

Utilization of Geological Information as Tourist Attractions(First attempt for Geo-park in Ibaraki Prefecture)

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<http://geotourde.gozaru.jp/>

Recently the declaration of the sightseeing founding a state was performed by the government and the movement to aim at the activation of the local society by the sightseeing development has been active in Japan. In such a situation, Geo-park has attracted a great deal of public attention as World Heritage. It is a natural park with geological inheritance and at the same time it is a center of activation for culture, education and tourism of the local society. At present, some local governments hope to realize their own Geo-parks, and this movement will certainly progress.

First of all it is very important for realization of Geo-park that specialists in geology have to change the expert geological knowledge to the easily understandable one for the ordinary people. Outcrops are the most basic materials for Geo-park. We selected two excursion courses in the southern area of Ibaraki prefecture (the Mt. Tsukuba and Kasumigaura-lake courses), and made the geo-tourism maps of two courses. The ubiquitous computing technique was used for getting the geological information from these maps . The tourists will be able to get information using their cellphone by QR codes written on these maps. The sightseeing information like hot spring spots and souvenir stores are also available from the same maps. This is the first step to realize the Geo-park.