



-This is what it looks like from the 8th Station at sunrise :) Pretty damn beautiful.

Hey! And **THANK YOU** for subscribing!

So you probably read my post about how I cleaned shitholes at Mt. Fuji.

And now, you probably want some advice on climbing Fuji.

So now, I'm going to give you some **unconventional advice** that only I can give because I've worked at Mt. Fuji :)

If you don't have a clue about how to climb Mt. Fuji, here's a good place to start: [Climbing Mt. Fuji - FAQ](#)

Let's get started.

The Unconventional Guide to Climbing Mt. Fuji

- **Don't stay at Hakuun-So**

The place is run by Yakuza. The people that work there have tattoos on their arm, they all look super scary, and a lot of people feel that their services are simply *not good*. Simple advice: **don't stay here**.

- **Oxygen tanks don't really work**

I don't know the science to this, but everyone that works in Mt. Fuji know that they simply don't work. Then what **does** work? **Deep breathing!** Believe it or not, it works. When in doubt, breathe deeply. Your life will be saved.

- **Bring your own food to save your wallet**

Everything costs SO MUCH! A 500ml water bottle costs 400 yen (4USD). Cup ramen costs 600 yen (6USD). The pricing is ABSURD. So don't waste your money even if the cup ramen makes you drool. If you want to save money, bring your own lightweight food. This brings me to my next point.

- **Don't bring stuff**

The more you bring, the more you will suffer. Climbing Mt. Fuji is **NOT** an easy task. I made the mistake of bringing too much clothes. You probably don't NEED that much stuff. [Become a minimalist.](#)

- **Two things most people don't tell you to bring**

- **Strong Glue** - If your climbing shoes break, glue them (this happens a lot)
- **Earplugs** - You will be sleeping in super dense sleeping spaces with about 30 people around you snoring. Bring them or else you will want to kill yourself.

- **If you have a serious problem, go to Taishikan**

When in times of trouble, find **Taishikan**, the first station at the 8th station. Most huts don't have fluent English speakers. As a matter of fact, *they will not understand a single word you are saying.*

Taishikan has fluent English speakers each year because they recruit people that have lived abroad. They also have a medical station next to the hut which makes it even more convenient.

- **The bulldozer route is the fastest way to descend**

Although the descending route is the easiest and safest way to go down, there is also another route where bulldozers come up and down. If you are able to find that route, go down from there (I won't write here where exactly it is because I don't want to get into trouble). It's much faster. **DON'T try to go there at night.** You might end up dead :D Also, some people from the huts might not like it and you might get yelled at. (If they do, run.) I don't recommend using that route unless you are super brave. Use at own risk.

- **Don't decide to go back after it gets dark**

Well this isn't really unconventional advice, but I see this mistake so often that I'll post it here. A lot of people try to descend after it gets dark because of intense fatigue. The thing is, after it gets dark, it becomes too dangerous to go down the descending route or any route in fact. The best solution is to either stay at a hut or decide to go down before it gets dark.

- **Climb near the end of June or start of July to see TV people**
This is when the mountain officially becomes open for climbing. It's often called "Yama-biraki" (opening of the mountains). Every year, news stations and various TV programs climb up to do a program on Mt. Fuji. Especially this year (2014) since Mt. Fuji has now become a world heritage you can expect more of these people to be climbing.
- **Check famous people's twitters**
A lot of famous people climb Mt. Fuji. Check twitter and you might be able to find some Hollywood actor.
- **Docomo has the best service up in Mt. Fuji (as of 2013)**
Docomo has LTE up in Mt. Fuji. I hear other companies are trying also, but I don't think they have succeeded it yet.
- **You don't have to leave a tip**
Some people leave tips. The thing is, we have to put it in the "donation box". So much for tips :(

Working in Mt. Fuji was a hell of a unique experience and I can talk so much about it.

If you liked this guide and want to hear more, I'll make a part 2 if I get 20 comments with "I want more!".

Otherwise, leave a comment on the [blog](#), share it ([facebook](#), [twitter](#)) and contact me personally at Tak@kaizenlifestyleddesign.com or add me on [Facebook](#).

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