

河津七滝：柱状節理が織りなす岩壁

Kawazu Seven Falls: Rocky Cliffs of Interwoven Columnar Joints

Columnar joints

When you see a rock developing cracks in an orderly way, you call it a "columnar joint". This mostly happens when slowly flowing lava cools. Depending on the way fissure develop there are different type of joints such as cubic, tabular and columnar joints.

In Kawazu Nanadaru you can see columnar joints of basaltic lavas. In Kamadaru Falls, the columnar outcrop is especially clearly visible. Springwater of 3,000 liters per minute issues from this lava layer.

[Kawazu Nanadaru tourist agency](#)

- けんぶがん
玄武岩 Basalt Rock

マグマの成分によって区分された火山岩の一種。玄武岩質の溶岩は、溶岩の中でも流れやすい性質をもちます。
One type of volcanic rock distinguished by the components of magma. Basaltic lava has the most fluid characteristics among the types of lavas.

- ほうじょう ばんじょう ほうじょうせつり
方状、板状、柱状節理 Cubic, Tabular, and Columnar Joints

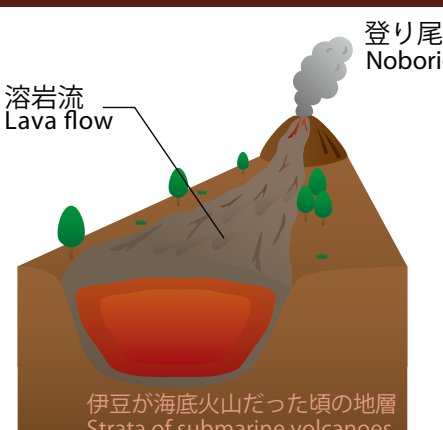
溶岩が冷えたときにできる割れ目の形によって分けられます。河津七滝で見られるもののほとんどは柱状節理です。
These can be distinguished by the shape of their cleavage created when the lava cools. Most of what we can see at Kawazu Seven Falls are columnar joints.

- るとう
露頭 Rocky outcrops

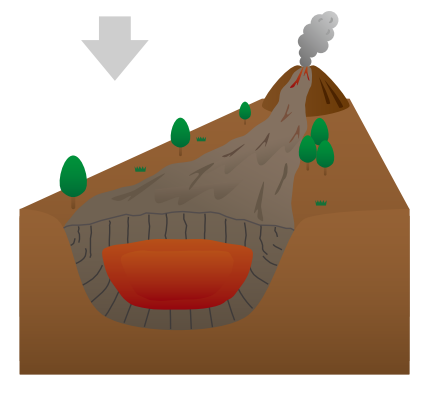
崖などで、地層や岩石が姿を現しているところ。
This is a part of cliffs etc., where strata and rocks appear on the surface.

岩の柱がおりなす
河津七滝のでき方

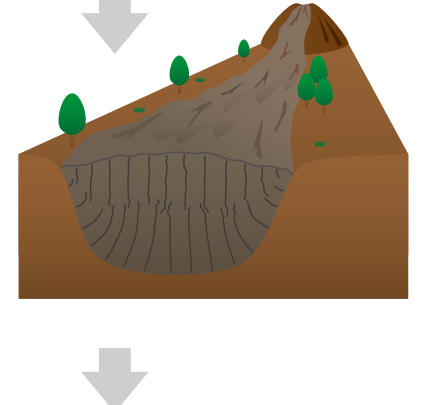
登り尾南火山
Noboriominami volcano



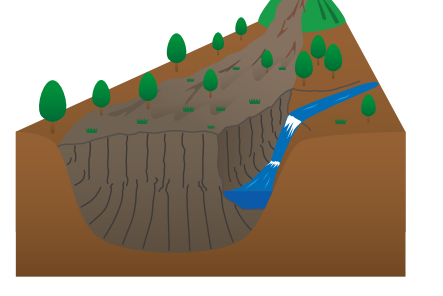
およそ2万5000年前、登り尾南火山から流れた溶岩が、谷の中に流れ込みました。
Approximately 25,000 years ago, lavas from the Noboriominami Volcano flowed into the valley.



溶岩の表面と底は冷えて固まっていきました。その時に溶岩の体積が縮まって割れ目ができました。この割れ目は冷やされる面に垂直にのびていきます。
The surface and bottom of the lava cooled and hardened. Then, the volume contracted developing cleavages. These cleavages stretch vertically along the cooled side.

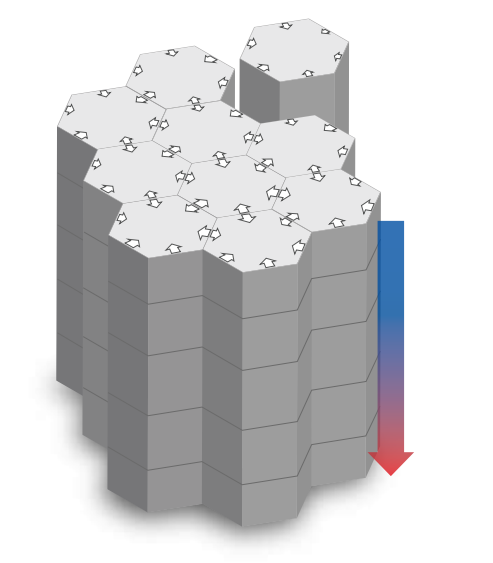


やがて溶岩全体が冷やされると、さまざまな方向から冷やされてできた複雑な割れ目ができあがりました。
Once all of the lava cooled, complicated cleavages were created from many directions.



その後、溶岩が流れ込んだ谷に再び川が流れはじめました。川の流れは長い時間をかけてかたい溶岩を削り取り、溶岩の内部にあった柱状節理が姿を現しました。
Afterwards, the river started to flow again in the valley where the lava had flowed. The flow of the river chipped away the hard lava over a long period of time, and columnar joints hidden inside the lava appeared.

Interwoven Rock Pillars
Formation of Kawazu Seven Falls



溶岩が縮むときにできる割れ目が組み合わさって、柱のような岩ができます。これを「柱状節理」といいます。
Pillar-like rocks are formed when cleavages created at the time of lava contraction interlace. These are called "columnar joints."

遊歩道をおいて釜滝の上に上がると、猿田淵があります
Walking along the trail to the top of Kama-daru Falls, you will come to the Saruta-Depth.

