大分県 Oita Pref.(豊前 Buzen/豊後 Bungo)



From Hossho-zan in Kuju Mountain Range

In Oita Prefecture, "NE to E faces of Mt.Unzen" can be viewed on days with very clear air from Shaka-dake (also called Fugen-dake) and Gozen-dake in the western region, Hiko-san in the northern region, Kuju Mountain Range, Yufu-dake and Tsurumi-dake in the central region, and Sobo-san in the southern region. From the mountains in the central or southern regions, Mt.Unzen appears like floating behind the northern rim of Aso Caldera (↑).

Volcanic chain from Yufu-dake and Tsurumi-dake to Kuju Mountain Range outstretches westward to Mt.Aso, Kimpo-zan and Mt.Unzen in a straight line. Although the topographical/geological features differ from volcano to volcano, they share seasonal colorations specific to mountains in Kyushu: spring pink of Kyushu azalea; summer green of grasslands, autumn red/yellow of deciduous trees, and winter white of rime ice. In 1927, Kumahachi Aburaya "The Father of Beppu Tourism" proposed "A Concept to build a large Kyushu National Park" which is based on the idea of the connecting road of Kyushu Region to build a large national park including the volcanic chain above. His idea was partly realized as Kyushu Transverse Road in 1964 stretching from Beppu through Kuju, Aso, Kumamoto and Unzen to Nagasaki (the central section is called "Yamanami Highway"), connecting Aso-Kuju National Park Unzen-Amakusa National Park. In 1980, Kyushu Nature Trail connecting all prefectures in Kyushu Island through long circuit trail like a necklace was opened, so a hiker can walk from Kuju Mountain Range to Mt.Unzen.

Why don't you travel around Oita Prefecture exploring faces of Mt.Unzen?

◆Tourist information in Oita Pref. is here.
→(Public Interest Incorporated Association) Tourism Oita
http://en.visit-oita.jp/