

## Chapter 1 : Beaches in Japan

*Factbook > Countries > Japan > Geography Coastline: 29, km Definition: This entry gives the total length of the boundary between the land area (including islands) and the sea.*

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The mountainous islands of the Japanese archipelago form a crescent off the eastern coast of Asia. They are separated from the mainland by the Sea of Japan, which historically served as a protective barrier. The country consists of four major islands: The national territory also includes the Volcano Islands Kazan Retto such as Iwo Jima, located some 1, kilometers south of mainland Tokyo. A territorial dispute with Russia, dating from the end of World War II, over the two southernmost of the Kuril Islands, Etorofu and Kunashiri, and the smaller Shikotan Island and Habomai Islands northeast of Hokkaido remains a sensitive spot in Japanese–Russian relations as of [update]. Excluding disputed territory, the archipelago covers about , square kilometers. No point in Japan is more than kilometers from the sea. The four major islands are separated by narrow straits and form a natural entity. The distance between Japan and the Korean Peninsula, the nearest point on the Asian continent, is about kilometers at the Korea Strait. Japan has always been linked with the continent through trade routes, stretching in the north toward Siberia, in the west through the Tsushima Islands to the Korean Peninsula, and in the south to the ports on the south China coast. The Japanese islands are the summits of mountain ridges uplifted near the outer edge of the continental shelf. A long chain of mountains runs down the middle of the archipelago, dividing it into two halves, the "face", fronting on the Pacific Ocean, and the "back", toward the Sea of Japan. On the Pacific side are steep mountains 1, to 3, meters high, with deep valleys and gorges. Central Japan is marked by the convergence of the three mountain chains—the Hida, Kiso, and Akaishi mountains—that form the Japanese Alps Nihon Arupusu, several of whose peaks are higher than 3, meters. The highest point in the Japanese Alps is Mount Kita at 3, meters. On the Sea of Japan side are plateaus and low mountain districts, with altitudes of to 1, meters. The populated plains or mountain basins are not extensive in area. Many of these plains are along the coast, and their areas have been increased by land reclamation throughout recorded history. Rivers, lakes and coasts[ edit ] This section needs additional citations for verification. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. October Learn how and when to remove this template message Rivers are generally steep and swift, and few are suitable for navigation except in their lower reaches. Although most rivers are less than kilometers in length, their rapid flow from the mountains provides a valuable, renewable resource: Seasonal variations in flow have led to extensive development of flood control measures. Most of the rivers are relatively short. Extensive coastal shipping, especially around the Seto Inland Sea Seto Naikai, compensates for the lack of navigable rivers. The Pacific coastline south of Tokyo is characterized by long, narrow, gradually shallowing inlets produced by sedimentation, which has created many natural harbors. In November, Japan filed a request to expand its claimed continental shelf. It began in the 12th century. Land was reclaimed from the sea and from river deltas by building dikes and drainage and rice paddies on terraces carved into mountainsides. Big land reclamation projects with landfill were done in coastal areas for maritime and industrial factories. By, the amount of land reclaimed totaled It was the sole trading post in Japan during the Sakoku period and was originally inhabited by Portuguese and then Dutch traders. This includes the entirety of Odaiba, a series of island forts constructed to protect Tokyo from sea attacks Composition[ edit ] Much reclaimed land is made up of landfill from waste materials, dredged earth, sand, sediment, sludge and soil removed from construction sites. It is used to build man-made islands in harbors and embankments in inland areas. This rubble was processed and when it had the appropriate radiation levels it was used as landfill to build new artificial islands in Tokyo Bay. For example the artificial island Toyosu was once occupied by a Tokyo Gas factory. Toxic substances were discovered in the soil and groundwater at Toyosu. The Tokyo Metropolitan Government spent an additional 3. This is a minor tectonic plate bounded to the north by the North American Plate. On the west its bounded by the Eurasian Plate, and possibly on the southwest by the Amurian Plate. The north-eastern boundary is a

left-lateral moving transform fault Ulakhan Fault.

## Chapter 2 : Typhoon Off the Coast of Japan

*Japan is an island nation comprising a stratovolcanic archipelago over 3, km (1, mi) along East Asia's Pacific coast. It consists of 6, islands. The main islands are Honshu, Kyushu, Shikoku and Hokkaido.*

See Article History Alternative Titles: Nihon, Nippon Japan, island country lying off the east coast of Asia. It consists of a great string of islands in a northeast-southwest arc that stretches for approximately 1, miles 2, km through the western North Pacific Ocean. Honshu is the largest of the four, followed in size by Hokkaido, Kyushu, and Shikoku. In addition, there are numerous smaller islands, the major groups of which are the Ryukyu Nansei Islands including the island of Okinawa to the south and west of Kyushu and the Izu , Bonin Ogasawara , and Volcano Kazan islands to the south and east of central Honshu. The Japanese landscape is rugged, with more than four-fifths of the land surface consisting of mountains. Abundant precipitation and the generally mild temperatures throughout most of the country have produced a lush vegetation cover and, despite the mountainous terrain and generally poor soils, have made it possible to raise a variety of crops. Japan has a large and, to a great extent, ethnically homogeneous population, which is heavily concentrated in the low-lying areas along the Pacific coast of Honshu. Tension between old and new is apparent in all phases of Japanese life. Even in the countryside, however, the impact of rapid Westernization is evident in many aspects of Japanese life. The agricultural regions are characterized by low population densities and well-ordered rice fields and fruit orchards, whereas the industrial and urbanized belt along the Pacific coast of Honshu is noted for its highly concentrated population, heavy industrialization, and environmental pollution. Contact with China and Korea in the early centuries ce brought profound changes to Japan, including the Chinese writing system, Buddhism , and many artistic forms from the continent. The first steps at political unification of the country occurred in the late 4th and early 5th centuries ce under the Yamato court. The seven centuries thereafter were a period of domination by military rulers culminating in near isolation from the outside world from the early 17th to the midth century. The reopening of the country ushered in contact with the West and a time of unprecedented change. Japan sought to become a modern industrialized nation and pursued the acquisition of a large overseas empire, initially in Korea and China. By late this latter policy caused direct confrontation with the United States and its allies and to defeat in World War II â€” Relief The mountainous character of the country is the outcome of orogenic mountain-building forces largely during Quaternary time roughly, the past 2. There are no sizable structural plains and peneplains large land areas leveled by erosion , features that usually occur in more stable regions of the Earth. The mountains are for the most part in a youthful stage of dissection in which steep slopes are incised by dense river-valley networks. Recent volcanoes are juxtaposed with old and highly dissected ones. The shores are characterized by elevated and depressed features such as headlands and bays, which display an incipient stage of development. One consequence is that mountain blocks are often bounded by fault scarps and flexure slopes that descend in step formation to the adjacent lowlands. Coalescing alluvial fansâ€”cone-shaped deposits of alluvium that run togetherâ€”are formed where rivers emerge from the mountains. In most places, however, fan surfaces plunge directly into the sea and are separated by low, sandy beach ridges. Dissected plains are common. Violent volcanic eruptions occur frequently, and at least 60 volcanoes have been active within historical time. Many of the gigantic volcanoes are conical in shape e. Conspicuous shield volcanoes broad, gently sloping volcanic cones are rare, and extensive lava plateaus are lacking. One of the characteristics of the volcanic areas is the prevalence of calderas large, circular, basin-shaped volcanic depressions , especially in the northeast and southwest, many of which are filled with water, such as Lakes Kutcharo, Towada , and Ashi. Most important is the subduction sinking of the Pacific Plate in the north and the Philippine Plate in the south beneath the Eurasian Plate, upon which Japan lies. The movements of these plates have formed six mountain arcs off the northeastern coast of Asia: Mount Hotaka, highest in the Hida Range, is in the centre background. The backbone of the region is aligned north to south. The Chishima arc enters Hokkaido as three volcanic chains with elevations above 6, feet 1, metres ; these are arranged in ladder formation and terminate in the heart of the region. Chief components of the mountain system are the Kitami Mountains in the north and the Hidaka

Range in the south. The Northeastern Region nearly coincides with the northeastern mountain arc and stretches from southwest Hokkaido to central Honshu. Several rows of mountains, lowlands, and volcanic zones are closely oriented to the general trend of the insular arc of this region, which is convex toward the Pacific Ocean. The Kitakami and Abukuma ranges on the east coast are somewhat oblique to the general trend; they are chiefly composed of older rocks, and plateaulike landforms survive in the centre. In the western zone the formations conform to the general trend and are composed of a basement complex overlain by thick accumulations of young rocks that have been subjected to mild folding. The trend of the mountains, lowlands, and volcanic zones intersects the island almost at right angles. The most notable physical feature is the Fossa Magna, a great rift lowland that traverses the widest portion of Honshu from the Sea of Japan to the Pacific. It is partially occupied by mountains and volcanoes of the southern part of the East Japan Volcanic Belt. The region is divided into the Inner Zone, formed by complex faulting, and the Outer Zone, formed by warping. The Inner Zone is chiefly composed of ancient granites, rocks of Paleozoic age to million years old, and geologically more recent volcanic rocks, which are arranged in complicated juxtaposition. The Outer Zone, consisting of the Akaishi, Kii, Shikoku, and Kyushu mountain groups, in contrast, is characterized by a regular zonal arrangement from north to south of crystalline schists and Paleozoic, Mesozoic 65 to million years old, and Cenozoic formed within the past 65 million years formations. The Inland Sea Seto-naikai is the region where the greater amount of depression has resulted in the invasion of sea waters. The northern edge of the Inner Zone is studded with gigantic lava domes formed by Mount Dai, which, together with volcanic Mount Aso, bury a considerable part of the western extension of the Inland Sea in central Kyushu. Coast of the Inland Sea, Okayama prefecture, Japan. Difficulties of supply lie in the paucity of natural water reservoirs, the swift runoff of the rivers, and the engineering difficulties of constructing large-scale dams in the rugged mountains. Waterfall in Yamanashi prefecture, east-central Honshu, Japan. Some of the rivers from the volcanic areas of northeastern Honshu are acidic and are useless for irrigation and other purposes. Ishikari River, western Hokkaido, Japan. Photos Pack Lake Biwa, the largest in Japan, covers square miles square km of central Honshu. All other major lakes are in the northeast. Most of the coastal lakes, such as Lakes Kasumi and Hamana of Honshu, are drowned former valleys, the bay mouths of which have been dammed by sandbars. Inland lakes such as Biwa, Suwa, and Inawashiro of Honshu occupy tectonic depressions of geologically recent fault origin. Lakes of volcanic origin e.

*irregular coastline, Osaka Bay, Wakasa, eastern coast of central, Tokyo Bay Japan has a long and irregular coastline totaling some 29, km (18, mi). The coastlines of Hokkaido and western and northern Honshu are relatively straight.*

See Article History Alternative Titles: The tsunami also instigated a major nuclear accident at a power station along the coast. The earthquake and tsunami The magnitude The early estimate of magnitude 8. The epicentre was located some 80 miles km east of the city of Sendai , Miyagi prefecture, and the focus occurred at a depth of The earthquake was caused by the rupture of a stretch of the subduction zone associated with the Japan Trench , which separates the Eurasian Plate from the subducting Pacific Plate. Some geologists argue that this portion of the Eurasian Plate is actually a fragment of the North American Plate called the Okhotsk microplate. A part of the subduction zone measuring approximately miles km long by 95 miles km wide lurched as much as feet 50 metres to the east-southeast and thrust upward about 33 feet 10 metres. It was preceded by several foreshocks, including a magnitude Hundreds of aftershocks, dozens of magnitude 6. Nearly two years later, on December 7, , a magnitude The quake caused no injuries and little damage. The March 11, , earthquake was the strongest to strike the region since the beginning of record keeping in the late 19th century, and it is considered one of the most powerful earthquakes ever recorded. A massive tsunami, generated by a powerful undersea earthquake, engulfing a residential area in Natori, Miyagi prefecture, northeastern Honshu, Japan, on March 11, A wave measuring some 33 feet high inundated the coast and flooded parts of the city of Sendai , including its airport and the surrounding countryside. According to some reports, one wave penetrated some 6 miles 10 km inland after causing the Natori River, which separates Sendai from the city of Natori to the south, to overflow. Damaging tsunami waves struck the coasts of Iwate prefecture, just north of Miyagi prefecture, and Fukushima , Ibaraki , and Chiba , the prefectures extending along the Pacific coast south of Miyagi. As the floodwaters retreated back to the sea, they carried with them enormous quantities of debris, as well as thousands of victims caught in the deluge. Large stretches of land were left submerged under seawater, particularly in lower-lying areas. The earthquake triggered tsunami warnings throughout the Pacific basin. The tsunami raced outward from the epicentre at speeds that approached about miles km per hour. It generated waves 11 to 12 feet 3. Several hours later 9-foot 2. Finally, some 18 hours after the quake, waves roughly 1 foot 0. Map prepared by the U. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration depicting the tsunami wave height model for the Pacific Ocean following the March 11, , earthquake off Sendai, Japan.

### Chapter 4 : earthquake strikes off Japan's Honshu Island - RT World News

*Coastline Lengths - world statistics and charts as map, diagram and table. The length of the coast for the countries of the world.*

Located in Kagoshima Prefecture north of Okinawa , Amami Oshima offers a many large and beautiful white-sand beaches along its coastline. Some offer nice snorkeling opportunities. The Izu Peninsula is often considered to have the best beaches and snorkeling near Tokyo, while the Boso Peninsula is particularly popular amongst surfers. The official swimming season around Tokyo typically lasts from mid July through August, but air and water temperatures are often warm enough before July and into September. Odaiba Odaiba has an meter long, man-made beach near the Decks shopping mall, with public facilities like showers and toilets. Swimming is not allowed at the beach, and most people go there to enjoy the sun and sand, and participate in activities like beach volleyball. Rainbow Bridge and the skyscrapers of Tokyo are visible from the beach, making it a nice spot to see sunsets. Even though the sand is not white, the beaches are still very popular during the summer months and get crowded with locals and visitors from Tokyo and Yokohama. Rental shops and temporary beach huts open for business during the swimming season, and public facilities include showers and toilets. Enoshima Beaches line the entire coast to the east and west of Enoshima. Directly next to Enoshima are two popular swimming beaches which are patrolled by lifeguards and are lined by restaurants and temporary beach huts that play popular music and rent deck chairs and parasols to beachgoers during the summer holidays. The beaches further away are also popular surfing spots. The white sand beach is about meters long with facilities like showers, changing rooms and toilets and shops nearby. The beach is also known for relatively good surfing conditions. Boso Peninsula Beaches line the coast of the Boso Peninsula and are a popular and relatively easy daytrip from Tokyo. The eastern coast faces the Pacific Ocean, making surfing and body boarding popular activities, while the western coast offers calmer waters and views of Mount Fuji when visibility is very good. See more beaches near Tokyo The subtropical islands are about kilometers south of Tokyo , practically in the middle of nowhere, and are only accessible by a But the isolation is a boon for those looking to get away, and the islands offer lots of secluded beaches with snorkeling and swimming opportunities. Similar to Okinawa , the best time to go swimming here is from around June to October when the temperatures consistently top 25 degrees. Ogasawara Islands There are many picturesque white sand beaches on the largest inhabited island, Chichijima , with clear blue water perfect for swimming, snorkeling and sunbathing. Most of the beaches have basic facilities, but some are difficult to get to and have no facilities. The only other inhabited island, Hahajima , is even more remote and offers even more isolated beaches, mostly without facilities. Other Beaches along the Pacific Ocean Besides from the beaches around Tokyo , there are many other beaches along the Pacific Ocean coast. Being a long country, temperatures vary widely from one end of Japan to the other. However generally, the swimming season typically takes place around the summer holidays in July and August. Jodogahama Beach Jodogahama Beach is one of the more famous tourist sites along the Sanriku Coast and features interesting rock formations. Popular in the summer, the beach is also ranked as one of the one hundred best beaches of Japan with its clear inlet that is sheltered from the open ocean. Public beach facilities are available. The beach has stones instead of sand, and areas for swimming can be found on the opposite side of the peninsula. Paid facilities at the beach include showers, toilets and changing rooms. Shirahama Beach Shirahama Beach is a meter long sand beach in Shirahama , a well developed hot spring resort in Wakayama Prefecture. This popular beach sees lots of visitors during the summer, and shops renting beach paraphernalia open during the swimming season. Public facilities include showers, changing rooms and toilets.

*Overview. The coastline paradox states that a coastline does not have a well-defined length. Measurements of the length of a coastline behave like a fractal, being different at different scale intervals (distance between points on the coastline at which measurements are taken).*

We had just finished breakfast when the order came forward for the watch on deck to stand by to heave her to and all hands stand by the boats. Let the flying jib run down! Back the jib over to windward and run down the foresail! Then came moments of bustle and confusion. There were eighteen men to man the six boats. Some were hooking on the falls, others casting off the lashings; boat-steerers appeared with boat-compasses and water-breakers, and boat-pullers with the lunch boxes. Hunters were staggering under two or three shotguns, a rifle and heavy ammunition box, all of which were soon stowed away with their oilskins and mittens in the boats. The sailing-master gave his last orders, and away we went, pulling three pairs of oars to gain our positions. We were in the weather boat, and so had a longer pull than the others. The first, second, and third lee boats soon had all sail set and were running off to the southward and westward with the wind beam, while the schooner was running off to leeward of them, so that in case of accident the boats would have fair wind home. It was a glorious morning, but our boat-steerer shook his head ominously as he glanced at the rising sun and prophetically muttered: Away off to the northward Cape Jerimo reared its black, forbidding head like some huge monster rising from the deep. Huge gulls rose slowly, fluttering their wings in the light breeze and striking their webbed feet on the surface of the water for over half a mile before they could leave it. Hardly had the patter, patter died away when a flock of sea quail rose, and with whistling wings flew away to windward, where members of a large band of whales were disporting themselves, their blowings sounding like the exhaust of steam engines. The harsh, discordant cries of a sea-parrot grated unpleasantly on the ear, and set half a dozen alert in a small band of seals that were ahead of us. Away they went, breaching and jumping entirely out of water. The boats were soon among the seals, and the bang! Away we went before the wind with a single reef in our sail. With clenched teeth sat the boat-steerer, grasping the steering oar firmly with both hands, his restless eyes on the alert--a glance at the schooner ahead, as we rose on a sea, another at the mainsheet, and then one astern where the dark ripple of the wind on the water told him of a coming puff or a large white-cap that threatened to overwhelm us. But only for a moment, for again under new forms they reappeared. The dash, the sparkle, the silvery light soon vanished with the sun, which became obscured by black clouds that were rolling swiftly in from the west, northwest; apt heralds of the coming storm. We soon reached the schooner and found ourselves the last aboard. We had the first watch from eight to midnight. The wind was soon blowing half a gale, and our sailing-master expected little sleep that night as he paced up and down the poop. The topsails were soon clewed up and made fast, then the flying jib run down and furled. Quite a sea was rolling by this time, occasionally breaking over the decks, flooding them and threatening to smash the boats. At six bells we were ordered to turn them over and put on storm lashings. This occupied us till eight bells, when we were relieved by the mid-watch. I was the last to go below, doing so just as the watch on deck was furling the spanker. Below all were asleep except our green hand, the "bricklayer," who was dying of consumption. Now and again, the light seemed to penetrate for a moment as the schooner rolled heavier than usual, only to recede, leaving it darker and blacker than before. The creaking and groaning of the timbers, stanchions, and bulkheads, as the strain the vessel was undergoing was felt, served to drown the groans of the dying man as he tossed uneasily in his bunk. The working of the foremast against the deck beams caused a shower of flaky powder to fall, and sent another sound mingling with the tumultuous storm. It seemed to stand up against you like a wall, making it almost impossible to move on the heaving decks or to breathe as the fierce gusts came dashing by. The schooner was hove to under jib, foresail, and mainsail. We proceeded to lower the foresail and make it fast. The night was dark, greatly impeding our labor. Still, though not a star or the moon could pierce the black masses of storm clouds that obscured the sky as they swept along before the gale, nature aided us in a measure. A soft light emanated from the movement of the ocean. Higher and higher, thinner and thinner, the crest grew as it began to curve and overtop preparatory to breaking, until

with a roar it fell over the bulwarks, a mass of soft glowing light and tons of water which sent the sailors sprawling in all directions and left in each nook and cranny little specks of light that glowed and trembled till the next sea washed them away, depositing new ones in their places. Sometimes several seas following each other with great rapidity and thundering down on our decks filled them full to the bulwarks, but soon they were discharged through the lee scuppers. To reef the mainsail we were forced to run off before the gale under the single reefed jib. By the time we had finished the wind had forced up such a tremendous sea that it was impossible to heave her to. Away we flew on the wings of the storm through the muck and flying spray. A wind sheer to starboard, then another to port as the enormous seas struck the schooner astern and nearly broached her to. As day broke we took in the jib, leaving not a sail unfurled. Since we had begun scudding she had ceased to take the seas over her bow, but amidships they broke fast and furious. It was a dry storm in the matter of rain, but the force of the wind filled the air with fine spray, which flew as high as the crosstrees and cut the face like a knife, making it impossible to see over a hundred yards ahead. The sea was a dark lead color as with long, slow, majestic roll it was heaped up by the wind into liquid mountains of foam. The wild antics of the schooner were sickening as she forged along. She would almost stop, as though climbing a mountain, then rapidly rolling to right and left as she gained the summit of a huge sea, she steadied herself and paused for a moment as though affrighted at the yawning precipice before her. Like an avalanche, she shot forward and down as the sea astern struck her with the force of a thousand battering rams, burying her bow to the catheads in the milky foam at the bottom that came on deck in all directions--forward, astern, to right and left, through the hawse-pipes and over the rail. Get started by clicking the "Add" button. Add Typhoon Off the Coast of Japan to your own personal library.

### Chapter 6 : Japan island disappears: Japanese Coast Guard begins search for islet

*This proceeding, ""Coastlines of Japan II"", contains papers presented at COASTAL ZONE 93, the Eighth Symposium on Coastal and Ocean Management held in New Orleans, Louisiana, July , This volume is part of a continuing series of volumes on Coastlines of the World.*

Lines of cars were seen snaking away from the coast in the pre-dawn hours after authorities issued a tsunami warning and urged residents to seek higher ground immediately. The warning was lifted nearly four hours later. Firefighters and others watch the port to check the water level as a tsunami warning is issued following an earthquake in Soma Credit: AP The magnitude 7. There were reports of minor injuries and damage, Japanese broadcaster NHK said. It was eerily reminiscent of the disaster, when much larger tsunamis rushed up rivers and overflowed, wiping away entire neighbourhoods. On Tuesday, tsunami waves were recorded along the coast. The highest one was 1. A tsunami advisory was eventually lifted at AP The operator of the Fukushima Dai-ichi plant said there were no abnormalities observed at the plant, though a swelling of the tide of up to 1 metre was detected offshore. The plant was swamped by the tsunami, sending three reactors into meltdown and leaking radiation into the surrounding area. The plant is being decommissioned but the situation remains serious as the utility figures out how to remove still-radioactive fuel rods and debris and what to do with the melted reactor cores. Plant operator Tepco said a pump that supplies cooling water to a spent fuel pool at the nearby Fukushima Dai-ni plant stopped working, but that a backup pump had been launched to restore cooling water to the pool. Vehicles make a line as they flee following a tsunami warning in Iwaki, Fukushima prefecture Credit: He said decommissioning work at the destroyed Dai-ichi plant had been temporarily suspended because of the earthquake. The tsunami siren warning can be heard from the coastline. The ground is still shaking. But my concern is rather the situation at the nuclear plant. Tsunami over a wide area Tsunamis of about cm are still hitting the coastlines, NHK reported. Higher tides have been reported along the coastline Credit: Officials warn the danger is not yet over and that sea level is still rising. Plant operator TEPCO said a pump that supplies cooling water to a spent fuel pool at the nearby Fukushima Dai-ni plant stopped temporarily, but that it was working again. The Tokyo-based utility is investigating the cause. A few waves have hit the coastline - the highest in Sendai - but no major damage has been reported yet. Officials are warning that the waves could rise further, though.

### Chapter 7 : List of countries by length of coastline - Wikipedia

*A magnitude hit off the coast of Japan east of Fukushima and Kamaishi on Wednesday. The U.S. Geological Survey, or the USGS, recorded the earthquake near Japan at a.m. EST. The agency.*

### Chapter 8 : Geography of Japan - Wikipedia

*Japan is a long, thin island country with the Pacific Ocean on one side and the Sea of Japan and East China Sea on the other. The length of the country results in an extensive coastline with lots of beaches.*

### Chapter 9 : Cost of Living in Japan. Prices in Japan. Updated Nov

*This isn't likely to happen on the East Coast, but it could. This is an aerial view of damage to Sukuiso, Japan, a week after the earthquake and subsequent tsunami devastated the area in March,*