Yakushima (屋久島) is an almost circular island having a circumference of 132 km and is located approximately 60 km SSW of Cape Sata on the Osumi Peninsula of Kagoshima Prefecture. It has an area of approximately 505 km², and is mountainous. Mt. Miyanoura-dake (1,936 m) and Mt. Nagata-dake (1,886 m), said to be the highest peaks in Kyushu, stand at the center of the island and are surrounded by mountains towering over 1,800 m above sea level. One prefectural road encompasses the island, and it takes roughly 3–4 hours to drive around. Here and there along the prefectural road, one comes across Yakushima monkeys (“yakuzaru”), and Yakushima deer (“yakushika”). These animals are in particular abundance along the 13 km long Seibinoro Forest Path.

The climate along the coastal area of the island is subtropical, and this area is also part of the northernmost periphery of the band of Okinawan banyan trees. The summit area is classified as a cool temperate zone, and sometimes over 2 m of snow can be seen accumulating around the distant mountains. The rainfall is most extreme around the northeastern part of the island, but the southwestern part sees the greatest number of sunlight hours in all of the Seinan Islands. Visitors can enjoy the climates of both the Japan Sea and the Pacific Ocean. In 1993, the huge Yaku Cedar trees growing in the island’s mountains was designated as a World Heritage (Natural Property).

Transportation within the island is by taxi and bus, with buses coming around once every hour. A part of the road on the western side of the island is so narrow and has so many twists and turns that local buses do not operate there. You have to come back along the same road or use a taxi to go through. Please note the timetable before you go.

Access to Yakushima Island:

By Air:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>From</th>
<th>To</th>
<th>Operated by</th>
<th>Approx. Travel Time</th>
<th>Access to Downtown</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Itami (Osaka)</td>
<td>Yakushima</td>
<td>JAC (JAL)</td>
<td>1 hr. 30 min.</td>
<td>[To Anbo]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 hr. 10 min.</td>
<td>- By Bus 16 min. ¥420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fukuoka</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>35 min.</td>
<td>[To Miyanoura]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- By Bus 20 min. ¥810</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

By Sea:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>From</th>
<th>To</th>
<th>Approx. Travel Time</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Ticketing &amp; Operator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kagoshima</td>
<td>Miyanoura</td>
<td>4 hrs.</td>
<td>¥4,900 (2nd cl.)</td>
<td>“Ferry Yakushima 2” by Oriza Kisen Tel: (0992)-226-0731</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Anbo</td>
<td>2 hrs. – 2hrs.45 min.</td>
<td>¥9,000</td>
<td>“Toppy” &amp; “Rocket” by TANEYAKU Jetfoil Tel: (0992)-226-0128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Miyanoura</td>
<td>1 hr. 50 min. – 3 hrs.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Airfares vary depending on the season.

Places of Interest:

1. Shiratan Unsuikyo Ravine (白谷雲水峡)

30 min. by bus from Miyanoura Port, is a primeval forest located at 600–1,300 m. You can see Yakusugi cedar trees in this 424 ha. area. This area is perfect for hiking and a day trip. Primeval forest courses of 60 min., 3hrs, and 4hrs. are available within the forest recreation area. The mountain path to Mt. Miyanoura-dake, the highest peak on the island, crosses over this area and takes you to Tsuji Pass, Wilson Stump, Daio-sugi Cedar, and Jomon-sugi Cedar. This area contains many natural evergreen trees, including Yakusugi cedars, and rare ground plants like ferns and moss. You can also see the clear Shiratan River flowing through the area, giant rocks piled on top of each other, and the perpendicular rise of the gorge. This and the assortment of river bank azaleas and cherry azaleas make this area a natural garden. Admission: ¥500.

2. Yakusugi Land (Yakushima Cedar Land) (ヤクスギランド)

40 min. by bus from Anbo, located on a plateau between 1,000 and 1,300 m high, is an area where visitors can easily appreciate Yakushima primeval forest with its Yakusugi cedar trees of several thousand years old. It is designated as a natural recreation forest. It has an area of 270.33 ha. It offers facilities like a 9-km hiking path (with 4 courses, of 30 min, 50 min, 80 min, 150 min. with additional 2.7 km path), suspension bridges in 3 places, benches, and an observation deck, and visitors can enjoy a therapeutic walk through the forest and view the great trees, like the Buddha Cedar, as well as the stumps left over from the feudal period and the remains of experimental tree felling. This is also the entrance to Mt. Tachu-dake. Admission: ¥500.

3. Jomon-sugi (Jomon Cedar Tree), Mt. Miyanoura-dake (繰文杉, 穂之道岳)

1 hr. by Arakawa-tozanguch Bus from Anbo or 1 hr. 30 min. from Miyanoura to “Arakawa-tozanguchi” bus stop, then 5 or 6 hr. trek to Jomon-sugi (It is advised to start this trekking at about 6 a.m. from Arakawa-tozanguchi). If you come by car, motorbike or bicycle, you need to transfer to the Arakawa-tozanguchi Bus at Yakusugi Museum. Traffic on the Arakawa Route is restricted to protect the natural environment and reduce congestion (from Mar. 1–Nov. 30). The bus ticket must be bought in advance (¥2,380 for round trip incl. donation for “the Yakushima’s Mountain Environmental Conservation program”). Taxi users are also asked to make a donation for the program through the taxi company (from ¥1,000 per day). Your donation helps covering the cost of managing the traffic restrictions and maintaining the parking lot and toilets of the Jomon-sugi Arakawa Route. It is preferred to have
full mountain gear. You need to be prepared for emergencies, and it is recommended for a beginning climber to have a guide. You also need to register and report your trekking schedule before climbing. Jomon-Sugi is said to be 6,300 or 7,200 years old. It was well known in the Edo Period. Located at 1,300 m on the highest point of the Okabu (Great Stump) path, this is the oldest cedar tree in the world. Visitors may not touch the tree to ensure its preservation.

Mt. Miyanoura-dake is the highest mountain in Yakushima (1,936 m). The approximately 1,000-m high mountains that form the outer circumference of Yakushima Island are called the “Ma-e-dake” (rear mountains), and the higher peaks that rise in the center of the island are called the “Oku-dake” (far mountains). In addition to these, the three peaks of Miyanoura-dake, Nagata-dake (1,886 m), and either Kurio-dake (1,867 m) or Kurumi-dake (1,831 m) are sometimes called the “San-dake” (three peaks). The flower garden with its cherry azalea, piers, Saigoku trefoil azaleas that bloom in Apr. to May., and rhododendrons that bloom in early Jun., is a sight that cannot be seen elsewhere.

Yakusugi Museum (屋久杉自然館)
45 min. by bus from Miyanoura Port or 6 min. by bus from Anbo, and built on the grass facing the sea. This museum is composed of two cylindrical buildings. You can stroll through the building, and enjoy up the smell of Yakusugi. Immerse yourself in the atmosphere created by thousands of years of coexistence between Yakusugi Island and its forest. Yakusugi Museum is a testimony to the fact that mankind and nature can coexist in one environment. Yakusugi Cedar Trees (屋久杉), growing naturally in the island's mountains, are well known for their longevity. Some are 1,660 years old. Open: 9:00-17:00. Closed: 1st Tue. of month (except Aug. & Nov.), New Year holiday. Admission: ¥600.

Ohko-no-taki Waterfall (大川の滝)
1 hr. 35 min. by bus from Miyanoura Port or 60 min. by bus from Anbo Port, is the highest waterfall in southern Kyushu. Its sudden and precipitous drop of 88 m and its sheer water capacity make it the greatest waterfall on the island. Visitors can walk right up to the area directly below the falls. This waterfall has been selected as one of “the best 100 waterfalls in Japan.” The clear water pool in front of the waterfall has also been selected as one of “the best 100 bodies of water in Japan.”

Transportation within Yakushima Island:
Taxi
Matsubanda Kotsu (Miyanoura Anbo, Airport) Tel. (0997)43-5555
Anbo Taxi Tel. (0997)46-2311
Yakushima Kotsu Taxi (Miyanoura) Tel. (0997)42-0611
(Amba) Tel. (0997)46-2321
(Onoide) Tel. (0997)47-2018

Excursion Tour Buses (Guided in Japanese)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operated by</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Sights to be visited</th>
<th>Departure time / area</th>
<th>Time required</th>
<th>Fare (children)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Yakushima Kotsu**
Tel. 0997-46-2221 |
A | Shiratani Unsuikyo Ravine, Botanical Research Park and more | 8:15 / Anbo | 5 hrs. 35 min. | ¥3,500 ($2,000) |
B | Yakusugi Land, Kigen-sugi Cedar and more | 8:15 / Anbo | 5 hrs. | ¥3,000 ($1,500) |
C | Senpiro Falls and more | 15:20 / Miyanoura | 2 hrs. | ¥2,000 ($1,000) |
D | Nagata Inaka-hama Beach, Ohko-no-taki Waterfall and more | 14:00 / Miyanoura | 3 hrs. 25 min. | ¥3,000 ($1,500) |

| **Matsubanda Kotsu**
Tel. 0997-43-5000 Fax: 0997-43-5281 |
A | Yakusugi Land, Senpiro Falls, Okho-no-taki, Nagata Inaka-hama Beach and more (including lunch) | 8:00 / Miyanoura | 9 hrs. 20 min. | ¥4,500 ($2,500) |
B | Senpiro Falls, Okho-no-taki, Nagata Inaka-hama Beach and more | 8:00 / Miyanoura | 4 hrs. 35 min. | ¥4,000 ($2,500) |
C | Yakusugi Land, Kigen-sugi Cedar and more | 13:45 / Anbo Port | 3 hrs. 5 min. | ¥2,500 ($2,000) |

- Reservation is required.
- Admission expenses are not included in the fare.
**Major Car Rental Providers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Provider</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Tel.</th>
<th>Provider</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Tel.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Toyota Rent a Car</td>
<td>(Myanoura)</td>
<td>(0997)42-2000</td>
<td>Olix Rent a Car</td>
<td>(Myanoura)</td>
<td>(0997)42-2669</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Airport)</td>
<td>(0997)43-5180</td>
<td></td>
<td>(Airport)</td>
<td>(0997)43-5888</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nippon Rent a Car</td>
<td>(Airport)</td>
<td>(0997)49-4189</td>
<td>Yakushima Car Rental NAVI</td>
<td>(Airport)</td>
<td>(0997)43-3068</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Recommended Activities:**
A hiking tour to enjoy fully the natural beauties of Yakushima Island. There are many courses where you can see many kinds of animals and plants, as well as World Heritage sites (Natural Properties). Other eco-tours are also available for canoeing, mountain stream climbing, caving, snorkeling, etc. Please ask local Tourist Information Centers for further details.

**Specialty Products:**

**Yakushima Tankan**

Tankan is a fruit that is juicer and sweeter than a Ponkan orange (shaddock). Many people who visit the island during the harvest season, from Feb. to Mar., enjoy its delicious taste. This fruit is a cross between a Ponkan orange and an orange.

**Kame-no-te**

Kame-no-te is a type of shellfish. People of the island call it by the familiar name of “Se.” It is in season from Apr. to Jun., and it looks like a turtle’s paw, so it was given the name “turtle’s paw,” or “kame-no-te.” Boiled in salt water or added to miso soup, it also makes a delicious soup stock with an aroma of the sea. It is also added to rice, making a dish called “Kame-no-te Gohan.”

**Yomegasa**

Yomegasa is a type of shellfish that can be harvested in Yakushima. They adhere closely to the wave-battered rock faces and are difficult to see clearly. Their numbers have dwindled recently. They are delicious when eaten raw or grilled.

**Tankan, Passion Fruit Juice**

These drinks are sold at “Yakusugi Land”, “Pontan-kan” and other places.

**Yaku-saba (mackerel)**

Yaku-saba has been decreasing recently, but it is one of the tastiest mackerels in Japan. To preserve their freshness, their necks get broken as soon as they are caught, and this “Kubiore Saba” (Broken Neck Mackerel) is well known for its use as sashimi. “Saba-bushi” is one of the specialty products that is produced from the Yaku-saba. They are also used to make soup broth in the Kanto area.

**Yakushima-age**

Yakushima-age is a food made from deep-fried, minced flying fish.

**Tobiuo (Flying Fish) no Ichiya-boshi**

Tobiuo fishing is in season from spring through summer. This food is made by drying out flying fish overnight.

**Yakusugi Cedar Handicrafts**

Yakusugi handicraft items like flower vases, urns, plates and dolls are made from “Domaiboku” which is the wood from Yakusugi cedar trees that have fallen on the forest floor and have not rotted.

**Accommodations:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of facilities</th>
<th>Tel.</th>
<th>Room rate (¥)</th>
<th>Name of facilities</th>
<th>Tel.</th>
<th>Room rate (¥)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Myanoura:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Anbo:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Minshuku Takesugi (M)</td>
<td>(0997)42-0668</td>
<td>¥</td>
<td>10 Minshuku Sugi-no-sato (M)</td>
<td>(0997)46-2919</td>
<td>¥</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Minshuku Yakusugi-so (M)</td>
<td>(0997)42-0023</td>
<td>¥</td>
<td>11 Minshuku Suimei-so (M)</td>
<td>(0997)46-2078</td>
<td>¥</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Seikoudoku (M)</td>
<td>(0997)42-2070</td>
<td>¥</td>
<td>12 Yakushima Green Hotel (H)</td>
<td>(0997)46-3021</td>
<td>¥</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Minshuku Yaezake Honkan (M)</td>
<td>(0997)42-2552</td>
<td>¥</td>
<td>13 Shisuikan (R)</td>
<td>(0997)46-2018</td>
<td>¥</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Yakushima YH (Y)</td>
<td>(0997)49-1316</td>
<td>¥</td>
<td>14 Ryokan Kamome-so (R)</td>
<td>(0997)46-2544</td>
<td>¥</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Wa no Cottage Sen no ie (M)</td>
<td>(0997)42-1006</td>
<td>¥</td>
<td><strong>Onoaida / Hirauchi:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Seaside Hotel Yakushima (H)</td>
<td>(0997)42-0175</td>
<td>¥¥</td>
<td>15 Hirauchi Kaichu Onsen-so (M)</td>
<td>(0997)47-2403</td>
<td>¥</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Tashiro Bekkan (R)</td>
<td>(0120)52-0018</td>
<td>¥¥</td>
<td>16 Yakushima South Village (G)</td>
<td>(0997)47-3751</td>
<td>¥</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shitoko:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>17 Shikinozado Onosida (M)</td>
<td>(0997)47-3377</td>
<td>¥</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Minshuku Yokusaba-so (M)</td>
<td>(0997)44-2250</td>
<td>¥</td>
<td>18 Yakushima Iwasaki Hotel (H)</td>
<td>(0997)47-3888</td>
<td>¥¥</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>19 JR Hotel Yakushima (H)</td>
<td>(0997)47-2011</td>
<td>¥¥</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Remarks:**

1 – 38 correspond to those on the map on page 4/4. Rate per person.

H = Hotel
R = Ryokan
M = Minshuku (family-run inn)
Y = Youth Hostel
G = Guesthouse

¥¥¥ = more than 15,000 yen
¥¥ = 8,001 yen – 15,000 yen
¥ = 8,000 yen or less

*Standard basis rate (no meals, taxes included).
Local Bus Routes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bound for</th>
<th>Major bus stops for each place of interest &amp; Time required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Miyanoura Port Shiratani Unsukyo</td>
<td>Miyanoura Port —— 5 min. —— Miyanoura (downtown) —— 25 min. —— Shiratani Unsukyo Ravine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miyanoura Port Arakawa-tozanguchi Kigen-Sugi</td>
<td>Miyanoura Port —— 5 min. —— Miyanoura (downtown) —— 20 min. —— Airport —— 20 min. —— Anbo (downtown) —— 10 min. —— Yakusugi Museum —— 35 min. —— Yakusugi Land —— 35 min. —— Arakawa-tozanguchi (Mar. 1–Nov.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohko-no-taki Fall, Kuri-o-bashi, Onoaida, Gocho-mae, Miyanoura-sho-mae, Miyanoura Port, Nagata</td>
<td>⑨ Nagata —— 35 min. —— Miyanoura Port —— 25 min. —— Airport —— 20 min. —— Anbo Port —— 10 min. —— Hirano —— 20 min. —— Onoaida —— 30 min. —— ⑧ Nakama —— 10 min. —— ⑤ Ohko-no-taki Fall (Two services a day to Ohko-no-taki)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please check timetable before you visit. ① – ⑨ correspond to those on page 1/4 & 2/4
[Good to know] Hiking / Trekking / Climbing safety:
• Most of the routes pass through habitats of bears and other wild animals.
• To ensure a safe visit for both you and the wildlife, please make an effort to prevent unwanted wild animal encounters.
• Stopping by the nearest tourist information center / a park visitor center is highly recommended to have the practical tips.

[Good to know] Admission and opening times at tourist attractions:
• Last entry to the most of attractions is 30 min. before the closing time.
• In general, if their weekly closing day (most are on Mon.) falls on a national holiday, they are open on the day and are closed on the following day after the holiday(s).
• Most are closed throughout / a part of New Year holiday period (especially Dec. 29–Jan. 3).
• Please visit the official website of each place / your nearest tourist information center for the updates.

TOURIST INFORMATION

Yakushima Tourism Association
Miyanoura Tourist Information Center:
823-1, Yakushima-cho, Kumage-gun, Kagoshima
Hours: 9:00–17:00.
*The next day when Hol. falls on Mon. (except the Golden Week and summer season [Jul. 20–Aug.]).
Tel. (0997) 42-1019

Yakushima Tourism Association
Airport Tourist Information Center:
310-1 Koseda, Kumage-gun, Yakushima-cho, Kagoshima
Hours: 8:30–18:00.
Closed: Jan. 1.
Tel. (0997) 49-4010

To find other Tourist Information Centers,
visit https://tic.jnto.go.jp/

Goodwill Guide Groups offer tourists from overseas
tour local tours guided in English or other languages. The guides
are registered with JNTO and display the badge shown. As
they are volunteers, there is no charge for their service. You are
only expected to pay for their transportation, admission to tourist
facilities if you visit any and their meals if you eat with them.

JNTO Website
https://www.jnto.go.jp

JNTO TIC (Tourist Information Center)

TIC of Japan National Tourism Organization is your helping hand
while in Japan. Its main services are providing travel information
and free literature on Japan such as tourist spots, transportation, and
suggestions such as itineraries, etc.

1F, Shin-Tokyo Bldg., 3-3-1 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo
100-0005
Tel. 03-3201-3331 (in Japan)
Open daily from 9:00 to 18:00 (closed on Jan. 1)