



# Visit Wakayama

The Official Guide





# WHERE IS WAKAYAMA?

Just 40 minutes from Kansai International Airport, Wakayama faces the Pacific Ocean and occupies a large slice of the Kii peninsula. Wakayama is part of the Kansai region, which includes Osaka, Nara and Kyoto. Wakayama City, the prefectural capital, is just one hour from Osaka by train.

Inland Wakayama is dominated by the Kii mountains, home to World Heritage ancient pilgrimage routes, sacred shrines and mountaintop temples. Along the coastline which spans more than 600 kilometres, there are world-class beaches, hot spring retreats and awe-inspiring ocean views.

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Sacred mountaintop temple complex high up in the Kii mountains

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**Wakayama City** MAP p.54

The gateway to the Kii peninsula and former strategic stronghold

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Rustic charm abounds in the birthplace of Japanese soy sauce

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Sandy beaches and spectacular coastal scenery to rival some of the world's top seaside resorts

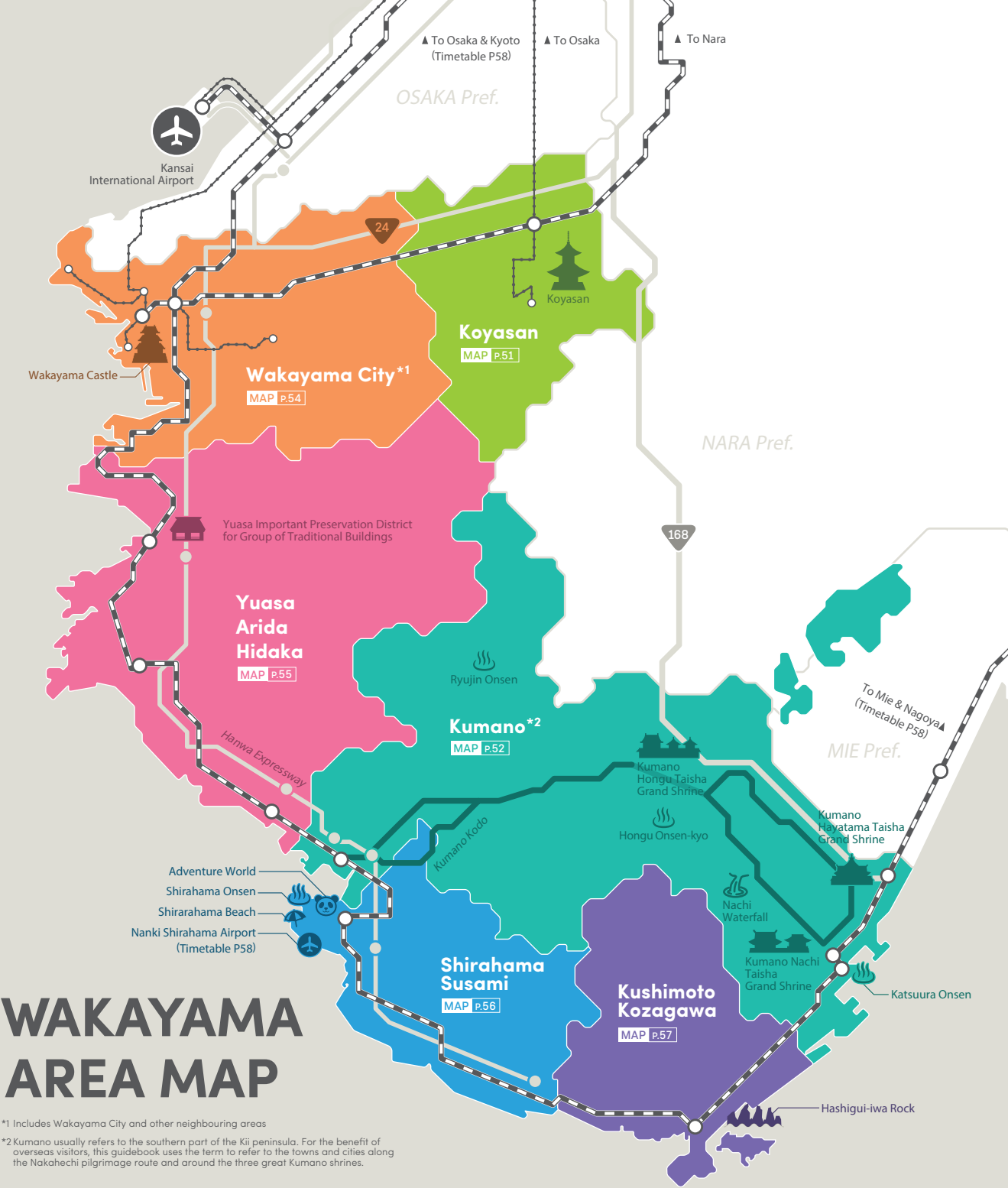
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Curious rock formations and coral reefs in Wakayama's far south

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## WAKAYAMA AREA MAP

\*1 Includes Wakayama City and other neighbouring areas

\*2 Kumano usually refers to the southern part of the Kii peninsula. For the benefit of overseas visitors, this guidebook uses the term to refer to the towns and cities along the Nakahechi pilgrimage route and around the three great Kumano shrines.

### MAP KEY

Historic Site	Scenic Spot	Art Gallery / Museum	Amusement Park	Bicycle Rental	Activity / Experience	Credit Cards Accepted	Free Wi-Fi
Dining	Shopping	Onsen	Accommodation	Tourist Information		English Available	Tax-Free





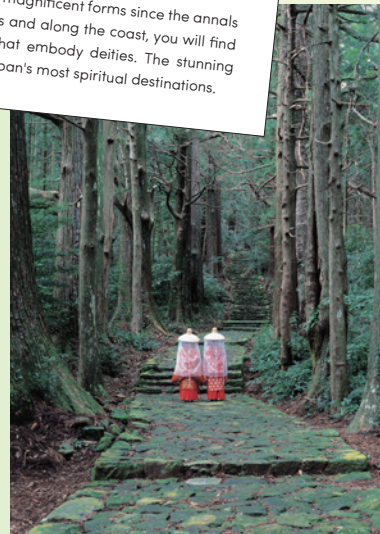
## Trek the Kumano Kodo Pilgrimage Routes

MORE ON [P.10](#)

Explore these fascinating trails traversing sacred mountains and winding through forests and small villages.

## The Spiritual Heart of Japan

The Japanese have worshipped nature in its most magnificent forms since the annals of the country's history. In Wakayama's mountains and along the coast, you will find waterfalls, ancient trees and even giant rocks that embody deities. The stunning abundance of nature makes Wakayama one of Japan's most spiritual destinations.



## Taste the Very Freshest Tuna in Katsuura

MORE ON [P.38](#)

Boasting the biggest tuna fish haul in Japan, Katsuura is the place to go for the tastiest tuna.



## Meet the Animal Stars of Wakayama

MORE ON [P.23,27](#)



Visit Wakayama's super cute animal stars at Adventure World and Kishi Station.

## Relax & Unwind

A trip to Wakayama is about escaping the stresses of everyday life, reconnecting with nature and taking things easy. Passing through coastal towns, mountain villages and hot spring hamlets, expect to encounter friendly locals and awe-inspiring scenery. Along the way, the succulent fruit and fresh seafood will keep your tastebuds happy.

# The Best of Wakayama

## Stroll the Streets of Nostalgic Yuasa

MORE ON [P.24](#)

Explore the narrow winding streets of Yuasa for traditional architecture and a charming view of old Japan.



## Bathe in a River in the Hongu Onsen-kyo

MORE ON [P.41](#)

Relax and unwind the Japanese way in the geothermal waters of the Hongu Onsen-kyo's hot spring hamlets.



## Visit an Orchard in The Fruit Kingdom

MORE ON [P.42](#)

Known as The Fruit Kingdom, Wakayama has a myriad of fruit farms. Choose one for some pick-your-own fun.



## Stand at the Foot of Nachi Waterfall

MORE ON [P.15](#)

Water thunders down the rock face from the top of this impressive waterfall, one of the most sacred and awe-inspiring spots in southern Wakayama.



## Sunbathe on Shirahama's Unbelievably White Beaches

MORE ON [P.26](#)



Pristine beaches, mesmerizing blue water and dramatic coastal scenery, Shirahama is one of the region's top seaside resorts.



## Explore the Old Fortress Islands of Tomogashima

MORE ON [P.21](#)

Home to an abandoned fort, the Tomogashima islands conjure up images of Laputa, the floating island in the Studio Ghibli movie Castle in the Sky.

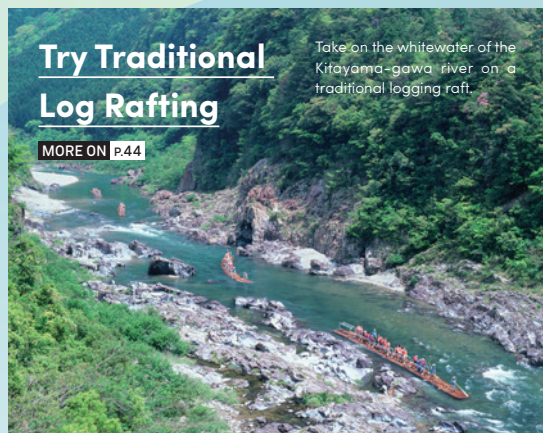
## A Land of Water

Whether its the healing geothermal waters of one of the region's hot springs, the deep blue of the Pacific or the crystal clear streams that run down from the mountains, water is everywhere in Wakayama. Enjoy making it a part of your experience and sampling the delicacies it provides.

## Try Traditional Log Rafting

MORE ON [P.44](#)







Take on the whitewater of the Kitayama-gawa river on a traditional logging raft.





# Koyasan

Nestled in the mountains to the north east of the region, Koyasan is a sacred temple town founded more than 1,200 years ago by the Buddhist monk Kobo Daishi, or Kukai as he was also known. The legendary man was the pioneer of the Shingon sect of Buddhism. His mausoleum is at Okuno-in, at the heart of the temple complex. Koyasan, a World Heritage site, attracts visitors from around the world. Everyone is welcome regardless of their faith, and many of the temples offer overnight stays, Buddhist dining and a range of activities and experiences.

 Kansai Airport ... 2 h ...  Gokurakubashi ... 5 min ...  Koyasan  
 Namba ... 1.5 h ...  Gokurakubashi ... 5 min ...  Koyasan



MAP P.51



Moss-covered tombstones at Okuno-in



## Okuno-in

奥之院

The most sacred site in Koyasan, this is where Kobo Daishi, the founder of the temple town, is said to be in a state of eternal meditation. A 2-kilometre path leads from Ichinohashi, the entrance of Okuno-in, to the Lantern Hall and Kobo Daishi's mausoleum. The path is lined with thousands of moss-covered tombstones and ancient cedar trees.

550 Koyasan, Koya Town  
[www.koyasan.or.jp/en/meguru/sights.html#okunoin](http://www.koyasan.or.jp/en/meguru/sights.html#okunoin)

 Karukayado-mae »  5 min



## Danjo Garan Sacred Temple Complex


壇上伽藍

The Danjo Garan complex is the centre of Koyasan. It was founded by Kobo Daishi as a place for training in esoteric Shingon Buddhism. Several temples are located inside the complex, and the 49-metre tall Great Pagoda, or Konpon Daito, is impressive in its scale. A statue of the Dainichi Nyorai, Shingon Buddhism's main Buddha, is housed inside.

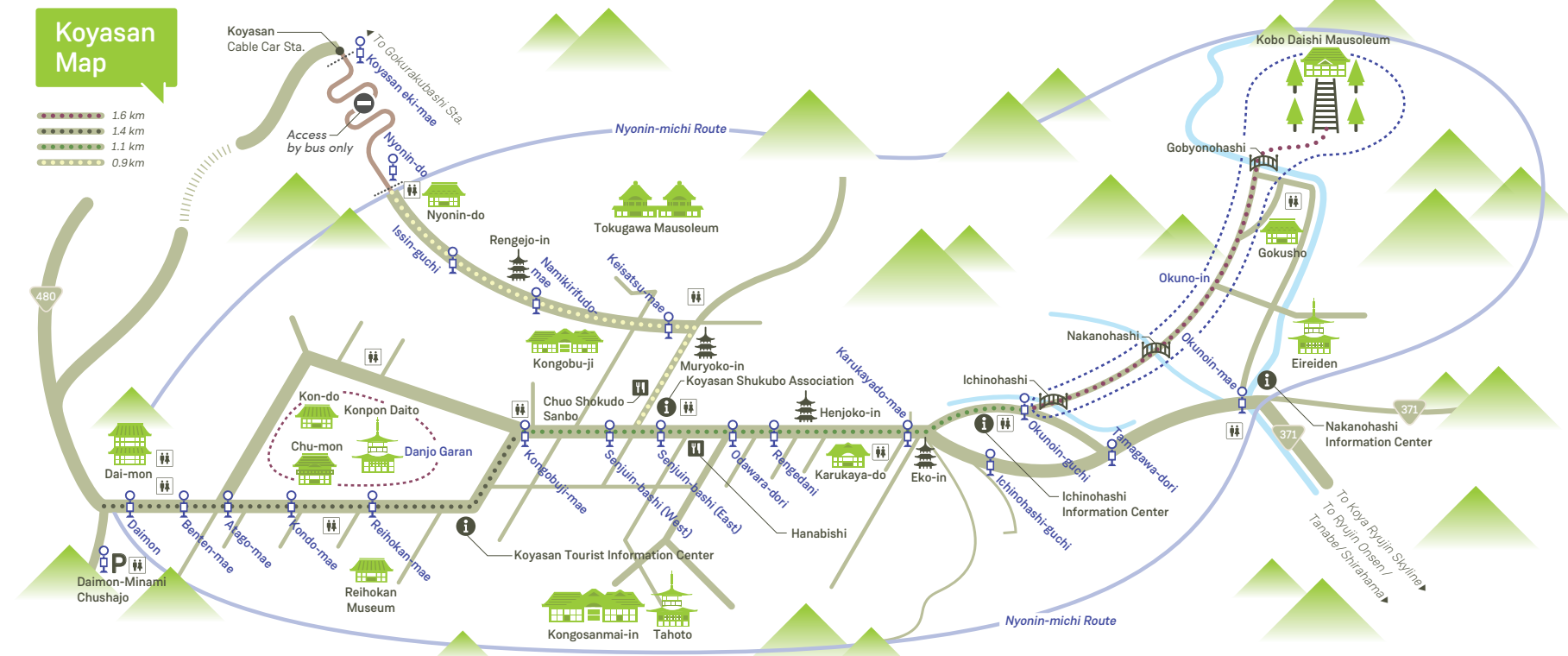
8:30 - 17:00

Kondo, Konpon Daito: ¥200 

152 Koyasan, Koya Town

[www.koyasan.or.jp/en/meguru/sights.html#danjogaran](http://www.koyasan.or.jp/en/meguru/sights.html#danjogaran) 

 Kondo-mae »  1 min







MAP P.51 | C-9

## Kongobu-ji Head Temple

金剛峯寺

The head temple of Koyasan Shingon Buddhism, Kongobu-ji is one of Koyasan's top attractions. Highlights include the beautiful paintings on the sliding doors inside the main hall and the Banryutei garden, Japan's largest and arguably most beautiful rock garden. The temple also offers ajikan meditation sessions.

🕒 8:30 - 17:00  
¥500 (adults), ¥200 (children)  
132 Koyasan, Koya Town  
[www.koyasan.or.jp/en/kongobuji/](http://www.koyasan.or.jp/en/kongobuji/) 📶  
🚶 Senjuin-bashi » 🚶 3 min

### DID YOU KNOW ?

Many of Koyasan's temples open their doors to visitors, offering accommodation, meals and an insight into Buddhist life. Each has its own unique character. Some have meticulously raked gravel gardens while others display splendid collections of Buddhist art. Staying at a temple, or 'shukubo', gets you a behind-the-scenes look at some of the area's most prestigious temples. If you don't feel like an overnight stay, you can sign up for a meditation session, take part in a fire ceremony or try sutra copying, 'shakyo' in Japanese. The Koyasan Shukubo Association can help arrange activities and temple stays.

<http://eng.shukubo.net> MORE ON P.48



### Food for the Soul

Koyasan is famed for its Buddhist cuisine. Termed 'shojin ryori' in Japanese, this meat and fish-free cuisine has been eaten by monks for centuries. It is prepared following strict rules, with particular attention given to colour balance and presentation. Minimal seasonings are used with the emphasis on the original flavours of the ingredients. Several restaurants and many of the temples in Koyasan serve shojin ryori.

MORE ON P.38



MAP P.51 | A-9

## Dai-mon Gate

大門

🚶 Daimon » 🚶 1 min

At 25-metres tall, there is no missing the large gate marking the west entrance to Koyasan. After previous gates were destroyed by forest fires and other incidents, the present gate was erected in 1705. Don't miss the intricately carved statues that stand guard on either side.

Koyasan, Koya Town  
[www.koyasan.or.jp/en/meguru/sights.html#daimon](http://www.koyasan.or.jp/en/meguru/sights.html#daimon)



MAP P.51 | C-8

## Tokugawa Mausoleum

徳川家霊台

🕒 8:30 - 17:00  
¥200  
682 Koyasan, Koya Town  
[www.koyasan.or.jp/en/meguru/sights.html#tokugawa](http://www.koyasan.or.jp/en/meguru/sights.html#tokugawa)  
🚶 Namikirifudo-mae » 🚶 1 min



The third Tokugawa shogun had this mausoleum built for his father and grandfather. The two buildings, with their graceful sloping roofs, intricate carvings and gold leaf designs, are gorgeous examples of 17th-century Japanese architecture.

MAP P.51 | C-2

## Jison-in Temple

慈尊院

🕒 8:00 - 17:00  
832 Jison-in Temple, Kudoyama Town  
<http://jison-in.org/about/top.html> (JP)  
🚶 Nankai Kudoyama » 🚶 20 min



Until the late 1800's, women were not allowed to worship at Koyasan. Jison-in, a temple at the start of the Koyasan Choishimichi pilgrimage route, welcomed female devotees. Today it is known for the breast-shaped offerings hung around the temple.

## Guided Tours of Koyasan

KCCN  
(Koyasan Cross-Cultural Communication Network)

Located in the Koyasan Daishi Kyokai building, KCCN offers guided tours of Koyasan in multiple languages. Book in advance to avoid disappointment.

📞 0736-56-2270/ 090-1486-2588  
🕒 10:00 - 16:00  
[www.geocities.jp/koyasan\\_i\\_g\\_c/](http://www.geocities.jp/koyasan_i_g_c/)

Koyasan App

The Koyasan Travel Guide is the official tourism app for Koyasan. Download it to make the most of your stay in the area.



MAP P.51 | C-10

## Reihokan Museum

高野山霊宝館

🕒 May - Oct: 8:30 - 17:30 Nov - Apr: 8:30 - 17:00  
📅 Dec 28 - Jan 4 ¥600  
306 Koyasan, Koya Town  
[www.koyasan.or.jp/en/meguru/sights.html#reihokan](http://www.koyasan.or.jp/en/meguru/sights.html#reihokan)  
🚶 Reihokan-mae » 🚶 1 min



The Reihokan Museum was established in 1921 to house the valuable cultural heritage of Koyasan. The building itself is a listed building and contains some of the finest examples of Buddhist artwork.

MAP P.51 | C-2

## Kudoyama-Sanada Museum

九度山・真田ミュージアム



Yukimura Sanada was the last great commander in the Warring States period (16th century). This museum in Kudoyama, where Sanada spent time in exile, tells the story of this heroic military figure, and includes props from a recent hit TV drama.

🕒 9:00 - 17:00  
¥500 (adults)  
\*Student and group discounts available

1452-4 Kudoyama, Kudoyama Town  
[www.kudoyama-kanko.jp/sanada/](http://www.kudoyama-kanko.jp/sanada/) (JP)

🚶 Nankai Kudoyama » 🚶 10 min



熊野エリア

# Kumano

One of the most spiritual places in Japan, the World Heritage Kumano region is home to the Kumano Sanzan, three of the nation's most sacred shrines. These are linked by a network of ancient pilgrimage routes. The five main routes are known as the Kumano Kodo. The Nakahechi route, running from Tanabe to Kumano Hongu Taisha and the other grand shrines, is the most popular. It is easily accessible from Wakayama City and dotted with both lodgings and rest areas. Covering the entire route takes the best part of a week.

Tennoji ... 2 h ... Kii-Tanabe  
Nagoya ... 3 h 20 min ... Shingu



MAP P.52

The pagoda at Nachisan Seiganto-ji Temple

田辺

## Tanabe

Tanabe, the second largest city in Wakayama, offers easy access to the Nakahechi route and has developed as a base for walking the Kumano Kodo pilgrimage routes. It also attracts many aikido enthusiasts as the birthplace of aikido founder Morihei Ueshiba.



MAP P.52 | A-4

### Ajikoji Food Entertainment District

味光路

A network of narrow streets, Tanabe's Ajikoji is packed full of small bars and restaurants. Embark on a journey of culinary exploration and enjoy bar-hopping Japanese style.

Minato, Tanabe City  
[www.tb-kumano.jp/en/dining/gourmet-map/](http://www.tb-kumano.jp/en/dining/gourmet-map/)

JR Kii-Tanabe » 2 min

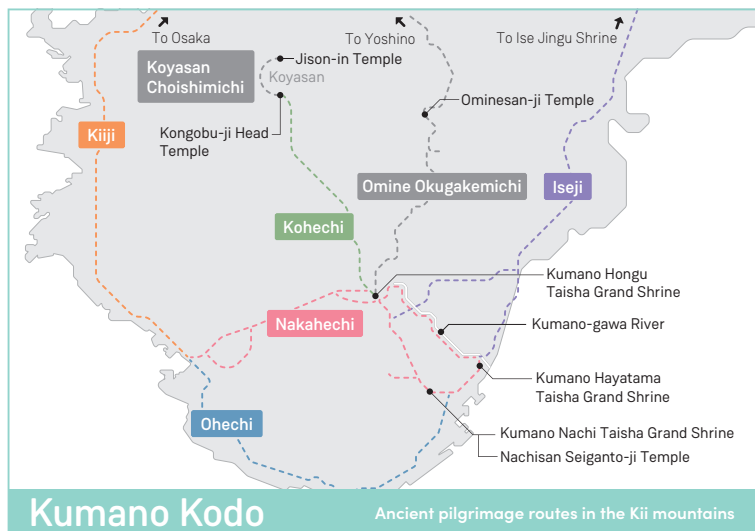
MAP P.52 | A-4

### Tokei-jinja Shrine

闘鶏神社

This modest shrine newly included on UNESCO's list of Sacred Sites and Pilgrimage Routes in the Kii Mountain Range, stands near the start of the Ohechi pilgrimage route. It is worth stopping by for the morning market on the third Sunday of the month.

JR Kii-Tanabe » 5 min



### Kumano Kodo Guides & Information

For detailed multilingual information on the Kumano Kodo pilgrimage routes, visit the Tanabe City Tourism Bureau's website where you can also book hotels, guided tours and walking adventures. The main guide groups in the area are Kumano Trek and Mi-Kumano.

Tanabe City Kumano Tourism Bureau  
0739-26-9025  
[www.tb-kumano.jp/en/](http://www.tb-kumano.jp/en/)

Mi-Kumano  
<http://en.mi-kumano.com>

Kumano Trek  
[www.kumano-travel.com/index/en/action\\_ContentsDetail\\_Detail/id252](http://www.kumano-travel.com/index/en/action_ContentsDetail_Detail/id252)

#### DID YOU KNOW ?

STEP 1  
Bow twice



Everyone is welcome to pray at a Shinto shrine. Begin by gently throwing a coin into the offering box, usually in front of the main building. This is an offering to the enshrined deity. If you want to do it the Japanese way, ring the bell, then bow twice, clap twice and offer your prayer. Finish with one deep bow. If in doubt, just copy a local.

STEP 2  
Clap twice



STEP 3  
Bow once



#### Something to Take Home

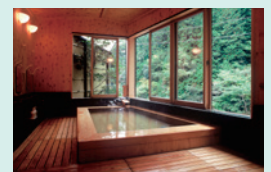


Talismans from the region's holiest shrines (Kumano Hongu Taisha, Kumano Hayatama Taisha and Kumano Nachi Taisha) are believed to ward off evil and bring good fortune. Known in Japanese as 'go-o-shinpu', these charms have been coveted by worshippers since ancient times. Each of the shrines has its own unique talisman but all bear the symbol of a mythical three-legged crow. You can pick one up for ¥500.

MAP P.52 | C-2

### Ryujin Onsen

龍神温泉



With its unrivalled water quality, the hot spring hamlet of Ryujin Onsen has been on the map since ancient times, receiving famous guests such as the feudal lord of the Wakayama region in the 17th century. The water is believed to improve the skin. Many of the baths have scenic views.

MORE ON P.41



# The Nakahechi Pilgrimage Route

## Takijiri-oji to Kumano Hongu Taisha Grand Shrine

This 38-km section of the Nakahechi pilgrimage route winds along forest trails and through mountain villages. Most people complete the hike in two days with an overnight stay in the Chikatsuyu-oji or Nonaka Ipposugi area. Buses from Tanabe and Shirahama stop at Takajiri-oji and link other stops on the trail.



MAP P.53 | D-1

### Kumano Hongu Taisha Grand Shrine

熊野本宮大社

This shrine, with its beautiful sweeping cypress bark roofs, is one of the three main shrines of the Kumano faith. The entrance is up a long flight of stone steps flanked by ancient cedar and cypress trees. The main shrine building is an architectural masterpiece, and there is a treasure hall you can enter for a small fee.

8:00 - 17:00  
Hongu, Hongu-cho, Tanabe City  
www.hongutaisha.jp/english/  
Hongu Taisha-mae » 5 min

MAP P.53 | D-2

### Oyunohara

大斎原

Until a flood in 1889, this is where Kumano Hongu Taisha Grand Shrine stood. Now only two small stone shrines remain, guarded over by the world's largest torii gate.



Oyunohara » 1 min

1 Hongu, Hongu-cho, Tanabe City  
www.hongu.jp/kumanokodo/hongu-taisya/ooyunohara/ (JP)

MAP P.53 | D-1

### Kumano Hongu Heritage Center

世界遺産熊野本宮館

A modern facility near the entrance to Kumano Hongu Taisha Grand Shrine, the centre doubles as a tourist information office and museum with displays on the UNESCO pilgrimage routes and sacred sites in the region.



9:00 - 17:00  
100-1 Hongu, Hongu-cho, Tanabe City  
www.city.tanabe.lg.jp/hongukan/en/index.html

#### While Walking

The small shrines that line the paths of the Kumano Kodo are called Oji Shrines. Serving as places of worship and rest, they were set up to protect and guide pilgrims on their journeys to the Kumano Sanzan shrines. As a set, they are often referred to as "The 99 Oji", but the exact number is unclear. How many will you spot?



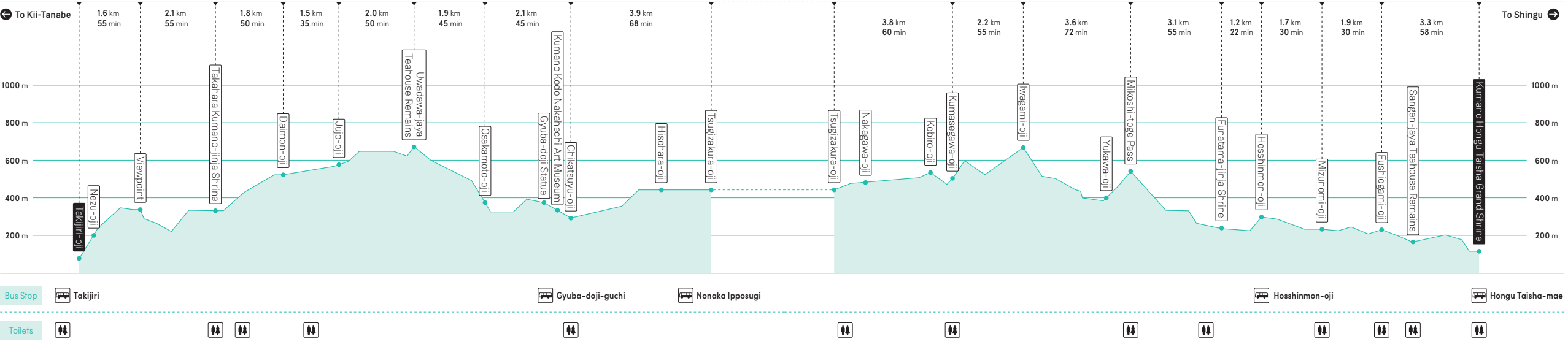
#### Relax After Walking

The best way to relax after a long walk is to soak in the rejuvenating geothermal waters of a local hot spring hamlet. Yunomine, Wataze and Kawayu are three of these and known collectively as the Hongu Onsen-kyo. From open-air riverside baths to a legendary samurai-healing bath, whichever you choose, you can be sure your feet will thank you.



MORE ON P.41

#### ROUTE Takijiri-oji to Kumano Hongu Taisha Grand Shrine 37.7 km





# Shingu

The Kumano region is one of Japan's most sacred places and nowhere is that more true than Shingu, where the 12 deities of the Kumano faith are said to have descended from the heavens. For centuries pilgrims have journeyed here to visit Hayatama Taisha and Kamikura-jinja. To really get a taste of heaven on earth, visit Doro-kyo Gorge.



MAP P.53 | A-7

Kumano Hayatama Taisha Grand Shrine

熊野速玉大社

Together with Hongu Taisha and Nachi Taisha, Hayatama Taisha is one of the three great Kumano shrines. According to tradition, pilgrims would sail down the Kumano-gawa river to this shrine after visiting Hongu Taisha. Compared to the latter, the grounds here feel more open and spacious, and the buildings are painted a striking vermilion. The onsite treasure hall has an impressive collection of invaluable art and artifacts.

1 Shingu, Shingu City

http://kumanohayatama.jp/ (JP)

Gongen-mae »

1 min



MAP P.52 | E-3

Kumano-gawa River Boat Tour

熊野川 川舟下り

Ride in a rustic wooden boat down the river to Hayatama Taisha, part of the pilgrimage route connecting the three great Kumano shrines. The journey takes 90 minutes. Ask at the time of reservation for an English-speaking guide.

Morning Tours: 10:00

Afternoon Tours: 14:30

\*Reservations required

☎ Dec 28 - Jan 4

¥3,900 (adults), ¥2,000 (children)

\*Children must be 4 years and older

54-8 Tanago, Kumanogawa-cho, Shingu City

http://kawabune.info/

Michi-no-Eki Kumano-gawa »

1 min

MAP P.52 | E-2

Doro-kyo Gorge

瀬峡

One of Japan's most magnificent and beautiful ravines, Doro-kyo extends 31 kilometres along the Kitayama-gawa river. The water is a beautiful emerald colour and the views breathtaking. Boat tours run between 9:30 and 14:30 (with earlier and later departures sometimes scheduled during peak months) from Dorokyo Meguri-no-Sato, a riverside restaurant and gift shop.

🕒 Dorokyo Meguri-no-Sato: 9:00 - 17:00

Boat tours: ¥3,440 (adults), ¥1,720 (children)

272 Hitari, Kumanogawa-cho, Shingu City

http://kumakou.co.jp/dorokyou/dk004.html (JP)

Shiko »

1 min

MAP P.53 | A-9

Kamikura-jinja Shrine

神倉神社

1-13-8 Kamikura, Shingu City

http://kumanohayatama.jp/?page\_id=18 (JP)

JR Shingu »

15 min

Closely tied with Hayatama Taisha, this small but stunning clifftop shrine marks the spot (a gigantic rock) where legend says the deities of Kumano descended. The stone steps leading to the shrine are not for the faint-hearted.



MAP P.52 | F-5

Koya-zaka Slope

高野坂



A 1.5-kilometre stretch of the Kumano Kodo Nakahechi pilgrim-age route, between Shingu and Nachi. The course leads up through a forest, and past stone statues to a lookout with a view of the ocean.

JR Shingu »

TAXI 15 min

MAP P.53 | C-8

Jofuku Park

徐福公園



Near the station, this park celebrates the legendary figure Jofuku, a Chinese man that came to Kumano in search of the elixir of life. A colourful Chinese-style gate marks the entrance.

🕒 8:30 - 17:00 (exceptions apply)

1-4-24 Jofuku, Shingu City

www.jofuku.or.jp/index.htm (JP)

JR Shingu »

1 min



# The Nakahechi Pilgrimage Route

## Daimon-zaka Slope to Kumano Nachi Taisha Grand Shrine

The walk up Daimon-zaka to Nachi Taisha is the perfect way to experience the Kumano Kodo without the planning and effort of a multi-day hike. The course, barely a kilometre in length, leads along a cobblestone path flanked with ancient trees. It takes around 50 minutes and can be walked in everyday shoes.



MAP P.52 | D-9



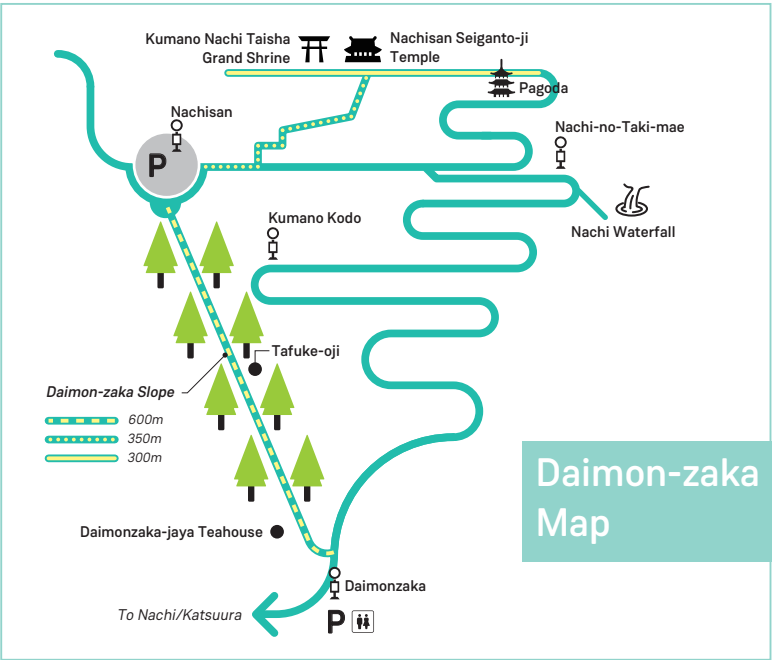
### Daimon-zaka Slope

大門坂

The cobblestone steps of the Daimon-zaka slope make a photogenic backdrop for pictures on the Kumano Kodo. The uniquely paved path runs for 600 metres and is a combination of manageable steps and gentle inclines. If lucky, you might catch someone walking the path in traditional Heian period (794-1185) costume. Alternatively, you can rent one at the teahouse at the start of the path.

Nachisan, Nachikatsuura Town  
www.tb-kumano.jp/en/kumano-kodo/nakahechi/daimon-zaka/

JR Kii-Katsuura » Daimonzaka » 6 min



Daimon-zaka Map

#### DID YOU KNOW ?

Buddhism first arrived in Japan at the beginning of the Asuka period (mid-6th century). After its arrival and up until 1868, the indigenous Shinto religion and Buddhism were merged together, and Shinto deities and the many forms of Buddha were worshipped side by side. This religious syncretism is called 'shinbut-su-shugo' in Japanese. The Kumano faith is an example of this.



MAP P.52 | B-10

### Kumano Nachi Taisha Grand Shrine

熊野那智大社

One of the three great Kumano shrines, this Shinto shrine's religious roots are in the ancient worship of Nachi Waterfall. Between the shrine and neighbouring Seiganto-ji Temple is an 850-year-old camphor tree believed to be home to another deity. Visitors can pass through a hollow section of the trunk and pray at the small altar inside.

1 Nachisan, Nachikatsuura Town  
www.kumanonachitaisha.or.jp/ (JP)

Nachisan » 10 min



MAP P.52 | B-10

### Nachisan Seiganto-ji Temple

那智山青岸渡寺

5:00 - 16:00  
8 Nachisan, Nachikatsuura Town  
www.nachikan.jp/en/nachikatsuura/

Nachisan » 10 min

Seiganto-ji with its picture-perfect pagoda is thought to have been founded in the early 5th century by a priest from India. It is closely tied to Kumano Nachi Taisha Grand Shrine and for a long time the two functioned as one religious institution. The precincts of the temple have magnificent views of Nachi Waterfall, and it is even possible to see the Pacific off to the south.

MAP P.52 | A-8

### Nachi Waterfall

那智大滝

Nachi Waterfall, with a cascade of 133 metres, is the highest waterfall in Japan. It is revered as the embodiment of a Shinto deity and has been a site of worship and spiritual training since ancient times. At the small shrine at the foot of the falls, water from the waterfall runs out through the mouth of an ornate dragon. According to legend, drinking this water grants longevity.

6:30 - 16:30  
Nachisan, Nachikatsuura Town  
www.nachikan.jp/en/nachikatsuura/

Nachi-no-Taki-mae » 5 min





# Katsuura

Looking out over Katsuura Bay, this rustic, slightly retro fishing hub first flourished by offering lodgings to pilgrims en route to Kumano Nachi Taisha Grand Shrine. Today, it is better known for its oceanside hot springs and lively morning fish market, which supplies Wakayama and the rest of Japan with some of the best tuna.



MAP P.53 | E-8

## Ki-no-Matsushima Cruise

紀の松島めぐり

Ki-no-Matsushima is a group of 130 distinctively-shaped islets in Katsuura Bay. Some resemble animals, explaining names like Camel Rock and Lion Island. A great way to see them up close is to take a tour. Boats leave the port several times a day, taking passengers around the islets, and then onto the whale museum in Taiji before returning. Tours last an hour.

8:00 - 17:00

¥1,650 (adults), ¥830 (children)

442-20 Katsuura, Nachikatsuura Town  
<http://kinomatsushima.com/> (JP)

JR Kii-Katsuura 5 min



MAP P.53 | D-9

## Katsuura Port Fish Market

勝浦漁港 魚市場見学

More tuna is landed in Katsuura than anywhere else in Japan. At the local fish market, you can watch from designated observation areas as the fresh catch is lined up and sold off during the lively early morning auctions. After taking in the action, you can sample the goods at restaurants throughout the town.

7:00

Saturdays (exceptions apply)  
7-8-2 Tsukiji, Nachikatsuura Town  
[www.nachikan.jp/en/nachikatsuura/](http://www.nachikan.jp/en/nachikatsuura/)

JR Kii-Katsuura 3 min

MAP P.53 | C-6

## Fudarakusan-ji Temple

補陀洛山寺

Stories tell of monks sailing off into martyrdom in small boats destined for Buddhist paradise from this ancient temple. A replica of one such boat is on display in the grounds.

8:30 - 16:00

348 Hamanomiya, Nachikatsuura Town  
[www.nachikan.jp/en/nachikatsuura/](http://www.nachikan.jp/en/nachikatsuura/)

JR Nachi 3 min

MAP P.53 | E-7

## Benten-jima Island

弁天島

A red torii gate stands on this sacred islet in Nachi Bay. At low tide, you can walk across and from the small island, see Nachi Waterfall off in the distance.

Nachikatsuura Town  
[www.wakayama-kanko.or.jp/spot/detail.php?id=462](http://www.wakayama-kanko.or.jp/spot/detail.php?id=462) (JP)

JR Kii-Katsuura 15 min

### Onsen Hopping

Katsuura has more than 100 hot spring (onsen) sources. Many of the hotels, especially the larger ones like Urashima and Nakanoshima, get water direct from their own private sources. The rotenburo, or open-air baths, in the area have fantastic sea views. Some of the more unusual baths are found in caves and on islets in the bay. Spend a leisurely day hopping from bath to bath to find the best.

MORE ON P.37

### DID YOU KNOW ?

The biggest tuna ever sold at the fish market in Katsuura measured 2.82 metres and weighed 446 kilos: enough for more than 20,000 pieces of nigiri sushi. Although tuna from the region makes its way onto many menus throughout Wakayama, the very freshest is served in restaurants within walking distance of the market. Make sure to try some if you get the chance.

MORE ON P.40

P.18

P.19

Koyasan

Kumano

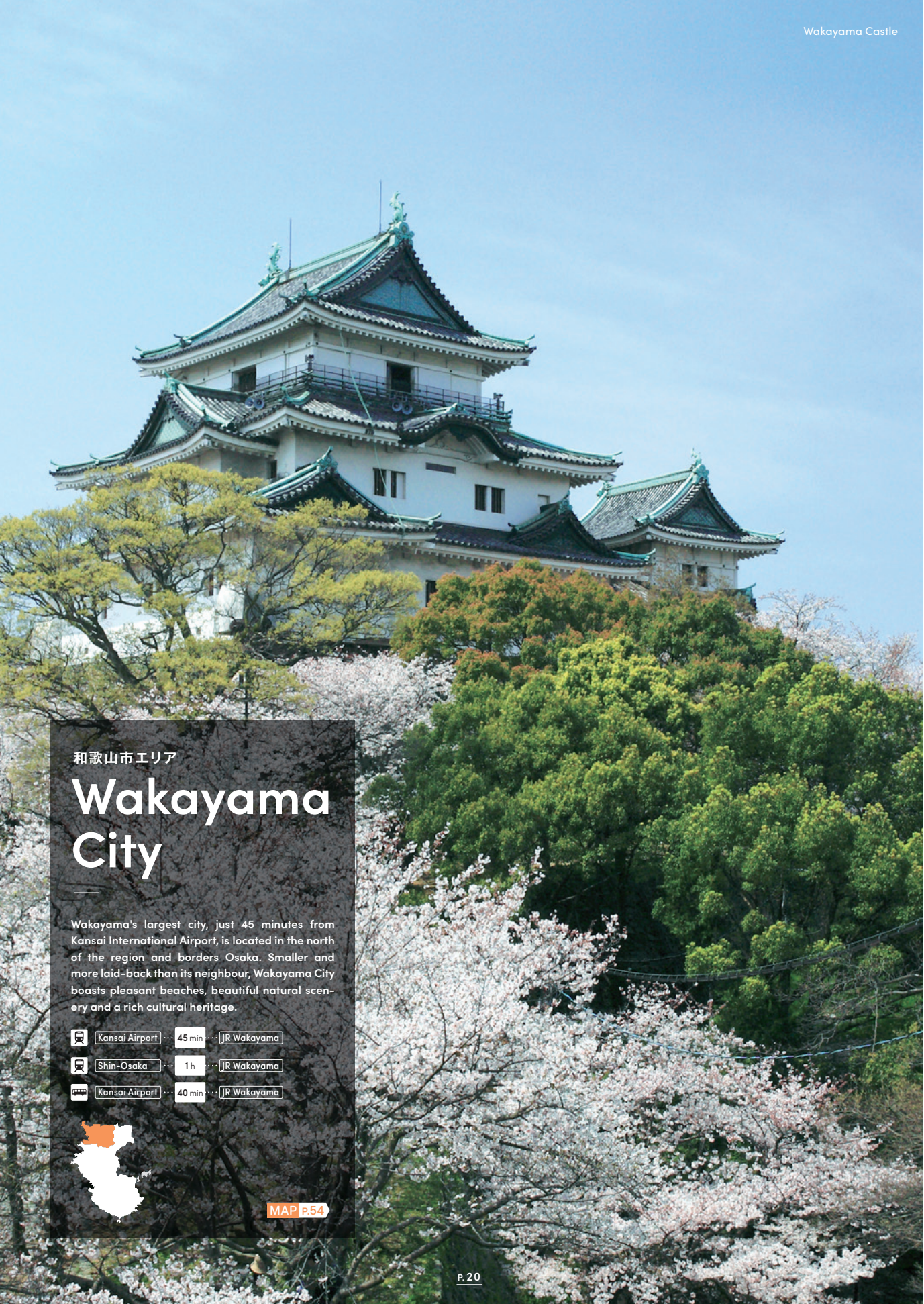
Wakayama City

Yasaka/Arida/Hidaka

Shirahama/Susami

Kushimoto/Kozogawa





和歌山市エリア

# Wakayama City

Wakayama's largest city, just 45 minutes from Kansai International Airport, is located in the north of the region and borders Osaka. Smaller and more laid-back than its neighbour, Wakayama City boasts pleasant beaches, beautiful natural scenery and a rich cultural heritage.

Kansai Airport

45 min

JR Wakayama

Shin-Osaka

1 h

JR Wakayama

Kansai Airport

40 min

JR Wakayama

MAP P.54

MAP P.54 | B-4

## Wakayama Castle

和歌山城

Built in 1585 on the instructions of powerful warlord Toyotomi Hideyoshi, Wakayama Castle dominates the city. It is one of Japan's finest castles and particularly impressive in spring when the cherry trees are in full bloom. Walk the beautiful grounds and climb to the top of the keep for a breathtaking view of the city.

🕒 9:00 - 17:00 📅 Dec 29 - 31 💰 ¥410 (adults), ¥200 (children)

3 Ichibancho, Wakayama City  
[https://en.visitwakayama.jp/venues/venue\\_8/](https://en.visitwakayama.jp/venues/venue_8/)

🚗 Shiyakusho-mae/Koen-mae » 🚶 3 min



MAP P.54 | B-4

## Momijidani Teien Garden

紅葉溪庭園

Beautiful, especially in autumn, this traditional Japanese garden is complete with a tea house where you can sample matcha green tea.

🕒 9:00 - 17:00

📅 Dec 29 - 31

[https://en.visitwakayama.jp/venues/venue\\_196/](https://en.visitwakayama.jp/venues/venue_196/)



MAP P.54 | B-4

## Wakayama Historical Center

わかやま歴史館

Learn about the castle and history of the Kishu domain (modern-day Wakayama). Admission is free with a ticket stub from the castle.



🕒 9:00 - 17:00 📅 Dec 29 - 31

3 Ichiban-cho, Wakayama City  
<http://wakayamajo.jp/tenji/index.html>

🚗 Shiyakusho-mae » 🚶 1 min



MAP P.54 | D-9

## Kataonami Park

片男波公園

A long stretch of beach and grassland, this seaside park offers panoramic views of Wakanoura Bay. Facilities include a restaurant, play area and poetry museum.



📅 Dec 29 - Jan 3

3 Wakaura-minami, Wakayama City  
[www.wacaf.or.jp/kataonami/index.html](http://www.wacaf.or.jp/kataonami/index.html) (JP)

🚗 Furobashi » 🚶 10 min



MAP P.54 | A-6

## Tomogashima Islands

友ヶ島

A short boat ride from Kada, these islands are home to the ruins of an abandoned military fort. Spend the day exploring or stay overnight at the free campsite.

📅 No boats Tuesdays or Wednesdays  
Round trip: ¥2,000 (adults), ¥1,000 (children)

Kada, Wakayama City  
<http://tomogashimakisen.com/syokai.html> (JP)

🚗 Nankai Kada » 🚶 20 min » 🚗 20 min





# WAKAYAMA MARINA CITY

和歌山マリーナシティ

Kuroshio Market / Porto Europa / Kishu Kuroshio Onsen

This oceanfront resort complex offers fun for all the family. European-themed amusement park Porto Europa boasts rides, games and a 4D theatre. At Kuroshio Market, you can take in a tuna filleting show. There are also shops, restaurants, hotels and a hot spring facility.

## GETTING THERE

JR Kainan » 15 min

JR Wakayama » 30 min



MAP p.54 | C-10

## Kuroshio Market

黒潮市場

10:00 - 17:00

1527 Kemi, Wakayama City  
www.marinacity.com/eng/



The highlight of a visit is easily the tuna show. Three times daily a professional fishmonger demonstrates the skills required to fillet an enormous fish. Even if you miss the show, there are plenty of shops and restaurants to explore. If the weather's good, you can buy some fish to barbecue outside.

3 TIMES A DAY  
1. 11:00 -  
2. 12:30 -  
3. 15:00 -



MAP p.54 | C-10

## Porto Europa

ポルトヨーロッパ



10:00 - 17:00

1527 Kemi, Wakayama City  
www.marinacity.com/eng/europa/



MAP p.54 | C-10

## Kishu Kuroshio Onsen

紀州黒潮温泉



10:00 - 24:00 ¥830 (adults), ¥520 (children) OK

1527 Kemi, Wakayama City  
www.marinacity.com/eng/hotspring/



MAP p.54 | D-9

## Kishu Tosho-gu Shrine

紀州東照宮

A picturesque hillside shrine built to enshrine the first Shogun of the Edo period (1603-1867). The shrine is at the top of a flight of 108 stone steps, known by locals as Samurai Hill. Once at the top, you can tour the beautifully carved and lacquered shrine, and take in the view of Wakanoura Bay.

2-1-20 Wakaura-nishi, Wakayama City  
www.d2.dion.ne.jp/~hidei/ (JP)

Wakaura-guchi » 10 min



MAP p.54 | F-8

## Stationmaster Tama II

たま二世駅長“ニタマ”(貴志駅スーパー駅長)

803 Kodo, Kishigawa-cho, Kinokawa City  
www.wakayama-dentetsu.co.jp/en/



Wakayama Electric Railway not only has a quirky lineup of strawberry, cat and toy-themed trains, but Kishi Station is overseen by a cute cat named Tama II. This lucky cat is the second feline stationmaster at Kishi and follows in the footsteps of her predecessor Tama, now the guardian deity of the station, enshrined on the platform. Visitors can meet and take photos of Tama II, quite possibly the most famous cat in Japan, and stop for a coffee in the station, also shaped to look like a cat.



DESIGNED BY EIJI MITOOKA + DON DESIGN ASSOCIATES



Now a park where you can picnic, barbecue or stroll, this gorgeous cliff-top expanse was once a fortified lookout. Although nothing of the fortress remains, it's worth a visit for the scenery alone.

MAP p.54 | C-9

## Bandoko Teien Garden

番所庭園

Apr - Aug: 9:00 - 18:00

Sep - Mar: 8:00 - 17:00

¥600 (adults), ¥300 (children)

Bandoko-no-Hana, Saikazaki, Wakayama City  
www.banndoko.com/ (JP)

Saikazaki Yuuen » 15 min



MAP p.54 | C-7

## Medetai Train

めでたい電車



Coloured pink and designed to look like a fish, this kitsch train runs from Wakayama-shi Station. Even the interior and seats are decorated with fish motifs.

www.nankai.co.jp/kada/medetai.html (JP)

Nankai Wakayama-shi

Nankai Kada







湯浅・有田・日高エリア

# Yuasa Arida Hidaka

The Yuasa, Arida and Hidaka area offers a slice of rural Japan. The quaint port town of Yuasa feels unchanged since olden days with its wooden buildings and narrow streets. Hida and Arida are dotted with fruit farms and rice fields, interesting temples and scenic views.

 Kansai Airport ... 1h ... Yuasa  
 Shin-Osaka ... 1.5h ... Yuasa



MAP P.55

The Yuasa Historical Preservation District

## DID YOU KNOW ?

Yuasa is the birthplace of Japanese soy sauce. Story has it that the condiment was discovered by pure coincidence after a priest returning from China brought back the skill for making miso, or soybean paste: soy sauce is made from the run-off fluids produced when making miso. For over 700 years, Yuasa has been producing some of the nation's best soy sauce and miso.



MAP P.55 | C-4

## Kadocho

角長

7 Yuasa, Yuasa Town  
[www.kadocho.co.jp/](http://www.kadocho.co.jp/) (JP)

 JR Yuasa »  15 min



Still making soy sauce in the traditional way in its original buildings, you can learn about the brewing process at this 170-year-old brewery and museum.

MAP P.55 | C-4

## Yuasa Important Preservation District for Group of Traditional Buildings

湯浅町湯浅伝統的建造物保存地区

The Preservation District protects the town's unique heritage and includes former soy sauce breweries and other Edo-period (1603-1867) buildings of cultural and architectural value.



MAP P.55 | F-2

## Aragijima Rice Terraces

あらぎ島

 JR Fujinami »  55 min

Particularly beautiful at the beginning of autumn when the rice fields turn from lush green to golden. The best view of the terraced fields is from the observatory across the river.

Shimizu, Aridagawa Town [www.town.aridagawa.lg.jp/aragijimaikan/](http://www.town.aridagawa.lg.jp/aragijimaikan/) (JP)



MAP P.55 | C-6

## Dojo-ji Temple

道成寺



This 8th-century temple is home to a collection of impressive Buddhist statues, recognized by the nation for their immense cultural importance. Tours in English can be booked via the website.

🕒 9:00 - 17:00

¥600

1738 Kanemaki, Hidakagawa Town  
[www.dojoji.com/e/index.html](http://www.dojoji.com/e/index.html)

 JR Dojo-ji »  7 min



MAP P.55 | A-5

## Shirasaki Coast

白崎海岸

Limestone outcrops and white cliffs contrast perfectly against an azure sea. Enjoy the view from Shirasaki Ocean Park which also offers scuba diving.

Obiki, Yura Town





 JR Kii-Yura »  20 min



白浜・すさみエリア

# Shirahama Susami

Sandy beaches and spectacular coastal scenery abound in Shirahama and Susami. These areas boast some of the best beaches nationwide, and are home to historic hot springs, as well as a zoo, amusement park and aquarium. No visit to Wakayama is complete without a stay by the sea.

	Haneda	1 h 15 min	Nanki Shirahama
	Kansai Airport	2 h	Shirahama
	Shin-Osaka	2.5 h	Shirahama
	Shin-Osaka	3.5 h	Shirahama

MAP P.56



Shirahama Beach

MAP P.56 | B-3

## Shirarahama Beach

白良浜

Shirahama Town  
[www.nanki-shirahama.net/sightseeing/](http://www.nanki-shirahama.net/sightseeing/)

The seaside resort of Shirahama is known for its sparkling white sand and frequently tops the list of the Kansai region's best beaches. The 650-metre stretch of sand fans out around a bay of calm blue water. When open for swimming in summer, it is a great place for all the family to splash around.

 Shirahama »  2 min



MAP P.56 | B-4

## Sandanbeki Cave

三段壁洞窟

Concealed at the foot of a cliff, this cave was a hangout for pirates. Visitors can take an elevator down from Sandanbeki Rock Cliff to explore the cave and its narrow passageways.

🕒 8:00 - 17:00 ¥1,300 (adults), ¥650 (children)  
<http://sandanbeki.com>



MAP P.56 | B-4

## Sandanbeki Rock Cliff

三段壁

Sandanbeki Rock Cliff is a steep cliff towering 50 metres above the sea. Together with Sandanbeki Cave, this scenic spot makes for an enjoyable excursion from Shirahama Beach.

2927-52 Shirahama Town  
[www.nanki-shirahama.net/sightseeing/](http://www.nanki-shirahama.net/sightseeing/) 

 Sandanbeki »  2 min



Sandanbeki Cave



Sandanbeki Rock Cliff

MAP P.56 | E-5

## Adventure World

アドベンチャーワールド



Don't miss out on a trip to Adventure World when visiting Shirahama. Part zoo, part safari park, part theme park, there are rides and roller coasters to choose from as well as open-top bus safaris, dolphin shows and exotic animal areas. Among the most popular animals are the pandas. Adventure World has its own panda breeding center and now has a total of seven giant pandas, more than any other zoo in Japan.

🕒 9:30 - 17:00 ¥4,100 (adults) \*Childrens' rates vary   
2399 Katata, Shirahama Town <http://aws-s.com/english/index.php> 

 Adventure World »  1 min

MAP P.56 | B-2

## Engetsuto Island

円月島

3740 Shirahama Town  
[www.nanki-shirahama.net/sightseeing/](http://www.nanki-shirahama.net/sightseeing/)

A natural archway carved over time by raging seas, Engetsuto Island is a fine example of natural architecture. Its Japanese name, Engetsuto, is a reference to the full-moon-like shape of its arch. In the spring and autumn months, this iconic Shirahama landmark is the best spot to watch the sun set.

 Rinkai »  3 min







MAP [P.56](#) | [A-4](#)

## Senjojiki Rock Plateau

千畳敷

A vast rocky expanse that stretches out into the Pacific Ocean. The name Senjojiki means 'a thousand tatami mats', alluding to both the size and shape of the plateau. Centuries of erosion have given the outcrop its unique flat form.

Senjojiki Shirahama Town  
[www.nanki-shirahama.net/sightseeing/](http://www.nanki-shirahama.net/sightseeing/)

Senjo-guchi » 3 min

MAP [P.56](#) | [C-9](#)

## Shihara Coast

志原海岸

Hiki, Shirahama Town

JR Kii-Hiki » 10 min



The dramatic coastline between Shirahama and Susami boasts unusual rock formations and great sea views. Shihara Kaigan Roadside Station is a good base to explore the coast, with parking and other facilities.



MAP [P.56](#) | [E-10](#)

## Meotonami

夫婦波

Mirozu, Susami Town

JR Mirozu » 10 min



From the lookout at Koibito-misaki, or Lovers' Cape, you can observe the unusual phenomenon of meotonami: waves uniting from opposite directions, symbolic of love and its ability to overcome all.

MAP [P.56](#) | [E-10](#)

## Crab and Shrimp Aquarium

すさみ町立エビとカニの水族館

This modest aquarium devoted to only crabs and shrimp is home to some of the most unique and unusual crustaceans from around the world including both the largest and the heaviest crabs.

☉ Apr - Sep: 9:00 - 18:00  
Oct - Mar: 9:00 - 17:00  
¥800 (adults), ¥500 (children)  
808-1 Esumi, Susami Town  
[www.ebikani-aquarium.com/](http://www.ebikani-aquarium.com/) (JP)

JR Esumi » 20 min



MAP [P.56](#) | [B-2](#)

## Minakata Kumagusu Museum

南方熊楠記念館

Dedicated to Wakayama-born biologist and naturalist Minakata Kumagusu, this museum tells the story of his life, recounting his achievements in the study of molds and fungi.



☉ 9:00 - 17:00 Thursdays (exceptions apply)  
¥500 (adults), ¥300 (children)  
3601-1 Shirahama Town  
[www.minakatakumagusu-kinenkan.jp/english/index.htm](http://www.minakatakumagusu-kinenkan.jp/english/index.htm)

Rinkai » 8 min



MAP [P.56](#) | [B-3](#)

## Shirahama Energy Land

白浜エネルギーランド

Energy Land is a small amusement park ideal for a fun day out. Children can learn about dinosaurs in the 3D theatre, have fun with illusion art and explore the adventure playground.



☉ 9:00 - 17:00 Tuesdays  
¥1,800 (adults), ¥1,200 (children)   
3083 Shirahama Town  
[www.energyland.jp/english](http://www.energyland.jp/english)

Shirahama » 3 min



### DID YOU KNOW ?



Shirahama is one of the oldest hot spring resorts in Japan. It dates back more than 1300 years and is mentioned in some of the country's most ancient histories. The properties of the water differ from bath to bath, but all have positive effects on the skin and body. Saki-no-Yu is a popular choice for its clifftop bathing and ocean vistas.

MORE ON [P.36](#)



串本・古座川エリア

# Kushimoto Kozagawa

Known for its natural beauty, southern Wakayama is home to clear rivers, a craggy coastline and colourful coral. For much of the year, whale-watching tours and scuba diving draw visitors to the coastal town of Kushimoto. Further inland, Kozagawa attracts campers and nature lovers.

 **Kansai Airport** ... 3 h ... **Kushimoto**

 **Tennoji** ... 3 h ... **Kushimoto**



MAP P.57



Hashigui-iwa Rock



MAP P.57 | D-7

## Hashigui-iwa Rock

橋杭岩

'Hashi' means bridge, and as legend has it, the revered monk Kobo Daishi attempted to build a bridge from the mainland to Oshima Island. Hindered by a demon, he was unsuccessful. What remains are these mysterious pillar-like rocks.

Kujinokawa, Kushimoto Town  
[www.kankou-kushimoto.jp/english/sub01.html](http://www.kankou-kushimoto.jp/english/sub01.html)

 **Hashigui-iwa** »  1 min



MAP P.57 | A-4

## Ichimai-iwa Monolith

一枚岩



Towering 100 metres above the emerald water of the Kozagawa river, this massive rock was created by intense volcanic activity. The scenic area is popular with campers in summer.

290-2 Aise, Kozagawa Town  
[www.town.kozagawa.wakayama.jp/kankou/sub001.html#1](http://www.town.kozagawa.wakayama.jp/kankou/sub001.html#1) (JP)

 **JR Koza** »  20 min



MAP P.57 | C-1

## Takinohai Waterfall

滝ノ坪



A myriad of potholes dot the riverbed and surrounding rocks of this bedrock river channel. In summer, locals gather around the small waterfall to catch sweetfish in the pool below.

774 Kogawa, Kozagawa Town  
[https://en.visitwakayama.jp/venues/venue\\_508/](https://en.visitwakayama.jp/venues/venue_508/)

 **JR Koza** »  35 min




MAP P.57 | B-7

## Kushimoto Marine Park

串本海中公園



Kushimoto is home to the world's northernmost coral reef. Explore this unique marine environment at the park, where facilities include an undersea observatory, aquarium and dive school.

🕒 9:00 - 16:30  
¥1,500 (adults), ¥700 (children)   
1157 Arida, Kushimoto Town  
<http://kushimoto.co.jp/english/>

 **Kushimoto Marine Park** »  1 min



MAP P.57 | C-10



## Cape Shionomisaki

潮岬



The southernmost tip of Japan's main island Honshu, Shionomisaki boasts rugged ocean scenery and lush green lawns where you can camp and fly kites. The cape also has a lighthouse and an observation tower with a restaurant.

🕒 Tourism Tower: 8:30 - 16:30 (exceptions apply) ¥300  
Lighthouse: 9:00 - 16:00 ¥200  
Shionomisaki, Kushimoto Town  
[https://en.visitwakayama.jp/venues/venue\\_508/](https://en.visitwakayama.jp/venues/venue_508/)

 **Shionomisaki Kanko Tower-mae** »  10 min



MAP P.57 | C-8

## Kushimoto Okyo Rosetsu Art Museum

串本応挙芦雪館

 **JR Kushimoto** »  15 min



In the grounds of Muryo-ji Temple, this cosy gallery houses scrolls and sliding doors decorated with beautiful ink paintings. The art is mostly by prominent Edo period (1603 -1867) artists.

🕒 9:30 - 16:30 From ¥700  
[www.muryoji.jp/index.html](http://www.muryoji.jp/index.html) (JP)  
833 Kushimoto, Kushimoto Town



### DID YOU KNOW ?

Turkey and Japan enjoy a strong friendship forged from an act of compassion shown more than 120 years ago. In 1890, an Ottoman naval vessel encountered a storm off Oshima Island, Wakayama. The ill-fated ship drifted into a reef and sank. Risking their own lives, locals launched a rescue and saved 69 Turkish sailors. The Turkish Memorial Museum in Kushimoto is a symbol of the bond between the two countries, and the town is twinned with Yakakent and Mersin in Turkey.

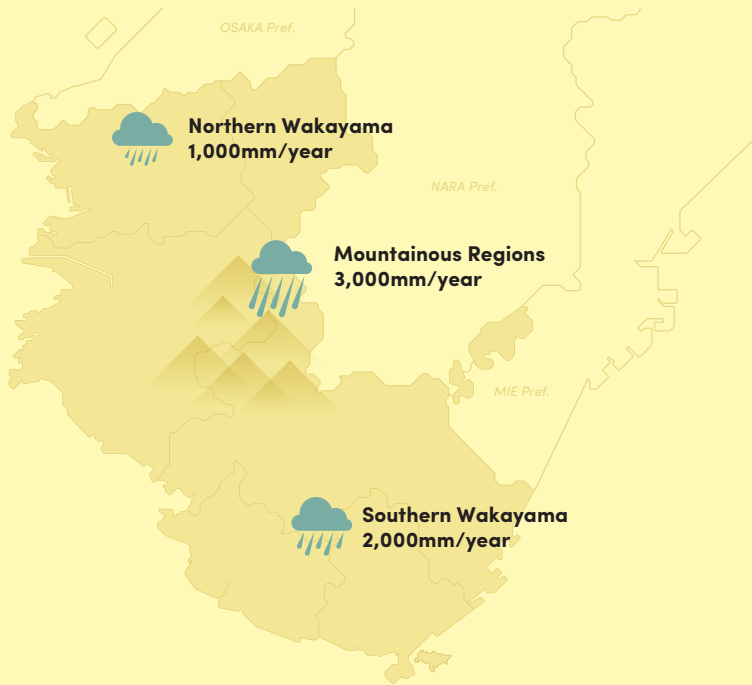





# Weather and What to Wear

Wakayama is situated on Japan's largest peninsula, the Kii-hanto, at latitude 34.14° North and longitude 135.10° East. The region is warm year round with winter so mild that even bougainvillea bloom. Annual precipitation is around 1,000 mm in the north, and over 2,000 mm in the south. The mountainous regions receive higher and heavy rainfall, with over 3,000 mm annually. Japan's rainy season typically starts from the beginning of June and lasts until mid-July; expect the occasional sudden downpour.

Over the course of the year, the average daily temperature is about 15°C in spring, rising to an average of 27°C by July. August is the hottest time of year, and given Wakayama's subtropical climate, things do get sticky with temperatures in the low 30's. The humidity and heat subside come October, when autumn temperatures hover around the 15°C mark. At the peak of winter in January, temperatures average around 6°C.



**SPRING**  
Mar - May



9°C - 19°C

Layer with a t-shirt or long-sleeved item, light sweater and a jacket.


**SUMMER**  
Jun - Aug



22°C - 30°C

Pack shorts, t-shirts and lightweight, quick-dry clothing for humid weather.


**AUTUMN**  
Sep - Nov



13°C - 24°C

Bring sweaters, jackets, and zippered clothing for changeable autumn weather.

**WINTER**  
Dec - Feb



5°C - 10°C

Although quite mild, a good sweater and a winter coat will come in handy.

\*Expect slightly lower temperatures in mountainous regions, especially at night and early in the morning. Note that such areas also occasionally receive snow in winter.

## WEATHER ALONG THE KUMANO KODO PILGRIMAGE ROUTES

The weather in southern Wakayama and around the Kumano region is generally quite mild and suitable for trekking throughout the year. In January average temperatures hover between 3°C and 7°C. By May they are around 20°C. In August the weather gets hot and humid, but shaded trails do offer some respite from the heat. While May, June, September and November offer the best temperatures for hiking, they also see some high rainfall. The highest rainfall is at the end of the rainy season in July and at the peak of the typhoon season in September.

## WHAT TO WEAR WHEN HIKING

The trails rise as high as 900 metres and although some parts are paved with stone, many sections are not: comfortable hiking shoes and loose-fitting clothing are highly recommended. With some strenuous uphill sections, it is a good idea to wear layers. Breathable rainwear is also recommended, especially from May through September.



# Where to See the Season's Best Blooms

Mountains, parks, farms and gardens, the Wakayama landscape changes to the rhythm of the seasons. Find out when and where to see nature at its most splendid.



## ◆ Daffodils ◆

Early Jan



MAP P.57 | F-8

## Kashinozaki Lighthouse

檜野崎灯台

Hundreds of daffodils bloom in profusion on the lawn at the foot of the lighthouse. The English engineers responsible for its construction are said to have planted the flowers.

1006-1 Kashinozaki, Kushimoto Town  
[www.kankou-kushimoto.jp/miryoku/kashinotoudai.html](http://www.kankou-kushimoto.jp/miryoku/kashinotoudai.html) (JP)  
Kashinotodai-guchi » 5 min



## ◆ Ume Blossom ◆

Early Feb - Early Mar



MAP P.55 | E-9

## Minabe Bairin Ume Orchard

みなべ梅林

The fragrant and more delicate ume (plum) flowers bloom earlier than the cherry blossoms. One of the best places to see them is at the vast ume orchard in Minabe.

Oshine, Minabe Town  
[www.aikis.or.jp/~minabe/event/kanbai/minabe.html](http://www.aikis.or.jp/~minabe/event/kanbai/minabe.html) (JP)  
Bairin » 1 min



## ◆ Cherry Blossom ◆

Late Mar - Early Apr



MAP P.54 | D-9

## Kimii-dera Temple

紀三井寺

1201 Kimiidera, Wakayama City  
[www.wakayamakanko.com/eng/sightseeing/history2.html](http://www.wakayamakanko.com/eng/sightseeing/history2.html)  
JR Kimiidera » 10 min

The steep climb up the 231 stone steps to the temple is worth it for a view of the cherry trees that are planted in the grounds. They are some of the earliest to flower in the region.

MAP P.56 | C-4

## Heisogen Park

平草原公園

2054-1 Shirahama Town  
[www.town.shirahama.wakayama.jp/kanko/midokoro/1454041023415.html](http://www.town.shirahama.wakayama.jp/kanko/midokoro/1454041023415.html) (JP)

JR Shirahama » Taxi 20 min



With thousands of cherry trees and ocean vistas, it is hard to find a more beautiful spot to view Japan's favourite flower.



## ◆ Autumn Leaves ◆

Late Oct - Early Nov



MAP P.51 | B-9

## Koyasan

高野山

Koyasan, Koya Town  
<http://eng.shukubo.net/>  
Koyasan » 10 min

As the days grow shorter and the mountain air becomes crisp, the leaves on the trees in Koyasan turn an array of vibrant colours. Stroll the grounds of the temples for some fine autumn displays.

MAP P.51 | E-5

## Koya Ryujin Skyline

高野龍神スカイライン

1020-6 Ryujin, Ryujinmura, Tanabe City (Gomasan Skytower)  
[www.ryujin-kanko.jp/](http://www.ryujin-kanko.jp/) (JP)

Koyasan » 65 min



The Skyline road snakes over mountaintops connecting Koya and Ryujin. Beautiful in any season, the views are at their best in autumn when the mountains turn red, yellow and gold.





## Honshu's Southernmost Fire Festival

本州最南端の火祭り



After dances and performances, archers rain down flaming arrows on the grassland at Cape Shionomisaki. This controlled burn is carried out each year to promote a good new growth of grass.

MAP p.57 | C-10

Shionomisaki  
Boro-no-Shiba Lawn

Shionomisaki, Kushimoto Town



Feb 6



## Oto Matsuri Festival

お燈祭り

MAP p.53 | A-9

Kamikura-jinja Shrine

1-13-8 Kamikura, Shingu City



15 min

The highlight of this energetic fire festival is thousands of men racing fiercely down the mountain from Kamikura-jinja with flaming torches in hand. It makes for a thrilling sight.



## Awashima-jinja Shrine Hina Nagashi

淡島神社 雛流し



Mar 3

People from all over Japan donate their unwanted hina-ningyo dolls to Awashima-jinja. On Girl's Day, they are floated out to sea with prayers in a colourful ceremony.

MAP p.54 | B-7

Awashima-jinja Shrine

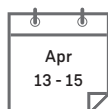
118 Kada, Wakayama City



15 min

## FESTIVALS & EVENTS

Whether it's charging down the steep steps of a shrine brandishing fire, or lighting up the summer night sky with fireworks, there is always something exciting going on somewhere in Wakayama.



## Kumano Hongu Taisha Grand Shrine Annual Festival

熊野本宮大社例大祭



The main event in the shrine's calendar, this festival and its many Shinto rituals extend over three days. The period costumes and festival garb are well worth seeing.

MAP p.53 | D-1

Kumano Hongu Taisha Grand Shrine

Hongu, Hongu-cho, Tanabe City



1 min



May  
7 - 8

## Sanadamatsuri Festival

真田まつり



This two-day event features stage performances, parades and a local market. It takes place each year in memory of the great samurai, Yukimura Sanada.

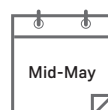
MAP p.51 | C-2

Kaki-no-Sato Kudoyama Roadside Station

5-5 Nyugo, Kudoyama Town



20 min



Mid-May

## Wakamatsuri Festival

和歌祭

Held to celebrate the life of the great shogun Tokugawa Ieyasu (1543-1616), the Wakamatsuri is a parade on a grand scale, with people in period costumes performing and demonstrating traditional arts.

MAP p.54 | D-9

Kishu Tosho-gu Shrine

2-1-20 Wakaura-nishi, Wakayama City

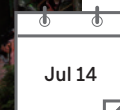


10 min



## Nachi-no-Ogi Matsuri (Nachi Fire Festival)

那智の火祭り



Jul 14

MAP p.52 | B-10

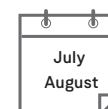
Kumano Nachi Taisha Grand Shrine

1 Nachisan, Nachikatsuura Town



10 min

Shinto priests, clad in white, stagger under the weight of enormous flaming torches as they lead the deities of Nachi Taisha down to the sacred Nachi Waterfall.



July  
August

## Fireworks in Shirahama

白浜花火大会

Nothing signals summer in Japan like fireworks. With two big displays at the end of July and in August, Shirahama Beach is a great place to experience this summer tradition. Dress in a yukata (summer kimono) if you want to really fit in.

MAP p.56 | B-3

Shirahama Beach

Shirahama, Shirahama Town



Shirahama



Oct  
15 - 16



MAP p.53 | A-7

Kumano Hayatama Taisha Grand Shrine

1 Shingu, Shingu City



1 min

MAP p.51 | E-4

Okuno-in

132 Koyasan, Koya Town



2 min

Thousands of candle-lit lanterns light the path through Okuno-in in this candle festival, held to welcome the spirits of the deceased back to the realm of the living during the Japanese holiday Obon.



## Candle Festival

ろうそくまつり



Aug 13

## Mifune Matsuri Festival

御船祭

In this annual celebration, a deity enshrined at Hayatama Taisha is carried in a portable shrine by boat up the Kumano-gawa river. The festivities include gripping regatta-style races.





# Where to Bathe ♨

If there is one thing the Japanese do really well, it is hot spring bathing. Wakayama is home to hundreds of springs and some of the country's best onsen (hot spring) resorts. Some are nestled in the mountains, others overlook the ocean, but all offer a unique and relaxing Japanese experience. Don't leave Wakayama without trying one.

\*Nearly all Wakayama onsen use water as it is from the source



## Shirahama Onsen

白浜温泉

Bathing for history buffs, Shirahama is one of Japan's oldest hot spring areas, dating back to the 7th century. 1300 years on, it is still one of the country's leading resorts.



Hot spring  
with history

MAP P.56 | B-3

### Saki-no-Yu Onsen

崎の湯

The baths here are hot water rock pools so close to the seafont you can feel the spray from the waves as they crash against the rocks. This is one of Shirahama's very oldest springs.

🕒 Oct - Mar: 8:00 - 17:00 Apr - Jun, Sep: 8:00 - 18:00 Jul - Aug: 7:00 - 19:00  
📅 Wednesdays ¥420 1668 Yuzaki, Shirahama Town  
🚗 Yuzaki » 🚶 5 min



MAP P.56 | B-4

### Hamachidori-no-Yu Kaishu

浜千鳥の湯 海舟

EN

The luxurious hot spring baths, available only to hotel guests, warrant a stay at this high-end resort. Choose from one of eight beautiful baths set in the hotel's extensive landscaped grounds. Unlike most hot springs, the open-air seafont bath at Kaishu allows mixed bathing.

MORE ON P.49



## Katsuura Onsen

勝浦温泉

Katsuura boomed as a hot spring resort in the 1950's and remains one of Wakayama's top onsen destinations. The baths have magnificent sea views.

Isolated island  
bathing



MAP P.53 | E-9

### Hotel Nakanoshima

ホテル中の島

Catch a boat out to a small islet in Katsuura Bay to enjoy one of Hotel Nakanoshima's many idyllic oceanfront baths.

🕒 14:00 - 20:00  
¥1,000 (adults), ¥500 (children) MORE ON P.48

EN



MAP P.53 | E-9

### Hotel Urashima Resort & Spa

ホテル浦島

Never taken a hot spring in a cave? Head to Hotel Urashima, but make sure to check male and female bathing times to avoid disappointment.

🕒 9:00 - 10:00/13:00 - 19:00  
¥1,000 (adults), ¥500 (children) MORE ON P.49



MAP P.53 | D-8

### Hotel Katsuura Gyoen

かつうら御苑

Set in a landscaped Japanese garden with lanterns that flicker on at dusk, the open-air bath at this hotel is the epitome of onsen bathing.

🕒 15:00 - 21:00  
¥1,080 MORE ON P.48

EN



## Hongu Onsen-kyo

本宮温泉郷

The collective term for the quaint hot spring hamlets Kawayu, Wataze and Yunomine. Buses run from near Hongu Taisha, but they are also walkable via pilgrimage trails.



Onsen bathing  
at its best

MAP P.53 | B-3

### Tsuboyu Onsen

つぼ湯

A tiny bath in Yunomine said to have healing properties and water that changes colour several times daily. Legend holds that the waters here helped cure a sick samurai. This unusual onsen is a registered World Heritage site.

🕒 6:00 - 21:30 ¥770 (adults), ¥460 (children)  
110 Yunomine, Hongu-cho, Tanabe City

🚗 Yunomine Onsen » 🚶 1 min

MAP P.53 | D-5

### Sennin-buro River Bath

仙人風呂

🕒 6:00 - 21:30  
110 Yunomine, Hongu-cho, Tanabe City

🚗 Kawayu Onsen » 🚶 5 min



Bathing in a river is a special experience. Try it in Kawayu where hot water bubbles up from the bed of the Oto-gawa river. An exclusive bathing area is set up during the cold months between December and February.



MAP P.53 | C-4

### Wataze Onsen

わたらせ温泉

🕒 6:00 - 22:00 ¥700 (adults), ¥300 (children)  
45-1 Wataze, Hongu-cho, Tanabe City

🚗 Watarase Onsen » 🚶 1 min

The huge garden-view rotenburo, or outdoor baths, at this onsen facility in Wataze are perfect for peaceful bathing. There are also private baths for families.

## Ryujin Onsen

龍神温泉

For centuries people have travelled from afar to bathe at this small hot spring hamlet. The reason they come is for the water, believed to make the skin smooth and soft.



MAP P.52 | C-2

### Kamigoten Ryokan

上御殿

This historic Japanese inn boasts outdoor baths with gorgeous mountain views. They are wonderfully relaxing and exclusively for use by overnight guests.

MORE ON P.48

Great for  
the skin



MAP P.52 | C-2

### Ryujin Onsen Motoyu

龍神温泉元湯

🕒 7:00 - 21:00  
¥700 (adults), ¥350 (children)  
37 Ryujin, Ryujinmura, Tanabe City

🚗 Ryujin Onsen » 🚶 1 min

Anyone can take a dip in the silky smooth water of Ryujin Onsen at this renowned hot spring facility. There are both indoor and outdoor baths.

## Wakayama Kada Onsen

和歌山加太温泉

The smell of the ocean, the sound of the waves, this seaside resort is about relaxing and unwinding. It's just a short distance from Wakayama city centre.



MAP P.54 | B-6

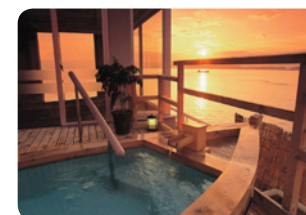
### Kyukamura Kishu-Kada

休暇村紀州加太

🕒 12:00 - 15:00  
¥1,200 (adults), ¥600 (children)

A little more expensive than your average hot spring experience, but worth it for the fantastic bathside view of the Tomogashima islands.

MORE ON P.48



MAP P.54 | B-7

### Osakaya Hiinanoyu

加太淡嶋温泉 大阪屋ひいの湯

🕒 11:00 - 14:30/15:00 - 19:00  
¥900 (adults), ¥500 (children)

At the Osakaya Hiinanoyu ryokan, you don't need to be an overnight guest to try out the amazing selection of ocean-view baths.

MORE ON P.49



# What to Eat in Wakayama

Wakayama is a foodie paradise. With a seemingly endless coastline, you can savour the very freshest seafood and sushi. Less healthy yet equally delicious, there is the region's richly flavoured ramen noodles. If you are a steak connoisseur, definitely don't miss out on some Kumano beef: lightly seared, it is mouthwatering.



## Seafood

Wakayama's temperate waters are a treasure trove of marine delicacies and supply the region's restaurants with the freshest fare. Even in the city, you can sample seafood caught the very same morning.



MAP P.54 | B-4

### Agura

安愚楽

Across from Wakayama Castle, Agura specializes in kaiseki banquet-style course meals, that make the most of fresh, local ingredients.

🕒 11:00 - 22:00

📅 Sundays

2 Saikaya-machi, Wakayama City

<http://agura.jp/>

🚶 Shiyakusho-mae » 🚶 5 min



Western Japan's largest seafood market

MAP P.56 | D-3

### Toretore-Ichiba Market

とれとれ市場

Try something on the spot as you wander the market or stop at the food court for tasty sushi and other fresh seafood treats.

🕒 8:30 - 18:30

2521 Katata, Shirahama Town

[www.toretore.com/tore/](http://www.toretore.com/tore/) (JP)

🚶 Toretore Ichiba-mae » 🚶 1 min



MAP P.54 | F-3

### Ajidokoro Mihanami

味処 三八波

Traditional Japanese-style restaurant serving locally sourced seafood and other regional delicacies, close to JR Wakayama Station.

🕒 Lunch: 11:30 - 14:00

Dinner: 17:00 - 22:30

📅 Tuesdays

2-1-25 Kuroda, Wakayama City

<http://3873.jp/> (JP)

🚶 JR Wakayama » 🚶 5 min



MAP P.54 | B-7

### Mankou Shoten

満幸商店

Hole-in-the-wall eatery for the adventurous traveler. Locals love it for its homey, no-frills interior and unbeatable seafood dishes.

🕒 9:00 - 17:00

118 Kada, Wakayama City

🚶 Nankai Kada » 🚶 20 min



MAP P.55 | C-4

### Kadoya Shokudo

かどや食堂

Shirasudon, rice topped with whitebait, is a specialty in Yuasa. You can try it here, together with other local favourites.

🕒 Lunch: 11:00 - 14:00

Dinner: 17:00 - 22:00

📅 Closed for dinner on Wednesdays and Sundays

1109-1 Yuasa, Yuasa Town

[www.yuasa-kadoya.com/](http://www.yuasa-kadoya.com/) (JP)

🚶 JR Yuasa » 🚶 1 min



MAP P.57 | F-8

### Kashino Tsurikoen Center

榎野崎釣り公園センター

This fishing centre and restaurant is a must for fresh, reasonably-priced seafood dishes. Make a day of it and do some fishing too.

🕒 10:00 - 16:00

📅 Thursdays

1021-13 Kashino, Kushimoto Town

[www.tsurikouen.jp/](http://www.tsurikouen.jp/) (JP)

🚶 JR Kushimoto » 🚶 20 min

## Wakayama Ramen

No Wakayama trip is complete without a bowl of the region's renowned noodles, each distinguished by its soup. Recipes vary but it is usually a soy sauce flavoured pork-bone broth.



MAP P.54 | B-3

### Ramen Marui (Junibancho)

ラーメンまるい(十二番丁店)

Ramen noodles topped generously with chopped negi (scallions) feature on the menu at this modern noodle restaurant.

🕒 11:00 - 21:00

📅 Sundays

87 Junibancho, Wakayama City

<http://ramen-marui.com/english/>

🚶 Nankai Wakayama-shi » 🚶 10 min

MAP P.54 | D-8

### Sandaime Yagura

三代目やぐら和歌山中華そば

Choose from a soy sauce or salted pork-bone broth at this casual ramen diner. Part of the fun is selecting how firm you want your noodles.

🕒 11:00 - 24:00

824 Kuruu, Wakayama City



🚶 Wakayama Electric Railway Nichizengu » 🚶 19 min

MAP P.55 | A-6

### Misaki Ryokan

岬旅館

🕒 11:00 - 21:00

📅 Tuesdays (exceptions apply)

673 Hii, Hidaka Town

[www.mjnet.ne.jp/misaki/](http://www.mjnet.ne.jp/misaki/) (JP)

🚶 JR Gobo » 🚶 15 min



Visit the restaurant at Misaki Ryokan to sample the rich, refined flavour of longtooth grouper. In sharp contrast to its grotesque appearance, the fish has beautifully white, fatty flesh.

Wakayama's No.1 ramen restaurant



MAP P.54 | F-4

### Ide Shoten

井出商店

For years, Ide Shoten has attracted ramen lovers from near and far. They come for the distinctive pork-bone soy sauce broth.

🕒 11:30 - 23:30

📅 Thursdays

4-84 Tanakamachi, Wakayama City

🚶 JR Wakayama » 🚶 5 min

MAP P.55 | B-3

### Seino

和 Dining 清乃

Recommended on a national foodie site, Seino is known for its thick, almost creamy pork-bone soy sauce broth and handmade noodles.

🕒 11:00 - 14:00

📅 Tuesdays (exceptions apply)

696 No, Arida City

[www.konomise.com/chuki/seino/](http://www.konomise.com/chuki/seino/) (JP)

🚶 JR Minoshima » 🚶 16 min



## Tuna

Ocean-fresh tuna is on offer throughout Wakayama, but Katsuura has the freshest of the fresh. The area lands more tuna than anywhere else in Japan.



MAP P.53 | D-8

### Bodai

bodai

The must-order item is the tuna cutlet set. Coated in bread crumbs and lightly fried, the tuna stays mouthwateringly raw in the centre.

🕒 Lunch: 11:00 - 14:00  
Dinner: 17:00 - 23:00  
📅 Tuesdays  
5-1-3 Tsukiji, Nachikatsuura Town  
🚶 1 min



*Fresh tuna at its best*

MAP P.53 | E-8

### Oshokuji Dokoro Katsuragi

御食事処 桂城

Tucked away down a sidestreet, this specialty tuna restaurant is for those in the know. The tuna set meal includes fresh tuna served raw, fried and grilled.

🕒 Lunch: 11:30 - 14:00  
Dinner: 17:00 - 22:00  
📅 Mondays (exceptions apply)  
398-11 Katsuura, Nachikatsuura Town  
🚶 5 min

MAP P.57 | C-9

### Shionomisaki Tourism Tower

潮岬観光タワー

A casual restaurant serving fresh, local tuna at an affordable price. The tuna cutlet burger at just ¥300 makes a great snack.

🕒 8:30 - 16:30 (exceptions apply)  
Shionomisaki, Kushimoto Town  
www.kumakou.co.jp (JP)  
🚶 1 min

MAP P.53 | D-8

### Takehara

竹原

Venerable Japanese restaurant specializing in tuna dishes. The tuna is ocean-fresh, caught the same day. Dishes go well with sake.

🕒 Lunch: 11:00 - 14:00  
Dinner: 17:00 - 21:00  
4-3-23 Tsukiji, Nachikatsuura Town

🚶 3 min



## Buddhist Cuisine

Termed 'shojin ryori', this meat and fish-free cuisine has been eaten by monks for centuries. It is prepared following strict rules, with particular attention to colour balance and presentation. Minimal seasonings are used with the focus on the original flavours of the ingredients.

MAP P.51 | D-9

### Hanabishi

花菱

Some of the best shojin ryori and kai-seki banquet-style meals in Koyasan. Choose from simple to lavish sets. Arrive early to get a seat.



MAP P.51 | C-9

### Chuo Shokudo Sanbo

中央食堂・さんぼう

For a taste of shojin ryori at an affordable price, try this centrally-located Koyasan eatery. The menu also includes regional fare and light options.

🕒 11:00 - 15:00  
722 Koyasan, Koya Town  
🚶 1 min

## Kumano Beef

A premium brand of Wagyu beef originating in the Kumano region of Wakayama. It has a soft, melt-in-the-mouth texture and a slightly sweet, satisfyingly meaty flavour.

MAP P.53 | E-8

### Steak House Hinoki

ステーキハウスひのき

Teppanyaki restaurant serving the finest Kumano beef. Everything is cooked to order before you on an iron hotplate.

🕒 Lunch: 11:00 - 14:00  
Dinner: 17:00 - 21:00

📅 Mondays  
1-1-13 Tsukiji, Nachikatsuura Town  
http://steakhousehinoki.com/en.html

🚶 6 min



MAP P.52 | A-4

### Yakiniku Kumano

焼肉 熊野

Sample farm-to-table quality beef at an affordable price at this large yakiniku restaurant in Tanabe. Both Kumano beef and other Wagyu brands are on offer.

🕒 Lunch: 11:00 - 14:00  
Dinner: 17:00 - 22:30

2915-51 Shinjo-cho, Tanabe City  
🚶 10 min



MAP P.53 | D-8

### Yakiniku Dining Kazu

焼き肉ダイニング和

Grill tender cuts of Kumano beef yourself at this BBQ restaurant. The restaurant is so popular that regulars come from as far as Osaka.

🕒 17:00 - 22:00  
📅 Thursdays  
3-3-7 Tsukiji, Nachikatsuura Town  
🚶 6 min

## LOCALLY GROWN FRUIT



Farms in Wakayama have cultivated premium fruit for centuries. During the Edo period (1603 - 1867), the 10th Lord of Kishu would have locally grown Sanboku oranges delivered to Wakayama Castle. Today, the region is still Japan's top producer of premium fruit. Mild climates and fertile soils ensure something delicious is always in season; from strawberries in winter to peaches in summer and persimmons in autumn. You will also find jams, marmalades, liqueurs and fresh juices available throughout the prefecture.





# Activities & Experiences

The most memorable part of a holiday is not always what you see, but often what you do and experience. From kayaking, rafting and other sports to cultural experiences, craft workshops and fruit picking, there is so much to choose from in Wakayama. Whatever you opt for, the memories you make are sure to be lasting.

Activities & Experiences

## FRUIT PICKING

Nicknamed The Fruit Kingdom, Wakayama is Japan's top producer of premium fruit. Visit one of the many orchards to pick the best of the best straight from the tree.

visitwakayama.jp



### STRAWBERRIES



MAP P.54 | F-8

## Kishigawa Strawberry Farm

貴志川観光いちご狩り園

Get your fill of sweet, succulent strawberries at this pick-your-own farm near Kishi Station. Open from January through mid-May.

🕒 9:00 - 15:00  
¥1,500 (adults)  
238 Kodo, Kishigawa-cho, Kinokawa City  
[www.kanko-kinokawa.jp/view\\_play/971/](http://www.kanko-kinokawa.jp/view_play/971/) (JP)

🚆 Wakayama Electric Railway Kishi » 🚶 15 min



### MELONS



MAP P.55 | C-8

## Kinokuni Farm

農園紀の国

Summer is the season for juicy melons at this popular orchard with English-speaking staff. You can also pick strawberries January to May.

🕒 9:00 - 17:00  
Melons: early Jul - mid-Aug  
Strawberries: Jan 5 - mid-May  
From ¥1,400  
1335-4 Ueno, Nada-cho, Gobo City  
[www.kinokunifarm.jp](http://www.kinokunifarm.jp) (JP)

🚆 JR Gobo » 🚶 15 min



### Fruit Picking Calendar

Fruit \ Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
🍓 Strawberry	🕒		🍓		🕒							
🍈 Melon						🕒	🍈	🕒				
🍑 Peach						🕒	🍑	🕒				
🍊 Orange										🕒	🍊	🕒
🍇 Grape							🕒	🍇		🕒		
🍅 Persimmon									🕒	🍅		🕒

### PEACHES



MAP P.51 | B-1

## Katsuragi Town Fruit Farms

かつらぎ町観光農園

With field after field of orchards, the town's tourist association can recommend a farm for picking peaches and other types of fruit.

🕒 Grapes: Aug - late Sep  
Oranges: Oct - mid-Dec  
Peaches: Jul - Aug  
Persimmons: late Sep - early Dec  
From ¥500  
2160 Chonomachi, Katsuragi Town  
[www.katsuragi-kanko.jp/fruitgari\\_kankonouen.html](http://www.katsuragi-kanko.jp/fruitgari_kankonouen.html) (JP)

🚆 Otani » 🚶 13 min

### ORANGES



MAP P.55 | C-4

## Kuriyama Farm

栗山園

The Arida region's oranges are known for being some of Japan's tastiest. Pick and eat them fresh from the tree at this leading orchard.

🕒 Early Oct - mid-Dec  
From ¥650 (adults), ¥550 (children)  
26 Iseki, Hirogawa Town

🚆 Iseki » 🚶 2 min

### GRAPES



MAP P.55 | E-3

## Arida Kyohomura

有田巨峰村

Many farms make up this sprawling vineyard, officially the region's largest. Pick some grapes and bring a snack to enjoy under the vines.

🕒 Early Aug - mid-Oct: 8:00 - 18:00  
From ¥800 (adults), From ¥600 (children)  
1054-24 Kawaguchi, Aridagawa Town  
[www.budouen.net](http://www.budouen.net)

🚆 JR Fujinami » 🚶 30 min

Activities & Experiences

## COSTUME EXPERIENCES

Cosplay is taking the world by storm, and in Wakayama you can dress up in some truly unique costumes. Don't miss the chance to take some extra-special selfies.

### HEIAN PILGRIM



MAP P.52 | D-10

## Heian Period Costume Experience

平安衣装体験

Visit the teahouse near the start of Daimon-zaka Slope, a scenic section of the Kumano Kodo, for a Heian period (794-1185) transformation. The costumes are recreations of the worship attire once worn by pilgrims. Male and female versions are available.

🕒 9:00 - 15:00  
From ¥2,000  
392-4 Nachisan, Nachikatsuura Town  
[www.nachikan.jp/midokoro/](http://www.nachikan.jp/midokoro/) (JP)

🚆 Daimonzaka » 🚶 6 min

### SAMURAI



MAP P.54 | B-4

## Historical Costume Experience

時代衣装着付体験

Ever wondered if you'd look good in a suit of samurai armour or as a ninja? See for yourself at Wakayama Tourist Information.

🕒 9:30 - 17:00 (exceptions apply) \* Reservations necessary  
From ¥3,000  
3 Ichibancho, Wakayama City  
[www.mysecretwakayama.com](http://www.mysecretwakayama.com)

🚆 Shiyakusho-mae/Koen-mae » 🚶 3 min



## CANOEING



MAP P.57 | E-5

## Koza Tourism Association

古座観光協会

Koza is blessed with a beautiful waterway, the Koza-gawa river. At the local tourist office, you can rent a canoe and take yourself on an adventure downstream.

🕒 Rental: 8:30 - 13:30/ Return: 16:30

\*Reservations necessary

From ¥2,500/person

231-3 Nishimukai, Kushimoto Town

<http://kokoza.com/canoe.html> (JP)

🚆 JR Koza » 🚶 1 min

MAP P.52 | E-6

## Taiji Whale Museum

太地町立くじらの博物館

At the museum's dolphin enclosure you can touch, feed, train and even kayak or dive with the dolphins. Rates vary per package but start from as little as ¥200. (excluding admission)

🕒 8:30 - 17:00

Admission: ¥1,500 (adults), ¥800 (children)

2934-2 Taiji, Taiji Town

[www.kujirakan.jp](http://www.kujirakan.jp) (JP)

🚆 JR Taiji » 🚶 10 min

Wakayama, a land of water  
<https://www.wakayama-kanko.or.jp/mizunokuni/en/>



## DOLPHIN ENCOUNTERS



## Activities &amp; Experiences

## OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

With lush green mountains, spectacular coastal scenery and rivers ranging from fast-flowing to ambling, Wakayama is the perfect place for an outdoor adventure.

## LOG RAFTING



MAP P.52 | E-2

## Kitayama Village Tourist Center

北山村観光センター

Ride the Kitayama-gawa river on a traditional logging raft. These originated as a way to transport felled lumber downstream.

🕒 Morning tour: 10:40

Afternoon tour: 13:00

📅 Oct - Apr

From ¥6,000

335 Shimooi, Kitayama Village

<http://kankou.vill.kitayama.wakayama.jp/ikada/> (JP)

🚆 JR Shingu » 🚶 60 min

## SEA KAYAKING



MAP P.55 | C-3

## Suhara Seaside House

すはらサイドハウス

Explore the stunning Suhara coastline with this professional kayak tour operator. Tours last three hours. Reservations required.

🕒 9:00 - 15:00

Half day tour: from ¥6,500/person

966-1 Suhara, Yuasa Town

[www.veltra.com/en/asia/japan/wakayama/p/11748](http://www.veltra.com/en/asia/japan/wakayama/p/11748)

🚆 JR Yuasa » 🚶 10 min

## STAND UP PADDLE



MAP P.54 | D-10

## Kaze

KAZE

Paddle boarding has taken off in Japan and Wakayama windsurfing school Kaze can teach you how to SUP. Lessons last two hours.

🕒 Morning lesson: 10:00 - 12:00

Afternoon lesson: 13:00 - 15:00

\*Reservations necessary

SUP lesson: ¥3,500

989 Kemi, Wakayama City

[www.eonet.ne.jp/~kaze2001/index1.html](http://www.eonet.ne.jp/~kaze2001/index1.html) (JP)

🚆 JR Kainan » 🚶 15 min

## WASHI PAPER



MAP P.53 | D-2

## Kumano Washi Paper Otonashi

熊野和紙おとなし

Learn about traditional paper-making at this washi studio, where you can make your own sheet of paper and decorate a washi bookmark.

🕒 9:00 - 16:00

\*Reservations necessary except Saturdays

¥1,000

454-3 Hongu Hongu-cho, Tanabe City

[www.kumanowashi.com/](http://www.kumanowashi.com/)

🚆 Oyunohara » 🚶 1 min

## LACQUERWARE



MAP P.54 | D-10

## Uruwashikan

(Traditional Kishu Lacquerware Industry Center)

うるわし館

Promoting the art of Kishu lacquerware, Uruwashikan exhibits beautiful lacquered works and runs craft workshops. Participants can choose to decorate either a wooden tray or lunchbox. Workshops on weekends only.



## Activities &amp; Experiences

## WORKSHOPS

From traditional to contemporary, there are plenty of workshops throughout the region. Try your hand at something new and make a one-of-a-kind Wakayama momento.

MAP P.57 | F-8

## Resort Oshima

リゾート大島

Not a traditional Japanese craft but fun all the same, Resort Oshima runs colourful lamp-making sessions. These kitsch lamps are great gifts.

🕒 10:00 - 17:00

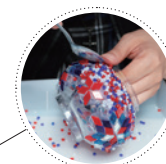
\*Last workshop starts at 13:30

From ¥3,200

1035-6 Kashino, Kushimoto Town

<https://resortohshima.com/activity/lamp> (JP)

🚆 JR Kushimoto » 🚶 15 min



## PLUM JUICE / PLUM LIQUEUR



MAP P.55 | E-10

## Kishu Umeboshikan

紀州梅干館

At this ume plum foods manufacturer, you can try your hand at making umeshu plum liqueur, or non-alcoholic plum juice.

🕒 8:30 - 17:00

Juice: 11:00, 14:00, 16:00

Liqueur: 10:30, 13:30, 15:30

Juice: ¥900

Liqueur: ¥2,000

1339 Yamauchi, Minabe Town

[www.umekan.com/](http://www.umekan.com/) (JP)

🚆 Minabe » 🚶 20 min

## TURKISH LAMPS



MAP P.52 | B-2

## Aizome Keira

藍染計良

\*Reservations necessary

From ¥1,500

2-A Atelier Ryujin no Ie, 972-36

Oie, Ryujinmura, Tanabe City

<http://aizomekeira.yokinihakarae.com> (JP)

🚆 JR Kii-Tanabe » 🚶 60 min

## AIZOME



Aizome, or indigo dyeing, is an ancient Japanese craft. At this small studio, you can dye anything from handkerchiefs and t-shirts to bags.





# Cycling & Bicycle Rental



Wakayama's coastal roads and riverbank cycling paths make for great scenic bike rides. Many tourist information centres and some train stations rent out bicycles.

## Wakayama Cycling Map

### 1 Kihoku Route

1-1 Highland Park Kokawa Hill Climb Route

1-2 Nabetani-toge Hill Climb Route

1-3 Nitama Kishigawa Route

### 2 Kichu Route

2-1 Tsubayama Dam Route

2-2 Mazuma Route

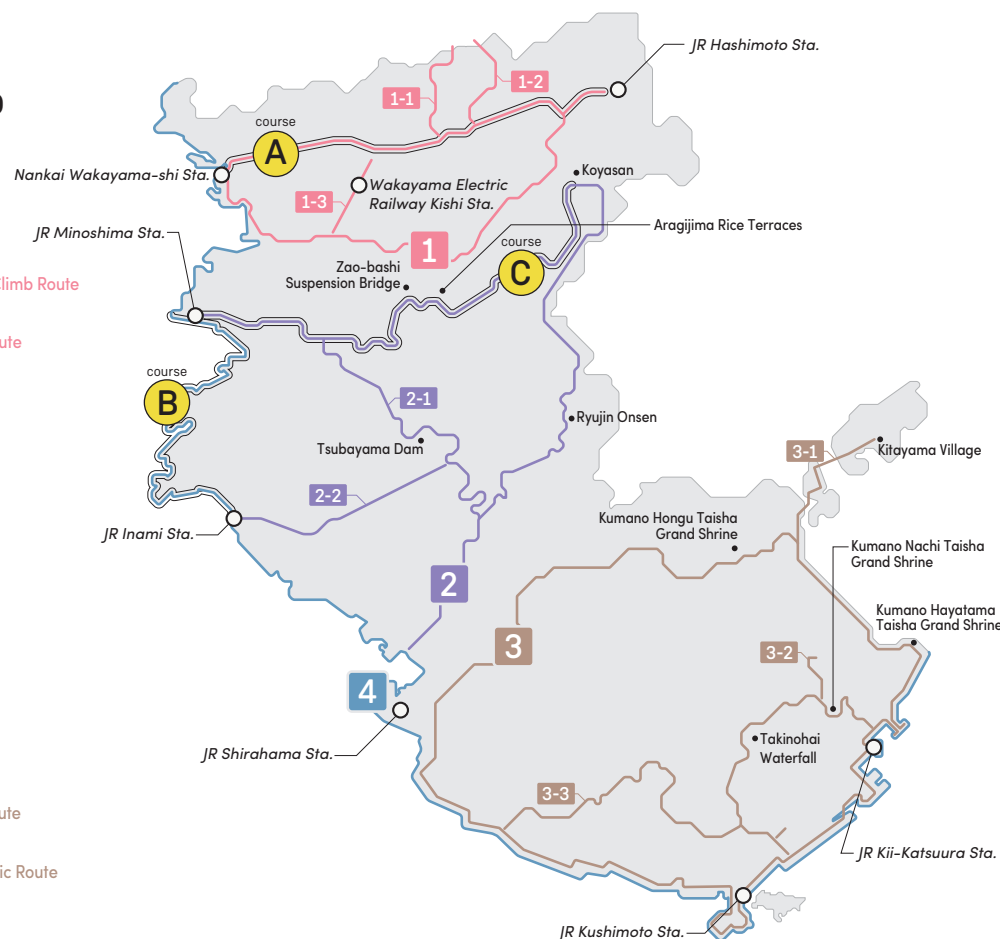
### 3 Kinan Route

3-1 Tobichinomura Route

3-2 Ogumotorigoe Hill Climb Route

3-3 Koza Kaido-Takinohai Historic Route

### 4 Coastal Route



### Effortless riverside cycling



## Kinokawa Route

60km

Follow the Kino-kawa river from Wakayama-shi Station to Hashimoto Station. Much of the route is marked with blue lines, on flat riverbank roads almost entirely free from traffic.



### Rocky outcrops and ocean breezes

## Coastal Route

76km



Running from Minoshima Station to Inami Station along Wakayama's west coast, this route offers sweeping ocean vistas and white limestone outcrops that contrast beautifully with the sparkling blue sea.



### Pedal past rivers and rice fields

## Aridagawa Route

97km



You can cycle all the way to Koyasan along this rural route that starts at Minoshima Station, winds through mountain valleys and passes farms and rice fields.

	RENTAL LOCATION	MAP	HOURS	RATE	ADDRESS	WEBSITE	
Koyasan	高野町観光協会 Koya Tourism Association	P.51 C-10	🕒 9:00 - 16:30 (exceptions apply)	¥400/h ¥1,000/day	350 Koyasan, Koya Town	<a href="http://www.koya.org/tourism-koyasan/service.html">www.koya.org/tourism-koyasan/service.html</a> (JP)	EN 📶
	高野山宿坊協会 Koyasan Shukubo Association	P.51 D-9	🕒 8:30 - 17:00	¥400/h ¥1,200/day	600 Koyasan, Koya Town	<a href="http://www.shukubo.net/contents/experiences/topics.html">www.shukubo.net/contents/experiences/topics.html</a> (JP)	EN 📶
Kumano	熊野本宮観光協会 Kumano Hongu Heritage Center	P.53 D-1	🕒 8:30 - 17:00	¥1,500/day	100-1 Hongu, Hongu-cho, Tanabe City	<a href="http://www.tb-kumano.jp/en/transport/bicycle/">www.tb-kumano.jp/en/transport/bicycle/</a>	
	新宮市観光協会 Shingu City Tourist Association	P.53 C-8	🕒 9:00 - 17:00	From ¥500/day	2-1-1 Jofuku, Shingu City	<a href="http://www.shinguu.jp/en">www.shinguu.jp/en</a>	📶
	那智勝浦町観光協会 Nachi-Katsuura Information Center	P.53 D-8	🕒 8:30 - 18:00	¥300/h ¥500/3h	6-1-1 Tsukiji, Nachikatsuura Town	<a href="http://www.nachikan.jp/midokoro/rentalbike/">www.nachikan.jp/midokoro/rentalbike/</a> (JP)	EN 📶
Wakayama	わかちかレンタサイクル事務局 Wakachika Rental Cycle	P.54 F-3	🕒 9:00 - 18:30	From ¥500/day	5-61 Misono, Wakayama City	<a href="http://www.ticwakayama.jp/shiromachieco/">www.ticwakayama.jp/shiromachieco/</a> (JP)	
	自然食品の店 しおん(貴志駅) Shion (Kishi Station)	P.54 F-8	🕒 9:00 - 17:00 📅 Tuesdays	¥800/day ¥500/half day	802 Kodo, Kishigawa-cho, Kinokawa City	<a href="http://www.sion77.com/bicycle/">www.sion77.com/bicycle/</a>	
	海南市物産観光センターかいぶつくん(海南駅) Kainan Station Bicycle Rental	P.54 E-10	🕒 9:30 - 17:30	¥500/3h ¥1000/day	51-2 Nataka, Kainan City	<a href="http://www.kainankanko.com/topics/レンタルで観光を。html">www.kainankanko.com/topics/レンタルで観光を。html</a> (JP)	
Yuasa	湯浅駅前多目的広場 Yuasa Station Plaza	P.55 C-4	🕒 9:00 - 17:00 📅 Dec 29 - Jan 3	Free	1007-6 Yuasa, Yuasa Town	<a href="http://www2.w-shokokai.or.jp/yuasa/kankou/rennta/rennta.htm">http://www2.w-shokokai.or.jp/yuasa/kankou/rennta/rennta.htm</a> (JP)	
Shirahama	まちなか総合案内所しらすな Machinaka General Information Center Shirasuna	P.56 B-3	🕒 10:00 - 16:00	From ¥500/day	1384-57 Shirahama Town	<a href="http://all-shirahama.com/rentabike.html">http://all-shirahama.com/rentabike.html</a> (JP)	
	JR白浜駅 JR Shirahama Station	P.56 E-4	🕒 9:00 - 18:00	¥500/day	1475 Katata, Shirahama Town	<a href="http://www.ekiren.com/EKIRIN/">www.ekiren.com/EKIRIN/</a> (JP)	
Kushimoto	串本町観光協会 Kushimoto Town Tourism Association	P.57 C-8	🕒 9:00 - 17:00	¥1500/3h ¥2,000/day	33 Kushimoto, Kushimoto Town	<a href="http://kokoza.com/rentalcycle.html">http://kokoza.com/rentalcycle.html</a> (JP)	EN 📶
	古座観光協会 Koza Tourism Association	P.57 E-5	🕒 8:30 - 17:00	¥1500/3h ¥2,000/day	231-3 Nishimukai, Kushimoto Town	<a href="http://kokoza.com/rentalcycle.html">http://kokoza.com/rentalcycle.html</a> (JP)	EN 📶

\*Certain locations may have a minimum rental age. Check visitwakayama.jp for more information. \*Rental rates may vary by bicycle model. \*Deposits may be required.





# Where to Stay



Koyasan



MAP P.51 | E-9



## Eko-in Temple

恵光院

A popular choice for a hands-on temple stay with options to join services, experience meditation and take part in other activities. Don't miss the Okuno-in night tour.

Ask for rates\*   
 497 Koyasan, Koya Town   
 www.ekoin.jp/en/

Karukayado-mae » 5 min

Koyasan



MAP P.51 | C-8



## Rengejo-in Temple

蓮華定院

Complete with meticulously raked gravel gardens, Rengejo-in oozes Buddhist charm. Guests are invited to join morning services and monks offer talks on Koyasan.

Ask for rates\*   
 700 Koyasan, Koya Town   
 http://eng.shukubo.net/temple-lodging.html

Isshinguchi » 1 min

Kumano



MAP P.53 | D-5



## Kawayu Midoriya

川湯みどりや

Experience outdoor bathing at this hotel's unique riverside bath. For a less public bathing experience, you can opt for a room with its own private hot spring.

From ¥23,000/person   
 13 Kawayu, Hongu-cho, Tanabe City   
 www.kawayu-midoriya.jp/ (JP)

Kawayu Onsen » 2 min

Kumano



MAP P.53 | E-9



## Hotel Nakanoshima

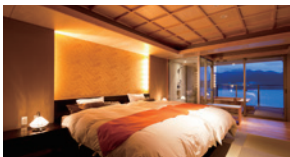
ホテル中の島

Built on its own private island a short distance from the shore, access to this venerable hot spring hotel is by boat. Room rates include transfers from the port.

From ¥25,920/person   
 1179-9 Katsuura, Nachikatsuura Town   
 www.hotel-nakanoshima.jp/en/

JR Kii-Katsuura » 7 min 3 min

Kumano



MAP P.53 | D-8



## Hotel Katsuura Gyoen

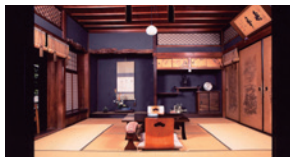
かつうら御苑

Gorgeous ocean views and rooms that range from comfortable to luxurious: some even have private baths on the balcony. Buses to Nachi Waterfall run from nearby.

From ¥21,600/person   
 216-19 Katsuura, Nachikatsuura Town   
 www.katsuuragyoen.co.jp/ (JP)

JR Kii-Katsuura » 11 min

Kumano



MAP P.52 | C-2



## Kamigoten Ryokan

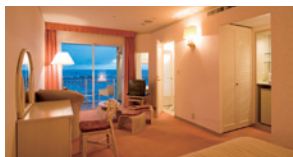
上御殿

Beautiful and atmospheric traditional Japanese inn serving as a symbol of the Ryujin hot spring area. More than 300 years old, the hotel is a listed building.

From ¥30,240/person   
 42 Ryujin, Ryujin-mura, Tanabe City   
 www.kamigoten.jp/spa%20en.html

Ryujin Onsen » 1 min

Wakayama



MAP P.54 | C-10



## Wakayama Marina City Hotel

和歌山マリーナシティホテル

Convenient to Porto Europa and the other attractions of Wakayama Marina City, rooms here face the ocean. Facilities include multiple restaurants and an outdoor pool.

From ¥20,600/person   
 1517 Kemi, Wakayama City   
 www.marinacity.com/hotel/english/

JR Wakayama » 30 min

Wakayama



MAP P.54 | B-6



## Kyukamura Kishu-Kada

休暇村紀州加太

Coastal hotel facing the Tomogashima islands. Guests can choose from rooms with beds or futon. The hotel has an array of dinner packages and is wheelchair accessible.

From ¥23,200/person   
 483 Miyama, Wakayama City   
 www.qkamura.or.jp/en/kada/

Nankai Kada » 10 min   
 \*Free bus service available

Yuasa



MAP P.55 | C-4



## Yuasa-jo Hotel

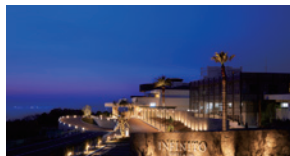
国民宿舎 湯浅城

One of the most unique hotels in the Yuasa area, rooms are set around an inner courtyard housing a replica of the castle that once stood in the town.

From ¥17,082/person   
 75 Aoki, Yuasa Town   
 www.yuasajo.jp/ (JP)

JR Yuasa » 5 min

Shirahama



MAP P.56 | B-4



## Infinito Hotel & Spa Nanki Shirahama

インフィニート ホテル&スパ 南紀白浜

The hotel is on a hill being surrounded by white beach. There is a boundless expanse of ocean and blue sky. There are 5 type of pure hot springs and hot pool and two restaurant( Italian and Japanese).

From ¥20,000/person   
 2018 Shirahama Town   
 https://hotel-infinito.co.jp/en/

JR Shirahama » 10 min

Shirahama



MAP P.56 | B-3



## Kishu Shirahama Onsen Musashi

紀州・白浜温泉 むさし

Highly-rated ryokan hotel seconds from the white sand of Shirahama Beach. Musashi is worth a stay to see the lobby alone; an exceptional example of Japanese design.

From ¥21,600/person   
 868 Shirahama Town   
 www.yado-musashi.co.jp/en/

JR Shirahama » 10 min

Kushimoto



MAP P.57 | D-7



## Kushimoto Royal Hotel

串本ロイヤルホテル

Kushimoto Royal Hotel is located at the southernmost tip of Honshu, Japan's main island. It is rated for its hot springs and gourmet cuisine.

From ¥22,680/person   
 1184-10 Sangodai, Kushimoto Town   
 www.daiwarensort.jp

JR Kushimoto » 20 min

	HOTEL NAME	MAP	STANDARD RATE	ADDRESS	WEBSITE	
Koyasan	遍照光院 Henjoko-in Temple	P.51 E-9	Ask for rates*	575 Koyasan, Koya Town	http://eng.shukubo.net/ temple-lodging.html	
	無量光院 Muryoko-in Temple	P.51 D-9	Ask for rates*	611 Koyasan, Koya Town	http://eng.shukubo.net/ temple-lodging.html	
	高野山ゲストハウス kokuu Koyasan Guesthouse Kokuu	P.51 E-5	From ¥3,500/person	49-43 Koyasan, Koya Town	http://koyasanguesthouse.com/en/	
Kumano	湯の峯荘 Yunomine-so	P.53 B-3	From ¥5,550/person	437 Shimoyukawa, Hongu-cho, Tanabe City	http://yunominesou.com/ ENGLISH/Eindex.html	
	霧の郷 たかはら Kiri-no-Sato Takahara Hotel	P.52 B-4	From ¥9,495/person	826 Takahara, Nakahechi-cho, Tanabe City	http://kirinosato-takahara.com/ english.html	
	蒼空げすと하우스 Blue Sky Guesthouse	P.53 D-2	From ¥6,000/person 	1526 Hongu, Hongu-cho, Tanabe City	www.kumano-guesthouse.com/ eng.html	
Wakayama	ホテル浦島 Hotel Urashima Resort & Spa	P.53 E-9	From ¥8,505/person 	1165-2 Katsuura, Nachikatsuura Town	www.hotelurashima.co.jp/en/	
	ホテルニューパレス Hotel New Palace	P.53 B-8	From ¥5,500/person 	7683-18 Shingu, Shingu City	www.hotel-newpalace.com/ (JP)	
	加太淡嶋温泉 大阪屋ひいな湯 Osakaya Hiinanoyu	P.54 B-7	From ¥12,600/person 	Kada-Kigandori, Wakayama-city	www.hiina.com/index.html (JP)	
Shirahama	ホテルグランヴィア和歌山 Hotel Granvia Wakayama	P.54 F-3	From ¥8,000/person 	5-18 Tomoda-cho, Wakayama City	www.granvia-wakayama.co.jp/ english/	
	シラハマキーテラス ホテルシーモア Shirahama Keyterrace Hotel Seamore	P.56 B-3	From ¥14,700/person 	1821 Shirahama Town	www.keyterrace.co.jp	
	浜千鳥の湯 海舟 Hamachidori-no-Yu Kaishu	P.56 B-4	From ¥22,000/person 	1698-1 Shirahama Town	www.hotespa.net/hotels/kaisyu/ (JP)	

\*For rates and reservations contact the Koyasan Shukubo Association | <http://eng.shukubo.net/>





# Tourist Information



Koyasan



**Koyasan Shukubo Association**  
(Central Office)  
高野山宿坊協会  
🕒 8:30 - 17:00 (exceptions apply)  
📅 Dec 28 - 30 600 Koyasan, Koya Town  
🚶 Senjuinbashi » 🚶 1 min

Kumano



**Wakayama World Heritage Center**  
和歌山県世界遺産センター  
🕒 9:00 - 17:00  
100-1 Hongu, Hongu-cho, Tanabe City  
🚶 JR Kii-Tanabe » 🚶 66 min

Kumano



**Nachi-Katsuura Information Center**  
那智勝浦観光協会  
🕒 8:30 - 18:00  
6-1-1 Tsukiji, Nachikatsuura Town  
🚶 JR Kii-Katsuura » 🚶 1 min

Kumano



**Shingu City Tourist Association**  
新宮市観光協会  
🕒 9:00 - 17:30  
2-1-1 Jofuku, Shingu City  
🚶 JR Shingu » 🚶 1 min

Kumano



**TANABE Tourist Information Center**  
田辺市観光センター  
🕒 9:00 - 18:00  
1-20 Minato, Tanabe City  
🚶 JR Kii-Tanabe » 🚶 1 min

Wakayama



**JR Wakayama Station Tourist Information**  
JR 和歌山駅 観光案内所  
🕒 8:30 - 19:00 (exceptions apply)  
5-61 Misono-cho, Wakayama City  
🚶 JR Wakayama

Wakayama



**Nankai Wakayama-shi Station Tourist Information**  
南海和歌山市駅 観光案内所  
🕒 8:30 - 17:00 📅 Dec 29 - Jan 3  
3-6 Higashikuramae-cho, Wakayama City  
🚶 Nankai Wakayama-shi » 🚶 1 min

Wakayama



**Wakayama City Tourist Information**  
和歌山市 観光案内所  
🕒 9:00 - 17:45 📅 Dec 29 - 31  
3-6 Ichibancha, Wakayama City  
🚶 Shiyakusho-mae » 🚶 1 min

Wakayama



**TIC Wakayama Tourist Information Center**  
わかやま旅案内所  
🕒 10:00 - 19:00  
26-1 Shichibancha, Wakayama City  
🚶 Koen-mae » 🚶 1 min

Yuasa



**Yuasa Station Plaza**  
湯浅駅前 多目的広場  
🕒 9:00 - 17:00 📅 Dec 29 - Jan 3  
1077-6 Yuasa, Yuasa Town  
🚶 JR Yuasa » 🚶 1 min

Shirahama

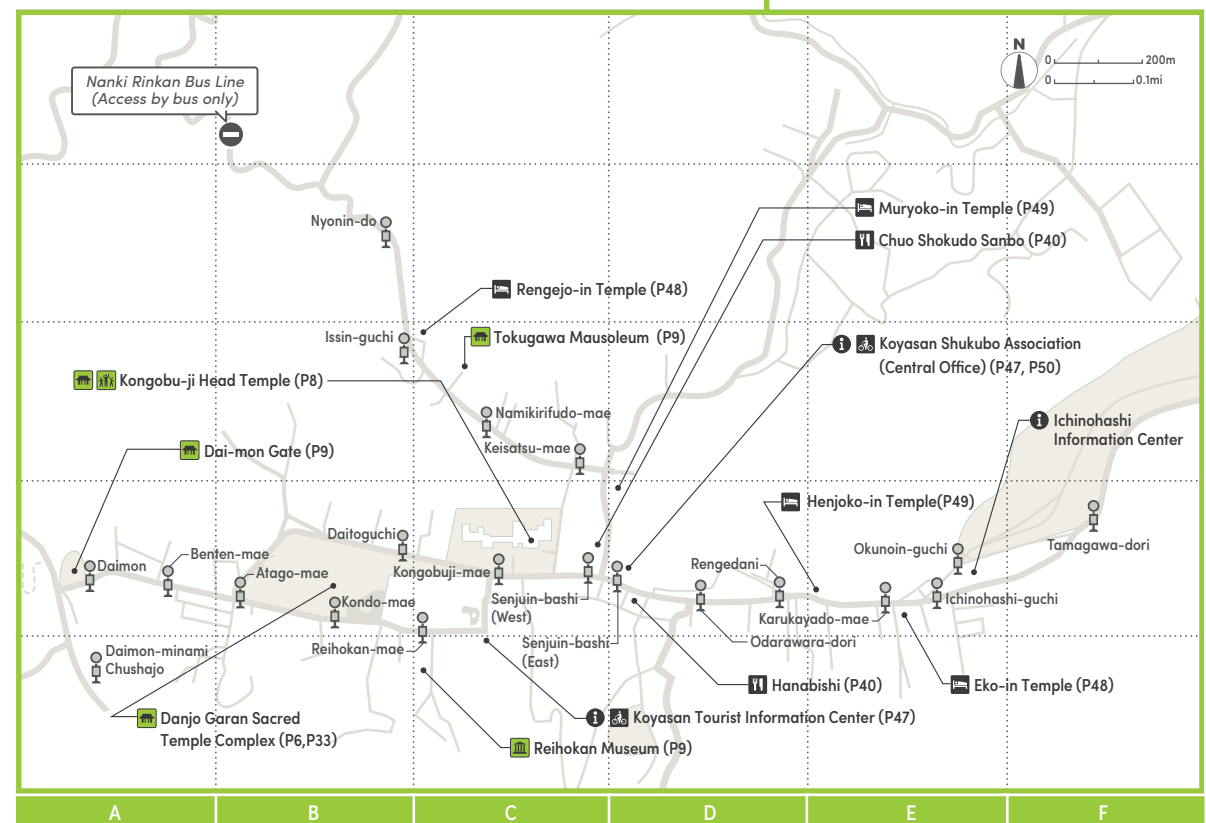
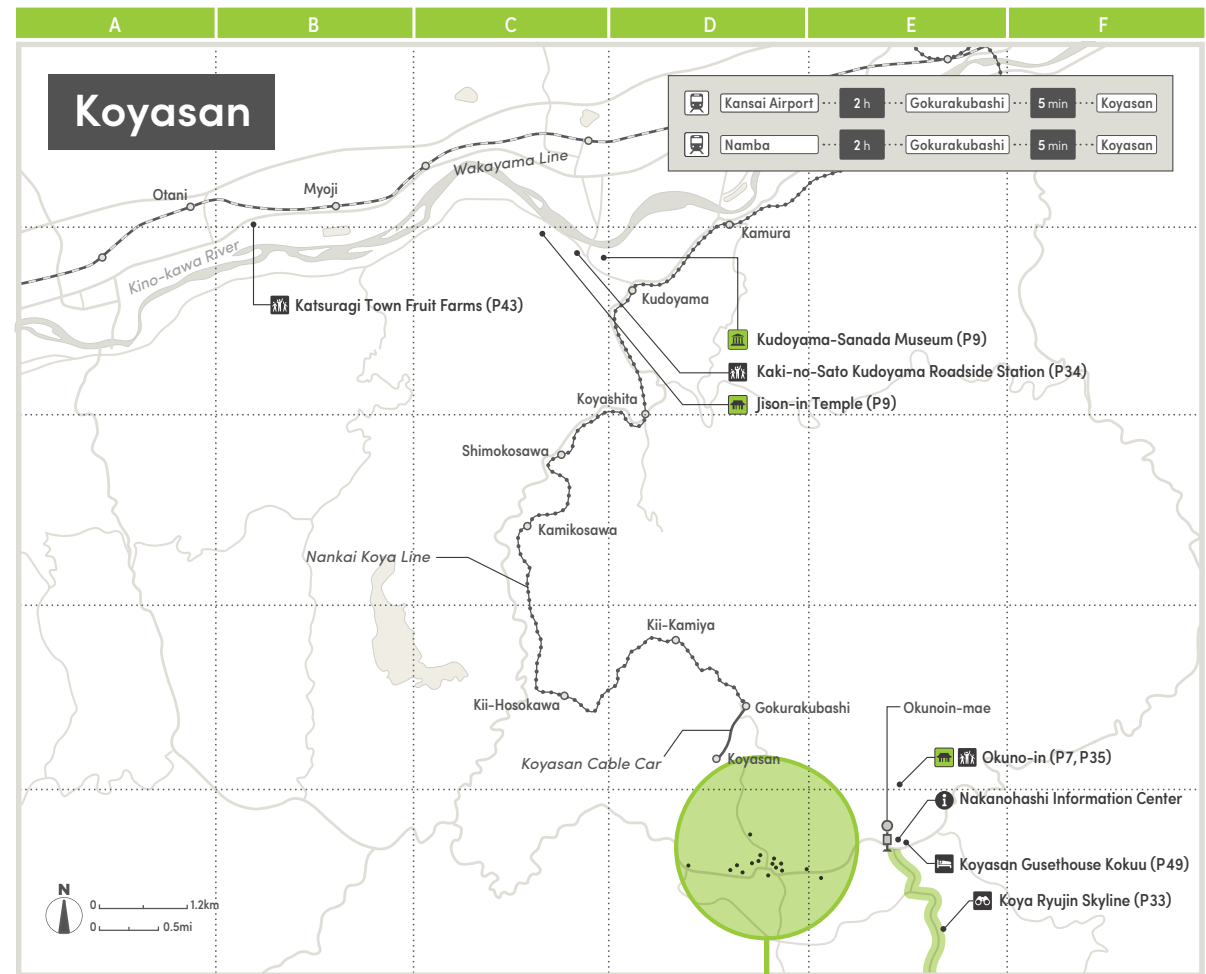


**Machinaka General Information Center Shirasuna**  
まちなか総合案内所しらすな  
🕒 8:30 - 17:15  
1384-57 Shirahama Town  
🚶 Shirarahama » 🚶 3 min

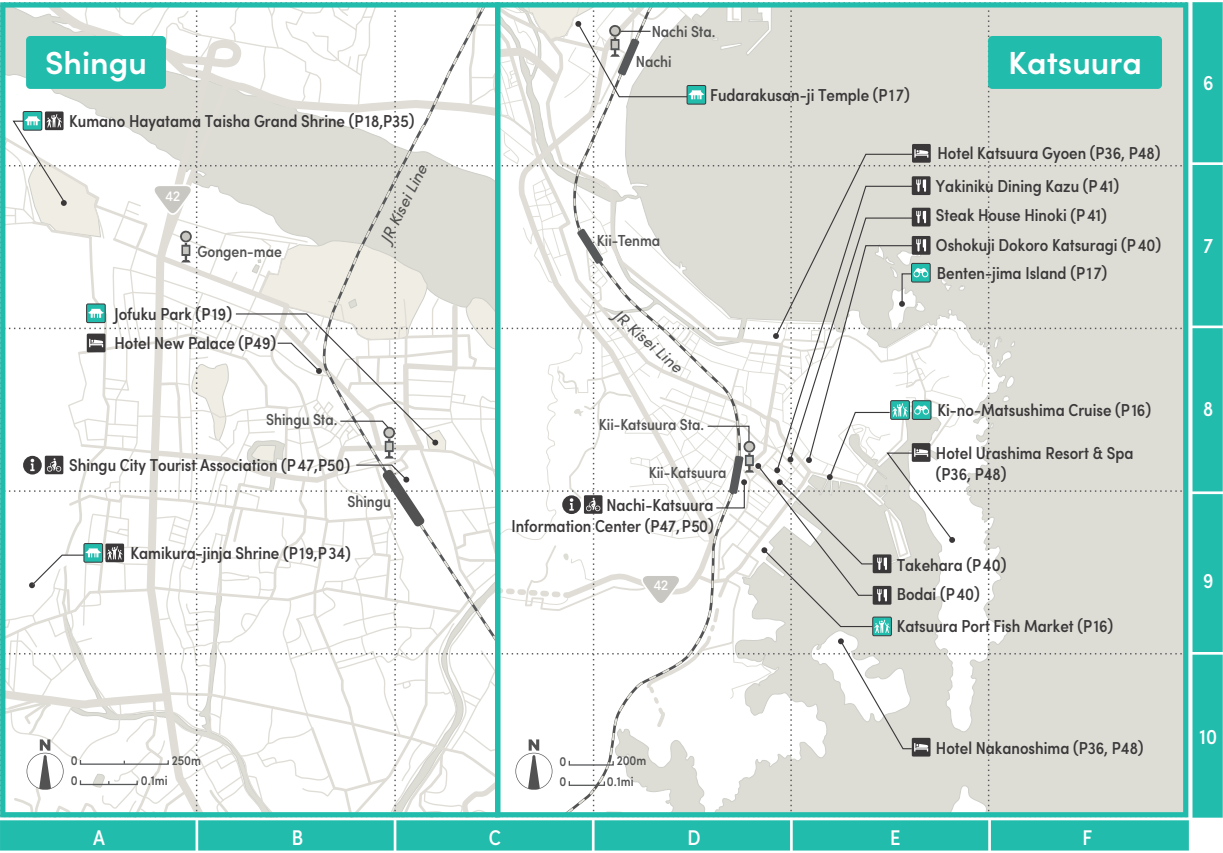
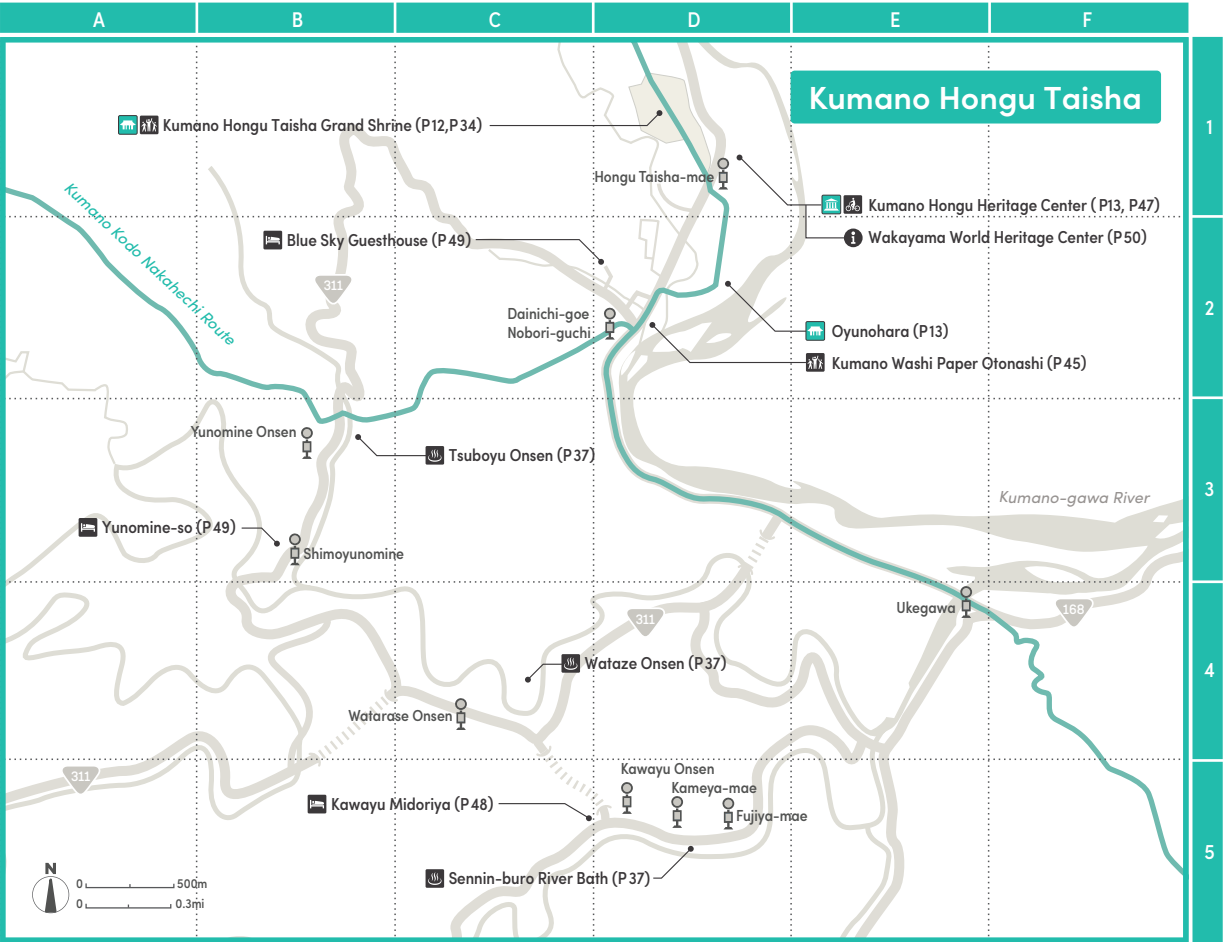
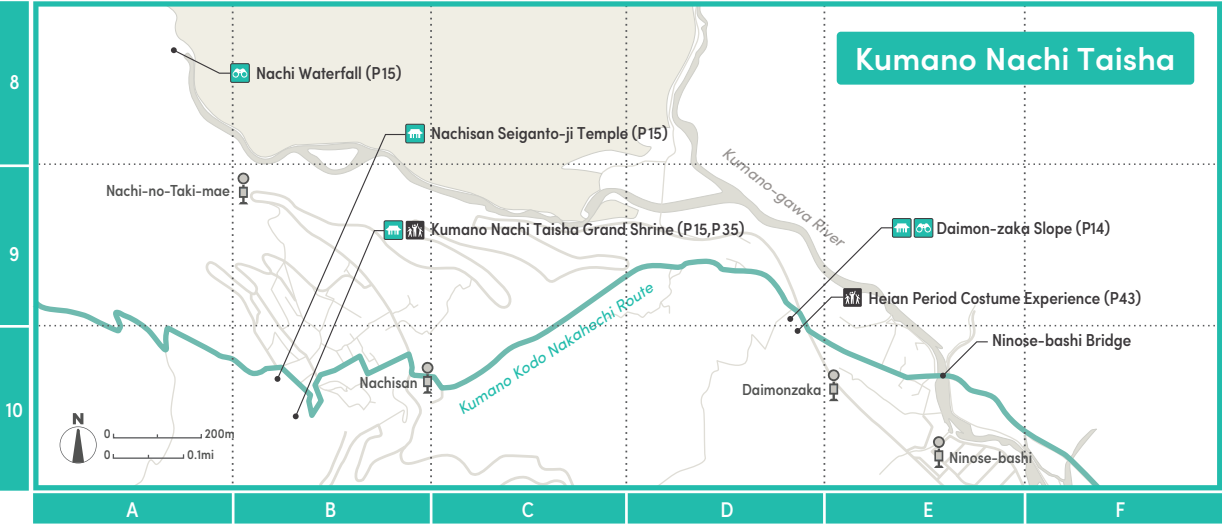
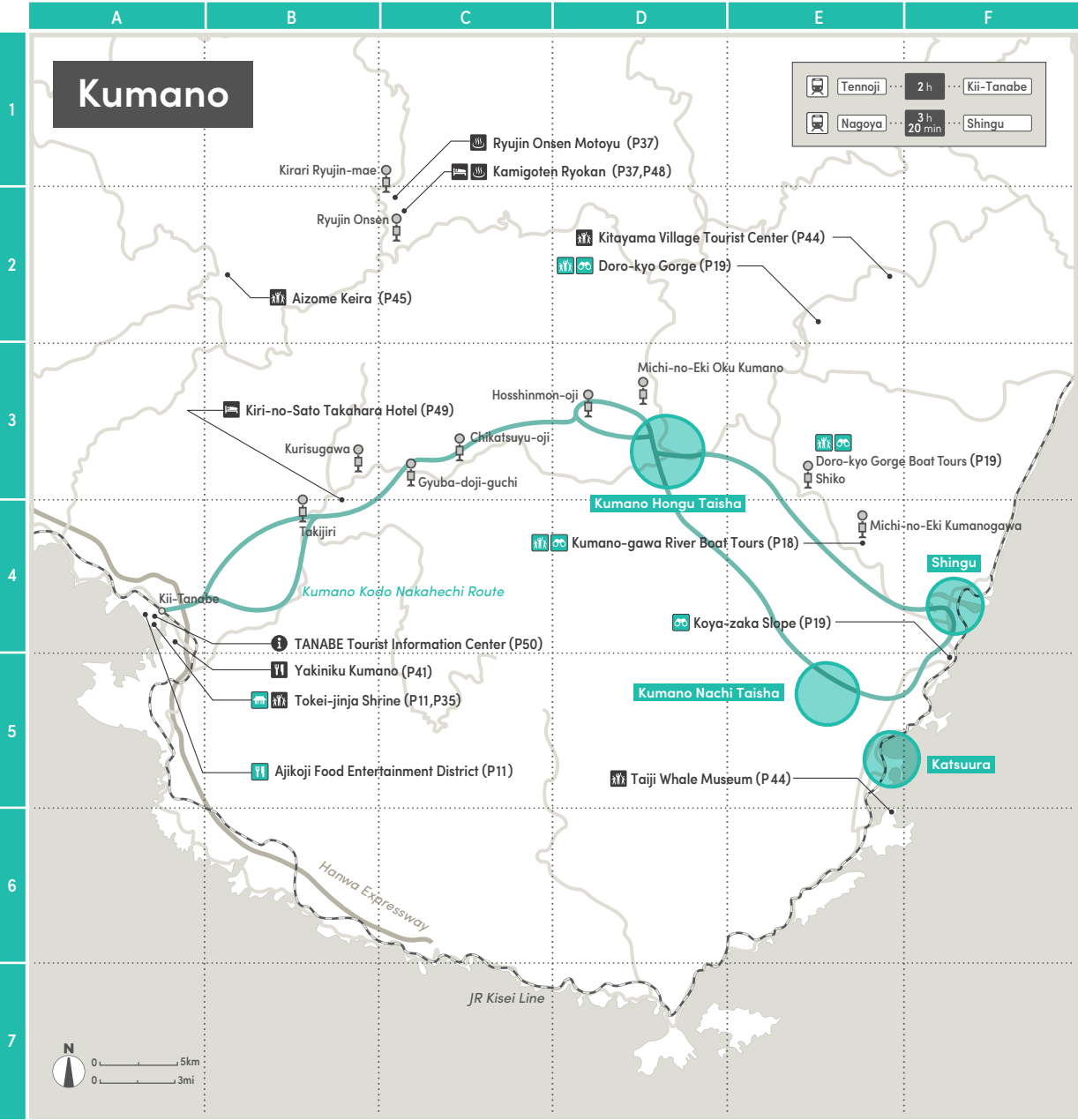
Kushimoto



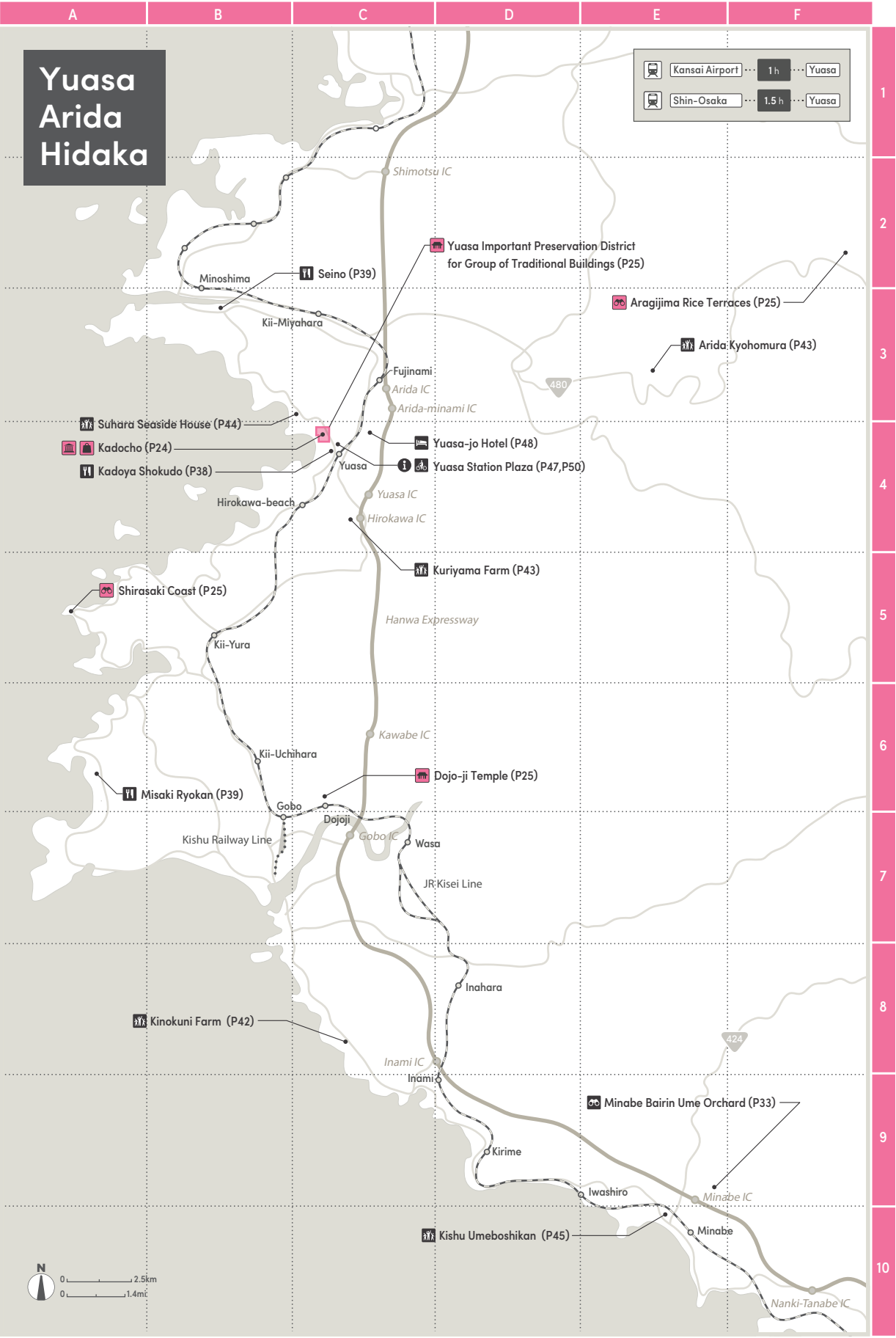
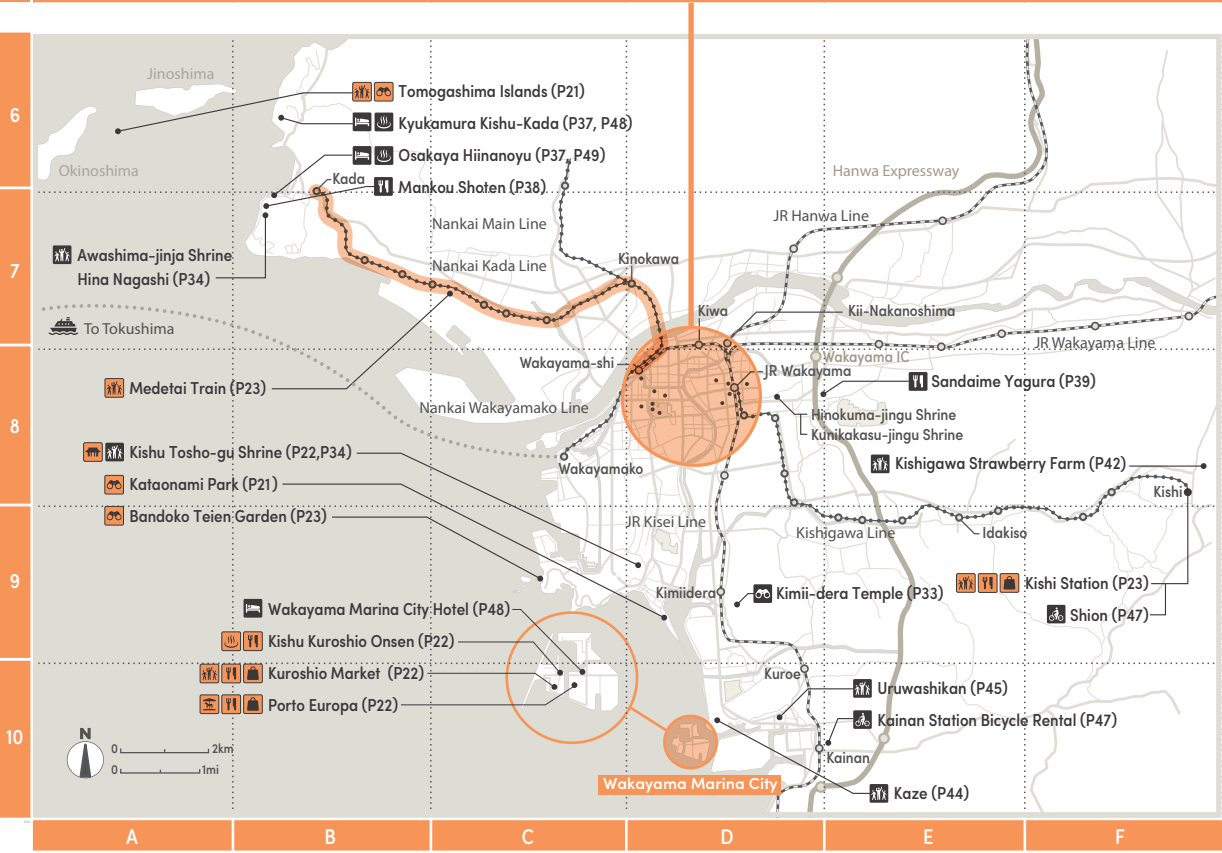
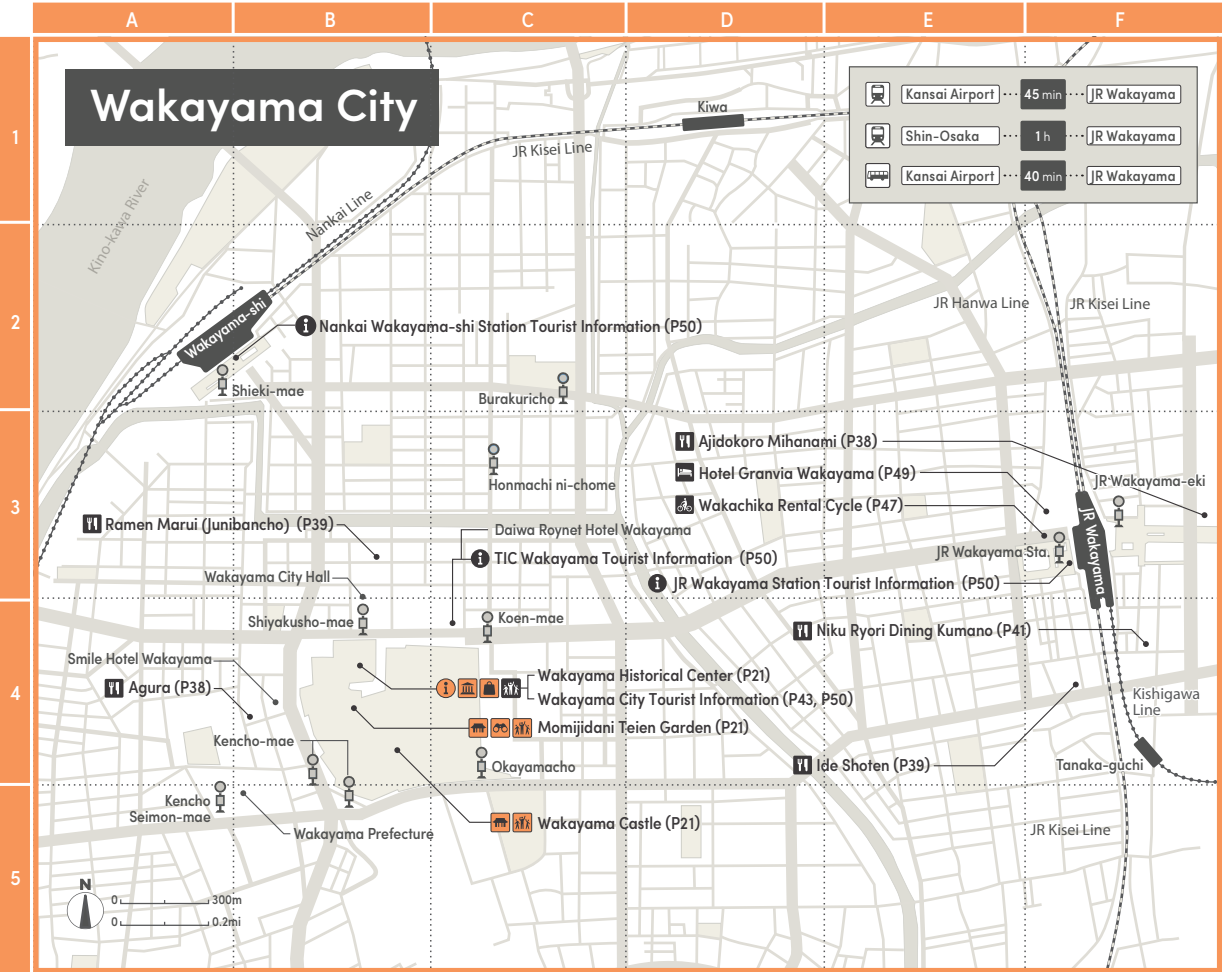
**Kushimoto Town Tourism Association**  
串本町観光協会  
🕒 8:30 - 17:15  
33 Kushimoto, Kushimoto Town  
🚶 JR Kushimoto



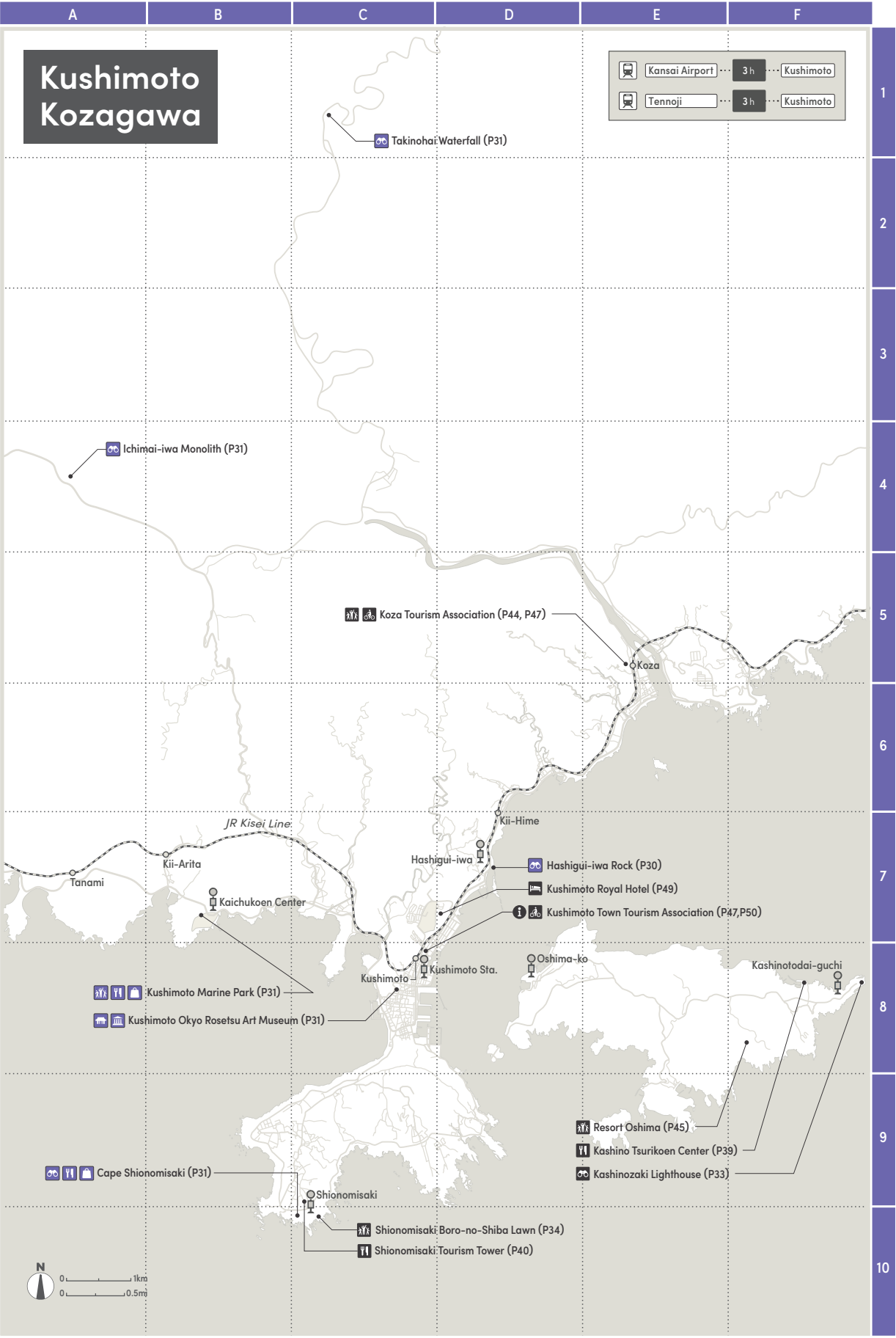
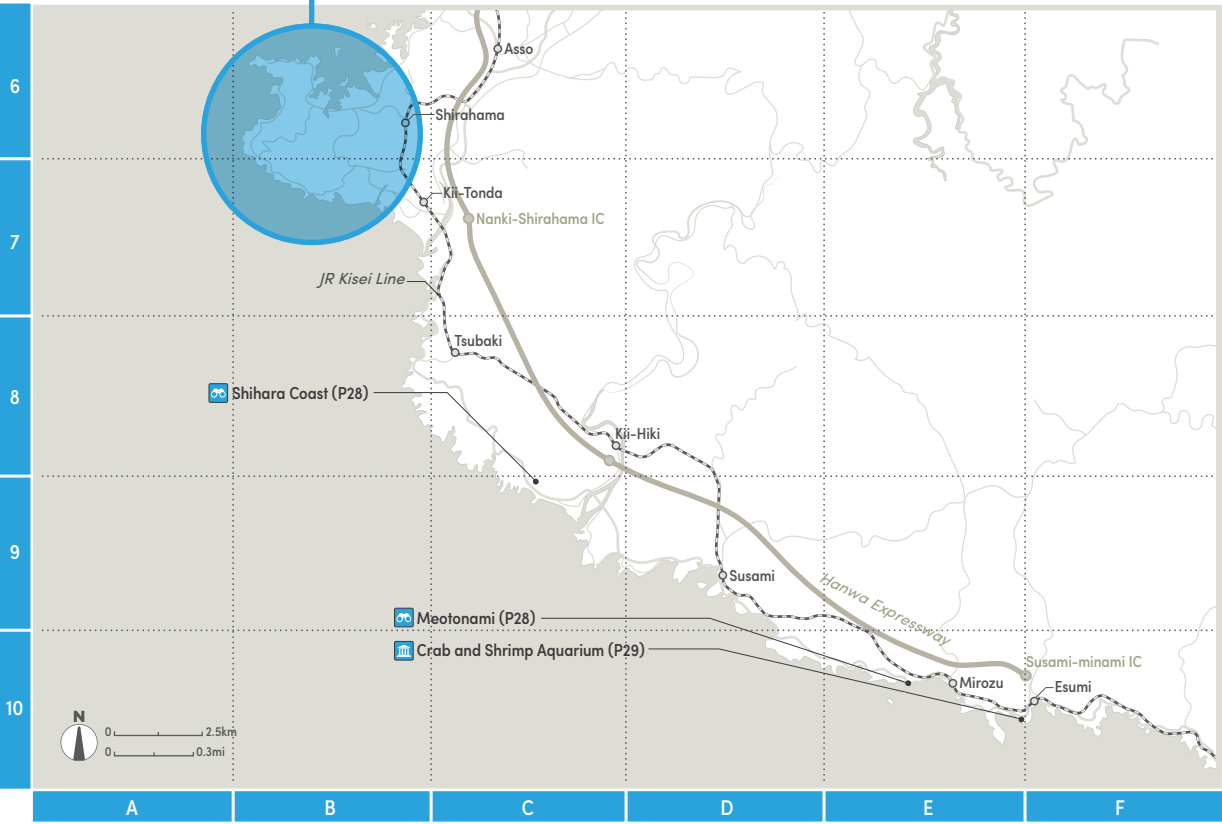
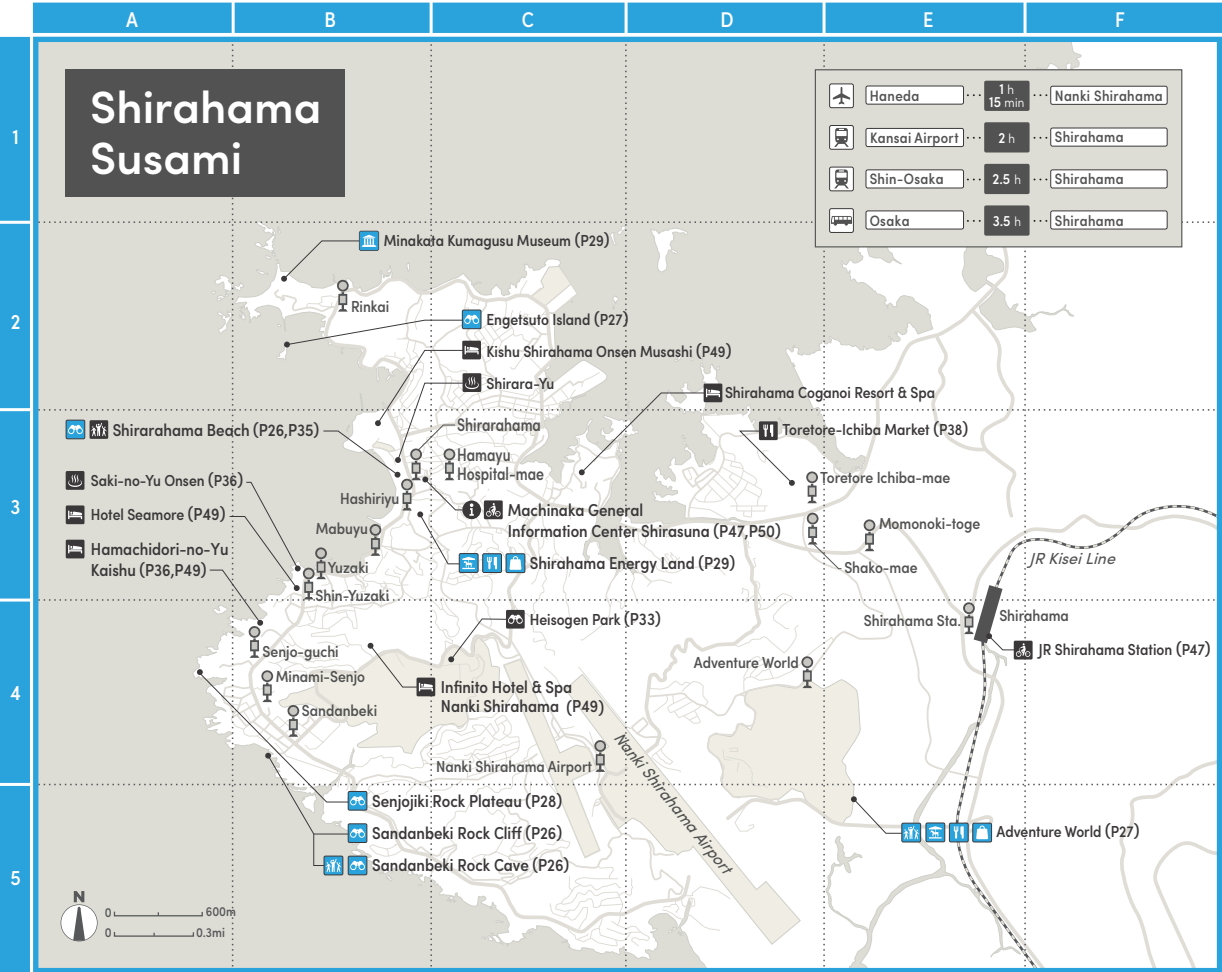





















# Transportation



visitwakayama.jp



<b>Access by Air</b> Japan Airlines (JAL) ☎ 0120-25-5971 <div><div>Nankai Shirahama Airport</div><div>Haneda Airport</div><div>Approx. 1 h 10 min</div></div>	From Tokyo to Nanki Shirahama ( Oct 28, 2017 - Jan 7, 2018 )			From Nanki Shirahama to Tokyo ( Oct 28, 2017 - Jan 7, 2018 )		
	Flight Number	Departure	Arrival	Flight Number	Departure	Arrival
	213	7:25	8:45	212	9:20	10:25
	215	10:25	11:45	214	12:15	13:20
	219	16:25	17:45	218	18:40	19:45

\* Flights operate seasonally and schedules are subject to change. Check online for the most up-to-date information ([www.jal.co.jp/en/](http://www.jal.co.jp/en/))

Highway Buses

Overnight Buses (Tokyo - Wakayama)

Tokyo Sta.

Shinjuku Sta.

Wakayama Sta.

Approx. 30min

Approx.9h

Nankai Bus

[www.nankaiabus.jp](http://www.nankaiabus.jp)

JR Bus Kanto

[www.jrbuskanto.co.jp](http://www.jrbuskanto.co.jp)

Airport Buses (Kansai Int'l Airport - Wakayama)

Kansai Int'l Airport

JR Wakayama

Wakauraguchi

Approx. 40min

Approx. 25min

Wakayama Bus

[www.wakayamabus.co.jp](http://www.wakayamabus.co.jp)

Kansai Airport Transportation Enterprise

[www.kate.co.jp/en/](http://www.kate.co.jp/en/)

Osaka - Shirahama Onsen Buses

JR Osaka

JR Namba

Minabe

Tanabe

Shirahama

Approx. 2h30min

Approx. 20min

Approx. 30min

Meiko Bus

<http://meikobus.jp>

Kyoto - Shirahama

JR Kyoto

Tanabe Sta.

Shirahama

Approx. 2h30m

Approx. 30min

Meiko Bus

[http://meikobus.jp/high\\_speed/kyoto.html](http://meikobus.jp/high_speed/kyoto.html)

Tokyo - Shirahama

Ikebukuro

Shinjuku

Kainan

Tanabe Sta.

Shirahama

Approx. 30min

Approx. 9h

Approx. 1h20min

Approx. 30min

Meiko Bus

[http://meikobus.jp/high\\_speed/tokyo.html](http://meikobus.jp/high_speed/tokyo.html)

\* Certain stops have been omitted.  
\* Airport buses from Kansai International Airport to Koyasan operate seasonally. Contact Kansai Airport Transportation Enterprise for up-to-date information.

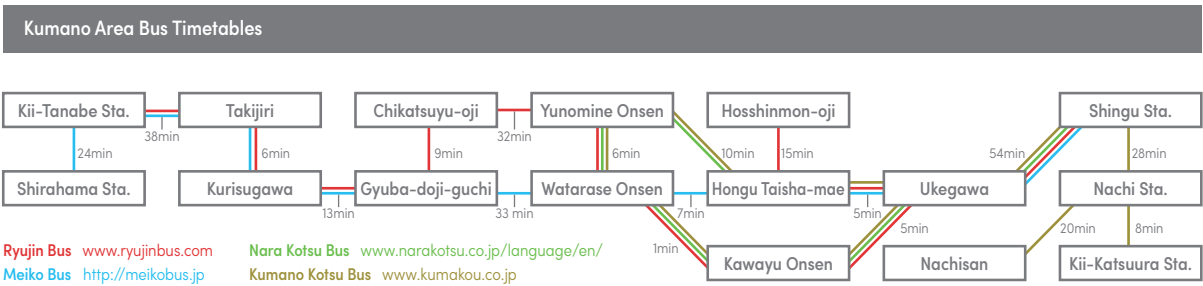
JR Tokai Express Wide View Nanki Timetable	<div><div>Nagoya</div><div>Tsu</div><div>Matsuzaka</div><div>Owase</div><div>Kumano-shi</div><div>Shingu</div><div>Kii-Katsuura</div><div>Approx. 1h</div><div>Approx. 15 min</div><div>Approx. 1.5h</div><div>Approx. 30 min</div><div>Approx. 20 min</div><div>Approx. 20 min</div></div>						

From Nagoya to Shingu and Kii-Katsuura				From Kii-Katsuura and Shingu to Nagoya			
Train	Nagoya	Shingu	Kii-Katsuura	Train	Kii-Katsuura	Shingu	Nagoya
Wide View Nanki 1	8:05	11:34	11:56	Wide View Nanki 2		6:20	9:41
Wide View Nanki 3	10:01	13:37	13:58	Wide View Nanki 4	8:55	9:12	12:41
Wide View Nanki 5	12:58	16:24	16:42	Wide View Nanki 6	12:24	12:42	16:10
Wide View Nanki 7	19:47	23:14		Wide View Nanki 8	17:11	17:29	20:49

<b>JR West Japan</b> <b>Kuroshio Limited Express Timetable</b>	<div><div>Kyoto</div><div>Shin-Osaka</div><div>Tennoji</div><div>Wakayama</div><div>Kainan</div><div>Yuasa</div><div>Gobo</div><div>Kii-Tanabe</div><div>Shirahama</div><div>Kushimoto</div><div>Kii-Katsuura</div><div>Shingu</div><div>Approx. 25min</div><div>Approx. 15min</div><div>Approx. 40min</div><div>Approx. 10min</div><div>Approx. 20min</div><div>Approx. 15min</div><div>Approx. 30min</div><div>Approx. 10min</div><div>Approx. 55min</div><div>Approx. 30min</div><div>Approx. 15min</div></div>												

Kyoto and Shin-Osaka to Wakayama, Shirahama and Shingu									Weekdays		From Shingu, Shirahama and Wakayama to Shin-Osaka and Kyoto									Weekdays	
	Kyoto	Shin Osaka	Wakayama	Yuasa	Kii Tanabe	Shirahama	Kushimoto	Kii Katsuura	Shingu		Shingu	Kii Katsuura	Kushimoto	Shirahama	Kii Tanabe	Yuasa	Wakayama	Shin Osaka	Kyoto		
Kuroshio 1		7:33	8:53		9:59	10:12	11:03	11:34	11:49	Kuroshio 2*							6:04	7:20			
Kuroshio 3	8:36	9:03	10:05		11:16	11:30	12:24	12:59	13:15	Kuroshio 4*							6:26	7:51			
Kuroshio 5		9:32	10:36	11:07	11:53	12:04				Kuroshio 6				6:40	6:51	7:36	8:09	9:22			
Kuroshio 7		10:15	11:17		12:29	12:45				Kuroshio 8				7:12	7:24	8:09	8:43	9:50			
Kuroshio 9		11:15	12:15		13:25	13:37	14:31	15:03	15:20	Kuroshio 10	6:30	6:48	7:21	8:21	8:33	9:17	9:50	10:52	11:17		
Kuroshio 11		12:15	13:17	13:49	14:35	14:49				Kuroshio 12				9:19	9:31	10:15	10:49	11:50			
Kuroshio 13		13:15	14:17		15:24	15:38	16:30	17:03	17:19	Kuroshio 14	8:38	8:53	9:26	10:29	10:41		11:50	12:50			
Kuroshio 15		14:15	15:18	15:49	16:35	16:46				Kuroshio 16				11:18	11:32	12:16	12:49	13:50			
Kuroshio 17		15:15	16:18		17:30	17:47	18:43	19:16	19:32	Kuroshio 18	10:28	10:45	11:20	12:27	12:38		13:50	14:50			
Kuroshio 19		16:15	17:18	17:49	18:34	18:45				Kuroshio 20				13:17	13:32	14:17	14:50	15:50			
Kuroshio 21		17:15	18:22	18:52	19:34	19:46	20:36	21:09	21:24	Kuroshio 22	12:43	12:58	13:30	14:33	14:45		15:53	16:50			
Kuroshio 23	17:47	18:15	19:26	19:59	20:44	20:55				Kuroshio 24				15:18	15:31	16:16	16:49	17:50			
Kuroshio 25		19:15	20:25	20:57	21:43	21:56	22:58	23:34	23:51	Kuroshio 26	14:18	14:35	15:12	16:20	16:32		17:47	18:51			
Kuroshio 27		20:15	21:25	21:57	22:42	22:53				Kuroshio 28				16:50	17:02		18:18	19:20			
Kuroshio 29*		21:15	22:25	22:57	23:41					Kuroshio 30	15:40	15:57	16:30	17:28	17:39		18:51	19:52	20:19		
Kuroshio 31*		21:46	22:53							Kuroshio 32				18:19	18:31	19:16	19:49	20:50			
29* to Kii-Tanabe, 31** to Wakayama, 2* from Wakayama, 4** from Kainan										Kuroshio 34	17:55	18:10	18:43	19:45	19:56		21:06	22:06			

\* Additional services operate on Saturdays and holidays during peak periods  
\* Departure times may differ on Saturdays and holidays  
\* Schedules are subject to change. Check online for the most up-to-date information ([www.westjr.co.jp/global/en/](http://www.westjr.co.jp/global/en/))



From Kii-Tanabe to Kumano Hongu Taisha Grand Shrine							
Bus Stop	Ryujin Bus	Meiko Bus	Meiko Bus	Ryujin Bus	Ryujin Bus	Ryujin Bus	Ryujin Bus
Kii-Tanabe Sta.	6:25	8:02	10:15	11:35	12:50	14:50	16:40
Kurisugawa	7:12	8:46	10:59	12:31	13:46	15:47	17:37
Yunomine Onsen	8:18	↓	↓	13:35	14:50	16:51	18:42
Watarase Onsen	8:24	9:30	11:43	13:42	14:57	16:57	18:48
Kawayu Onsen	8:26	↓	↓	13:43	14:58	16:58	18:50
Hongu Taisha-mae	8:38	9:37	11:50	13:55	15:10	17:10	19:02
Michi-no-Eki Okukumano	8:44	↓	↓	14:01	15:16	17:16	19:08
Hosshinmon-oji	8:50	↓	↓	14:07	15:22		

From Kumano Hongu Taisha Grand Shrine to Kii-Tanabe							
Bus Stop	Ryujin Bus	Ryujin Bus	Ryujin Bus	Meiko Bus	Meiko Bus	Ryujin Bus	Ryujin Bus
Hosshinmon-oji		7:48	12:23	↓	↓	14:45	16:28
Michi-no-Eki Okukumano	5:35	7:58	12:33	↓	↓	14:55	16:38
Hongu Taisha-mae	5:42	8:05	12:40	12:17	14:37	15:02	16:45
Kawayu Onsen	5:52	8:15	12:50	↓	↓	15:12	16:55
Watarase Onsen	5:59	8:17	12:52	12:22	14:42	15:14	16:57
Yunomine Onsen	6:06	8:29	13:04	↓	↓	15:26	17:09
Kurisugawa	7:00	9:25	14:00	13:05	15:25	16:22	18:05
Kii-Tanabe Sta.	8:00	10:15	14:50	13:50	16:10	17:15	18:51

From Shingu Sta. to Kumano Hongu Taisha Grand Shrine													
Bus Stop	Nara Kotsu	Kumano Kotsu	Nara Kotsu	Kumano Kotsu	Nara Kotsu	Kumano Kotsu	Kumano Kotsu	Meiko Bus	Kumano Kotsu	Meiko Bus	Kumano Kotsu	Kumano Kotsu	Kumano Kotsu
Shingu Sta.	5:53	7:05	7:46	8:40	9:59	10:47	11:15	11:26↗	12:15	13:46↗	14:25	15:55	17:10
Kawayu Onsen	6:53	8:06	8:46	9:41	10:59	↓	↓	↓	13:16	↓	↓	16:56	↓
Watarase Onsen	6:55	8:08	8:48	9:43	11:01	↓	↓	12:22	13:18	14:42	↓	16:58	↓
Yunomine Onsen	7:03	8:14	8:56	9:49	11:09	↓	↓	↑	13:24	↑	↓	17:04	↓
Hongu Taisha-mae	7:14	8:24	9:07	9:59	11:20	11:36	12:16	12:17↘	13:34	14:37↘	15:26	17:14	18:11

From Kumano Hongu Taisha Grand Shrine to Shingu Sta.													
Bus Stop	Kumano Kotsu	Kumano Kotsu	Kumano Kotsu	Kumano Kotsu	Meiko Bus	Kumano Kotsu	Meiko Bus	Kumano Kotsu	Kumano Kotsu	Nara Kotsu	Kumano Kotsu	Kumano Kotsu	Nara Kotsu
Hongu Taisha-mae	6:56	6:45	7:26	8:40	↖ 9:37 ↖	11:00	↖ 11:50 ↖	13:21	14:10	14:23	15:20	16:11	16:58
Yunomine Onsen	↓	6:55	↓	8:50	↑	↓	↑	↓	14:20	14:34	↓	↓	17:09
Watarase Onsen	↓	7:01	↓	8:56	9:30	↓	11:43	↓	14:26	14:42	↓	↓	17:17
Kawayu Onsen	↓	7:03	↓	8:58	↓	11:18	↓	↓	14:28	14:44	↓	↓	17:19
Shingu Sta.	7:57	8:04	8:27	9:59	10:30↘	12:19	12:43↘	14:22	15:29	15:47	16:12	17:12	18:24

From Katsuura to Nachisan																
Bus Stop	Kumano Kotsu															
Kii-Katsuura Sta.	6:45	7:25	8:25	8:55	9:30	10:25	11:05	12:10	13:10	14:10	15:10	15:45	16:35	17:05	18:05	
Nachi Sta.	6:53	7:33	8:33	9:03	9:38	10:33	11:13	12:18	13:18	14:18	15:18	15:53	16:43	17:13	18:13	
Daimonzaka	7:04	7:44	8:44	9:14	9:49	10:44	11:24	12:29	13:29	14:29	15:29	16:04	16:54	17:24	18:24	
Nachi-no-Taki-mae	7:09	7:49	8:49	9:19	9:54	10:49	11:29	12:34	13:34	14:34	15:34	16:09	16:59	17:29	18:29	
Nachisan	7:10	7:50	8:50	9:20	9:55	10:50	11:30	12:35	13:35	14:35	15:35	16:10	17:00	17:30	18:30	

From Nachisan to Katsuura																
Bus Stop	Kumano Kotsu															
Nachisan	6:53	7:18	7:58	9:10	9:40	10:10	11:05	11:45	13:00	13:55	14:55	15:50	16:25	17:10	17:40	
Nachi-no-Taki-mae	6:54	7:19	7:59	9:11	9:41	10:11	11:06	11:46	13:01	13:56	14:56	15:51	16:26	17:11	17:41	
Daimonzaka	6:59	7:24	8:04	9:16	9:46	10:16	11:11	11:51	13:06	14:01	15:01	15:56	16:31	17:16	17:46	
Nachi Sta.	7:10	7:35	8:15	9:27	9:57	10:27	11:22	12:02	13:17	14:12	15:12	16:07	16:42	17:27	17:57	
Kii-Katsuura Sta.	7:18	7:43	8:23	9:35	10:05	10:35	11:30	12:10	13:25	14:20	15:20	16:15	16:50	17:35	18:05	

\* Certain stops have been omitted  
\* Timetables are subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, visit the websites of the various transport organizations. Find these at





# Money-Saving Passes and Useful Services

※ The Price as of December, 2018. Please check online for most up-to-date information.

## Japan Railway Group

### JR West Kansai WIDE Area Pass

5-day pass for trains covering the Kansai Wide area, which includes services between Nara and Wakayama City, and along Wakayama's coast such as Shirahama and Nachi-Katsuura.

**5 days**

**¥10,000** ¥5,000 (child)

[www.westjr.co.jp/global/en/ticket/pass/kansai\\_wide/](http://www.westjr.co.jp/global/en/ticket/pass/kansai_wide/)

### JR West Kansai Area Pass

For use between Kansai Int'l Airport and Wakayama Station, and other cities in Kansai such as Osaka, Kyoto, Nara and more. Maximum validity is 4 days.

**1 day**

**¥2,300** ¥1,150 (child)

[www.westjr.co.jp/global/en/ticket/pass/kansai/](http://www.westjr.co.jp/global/en/ticket/pass/kansai/)

### JR Central Ise-Kumano Area Pass

Valid on trains and buses between Nagoya Station and Kii-Katsuura. Covers buses to the Kumano Sanzan shrines and other top sights in the Kumano area.

**5 days**

**¥12,000** ¥6,000 (child)

[http://touristpass.jp/en/ise\\_kumano/](http://touristpass.jp/en/ise_kumano/)

### Kantakun (Taxi Service)

Sightseeing taxi service offered by the Japan Railway Group. Taxis can be chartered affordably from Shingu, Kii-Katsuura, Kushimoto and Kii-Tanabe stations.

**From ¥6,180**

[www.jr-odekake.net/navi/kantakun/](http://www.jr-odekake.net/navi/kantakun/) (JP)

## Nankai Electric Railway

### Kansai Thru Pass

Covers certain trains, buses and subway lines in the Kansai area. Includes travel from Osaka to Wakayama City and Koyasan. 2 and 3-day tickets available.

**2 days**

**¥4,000** ¥2,000 (child)

[www.surutto.com/tickets/kansai\\_thru\\_english.html](http://www.surutto.com/tickets/kansai_thru_english.html)

### Koyasan-World Heritage ticket

2-day pass for round-trip travel between Osaka's Namba Station and Koyasan, with discounts on entry to most Koyasan sights. Also valid on Koyasan buses.

**2 days**

**From ¥2,860** From ¥1,440 (child)

[www.nankaikoya.jp/en/stations/ticket.html](http://www.nankaikoya.jp/en/stations/ticket.html)

## Nankai Rinkan Bus

### Koyasan Area 1-Day Open Bus Ticket

Entitles the bearer to unlimited travel on services operated by Nankai Rinkan Bus within the Koyasan area. Tickets are sold at Nankai Koyasan Station.

**1 day**

**¥830** ¥420 (child)

[www.rinkan.co.jp/global/en/](http://www.rinkan.co.jp/global/en/)

### Koyasan & Kumano Access Bus

Daily bus service operating between Koyasan and Kumano Hongu Taisha with stops at Gomadanzan and Ryujin Onsen along the way. (Daily between April 1 and November 30)

**1 day**

**¥5,000** ¥2,500 (child)

<https://visitwakayama.jp/good-to-know/koyasan-kumano-bus/>

## Wakayama Bus

### Wakayama City Area 1-Day Open Bus Ticket

Money-saving ticket providing unlimited travel on services operated by Wakayama Bus and Wakayama Bus Naga within the Wakayama City area. Tickets are valid for one day only.

**1 day**

**¥1,000** ¥500 (child)

<http://wakayamabus.co.jp/rosen/buscard.html> (JP)

## Meiko Bus

### Shirahama Area 1-Day Open Bus Ticket

Save money on bus travel in the Shirahama area with the one day open ticket accepted on Meiko buses. Tickets are available at the train station in Shirahama.

**1 day**

**¥1,100** ¥550 (child)

[http://meikobus.jp/2016\\_3\\_26\\_shirahama\\_rosen.html#free](http://meikobus.jp/2016_3_26_shirahama_rosen.html#free)

## Wakayama, a land of water

<https://www.wakayama-kanko.or.jp/mizunokuni/en/>



**WAKAYAMA**



**FREE Wi-Fi**



<https://wifi.visitwakayama.jp/en/>



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[www.instagram.com/visitwakayama/](https://www.instagram.com/visitwakayama/)



The Official Wakayama Travel Guide

**Visitwakayama.jp**



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1-1 Komatsubara-dori, Wakayama City 640-8585, Japan TEL +81-73-432-4310 URL [visitwakayama.jp](http://visitwakayama.jp) E-mail [e0625001@pref.wakayama.lg.jp](mailto:e0625001@pref.wakayama.lg.jp)