

## How high can a sea wave be?

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It is great fun to spend time at the beach, enjoying the sea waves hitting you gently. Some waves are small while some are large. How high can a sea wave be? The height of a sea wave reaching the shore depends on various factors like the characteristics of the shoreline, the wind velocity. The Okushiri, Hokkaido tsunami in Japan on July 12, 1993, created waves as much as 30 metres (100 ft) tall i.e. as high as a 10-story building! Not so gentle after all!



*A tsunami breeches a Miyako embankment after a 9.0 magnitude earthquake hit Japan in March 2011*

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