



1. San Francisco Street

A street image of the 1906 San Francisco earthquake.

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2. San Francisco Fissure

A fissure in one of San Francisco's streets caused by the infamous earthquake of April 18, 1906.

© The Field Museum



3. Crushed Car

A collapsed house crushed a car in the Marina District of San Francisco, one of the areas worst hit by an earthquake estimated at 6.9 on the Richter scale that rocked California on October 17, 1989.

© Adam Teitelbaum/AFP/Getty Images



4. Indian Ocean Tsunami

People fleeing as a tsunami wave comes crashing ashore at Koh Raya, part of Thailand's territory in the Andaman Islands. The photographer who took this picture escaped without injury, but retreated at the first wave and watched as a second wave tore apart the wooden buildings, with a third and largest wave coming forward and "ripping apart the cement buildings like they were made of balsa wood."

© John Russell/AFP/Getty Images



5. Pahoehoe Lava

Hawaiians have names for different types of lava that erupt from shield volcanoes on the islands. *Pahoehoe* lava has a smooth or ropy texture and spreads out when it erupts.

© Martin Rietze/AGE Fotostock



6. Mount St. Helens Eruption

The eruption of Mount St. Helens on July 22, 1980, showing an elutriate cloud from pyroclastic flow rising through cloud layer.

©USGS; Photo by Jim Vallance



7. Mount Vesuvius Painting

Karl Pavlovich Bryullov (1799-1852), *The Last Day of Pompeii*, 1833, Oil on canvas, State Russian Museum, St. Petersburg, Russia

© State Russian Museum, St. Petersburg, Russia/The Bridgeman Art Library



8. Pu'u 'O'o

Pu'u 'O'o is a classic cinder-and-spatter volcanic cone on Kilauea, Hawaii. Expanding gases in the lava fountain tears the liquid rock into irregular globs that fall back to earth, forming a heap around the vent.

© United States Geological Survey; Photo by G.E. Ulrich



9. New Orleans Aerial View

This aerial photo shows the devastation caused by the high winds and heavy flooding in the greater New Orleans area following Hurricane Katrina Tuesday, Aug. 30, 2005 in Louisiana.

© Vincent Laforet, POOL/AP Photo



10. Katrina's Eye

August 29, 2005: The eye of Hurricane Katrina as it goes ashore.

© NOAA



11. Roof Rescue

Bryan Vernon and Dorothy Bell are rescued from their rooftop after Hurricane Katrina hit, causing flooding in their New Orleans neighborhood, Monday Morning, Aug. 29, 2005.

©Eric Gay/AP Photo



12. Hurricane Dean

In August of 2007 Hurricane Dean pummeled the waterfront boulevard in downtown Kingston, Jamaica, with strong winds and torrential rains.

© Andres Leighton/AP Photo



13. Greensburg Stop Sign

Stop sign bent and sandblasted by the forces of the EF-5 tornado, that destroyed most of the town of Greensburg, Kansas, on Friday, May 4, 2007

© The Field Museum



14. Greensburg Destruction

Jill Sommerfeld salvages items from her parent's destroyed home in Greensburg, Kansas. A 1.7-mile-wide Category EF-5 tornado, with wind estimated at 205 mph, destroyed about 95 percent of this farming town in May 2007.

© Charlie Riedel/AP Photo



15. Tornado from Distance

The first tornado captured by the National Severe Storms Laboratory Doppler radar and NSSL chase personnel. This tornado was located outside of Union City, Oklahoma, May 24, 1973.

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16. Tornado Chaser

An F4 category tornado bears down on storm chaser, Tim Samaras, New Manchester, South Dakota.

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