Travel Skills

Getting to Yamato

With easy access from Osaka, Kyoto, and Nara, Yamato is great for a day trip. You can also include destinations like World Heritage Sites Mount Koya and Kumano, the ninja village Iga, and Nagoya in your travel plans. This section tells you how to get from various other spots to Sakurai, your launching point for a journey through Yamato.

Information as of January 2017, Contents may change.

Osaka → Sakurai  Time: approx. 60 minutes  Fare ¥800

When coming from Osaka to Sakurai, we recommend either the express [Kyukou] or rapid express [Kaisoku Kyukou] to save time. The limited express [Tokkyuu] is fast, but it doesn’t stop at Sakurai Station. Also, the limited express [Tokkyuu] comes with additional charges. Because of the risk of going past Sakurai Station, we don’t recommend it. If you do come by limited express [Tokkyuu], it’s best if you switch at Yamato-Yagi Station to a non-limited express train going to Sakurai.

Kyoto → Sakurai  Time: approx. 70 minutes  Fare ¥940

Use either the express [Kyukou] or limited express [Tokkyuu] when coming from Kyoto. The express [Kyukou] takes about an hour and 10 min. The limited express [Tokkyuu] is 50 minutes.

Kansai International Airport → Sakurai

1) Time: approx. 110 minutes  Fare ¥1,950
2) Time: approx. 100 minutes  Fare ¥2,160

Some times of day have a direct bus connection to Sakurai (option #1). If you can’t catch one of these, go to Yamato-Yagi Station and connect there (option #2).

Mount Koya → Sakurai  Time: approx. 130 minutes  Fare ¥1,670

*NJR doesn’t run many trains. Also, you may need to wait quite a long time between transfers. Keep this in mind when using JR.

Iga-Ueno → Sakurai  Time: approx. 80 minutes  Fare ¥1,030

Be warned, there aren’t many buses.

Kumano → Sakurai  Time: approx. 5 hours, 20 minutes  Fare ¥1,160

Nagoya → Sakurai  Time: approx. 110 minutes  Fare ¥3,830
Climate

The climate isn't too different from Kyoto or Osaka. The Uda area is a highland and can be a little cooler.

Precipitation (mm)  
Sakurai City Rainfall and Temperatures  
Temperature (°C)

Currency Exchange/ATMs

The Nanto Bank

Currency can be exchanged at the following branches.

- **Sakurai branch**
  - Address: 281-4 Sakurai, Sakurai City, Nara Prefecture (from Jan. 2018 – )
  - Address: 1259 Sakurai, Sakurai City, Nara Prefecture (until Dec. 2017)
  - Tel: 0744-42-3355
- **Tenri branch**
  - Address: 303-1 Kawaharacho, Tenri City, Nara Prefecture
  - Tel: 0743-63-4111
- **Yuzaki branch**
  - Address: 690-1 Yuzaki, Kawanishi Town, Shiki District, Nara Prefecture
  - Tel: 0745-44-1881
- **Tawaramoto branch**
  - Address: 181-1 Tawaramoto Town, Shiki District, Nara Prefecture
  - Tel: 0744-32-8981
- **Haibara branch**
  - Address: 2439-6 Haibarahigahara, Uda City, Nara Prefecture
  - Tel: 0745-82-1501

Currencies: US dollars, Euro, Canadian dollars, Australian dollars, South Korean won

*Exchange is capped at 500 dollars (USD, CAD, or AUD), 500 Euro, or 500,000 South Korean won per transaction

**Tenri Post Office**

Sells: US dollars, Euro
Buys: US dollars, Euro, Chinese yuan, Canadian dollars, British pounds, South Korean won, Australian dollars, Swiss francs

*For purchases of foreign currency (bills), exchange is capped at no more than 300,000 yen (Japanese yen equivalent) per transaction.

- Address: 296-5 Kawaharacho, Tenri City, Nara Prefecture
  - Tel: 0743-62-0804
- Hours: 9:00 to 16:00
- Closed: Weekends and holidays

*For the services above, you must present some form of legal ID (e.g., passport) to the bank/post office.

Lost and Found, Difficulties, Accidents, Etc.

**Miwa/Yamanobe Area**

- **Sakurai/Tounomine Area**
  - Address: 49-1 Miwa, Sakurai City, Nara Prefecture
  - Tel: 0744-46-0110
- **Tenri Police Department**
  - Address: 22-4 Tabecho, Tenri City, Nara Prefecture
  - Tel: 0743-62-0110
- **Tawaramoto Police Office**
  - Address: 124-1 Tawaramoto Town, Shiki District, Nara Prefecture
  - Tel: 0744-33-0110

**Uda Area**

- **Uda Police Office**
  - Address: 1953-1 Haibarahigahara, Uda City, Nara Prefecture
  - Tel: 0745-82-0110

Illness, Injury, Etc.

**Miwa/Yamanobe Area**

- **Sakurai/Tounomine Area**
  - Address: 323 Abe, Sakurai City, Nara Prefecture
  - Tel: 0744-43-5001
- **Tenri Yorozu Sodanho Hospital**
  - Address: 200 Mishimacho, Tenri City, Nara Prefecture
  - Tel: 0743-63-5611
- **Kokuhu Central Hospital**
  - Address: 4641 Miyazato, Tawaramoto Town, Shiki District, Nara Prefecture
  - Tel: 0744-32-8800

**Uda Area**

- **Uda City Hospital**
  - Address: 815 Haibarahigahara, Uda City, Nara Prefecture
  - Tel: 0745-82-0381

Information Centers

**Sakurai/Tounomine Area**

- **Sakurai Tourism Information Office**
  - Address: Inside Kintetsu Sakurai Station
  - Tel: 0744-44-2377
  - Hours: 8:30 to 17:00
  - Closed: Dec. 29 to Jan. 3

**Miwa/Yamanobe Area**

- **Tenri City Trai Center**
  - Address: 572-1 Yanagimotocho, Tenri City, Nara Prefecture
  - Tel: 0743-67-0710
  - Hours: 8:30 to 17:00
  - Closed: Irregularly

- **“Shikino Sato” Tourism Station**
  - Tawaramoto Tourism Association
  - Address: 193 Tawaramoto Town, Shiki District, Nara Prefecture (right after leaving the east ticket gate at Tawaramoto Station on the Kinetsu line)
  - Tel: 0744-33-4560
  - Hours: 9:00 to 16:00
  - Closed: Tue., Dec. 29 to Jan. 3

**Hase Area**

- **Hase Tourism Center**
  - Address: 1593-2 Hase, Sakurai City, Nara Prefecture
  - Tel: 0744-44-3331
  - Hours: 8:30 to 17:00
  - Closed: Tue., Wed.; Dec. 29 to Jan. 3

**Uda Area**

- **Uda Midokoro Uda City Tourism Information Office**
  - Address: 2427 Haibarahigahara, Uda City, Nara Prefecture
  - Tel: 0745-88-0949
  - Hours: 9:00 to 17:00

- **Roadside Station (Michino Eki) Uda Oda Akinoyado**
  - Address: 714-1 Odaichiro, Uda City, Nara Prefecture
  - Tel: 0745-83-0851
  - Hours: 9:00 to 19:00

- **Mitsue Village Tourism Information Office**
  - Address: 6330 Kazue, Mitsue Village, Uda District, Nara Prefecture
  - Tel: 0745-95-6126
  - Hours: 10:00 to 16:00
  - Inside the Roadside Station (Michino Eki) Ine Hongkaido Mitsue

Questions about this publication

- **Tourism & Development Division, Sakurai City Hall**
  - Address: 432-1 Oendo, Sakurai City, Nara Prefecture
  - Tel: 0744-46-2110
  - Hours: 8:30 to 17:15
  - Closed: Weekends and holidays

  [Website](http://www.city.sakurai.lg.jp/wnlk/soumu/oumuka/Englishpage/)
  - Mail: kanko@city.sakurai.lg.jp

Publisher: Sakurai City  Published March 2017
A beautiful Japanese village

**Soni Village** 曽爾村

A beautiful village in the back yard of the Yamato Kogen (highlands). Visit here to enjoy rare natural scenery that can only be seen here, and camping grounds to immerse yourself.

**Soni-kogen (highlands)** 曽爾高原

The pampas grassland spreads across the valley to the mountains. There is a walking trail in the grassland, and it is possible to take a casual stroll without carrying heavy equipment. There is a hot spring nearby, an ideal location to heal your weary body after the stroll. Visitors can see the starry sky clearly at night.

**Byobu Iwa (sheer perpendicular cliff)** 屏風岩

Natural national monument

A strange rock that looks like a folding screen. It is a perpendicular cliff with a height of 200m and a width of 2km. It is especially beautiful during the cherry blossom season in the spring and the foliage season in the fall, but it is less popular during other seasons and one can monopolize its natural beauty then.

**Village of Myths**

**Mitsue Village** 御杖村

Tucked away in the Yamato Highland, this village is surrounded by the grandeur of the natural world. We recommend a stroll through the old town, situated amidst the nature along the old pilgrim’s road to see if going out to savor the forests and mountains.

**Mitsue Jinja Shrine** 御杖神社

Date of construction unknown

The shrine pavilion is flanked by two massive trees. It’s said that Yamato-hime no Mikoto, the daughter of the 11th Emperor of Japan, Suinin, left a camp here during her travels. The town gets its name from this event: “mi” means “honorable” and “tsue” means cane.

**Mount Mune** 三峰山

Elevation: 1235m. One of the 300 great mountains of Japan. Capped with silver frost in the winter. Its ridgeline is covered by beautiful rhododendrons in the spring.