

Mount Fuji gets free Wi-Fi

12th July, 2015



Japan's snow-covered Mount Fuji is one of the most famous mountains in the world. Nearly 300,000 people climb to the top of the 3,776-meter mountain every year. Now they can tweet

about their experience or post pictures on Facebook from the top of Mount Fuji. Japan's biggest telecommunications company, NTT DoCoMo, has launched a free Wi-Fi service along the slopes of Fuji. Climbers can access free Wi-Fi service at eight different hotspots on the mountain, as well as the summit. The Wi-Fi will only be available for three months, which is the length of the climbing season. Once users log on, they will have 72 hours of free access to the Internet from the mountain.

Hundreds of thousands of people climb Mount Fuji every year. The number has increased since the mountain became a UNESCO World Heritage site two years ago. The United Nations said Fuji was an important symbol of Japan. Local authorities hope the free Wi-Fi service will help keep climbers safe on the mountain. People will be able to check for weather warnings and find shelter. They will also be able to call for help even if their phone loses its signal. Fuji is not the highest place in the world to have Wi-Fi hotspots. Mount Everest in the Himalayas has a hotspot at the last base camp, which is 5,148 metres high. The North Pole and the International Space Station also have hotspots.

Sources: *JapanToday.com* / *PC Mag* / *Independent.com*

Writing

There should be places where Wi-Fi is not allowed. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

snow / famous / mountain / experience / telecommunications / free / hotspots / season / thousands / number / important / symbol / weather / warning / signal / space station

True / False

- Almost three million people climb Mount Fuji each year. T / F
- The article says there is a Twitter and Facebook shop on top of Fuji. T / F
- There are eight different Wi-Fi hotspots on Mount Fuji. T / F
- Users can only use the Internet on Fuji for a day. T / F
- Mount Fuji became a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1964. T / F
- The free Wi-Fi will help keep people safe on the mountain. T / F
- Fuji is not the highest place in the world to have Wi-Fi hotspots. T / F
- The North Pole has a Wi-Fi hotspot. T / F

Synonym Match

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| 1. famous | a. top |
| 2. post | b. gone up |
| 3. launched | c. use |
| 4. summit | d. make sure |
| 5. access | e. logo |
| 6. climb | f. upload |
| 7. increased | g. final |
| 8. symbol | h. well known |
| 9. check | i. walk up |
| 10. last | j. started |

Discussion – Student A

- Are there enough Wi-Fi hotspots where you live?
- Does Mount Fuji (and other mountains) need hotspots?
- Why can't people wait to upload photos or comments?
- What do you think of Mount Fuji?
- Can you not post a comment or a photo for one day?
- Why do some people post about everything they do?
- What would the world be like without Facebook, Twitter, etc.?
- How different would life be if the whole world was a hotspot?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| 1. one of the most | a. company |
| 2. Japan's biggest telecommunications | b. its signal |
| 3. The Wi-Fi will only be available | c. season |
| 4. the length of the climbing | d. safe on the mountain |
| 5. 72 hours of free access | e. famous mountains |
| 6. Hundreds of | f. symbol of Japan |
| 7. Fuji was an important | g. Space Station |
| 8. help keep climbers | h. to the Internet |
| 9. if their phone loses | i. thousands of people |
| 10. The North Pole and the International | j. for three months |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you post online?
- Do you prefer posting about yourself or reading about others?
- What are the bad things about hotspots being everywhere?
- Should climbers enjoy the nature instead of getting online?
- How would your life be different with no Internet?
- What do you think of climbing up mountains?
- Why is there a hotspot at the North Pole?
- What questions would you like to ask a Mount Fuji climber?

Spelling

- Japan's snow-evocrde Mount Fuji
- tweet about their ceipenxere
- lednchua a free Wi-Fi service
- baialleva for three months
- the climbing enosas
- free ascsec to the Internet
- Hundreds of snsoduath of people
- The number has aericnsde
- an important lmsbyo of Japan
- Local oueiahrts
- hertaew warnings
- Wi-Fi hstostop

Answers – Synonym Match

1. h	2. f	3. j	4. a	5. c
6. i	7. b	8. e	9. d	10. g

Role Play

Role A – Schools

You think schools are the most important places to have Internet. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their places don't need Internet. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): shopping malls, public transport or parks.

Role B – Shopping malls

You think shopping malls are the most important places to have Internet. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their places don't need Internet. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): schools, public transport or parks.

Role C – Public transport

You think public transport is the most important places to have Internet. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their places don't need Internet. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): shopping malls, schools or parks.

Role D – Parks

You think parks are the most important places to have Internet. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their places don't need Internet. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): shopping malls, public transport or schools.

Speaking – Internet

Rank these with your partner. Put the places it is needed most at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| • school | • cars |
| • your room | • mountain tops |
| • shopping malls | • hotels |
| • public transport | • the beach |

Answers – True False

a	F	b	F	c	T	d	F	e	F	f	T	g	T	h	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.