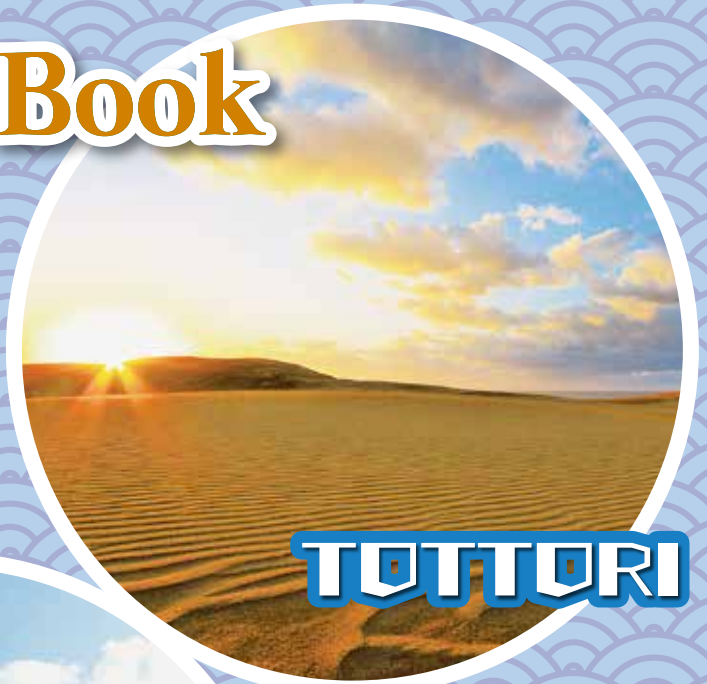


Chugoku Region

Guide Book



SHIMANE



TOTTORI



HIROSHIMA



YAMAGUCHI



OKAYAMA



Chugoku Region Map & Access

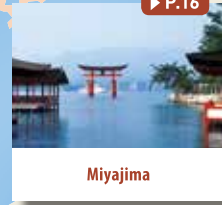
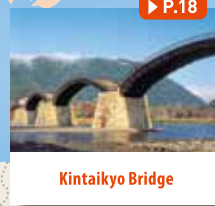
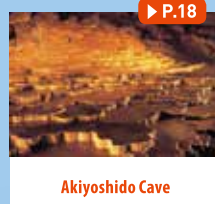
Here are easy-to-follow routes from Kansai International Airport and Fukuoka Airport

From Fukuoka Airport
to Hakata sta.

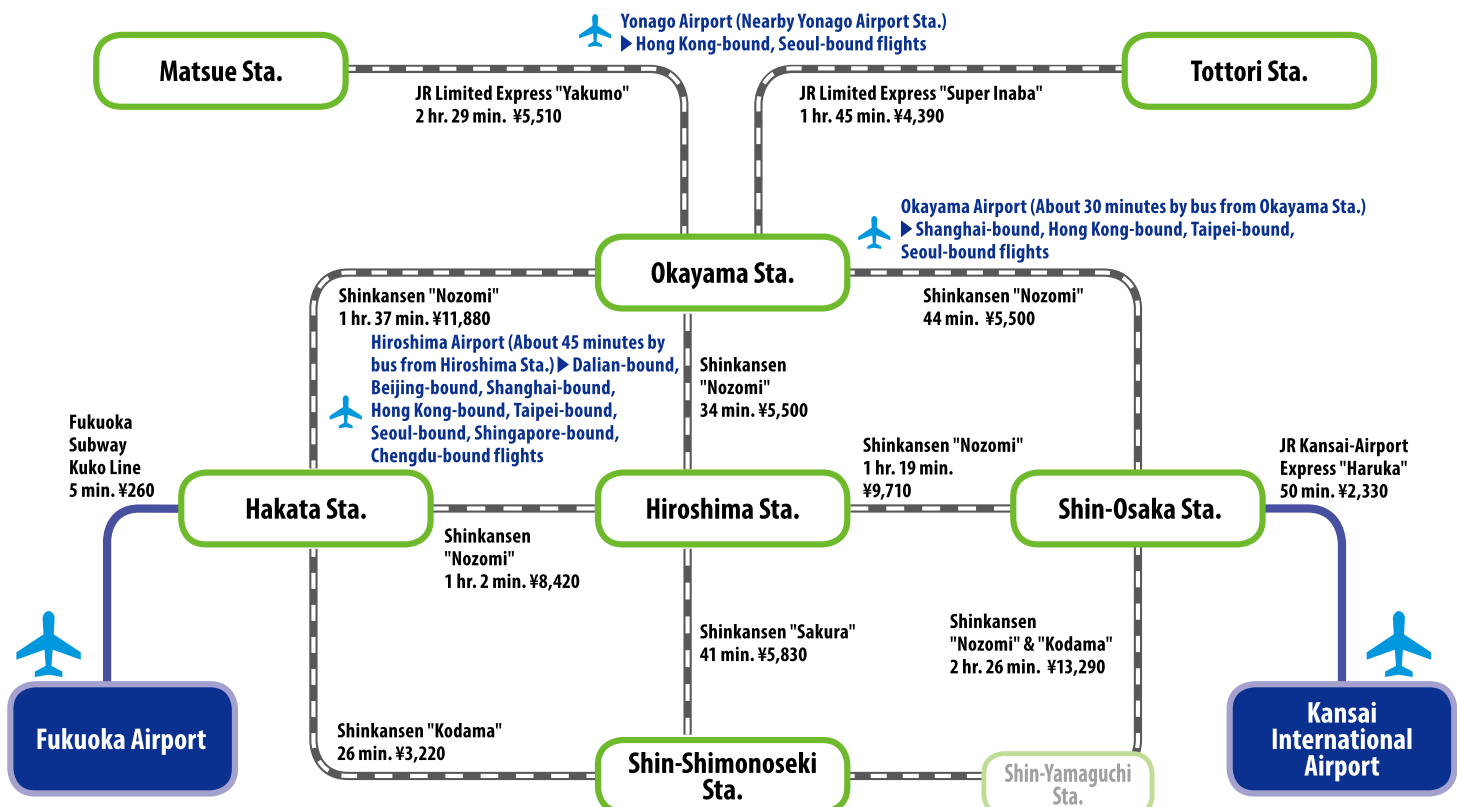
Train Approx. 5 min. by
Fukuoka Subway Kuko
Line ¥260

Bus Approx. 18 min. by
Nishitetsu Bus ¥260

Hakata Sta. Fukuoka Airport



JR-WEST Shinkansen routes





Great deal tickets
with unlimited-rides on JR-WEST trains!

JR-WEST RAIL PASS

MORE INFORMATION >>>

www.westjr.co.jp/global/en/travel-information/

Legend

..... Chugoku JR bus

— West Japan JR bus

..... Kyoto Tango railway

== Wakayama Electric railway

— JR conventional lines

— San-yo Shinkansen

	If purchased outside Japan	If purchased in Japan	(Yen)	
Okayama-Hiroshima-Yamaguchi Area Pass 5-day	¥13,500 ¥6,750*	¥14,500 ¥7,250*		
Sanyo-San'in Area Pass 7-day	¥19,000 ¥9,500*	¥20,000 ¥10,000*		
Kansai-Hiroshima Area Pass 5-day	¥13,500 ¥6,750*	¥14,500 ¥7,250*		
San'in-Okayama Area Pass 4-day	¥4,500 ¥2,250*	¥5,500 ¥2,750*		
Hiroshima-Yamaguchi Area Pass 5-day	¥11,000 ¥5,500*	¥12,000 ¥6,000*		
Kansai WIDE Area Pass 5-day	¥9,000 ¥4,500*	¥10,000 ¥5,000*		
Setouchi Area Pass 5-day	¥17,000 ¥8,500*	¥18,000 ¥9,000*		

*6-11 years old when an exchange order issued or a rail pass purchased **From the Kansai area to the San'in area, the San'in-Okayama Area Pass and the Kansai WIDE Area Pass can be used together as a set.

6-night
7-day

Hiroshima Airport IN OUT

Chugoku Region Sightseeing Route to Tour Major Tourist Spots

The classic route to tour the beautiful natural landscapes and historical towns, buildings, and the like of the Chugoku Region!

	If purchased outside Japan	If purchased in Japan	
Sanyo-San'in Area Pass 7-day	¥19,000 ¥9,500*	¥20,000 ¥10,000*	
Okayama-Hiroshima-Yamaguchi Area Pass 5-day	¥13,500 ¥6,750*	¥14,500 ¥7,250*	
San'in-Okayama Area Pass 4-day	¥4,500 ¥2,250*	¥5,500 ¥2,750*	

Day 1 HIROSHIMA 広島

Start

Day 1

11:00

About 5 min. on foot

JR Saijo Sta.

About 25 min. by limousine bus

Hiroshima Airport

The Sake cellar in Saijo
西条酒造

About 5 min. on foot

JR Saijo Sta.

About 35 min. by conventional lines

JR Hiroshima Sta.

About 15 min. by Electric Railway

14:00

Hiroshima Hondori Shopping Arcade
広島本通商店街

Day 2 YAMAGUCHI 山口

10:00

About 12 min. by bus

Kintaikyo Bridge
錦帯橋

About 12 min. by bus

JR Shin-Iwakuni Sta.

About 14 min. by the Shinkansen

JR Hiroshima Sta.

12:40

About 45 min. by bus

Akiyoshido Cave & Akiyoshidai Plateau
秋芳洞・秋吉台

About 30 min. by the Shinkansen

JR Shin-Iwakuni Sta.

About 45 min. by bus

JR Shin-Yamaguchi Sta.

About 23 min. by conventional lines

JR Shin-Yamaguchi Sta.

About 15 min. by bus

JR Yamaguchi Sta.

16:30

Rurikoji Temple
瑠璃光寺

About 20 min. by bus

18:00

Yuda Onsen
湯田温泉

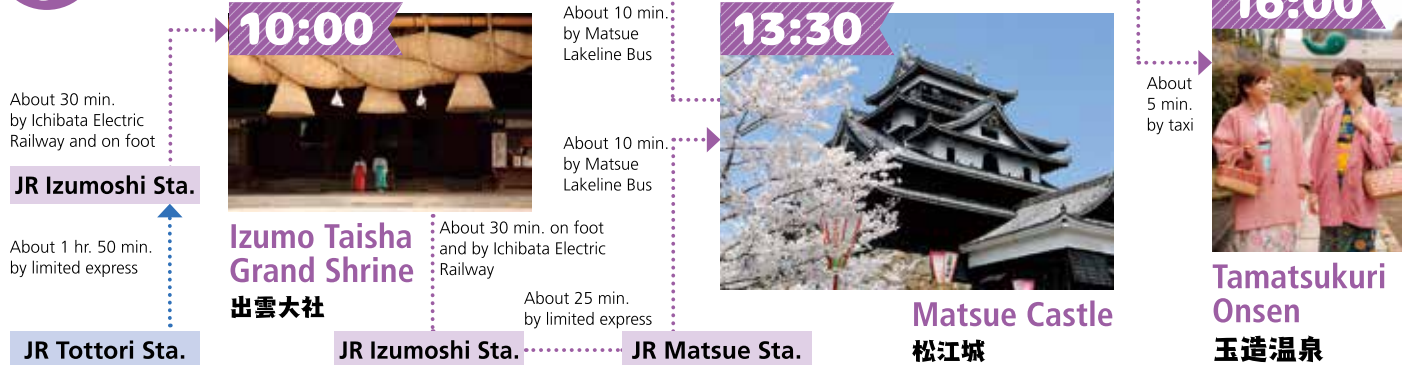
Day 3 OKAYAMA 岡山



Day 4 TOTTORI 鳥取



Day 5 SHIMANE 島根



Day 6 HIROSHIMA 広島



Day 7

Hiroshima City Center

 About 45 min. by limousine bus.

 Hiroshima Airport

Goal

6-night
7-day

Kansai International Airport IN OUT

Enjoy San'in tourist spots to the full! Chugoku Region Sightseeing Route

Discover the hugely popular spots in the San'in area with its history, art that uses nature, and more!

	If purchased outside Japan	If purchased in Japan	
Sanyo-San'in Area Pass 7-day	¥19,000 ¥9,500*	¥20,000 ¥10,000*	
Kansai-Hiroshima Area Pass 5-day	¥13,500 ¥6,750*	¥14,500 ¥7,250*	
San'in-Okayama Area Pass 4-day	¥4,500 ¥2,250*	¥5,000 ¥2,750*	

start

Day
1

OKAYAMA 岡山

12:30

About 10 min.
on foot

JR Kurashiki Sta.

About 2 hr. 10
min. by limited
express, the
Shinkansen and
conventional
lines

Kansai International Airport



**Kurashiki Bikan
Historical Quarter**

倉敷美観地区

JR Kurashiki Sta.

About 10 min.
on foot

About 17 min. by
conventional lines

JR Okayama Sta.

About 15 min. by
Electric Tramway
and on foot

16:00



**Okayama Korakuen Garden
& Okayama Castle**

岡山後楽園・岡山城

About 15 min. by
Electric Tramway
and on foot

JR Okayama Sta.

Day
2

OKAYAMA 岡山・TOTTORI 鳥取

10:00



Kojima Jeans Street
児島ジーンズストリート

JR Kojima Sta.

About 25 min.
by Marine Liner

JR Okayama Sta.

About 20 min.
on foot

JR Kojima Sta.

About 25 min.
by Marine Liner

JR Okayama Sta.

16:15



The Sand Museum
砂の美術館

About 20 min.
by bus

JR Tottori Sta.

About 1 hr. 50 min.
by limited express

About 12 min.
on foot

17:00



**Tottori Sand
Dunes**
鳥取砂丘

About 30 min.
by bus

JR Tottori Sta.

Day
3

TOTTORI 鳥取



Day
4

SHIMANE 島根



Day
5

SHIMANE 島根 • HIROSHIMA 広島

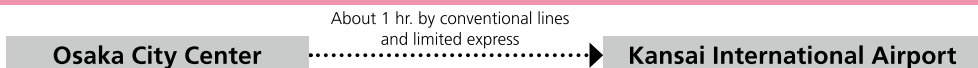


Day
6

HIROSHIMA 広島 • YAMAGUCHI 山口



Day
7



Goal

6-night
7-day

Fukuoka Airport IN OUT

Enjoy Sanyo Tourist Spots to the Full! Chugoku Region Sightseeing Route

If this is your second visit to the Chugoku Region, explore new places where you can appreciate Japanese history and nature!

	If purchased outside Japan	If purchased in Japan	
Sanyo-San'in Area Pass 5-day	¥19,000 ¥9,500*	¥20,000 ¥10,000*	
Okayama-Hiroshima-Yamaguchi Area Pass 7-day	¥13,500 ¥6,750*	¥14,500 ¥7,250*	
Setouchi Area Pass 5-day	¥17,000 ¥8,500*	¥18,000 ¥9,000*	
San'in-Okayama Area Pass 4-day	¥4,500 ¥2,250*	¥5,500 ¥2,750*	

Day 1 YAMAGUCHI



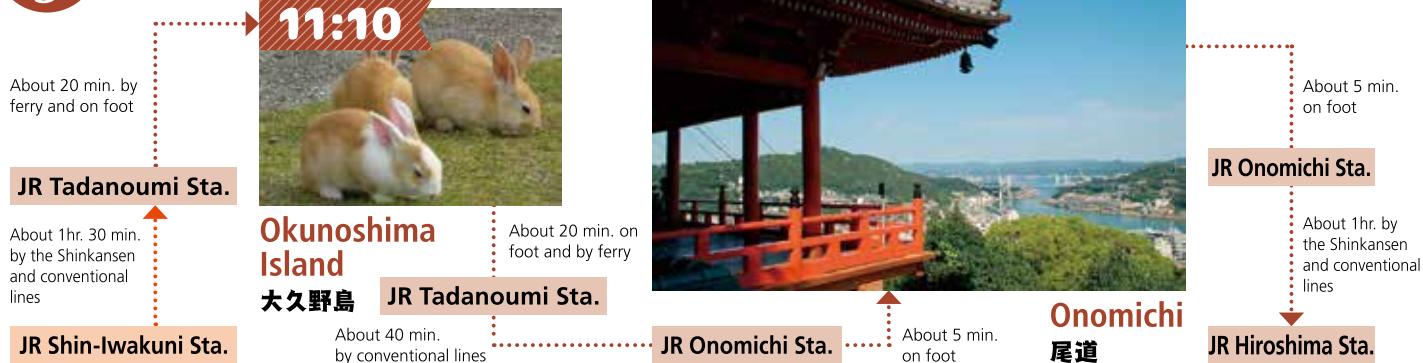
Hagi Castle Town
萩城下町

Day 2 YAMAGUCHI



Kintaikyo Bridge
錦帯橋

Day 3 HIROSHIMA 広島



Day 4 SHIMANE 島根



Day 5 TOTTORI 鳥取



Day 6 OKAYAMA 岡山



Day 7

Fukuoka City Center

5 min. by subway

Fukuoka Airport

Goal

TOTTORI

鳥取

Tottori is home to beautiful natural scenery including huge sand dunes. It is also famous as the Manga Kingdom.

Tour Information

Tourist information for Tottori

www.tottori-tour.jp/en/



In the early morning, the patterns created by the wind are a magnificent sight to see as well

1 Tottori Sand Dunes

鳥取砂丘

Sand dunes created by sand and winds over the last 100,000 years. Its vast size extends for 16 km from east to west and 2.4 km from north to south. Extensive activities are also available here including a tour with a ride on a camel, paragliding, sandboarding, and more.

+81-857-26-0756 (Tottori Convention & Tourism Association)
Yuyama, Fukube-cho, Tottori City
Free to stroll
www.torican.jp/english/sand-geopark

ACCESS



Climb to the top of the hill



Also famous for its beauty of the sunsets

2 The Sand Museum

砂の美術館

The museum that exhibits huge sculpture works made of sand. It is popular for sand sculptures based on a different theme each year. You will be impressed by the works of the world's top sand sculptors!

+81-857-20-2231
2083-17 Yuyama, Fukube-cho, Tottori City
9:00-18:00 (Sat.: until 20:00) (Admission accepted until 30 min. before closing of the facility)
Open from mid-Apr. to early Jan., open daily during this period
¥600 (Adult) Credit cards not accepted.
www.sand-museum.jp/en/



Such an expressive power that you'd never imagine it is sand

ACCESS



The main sculpture is an outstanding massive work of art



Wonderful clear water

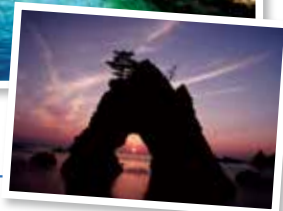
3 Uradome Coast

浦富海岸

Uradome Coast is a spot where you can enjoy the most fabulous scenery along the San-in coast. Take a pleasure boat tour and enjoy views of the varied coastline with its 70m-high cliffs and oddly-shaped rocks. Try some hands-on programs such as sea kayaking too.

+81-857-72-3481 (Iwami Convention and Visitors Bureau)
Uradome, Iwami-cho, Iwami-gun
Free to stroll
www.iwamikanko.org

ACCESS



The beautiful sight of rocks, sea, and sky is also a must-see

4 Mitokusan Sanbutsuji Temple

National treasure
Japan Heritage

三徳山 三佛寺

This is an old temple of the Tendai sect of Buddhism. The "Nageiredo" is built on a precipitous cliff and is designated as a national treasure. Even today method of its construction remains a mystery. Also the approach to "Nageiredo" hall is a steep pilgrimage path. There are strict rules enforced regarding clothing and shoes for entry to the mountain so be sure to note them.

+81-858-43-2666
1010 Mitoku, Misasa-cho, Tohoku-gun
8:00-15:00
Open 365 days *Entry to the "Nageiredo" may be prohibited due to bad weather. No entry permitted around from Dec. to Mar. due to snow.
¥400 (Adult) for a visit up to Hondo, ¥800 (Adult) for a visit up to "Nageiredo"
Credit cards not accepted.
www.mitokusan.jp

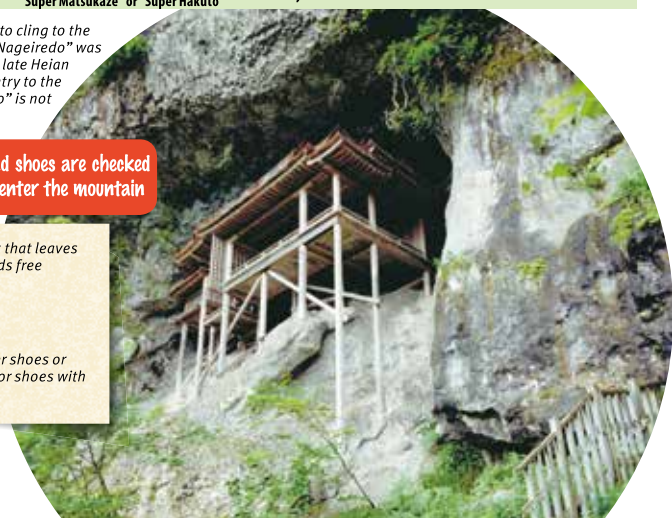
ACCESS



Built so as to cling to the cliffside, "Nageiredo" was built in the late Heian period. *Entry to the "Nageiredo" is not allowed

Clothing and shoes are checked before you enter the mountain

Attention!





Offers many highlights such as original drawings, etc.

Curry Sembei rice crackers
¥648 make a great souvenir
©GOSHŌ AOYAMA /
SHOGAKUKAN

5 GŌSHŌ AOYAMA MANGA FACTORY

青山剛昌ふるさと館

The museum introduces the early days and works of Goshō Aoyama, creator of the manga series Great Detective Conan, popular in over 25 countries and regions of the world. There are also interactive displays that let you enjoy inventions and tricks that feature in the manga.

+81-858-37-5389
1414 Yurashuku, Hokuetsu-cho, Tohoku-gun
9:30-17:30 (Admission: until 17:00)
Open 365 days
¥700 (Adult) *¥100 discount upon presentation of passport
D, J, M, V, 銀 (Only accepted at the shop)
www.gamf.jp/english/



ACCESS
JR Tottori Sta. → JR Yura Sta. → GŌSHŌ AOYAMA MANGA FACTORY
1hr. by JR Rapid "Tottori Liner" 20 min. walk

©MIZUKI Productions

His original drawings and collections are also exhibited



7 Mizuki Shigeru Museum

水木しげる記念館

Shigeru Mizuki is a Japanese manga artist best known for creative works such as GeGeGe no Kitaro, which has long been a popular manga among the Japanese. Displays include exhibits that let you fully enjoy his works, a studio, and the world of yokai Japan's spirit-monsters.

+81-859-42-2171
5 Hommachi, Sakaiminato City
9:30-17:00 (Summer vacation period: open until 20:00, admission accepted until 30 min. before closing of the facility)
Open 365 days
¥700 (Adult)
A, D, J, M, V, 銀
mizuki.sakaiminato.net



Look out for the Yokai in the garden!

ACCESS
JR Tottori Sta. → JR Yonago Sta. → JR Sakaiminato Sta. → Mizuki Shigeru Museum
1hr. by JR Limited Express "Super Ōki" or "Super Matsukaze" 44 min. by JR Sakai Line 10 min. walk

6 Mt. Daisen

大山

Mt. Daisen marks 1,300 years of history in 2018. With Mt. Daisen's magnificent natural environment, enjoy a variety of activities from mountain climbing to bicycle touring, as well as a line-up of delicious farm-made dairy products!

+81-859-52-2502
(Daisen Tourism Organization)
Daisen, Daisen-cho, Saihaku-gun
Mountain entry open to the public
*If you intend to climb, fill in a registration form
<http://tourismdaisen.com/en/>

ACCESS
JR Tottori Sta. → JR Yonago Sta. → Mt. Daisen
1 hr. by JR Limited express "Super Ōki" or "Super Matsukaze" 30 min. by taxi



The famous peak is known as "Mt. Fuji of the East, Mt. Daisen of the West"

Also popular for climbing in summer and skiing in winter



Red snow crabs and snow crabs are local specialties

A large variety of fish is available throughout the year



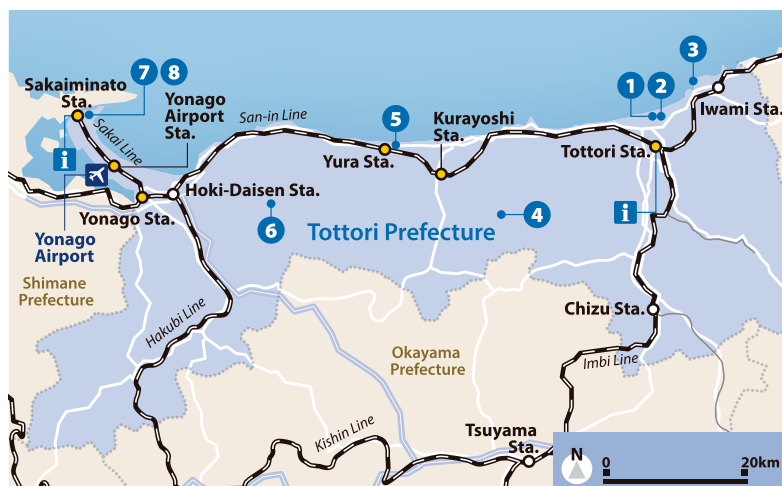
8 Sakaiminato Sea Food Market

境港水産市場

Sakaiminato is one of Japan's top ports and home of Japan's biggest catch of red snow crabs. The town is dotted with markets for reasonably-priced fresh fish to buy or eat on the spot. The markets are popular with both Japanese and foreign tourists.

+81-859-47-0121
Sakaiminato City
www.sakaiminato.net/foreign/en/

ACCESS
JR Tottori Sta. → JR Yonago Sta. → JR Sakaiminato Sta. → Sakaiminato Area
1 hr. by JR Limited express "Super Ōki" or "Super Matsukaze" 44 min. by JR Sakai Line



Tourist information center that has foreign-language speaking staff on site

SHIMANE

島根

Shimane is called the "Land of the Gods." Come and visit places such as Izumo Taisha Grand Shrine and Lake Shinji, where you can feel the reverence for nature.

Tour Information

SHIMANE-Explore
Unfamiliar Japan

www.kankou-shimane.com/en/

Welcome!

Shimanekko



Sacred straw festoon that boasts one of the biggest sizes in Japan is magnificent too

National treasure

Izumo Taisha Grand Shrine

出雲大社

Okuninushi-no-omikami, the main enshrined deity, is worshipped here as the god of matchmaking. It is said that in the 10th month of lunar calendar all the gods in Japan gather at Izumo Taisha Grand Shrine. When you pray at the shrine, bow twice, clap 4 times, and bow once with a heartfelt respect to the God.

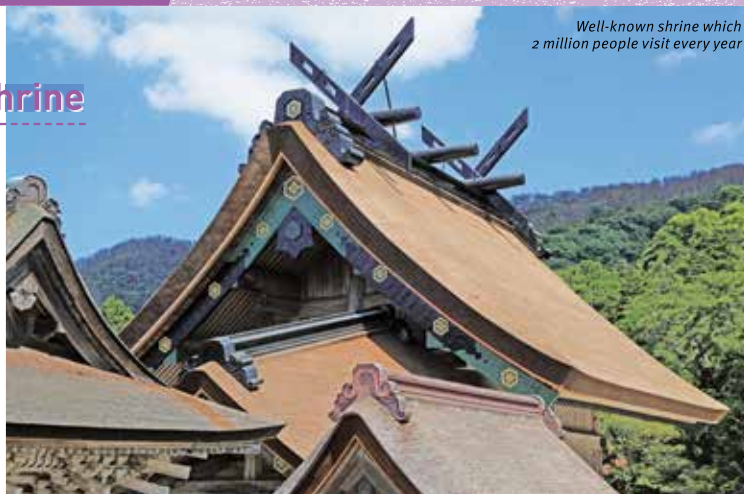
+81-853-53-3100

195 Kizuki Higashi, Taisha-cho, Izumo City 6:30-20:00

Open 365 days ¥ Free admission for visiting

Credit cards not accepted.

www.izumooyashiro.or.jp



Well-known shrine which 2 million people visit every year

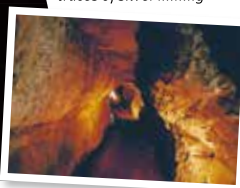
ACCESS

JR Matsue Sta. → JR Izumoshi sta. / DENTETSU IZUMOSHI Sta. → Izumotaisha-Mae Sta. → Izumo Taisha Grand Shrine

24 min. by JR Limited Express "Yakumo" 22 min. by Ichibata Electric Railway Matsue Line & Taisha Line or 23 min. by Ichibata Bus (Seimonmae) 7 min. walk

Okubo Mabu mine shaft offers tours only available on Fri., Sun. and national holidays from Apr. to Nov.

Ryugenji Mabu mine shaft, where you can still see traces of silver mining



Omori Town retain vestiges of a once prosperous mining town

World heritage

Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine & Omori Town

石見銀山・大森の街並み

Japan's largest silver mine where silver was mined in the early Edo period (ca. 1600-1700). It was registered as a World Heritage Site in 2007. Visit the Ryugenji Mabu mine shaft remains or stroll along the streets of Omori which retains the remnants of old times.

+81-854-88-9950 (Oda City Tourist Association)

Omori-cho, Oda City

Ryugenji Mabu 9:00-17:00 (Late Nov.-Feb.: until 16:00) Closed on Jan. 1

Ryugenji Mabu ¥410 (Adult) *Admission fee ¥200 (Adult) on presentation of your passport

Credit cards not accepted. www.ginzan-wm.jp/en

ACCESS

JR Matsue Sta. → JR Odashi Sta. → Omori bus stop → Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine

51 min. by JR Rapid "Super Oki" 33 min. by Iwami Kotsu Bus 50 min. walk

Shimane AQUAS Aquarium

島根県立しまね海洋館アクアス

The aquarium houses 10,000 marine creatures from 400 species, including a fantastic huge tank containing sharks that are featured in Shimane mythology. The bubble ring performance by beluga whales is very popular.

+81-855-28-3900

1117-2 Kushi-cho, Hamada City

9:00-17:00 (7/20-8/31, until 18:00)

Tue. (If a public holiday, the following day will be closed instead) *Open daily during the Golden Week holiday period, Jul. 20-Aug. 31 and winter and spring vacations

¥1,540 (Adult) A, D, J, M, V <https://aquas.or.jp/english/>

ACCESS

JR Matsue Sta. → JR Hashi Sta. → Shimane Aquarium

1 hr. 29 min. by JR Limited express "Super Oki" 10 min. walk

Canals where brightly-colored carp live



Tonomachi Street, where you can tour around many historical remains.

Townscape of Tsuwano

津和野

Colorful carp swim in the canals running along the streets that retain the air of an old castle town. Known as the "Little Kyoto of San'in," Tsuwano is a picturesque town of beautiful historic streets.

+81-856-72-1771 (Tsuwano-cho Tourist Association)

Tsuwano-cho, Kanoashi-gun

Free to stroll

<http://tsuwano-kanko.net/>

ACCESS

JR Matsue Sta. → JR Tsuwano Sta. → Townscape of Tsuwano

2 hr. 45 min. by JR Limited express "Super Oki" 10 min. walk

There is such a variety of marine creatures that you will never get tired of watching them

Happy bubble rings®



An excursion boat that takes visitors round the moat is also available



The view from the main keep is superb too!



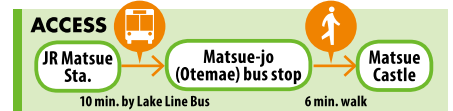
National treasure

5 Matsue Castle 松江城

Built by Horio Yoshiharu in 1611, this beautiful castle is one of the few remaining castles in Japan. The extant main keep which became a National Treasure in 2015 is drawing increasing attention. The castle offers many highlights including many defensive features and splendid stone walls.

- +81-852-21-4030 (Matsue Jozan Koen Administration Office)
- 1-5 Tonomachi, Matsue City
- Main castle area: 7:00-19:30 (Oct.-Mar.: 8:30-17:00), Main keep: 8:30-18:30 (Oct.-Mar.: until 17:00)
- Open 365 days ¥ Free admission up to the Main keep (castle admission ¥330 (Adult)) *50% discount on presentation of your passport
- Credit cards not accepted. www.visit-matsue.com

A renowned castle that hands down a magnificent example of old castle architecture



6 Tamatsukuri Onsen 玉造温泉

This *onsen* (hot spring) has been popular for its beautifying effects on the skin for 1,300 years. In the *onsen* resort, spots that are said to bring good luck, spots for foot bathing, and shops line side by side. Enjoy a mellow stroll around the town wearing yukata.

- +81-852-62-3300 (Tamatsukuri Onsen office, Matsue Tourism Association)
- Tamatsukuri, Tamayu-cho, Matsue City
- www.tama-onsen.jp



Each accommodation offers a different kind of bathtub and view



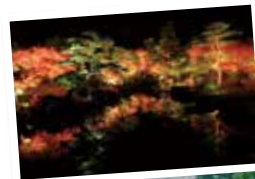
Take home the spring water that has a texture just like luxury lotion!



The riverside is lined with accommodation and shops



Lit up at night in August, November, December and January



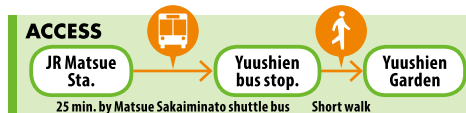
There is an event during the Golden Week holiday period where 30,000 peony blossoms are floated on the ponds



7 Yuushien Garden 由志園

With 20,000 fragrant peonies in 250 varieties blooming in spring, fresh green verdure in summer, and colorful foliage in autumn, this famous Japanese garden is beautiful throughout the four seasons. There is a tea house that uses ginseng whose cultivation was promoted by Lord Fumai, the seventh Lord of Matsue Domain.

- +81-852-76-2255
- 1260-2 Hanyu, Yatsuka-cho, Matsue City
- 9:00-17:00 (Last admission: 16:30)
- Open 365 days
- ¥700 *Discount on presentation of your passport
- M, V, 銀
- <http://www.yuushien.com/yuushien/language/english.html>



8 Adachi Museum of Art 足立美術館

The museum owns and displays Japan's largest collection of works by great master of Japanese painting Taikan Yokoyama. It is also known for its magnificent Japanese gardens and when you look from the window of the museum, the gardens become framed like a painting. Enjoy the museum's double delights: famous paintings and famous gardens.

- +81-854-28-7111
- 320 Furukawa-cho, Yasugi City 9:00-17:30 (Oct.-Mar.: until 17:00)
- Open 365 days (Only the Annex may be temporarily closed when exhibits are changed) ¥1,150 (Adult) *50% discount on presentation of your passport
- A, D, J, M, V www.adachi-museum.or.jp/en/

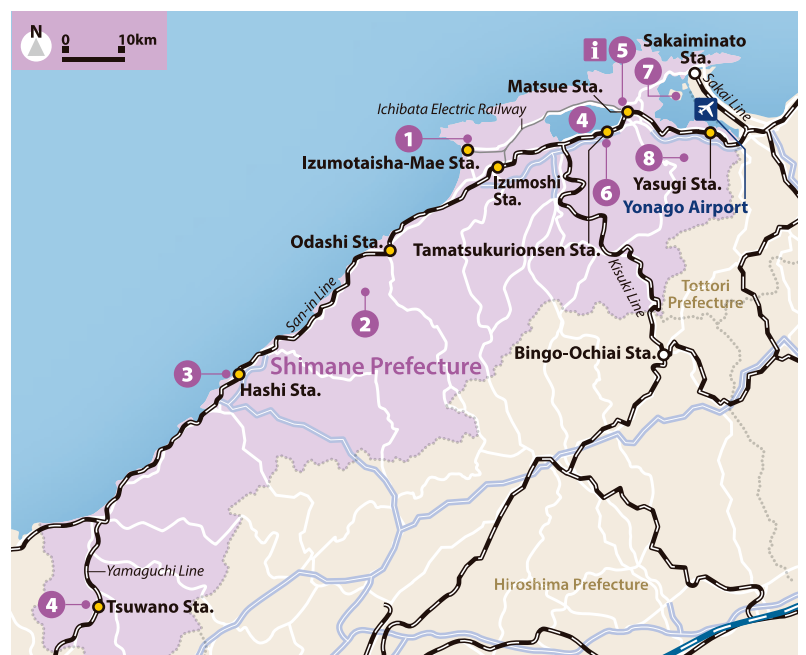


The US magazine, Journal of Japanese Gardening, has chosen the gardens as the number one in Japan consecutively since 2003.



Koresansui Japanese DryLandscape Garden

Yokoyama Taikan [Autumn Leaves] (Left Screen 1931)



i Tourist information center that has foreign-language speaking staff on site

OKAYAMA

岡山

Known as "Land of Sunshine, Okayama" on account of its mild climate, Okayama is a prefecture where both natural surrounding and towns with a historic feel coexist.

Tour Information

DISCOVER OKAYAMA

www.okayama-japan.jp/en/

Welcome!



Momotaro-kun

The garden that took 14 years to build



Okayama Castle that stands across the river

Stop at the tea house for a rest and stroll round the garden



1 Okayama Korakuen Garden & Okayama Castle

岡山後楽園・岡山城

Japanese garden built by Ikeda Tsunamasa, lord of Okayama, over 300 years ago. Later on, subsequent feudal lords added their tastes to the garden in successive periods and the Korakuen has become one of the Three Great Gardens of Japan, a beautiful place both to admire and to stroll around.

Okayama Korakuen Garden

+81-86-272-1148
1-5 Korakuen, Kita-ku, Okayama City
7:30-18:00 (Oct.-Mar. 19: 8:00-17:00, admission accepted until 15 min. before closing)
Open 365 days
¥400 (Adult), ¥140 (Seniors)
A, D, J, M, V, 銀
www.okayama-korakuen.jp/english/

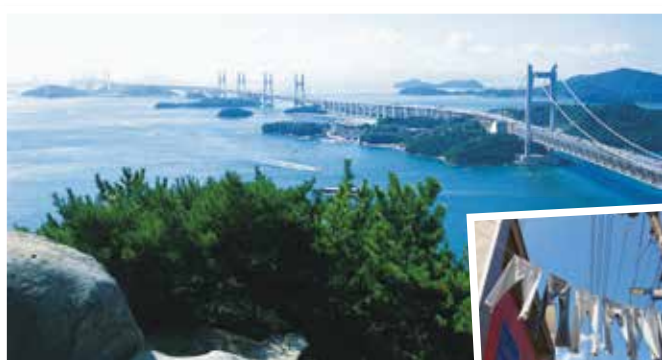
Okayama Castle

+81-86-225-2096
2-3-1 Marunouchi, Kita-ku, Okayama City
9:00-17:30 (Admission: until 17:00)
Dec. 29 - Dec. 31
¥300 (Adult) *Common ticket with Korakuen: ¥560 (Adult)
Credit cards not accepted.
okayama-kanko.net/ujo/english/

ACCESS



Enjoy a panoramic view of Seto-Ohashi Bridge and the picturesque view of various islands of the Sea from the peak



Japanese jeans shops are dotted along Kojima Jeans St., a 15-min. walk from JR Kojima sta.

3 Mt. Washuzan & Kojima

鷲羽山・児島

Mt. Washuzan is a 133-m-high mountain shaped like an eagle with outspread wings. From the lookout point you can enjoy panoramic beautiful views of the Seto Inland Sea dotted with islands. From there continue on to Kojima, home of Japan's first domestically produced jeans.

+81-86-472-1289 (Kojima Ekimae Tourist Information Office)
Shimotsui-tanoura, Kurashiki City
Free to stroll
www.kurashiki-tabi.jp/for/en/kojima.html

ACCESS



Kurashiki

Bikan Historical Quarter

倉敷美観地区

The town retains vestiges of its prosperity under the direct administration of the shogunate during the Edo period. Even the white-walled earthen storehouses and merchant houses line the streets and they are utilized as cafés and shops. Enjoy a stroll where you can enjoy the good-old traditional air and feel an atmosphere unique to Kurashiki.

+81-86-422-0542 (Kurashiki Monogatari-kan Temporary Tourist Information Office)
Throughout the area of Kurashiki City
Free to stroll
www.kurashiki-tabi.jp/for/en/

ACCESS



Strolling around the town dressed in denim kimonos is also popular

Buildings standing out beautifully in the nighttime scenic lighting



Picturesque good-old buildings remain along the both sides of the river

4 Kibitsujinja Shrine

National treasure

吉備津神社

This is one of the oldest shrines in the San-yo area. Okibitsuhiko-no-omikami is enshrined in the main hall which is the sole example of the *kibitsu-zukuri* style of architecture in Japan. The legend of Kibitsuhiko defeating an ogre is believed to be the origin of the famous folktale Momotaro which is handed down in Okayama.

+81-86-287-4111
931 Kibitsu, Kita-ku, Okayama City
5:00-18:00 Open 365 days
Free admission for visiting
Credit cards not accepted.
www.kibitujinja.com

The Narukama Shinji ritual, which foretells whether a wish will come true with the sound of a caldron

ACCESS



Note the architectural style of the main hall



Long corridor is also stunning



From autumn to spring, when the conditions are right, the castle looks like it is floating on a sea of clouds.

Hilltop castle built in 1240

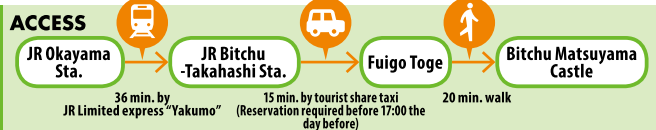


5 Bitchu Matsuyama Castle

備中松山城

One of 12 original surviving castles in Japan that have castle keeps. As the only original hilltop castle that retains its castle keep, it is also an Important Cultural Property. Standing on a 430 m-high hilltop, the castle is famed as an impregnable fortress.

+81-886-21-0461
(Takahashi City Tourism Association)
1 Uchisange, Takahashi City
9:00-17:30 (Oct.-Mar.: until 16:30)
Dec. 28-Jan. 3
¥300 (Adult)
Credit cards not accepted.
http://takahasikanko.or.jp/modules/spot/?content_id=1



Fuji Park (Fuji Wisteria Park)

藤公園

With approximately 100 varieties of purple, white and pink wisteria gathered from all over Japan, the park has the largest number of varieties in Japan. Fuji (Wisteria) Festival is also held every year from late April until early May when the blossoms are at their best.

+81-869-93-1121
1386-2 Fujino, Wake-cho, Wake-gun
8:00-21:00 (Lit up from 18:00 during Fuji Festival)
Open 365 days
Free admission (¥300 (adult) when flowers are in bloom)
Credit cards not accepted.
www.town.wake.okayama.jp/festival/fuji.php

The fantastic night illuminations are also a must-see



The park features the largest number of wisteria varieties in Japan



Sunayu at Yubara Onsen, reputed to be the best open-air bath in western Japan



Yunogo Onsen, an old hot spring with a history that dates back 1,200 years

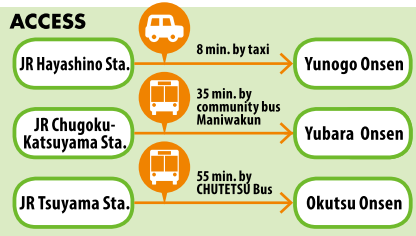


Okutsu Onsen has an open-air bath where washing of clothing with stomping is held

Three Hot Springs of Mimasaka

美作三湯

Yunogo, Yubara, and Okutsu Onsen in northern Okayama are together known as the Three Hot Springs of Mimasaka. Yunogo has been a therapeutic spring since long time ago, Yubara is popular for the best open-air bath in western Japan, and Okutsu is known for its beautifying effect on the skin. Try all three touring them!



+81-868-72-0374
(Yunogo Onsen Tourist Information Center),
+81-867-62-2526
(Yubara Sightseeing Information Center),
+81-868-52-0610
(Okutsu Onsen Kankou Kyoukai)
Yunogo, Mimasaka City (Yunogo Onsen),
Yubara Onsen, Maniwa City (Yubara Onsen),
Okutsu, Kagamino-cho, Tomata-gun (Okutsu Onsen)
spa-yunogo.or.jp (Yunogo Onsen),
www.yubara.com/en/ (Yubara Onsen),
www.mto.ne.jp/okutsuonsenk (Okutsu Onsen)

Fruit picking Experience

フルーツ狩り

Due to its mild climate, Okayama is a thriving fruit-growing region. It is particularly famous throughout Japan for its pomegranates, muscat grapes, and white peaches. Don't miss the chance to go eat-all-you-want fruit-picking. Charges vary from orchard to orchard.

Various sites around Okayama prefecture
www.okayama-japan.jp/en/feature/fruit

Eat-all-you-want prime-quality pomegranates



Sweet, juicy white peaches are very popular too



1 Tourist information center that has foreign-language speaking staff on site

HIROSHIMA

広島

In addition to two famous World Heritage sites, this is an area where it is fully complete with delicious seafood and local gourmet dishes.

Tour Information

VISIT HIROSHIMA

visithiroshima.net

Welcome!

bunkakki



1 Miyajima

宮島

World heritage

National treasure

Fourteen percent of the island including Itsukushima Shrine and Mt. Misen primeval forest behind it is a World Heritage Site. After visiting the magnificent shrine with the Otorii gate standing in the sea, take the Miyajima Ropeway or enjoy oyster dishes and anago-meshi (conger eel on top of rice), Miyajima's popular local foods.

+81-829-44-2011 (Miyajima Tourist Association),
+81-829-44-2020 (Itsukushima Shrine)

Miyajima-cho, Hatsukaichi City

Itsukushima Shrine 6:30-18:00 (Vary by season) Open 365 days

Admission fee to the inside of the shrine ¥300 (Adult)

Credit cards not accepted. www.miyajima.or.jp/english/

ACCESS



You can walk out to the Otorii gate of the Itsukushima Shrine when the tide is low



Inheriting the architectural styles of the Heian period



There are many restaurants on Miyajima that serve oysters, a local specialty.

World heritage

2 Peace Memorial Park

平和記念公園

The World Heritage Atomic Bomb Dome is the symbol for the abolition of nuclear weapons and enduring world peace



Hiroshima Hondori Shopping Arcade is the best shopping street in the Chugoku Region

Be sure to also try okonomiyaki, Hiroshima's specialty.

As well as the World Heritage A-bomb Dome, the Cenotaph for the A-bomb Victims, and other cenotaphs and monuments, the park contains the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum and Hiroshima National Peace Memorial Hall for the Atomic Bomb Victims etc.

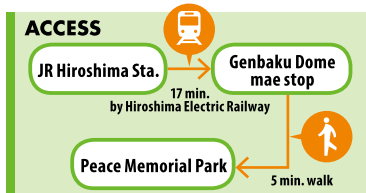
+81-82-247-6738 (Hiroshima City Tourist Information Center, Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park - Rest House)

Nakajima-cho / Otemachi, Naka-ku, Hiroshima City

Free to stroll

www.hiroshima-navi.or.jp/en/

ACCESS



Enjoy views from various angles such as from the boat or suspension bridge

3 An Evening of Kagura

夜神楽公演

Hiroshima has a flourishing "kagura" (Shinto theatrical dance)" scene with around 300 kagura troupes active in the prefecture. You can enjoy Japanese culture at a night performance not just by watching the dancing, but by asking the troupe questions, taking photos and more.

+81-90-7131-8055 (Call center for foreigners)

2-22 Kaminobori-cho, Naka-ku, Hiroshima City (HIROSHIMA PREFECTURAL ART MUSEUM)

Around 18:00-19:00 Event schedule varies from month to month

¥1,000 (Adult) Credit cards not accepted.

www.hiroshima-kagura.com

Performing "Yamata no Orochi," a popular program from Japanese mythology.



After the performance, you can try on the costumes and take photos

ACCESS



Views of huge walls of rock and beautifully clear water are magnificent



4 Sandankyo Gorge

三段峡

The approximately 16 km-long gorge has five scenic spots including Kurofuchi, Sarutobi, and more. You will be captivated by a succession of breathtaking views that appear before you, including the seasonal sights, various plants, large trees, old trees, and the like.

+81-826-28-1800

Akiota-cho, Yamagata-gun

Grounds open to the public (Kurofuchi ferryboat around 9:00-16:00, Sarutobi ferryboat 10:00-15:00)

Grounds open to the public. Kurofuchi and Sarutobi ferryboats operate only on Sat., Sun. and Hol. from mid-Apr. to late Nov.

Kurofuchi ferryboat round-trip ¥500 (Adult), Sarutobi ferryboat ¥500 (Adult)

Credit cards not accepted.

www.akiota-navi.jp/en/attraction.html

ACCESS



5 Over the Sake Celler in Saijo

西条の酒蔵巡り

Saijo area has seven sake breweries within walking distance of JR Saijo station. Find your favorite at breweries where you can sample sake. Some breweries also allow visitors on touring of the breweries too. And don't miss touring the cafés established together with breweries and shops either.

+81-82-430-7701 (Higashihiroshima City Tourist Information Center)

Area around Saijo-hommachi, Higashihiroshima City (Saijo Sakagura Street)

Vary by brewery www.hh-kanko.ne.jp/ginjo/index-eng.html

ACCESS



Don't forget to buy some Japanese sake for souvenirs!

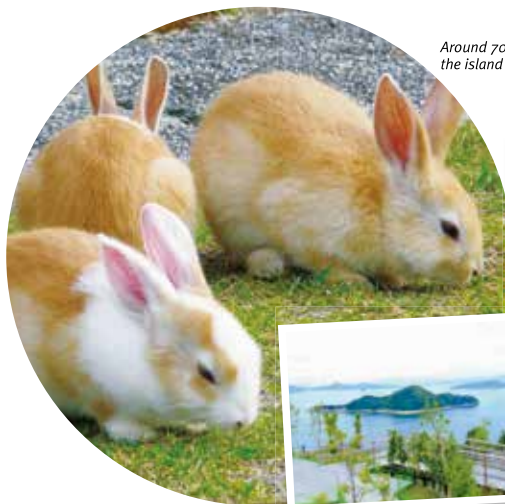


Buildings of old days have an elegant atmosphere too



Saijo is famous as a major production location of sake brewing in Hiroshima

Kamotsuru brewery has a room that displays the sake-making process



Around 700 rabbits live on the island

The Poison Gas Museum is also very interesting



The view of the Seto Inland Sea from Hyokkori Observation Platform is superb

ACCESS



6 Okunoshima Island

大久野島

During the World War I the island had a factory that produced poison gas and at the time it was an "island that was removed from the map." Today it called "Rabbit Island". The entire island is a resort within a national park where you can enjoy cycling, hot springs, and camping amid natural surroundings.

+81-846-26-0321 (Okunoshima, National Park Resort) Okunoshima, Tadanoumi-cho, Takehara City

Free to stroll www.kankou.pref.hiroshima.jp/sys/data?page-id=4304

7 Setouchi Shimanami Kaido & Onomichi

しまなみ海道・尾道

The bridges and road linking the islands from Onomichi in Hiroshima Prefecture to Imabari in Ehime Prefecture are collectively called the Setouchi Shimanami Kaido. This is a wellknown road where you can enjoy beautiful views that continually change as you drive or cycle across and savor the delicacies of each islands.

+81-848-36-5495 (Onomichi Tourist Association)

Onomichi City, Hiroshima Prefecture – Imabari City, Ehime Prefecture

The road is open 24 hours ¥4,830 (Toll for Nishiseto Onomichi IC – Imabari IC with a regular vehicle), toll is free for bicycles until Mar., 2019. Cycle rental ¥1,000-¥1,500 per one bike (plus deposit ¥1,000) Credit cards not accepted.

www.go-shimanami.jp/global/english/ www.ononavi.com

ACCESS



The road with a total length of 70 km linking the islands



Many people come for the local specialty, Onomichi Ramen.



8 Tomonoura

鞆之浦

This port town flourished as "shiomachi no minato" (a port for waiting for a favorable tide) from a long time ago and it is a town where port facilities such as the all-night light and the streetscape of the Edo period still remain. Movie director Hayao Miyazaki is said to have developed his ideas for *Ponyo on the Cliff* here, and it is also famous as a location where the film *The Wolverine* was shot. It is also listed as a Japan Heritage site.

+81-84-928-1043 (Tourism Division of Fukuyama City)

Tomo-cho, Fukuyama City

Free to stroll

www.fukuyama-kanko.com/english/

ACCESS



The Ota Residence, home of a wealthy merchant, is a national important cultural property

The port town retains its unspoilt Japanese landscape

You can see "taiami" round haul net sea bream fishing in May (for a charge)



i Tourist information center that has foreign-language speaking staff on site

YAMAGUCHI

山口

Yamaguchi is popular with history enthusiasts as the prefecture that turned out many outstanding figures towards the end of the Tokugawa Shogunate. It has lots of picturesque spots too.

Tour Information

Yamaguchi Japan
TRAVEL GUIDE

www.visit-jy.com/en/

Choruru
©Yamaguchi Prefecture

Welcome!



1 Kintaikyo Bridge

錦帯橋

One of the three most famous bridges in Japan that was built over 300 years ago across the Nishiki River. The bridge is a beautiful arched bridge that represent Japan consisting of five arches. Not only the bridge is a stunning sight, but it is stunning in its elaborate construction.

+81-827-41-2037 (Iwakuni City Tourism Association)

Iwakuni, Iwakuni City 24 hours (turn off the light at 22:00)

Open 365 days Fee to enter the bridge ¥300 (Adult)

Credit cards not accepted. kintaikyo.iwakuni-city.net/en

ACCESS



The bridge and the fireworks contest at the summer fireworks festival



Bridge that has a structure rarely found anywhere in even the world

You can see the daimyo parade at the Kintai-kyo Festival on Apr. 29



3 Rurikoji Temple

瑠璃光寺

Famous temple that has a five-storied pagoda which is a symbol of Yamaguchi Prefecture and one of Japan's three most beautiful pagodas. It is also a national treasure. The sight of the pagoda against a background of cherry trees or spring greenery in the daytime will enrapture you, and it is also a beautiful sight when lit up at night.

+81-83-934-6630 (Kozan Park Tourism Information Center)

7-1 Kozan-cho, Yamaguchi City Can be freely entered Open 365 days

Free of charge Credit cards not accepted. yamaguchi-city.jp/w/en/

ACCESS



The five storied pagoda is said to have been completed circa 1442



The view from the main hall is just marvelous

In spring, enjoy both the cherry blossoms and the five storied pagoda



2 Akiyoshido Cave & Akiyoshidai Plateau

秋芳洞・秋吉台

Stretching 100 m under the karst Akiyoshidai Plateau, this is one of Japan's largest limestone caves. The total length is 10.7 km. Go onto an exploring tour of limestone of about 1 km long and see wonderful works sculpted by nature over few hundred thousand years.

+81-837-62-0305

(Akiyoshidai Kankou Center)

Akiyoshi, Shuho-cho, Mine City

8:30-16:30

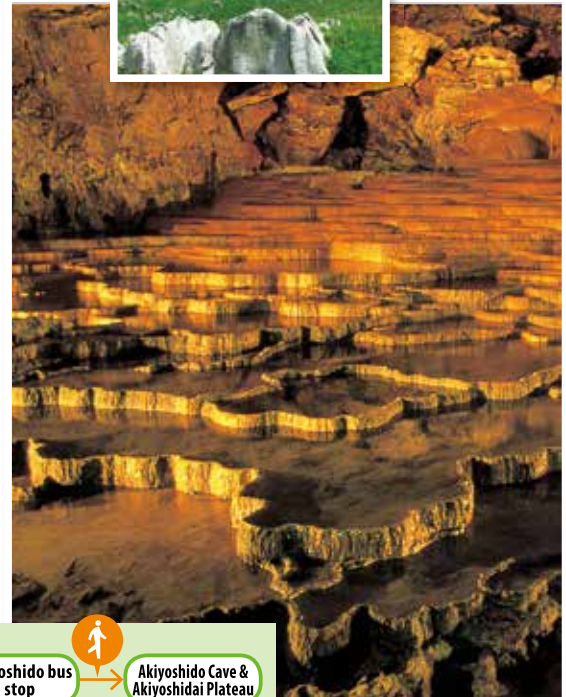
Open 365 days

¥1,200 (Adult)

Credit cards not accepted.

<https://karusuto.com>

The karst road where you can drive across the karst plateau



The so-called Hundred Saucers is a notable, famous formation inside the cave

ACCESS



4 Yuda Onsen

湯田温泉

Legend has it that this well-known hot spring was discovered by a white fox. Popular for its skin-enhancing properties, you can enjoy the hot spring water in footbaths at the hotels and around the town. Be sure to visit Kitsune no Ashiato tourist center for information on Yuda Onsen, what to see and eat.

+81-83-920-3000 (Yuda Onsen Inn Association), +81-83-921-8818 (Kitsune no Ashiato)

Yuda Onsen, Yamaguchi City Open to the public (Kitsune no Ashiato 8:00-22:00, open 365 days, free admission, footbath ¥200) Credit cards not accepted.

www.yudaonsen.com/, www.yuda-onsen.jp/about/about-en/

ACCESS



Kitsune no Ashiato, offering Sake tasting at ¥500 and more.



There is a footbath in the garden at Kitsune no Ashiato

Enjoy the hot spring water to the full at a footbath or bath for day-trip visitors at a hotel



5 Hofu Tenmangu Shrine

防府天満宮

Built in 904 as Japan's first Tenman-gu shrine that enshrines the god of learning, Sugawara no Michizane. After worshipping at the magnificent main hall, enjoy the view of the beautiful garden while drinking tea (¥500) at Hoshoo tea house.

+81-835-23-7700 14-1 Matsuzaki-cho, Hofu City

Grounds open to the public Credit cards not accepted.

www.hofutenmangu.or.jp

ACCESS



Hoshoo, a tea house with the view of a picturesque garden from its window

Offers many highlights including the beautiful Romon gate and stately main hall

Come to Kamon Wharf for dining and shopping for souvenirs



6 Karato Area

唐戸地区

Karato is the waterfront area overlooking the Kammon Straits. Here Kamon Wharf, a great place for enjoying dining and shopping, Karato Market that sells seafood, and Kaikyokan, the aquarium with a wide variety of globefish, a local specialty, etc. all gather together.

+81-83-231-1350 (Tourism Promotion Division, Department of Tourism, Sports and Culture City of Shimonoseki)

Karato-cho, Shimonoseki City Free to stroll

<http://shimonoseki.travel/english>

ACCESS



Come visit Karato Market for fresh seafood!

Aqua Theater, where dolphins and sea lions perform together



Kaikyokan exhibits approx. 100 types of globefish kinds, etc.

7 Motonosumi Shrine

元乃隅神社

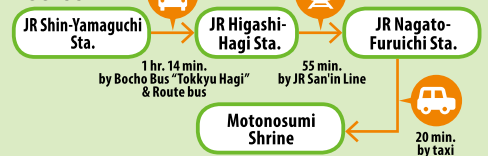
A shrine in which people come to pray for success in business, a good match, or fulfillment of a wish. The highlight is the 123 red torii gates stretching for 100 m or more. At the main torii gate, the offertory box is located above your head and it is said that if you succeed in throwing your money up into the box, your wish will come true.

Yuyatsuo, Nagato City

Can be freely entered

<https://visit-nagato.com/en/>

ACCESS



World heritage

8 Hagi Castle Town

萩城下町

The castle town that extends below the ruins of Hagi Castle retains its past streetscapes and is an ideal place for a stroll. Don't miss this place since the former homes and birthplaces of leading figures in the Meiji Restoration, which greatly influenced Japan's political scene are dotted around the area.

+81-838-25-1750 (Hagi Tourist Bureau)

Around the area of Gofuku-machi of Hagi City

Free to stroll (fees apply to admission of facilities)

hagishi.com/panf/top_en.pdf

ACCESS



Summer oranges, a Hagi specialty, bring color to the castle town



Birthplace of Shinsaku Takasugi



Be sure to visit a museum dedicated to Yoshida Shoin, a figure who represents the area of Hagi

Shrine that has a marvelous contrast between the blue sea and the red torii gates



1 Tourist information center that has foreign-language speaking staff on site

Take a Ride on the Popular Tourist Trains!

There are some fun trains to take you from place to place! Here are trains in which each prefecture takes pride!



Tottori

JR Tottori Sta. ↔ JR Yonago Sta.

Detective Conan Wrapped Train

Wrapped train featuring leading characters from the Detective Conan series.

©Gosho Aoyama / Shogakukan



Tottori

JR Yonago Sta. ↔ JR Sakaiminato Sta.

GeGeGe no Kitaro Wrapped Train

Four trains featuring *Kitaro*, *Nezumi-Otoko*, *Neko-Musume*, and *Medama-Oyajii* respectively are in operation.

©MIZUKI Productions



Yamaguchi

JR Shin-Yamaguchi Sta. ↔ JR Tsuwano Sta.

SL Yamaguchi

Runs on Saturday and holidays from spring to autumn. Runs dynamically puffing out black smoke just the same in the old days.



Shimane

JR Izumoshi Sta. → JR Kisuki Sta. ↔ JR Bingo-Ochiai Sta.

OKUIZUMO Orochi

Runs on Saturday, Sunday and holidays from spring to autumn. Refreshing as there is no glass in the windows. *The train operates on extended route from Izumoshi Sta. on holidays (one-way only)



Okayama

JR Okayama Sta. ↔ JR Uno Sta., JR Takamatsu Sta., etc.

La Malle de Bois

A train designed with a travel trunk motif. Please inquire at the station for train schedules and route information.



Hiroshima

JR Hiroshima Sta. ↔ JR Mihara Sta.

Setouchi Marine-view

Runs on Saturday and holidays. It is a train that lets you feel as if you're aboard a ship since you can enjoy views of the Seto Inland Sea.

Useful Sightseeing Information

2000yen! Tottori City Tourist Taxi



¥2,000 per person for a 3-hour sightseeing service to tour the destination of your choice on taxi (up to 4 persons per taxi). Reservation required at Tottori City International Tourist Support Center in JR Tottori station.

+81-857-22-7935 (International Tourist Support Center)
www.city.tottori.lg.jp/www/contents/1374222847656/

The Hiroshima-Matsue Highway Bus



Hiroshima to/from Matsue highway bus service for foreign tourists only (¥500 per person). No reservation required. Tickets available at JR Hiroshima station and JR Matsue station.

+81-852-21-4034 (Matsue International Tourist Information Office)
www.hiroden.co.jp/en/e-matue.html

Visit Hiroshima Tourist Pass

Valid for major local buses and streetcars (Hiroshima Electric Railway) in Hiroshima Prefecture and Miyajima ferry. Available in 5 types. SMALL Area Pass is ¥1,500 (valid for 3 days).

+81-82-261-3238 (Hiroshima prefectural Bus Association)
www.bus-kyo.or.jp/pickup/pickup-6249.html

Meipuru~pu / Maple sky



Meipuru~pu bus is a hop-on/hop-off bus that offers unlimited rides and goes around Hiroshima City. One-day ticket is ¥400. Maple Sky is an open-top double-decker sightseeing tour bus that lets you enjoy the sightseeing spots of Hiroshima City from the window (¥2,000).

+81-570-010-666 (Chugoku JR Bus Company Customer Center)
www.chugoku-jrbus.co.jp/e.aec.hp.transer.com/teikan/

Yamaguchi BUS PASS

¥2,000 for the 1-Day Pass valid for unlimited travel on local buses in Yamaguchi Prefecture, some intercity highway buses, airport buses and community buses. 2-Day Pass ¥4,000, 3-Day Pass ¥5,000.

+81-834-22-7801 (Bochokotsu-Bocho tourist bus Customer Center)
www.visit-jy.com/model_route_guide/en/

*May be required to present a foreign passport to purchase a pass.
*Check websites for bus availability

JAPAN RAIL PASS

Ordinary type

When purchased outside Japan

7-day ▶ ¥29,110
(children ¥14,550)

14-day ▶ ¥46,390
(children ¥23,190)

21-day ▶ ¥59,350
(children ¥29,670)

*Non-reserved seating and reserved seats are both unavailable on "NOZOMI" and "MIZUHO".

*Some JR 1trains use the lines of private railways for direct services. When the JAPAN RAIL PASS is used on JR trains that run thorough non-JR lines, fares and charges for the sections travelled on such lines must be paid to the private railway company concerned. Please pay these on the train or at a station on the said company's line.

For details, please see the WEB <http://www.japanrailpass.net/en/>

*They are subject to change.