

One of the best known eruptions of this volcano was in 79 A.D. when the violent eruption buried the cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum. The historians estimate that more than 16,000 people died. It wasn't until the 17th century that the cities were accidentally discovered, and they realized that both were intact. After this great eruption, Mount Vesuvius was "asleep" for years. Many other eruptions occurred in later years, the last one happening in the twentieth century.



Historically, Mount Vesuvius was considered a sacred place, where gods of the Romans and Greeks lived. This place was dedicated to powerful and strong Hercules. In 1995, it became a national park where the flora and the fauna of the area are preserved.

The fauna is very diverse, and animals such as foxes, hares, martens, and lizards. The flora is rich and varied, due in large part to the minerals that are in the earth. In the areas where there was lava from an eruption, the vegetation is limited and dry, but there are many species of native plants.

Vesuvius National Park can be visited today. Its summit can be reached by different routes and roads.

Since the last threat of eruption in 2016, an emergency evacuation plan has been created to make sure evacuation can be done quickly and efficiently. Also, the volcano is studied and monitored 24 hours a day since the creation of the Vesuvius Observatory. There are different radars, antennas, and locators to monitor the volcano at all times at the Observatory.

