

Colima volcano threatens major eruption

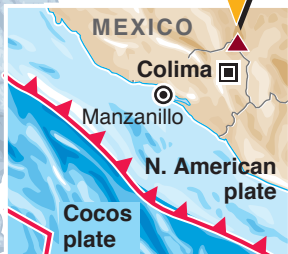
Authorities in Mexico are evacuating towns around the Colima “Volcano of Fire” – potentially the most destructive in the country – as it began hurling hot lava and ash into the air. The size of the eruptions, the most intense since records began, suggest the volcano is entering an explosive phase



Off-limits zone
7.5km around crater,
alert zone 11.5km

*Six spectacular
eruptions in
recent weeks –
largest shot
glowing lava
5km above
the crater*

Mount Colima 3,820m



300,000 people live within
40km

160km
100 miles

Main vent

Cone interior:
Alternate layers
of lava and ash

Pyroclastic flow: Principal
threat. 600°C mix of ash,
rocks, gases flowing at
more than 100km/h

North American plate
Cocos plate

Magma: Formed
where two tectonic
plates grind together.
Molten magma forced
up lava conduit
towards surface

Plate subduction