**Types of Volcanoes & Eruptions**

**Volcanic Fields**  
Volcanic fields, such as Auckland and Northland, are where small eruptions occur over a wide geographic area, and are spaced over long periods of time (thousands of years). Each eruption builds a new single new volcano, which does not erupt again. Mount Eden and [Rangitoto Island](http://www.gns.cri.nz/Home/Learning/Science-Topics/Volcanoes/New-Zealand-Volcanoes/Auckland-Volcanic-Field) are examples in [Auckland](http://www.gns.cri.nz/Home/Learning/Science-Topics/Volcanoes/New-Zealand-Volcanoes/Auckland-Volcanic-Field).

**Cone Volcanoes**  
Cone volcanoes (also called composite cone or stratovolcanoes) such as [Ruapehu](http://www.gns.cri.nz/Home/Learning/Science-Topics/Volcanoes/New-Zealand-Volcanoes/Ruapehu), [Taranaki / Egmont](http://www.gns.cri.nz/Home/Learning/Science-Topics/Volcanoes/New-Zealand-Volcanoes/Taranaki-Egmont) and [Ngauruhoe](http://www.gns.cri.nz/Home/Learning/Science-Topics/Volcanoes/New-Zealand-Volcanoes/Ngauruhoe), are characterised by a succession of small-moderate eruptions from one location. The products from the successive eruptions over thousands of years build the cones.

**Caldera Volcanoes**  
Caldera volcanoes, such as [Taupo](http://www.gns.cri.nz/Home/Learning/Science-Topics/Volcanoes/New-Zealand-Volcanoes/Taupo-Volcano) and [Okataina](http://www.gns.cri.nz/Home/Learning/Science-Topics/Volcanoes/New-Zealand-Volcanoes/Okataina-Volcanic-Centre-Mt-Tarawera-Volcano) (which includes [Mt Tarawera](http://www.gns.cri.nz/Home/Learning/Science-Topics/Volcanoes/New-Zealand-Volcanoes/Okataina-Volcanic-Centre-Mt-Tarawera-Volcano)), have a history of infrequent but moderate-large eruptions. The caldera forming eruptions create super craters 10-25 km in diameter and deposit cubic kilometres of ash and pumice.

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