

# THE VOLCANO OF SANTORINI



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# Information about the volcano of Santorini

The island of Santorini is the result of a complex history of volcanic eruptions for about 2 million years, during which the island has repeatedly changed its shape and size. Before any volcanic activity (caused by the submersion of the African plate under the Eurasian plate), there was a small island in the area, similar to the other islands of the Cyclades.



# The history of the Santorini volcano

One of the largest volcanic eruptions of the last 10,000 years occurred around 1620 BC. on the volcanic island of Santorini in the Aegean Sea.



Before 1620 BC, the island of Santorini, now known as Thira, was built from layers of lava created by overlapping shield volcanoes, and had experienced three major eruptions that formed overlapping calderas, or collapsed magma chambers.





Around 1620 BC, the fourth (and last) major eruption created the present-day islands and caldera bay of the Santorini volcano. The caldera rim is clearly visible in this image as a steep cliff that forms the western coastline of the island of Thira. After the volcanic eruption of 1620 BC, much of the former island of Santorini was destroyed or submerged. The most recent volcanic activity in the Kameni Islands occurred in the 1950s and included some minor eruptions and lava production.



# THE END

<https://www.volcanodiscovery.com/santorini>

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