

■ Topics : Okayama Travelogue

Institute for the Study of the Earth's Interior (ISEI), Okayama University

ISEI is located in Misasa, a well-known hot-spring resort, in Tottori prefecture near the west coastline of the main island (Honshu) facing the Japan Sea.

The mission of the Institute for Study of the Earth's Interior (ISEI) is to understand the origin, evolution, and dynamics of the Earth by applying advanced experimental and analytical techniques.

The state of the art experimental and analytical facilities and expertise include ultrahigh-pressure and -temperature devices and comprehensive geochemical and geochronological techniques for elucidating the mysteries of the Earth and other planets.

Internationally recognized research at ISEI includes the analysis of fine particles from the Itokawa asteroid brought to Earth by Japan's Hayabusa space probe [1], and high pressure and temperature experiments simulating deep part of the Earth's mantle.

More recently, the ISEI has initiated analysis on the 'Chelyabinsk meteor' that made a spectacular landing in Chelyabinski in the southern Ural region of Russia on 15 February 2013.

ISEI is a leading joint use collaborative research institute, and offers opportunities of collaborative research for scientists and students from around the world. ISEI has a five year graduate course, and is looking for prospective students. In summer, the ISEI conducts an international student internship program (this year's application is closed). Check the institute's website for more information.



The Okayama University Institute for Study of the Earth's Interior (ISEI)
Misasa Spa: <http://spa-misasa.jp/eng/index.html>



Pieces of the Chelyabinsk meteorite that are being analyzed at ISEI. The meteorite entered Earth's atmosphere on 15 February 2013 in Russia's Ural mountains.



A clean room at ISEI.

1. Okayama e-Bulletin Sept 2012, Evolving planets get a bumpy ride,

http://www.okayama-u.ac.jp/user/kouhou/ebulletin/research_highlights/vol1/highlights_001.html

Further information:

Website of the Okayama University Institute for Study of the Earth's Interior (ISEI):

<http://www.misasa.okayama-u.ac.jp/eng/>