



Geotourism in the oceanic active volcanic island of Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain

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Geotourism is a recent kind of tourism that consists of exploiting the landscape relief from a tourist point of view. Its definitions are diverse, they can be grouped: geotourism which focuses only on the aesthetic and scenic values of the relief; geotourism that defends a more geographical and integral vision; and another type which includes cultural aspects (urbanism, gastronomy, literature, art, etc.) about the relief.

Geotourism can be developed in natural spaces as well as urban areas, both in varied contexts (karstic, volcanic, granitic, sedimentary, etc.). Tenerife constitutes the biggest (2034 km²) and the highest (3718 m.a.s.l.) island of the Canary Islands (Spain). It has been built up as a result of the accumulation of different volcanic materials (mafic, felsic and intermediate) in a large period of time (more than 12 million years).

The aim of this abstract is to study the volcanic landforms in Tenerife Island and create a geotouristic guide. The methodology is based on field work. There were collected diverse aspects of many identified places of geotouristic interest (coordinates, municipality, main interest, description, photography, conservation, footpaths, etc.). We have identified, selected and studied 50 places of geotouristic interest that are present in the north and south slopes of the island. All of the intervals of altitude were taken into account to find the geodiversity and the geoh heritage of volcanic relief of Tenerife. Those places should be easily accessible for tourists. Within the 50 selected sites we can differentiate those associated with volcanic landforms (stratovolcanoes, calderas, cinder cones, domes, freatomagmatic volcanism, ignimbrite deposits, giant landslides, pahoehoe and aa lava flows, hornitos, craters, etc.) and, on the other hand, the morphology associated to the erosion processes (ravines, cliffs, beaches, dunes, talusees, etc.).