second part of a series of Jeju's hidden landscapes, the Jeju Weekly joined a group of visitors to explore Jeju's north west and the north west region.

Jeju Island is part of Jeju Island's Global National Geopark, an UNESCO Global Geopark network which seeks to protect the planet's geological heritage while promoting the sites for sustainable tourism and development.

Arriving early for our own trip on Saturday July 30, I read an introduction board in the hope of gaining some background knowledge of this scenic location on the westernmost tip of the island.

(Yonhap Feature) Geotourism on Jeju Island reveals its true origin
 By Kim Eunyoung

JEJU (Yonhap) (July 31 (Thursday)) - Once considered a plain of water and a barren island with a lack of fertile land, Jeju Island has transformed itself into Jeju Island's true home region with scenic landscapes and traditional culture.

Affected by cyclical weather and strong winds, the island located 90 kilometers south of the Korean Peninsula was not easily accessible to travelers centuries ago, leaving it underdeveloped areas in the island's present condition.

While luxury hotels and beach resorts have been springing up in various parts to capitalize on a rising influx of Chinese and a recent real estate boom, a series of low-rise, eco-friendly geotourism structures has become the island's trend among adventure seekers and nature lovers.

Jeju, created as a result of volcanic activities between 1.8 million years and 250,000 years ago, has many distinctive geological sites across the island. And that is why UNESCO included Mount Halla, Seongsan-Haeryang and Gwaneum Daejeon Lava Taper on the World Natural Heritage list and designated the entire island as a "Global Geopark" in 2010.

St. Halla, a central site of the island, and Seongsan-Haeryang, known as the best place for watching sunrises, are always crowded by tourists, but there are more places for geo travelers besides the most-see destinations.

There are about 300 small hills, called "Seonri" in Jeju dialect, in various sizes and conditions across the island, predominantly composed of dark-colored basalt.

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

- Major achievements in 2016

Successful National Geopark revalidation in December 2016.

2016 National Brand Awards and Geo Branding activities



- Contribution towards GGN - Networking and Participation

Participated in 2016 GGN Conference

- Management and Financial status

Managed by Jeju Government and central and local government financial support

- Geoconservation

Protected by National and local laws

- Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

6th Suwolbong Geotrail and Jeju Geofestival

- New Education programmes on geoconservation, sustainable development and disaster risk reduction

Local resident education programs in tentative geosites

- Strategic Partnership and Promotional activities

Expanding strategic partnerships and promotional activities



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