

Geothermal Energy and Hot Springs

Volcanic activity is often destructive, but it can have benefits, including creating geothermal energy and hot springs.

Geothermal Energy from Steam

To generate geothermal electric power, highly pressurized steam escaping from below the Earth's surface is used to turn turbines connected to electricity generators. As this produces lower levels of carbon dioxide emissions than conventional power generation methods, it is an environmentally friendly energy source.

Hot Springs

An *onsen* hot spring is defined as groundwater heated by geothermal heat to more than 25°C. Such springs often contain an abundance of minerals and natural gases. Thanks to the large number of volcanoes in the region, this national park has a wealth of hot spring resorts.