Geotourism's Contribution to Protected Areas

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Presentation

1. Geotourism
2. Geoparks
3. Jeju Island

Mt Halla
Jeju Island, Korea

The Environment

The environment comprises the following:

1. **Abiotic – non-living aspects such as the climate & geology eg. landscape and landforms**

2. **Biotic – the living parts eg. fauna (animals) and flora (plants)**

3. **Cultural – past & present, non-living & built**

Parts B+C are well interpreted within tourism, especially through ecotourism and cultural tourism, but A has typically not been addressed

Geotourism

Geotourism is a new type of tourism that:

1. Starts with, or is based on, the Abiotic geological environment but also comprises Biological and Cultural elements

2. It is driven by tourism's sustainability focus meaning it has environmental, social and economic goals

3. Thus it can be used as a major tool for regional economic development

Geotourism

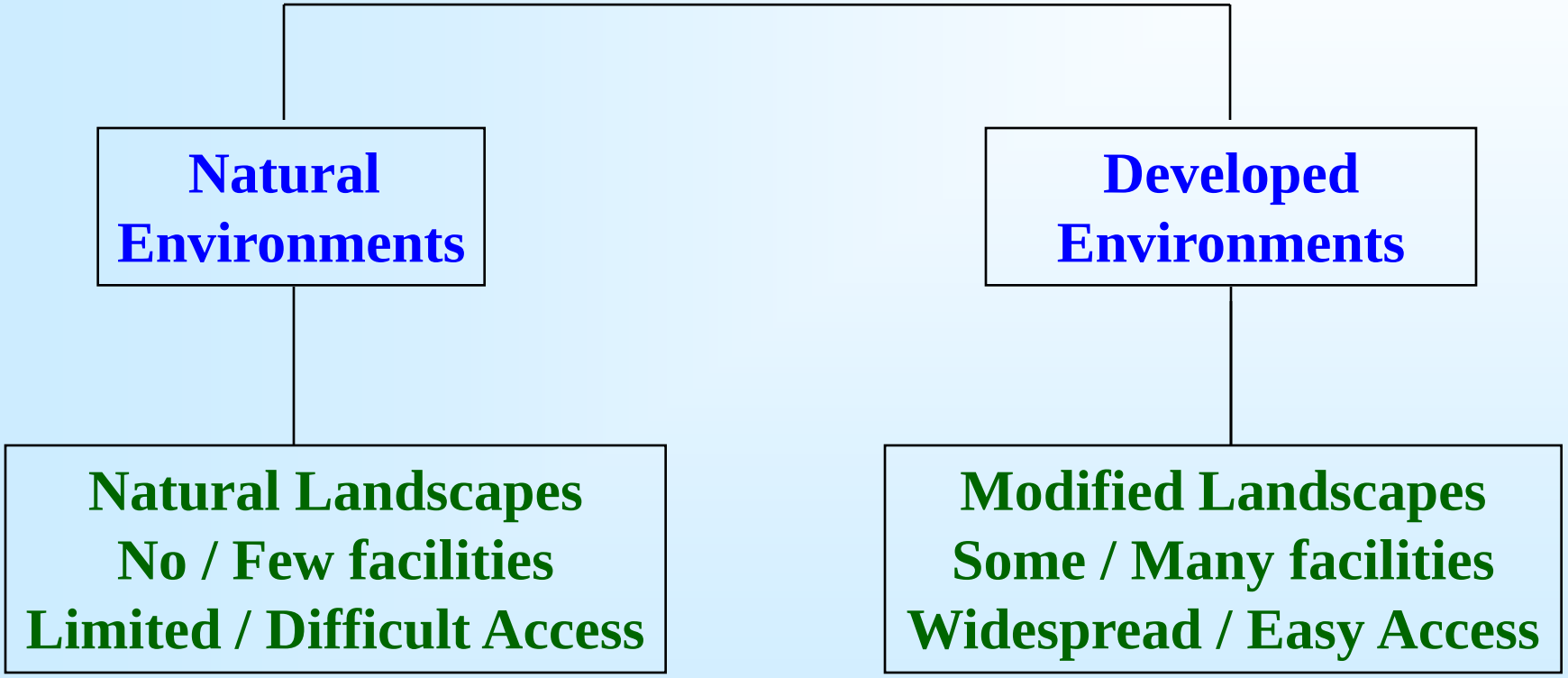
The *geological* underpinning of geotourism is that it specifically focuses on geology and the landscape. Thus it promotes the:

1. **Conservation of geodiversity**
2. **Understanding of earth sciences**
3. **Experiences of geosites**

The Elements of Geotourism

1. **It is based on geological features**
2. **It conserves geoheritage**
3. **It develops geological tourism products**
4. **It creates high quality tourist experiences**
5. **It includes excellent interpretation**
6. **It provides value to local communities**

Geotourism May Occur in Both Natural and Developed Environments



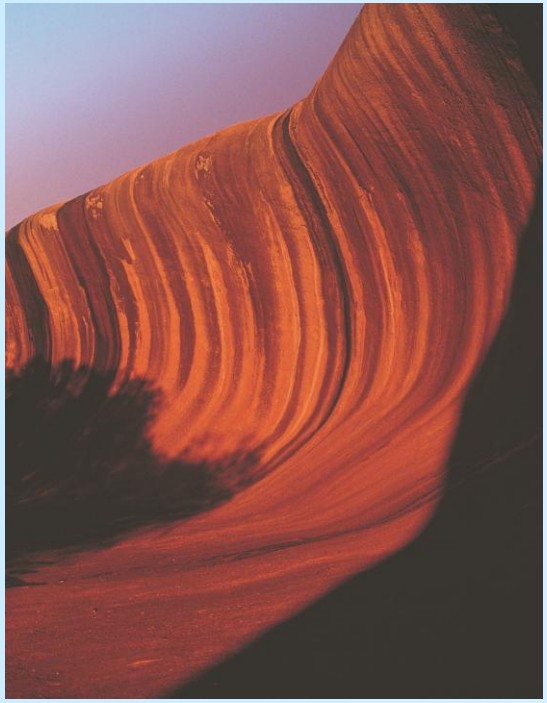
The Context of Geotourism

Interpretation

The Interpretation of Geotourism

Interpretation separates geotourism from geology. The key elements of geotourism's interpretation include form, process & time

1. **Form – an understanding of the landforms and other geological features**
2. **Process – a description of the ways in which the geological features were formed**
3. **Time – a description of the geological era and length of time the features were formed – always related to human time**



Wave Rock
Western Australia

Tourism's Features

Form

Volcanic landforms
Glacial features
Fluvial landscapes
Aeolian landforms
Karst features
Sedimentary environments
Coastal landforms
Rock outcrops
Regolith sections
Minerals

Geology's Features

Attractions:

Macroscale eg. Grand Canyon, USA
Mesoscale eg. Wave Rock, AUS
Microscale eg. fossil beds, UK

Accommodation:

Geolodges, Georesorts

Tours:

Scenic flights
Organised vehicular guided tours
Self guided tours - drive and/or hiking

Activities:

Site locality visitor centres
Virtual tours

Interpretation:

Visitor centres
Guided and self guided trails
Pamplets

Planning and Management:

Geoconservation
Site design for tourism
Visitor management

Mountain ranges
Volcanism
Lava flows
Weathered profiles
Landslides
Icesheets
Glaciers
Waterfalls
Coastal cliffs
River valleys
Deltas
Mudflats

Process

Time

A Geoconservation Focus

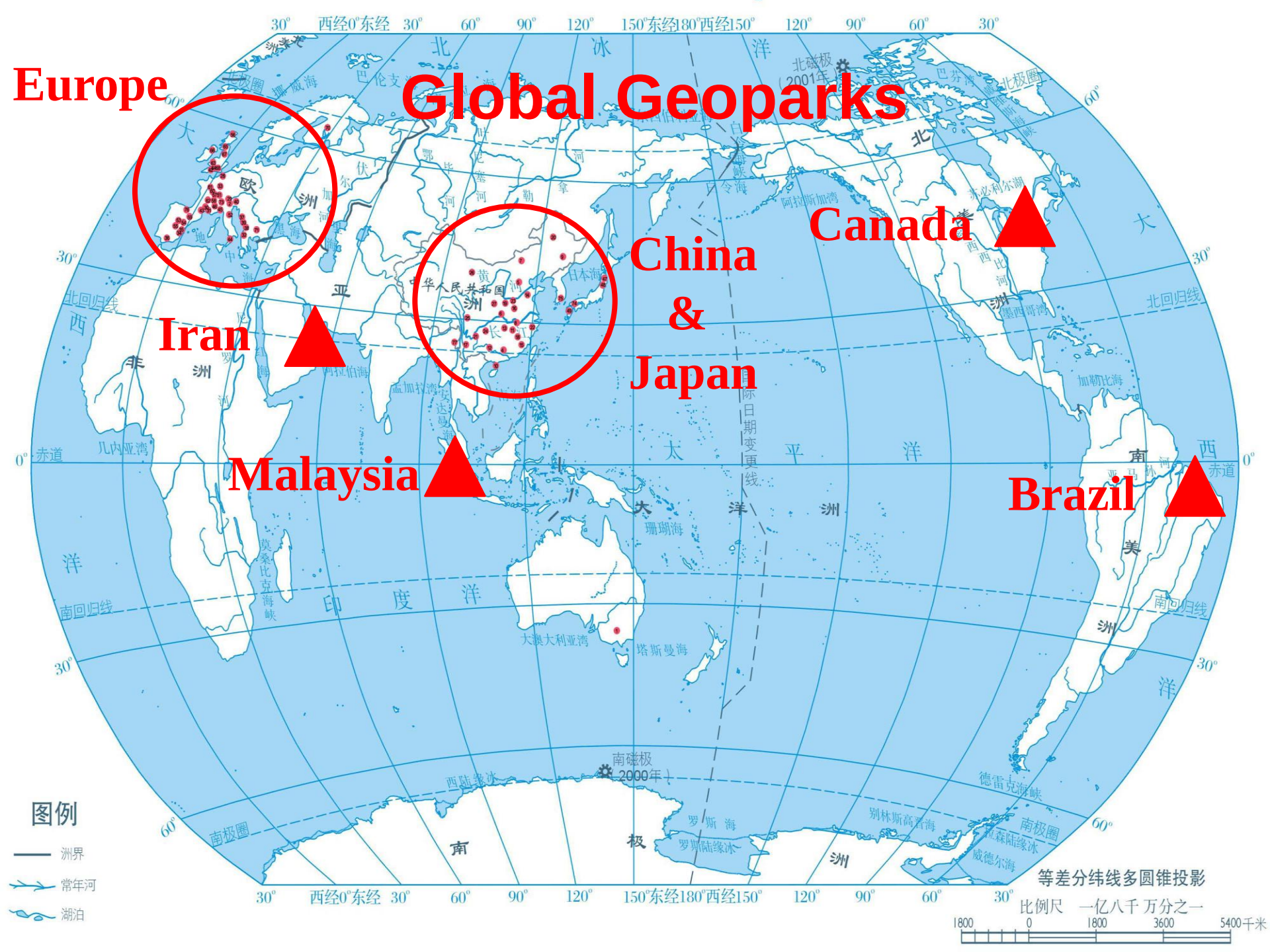
1. Nature Conservation has become synonymous with biodiversity conservation
2. However, conservation of geological heritage have often been overlooked
3. Geotourism fosters an understanding of geoheritage protection and conservation
4. The sustainability element of Geotourism ensures that geoheritage is conserved
5. A starting place for establishing the protection of areas of conservation significance could be through the establishment of Geoparks

Geoparks

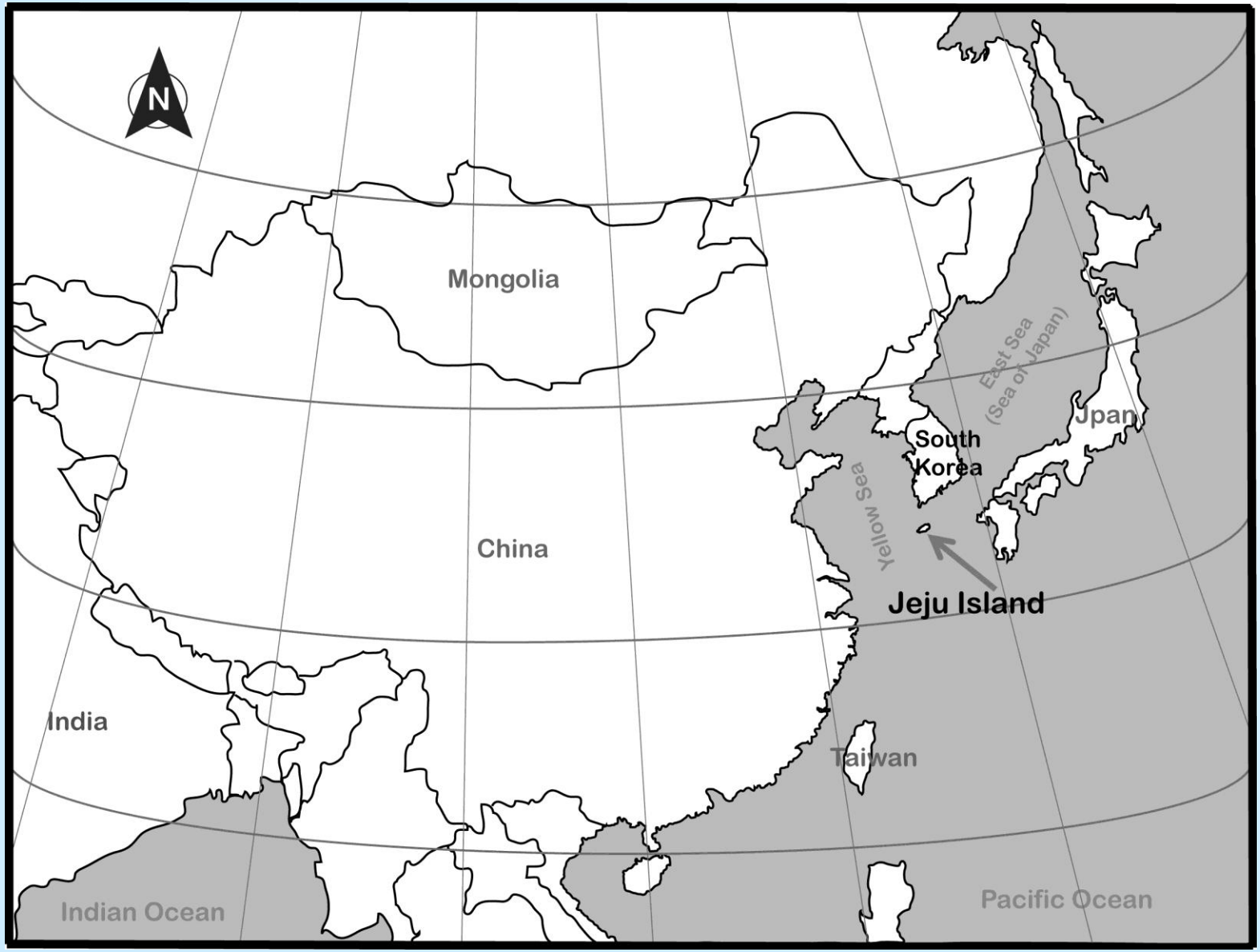
UNESCO's Global Geoparks are single unified geographical areas where sites and landscapes of international geological significance are managed with a holistic concept of protection, education and sustainable development

Comparative UNESCO Protected Areas

Program	Sites	Countries
World Heritage	1007	161
Man and the Biosphere	631	119
Geoparks	111	32

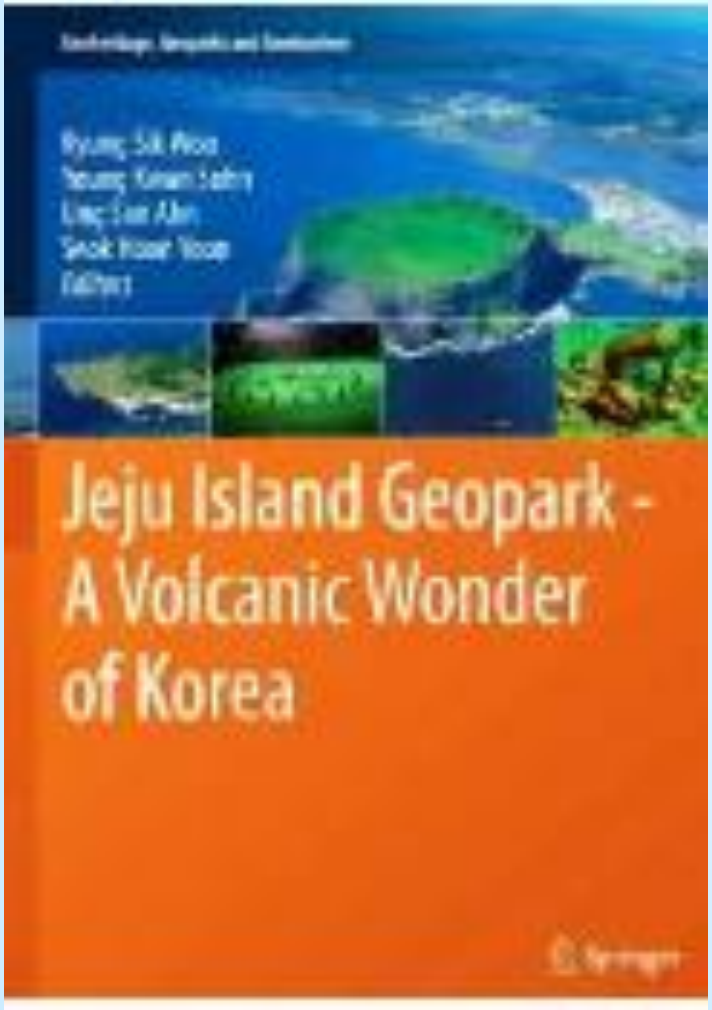

Europe
Global Geoparks
China
&
Japan
Canada
Iran
Malaysia
Brazil
图例
洲界
常年河
湖泊
等差分纬线多圆锥投影
比例尺 一亿八千 万分之一
1800 0 1800 3600 5400千米

Jeju Island, South Korea



Jeju Island, A Global Geopark

▲ Mt. Hallasan
Center of Jeju-do
▲ Tuff Ring, Suweol Summit
Volcanology textbook
▶ Lava Tube, Manjang C
Spectacular lava tube
▲ Tuff Cone, Seongsan Ilchu
Hydrovolcano of sunrise
Jeju-si
Seogwipo-si
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
Lava Dome, ▼
Mt. Sanbang
Lava dome &
hydrovolcanic edifice
▲ Falls, Cheonjiyeon
Peculiar biological habit made
by waterfalls
▲
Columnar Joints, Daepo-dong
Coast full of columnar joints
▲
Sedimentary Formation, Seogwipo
Sediments of fossils and volcanic ash


Jeju Island Geopark -
A Volcanic Wonder
of Korea

마을별 지질해설사 양성교육

C

Jeju Island Geopark
수월봉
제주도지질공원
GLOBAL GEOPARKS NETWORK
NEW 7 WONDERS OF NATURE
수월봉
Suwolbong
CERTIFICATE
Jeju Island
NEW 7 WONDERS OF NATURE
new7wonders.com

Geosites	World Heritage	MAB	Other Protection Measures
Mt. Hallasan	**Y**	**Y**	National Park Scenic Site
Mangjanggul Cave	**Y**	**N**	
Seongsan Ilchunbong Tuff Cone	**Y**	**N**	Natural conservation area
Cheonjiyeon Waterfall	**N**	**N**	
Seoguipo Formation	**N**	**N**	Public Water Surface
Daepodong Columnar Joints	**N**	**N**	Public Water Surface

Mt Halla

AUTHENTIC GEAR
ICELAND
THE BEST KEPT SECRET
ESTABLISHED IN 874

UNESCO 자연과학 분야 3관왕
세계7대 자연경관(불가사의)
제주
만장굴 Manjanggul Lava Tube
한라산 Mt.Hallasan
성산일출봉 Seongsan Ilchulbong
수월봉 Suwalbong
주상절리대
Daepo Jusangjeollidae(Seaside Cliff)
천지연폭포 Cheonjiyeon Falls
TRIPLE-CROWN WINNER OF UNESCO, JEJU

Summary

- **Geotourism places a focus on the earth's geological features & landforms**
- **Geotourism contributes to the protection and conservation of our geoheritage**
- **Geoconservation and biodiversity conservation should form the basis of our future of protected areas**

The Australian Situation

Geotourism is being fostered by:

1. **Ecotourism Australia's *Geotourism Forum***

2. **The Geological Society of Australia's *Geotourism Committee***

3. **The Forum Advocating Cultural and Eco Tourism [FACET] in WA**

Conclusions

1. **Australia has the National Landscapes Program**
2. **It is now being supported by Ecotourism Australia**
3. **I see a future where Australia's National Landscapes could become Global Geoparks**
4. **This will afford greater protection for our geological wonders**

Geotourism's Contribution to Protected Areas

THE END

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