

Guatemala warily monitors erupting volcano

January 4 2016



The Fuego volcano, seen from San Juan Alotenango municipality, Sacatepequez departament, about 50 km southwest of Guatemala City, erupts on November 10, 2015

Guatemalan authorities Monday warily monitored the eruption of a volcano near its capital that spewed columns of ash up to seven kilometers (four miles) high.

Fuego Volcano, located just 50 kilometers (30 miles) from Guatemala City, rumbled back into higher intensity explosive activity on Sunday

after months of fitfulness.

Guatemala's Volcanological Institute has advised [aviation authorities](#) to ensure flights do not come into contact with the [ash cloud](#).

A spokesman for the country's disaster response agency, David de Leon, said the ash billowing from the 3,763-meter (12,346-foot) high volcano was fanning dozens of kilometers (miles) to the south and west. Light tremors were also being felt in nearby villages.

He said no evacuation order had yet been given, but that civil protection officials were closely watching the eruption.

In February 2015, Fuego Volcano had a powerful eruption that prompted an alert and the closure of the capital's airport.

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