

# Japan Geoscience Union Meeting 2011

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## Geoguides training program in Aso Geopark

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Aso Geopark was accredited as a member of Japanese Geoparks Network in 2009 and we are currently aiming at to be a member of Global Geoparks Network. Aso Geopark has recently started a program to train Geoguides.

In Aso Geopark, we have promoted Eco-Tourism for quite a long time but the people who guide tourists are mostly focusing on the plants and history. The course is designed by the experts of volcanology to introduce the basic knowledge on topography and geology of Aso Volcano, in addition to overviewing the connection between spring water in Aso area and Aso Volcano. The association of geology and topography of Aso Volcano with culture is also highlighted. The course provides two hours per class every Saturday for 15 weeks. Studying in the fields is also required. Those who finish the above-mentioned course and field study are recognized as Geoguides.

Keywords: Aso, geopark, guide, training program