

# Volcanoes



## Definition

Volcanoes are ruptures in the surface of the earth which allows the flow of molten rock through to the surface of the earth. When pressure from gases within the molten rock becomes too great, an eruption occurs. These eruptions can be quiet or explosive. Volcanoes usually occur along the ends of tectonic plates and can be above or below ground.

## Impacts of Volcanoes

Volcanoes can cause earthquakes and tsunamis. The lava flow from volcanoes can destroy everything within their path; the environment, the water quality and the air. Additionally, the gases can cause respiratory issues, death and burns, volcanic ash can cause disruption in air travel.

## Classifications of Volcanoes

There are three (3) classification of volcanoes

### ✚ Active

A volcano which has erupted within the last 10,000 years

### ✚ Dormant

A volcano which has not erupted within the last 10,000 years but is expected to erupt again

### ✚ Extinct

A volcano which is not expected to erupt again

## Can Barbados be impacted by Volcanoes?

Although there are no volcanoes in Barbados, the ash flow from erupting volcanoes can impact Barbados, these impacts can affect the health, tourism, water and environmental sectors. In 1979, the Soufriere Volcano in St Vincent and the Grenadines erupted, the volcanic ash impacted Barbados.

Volcanoes are located in many of the Caribbean countries; for example, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Montserrat, Dominica, and St Lucia. Additionally, 'Kick-em-Jenny',

the underwater volcano located off Grenada lies in close proximity to Barbados, the eruption of this volcano can cause a tsunami. It is imperative that persons are aware of the dangers which volcanoes pose to themselves and the island.

The Caribbean Region has suffered the consequences of volcanoes before, **Barbados is not immune to the effects of volcanoes.**

For additional reading visit the following websites:

<http://uwiseismic.com>

<http://volcanoes.usgs.gov/vhp/hazards.html>

<http://volcano.si.edu/>

<http://caribbeanvolcanoes.com/>

<http://www.dpsninc.org/index.php/volcanoes>

[http://www.cdema.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=470%3Avolcanoes&Itemid=213](http://www.cdema.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=470%3Avolcanoes&Itemid=213)

<http://www.mvo.ms/>