Story of Life Continuing Since Time Immemorial.















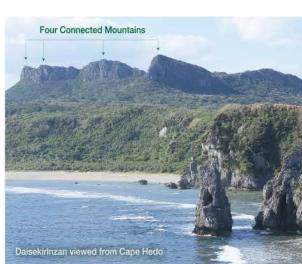
Daisekirinzan emerged on the earth's surface as crustal movements pushed up limestone, which had formed in the sea during the Paleozoic era 250 million years ago. Over millions of years, wind and rain eroded the limestone to create this unique scenery of a forest of unusually shaped sheer mountains shooting upright close together. These mountains have been here since the Okinawa main island began to take shape. Rain and bacteria have ever so slowly eroded the limestone, sights which can be seen even today throughout these mountains.

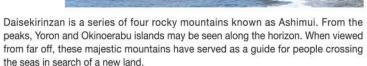
Daisekirinzan is the world's northernmost tropical karst. The area is abundantly interspersed with unique karstic features including doline (sinkholes), tower karst, pinnacles, karren (pavement karst) and other forms.



Country Over There

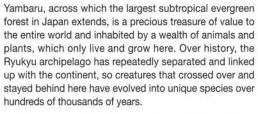






Still today, Ashimui is home to more than 40 uganju or worship sites. Mirror of Chuzan, the first official history of the Ryukyus compiled in the 17th century, describes Ashimui as the first sacred site created by the ancestral deity Amamikyo. Omoro Soshi, Okinawa's oldest compilation of ancient poems and songs collected by the royal government between the 12th and 17th centuries, refers to the king ordering that the spring waters of Ashimui be the first water drawn on the morning of New Year's Day when prayers would be offered beseeching the gods for longevity of the royal family.

In the forest, there remain several stone structures that appear to be sheds for housing livestock as well as fences for keeping out wild animals. Also, the Uzahama site is located at the base of the mountains The prehistoric remains of this settlement dating from the Jomon to Yayoi periods. It is presumed that people made their way to this land, settled and lived here in ancient times.



Daisekirinzan is within the specially protected area of Yambaru







