

## Mayon Volcano

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### Mayon Volcano Latest News

Thousands of people have been evacuated from areas south of Manila after the Mayon Volcano erupted recently.

### About Mayon Volcano

- It is an **active stratovolcano** located in **Albay province** on **Luzon Island** in the **Philippines**.
- It is part of the **Pacific Ring of Fire**.
- It is located on the eastern side of Luzon, **beside the Philippine Trench**, which is the **convergent boundary** where the **Philippine Sea Plate** is **driven under the Philippine Mobile Belt**.
- Rising to 2462 m above the Albay Gulf, it is the **Philippines' most active volcano**.
- Called the **world's most perfect volcanic cone** because of the **symmetry of its shape**, it has a base 130 km in circumference and rises to 2,462 metres from the shores of Albay Gulf.
- It has **steep upper slopes capped by a small summit crater**.
- **Popular with climbers and campers**, the volcano is the **centre of Mayon Volcano National Park**.
- There are **large abaca plantations** on its **lower slopes**.

- **Historical eruptions date back to 1616 CE** that have been characterized by **Strombolian eruptions**, lava flows, pyroclastic flows, and mudflows.
  - There have been more than **30 eruptions recorded since 1616**.
  - Mayon's **most violent eruption, in 1814**, killed more than 1200 people and devastated several towns.
  - An eruption in 1993 caused 79 deaths.
  - **Eruptions occur predominately from the central conduit** and have also **produced lava flows** that travel far down the flanks.

## What is a Stratovolcano?

- It is a **tall, steep, and cone-shaped** type of volcano.
- Unlike flat shield volcanoes, they have **higher peaks**.
- They are **typically found above subduction zones**, and they are often **part of large volcanically active regions**, such as the **Ring of Fire** that frames much of the **Pacific Ocean**.
- Stratovolcanoes comprise the **largest percentage (~60%) of the Earth's individual volcanoes**, and most are characterized by eruptions of andesite and dacite, **lavas** that are **cooler and more viscous than basalt**.
- These more viscous lavas **allow gas pressures to build up to high levels**. Therefore, these volcanoes often **suffer explosive eruptions**.
- They are usually **about half-half lava and pyroclastic material**, and the **layering of these** products gives them their other **common name of composite volcanoes**.
- **At the peak**, stratovolcanoes usually have a **small crater**.

Source: **TOI**

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