

CHUGOKU REGION OF JAPAN
The Next
10
Spots



Adachi Museum of Art
Japanese Garden and Masterpieces
Noted Collection of Masterpieces
Pigments used in traditional Japanese paintings are a distinctive feature and produce delicate effects and colors not seen in western oil paintings. The museum houses approximately 1,500 paintings and artworks, including an extensive collection of paintings by Yokoyama Taikan, one of the most influential figures in the creation of the modern Japanese art community.



Yokoyama Taikan - Autumn Leaves (1931, left screen) *to be displayed from Sep.-Nov.

Gardens as Works of Art
The museum's founder, Adachi Zenko, once remarked that a Japanese garden was like a live painting. The museum grounds consist of several Japanese-style gardens: the "moss" garden, the "dry landscape" garden, the "pond" garden, and the spacious "white gravel and pine" garden, which replicates a painting by Yokoyama Taikan. The specialist American publication, "The Journal of Japanese Gardening", has ranked the museum's gardens as the best in Japan for twelve consecutive years since 2003.

Izumo Taisha Grand Shrine
Where Deities from All over Japan Meet
The World of Myths
Izumo is one of the most important places in Japanese mythology. Izumo Taisha lies at the heart of these myths. It enshrines Okuninushi-no-Okami, believed to be the creator of the land which became Japan. The foundation of the shrine was recorded in what is arguably the oldest Japanese history book. The world of mythology awaits you.



Deities Assemble
Okuninushi-no-Okami is also known as the god of *En-musubi*. *En* refers to all the connections and ties we make during our lifetimes. Once a year, the deities who are believed to reside all over Japan assemble at Izumo Taisha for an important meeting to discuss people's *en*. It is said that the shrine accommodates all the visiting deities.



Mitokusan Sanbutuji Temple "Nageiredo"
A Temple Thrown into Place from the Foot of the Mountain
An Awesome View Awaits at the End of Your Climb
Nageiredo Temple was built for *shugensha* (practitioners of ascetic religious training). To see the temple, first borrow a *wagesa* (a monk's ringed strap) at the mountain reception desk and make the 40 or 50-minute climb up the steep path. There is a spot where a clear view of the sheer cliff abruptly unfolds before you. Nageiredo Temple stands on the top, from where the view is truly awe-inspiring.



A Seat of Buddha Hanging on a Sheer Cliff
A small wooden temple seemingly hangs in a hollow right in the middle of a vertically rising cliff. Nobody knows exactly when and by whom it was built, but legend says it was En no Gyoja, the founder of *shugendo* (an ascetic religious training), who tossed the entire building from the foot of mountain up to its present spot a thousand years ago. The building is a registered as a national treasure.



Miyajima Island
Miyajima Itsukushima-jinja Shrine (UNESCO World Heritage Site)
Itsukushima Shrine, built out over the sea, is a time-honored shrine with a dynamic and unique layout. The shrine complex was recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage site, due to its fabulous *Shinden*-style architectural beauty that dates back to the Heian period (794-1192). The vermilion structure contrasts strikingly with the blue of the Seto Inland Sea.



Peace Memorial Park
(UNESCO World Heritage Site)
The park was built very close to ground zero of the atomic bomb as a prayer for eternal world peace, and is dotted with numerous monuments dedicated to the victims. It also contains the A-Bomb Dome and the Peace Memorial Museum.



Akiyoshidai Plateau / Akiyoshido Cave
A Spectacular Work of Nature Above and Under Ground
Japan's Largest Karst Plateau
Around three hundred million years ago, Akiyoshidai started its life as a coral reef under a tropical sea. The vast grassland scattered with limestone boulders is a truly fantastic sight. Feel the breeze as you stroll along the grassy paths and imagine the dawn of time.



Sandankyo Valley
Natural Beauty Every Season
Ever-Changing Waters
The 13km ravine is one of the major canyons in Japan. Its limpid water runs through woods, splashing against rocks, slowing, speeding up, and ever-changing. Follow its meandering trail to serene Lake Hijiri and its surrounding greenery. It takes 50 minutes to walk to Kurobuchi, and two and half hours to Sandankyo.



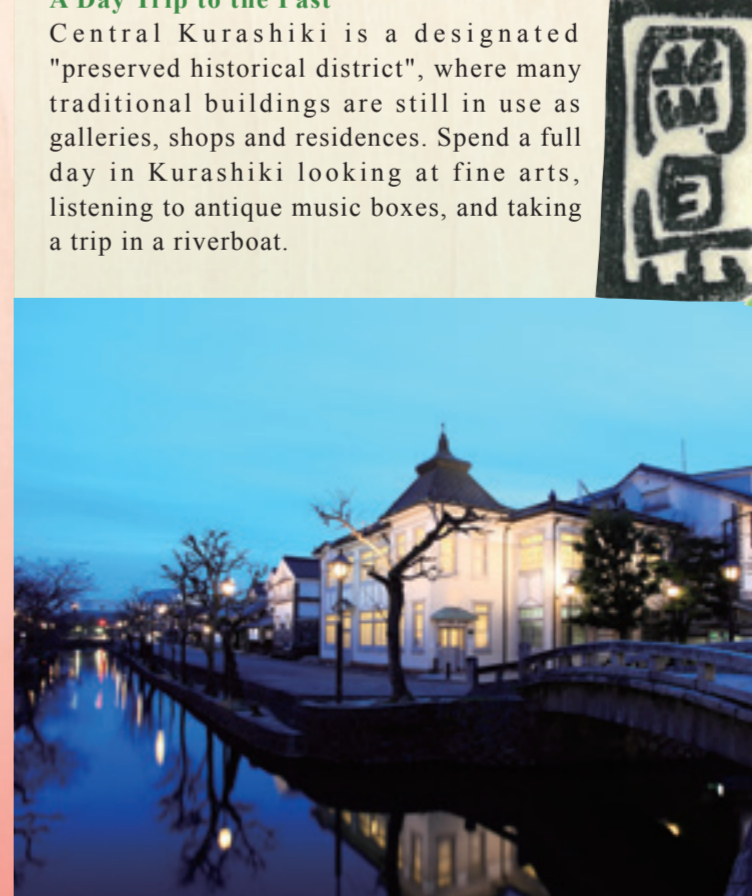
Five Highlights
Along the hiking trail there are five sights which shouldn't be missed: Nidan-daki (a double-tiered waterfall), Sandan-daki (a triple-tiered waterfall) and Mitsudaki (a three-segment waterfall) are noted for their scenic beauty. At Kurobuchi ("Black Depths") and Sarutobi ("Monkey Jump") the current is slow, and the eerie scenery can be taken in from small boats.



Onomichi/ Setouchi Shimanami Kaido
Cycling Across the Sea
Cross the Sea by Bicycle
The Shimanami Kaido Expressway was constructed for motorized vehicles, but also has lanes for cyclists and pedestrians. There are 15 terminals along the entire route from where bicycles can be rented. The concept of crossing the sea by bicycle attracts many visitors, and even the slowest cyclist can complete the route in ten hours, although you can finish at any point along the way.



Sparkling Sea Beyond Tiled Roofs
In Onomichi, myriads of temples and houses cling to the hillsides. Climb up the narrow, steep passages between houses or take the ropeway to the mountaintop Senkoji Temple, where the breathtaking view of the Seto Inland Sea unfolds beyond a row of traditional buildings with black roof tiles.



Kurashiki Bikan Historical Quarter
A Journey Back to Old Japan
History from 400 Years Ago Lives On
Kurashiki, a prosperous merchant town, was one of the feudal fiefdoms directly governed by the central Shogunate government due to its economic importance during the Edo era (1603-1868). Walk along the main street with its charming canal running alongside, and you can catch a glimpse of the history and culture that was nurtured by the local merchants and residents over generations.

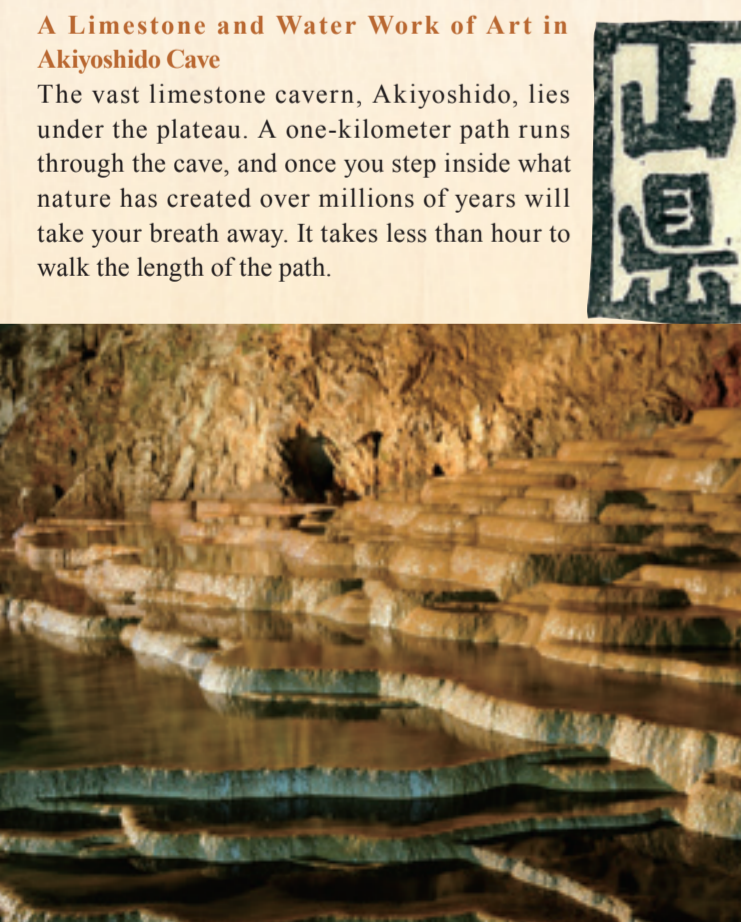


A Day Trip to the Past
Central Kurashiki is a designated "preserved historical district", where many traditional buildings are still in use as galleries, shops and residences. Spend a full day in Kurashiki looking at fine arts, listening to antique music boxes, and taking a trip in a riverboat.



Okayama Korakuen Garden
A Garden Where Feudal Lords Relaxed
"Borrowed Landscape" Garden
The garden epitomizes the samurai culture which flourished in the Genroku period (1688-1704). It took fourteen years to complete the garden, which was originally the private property of the local lord. One of the important features of the garden is its *shakkei* style (literally, "borrowed landscape"). The meticulous layout makes the adjacent Okayama Castle and faraway mountains look as if they are integral parts of the garden.

Kyokusui (meandering stream)
One of the essential elements of Japanese gardens is water. Korakuen, listed as one of the three most beautiful gardens in Japan, features a small canal, *kyokusui*, running gently through the middle of the garden. The water also flows through a rest house, *ryuten*. Take time out to relax while listening to the soothing sound of the water.



Kintai-kyo Bridge
Beauty and Strength in a Wooden Arch Bridge
Enduring Bridge Structure
Japanese engineering could be best described as the fruit of accumulated wood assembling technology, and Kintaikyo Bridge is a good example. Five wooden arch bridges span over solid stone abutments. The outstanding bridge-building technology originated in the Edo era (1603-1868) has been highly admired ever since. The bridge has been replaced regularly, ensuring the survival of the engineering skills and know-how.



Castle, Bridge and River in Harmony
On the top of the mountain located to the west of Kintaikyo Bridge is Iwakuni Castle. The gentle flow of the Nishiki River and the unique outline of Kintaikyo Bridge create a picturesque view. There is a ropeway to the top of mountain.



SHIMANE

6 Izumo Taisha Grand Shrine

Note Admission fee: free
Hours: 6:00 - 20:00
Open all year round.



Yasugi sta. → Adachi Museum of Art

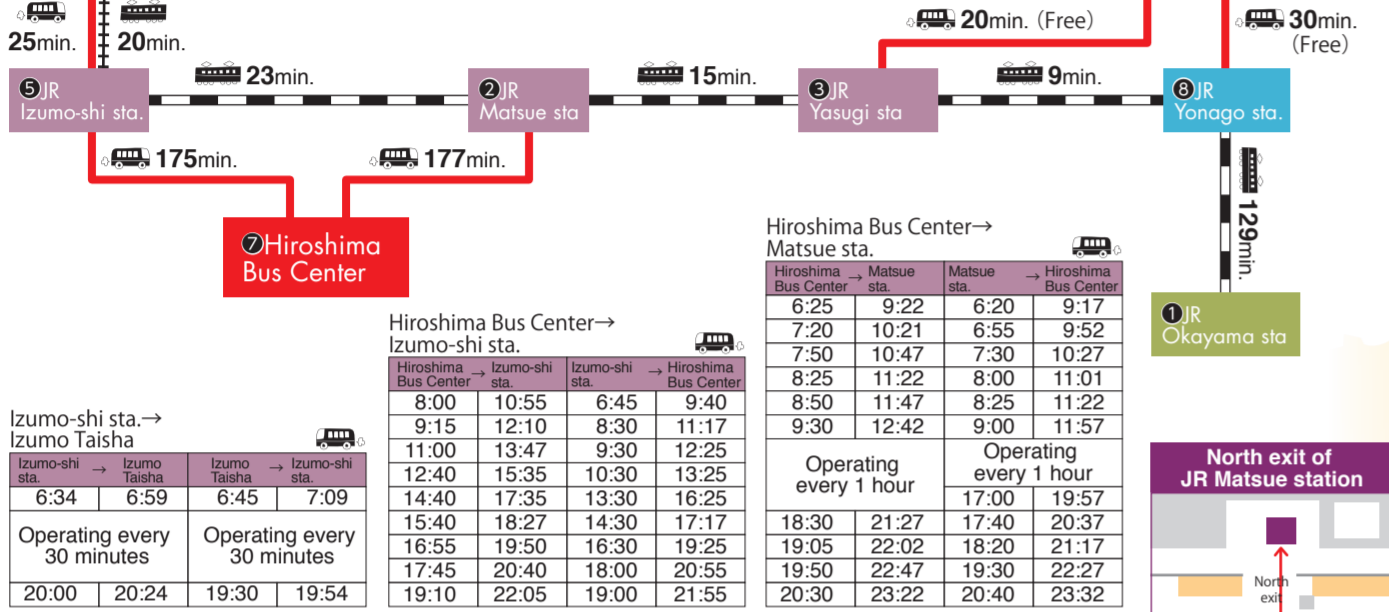
Yasugi sta.	Adachi Museum of Art	Adachi Museum of Art	Yasugi sta.
9:05	9:25	9:30	9:50
10:00	10:20	10:30	10:50
11:00	11:20	11:25	11:45
11:58	12:18	12:20	12:40
12:42	13:02	13:20	13:40
13:00	13:20	14:05	14:25
13:32	13:52	14:45	15:05
14:00	14:20	15:50	16:10
14:35	14:55	16:49	17:09
15:10	15:30		
16:15	16:35		

Yonago sta. → Adachi Museum of Art

Yonago sta.	Adachi Museum of Art	Adachi Museum of Art	Yonago sta.
12:25	13:02	11:20	11:50
13:15	13:52	12:20	12:50

4 Adachi Museum of Art

Note Adult admission: 2300 yen
<Discount for International Visitors>
※presentation of passport is required.
Adults:2300 yen→1150 yen
Hours: 9:00 - 17:30 (Apr. - Sep.)
9:00 - 17:00 (Oct. - Mar.)
Open all year round



1 Tourist Information Center

Matsue International Tourist Information Office
Address: In front of JR Matsue Station, 865 Asahimachi, Matsue City, Shimane
Phone: 0852-21-4034
Hours open to visitors: Open daily 9:00 - 18:00 (Nov. - May) and 9:00 - 19:00 (Jun. - Oct.)

For more information <http://www.kankou-shimane.com/en/>

Shin-Yamaguchi sta. → Akiyoshido Cave

Shin-Yamaguchi Sta.	Akiyoshido Cave	Akiyoshido Cave	Shin-Yamaguchi Sta.
7:40	8:23	6:45	7:28
10:00	10:43	7:45	8:28
11:55	12:38	8:35	9:18
13:10	13:53	11:35	12:18
14:30	15:13	13:30	14:13
15:40	16:23	14:40	15:23
16:35	17:18	16:40	17:23
17:40	18:23	18:00	18:43
18:55	19:38	18:40	19:23

Note Not in service on Sundays, national holidays or from December 29th to January 3rd
Not in service from December 29th to January 3rd

10 Akiyoshidai Plateau / Akiyoshido Cave



Shin-Iwakuni sta. → Kintai-kyo Bridge

Shin-Iwakuni sta.	Kintai-kyo Bridge	Iwakuni sta.	Iwakuni sta.	Kintai-kyo Bridge	Shin-Iwakuni sta.
6:10	6:30	6:00	6:19	6:30	6:30
6:15	6:33	6:15	6:33	6:33	6:33
7:20	7:33	7:53	6:25	6:40	6:52

Shin-Iwakuni sta. → Kintai-kyo Bridge

Shin-Iwakuni sta.	Kintai-kyo Bridge	Iwakuni sta.	Iwakuni sta.	Kintai-kyo Bridge	Shin-Iwakuni sta.
21:24	21:35	21:49	20:40	20:55	21:06
21:40	21:40	22:00	21:15	21:35	21:06
21:40	21:58	21:15	21:36	21:36	21:06

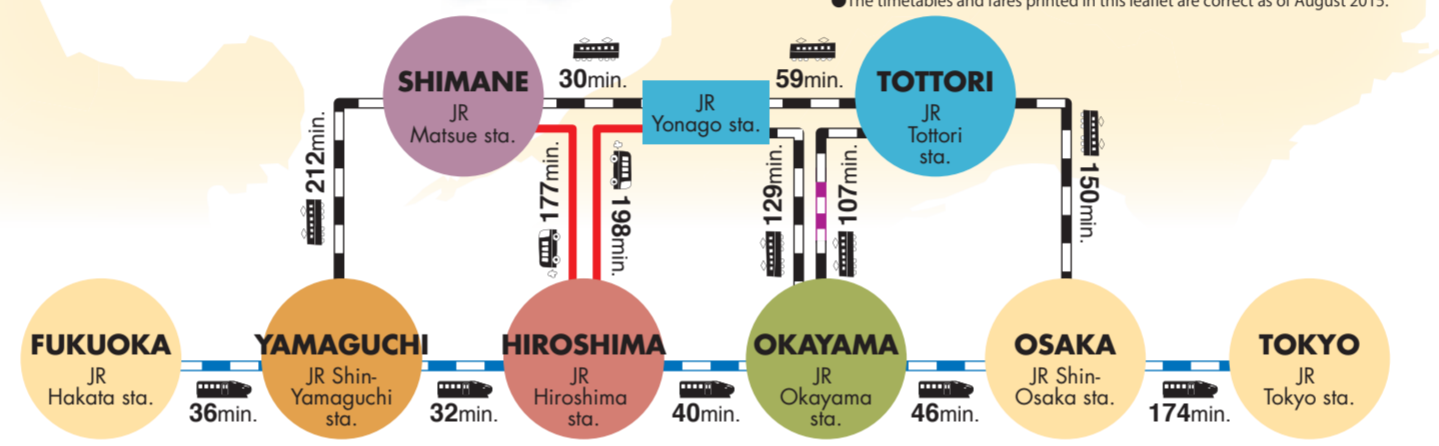
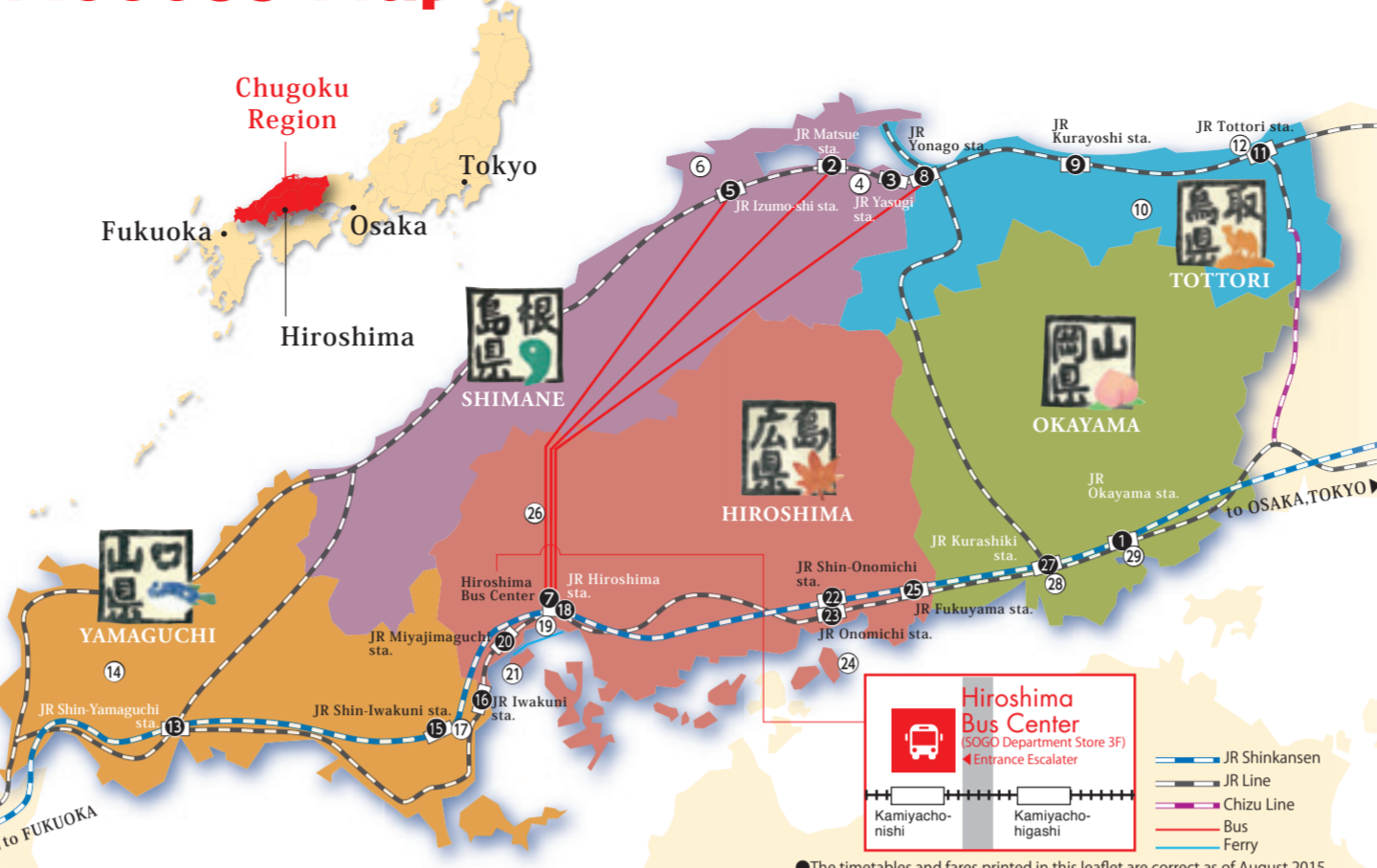
Shin-Yamaguchi Station Tourist Information Center

Address: Shinkansen Gate 2F, JR Shinyamaguchi Station, 1357 Ogorishimogo, Yamaguchi City, Yamaguchi
Phone: 083-972-6373
Hours open to visitors: Open daily 9:00 - 18:00

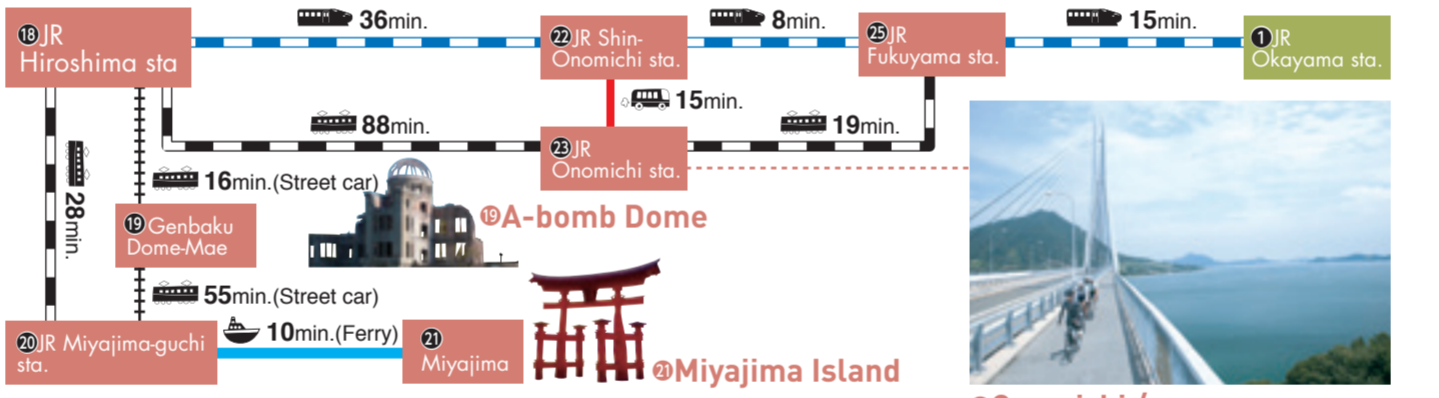
For more information <http://www.visit-iy.com/english/>

YAMAGUCHI

Access Map



For more information <http://www.chugoku-navi.jp/english/>

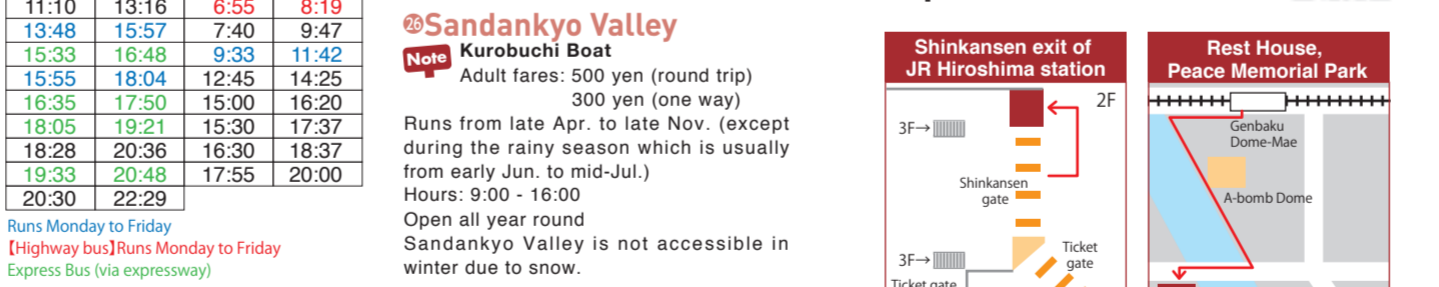


7 Hiroshima Bus Center

Address: Rest House, Peace Memorial Park, 1-1 Nakajima-cho, Naka-ku, Hiroshima City, Hiroshima
Phone: 082-261-1877
Hours open to visitors: Open daily 9:00 - 17:30 Scheduled to close during lunch time 12:30 - 13:30

Hiroshima City Tourist Information Center (Rest House, Peace Memorial Park)
Address: Rest House, Peace Memorial Park, 1-1 Nakajima-cho, Naka-ku, Hiroshima City, Hiroshima
Phone: 082-247-6738
Hours open to visitors: 8:30 - 18:00 (Apr. - Jul. Sep. - Nov. and Mar.) 8:30 - 19:00 (1 Aug. - 4 Aug. and 7 Aug. - 31 Aug.) 8:30 - 20:00 (5 Aug.) 7:30 - 20:00 (6 Aug.) 8:30 - 17:00 (Dec. - Feb.)

Onomichi Tourist Information
Address: 1-1 Higashigoshicho, Onomichi City, Hiroshima
Phone: 0848-20-0005
Hours open to visitors: 9:00 - 18:00 (Close 29 Dec. - 31 Dec.)



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Address: Rest House, Peace Memorial Park, 1-1 Nakajima-cho, Naka-ku, Hiroshima City, Hiroshima
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For more information <http://www.visit-hiroshima.net/>

HIROSHIMA

TOTTORI

10 Mitokusan Sanbutuji Temple "Nageiredo"

Note Adult admission: 600 yen
(including access to the mountain, worshipping, and entrance to the treasure house)
Hours: 8:00 - 15:00
Access to the mountain is prohibited in winter due to bad weather (usually Dec. - Mar.)
※Climbers should be properly equipped, with both hands free, and be in pairs or groups.



Kurayoshi sta. → Mitokusan Sando Iriguchi (mountain approach)

Kurayoshi sta.	Mitokusan Sando Iriguchi	Mitokusan Sando Iriguchi	Kurayoshi sta.
7:41	8:15	7:23	8:03
8:35	9:09	8:28	9:02
9:40	10:13	9:16	9:50
11:00	11:33	10:26	11:00
12:02	12:41	11:51	12:25
13:20	13:53	12:51	13:30
14:35	15:14	14:01	14:34
15:48	16:21	15:30	16:10
16:35	17:14	16:26	16:59
18:45	19:17	17:24	18:04

Hiroshima Bus Center → Yonago sta.

Hiroshima Bus Center	Yonago sta.	Yonago sta.	Hiroshima Bus Center
6:15	9:33	6:00	9:18
8:40	11:58	7:15	10:33
10:05	13:23	8:30	11:48
13:50	17:08	12:15	15:33
16:40	19:58	15:15	18:33
18:20	21:38	17:00	20:18
19:55	23:13	19:00	22:18

7 Hiroshima Bus Center

Address: About 70m walk to the east from JR Tottori Station North Gate 111-1 Higashihonjo-cho, Tottori City, Tottori
Phone: 0857-22-7935
Hours open to visitors: 8:30 - 17:30 (Close 31 Dec. and 1 Jan.)

1 Tourist Information Center

10 Tottori City International Tourist Support Center

Address: About 70m walk to the east from JR Tottori Station North Gate 111-1 Higashihonjo-cho, Tottori City, Tottori
Phone: 0857-22-7935
Hours open to visitors: 8:30 - 17:30 (Close 31 Dec. and 1 Jan.)

For more information <http://www.tottori-tour.jp/en/>

20 Okayama Korakuen Garden

Note Adult admission: 400 yen
Hours: 7:30 - 18:00 (20 Mar. - 30 Sep.) ※Last admission 17:45.
8:00 - 17:00 (1 Oct. - 19 Mar.) ※Last admission 16:45.
Open all year round
※Opening hours are subject to change for special events.



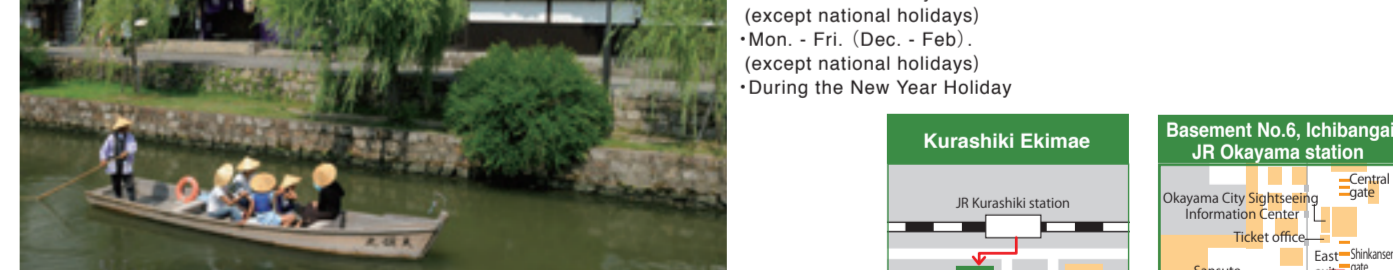
18 JR Hiroshima sta.

Address: Kurashiki City Plaza 2F, 1-7-2 Achi, Kurashiki City, Okayama
Phone: 086-424-1220
Hours open to visitors: 9:00 - 18:00 (Nov. - Mar.) and 9:00 - 19:00 (Apr. - Oct.) (Close 29 Dec. - 31 Dec.)

Kurashiki Ekimae Tourist Information Office
Address: Kurashiki City Plaza 2F, 1-7-2 Achi, Kurashiki City, Okayama
Phone: 086-424-1220
Hours open to visitors: 9:00 - 18:00 (Nov. - Mar.) and 9:00 - 19:00 (Apr. - Oct.) (Close 29 Dec. - 31 Dec.)

Momotaro Tourist Information Center
Address: Basement No.6, Ichibangai Ekimotomachi, Kita-ku, Okayama City, Okayama
Phone: 086-222-2912
Hours open to visitors: Open daily 9:00 - 20:00.

For more information <http://www.okayama-japan.jp/en/>



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Hours open to visitors: Open daily 9:00 - 20:00.

For more information <http://www.okayama-japan.jp/en/>

OKAYAMA