

IYA HIGHWAY TRAIL
Through Hidden Villages
within Dense Mountains

HIKE & BIKE Map

Appro 16 km

Appro 4 hours

- A** JR Sadamitsu Station (START)
(0.5km)
- 1** Double Udatsumi Townscape
Old Mt. Tsurugi Road Monument
(0.6km)
- 2** Urayama-do Temple
(1.5km)
- 3** Hikichi-do Temple
(0.75km)
- 4** Sadamitsu River
(2.6km)
- 5** Sarukai Village Overlook
(6.2km)
- 6** Narutaki Waterfall Viewpoint
(0.6km)
- 7** Dogama Waterfall Site
(2.9km)
- B** Tsurugino Yado Iwato Hotel

Course.2

Ichiu Giant Tree Course

From the start to the end today there are no vending machines or shops, so be prepared with what you need before setting out. In the beginning of the day you pass a closed school, which is one of the area's seven former elementary schools for the population which once exceeded 20,000 people. After encountering a variety of giant trees, you arrive at "Kuwadaira Village", where you are overwhelmed by the gigantic horse-chestnut and cedar trees. Further along the area becomes natural forest and at the top you reach the goal at "La Foret Tsurugisan" hotel.

**Approx.
22 km**

**Approx.
7 hours**

B Tsurugino Yado Iwato Hotel <START>
(Side-Trips ① "Japan's Largest Hackberry Tree" and "Akamatsu Village")
 [1.95km]
 One-Way 0.7km

8 Mibuchi
[3km]

9 Kawachi-do Temple
[4km]

10 Tsuzuro-do Temple

11 Giant Cedar & Horse-Chestnut Trees
[1.5km]

12 Kuwadaira Village
[11.5km]

C La Foret Tsurugisan Hotel

Option

Guided mountain experience around Mt Tsurugi with tipi tent
【Contact】
 "Trip the river guide of Shikoku"
 TEL: 0883-68-8022
 E-mail: trip.anabukigawa@gmail.com

Course.3

Mt. Tsurugi Hiking Trail Course

A short distance from “La Foret Tsurugisan” hotel you will enter the Miyoshi City area. The Mt. Tsurugi range will be in front of you with the hidden Iya Valley region below. Proceed ahead to reach the trailhead to Mt. Tsurugi at “Minokoshi”. There are some shops and parking areas here, and the first part of the climb can be made easier by taking the chairlift up to “Nishijima Station”. From there several trails continue the rest of the way up to the summit, so you can choose your own route to the top! On the summit, the views of neighboring Mt. Jirogyu and the sunset are exceptional. Stay overnight at the “Tsurugisan Choyo Hutte” mountain-top lodge.

Approx.
6 km

Approx.
4 hours

- C **La Foret Tsurugisan Hotel (START)**
[2.3km]
- 13 **Mt. Tsurugi Trailhead at Minokoshi**
[1.4km]
- 14 **Nishijima Station (for chairlift)**
[2.3km]
- 15 **Mt. Tsurugi Summit**
- D **Tsurugisan Choyo Hutte**

The Iya Highway Trail follows the roads which lead from the port towns along the Yoshino River into the remote Iya Valley area. The people within here established villages upon the steep slopes of the high mountains which makes one wonder, why would people choose to live in such a harsh place? There are many reasons why this place attracted settlers, including abundant rainfall, dense forests, bountiful aquifers, and industries based on these natural resources. This guide map introduces a way to travel slowly through this hidden area, allowing unique chances to encounter the magnificent scenery.

Diagram illustrating a road cross-section with a 40m elevation drop over a 4km distance. The road has a 10% grade for the first 1.7 km and a 5.5% grade for the remaining 2.3 km.

D Tsurugisan Chojo Hutte
(START)
[3.7km]

16 Mt. Tsurugi Trailhead
at Minokoshi
[6.6km]

17 Oku-Iya Double Vine Bridges
[3.2km]

18 Nagoro Scarecrow Village
[10.5km]

E Togenkyo-Iya Mountain Village

Course.5

Higashi-Iya Ochiai Village ~ Iya-no-Kazurabashi Course

Across the valley you can reach the “Ochiai Village Viewpoint”, where you can climb up to see the hillside expanse of this Nationally Important Preservation District of historic thatched roof homes. From the bottom of Ochiai Village to the top there is an elevation difference of 390 meters. Follow the main road further, passing through Higashi-Iya’s downtown section of “Kyojo”, and then after a while reaching the famed “Iya-no-Kazurabashi” Vine Bridge. There are lots of hotels and guest houses in this “Oboke / Iya Onsenkyo” area, so finding a place to stay is no problem. You can also take a break at one of the several hot springs.

**Approx.
19 km**

**Approx.
5 hours**

Distance (1 section = 4km)

E

3.5km

19

6km

20

9.5km

21

Togenkyo-Iya Mountain Village (START)

Ochiai Village Viewpoint

Kyojo

Iya-no-Kazurabashi Vine Bridge

F

Oboke / Iya Onsenkyo Area

21

Course.6

Nishi-Iya ・Iyakei Gorge Course

From here the Iya Valley deepens and awesome views abound. Don't forget to be prepared for the day since there are few shops along here. Follow the old road into the Iyakei Gorge to the Michelin-certified "Hi-no-Ji Bend" viewpoint and the daring "Peeing Boy Statue". Further along, pass through "Deai" village and if you have time, take a break here at "Haretoke Cafe" which is in an old school building. But if planning to take the train from JR Iyaguchi Station, be sure to check the train schedules since there are only a few trains per day. From Deai, it is only a little more to go, and the valley will begin to widen upon finally reaching your goal at the point where the Iya River joins the Yoshino River.

**Approx.
22 km**

**Approx.
5.5 hours**

- F **Oboke / Iya Onsenkyo Area (START)**
.....
(5.5km)
- 22 **Hi-no-Ji Bend Viewpoint**
.....
(2.5km)
- 23 **Peeing Boy Statue**
.....
(3km)
- 24 **Iyakei Viewpoint**
.....
(5km)
- 25 **Deai**
.....
(Side-Trip ①
"Haretoke Cafe"
.....
One-way 0.4 km
.....
(5.5km)
- G **JR Iyaguchi Station**

Option

Hiking to the hidden Tsubojiri Station and the Valley Sauna at Shimonoro Permanent (winter only)
 [Contact] "Trip" Shikoku River Guides
 TEL: 0883-68-8022
 E-mail: trip.anabukigawa@gmail.com



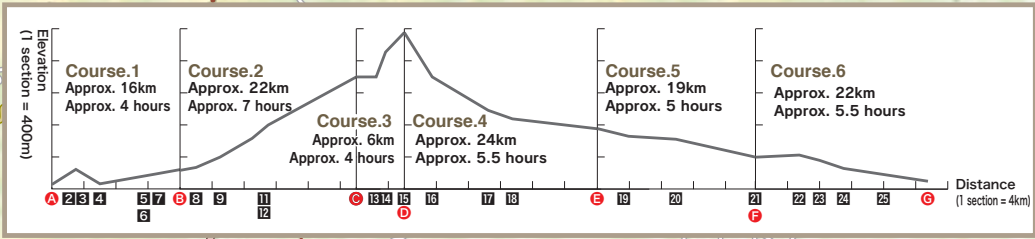
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Through Hidden Villages
within Dense Forest
HIKE&BIKE MAP



Natural Activity Options

The Nishi-Awa Region is full of various natural activities! Please enjoy them along with the trail.

- Packraft / Rafting
- Pottering with British Brompton Bicycles
- Strolling through Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Sites
- Yoshino River Kayaking Tours



Map Key

- IC: Toll Expressway
- SA-PA: National Highway
- 55: Main Prefecture Road
- 1: General Prefecture Road
- Other Local Road
- JR Line
- Ropeway
- Prefecture Border
- Municipal Border
- City Hall
- Town Office
- Airport
- Highway Bus Stop
- Roadside Station (Michi-no-Eki)
- Campground
- Public Toilet
- Water Source