

Setouchi Shimanami Kaidō Guidebook

尾道
Onomichi City

Pocket-
sized!

SHIMANAMI
Guidebook

SHIMANAMI
SPOT!

上島
Kamijima Town

今治
Imabari City



Faded signs, long-necked cranes like towering giraffes,
fishing boats that sway in the waves of passing freighter ships.

These simple everyday scenes become rustic works of
art unique to the Shimanami region.

Take time to stop and admire
what piques your interest during your travels.



Published by Shimanami Japan

Shimin Kaikan
1-4-1 Bekku-cho, Imabari, Ehime
794-0026 Japan
TEL: 0898-35-3194

Hidden treasures await in Shimanami



Onomichi/Kamijima/Imabari Area Map

Tourism Information for the Setouchi Shimanami Kaidō

Shimanami Japan
Tel: 0898-35-3194



Toll Information About the Nishi-Seto Expressway



Honshū-Shikoku Bridge Expressway Co., Ltd.
(Toll information and directions for E76 Nishi-Seto Expressway)

Onomichi City Tourism Information

Onomichi Tourist Association
Tel: 0848-36-5495



(Japanese)



Innoshima Tourist Association
Tel: 0845-26-6111

(Japanese)



Onomichi Tourist Map

Download here ▶

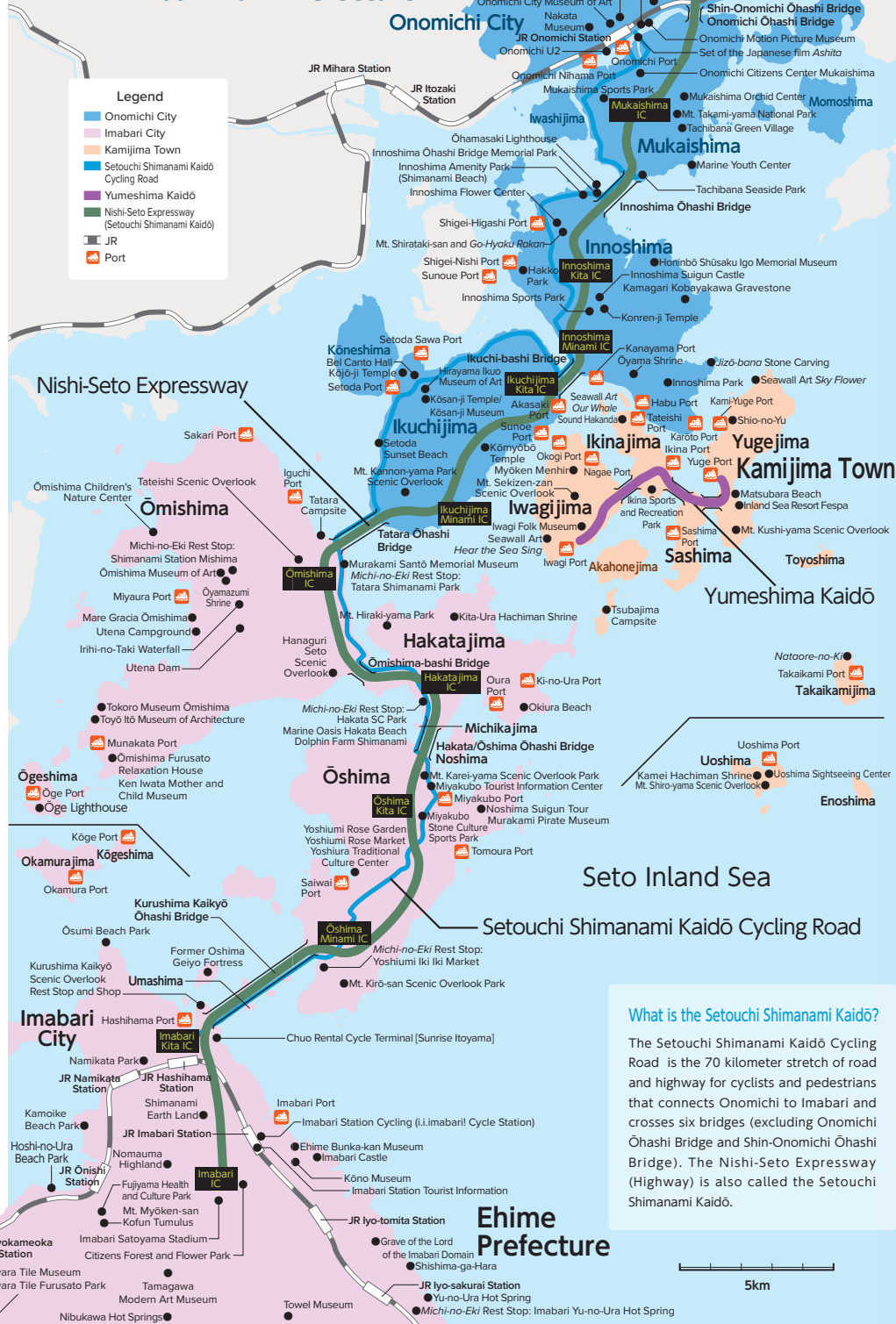


(Japanese)

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Hiroshima Prefecture

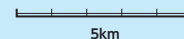


Seto Inland Sea

Setouchi Shimanami Kaidō Cycling Road

What is the Setouchi Shimanami Kaidō?

The Setouchi Shimanami Kaidō Cycling Road is the 70 kilometer stretch of road and highway for cyclists and pedestrians that connects Onomichi to Imabari and crosses six bridges (excluding Onomichi Ōhashi Bridge and Shin-Onomichi Ōhashi Bridge). The Nishi-Seto Expressway (Highway) is also called the Setouchi Shimanami Kaidō.



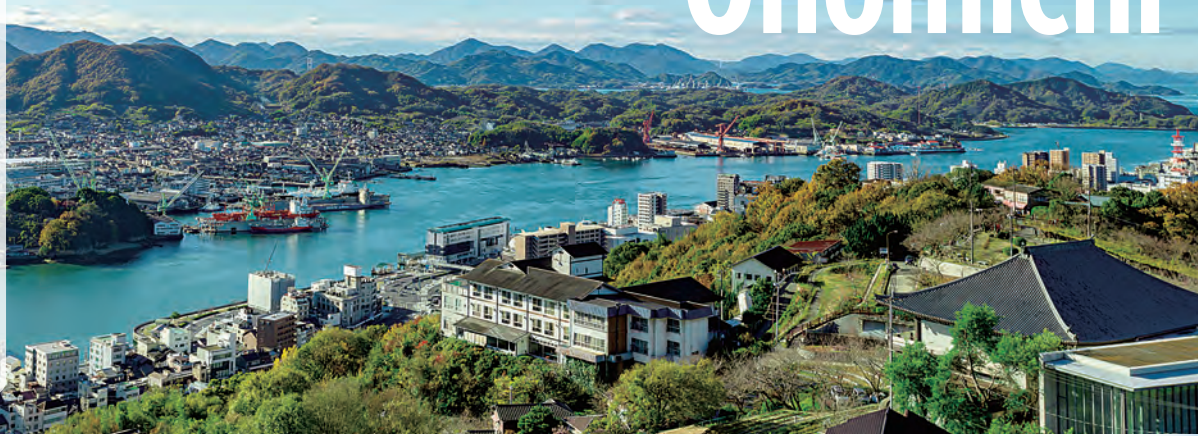
Onomichi

Senkō-ji Park



Enjoy a gorgeous panorama of the townscape and Onomichi Channel from high atop the city; chosen as one of the 100 Best Cherry Blossom Viewing Spots and as a Lover's Sanctuary. Inside the park, you'll find the Path of Literature that contains poems by Onomichi writers and poets engraved into stones, as well as museums, shops, and more.

DATA Tourism Dept., Onomichi City Tel:0848-38-9184
Open Year-Round
Free Admission
(Parking and museum admission requires fees)



Onomichi Motion Picture Museum

This museum was once a Meiji era storage house. It now features Onomichi-related film materials such as works by famed Japanese director Ozu Yasujiro (Tokyo Story). Enjoy rare film footage, trailers, and materials that you won't find anywhere else.

DATA Tel: 0848-37-8141 Hours: 10 am to 6 pm (admission ends at 5:30 pm)
Closed: Tuesdays (or next business day if Tuesday is a nat'l holiday), New Years Break
Admission: ¥520 (free for middle school students and younger)



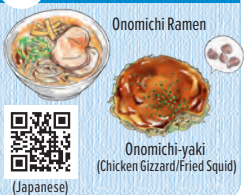
Onomichi Historical Museum

The museum building is designated an important cultural asset by Onomichi City and was once the former main branch of Onomichi Bank (precursor to Hiroshima Bank). Contains displays of archeological finds from excavations in Onomichi, as well as works of art once owned by wealthy merchants.

DATA Tel: 0848-37-6555 Hours: 10 am to 6 pm (admission ends at 5:30 pm)
Closed: Tuesdays (or next business day if Tuesday is a nat'l holiday), New Years Break
Admission: ¥210 (free for middle school students and younger)

3-star cuisine!

Onomichi Eats



(Japanese)

Onomichi Hondōri and the Endless Shopping Arcade

Stretching 1.2 kilometers from east to west along the Onomichi Channel is the Onomichi Shopping Arcade full of unique and charming shops and facilities housed in renovated classic Japanese buildings, including the Chamber of Commerce and more.



Historic Temples

The Onomichi Channel is surrounded by many unique historic temples, such as Jikō-ji Temple, which is known for its stone gate and nigiri-butsu clay Buddha statues. The three kilometer path that connects all 25 of Onomichi's temples is a must for any traveler and the perfect way to enjoy the sights of Onomichi.

Learn More

Historic Temple Walking Course
(Onomichi Tourism Information)



(Japanese)



Shichi-Butsu Seven Temple Pilgrimage

Temples and shrines of all different sects and faiths can be found next to one another in Onomichi, a sight rarely seen in Japan. Collect go-shuin temple stamps at Onomichi's seven main temples (Jikō-ji Temple, Tennei-ji Temple, Senkō-ji Temple, Taisan-ji Temple, Saikoku-ji Temple, Jōdo-ji Temple, and Kairyū-ji Temple) to complete your shichi-butsu pilgrimage, and you'll receive a pilgrimage fulfillment seal and a beautiful paper wall hanger to display your go-shuin stamps.

Learn More

Onomichi Seven Temple Pilgrimage
(shichibutsu.jp)



(Japanese)

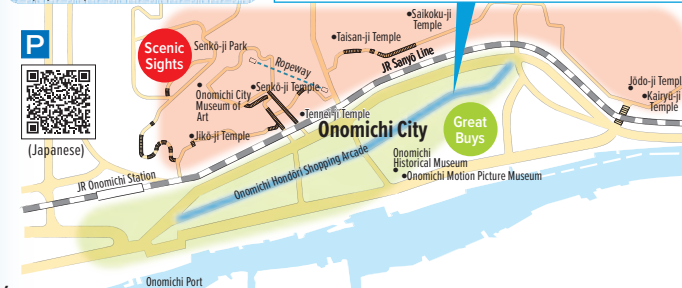
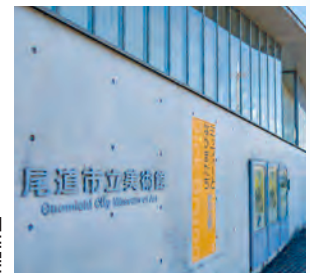
Onomichi City Museum of Art

A modern museum in the middle of Senkō-ji Park designed by renowned architect Andō Tadao. The exposed concrete exhibition room was designed to let in natural light throughout, as well as offer glimpses of the surrounding scenery. Contains works of art from Onomichi artists such as Kobayashi Wasaku and many more.

DATA

Tel: 0848-23-2281
Hours: 9 am to 5 pm (admission ends at 4:30 pm)
Note: only open during art exhibitions.
Closed: Mondays (excluding nat'l holidays),
12/29-1/3

Admission: Varies depending on the exhibition



Connected to Onomichi by two large bridges and a short ferry

Mukaishima

Mt. Takami-yama National Park



Take in the breathtaking view of the islands that dot the Seto Inland Sea and the Shikoku Mountain Range from 283 meters high atop Mt. Takami-yama! In the springtime, the mountaintop turns a vibrant pink with cherry blossoms, and it's also a great spot to watch the sun rise or set at any time of the year.

DATA Open Year-Round
Free Admission



Iwashijima

This tiny island is only 8 kilometers around and is known for its scallions. It's connected to Mukaishima via the red Mukaishima Ōhashi Bridge, and the Itsukushima Shrine on the west shore of the island is a great place to recharge both mind and spirit. It's also the perfect stop on your island cycling adventure!



3-star cuisine!

Mukaishima Eats



Doughnut Twists



Ramune soda



Craft Chocolate



(Japanese)

Marine Youth Center

The distinctive wave-shaped, domed arena and auto camp site are just two of the many facilities available here. Marine sports like yachting and canoeing available in the summer months.

DATA

Tel: 0848-44-6707

Hours: 9 am to 4 pm

(campsite: 3 pm to 10 am the following day;
daytime camp from 10 am to 3 pm)

Closed: Tuesdays
(excluding nat'l holidays; closed next business day),
12/28-1/3

Fees: ¥1,050 for daytime
camping; ¥3,140 for overnight camping (etc)



(Japanese)



Mukaishima Sports Park

A sports park with a gymnasium, sports pitches, tennis courts and a grass field. Used primarily by locals looking to keep fit.

DATA

Tel: 0848-44-6700

Hours: 8:30 am to 9 pm

Closed: Mondays, new year holidays
(open if Monday falls on nat'l holiday; closed next business day)



Tachibana Seaside Park

Located where the Innoshima Ōhashi Bridge meets land. The perfect spot to take a break from cycling or driving, relax in any one of the nearby cafes and restaurants, or take a stroll along the shore.

DATA

Tourism Dept.,
Onomichi City
Tel: 0848-38-9184

Note: Information correct as of July 2024. Information is subject to change.

Innoshima

Mt. Shirataki-san and Go-Hyaku Rakan



Mt. Shirataki-san is a mountain for monastic training; it is said that the sixth head of the Murakami Suigun built Kannon-dō Temple as a lookout. Walk up the trail of 700 stone buddhas and you'll be rewarded with a panoramic view of the Seto Inland Sea from the observation deck.

DATA

Innoshima Tourism Association
Tel: 0845-26-6111
Open Year-Round Free Admission

Innoshima Suigun Castle

The Murakami Suigun maritime clan (pirates) roamed the Geiyo islands from around 1336 to 1467. In this unique castle-shaped museum, you'll find historical materials such as weapons and ancient documents related to the Murakami Suigun.

DATA

Tel: 0845-24-0936
Hours: 9:30 am to 5 pm
(admission ends at 4:30 pm)
Note: open 10 am to 3 pm on 1/2-3
Closed: Thursdays (excluding nat'l holidays),
12/29-1/1
Admission: ¥330 for adults,
¥160 for elementary
and middle school students



For more information about the Murakami Pirates, see page 25.

Hakko Park

Located by the headquarters of Manda Fermentation Co., Ltd., this park is all about the process and health benefits of fermentation. Take a tour of their processing factory, or just relax in their spacious garden, grab a bite at the café, and do some shopping on site.



DATA

Tel: 0120-85-1589
Hours: 10 am to 5 pm
Café Hours: 10 am to 5 pm; last order 4:30 pm
(Lunch 11 am to 2 pm)
Closed: New Years Break,
Wednesdays (excluding nat'l holidays)



Innoshima Flower Center

Enjoy seasonal flowers such as moss pink and tulips in the spring, hibiscus in the summer, roses in the fall, and ornamental kale in the winter. Relax with friends and family on the rolling green lawn.

DATA

Island Revitalization Division, Innoshima General Branch Office
Tel: 0845-26-6212 Hours: 9 am to 5 pm
Closed: Tuesdays (or next business day if Tuesday is a nat'l holiday), 12/29-1/3
Free Admission



Honinbō Shūsaku Igo Memorial Museum

This museum features items owned by genius Go player, Honinbō Shūsaku, who built the basics of modern Go openings, along with exhibits of rare materials. It includes a replica of his home and is a mecca for Go players.

DATA

Tel: 0845-24-3715
Hours: 10 am to 5 pm (admission ends at 4:30 pm)
Closed: Tuesdays
(or next business day if Tuesday is a nat'l holiday),
New Years Break

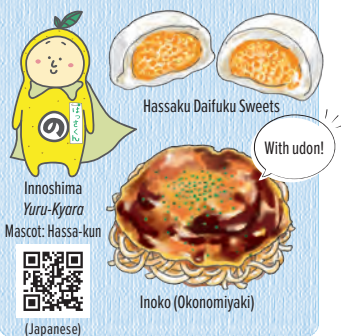


(Japanese)



3-star cuisine!

Innoshima Eats



Ikuchijima

Lemon Valley



Located near the Tataro Ōhashi Bridge that connects to Ōmishima. The bench with a lemon is a popular spot for cyclists to rest and for Instagrammable photos!

DATA Open Year-Round
Free Admission

Kōjō-ji Temple

A Sōtō school Buddhist temple founded in 1403. The vermilion-lacquered three-tier pagoda, built by Lord Kobayakawa (ruler of the Ikuchijima area) in 1432, is designated as a national treasure.

DATA Tel: 0845-27-3377
Open Year-Round
Admission: ¥100 (to the pagoda)



Setoda Sunset Beach

As noted in its name, this beach offers breathtaking sunset views! Chosen as one of the top 88 beaches in Japan for its 800 meters of white sand and clear, blue waters, it's one of the most beautiful beaches in the Chugoku region. Enjoy sea kayaking, SUP, camping, and more!

DATA Tel: 0845-27-1100
Free Admission
(sea kayaking, SUP, and camping require fees)



(Japanese)

The Hill of Hope (Kōsan-ji Temple)

This temple was founded by industrialist Kōsanji Kōzo and dedicated to his late mother. The Hill of Hope is a spacious 5000m² wonder of Italian marble and the perfect place to take pictures.



DATA Tel: 0845-27-0800
Hours: 9 am to 5 pm (Choseikaku Villa: 10 am to 4 pm)
Open Year-Round
Admission: ¥1400 for adults,
¥1000 for college/high school students
free for middle school students and younger
Discounts for groups of 20 or more



Hirayama Ikuo Museum of Art

Contains works of Nihonga 20th century Japanese-style painting by Hirayama Ikuo, who was born and raised in Setoda-cho, including rare paintings from his youth, sketches, and more. You can also find exhibits of works from his twilight years.

DATA Tel: 0845-27-3800
Hours: 9 am to 5 pm (admission ends at 4:30 pm)
Open Year-Round (excluding closures to change exhibits)
Admission: College & High School ¥500,
Junior High School & Elementary School ¥300
Discounts for groups of 10 or more



Shima-goto Museum

Created as an art project in 1989 with the concept of turning an entire island into an art museum, it consists of 17 works that highlight the locations chosen by participating artists.

DATA Island Revitalization Division, Setoda Branch Office
Tel: 0845-27-2210



3-star cuisine!

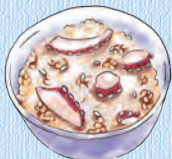
Ikuchijima Eats



(Japanese)



Lemon Cake



Tako-Meshi
(steamed octopus and rice)



ACCESS

Information on how to get to
major destinations using public transport

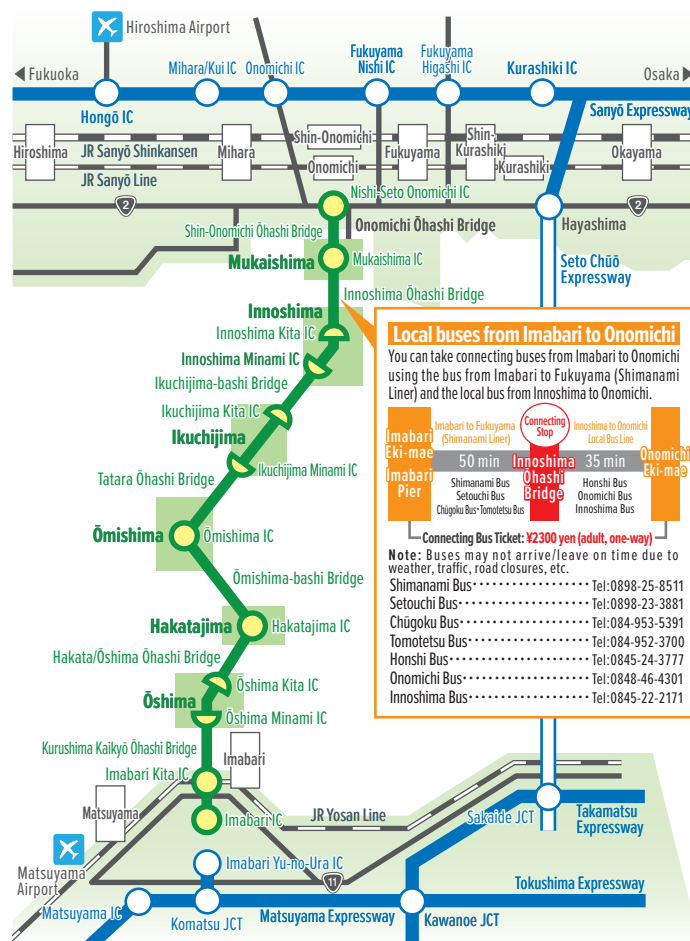
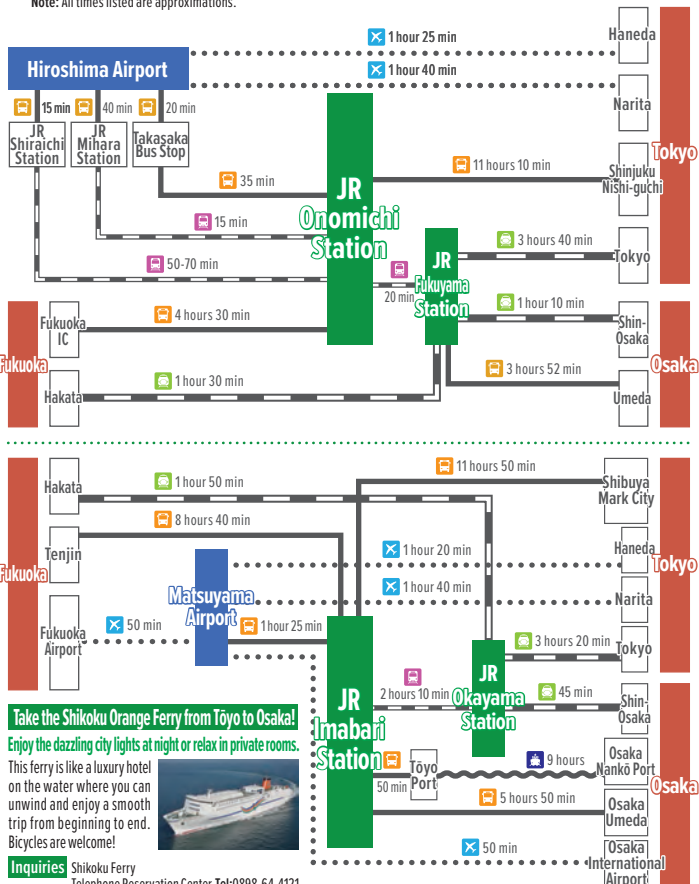


Directions from Major Cities /



Directions from Major Cities

Note: All times listed are approximations.





Travel to the Islands

ACCESS

Traveling by boat is the best way to enjoy the Seto Inland Sea!
Here you'll find information about the major ship lines
along the Shimanami Kaidō and the Yumeshima Kaidō (Kamijima Town).



Onomichi-Setoda Lines **Cycle Ship Lazuli**

A cyclist-friendly cruise ship!

Cycle Ship Lazuli is a blue ship that connects the oceans and islands along the Shimanami Kaidō and is perfect for cyclists. You'll find bike stands on the observation deck and they also offer a bike tool lending service!



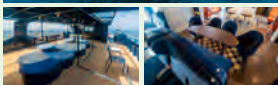
Note: different boats run during the weekdays and during private charter rentals.

Inquiries Setouchi Cruising Tel: 0848-36-6113

Setouchi Shima-tabi Line **Setouchi Tourism Cruiser Sea Spica**

Note: line runs between Mihara and Hiroshima (from Mihara Port to Hiroshima Port via Setoda Port)
Experience the magic of the many islands in the Seto Inland Sea!

Sea Spica combines tourism with high-speed cruising as it goes around the many sights in the Seto Inland Sea from Kōsan-ji Temple in Setoda, to Ōkunoshima (aka Rabbit Island), the famous still waters of Mitarai, and more! The ship was designed to maximize your view of the different locations while still being spacious and comfortable. Enjoy a high-class tourism experience with Sea Spica.



Inquiries Setouchi Sea Line Tel: 082-253-5501

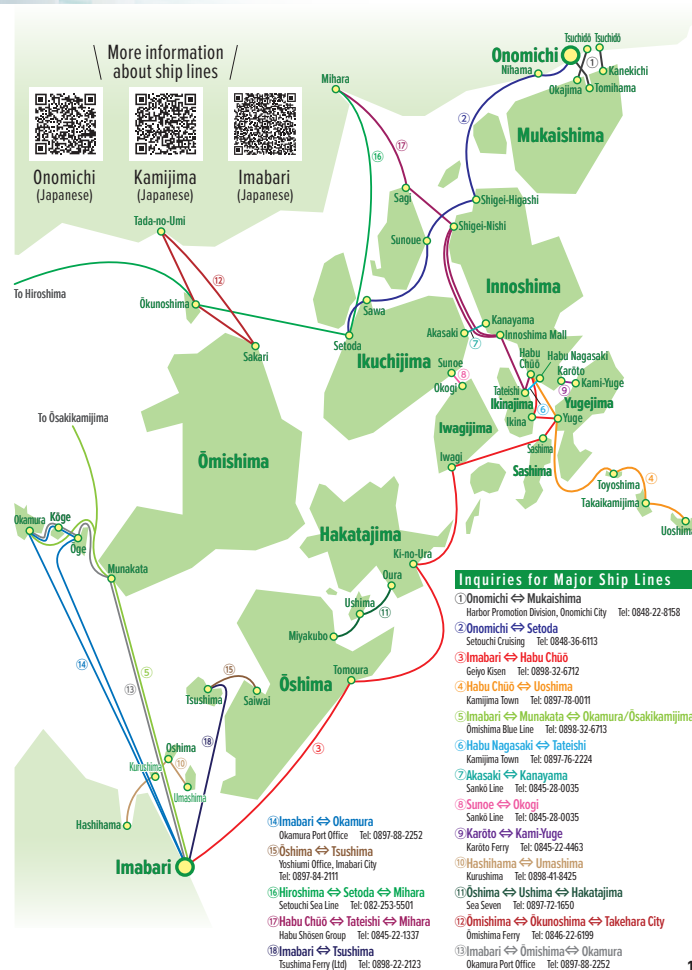
TOPICS

Island Hopping Charter Boat, Cycleship Shimanami

Create your own Setouchi cycle adventure with this charter service which connects the Shimanami Kaido with other popular cycle routes, the Tobishima Kaido and the Sazanami Kaido. Barrier free by design and with charging for E-bikes, bicycle stands and other facilities available.



Inquiries Shimanami Tel: 0898-25-7338



Accommodations

that will have you coming back again and again

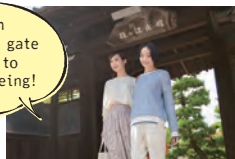
Onomichi, Imabari, and Kamijima are three incredible places with a lot to offer visitors, and in each place, you'll find accommodations that will help you make the most out of your trip!

Seasoned Shimanami Kaidō travelers aren't always here solely for the sights: many visit to get away from it all at a favorite hotel or resort. You won't find many business accommodations here; most are tailored to those who like to relax and take it slow. From historical ryokan to peaceful resort hotels and cottages in the great outdoors, each of these places offers visitors a charming and tranquil respite during their adventures.

Exquisite hospitality from a historic ryokan

Suminoe Ryokan dates back over 100 years to a time when Setoda flourished as a trading port. Traditional Japanese architecture lends an air of sophistication and the garden, completed in the Meiji era, is a remarkable work of natural beauty. Savor freshly caught local fish and other delicacies prepared by their head chef.

Through the wooden gate and out to go sightseeing!



Suminoe Ryokan



DATA

Tel: 0845-27-2155 Address: 264-3 Setoda, Setoda-cho, Onomichi City Price: ¥15730 (incl tax and service charge) ~ per night 2 meals included

Inland Sea Resort Fespa



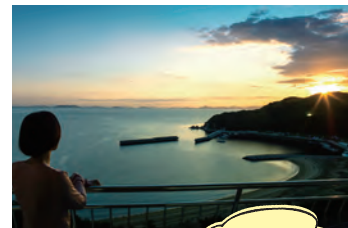
DATA

Tel: 0897-77-2200 Address: 287 Yuge-Hibi, Kamijima-cho, Ochi-gun Front Desk Hours: Weekdays 10 am to 5 pm Closed: Wednesdays (May change according to the season) Price: ¥16800 (incl tax and service charge) ~ per person, per night (2 person room, 2 meals included)



Begin your day with the magic of sunrise

Located high atop a hill overlooking the vast and calm Seto Inland Sea. Start your day by taking in the sunrise from your balcony and then take a relaxing soak in an outdoor bath while listening the sound of the waves on the shore. Be transported to a place of absolute zen, away from the hustle and bustle of the city.



Nothing beats a relaxing bath ♡



Surround yourself with the sea and the sky

Located in the center of the Shimanami Kaidō, Ōmishima is home to Wakka, a popular destination with cycling enthusiasts! Offering cottages with ocean views, domed tents for glamping, and dormitories that give guests the chance to meet other fellow travelers, you're sure to find the perfect place to suit your needs.



Balcony barbeque party!



Wakka



DATA

Tel: 0897-72-8705 Address: 6691-1 Inokuchi, Kamiura-cho, Imabari City Front Desk Hours: Weekdays 9 am to 6 pm Closed: Tuesdays Price: Cottage Weekdays ¥30000 (incl tax and service charge) ~ for up to 2 people

Accommodation plans to fit your travel style!

Shimanami Touch
List of
Accommodations
(shimanami-cycle.or.jp)



(Japanese)



(Japanese)

Reserve
online!
Area Gate
Reservations
(area-gate.biz)

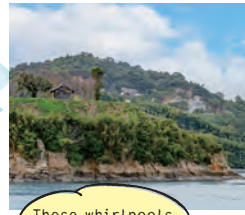
Get more out of your travels! Experience Shimanami

With so much more to offer than just sightseeing and great food, try these unique Shimanami outdoor adventures and activities.

Make the most of your visit to the Shimanami Kaidō with these incredible activities, adventures, and crafts. Even the most seasoned Shimanami Kaidō traveler is bound to discover something new! Experiences make the best souvenirs, and you might just find that they offer hints and wisdom for your everyday life.

Travel back in time to the world of the Murakami Pirates

In the area around Noshima, the headquarters of the Murakami Pirates and where they built their castle, there are whirlpools up to speeds of 10 knots (18 km/h). The Noshima Suigun Tour (details below) takes you around these natural whirlpools for a thrilling sea adventure.



Choose the Setouchi Shimanami Kaidō for an unforgettable wedding!

With wedding photos taken in spectacular sites and the ability to rent out entire hotels, why not make your wedding the event of the century with our personalized wedding plans?



Shimanami Weddings
(shimanami-cycle.or.jp)

(Japanese)



Find more information here!

Shimanami Touch Activities List
(shimanami-cycle.or.jp)



(Japanese)



Reserve online!
Area Gate Activities Reservations
(area-gate.biz)

(Japanese)

Noshima Suigun Tour



Info Tel: 0897-86-3323 Address: 1293-2 Miyakubo, Miyakubo-cho, Imabari City Reception hours: Whirlpool tour: 9 am-4 pm (end of reception), restaurant hours: 11 am-3 pm Closed: Mondays (or next business day if Monday is a nat'l holiday) Tour fees: Adults ¥1500 Elementary school students ¥700 (free for those younger than elementary school students)

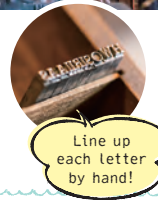


Lose yourself in the beautiful blue of the skies and the sea

The first thing you'll notice about the Kamijima area is the gorgeous blue waters of the sea. What better way to experience the natural beauty of the ocean than aboard a sea kayak? Setouchi Paddlers Club offers a variety of Kamijima trips for beginners and beyond, including day trips, camping, and more!



Learn kayaking basics from a pro!



Vintage letterpress printing

Onomichi is full of old Japanese homes which have been renovated and turned into popular shops. At the base of Mt. Senko-ji, along the JR tracks, you'll find Campanella Letterpress where you can experience letterpress printing first-hand. Create your own original work of vintage word art!

Setouchi Paddlers Club



Info Tel: 0897-72-9277 Inquiries: Kamijima Tourism Association Reception hours: 8:30 am to 5:15 pm Open Year-Round Fees: Tour/¥6600 (including insurance fees, gear usage fees, and guide fees; advance reservation required)

Campanella Letterpress



Info Tel: 0848-51-4020 Address: 11-2 Higashitsuchido-cho, Onomichi City Hours: 10 am to 6 pm Closed: New Years break, other Fees: 15 min letterpress workshop ¥550 (including tax and excluding cost of paper)

The Blue Line: Connecting Onomichi and Imabari

Enjoy cycling at your leisure with
our 10 rental cycle terminals
along the way.

— Setouchi
Shimanami Kaidō
Cycling Road
— Yumeshima Kaidō
— Nishi-Seto Expressway
(Setouchi Shimanami
Kaidō)

Setoda Sunset Beach

Kamiura Rental Cycle
(Michi-no-Eki Rest Stop:
Tatara Shimanami Park)

Setouchi
Shimanami Kaidō

Central Rental Cycle
(Sunrise Itoyama)

Imabari Rental Cycle
(i.i.imabari! Cycle Station)



◀ Reservations
Shimanami Bike Rental
(visitshimanami.com)

Shimanami Cycling Handbook

4

Reasons

Why Cyclists
Choose
Shimanami



One of the world's top cycling
destinations, the Shimanami
Kaidō offers unlimited
adventures for riders of all
abilities!

1 Natural and Manmade Sights of Scenic Beauty

The many green islands that dot the Seto Inland
Sea and the stunning bridges that connect them
all create an incredible landscape!

2 The Blue Line

JR Onomichi Station and JR Imabari
Station are connected by the Blue
Line, so you'll never get lost!

3 Cycling Oases

There are approximately 160 Cycle
Oasis rest stops in the Shimanami
Kaidō area where you can rest, fill up
on water, or use the toilet.

4 Bicycles Welcome!

Bring your bike with you to your lodgings, on
boats, and everywhere in between! We've made
sure anywhere you can go, your bike can go too.



The Shimanami Kaidō Cycling Road is
designed as a National Cycling Route.

For more details, see ▶



The National Cycling Route System is a nationally designated route that, in addition to
being enjoyable for cycling, also creates new tourism value through cycling and fulfils
criteria for both hard and soft infrastructure that will lead to regional revitalization.

Cycle along the Yumeshima Kaidō that connects the islands of Kamijima-cho!

Yumeshima Kaidō Bicycle Rental Information

Rental Prices	Adults	Elementary school students and younger
Cross bike, city bike	¥1100/day	¥550/day
Tandem bike	¥1650/day	
Pedelec (pedal electric cycle)	¥1650/day	¥1100/day
E-bike※1	¥5500/day	¥3300/day
Drop-off fee	¥1100/bike	

Note 1: You can return your bike to any terminal within Kamijima Town. Note 2: There is a ¥1100 charge for returning rental bicycles to a different terminal. ※1 E-bikes must be 145cm or taller



◀ More information
Bicycle Rentals (Setouchi Kamijima Trip)
(kamijima.info)

(Japanese)

Inquiries ☎ Kamijima Tourism Association 0897-72-9277



Cycling FAQs

What should I wear?

Beginners should stick to comfortable clothes that are easy to move in. In the summer, we recommend a light long-sleeved jacket to protect you from the sun. Choose pants that have a stretch to them for easy pedaling, and make sure they're slightly fitted to avoid getting caught in the gears. Sandals and open-toed shoes are a definite DON'T; choose sneakers instead.

What should I bring?

As not all bikes have front baskets, we recommend bringing a messenger bag or backpack. Make sure you have something to drink and a small towel to keep yourself dry. It's always a good idea to pack a poncho in case of sudden rain, too. In the summer, keep sunblock handy and remember those shades!

What should I do if I need help?

If you get into an accident or are injured during your ride, call the police (110) and an ambulance (119) immediately. If you're having some bicycle trouble, call the Shimanami Riders Rescue! For those renting bikes, call the shop from which you rented.

Shimanami Riders Rescue

▶ Onomichi



(Japanese)

▶ Imabari



(Japanese)

The perfect gift

Shimanami Blue Merch

Protect your face!

Neck Gaiter
(¥1980~ each incl tax)

Note: Sunglasses and helmet are not for sale.

Festa version ▶

Blues version



Imabari Towel handkerchiefs that fold in two for easy storage.

Shimanami Blue Towel Handkerchief
(¥825 each incl tax)

Colors: Navy blue/white/black/gray

Merch details here!

(shimanami-cycle.or.jp)



(Japanese)

T-shirt
(¥4070 each incl tax)

Note: some products may be sold out in certain sizes.



Sizes: S/M/L/XL

Note: Shimanami Blue Merch is Shimanami Japan's line of goods and souvenir products for the Shimanami Kaidō.

Note: Information correct as of July 2024. Information is subject to change.

Great for Beginners! Shimanami Rental Cycle

Bicycle Types and Fees	Adults	Elementary school students and younger
cross bike, city bike	¥3000/day	¥1000/day
Tandem bike※1	¥4000/day	—
Electric Assist Bicycle	¥4000/day	—
E-bike※2	¥8000/day	—

Note: Prices scheduled to change from September 1, 2023.

※1 Tandems must be returned to place of rental. Note that some terminals do not have these models available. ※2 E-Bikes can only be rented from to a limited number of terminals.



For more details, see
Bike Rental Information
(visitshimanami.com)

Inquiries

☎ Shimanami Rental Cycle 0848-22-3911



(Japanese)

Picky about your bicycle brand?
Choose from a variety of brands at the shops listed here!

◀ More information

List of Bicycle Rental Shops (Shimanami Area) (shimanami-cycle.or.jp)

Bring your bike with you!

Enjoy the freedom of luggage-free cycling!

Have your luggage sent ahead to your next hotel. Perfect for multi-day trips!



◀ "Pukuraku Porter"

(https://spacer.co.jp/en/pukuraku-porter-onomichi/)

More details ▶
"Cycling Without Baggage"
(sagawa-exp.co.jp)



Distance

Beginners should probably aim to ride about 10 kilometers in an hour. A 30 kilometer day trip is a safe bet if you're new to cycling, and if you're a seasoned rider, you can probably ride the entire 70 kilometers of the Shimanami Kaidō in 6 to 8 hours!

Cycle Oases

There are approximately 160 Cycle Oases along the Shimanami Kaidō where you can park your bike and take a break. They also offer bicycle repair services, water bottle refill services, and restrooms. Some even offer coin-operated lockers and showers, so be sure to check out the Cycle Oases on your route beforehand! Sidenote: many of the popular tourist spots also have bicycle racks to park your bike.



Happy Trails!

★ Beginner Course

From Onomichi to around Mukaishima and back

Distance: approx. 18 km

Time: 2 hours

This course takes you around the shores of Mukaishima across from Onomichi. Pair this trip with a leisurely stroll around Onomichi for a perfect day!



★★ Intermediate Course

From Imabari to Oshima and back

Distance: 30 km

Time: 3-4 hours

Your journey begins at the Shimanami Monument at Sunrise Itayama! Cross the Kurushima Kaikyo Ohashi Bridge and then return via Yoshiumi Rose Garden. Those up for the challenge should consider the climb up to the Mt. Kiro-san Scenic Overlook Park.

★★★ Advanced Course

From Onomichi Port to Imabari and everything in between

Distance: approx. 70 km

Time: 4-10 hours

For those who want to hit every point on the Shimanami Kaidō from Hiroshima Prefecture to Ehime Prefecture! Cross all 6 bridges that connect the islands and take in all the gorgeous natural scenery that awaits.

◀ More information about Suggested Itineraries (visitshimanami.com)

Murakami KAIZOKU Tidal Current Experience!

The best way to get a true grasp of the navigation and ship maneuvering skills of the maritime clan known as the Murakami KAIZOKU that were the key to their domination of this part of the Seto Inland Sea.

The Kurushima Kaikyo Boat Tour not only takes you into the swirling waters of the Kurushima Straits which has one of Japan's three fastest currents, but also allows you to view the impressive Kurushima Straits Bridge from a unique perspective. History buffs will love exploring the islands of Kurushima which was once a pirate fortress and Oshima on which the ruins of military defenses which date from the late 19th century remain. The tour also passes by the towering ships in Imabari's giant shipbuilding docks.

Visit sites related to the Murakami KAIZOKU!



Oshima
(p. 39)



Innoshima
(p. 9)

Not your usual pirate grub!

Shimanami Local Specialty: Pirate Musubi Riceball

These *musubi* are made under the philosophy of three angles (triangle-shaped), three types (of fillings), and the best for three parties (ensuring the happiness of those who make them, eat them, and the local community). Fillings vary by shop, so you're sure to find a new favorite (or three!) during your visit.



(Japanese)

◀ More Information
Shimanami
Local Specialty:
Pirate *Musubi* Riceball
(shimanami-cycle.or.jp)



Look for
this
banner!

A short Setouchi history lesson

Pirates who protected,
not plundered

The Most Infamous Pirate Band in Japanese History

In the time of the Warring States period (1467-1615), when famed warriors Oda Nobunaga, Toyotomi Hideyoshi, and Tokugawa Ieyasu all battled to unite Japan, Portuguese missionary Luís Fróis wrote in his *Historia de Japam* (History of Japan) about the Murakami KAIZOKU, which he called "the largest pirate band in all of Japan." The Murakami Clan had bases of operations on Noshima, Kurushima, and Innoshima, working mainly around the Geiyo Islands, but also widely in the Seto Inland Sea.

The Seto Inland Sea has long been a hub for sea transit. While the waters appear to be relatively calm, the complicated geography of the Seto Inland Sea means that there are vast differences between high tide and low tide, as well as places where the eddies are tricky, making it dangerous to navigate. The Murakami KAIZOKU built naval castles along many of the shipping lanes and would collect tolls from ships passing through. The pirates would guide ships that paid the tolls and safely navigate them in the tricky waters. They would also protect them should other pirates attack.

The word "pirates" makes many people think of a band of rowdy ruffians who attack other ships to plunder their goods and finery; however, the Murakami KAIZOKU followed a code and ensured safe passage of ships, protecting trade and the distribution of goods in the Seto Inland Sea. By learning about the history, lifestyle, and elegant culture of these unique pirates, you'll discover a whole new side to the idea of pirates, as protectors rather than plunderers.

Designated Japan Heritage: The Murakami KAIZOKU

Japan's tangible and intangible cultural properties have been preserved through narratives based on unique regional histories and traditions. By recognizing these stories as Japan Heritage, the Agency for Cultural Affairs plans to promote these historical legacies and to provide comprehensive support so that this heritage may be effectively preserved and maintained. The Murakami KAIZOKU were officially recognized as Japan Heritage in FY2016.



JAPAN HERITAGE
日本遺産



◀ Learn More
Japan Heritage:
Murakami KAIZOKU Official Site
(murakami-kaizoku.com)

Photo: former site of Noshima Castle



Shin-Onomichi Ōhashi Bridge

Length: **546 meters** (background)

Opened in May 1999

Onomichi Ōhashi Bridge

Length: **386 meters** (foreground)

Opened in March 1968

Note: both the Onomichi Ōhashi Bridge and Shin-Onomichi Ōhashi Bridge do not have bicycle lanes.

Ikuchijima-bashi Bridge

Length: **790 meters**

Opened in December 1991



Innoshima Ōhashi Bridge

Length: **1270 meters**

Opened in December 1983

Setouchi Shimanami Kaidō

Ōhashi Bridge Photo Collection

Bridging islands and people across the sea, get to know the personalities and breathtaking views of these incredible bridges.

Tatara Ōhashi Bridge

Length: **1480 meters**

Opened in May 1999



Ōmishima-bashi Bridge

Length: **328 meters**

Opened in May 1979



Hakata Ōshima Ōhashi Bridge

Length: **1165 meters**

Opened in January 1988

Kurushima Kaikyō Ōhashi Bridge

Length: **4150 meters**

Opened in May 1999



Yumesima Kaidō



Yuge Ōhashi Bridge

Length: **567 meters**

Opened in March 1996

Ikina-bashi Bridge

Length: **515 meters**

Opened in February 2011

Iwagi-bashi Bridge

Length: **916 meters**

Opened in March 2022



Zesty Shimanami Kaidō: Citrus Paradise

The islands of the Shimanami and Yumesima Kaidō are home to many different citrus fruits which are sold according to season at *Michi-no-Eki* rest stops, or even on the side of the road from unmanned fruit stalls. Be sure to try the incredible local flavors of these unique citrus fruits!

Spring



Amanatsu

Derived from summer mikan, ama-natsu are sweet with a hint of sour. Be careful: the thick inner skin is rather bitter!



Harumi

Derived from kiyomi; while the peel is a bit rough, this citrus fruit is a taste treat.



Setoka

Also derived from kiyomi; a rich sweetness with a thin, easy-to-peel skin.



Kiyomi

The first citrus fruit in Japan to combine the best of both oranges and mikan. Juicy and bursting with flavor!



Haruka

Derived from hyūga-natsu with a yellow-ish peel; refined sweetness with a refreshing fragrance.



Anseikan

Indigenous to Innoshima, this rather large citrus fruit has an elegant sweetness and is often given as a gift.

Fall

Green Lemon

These green lemons are a rare find outside of Shimanami! Perfect for topping udon or ramen, they have an incredibly mild taste.

Very-early and Early Ripening Satsuma Mandarin

While quite small, these mikan are juicy with the perfect balance of sweet and tart.

You can find these citrus fruits sold on the islands of Shimanami from winter to spring!



Winter

※

Ehime Kashi No.28 (Beni Madonna)

Developed by Ehime Prefecture, this citrus fruit melts in your mouth like a fine, silky gelée. Each beni madonna is raised with care, protected on the tree.

©Beni Madonna is a registered trademark of JA Zennō.

※

Kanpei Born in Ehime Prefecture and named for its sweetness and its squashed appearance, kanpei has a wonderful fragrance and deep sweetness.



Navel Orange

Known for its orange-like sweetness and rich fragrance.



Iyokan

Despite its thick skin, iyokan are easy to peel with your hands and make a great snack! Juicy and balanced with an intense flavor.



Harehime

Ehime Prefecture is the largest producer of harehime in Japan. With a refreshing fragrance like oranges, they're easy to peel and enjoy.



Ishiji (Satsuma Mandarin)

A variant of unshū mikan with a wonderful balance of sweet and tart; named for the person who discovered it in Kure City. It was registered as a new variety of mikan in 2000.



Hassaku

This fruit, created on Innoshima, gained national recognition after the success of the hassaku daifuku, a Japanese confection that combined this delightfully bitter fruit with the refined sweetness of white bean paste.



Shiranuhi (Dekopon)

A crossbreed of kiyomi and ponkan, dekopon is characterized by the knob on top, as well as its tempered sweetness and perfect amount of tart.

©Dekopon is a registered trademark of the Kumamoto Fruits Association. The official name of the variety is *Shiranuhi*.



Lemon

Ikuchijima is the number one producer of domestic lemons! Known for their sweetness within the sour, they have a wonderful fragrance to them, and you can use the zest for all kinds of dishes.

※Photo was provided by Ehime Prefecture.

Wait, what?

Shimanami Mysteries,

Fun facts that are sure to surprise!

1 Mystery

The precarious balance of the wobbling stones The Wobbling Stones of Iwashijima

The Wobbling Stones can be found in Nishi-Iwatake on Iwashijima. This local destination lies at the end of a rugged mountain road overlooking the islands of the Seto Inland Sea. Precariously balanced atop one another, the heavy stones are said to be a naturally-occurring phenomenon and the site is registered as a designated natural monument by Onomichi City.



2 Misconception

Aren't bikes the only way to cross the bridges?

Driving on the Shimanami Kaidō

The Shimanami Kaidō is known as a mecca for cycling enthusiasts both in Japan and overseas, leading many to think that the only way to travel the route is by bicycle. However, the Setouchi Shimanami Kaidō is the nickname of the Nishi-Seto Expressway and is equipped with 59.4 meters of lanes for cars only. With different views than the bicycle route, enjoy a leisurely drive across the Shimanami.



3 Miracle

A spiritual experience

The Great Camphor Tree of Ōyamazumi Shrine

The nature of the spiritual world has long been a mystery, and that's part of what draws people in. It has long been said that great trees that stand inside of shrine grounds have a strong spiritual energy, and many flock to them to share in that mysterious power. Ōmishima is home to the oldest primordial forest of camphor trees in Japan, designated as a National Natural Treasure in 1951. Of these trees, the one that stands before the main hall of the Ōyamazumi Shrine is thought to be 2,600 years old with has a domineering presence. Covering the sky with its proud branches, legend has it that if you make a wish and walk around the great trunk three times while holding your breath, it will come true. Come and experience the spiritual miracle of the Great Camphor Tree.



Misconceptions, and Miracles

4 Mystery

Shinkansen on an island?!

The Kamijima Shinkansen

Kamijima Town is made up of seven inhabited islands and 18 uninhabited islands, but did you know there is a shinkansen on one of them? Of course, it's not a working shinkansen that you can ride; it's actually a water meter! It is said that it was made to celebrate the creation of the shinkansen, but it was actually created as an original design by Yugejima when it was known as Yuge Town. You can see these little "shinkansen" here and there throughout the town.



5 Misconception

Not just a temple phenomenon!

Tatara Naki-ryū



At the Nikkō Tōshōgu Yakushi-ji Temple, it is said that if you hit two wooden clappers together under the roof where a great dragon is painted, it sounds like bells. They call this phenomenon *naki-ryū* or the Call of the Dragon, and it's caused by the multiple reverberations of parallel beams in the roof and walls. It's a common misconception that the *naki-ryū* effect is limited to temples or shrines; in

reality, you can also hear this effect in the Tatara Ōhashi Bridge that connects Ehime Prefecture and Hiroshima Prefecture! If you clap your hands in a certain location on the walkway, the sound echoes like it's climbing into the sky. This is because the

Tatara Ōhashi Bridge is built so precisely that the interior of the main bridge tower is almost perfectly straight. Give it a try!

6 Mystery

Carp, killifish, and flounder, oh my!

The Moat at Imabari Castle

Chosen as one of the 100 most beautiful castles in Japan, it is also one of the top three water castles in Japan with its saltwater inner moat and dock for military boats. Even today, the inner moat is connected to the sea and the water level changes with the tides. You can also sometimes see sea bream, flounder, rays, and sharks swimming in the moat. While this alone is quite unique, freshwater filters up from the bottom of the moat, meaning that you can also see freshwater killifish swimming there too! Saltwater fish and freshwater fish together in the same moat? I'm sure the fish are just as surprised.



Kamijima

Take in beautiful island views while meeting friendly locals.

Mt. Sekizen-zan Scenic Overlook



Located in the near exact center of Iwagijima, it's the best place to get a view of all the islands of Kamijima. A popular spot for cherry blossom viewing in the spring and hiking when the weather is fine.

DATA Kamijima Town Tourism Strategy Division
Tel: 0897-77-2252

YUMESHIMA CIRCLE

Take souvenir photos with views of the three Yumeshima Kaido bridges at this series of installations, completed in March 2022 to replace the Yumeshima Breakwater Art Project.

Yugejima



YUMESHIMA CIRCLE YUGE

Ikinajima



YUMESHIMA CIRCLE IKINA

Iwagijima



YUMESHIMA CIRCLE IWAGI

Adventures and Activities

The best way to get to know Kamijima Town is to jump right in! Meet the locals, and take in the sights, sounds, and hospitality while you surround yourself with the beauty of nature.

More Information

Setouchi Kamijima Trip(kamijima.info)



(Japanese)



DATA Kamijima Town Tourism Association Tel: 0897-72-9277 Hours: 8:30 am to 5:15 pm Closed: during new year holidays

A town composed of 25 wonderful islands

Kamijima

● Kamijima Town Official Website
Setouchi Kamijima Trip
Kamijima Tourism Guide (kamijima.info)



(Japanese)



3-star cuisine!



Kamijima Eats



Lemon and
Pork Ricebowl



Kami-Yuge
Bagel Sandwich



Yuge
Umi-no-Eki
Bento

Just a quick boat ride away! Yuge Seastation “FLAT”

This market has mooring facilities for boats and also features restrooms, shower stalls, and washing machines, as well as a place to meet the locals. A popular destination for cyclists and tourists alike!



DATA

Tel: 0897-72-9775
Hours: 8:30 am to 5:15 pm (restrooms, shower stalls,
washing machines available 24 hours a day)
Closed: New Years break
Fees: washing machines ¥300, dryers ¥100/10 minutes,
showers ¥100/3 minutes, water refills for mooring ¥100/day,
power feed ¥300/day



Takaikamijima Manga Wall Art

30 minutes by boat from Yuge Port, you'll find this massive manga wall art that can be seen from the docks. Includes pieces drawn exclusively for Takaikamijima; don't miss it!



Uoshima

Hyotanajima

Enoshima



Visit on
the "New Uoshima" Ferry
Sets sail 4 times per day

See page 15 for details about ferries

Seafood paradise Uoshima!

Famed for octopus fishing, the port is covered in octopus traps during the off season.



A sacred island in the center of the Geiyo Islands

Ōmishima



Ōyamazumi Shrine

Shrine where Ōyama Mitsu-no-Kami, the big brother of the sun goddess, Amaterasu Ōmikami, is worshipped. He has long been worshipped as the god of mountains, the ocean, and warriors. Inside the Museum of Treasures, you will find displays of armor, weapons, and more, including 8 National Treasures and 682 National Designated Important Cultural Properties.

DATA

Tel: 0897-82-0032
Hours: gates close at 5 pm
Open Year-Round Free admission
● Museum of Treasures
Hours: 8:30 am to 4:30 pm
Note that hours may be shortened.
For details, please contact the shrine.
Closes: 5 pm
Admission: Adults ¥1000,
University and high school students ¥800,
Middle and elementary school students ¥400



Tokoro Museum Ōmishima

A modern art museum that stands high on a hill overlooking the sea. Home to roughly 30 works of modern art from artists overseas and in Japan, such as Noe Katz, Giacomo Manzù, and Fukai Takashi.



DATA

Tel: 0897-83-0380 Hours: 9 am to 5 pm
Closed: Mondays (except when falls on nat'l holiday),
12/27-12/31
Admission: Adults ¥310, Students ¥160,
Senior citizens (65 and older) ¥250
(those younger than high school students are free)



Mare Gracia Ōmishima

A hot springs facility where you can enjoy 8 different kinds of baths, including hot saltwater soaks and an outdoor bath with a perfect view of the sunset. Savor a meal at the on-site restaurant and enjoy the island to the fullest!

DATA

Tel: 0897-82-0100 Hours: 10 am to 8 pm (admission ends at 7:30 pm)
Closed: Wednesdays, first Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of February
Fees: adults (middle school students or older) ¥520,
kids (3 years or older; elementary school students or younger) ¥260,
senior citizens (65 and older) ¥420

Hakata Salt Ōmishima Plant

Get a firsthand look at how Hakata Salt, known for its catchy TV commercials, is made at their Ōmishima plant! The plant features an extensive collection of souvenirs, including limited edition products that can only be purchased at the plant, t-shirts, Hakata Salt, and more! Be sure to give the hugely popular Hakata Salt soft serve a try!

DATA

Tel: 0897-82-0660 Hours: 9 am to 4 pm
Closed: Wednesdays (excludes national holidays), 12/28-1/7,
8/13-17 (be sure to check our facilities tour calendar for more)
Admission: Free



(Japanese)



Michi-no-Eki Rest Stop: Tatara Shimanami Park

Many cyclists stop here to snap a photo of the distinctive Cyclist Sanctuary Monument here. You'll also find restaurants, souvenir shops and a market selling local farm produce and seafood.

DATA

Tel: 0897-87-3866 (Restaurant, Marketplace)
Hours: 9 am to 5 pm (Restaurant 11 am to 3 pm,
Food Court 10 am to 5 pm) Opening hours may vary
on weekdays, weekends, National Holidays and
during the winter season.
Closed: Irregular closures in winter; check their
website for details



Michi-no-Eki Rest Stop: Shimanami Station Mishima

This Michi-no-Eki is located near the famous Ōyamazumi Shrine, known as one of the guardian shrines of Japan. A popular tourist destination, here you can find an incredible selection of Ōmishima specialty products, including local citrus fruits, vegetables, and more!

DATA

Tel: 0897-82-0002
Hours: 8:30 am to 5 pm
Open Year-Round



3-star cuisine!

Ōmishima Eats



A small island known for shipbuilding and maritime trade

Hakatajima



Dolphin Farm Shimanami

One of the biggest dolphin facility in Japan where you can swim with dolphins! Equipped with camping and glamping facilities so you can enjoy the outdoors your way.

DATA

Tel: 0897-72-8787 Hours: 9 am to 5 pm
 Closed: during inclement weather (typhoons, strong winds, etc)
 Admission fees: Adults (middle school students and older) ¥500
 Kids (4 years and older) ¥400
 Dolphin Experience (10 min lecture, 20 min with the dolphins) ¥5500
 Dolphin Swim Course
 3/15-10/31: 20 min lecture, 40 min swim/¥9900
 11/1-3/14: 10 min lecture, 20 min swim/¥6600
 Note: ¥550 admission discount on weekdays (excluding Golden Week holidays and August)



(Japanese)



Kita-Ura Hachiman Shrine

The oldest shrine on Hakatajima, it is said that the island was named after the Hakata area in Fukuoka. An important shrine in the community, legend has it that the large stone in the shrine grounds brings long-life and good connections.

DATA

Tel: 0897-73-0634
 Admission: Free

Mt. Hiraki-yama Park

Located on the top of Mt. Hiraki-yama, the park is known as a great place to see the cherry blossoms with 1,000 trees blooming in the springtime. From the wooden observation deck, you can see the Hakata/Ōshima Ōhashi Bridge, Ōmishima Ōhashi Bridge, and the Tataro Ōhashi Bridge.

DATA

Resident Service Division, Hakata Branch Office
 Tel: 0897-72-1500
 Open Year-Round
 Admission: Free



DATA

Tel: 0897-72-3300
 Hours: 9 am to 5 pm (Restaurant 11 am to 2 pm, Food Court 10 am to 4 pm) Opening hours may vary on weekdays, weekends, National Holidays and during the winter season.
 Closed: Jan. 1 (irregular closures in winter; check their website for details)

Michi-no-Eki Rest Stop: Hakata SC Park

Located at the foot of the Hakata/Ōshima Ōhashi Bridge, Marine Oasis Hakata offers souvenirs, locally-grown vegetables and citrus fruits, and has an on-site restaurant.



3-star cuisine!

Hakatajima Eats

Hakata Salt Ramen



Hakata Salt Soft Serve



Ōshima



Mt. Kirō-san Scenic Overlook Park



Located on the southern end of Ōshima, it is the best place to get a view of the Shimanami Kaidō. From atop the overlook bridge, designed by famed architect Kuma Kengo, on a clear day you can see the highest mountain in western Japan, Mt. Ishizuchi-san. You'll also get a clear view of the Kurushima Kaikyo Channel below.

DATA Resident Service Division, Yoshiumi Branch Office
Tel: 0897-84-2111
Open Year-Round Admission: Free

Ōshima Quarry Culture Tour

Ōshima is known for its exceptional granite. You can find beautiful works of stone art made using massive blocks of granite excavated on Ōshima in Quarry Culture Park. Be sure to catch the sculpture that depicts whirlpools! This tour will take you to a quarry site, an exhibit about stones, and other locations.



DATA Noshima-no-Sato NPO
Tel: 080-2989-5179
Open: weekends and nat'l holidays
Admission: Ōshima Stone Culture Tour Course A ¥2200 (Elementary School Students ¥1100) Up to 4 participants, Course B ¥1650 (Elementary School Students ¥850) Up to 20 approx participants
Reservations required: 2 tours per day



(Japanese)

Yoshiumi Rose Garden

This rose garden is home to 3,500 roses of approximately 400 varieties from around the world, and is the largest rose garden in the Chugoku region. Enjoy the beautiful roses from mid-May to the end of December, and be sure to stop in during the Rose Festival!

DATA Resident Service Division,
Yoshiumi Branch Office
Tel: 0897-84-2111
Open Year-Round
Admission: Free



Murakami Pirate Museum

Learn about the history and legacy of the largest band of pirates during the Warring States period of Japanese history: the Murakami Pirates. Glance out at the former site of Noshima Castle or simply admire the beauty of the Geiyo Islands from the observation deck.

DATA Tel: 0897-74-1065
Hours: 9 am to 5 pm (admission ends at 4:30 pm)
Closed: Mondays (excluding nat'l holidays), 12/29-1/3
Admission: Adults ¥310, Students ¥160,
Senior citizens (65 and older) ¥250
Note: those younger than high school students are free.



Michi-no-Eki Rest Stop: Yoshiumi Iki-Iki Market

Freshly-caught fish and locally-grown vegetables await at this great marketplace. Enjoy plump and tender fish from the Kurushima Kaikyo Channel at our on-site barbeque facilities!

DATA Tel: 0897-84-3710 Hours: 9 am to 5 pm (Restaurant 11 am to 2 pm, Food Court 10 am to 5 pm) Opening hours may vary on weekdays, weekends, National Holidays and during the winter season. Closed: Jan. 1 (irregular closures in winter; check their website for details)

Mt. Karei-yama Scenic Overlook Park

The perfect place to take in the sights from the islands of the Seto Inland Sea, to the former headquarters of the Murakami Pirates (Noshima Castle), and the whirlpool tides. There's also a campsite and walking trail.

DATA NPO Noshima-no-Sato
Tel: 090-2785-8889
Open Year-Round
Admission: Free (some fees apply to the campsite)



3-star cuisine!

Ōshima Eats

Seafood Barbeque



Approx. 10 minutes from Imabari by car



A hub of maritime transport overlooking the gorgeous islands of the Seto Inland Sea

Imabari



Kurushima Kaikyō Ōhashi Bridge

The world's first three-tower suspension bridge that allows you to cross the rapid tides of the Kurushima Kaikyō Channel. Every day, 500 boats make their way across the channel and under this fortress-like bridge.

Kurushima Kaikyō Scenic Overlook Rest Stop and Shop



The best location to take in the Kurushima Kaikyō Channel. Inside, you'll find exhibits about bridge construction and information about the Murakami Pirates. Be sure to pick up some local specialty products at the market!

DATA Tel: 0898-41-5002
Hours: 9 am to 6 pm
(December–February: 9 am to 5 pm)
Closed: 12/29–12/31 Admission: Free



Imabari Castle

Built by famed daimyō Tōdō Takatora in the early Edo period, the waters of the moat at Imabari Castle rise and fall with the tides, a rare sight among Japanese castles. From the top of the castle tower, you can gaze out at the islands in the Seto Inland Sea and at the Ishizuchi Mountains, the highest mountain range in western Japan.

DATA Tel: 0898-31-9233
Hours: 9 am to 5 pm Closed: 12/29–12/31
Admission: Adults ¥520, Students ¥260
Groups (20 or more): Adults ¥420, Students ¥210
(high school students and younger or those 18 years or younger are free)
Senior citizens (65 years and older): ¥420

Towel Museum

This one-of-a-kind museum conveys Imabari's culture of towels. Not just a place for visitors to purchase high-quality towels, this museum also features how Imabari towels are made, as well as exhibits that turn them into dazzling works of art! You can also find a restaurant and cafe, as well as a spacious European-style garden.

DATA Tel: 0898-56-1515
Hours: 9:30 am to 6 pm
Closes during winter
Admission: Adults ¥1100, Middle and high school students ¥800, Elementary school students ¥600, Senior citizens (65 years or older) ¥600 (group discounts available)



Habari Minato Exchange Center

A distinctive modern building with ferry waiting area, cafe restaurant, event hall and fantastic views. Market held on 2nd & 4th Sunday of each month.

DATA Imabari Harbor and Fishing Port Department
Tel: 0898-36-1545
Operating hours and days off vary depending on service.



Michi-no-Eki Rest Stop: Imabari Yu-no-Ura Hot Springs

This Michi-no-Eki Rest Stop is located in front of the first Ministry of the Environment Designated Hot Spring Health Resort in the Chugoku region, Imabari Yu-no-Ura Hot Springs. Enjoy a meal prepared with local ingredients at the restaurant or browse for souvenirs.

DATA Tel: 0898-47-0990
Hours: 9 am to 6 pm (7/1–8/31: 8:30 am to 6:30 pm)
Open Year-Round

Former Oshima Geiyo Fortress

Within the Geiyo Islands, there was once a fortress built to protect against invasion by the Russian Navy during the Meiji period. The former Oshima Geiyo Fortress is a historical site where you can find gun batteries, red brick barracks, ammunition storage buildings, and more. Take a stroll along the walking path on the island, easily reachable by boat from Hashihama Port.

DATA Imabari Station Tourist Information Center Tel: 0898-36-1118



3-star cuisine!





Imabari

Feel the ocean breeze
and roll with the ocean tides
in Shimanami

The sparkling blue skies overhead,

the tranquil azure of the seas,

the deep green islands that appear to float on the horizon.

The distinctive colors of Shimanami

paint the region into an artist's vision.

Follow the gentle breeze

and find your favorite landscape.



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