Shimane

Discount Information for International Visitors

We hope to see you soon and dan-dan!

*dan-dan = “thank you” in the local dialect

Shimane International Tourism Association
(Shimane Prefectural Government)
Revised March 2019

ACCESS
1 Tonomachi, Matsue City, Shimane, 690-8501 JAPAN
Tel. 0852-22-5579 / Fax. 0852-22-5580
kanko-inbound@pref.shimane.lg.jp
Take the unbeaten path to an adventure in the unfamiliar Japan. Shimane is an area shrouded in mystery and mythology with deep roots in history and tradition. Explore the Japanese garden that sits at #1 in all of Japan, one of the most ancient Shinto shrines in Japan, 1 of 5 original castles to be designated a National Treasure, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, a UNESCO Global Geopark, the world’s biggest hourglass, and onsens that the gods themselves bathe in.... The journey awaits in the mysterious land of “en”.

YŌKOSO SHIMANE!

Summer
Have an island adventure at Oki Islands. Hike a ridgeline, take a swim at a beach, and watch the sun set over Candle Island. Visit the gardens of Adachi Museum of Art that have been ranked No. 1 in all of Japan since 2003. Watch 10,000 fireworks launch over Lake Shinji for the Suigosai fireworks festival.

Fall
Visit Izumo Taisha Grand Shrine during “Kamiarizuki” (The Month of the Gods) and pray to the myriad gods that are visiting. Ride on the Horikawa Sightseeing Boat tour around Matsue Castle’s moats lit up with handmade lanterns. Watch the fiery performances of Iwami Kagura at local shrines in Iwami.

Winter
Eat fresh snow crab at a one month long temporary Crab Shack called Kanigoya in Matsue. Dip in the waters of Tamatsukuri Onsen and pray for beautiful skin. Ski and snowboard at some of the best spots in the region on the mountain ridge that separates Shimane and Hiroshima. Take a stroll with the penguins through Matsue Vogel Park’s illuminated gardens.

Spring
Walk under 800 Sakura trees that line the Hii River in Uman. Visit Yuushien Garden and check out 30,000 peonies floating on the surface of the pond. Watch a parade of dressed up samurai, including the founders of Matsue Castle, in the “Matsue Musha Gyoretsu”.

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Please present valid Passport/Residence Card upon entry at ticket office for discount.

* For discounts on international students and young children, please refer to each facility's page.
* Groups are admitted as individuals and are not eligible for additional discounts.

Shimane Prefecture

- The Izumo Museum of Quilt Art (Permanent Exhibition)
- Shimane Art Museum (Special Exhibition)
- Nima Sand Museum
- Iwami Art Museum (Special Exhibition)
- The Shimane Nature Museum of Mt. Sanbe “Sahimel”

Hiroshima Prefecture

- LaFavidia Hearn’s Former Residence
- LaFavidia Hearn Memorial Museum
- Meimei-an Tea House
- Geissenji Temple
- Shimane Art Museum (Special Exhibition)
- Former Kawashima Residence

Note: Prices as of Mar. 2019

For additional discounts, please contact each facility directly.
Adachi Museum of Art
足立美術館

Conveying the harmonized beauty of Japanese paintings and Japanese Gardens is the aim and wish of Adachi Museum of Art, which is best known for having one of the greatest collections of modern to contemporary Japanese arts. Such works of art include numerous masterpieces by the great Japanese painter Yokoyama Taikan, ceramics and 165,000 square-metre Japanese gardens. This museum is listed as a three-star site in the Michelin Green Guide Japan while Adachi’s spectacular and immaculately maintained Japanese-style gardens have been ranked at No.1 for more than 10 years in a row since 2003 by the US magazine Journal of Japanese Gardens. You can appreciate the splendid beauty of their gardens which show a different appearance as time / days / months / seasons change.

320, Furukawacho, Yasugi City
0854-28-7111

http://www.adachi-museum.or.jp/en (EN)

[Apr. - Sep.] 9am – 5:30pm
[Oct. - Mar.] 9am – 5pm
Open 7 days a week

The Annex closes once every few months to change exhibits.

Discounted Admission
Adults: ¥1,150
University Students: ¥900
High School Students: ¥500
Elementary/Junior High School Students: ¥250

Access
Free Shuttle: 20min from JR
Yasugi Sta.
VISA / MasterCard / JCB / AMEX / Diners
EN / KR / 簡 / 繁

Yasugibushi Hall
安来節演芸館

Yasugibushi, one of the most popular folk songs in Japan, is still performed every day at the heart of its origin. You can enjoy live vivid performances of Yasugibushi, Zenidaiko (two decorated bamboo sticks for performance) and Dojou-sukui (comical and humorous folk dance associated with Yasugibushi). At the end of each show, 5 people from the audience can join in a Dojou-sukui dance workshop on the stage! All the clothes and props are provided to these 5 before the show. So come and join the merry traditional folk dance which will make you leave with jolly laughter and a happy smile on your face!

534, Furukawacho, Yasugi City
0854-28-9500

http://www.y-engeikan.com (JP)

10am – 5pm
Show timetable (Each show is 30min):
10:30am~ / 11:40am~ / 1:30pm~ / 3:30pm~
*Schedule subject to change due to reserved shows for private groups etc., please inquire in advance.
Closed every Wed. (only first Wed. closed for months of May, Oct. & Nov.)
Closed every Wed. (only first Wed. closed for months of May, Oct. & Nov.)

Discounted Admission
Adults: ¥300
Elementary/Junior High School Students: ¥150

Access
25min via local bus from JR
Yasugi Sta.
50min from Yonago Airport
10min from Yasugi IC. on San-in EXPWY

EN / CH / SP
Matsue
松江

Squeezed between two lakes, the Sea of Japan and a mountain ridgeline, lies the capital of Shimane. Blessed with a natural hot spring, Tamatsukuri Onsen is one of the oldest hot spring areas in Japan and cultists to be where the gods themselves go to bathe. Lake Shinji contains seven delicacies and is said to be good for the skin. Matsue has deep roots in tea ceremony culture and you can drink green tea at a tea house which overlooks Matsue Castle. You can also enjoy a "wagashi" tasting at Karakoro Art Studio.

3 Matsue Castle
松江城 (国宝)

Constructed over a period of 5 years from 1607 to 1611 by Yoshihira Hori, a feudal lord and founder of Matsue. Currently it is one of the only 12 remaining original castles in Japan and the only one in the San’in region. It was designated National Treasure in 2015. The elegance of the castle’s swooping roofs and decor is often compared to the wings of a ‘chidori’ (plover bird) which has led to the castle’s nickname, ‘Chidori-jo’ (Plover Castle). The castle features an architectural design specifically chosen for battle, but retains a grand majestic appearance.

Discounted Admission
Adults: ¥330
Elementary/Junior High School Students: ¥140

Access
10min via Matsue Lakeline Bus from JR Matsue Sta. to ‘Matsue Castle’ bus stop.
30min (2km) from JR Matsue Sta.

Wi-Fi

4 Horikawa Sightseeing Boat
隅川観光船

This small passenger boat will take you through the history, nature and people of Matsue. The moats surrounding Matsue Castle (National Treasure) remain unchanged from when it was first constructed over 400 years ago. This 50 min sightseeing boat guides you along the moats through the historical Japanese townscape of the castle town Matsue, the places related to Lafcadio Hearn, forests which have been there 400 years since the construction of the castle, charming changes of seasons and the beauty of moats itself.

Discounted Admission
Adults: ¥1,200
Elementary School Students: ¥600

Access

Lakeline Bus
For sightseeing around Matsue, the charming retro-styled Lakeline bus is a convenient option. It starts from JR Matsue Sta. bus stop (⑦) and allows passengers to get off along the route at places they wish to visit.

Area Map

Lakeline bus route

Lake Shinji Pleasure Cruise

Operates 7 days a week (Operation may be cancelled/changed due to bad weather.)

Open 7 days a week
5 Matsue History Museum

 Designed to resemble a samurai residence, the museum features an in-depth view of the history and culture of the castle town Matsue over its 400 year history. As a museum with national treasures, one of its collections contain the talismans (also designated as a National Treasure), showing the completion year of Matsue Castle’s construction. There is a Japanese style café inside the museum that provides a view of the Japanese garden and visitors can enjoy the tastes of green tea with original wagashi confectionaries. Foreign language audio-guides are available for free in English/Mandarin Chinese/Korean.

Discounted Admission

- Museum Collection:
  - Adults: ¥250
  - Elementary/Junior High School Students: ¥130

Special Exhibitions: *rates vary according to exhibition

Access

- JR Matsue Sta.
- 13min via Matsue Lakeline Bus from JR Matsue Sta.
- Located just east of Matsue Castle. 30min (2.3km) from JR Matsue Sta.
- 3min walk from Otemae Car Parking.
- Wi-Fi

6 Matsue Horan-enya Memorial Hall

 This year (2019), a procession of a hundred luxuriously decorated boats filled with performers dressed in colorful costumes sing and dance as they sail through Matsue. This local festival is called Horan-enya, a Shinto ritual with 370 years of history and one of the three largest boat festivals in Japan. This festival is only held every 10 years. This museum was built in hopes to keep this significant tradition alive and teach people about this rarely occurring festival. It provides information on the origin and history of Horan-enya while including exhibits of the colorful costumes and boats with pictures and videos of past events. If you have the pocket curator app on your phone you can view the descriptions in many other languages. A must visit for people planning on attending the Horan-enya 2019 festival!

Discounted Admission

- Adults: ¥100
- Elementary/Junior High School Students: ¥50

Access

- 13min via Matsue Lakeline bus from JR Matsue Sta. to ‘Otemae Horikawa Sightseeing Boat Pier’ bus stop. Then walk 3min.
- Located just east of Matsue Castle. 30min (2.3km) from JR Matsue Sta.
- 3min walk from Otemae Car Parking.
- Wi-Fi

7 Former Samurai Residence

 Former Samurai Residence

 This former samurai residence was for middle-class samurais of the Matsue clan during the Edo period. Katana drawers, a teeth-blackening dye set, household furniture and livingware are also on display. Compared to the grand structure and interior of the public area (entrance, drawing room and master’s living room), the private area for family was quite simple and modest. One can have a glimpse of the samurai’s way of living; drawing a sharp line between their public and private life.

Discounted Admission

- Adults: ¥150
- Elementary/Junior High School Students: ¥80

Access

- 305 Kitarohincho, Matsue City
- JR Matsue Sta.
- 16min via Matsue Lakeline Bus from JR Matsue Sta. to ‘Lafcadio Hearn Memorial Museum’ bus stop.
- 3min walk from JR Matsue Sta.
- 9min walk from Otemae Car Parking or 10min walk from Jozan-nishi Car Parking.
- Wi-Fi

8 Lafcadio Hearn’s Former Residence

 Former Residence

 Lafcadio Hearn, who internationally introduced Japan in the Meiji period, lived in this simple but beautiful samurai residence with his wife, Setsu, for 6 months from June 1891. The house and gardens have been preserved as they were during his time here. The beautiful Japanese garden surrounding the residence was particularly Hearn’s favourite.

Discounted Admission

- Adults: ¥100
- Elementary/Junior High School Students: ¥50

Access

- 13min via Matsue Lakeline Bus from JR Matsue Sta. to ‘Lafcadio Hearn Memorial Museum’ bus stop.
- 35min (2.5km) from JR Matsue Sta.
- 9min walk from Otemae Car Parking or 10min walk from Jozan-nishi Car Parking.
- Wi-Fi

9 Matsue Castle

 Matsue Castle

 One can have a glimpse of the samurai’s way of living; drawing a sharp line between their public and private life.

Discounted Admission

- Adults: ¥250
- Elementary/Junior High School Students: ¥130

Access

- JR Matsue Sta.
- 13min via Matsue Lakeline Bus from JR Matsue Sta. to ‘Otemae Horikawa Sightseeing Boat Pier’ bus stop. Then walk 3min.
- Located just east of Matsue Castle. 30min (2.3km) from JR Matsue Sta.
- 3min walk from Otemae Car Parking.
- Wi-Fi

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Discounted Admission

- Adults: ¥150
- Elementary/Junior High School Students: ¥80

Access

- 305 Kitarohincho, Matsue City
- JR Matsue Sta.
- 16min via Matsue Lakeline Bus from JR Matsue Sta. to ‘Lafcadio Hearn Memorial Museum’ bus stop.
- 3min walk from JR Matsue Sta.
- 9min walk from Otemae Car Parking or 10min walk from Jozan-nishi Car Parking.
- Wi-Fi
9 Lafcadio Hearn Memorial Museum

Lafcadio Hearn, a British man with Irish and Greek parents, came to Japan in 1890. He is best known with his books about Japan and introduced Matsue to the world through many writings such as the famous "Glimpses of Unfamiliar Japan". This museum houses more than 1,000 collections such as Hearn's handwritten drafts, his belongings and the handmade English vocabulary book that Setsu, Hearn’s wife, made etc. His favourite Japanese pipes and desk make visitors imagine the days the literary legend, Lafcadio Hearn, was at work. The museum was renovated in July 2016.

Access
- "Shiomi Nawate" bus stop. Then walk 5min.
- 35min (2.7km) from JR Matsue Sta.
- [Oct. - Sep.] 10am – vary *30min after sunset time
- Closed every Tue., New Year Holidays

Discounted Admission
- Adults: ¥250
- Junior High/High School Students: ¥150
- Elementary School Students: ¥125

10 Meimei-an Tea House

Designed to the taste of the 7th feudal lord of Matsue, Harusato Matsudaira (Fumai), Meimei-an Tea House sets on a low hill and is renowned for its thickly thatched East Asian hip-and-gable roof with a superb view of Matsue Castle. Fumai was a famed tea master in the late 18th century and developed the Fumai-ryu style of tea ceremony. Green tea and wagashi (Japanese confectionary) are served in the adjoining tea room while enjoying the view over the tea house and gardens.

Discounted Admission
- Adults: ¥200
- Elementary/Junior High School Students: ¥100

Access
- 15min via Matsue Lakeline Bus from JR Matsue Sta. to 'Shiomi Nawate' bus stop. Then walk 5min.
- 35min (2.7km) from JR Matsue Sta.
- Open 7 days a week

11 Gesshoji Temple

Gesshoji Temple, the ‘Temple of Moonlight’, is the family temple of the Matsudaira clan, the feudal lords of the Matsue domain during the Edo period. Inside the temple precincts, being designated a national historical site, are many relics and artifacts such as 'Karan-mon' (Chinese-style gate), a large turtle sculpture featured in the writings of Lafcadio Hearn and a tea room that was used by Matsudaira Fumai himself. Gesshoji temple is popular among people as the temple of history and faith. During mid-June to mid-July, beautiful hydrangeas bloom inside the temple. Many people come to enjoy the flowers in the quiet serene historical atmosphere.

Access
- JR Matsue Sta. to ‘Kensetsu Bijutsukan-mae’ bus stop.
- 15min via Matsue Lakeline Bus from Ichibata Railway Matsue Shinjiro Onsen Sta. to ‘Kensetsu Bijutsukan-mae’ bus stop.
- 15min from JR Matsue Sta.
- Parking locates at Route9 Sodeshi Intersection South side (230 cars / Free up to 3hrs).

Discounted Admission
- Adults: ¥200 / University Students: ¥150 / Elementary/Junior/High/ High School Students: ¥100
- *rates vary according to exhibition
- Special Exhibitions:
  - [Mar. - Sep.] 10am – vary *30min after sunset time
  - Closed every Tue., New Year Holidays

12 Shimane Art Museum

Located on the shore of Lake Shinji, this museum’s main concept is harmony with water. Many of their collections are related to water and the Museum Collection changes about 40 times a year. The splendid sunset seen from this museum is selected as one of the 100 most beautiful sunsets in Japan. They remain open 30 min. after sunset time during Mar. to Sep. so that visitors can enjoy and admire the marvellous view to their heart’s content.

Access
- JR Matsue Sta. to 'Kenritsu Bijutsukan-mae' bus stop.
- Parking locates at Route9 Sodeshi Intersection South side (230 cars / Free up to 3hrs).

Discounted Admission
- * Only at Museum Shop
13 Lake Shinji Pleasure Cruise

Leisurely watch the grand sunset over beautiful Lake Shinji and have the magnificent view all to yourself. The boat takes you on a one-hour pleasure tour around Lake Shinji from Otadai River. Passengers can appreciate the mystic scenery of morning Lake Shinji on the refreshing Socho Fresh Cruising. Sunset Cruise is particularly popular which offers the opportunity to watch a beautiful sunset over Lake Shinji - the sunset is listed as one of the top 100 sunsets in Japan. Why don’t you come and enjoy amazing cruise in the water city of Matsue? Beer, soft drinks and coffee are available on board.

- Access
  - 15min from JR Matsue Sta. (Boarding Point 1)
  - Available
  - 5min from JR Matsue Sta. (Boarding Point 2)
- Discounted Admission
  - Adults: ¥1,000
  - Elementary School Students: ¥500

14 Yuushien Garden

Yuushien, a ‘miniature garden of Izumo’, featuring landscapes and mythology of Izumo area, is a traditional Japanese-style walk-through garden around ponds. It is located in the centre of Daikonshima Island. Visitors can enjoy prominent peony flowers which can be viewed all year round as well as the many colours of the various seasonal flowers. Daikonshima is globally renowned as a growing area for Korean ginseng. You can also try a free-tasting of ginseng tea at the ginseng office that was restored from the Edo period. Come and experience the long cultural history of Daikonshima.

- Access
  - 12min from JR Matsue Sta. / 8min from JR Yonago Sta. / 12min from Nishio IC. on San-in EXPWY. (Matsue-Sakaiminato direct route) to ‘Yuushien’.
- Discounted Admission
  - Adults: ¥1,050
  - Elementary/Junior High School Students: ¥700

15 Matsue Vogel Park

A paradise of birds and flowers along a beautiful lakeside of Lake Shinji, Matsue Vogel Park offers great fun whether rain or shine with its walking course around the park completely covered by a roof. They have one of the largest flower greenhouses in Japan. Inside the greenhouse, focusing on begonia and fuchsia, about 10,000 flowers are in full bloom all year round. In the bird section, visitors can encounter 400 birds of 90 species such as rare owls, adorable cute penguins and other bright and colourful tropical birds.

- Access
  - 16min via Ichibata Electric Railway from Matsue Shinjiko Onsen Sta. to Matsue Vogel Park Sta.
  - 25min from JR Matsue Sta. or Izumo En-musubi Airport / 250 cars (Free up to 2hrs. After that, 200yen/h for regular vehicle.)
- Discounted Admission
  - Adults: ¥1,050
  - Elementary/Junior High School Students: ¥700

16 Yakumo-tatsu Fudoki-no-oka (Izumo Ancient Remains)

The area around Fudoki-no-oka was the centre of ancient Izumo. There are a lot of cultural assets such as ancient tombs, old shrines and temples, related to ancient Izumo including the Izumo-kokubunji Memorial and Izumo Provincial Office Memorial. The Exhibition and Learning Hall has many materials including ‘Mikaeri-no-shika’ (deer clay figure / Important Cultural Property), a historically valuable sword inscribed ‘Nakatabe-no-emi’ made in 6th century and a detailed diorama of this area in 8th century. Free bicycles are available to explore around historic remains in this area.

- Access
  - 18min via Ichibata Electric Railway from Matsue Shinjiko Onsen Sta. to ‘Fudoki-no-oka Iriguchi’ bus stop.
- Discounted Admission
  - Adults: ¥1,000
  - Elementary/Junior High School Students: ¥700

Japanese Peony and Korean Ginseng Village

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- Access
  - 12min from JR Matsue Sta. / 8min from JR Yonago Sta. / 12min from Nishio IC. on San-in EXPWY. (Matsue-Sakaiminato direct route) to ‘Yuushien’.
- Discounted Admission
  - Adults: ¥1,050
  - Elementary/Junior High School Students: ¥700

 Теплица с бегонией и фуксиями в Якумо-Татсу.

Якумо-Татсу - это крупнейший в Японии оранжерейный комплекс с уникальными коллекциями растений, в том числе бегонией и фуксиями. Здешние посетители могут полюбоваться на разнообразие цветов во время всей циклической жизни, а также на уникальную коллекцию птиц, включая редких сов и очаровательных пингвинов. Район вокруг Якумо-Татсу известен как место древних могил и храмов, связанных с Ицумо. В Экспозиции и Обучающем зале представлены предметы искусства и культурные объекты, такие как ‘Микаэрино-шика’ (скульптура из глины в виде оленя / Императорское культурное достояние), изготовленная в 6 веке, и детальная диорама этой местности в 8 веке. Также доступны велосипеды для прогулок по историческим местам региона.

- Access
  - 18min via Ichibata Electric Railway from Matsue Shinjiko Onsen Sta. to ‘Fudoki-no-oka Iriguchi’ bus stop.
- Discounted Admission
  - Adults: ¥1,050
  - Elementary/Junior High School Students: ¥700
The land of the gods and their meeting place every 10th month of the lunar calendar. Popularly known for Izumo Taisha Grand Shrine where the god of "en" (the ties that bind us together) is enshrined. A local delicacy which also happens to be one of the three major varieties of soba in Izumo is Izumo soba, which is traditionally eaten in a three-tier lunch box style. Climb to the top of the oldest stone masonry lighthouse in Japan which sits overlooking the Sea of Japan.

Discounted Admission

Permanent Exhibition:
Adults: ¥300 (~2019.9.30) → ¥310 (2019.10.1~)
University Students: ¥200
Elementary/Junior High/High School Students: ¥100
*rates vary according to exhibition

Access
25min via Ichibata Bus (bound for Izumo Taisha Grand Shrine/ Hinomisaki) from Bus Stop No.1 at JR Izumoshi Sta. to 'Seimon-mae' bus stop. Then walk 2min.
10min walk from Ichibata Railway Izumo Taisha-mae Sta.
P 244 cars

18 Tezen Museum

Opened in April 1993, Tezen Museum’s main exhibits are art works and traditional crafts from the Izumo region. In the museum collection, hundreds of works are on display ranging from arts and crafts (pottery, lacquer ware, metalwork, woodwork etc.) full of local colours to the more daily living ware. The museum building was a former sake storehouse and rice storehouse built in the Edo period. Enjoy your time here while appreciating the artworks and surrounding garden in the quiet atmosphere between storehouses.

Discounted Admission

Adults: ¥300
Elementary/Junior High/High School Students: ¥200

Access
30min via Ichibata Bus (bound for Izumo Taisha Grand Shrine/ Hinomisaki) from bus stop ① at JR Izumoshi Sta. to ‘Izumo Taisha Renrakusho’ bus stop. Then walk 10min.
15min walk from Ichibata Railway Izumo Taisha-mae Sta.
P 30cars

17 Shimane Museum of Ancient Izumo

Located next to Izumo Taisha Grand Shrine, this museum introduces the history and culture of ancient Izumo and Izumo Taisha Grand Shrine. The collection includes the largest amount of ancient bronze swords and bronze bell-shaped vessels (National Treasures) which were excavated in tremendous scales from two sites in Izumo. It also houses the Uzubashira Pillar, a huge pillar found in the ruins of the Izumo Taisha Grand Shrine, and a 1/10 scale model of the main hall of ancient Izumo Taisha Grand Shrine that was said to be as high as 48m.

Discounted Admission

Permanent Exhibition:
Adults: ¥300 (~2019.9.30) → ¥310 (2019.10.1~)
University Students: ¥200
Elementary/Junior High/High School Students: ¥100
Special Exhibitions: 50% discount.
*rates vary according to exhibition

Access
25min via Ichibata Bus (bound for Izumo Taisha Grand Shrine/ Hinomisaki) from bus stop ① at JR Izumoshi Sta. to ‘Izumo Taisha Renrakusho’ bus stop. Then walk 10min.
15min walk from Ichibata Railway Izumo Taisha-mae Sta.
P 30cars

Area Map
Discounted Admission
Adults: ¥490 / Elementary/Junior High/High School Students: ¥350

Access
20min from JR Izumoshi Sta.
10min from JR Naoe Sta.
7min from Izumo Airport.

VISA / MasterCard / JCB / AMEX

EN

The Izumo Museum of Quilt Art
出雲キルト美術館

Situated in the middle of Izumo Plain filled with rich nature, the Izumo Museum of Quilt Art opened its door as the first quilt museum in Japan. The museum is set in a 200-year-old Japanese traditional house constructed of Izumo style. Quilt works produced by Mutsuko Yawatagaki who is a leading expert on Japanese style quilting are displayed alongside ‘ikebana’ (flower arrangements), seasonal room decorations and the four seasonal themed exhibitions per year. Passing down the culture of Izumo and the Japanese spirit to the next generation is the main concept of this museum through its space, atmosphere and aesthetic beauty of the setting of the museum.

873-8, Kanba, Hikawa-cho, Izumo City 0853-72-7146
http://www.yawatagaki.com/qm/english/about_qm.html (EN)

10am – 5pm
Closed every Wed. and 3rd Sun. of the month (open on holidays)

The Izumo Museum of Quilt Art is located in the middle of Izumo Plain, renowned for its rich nature. This museum, established as Japan’s first quilt museum, showcases quilt works by the renowned artist Mutsuko Yawatagaki, emphasizing traditional Japanese aesthetics and culture.

Archaeological Museum of Kojindani
荒神谷博物館

In July of 1984, 358 bronze swords were excavated at the Kojindani Site. The number of swords found in one site exceeds the total number of bronze swords excavated nationwide to date. In the following year, bronze bell-shaped vessels and spearheads were also excavated from the site, which made a huge impact on the history of ancient times. These bronze implements are designated as a National Treasure. It can be said that this museum is a great compilation of the results of surveys and research at the mysterious Kojindani site.

830, Fukutomi, Hikawa-cho, Izumo City 0853-72-9044
http://www.kojindani.jp/ (JP)

9am – 5pm (Last admission at 4:30pm)
Closed every Tue. (Wed. if Tue. is a holiday), Dec. 29 ~ Jan. 3

The Archaeological Museum of Kojindani displays artifacts from the Kojindani Site, including 358 bronze swords and bell-shaped vessels, highlighting the rich history and cultural significance of the area.

The Iwami region lies in the west of Shimane, stretching from the mountains to the sea with an abundance of nature and deep roots in tradition. To the west of the town is a town called Tsuwano, or “little Kyoto,” where Koi Carp filled canals and white plastered walls remain from its old castle town days. Visit the 700-year-old Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine, globally known for producing high-quality Japanese silver which made up 1/3 of the world’s silver supply, and the town that was built around it which includes the therapeutic waters of Yunotsu Onsen; both are registered as UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Take a stroll through a region full of history and tradition.

UNESCO World Heritage Site
Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine and its Cultural Landscape
ユネスコ世界遺産 石見銀山遺跡とその文化的景観

The Iwami region is known for its rich history and cultural landmarks, underlined by the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine, which has been a crucial source of high-quality silver for centuries.
21 Iwami Ginzan World Heritage Center

Serving as the introductory entrance of Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine districts, this museum features exhibits and simple dioramas that clearly provide an overall perspective about Iwami Ginzan to the visitors. A fun short play by museum staff introducing the life of miner families in the Iwami Ginzan in the Edo period is held from time to time. Visitors can join workshop of making Chogin, one of the silver coins used during 16th to 19th century in Japan, using an alloy of tin and bismuth. (Reservation is required to join workshops)

22 Ryugenji Mabu Mine Shaft

During the middle of Edo period, silver was massively produced in the Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine. These mine shafts are known as 'mabu' and there are over 700 of them in various sizes in this area. Ryugenji Mabu was operated under the direct management of the magistrate’s office. Visitors can walk inside of the tunnel and the rough chisel marks made by miners in the Edo period can still be seen clearly on the walls. We recommend taking a relaxing 40 min walk along the beautiful stream in the forest as you go between the mining shaft and Omori town.

23 Rakanji Temple & Gohyaku-rakan

This temple was founded in 1764 for the repose of the souls of the people who had worked at the Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine. There are caves across the river in front of the temple. Enshrined inside the caves carved into the rocky mountain are Buddhist statues with 500 hand-carved stone arhat figures that were made over the course of about 25 years. Each is engraved with different expression and it is said that you can surely find an arhat figure which looks similar to a lost loved one. Everything, the three stone bridges, small stream, etc., survives today unchanged.

24 Former Kawashima Residence

The Kawashima family, who had become a head of Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine officials, built this house in the beginning of 1800. The characteristics of a samurai residence such as placements and room arrangements are well preserved. It enables visitors to get a glimpse of the daily life of a samurai. Visitors can also enjoy the display of how things were stored and a recreated scene of dinner time for a samurai family.

Discounted Admission
Adults: ¥100
Elementary/Junior High School Students: Free
Access
30min by local bus from JR Odashi Sta. to 'Onomi' bus stop
Closed on New Year Holidays
25 House of the Kumagai Family

熊谷家住宅 (重要文化財)

The Kumagai family was the largest merchant in Omori. The family was involved in the management of the silver mine and became a purveyor under the Tokugawa government patronage. Running such finance businesses, sake breweries, and etc., they enjoyed prosperity, as the ruling merchant in the 19th century. It is worth seeing not only the historic architecture and historical associations with the Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine but also its furniture, garments and other household articles that change with each season. ‘Kamado-no-hi’ (Cooking Stove Day), a unique opportunity to experience the old Japanese lifestyle, is held every second Sunday of the month.

63, Ha, Omoricho, Ohda City 0854-89-9003
http://kumagai.city.ohda.lg.jp/ (JP)
9:30am – 5pm (Last admission at 4:30pm)
Closed every Tue.

26 Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine Museum

(Former Magistrate’s Office)

石見銀山資料館

The place was once the estate of Tokugawa Shogunate mine administrators. This museum houses many historical materials ranging from the valuable materials of Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine, mining and smelting tools which were actually used in the mine, materials representing life and worship of samurai and Tokugawa Shogunate mine administrators, to various ores from various mines across Japan. The current building was built in 1902 as the Nima District Office, but remains being used as a museum today.

51-1, Ha, Omoricho, Ohda City 0854-89-0846
http://fish.miracle.ne.jp/silver/english/index.html (EN)
9am – 5pm (Last admission at 4:30pm)
Closed every Wed., New Year Holidays

27 Nima Sand Museum

仁摩サンドミュージアム

‘Sand’, ‘Time’ and ‘Environment’ are the three main concepts of this sand museum. The museum, designed by Shin Takamatsu who is a world famous architect who was born and raised in the town of Nima, consists of six large and small pyramids. The magnificent hourglass set in the middle of the largest pyramid measures the duration of a year and has been recognized as the world’s largest hourglass by the Guinness World Records in 2015. Visitors can enjoy participating in various glass workshops in the neighbouring Fureai Koryu-kan.

975, Amagouchi, Nima-cho, Ohda City 0854-88-3776
9am – 5pm (Last admission at 4:30pm)
Closed every Wed., New Year Holidays

28 The Shimane Nature Museum of Mt. Sanbe “Sahimel”

島根県立三瓶自然館

Located at Mt. Sanbe associated with the Daisen-Oki National Park, this museum provides knowledge and understanding of the surrounding environment, environment of Shimane, the formation of the Japan Sea, and etc. which can then be applied to its outdoor workshops. With a full-scale astronomical observatory complete with a planetarium with a theater and a museum for children, this museum is sure to make a whole day of fun for the whole family.

1121-8 Tane, Sanbecho, Ohda City 0854-86-0500
http://www.nature-sanbe.jp/sahimel/JP
9:30am – 5pm (Last admission at 4:30pm)
Closed December 29 to January 4

Access
30min from JR Nima Sta.
30min from Izumo IC on San-in EXPWY.
200 cars

*Special exhibition admission fees may vary

Discounted Admission
Adults: ¥400
Elementary/Junior High School Students: ¥170

HP
http://www.nature-sanbe.jp/sahimel/JP
9:30am – 5pm (Last admission at 4:30pm)
30min from JR Nima Sta.
30min from Izumo IC on San-in EXPWY.
200 cars

*Special exhibition admission fees may vary

Discounted Admission
Adults: ¥350
Elementary/Junior High School Students: ¥170

HP
http://www.nature-sanbe.jp/sahimel/JP
9:30am – 5pm (Last admission at 4:30pm)
30min from JR Nima Sta.
30min from Izumo IC on San-in EXPWY.
200 cars

*Special exhibition admission fees may vary
Discounted Admission
Exhibition Hall:
Adults: ¥240
Elementary/Junior High/High School Students: ¥80

Access
20min from JR Odashi Sta.
50min from Yoshida-Kakeya
IC on Matsue EXPWY.

Sanbe Azukihiara Buried Forest Museum
三瓶小豆原埋没林公園
Around 4000 years ago Mt. Sanbe erupted covering the surrounding lands and forests in volcanic ash. In the exhibition hall of Sanbe-Azukihiara Buried Forest Park you can view the long trunks of giant trees, that were once buried during the Jomon period (14,000~300 BCE), and were said to have once towered over the surrounding area and feel the richness of the forest in those days.

Discounted Admission
Special Exhibition:
Adults: ¥500 / University Students: ¥300 / Elementary/Junior High/High School Students: ¥150

Access
5min via Iwami Kotsu Bus (bound for Ikou-ji) from JR Masuda Sta. to ‘Grand Toit Mae’ bus stop.
15min via Hagi-Iwami Airport Bus to JR Masuda Sta.
15min (1km) from JR Masuda Sta.
6km from Hagi-Iwami Airport.
50min (40km) from Hamada EXPWY, Hamada IC to JR Masuda Sta.

Hamada Children’s Museum of Art
浜田市世界こども美術館
A hands-on museum for kids where visitors can enjoy experimenting with “seeing” and “creating” things. This museum holds many unique and special exhibitions oriented for kids. Striving to promote cultural exchange with other countries, this museum has collected many arts of kids all over the world. Various workshops where kids can express their ingenuity through creative activities are held every Saturday, Sunday and during public holidays. From within the museum you can enjoy the grand view of the Sea of Japan, as well as enjoy playing in the surrounding nature.

Iwami Art Museum
（Grand Toit）
島根県立石見美術館
The Shimane Arts Centre, ‘Grand Toit’ has beautiful architecture with its roofs and walls being decorated with ‘sekishu-gawara’ (traditional roof tiles of the Iwami region). There is a basin of 25 sq m in a 45 sq m courtyard surrounded by a glass corridor which is known as a place for visitors to relax. Iwami Art Museum, located in ‘Grand Toit’, has 4 exhibition rooms with permanent and seasonal special exhibitions.
Discount Information for International Visitors

We hope to see you soon and dan-dan!
*dan-dan = “thank you” in the local dialect

Shimane Tourism Mascot
“Shimanekko”

ACCESS

We hope to see you soon and dan-dan!
*dan-dan = “thank you” in the local dialect

Shimane International Tourism Association
(Shimane Prefectural Government)
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Revised March 2019