

ROUTE A World Heritage Sightseeing Guide in Hagi



Hagi Museum

As a historical and cultural center, Hagi museum exhibits artifacts and writings from the Meiji Restoration period, showcasing Hagi Domain's 260 years of history which started from the beginning of Hagi to the Meiji Restoration period.

355 Horiuchi, Hagi City TEL.0838-25-6447





Hagi Castle Town

In 1604, Terumoto Mori built the Hagi Castle surrounded by a castle town. Hagi castle town prospered for 260 years and became the center for feudal politics and economy. The former residential area of high-ranking samurai and tradesmen remains unchanged even today. Visitors can also enjoy the area's alleys with earthen walls and the white grid-like patterns on black slate walls known as namako walls.

1 Horiuchi, Hagi City TEL.0838-25-1750 (Hagi Tourism Association)





ROADSIDE Hagi Seaside Market

Hagi Seaside Market (Seamart for short) offers the best of Hagi food culture by providing local commodities and quality seafood. The facility is also a famous place to shop for local marine products sold at reasonable prices.

4160-61 Chinto, Hagi City TEL.0838-24-4937

Shokasonjuku Academy

Shokasoniuku Academy was a private school presided by Shoin Yoshida. Shoin accepted and taught students for more than 2 years, regardless of their position and rank, producing great talents who made major contributions during the Meiji Restoration.

1537 Chinto, Hagi City TEL.0838-22-4643 (Shoin Shrine)







Mount Kasayama & Myojin-ike Pond Enjoy a scenic view over the Sea of Japan at Mt.

Kasayama's summit and take a nice stroll by the Myojin-ike pond, located at the foot of Mt. Kasaya-

Chinto Koshigahama, Hagi City TEL.0838-25-1750 (Hagi Tourism Association)



can feed the



5 Hagi Onsen Village

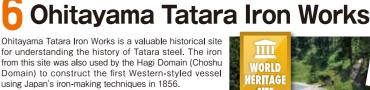
Established in 2004, Hagi Onsen Village is made up of 8 hot spring areas. This hot spring site offers beautiful scenery, refreshing hot spring experiences and nigh-quality Japanese cuisine.

TEL.0838-25-1750 (Hagi Tourism Association)









257-5 Shibuki, Hagi City TEL.0838-25-1750 (Hagi Tourism Association)

MI 410 304 267





Hagi Glass Studio

Hagi glass emerged during the late Edo period and is known for its distinctive hue from using quartz basalt from the nearby Mt. Kasayama. Visit the Hagi glass studio and try your hand at making your very own Hagi glass!

1189-453 Chinto Koshigahama, Hagi City TEL.0838-26-2555 (Hagi Glass Studio)

M[588 335 043







Hagiyaki Pottery 📒 A popular souvenir among tourists, Hagiyaki is an exemplary

representative among traditional crafts in Yamaguchi. This earthenware pottery is famous for its simplicity and quality that is an indispensable part of the tea ceremony culture. One of its charms is that the vessel begins to undergo subtle changes in color the more it's used.



Hagi Reverberatory Furnace

This western-styled reverberatory furnace was built in 1856 by the Hagi Domain using a sketch of a prior reverberatory furnace built by the Saga Domain, Apart from Hagi, remains of other reverberatory furnaces such as Nirayama in Shizuoka and Shuseikan in Kagoshima still exist.

4897-7 Chinto, Hagi City TEL.0838-25-1750 (Hagi Tourism Association)





Ebisugahana Shipyard

At the request of the shogunate and advice from Takayoshi Kido, this shipyard was built. By using information from the West and traditional Japanese techniques, the Western-styled sailboats were created. Even today, the historical site's large-scale breakwater is still present.

5159-14 Chinto, Hagi City TEL.0838-25-1750 (Hagi Tourism Association)







Tokoji Temple

Tokoji Temple was built by Yoshinari Mori in 1691. The main gate, Sanmon gate, bell tower and Daiyuhoden that makes up the temple have been listed on the National Register of Important Cultural Properties. Among the grounds stand more than 500 stone

1647 Shiihara Chinto, Hagi City TEL.0838-26-1052













Experience Beautiful Yamaguchi





Chofu flourished as a castle town of the Chofu Domain during the Edo period. Even today, visitors are able to enjoy the beauty of traditional Japan with its historical atmosphere and old samurai residences.

Chofu, Shimonoseki City TEL.083-231-1350



Kawarasoba X Kawarasoba or "roof-tile" noodles is one of Yamaguchi's famous cuisine, originating from Kawatana Onsen. Shimonoseki city. It is made up of tea-flavored noodles topped with beef, thinly shredded egg and seaweed and served on top of a roof-tile.

One of the leading contenders for the best scenic spot in Japan, Tsunoshima Island boasts spectacular beauty of its bridge, white sand beaches and

Kanda Hohokucho, Shimonoseki City to Tsunoshima Island TEL 083-786-0234 (Hohoku-cho Tourism Association)





3 Motonosumi Inari Shrine

Enjoy the panoramic view of the Sea of Japan, with the 123 red torii shrine gates that trail down along the mountain towards the sea. Motonosumi Inari Shrine was listed in a CNN travel article as one of "Japan's 31 most beautiful places"

498 Yuyacho, Nagato City TEL.0837-22-8404 (Nagato Tourism & Convention Association) MI 327 877 867







Senjojiki

Senioiiki is a wide grassland area located on a hill 333 meters tall. Enjoy the scenic view of the various islands situated on top of the Sea of Japan, the expansive sea, and wonderful panoramic view of the blue sky.

1138-1 Hekinaka, Nagato City TEL.0837-22-8404 (Nagato Tourism & Convention Association)





5 Nagato Yumoto Onsen

Discovered around 600 years ago, Nagato Yumoto Onsen now caters as a modern inn with a traditional atmosphere. Within the center of the hot springs' area flows two river banks where you can listen to the gentle sounds of the river flowing.

Fukawayumoto, Nagato City TEL.0837-25-3611 (Yumoto Onsen Inns Association)

327 590 264



tarting from the beautiful and historical World Heritage site "Hagi Castle Town", Yamaguchi Prefecture offers spectacular nature and a variety of excellent locations filled with history. Carefully selected tourist attractions and activities are prepared just for you!





6 Hagi Castle

Make your trip a memorable one by taking a stroll in Hagi's historical streets while wearing a kimono. Choose from 100 types of kimono at a kimono rental store in one of Hagi Castle Town's cafe. (Reservation is required)

2-39 Gofukumachi, Hagi City TEL.0838-21-7000 (Kimono Style Café)

M[243 887 080



7 Rurikoji Temple Five-Storied Pagoda

Known for its distinctive symmetry and unparalleled beauty, the national treasure five-storied pagoda is said to be a masterpiece of the Ouchi culture. Enjoy different landscapes as the season changes, with cherry blossoms in spring and changing leaves in autumn. In addition to the distinct mystical figure of the pagoda in the daytime, you can also enjoy the pagoda illuminated at night.

7-1 Kozancho, Yamaguchi City TEL 083-934-6630 (Kozan Koen-mae Tourist Office) 93 672 333









Q Joeiji Temple Sesshu Garden

Joeji temple is famous for its garden built by the famous ink-painter Sesshu around 500 years ago. The garden's beauty is said to bring to mind the simplistic atmosphere of one of Sesshu's ink paintings. The Japanese garden is a representative of a garden filled with Zen and has been designated as a historical site of Japan.

2001 Miyanoshimo, Yamaguchi City TEL.083-922-2272





9 Akiyoshido

One of the largest limestone caves in Japan with a 1 km long tourist course inside. Take a look at the "Golden Pillar", "One Hundred Plates", and other natural beauties that took over 100 million years to achieve. An expedition course to explore the cave is also offered.

Akivoshi Shuhocho, Mine City TEL.0837-62-0305 (Akiyoshidai Tourism Exchange Center)



Akiyoshido, Akiyoshidai and the whole city of Mine are now certified Geoparks in Japan.



Akiyoshidai

Akivoshidai is known as Japan's largest kars plateau. Its vast grassland is lined with white limestone spreading across the scenery. Akiyoshidai is also known for its different seasonal appearances such as the contrast of the land and blue sky in summer, silver susuki grass in autumn, mountain burning in winter, etc.

Akiyoshi Shuhocho, Mine City TEL.0837-62-0115 (Mine Tourism Association)





Explore Yamaguchi's History

Itinerary (Day 1) 1. Iwakuni Castle about 6min (from Iwakuni of Sanroku Station 2. Kintaikyo Bridge about 40min 3. White Wall Historical District about 1hr 10min 4. Mori Garden & Residence

about 40min

2016 is the 100th

Iwakuni Castle

The four-story castle was originally built in 1608 and was re-constructed in 1962. Visit the observaton deck on the top floor to enjoy the scenic view surrounding Iwakuni Castle including Kintaikyo Bridge over the Nishiki River, islands in the Seto Inland Sea, and the faraway mountains lined in Shikoku

Yokoyama, Iwakuni City TEL.0827-41-1477 (Nishikigawa Railway Iwakuni Management Office)









Kintaikyo Bridge

Built in 1673, this wooden bridge is composed of five sequential wooden arched bridges and four stone piers. The unusual wooden architecture of the bridge represents state of the art craftsmanship and technique.

1 Iwakuni, Iwakuni City TEL 0827-41-1477 (Nishikigawa Railway Iwakuni Management Office)







Iwakuni Sushi X

Also called Sushi of the Lord's, Iwakuni sushi is a kind of sushi rice that is pressed together and is alternated with lavers of lotus root, shredded egg and fish.



3 White Wall Historical District

Enjoy the nostalgic atmosphere while taking a walk along the rows of old merchant's residences from the Edo period. Goldfish lanterns decorate the area adding color to the street's white-colored walls.

Yanaitsu, Yanai City (Furuichi·Kanaya) TEL.0820-23-3655 (Yanai Tourism



top of the world just by

ooking at the spectacula





4 Mori Residence & Garden The former residence of the Mori family was designated as a national cultural property along with its garden as a national scenic spot. A part of the residence has now become the Mori Museum, exhibiting a collection of treasures. The four distinctive seasons are one to behold, especially the changing leaves with the green

momiii leaves in autumn. 15-1-1 Tatara, Hofu City TEL.0835-22-0001





5 Yuda Onsen

A famous hot springs area known for its quanti ty and quality. Visit "Kitsune no Ashi Ato" for sightseeing information and enjoy a relaxing foot bath along with the variety of local sweets and sake.

Yudaonsen, Yamaguchi City TEL.083-901-0150 (Yudaonsen Tourism Office)







. Iwakuni Cast



6 Hanchomon Gate

At the end of Edo period, Takachika Mori transferred the Choshu clan's agency from Hagi to Yamaguchi, and the Hanchomon gate became its main gate ever since. The former Prefectural Government Office Building and Assembly Hall are located nearby.

1-1 Takimachi, Yamaguchi City TEL.08 3-934-2810 (Yamaguchi Tourism Division)







Hagi Iwami Airport

Yamaguchi City Saikotei

Originally a traditional Japanese restaurant named "Gion Saikotei" during the Meiji period, the facility was later relocated and refurbished as a tourist attraction. Enjoy the famous calligraphies and collections on display as well as the kimono rental services and tea.

1-2-7 Tenge, Yamaguchi City

Yamaguchi!







Only available in 14 stores

across the city. Have a taste

of Shimonoseki's finest

gourmet course made from

fresh sea products and

jourmet

high-quality ingredients.



sonjuku **Academy** 1537 Chinto, Hagi City

TEL.0838-22-4643 (Shoin Shrine)





Tourist attractions related to Meiji Restoration, like the old lodging "Jippo-tei" can be found nearby.



Former British Consulate in Shimonoseki

Built in 1906, the consulate is one of Japan's oldest existing consulate buildings and an important cultural property. There is an exhibition space on the first floor and an English-styled café & pub on the second.

4-11 Karatocho Shimonoseki City TEL.083-235-1906







Mimosuso River Park

Mimosuso River Park has a view of the Kanmon straits where the last battle between the Genii and Heike (Taira) clans occurred.

Mimosusogawacho, Shimonoseki City TEL.083-231-1838 (Shimonoseki City Tourist Facilities Division)



M[16 775 392



ROUTE Power Spots & Healing Course in Yamaguchi

Itinerary (Day 1) 1. Akama Shrine about 52mir 2. Sorinji Temple Ryushintei about 50mir 3. Magura no Oiwago about 45min 4. Kagekiyo Cave about 20min 5. Beppu Benten Pond about 40min 6. Tawarayama Onsen (lodg

Akama Shrine

The vermilion-lacquered gate and white walls that overlook the Kanmon Strait, "Suiten-mon" has come to symbolize Akama Shrine. Within the grounds lies an exhibition of treasures of the lord featuring important documents. The place is illuminated during the night, creating a more vivid

4-1 Amidajicho, Shimonoseki City

TEL.083-231-4138





a National Site of Natural Beauty

Sorinji Temple Ryushintei

This temple was built more than 1200 years ago and is home to the oldest garden in Yamaguchi Prefecture "Ryushintei". The garden is noted for its tranquility and 'higata-vo" styled landscape, an old technique from the Heian period.

210 Kogushi, Ube City TEL.0836-21-1087











Kagekiyo Magura no

boulder field with large deposits of rocks formed from slowly cooled crystallized nagma around 1 million years ago.

Oiwago

Okumagura Isacho, Mine City TEL.0837-53-0189 (MIne City Board of Education)





Kagekiyo cave is 1.5km long, with a history of 300 million years. The natural beauty of the sculpture-like stalactites and variety of fossils such as fusulinida and coral algae is a work of art. In certain courses, flashlights are necessary within 400m.

3108 Aka Mitocho, Mine City TEL.08396-2-2201 (Kagekiyo Cave Information Office)







Beppu Benten Pond is Mine's famous pond n its Karst plateau area. This pond is mysteriously beautiful with its cobalt blue color. It was chosen to be part of the 100 famous ponds of Japan and is used for daily life, farming, and recently trout farming.

Benten Pond

Beppu Shuhocho, Mine City TEL.0837-62-0305 (Akiyoshidai Tourism Exchange Center)







Tawarayama Onsen

Tawarayama Onsen is said to have a history of 1110 years, known for its therapeutic qualities and beautiful location among the mountains. It has the retro onsen street atmosphere and the quality of being surrounded by nature that rejuvenates the heart.

Tawawrayama, Nagato City TEL.0837-29-0001 (Tawarayama Onsen Partnership)





ravel around Yamaguchi Prefecture's World Heritage sites, famous power spots and healing locations. Relax and immerse yourself into the solemn atmosphere and nature. This course will surely be a relaxing journey to the mind and body.





7 Ohitayama Tatara Iron Works

presence of the mountains, the World . Heritage Site is a place where you can relax and enjoy its serenity.

257-5 Shibuki, Hagi City TEL.0838-25-1750 (Hagi Tourism Association)





윉 Unrinji Temple

For cat lovers, visit Unrinji the "cat temple" in Hagi. The cat images and carved wood statues of cats welcome you. Cat-themed good luck charms, seals and fortunes are also recommended goods here.

2489 Klbekami, Hagi City TEL.08388-6-0307









Uiro 🗶 Uiro is a traditional Uiro from Yamaguchi is made of bracken flour, making it more refined in taste and flavor. A fresh variation of uiro called found in Yamaguchi and

9 Hofu Tenmangu **Shrine**

Hofu Tenmangu Shrine is known as Japan's first Tenmangu shrine, dedicated to the "god of learning", Sugawara no Michizane. Throughout the year, many visitors come here to pray for passing their exams, welcome the new year, and partake in the November Naked Man Festival.

14-1 Matsuzakicho, Hofu City









Kasadojima

This is one of the most beautiful spots in western Japan for viewing the sunset. Enjoy the view of the islands across the Seto Inland Sea. It is recommended to go during the winter between 17:00-18:00 when the surface of the sea is dyed dark red.

Kasadojima, Kudamatsu City TEL.0833-45-1841 (Kudamatsu Industria Tourism Division)







Shunan Factory Night View

Enjoy the night view of the industrial complex across the surface of water. The cruise tour is very popular for looking at the night view.

Harumicho, Shunan City (Harumi Water Park) TEL.0834-22-8372









SPECIAL Satisfaction Guaranteed! Special Tourist Attractions

To enjoy your journey in Yamaguchi even further, here are more recommendations for you to visit!

Ryuozan Park

Located on the summit of Mt. Ryuo, Ryuozan Park is famous for its 10.000 cherry blossoms in full bloom during spring. It is also known for its scenic views of Seto Inland Sea and is one of the country's best place to view the sunset and night scene area.



1261 Banyadake Aza Onoda, Sanyo Onoda City TEL.0836-82-1162

(Sanvo Onoda City Planning Division)





lokiwa Park

Tokiwa Park is beautifully complimented as nature at its finest. with a lake surrounded by sculptures. A tropical botanical garden and a coal museum are also available inside. In March 2016, Tokiwa Zoo held its grand opening.



4-1-3 Norisada, Ube City (Inside Tokiwa Park) TEL.0836-54-0551

(Ube Tokiwa Park Management Division)





Gojo's Senbonzakura

Senbonzakura in Goio is famous for its 1000 cherry blossom trees which extend 5km long. With Suo-Oshima's bright blue sea in the backdrop, this is the only place where you can experience driving through a tunnel of cherry blossoms!



Katazoegahama Seaside Park to Okikamuro Island Bridge TEL.0820-79-1003

Murotsu Peninsula Skyline

Take a refreshing drive on the 20 km mountain ridge road course.

while enjoying the scenic beauty of the sea. On the way, stop by

Ohoshiyama Observatory to enjoy the scenic beauty of the Seto

Inland Sea or see the faraway Kyushu and Shikoku islands on a

(Suo-Oshima Commerce and Tourism Division)



sunny day.



Kanmuriyama Park

Enjoy a variety of flowers at Kanmuriyama Park that bloom throughout the year, like roses, peonies, irises and 100 species of 2,000 plum flowers on the hills overlooking the vivid blue Seto Inland Sea. A beautiful Japanese garden can also be found



Sogo Railway Bridge

A viaduct bridge with excellent design, Sogo Railway Bridge was

finished in 1932 with a length of 189 meters. Enjoy the

picturesque beauty of the bridge that looks like a painting of a

6288 Murozumimura, Hikari City TEL.0833-74-3311 (Kanmuriyama Park Office)

train on a railway bridge during sunset.

2636 Nago Oaza, Abu Town

(Abu Town Public Relations

Office General Affairs Division)

TEL-08388-2-3114





With approximately 180 kinds of 4,000 roses colorfully landscaping the garden, Hachigamine Park is the largest rose garden in the prefecture. The park also has campgrounds, tennis courts, a playground and ferris wheel.



260-1 Konya-saku Seta Oaza, Waki Town TEL.0827-52-3751 (Waki Town Hachigamine Park

At the top of the 330 meter high Mt. Taga. Taga shrine is rumored to grant longer life. Many visitors from distant places come to visit the shrine for healing. Refresh the mind and body as you enjoy the splendid view of the mountains and open sea.



Ohano, Tabuse Town TEL-0820-52-5805 (Tabuse office, Economic Affairs Division)





Hachigamine Park



Management Assoc.)

Taga Shrine



Shikairo

807-1 Saga, Hirao Town

TFL-0820-56-7117

(Ohoshiyama Observatory)

(Hirao Economics Affairs Division)

Built in 1879. Shikairo is a rare 4-story wooden building and was designated as an important cultural property of Japan. The inner and outer designs of the building is mixed with eastern and western architectural features such as the combination of the Japanese-styled walls and the Western stained glass windows.



868-1 Murotsu Oaza, Kaminoseki Town TEL 0820-62-6040 (Kaminoseki Regional History Learning Center)







Kitaura-Kaido Houhoku

314-1 Hohokucho Kandaka Shimonoseki City

M[268 781 748

Kikugawa

MI 268 139 664

M[268 414 315

4383-1 Ofukuchokami, Mine City

MI 327 265 278

M[243 161 708

Mitou

Ofuku

TEL.083-786-0111

766-1 Kikugawacho Oaza Kamiokaeda, Shimonoseki City

TEL.083-287-4649

876-4 Toyotacho Nakamura,

TEL.083-767-0241

TEL.0837-56-5005

5480-1 Chikamitsu Mitocho Oda, Mine City

TEL.08396-2-2500

Hotarukaidou Nishi no Ichi

"Michi no Eki" Roadside Stations

Stop by a roadside station when you need a break from driving. Yamaguchi Prefecture is said to be the place where roadside stations started. A one-stop shop for all your needs, roadside stations offer information about tourist attractions, sell local products and serve local

Abu Town

2249 Nago Oaza Abu Town TEL.08388-2-0355 M[588 581 345



243 415 883 Uribo no Sato Katamata Chomonkvo

1244-7 Enmyo Aza Katamata Oaza, Hagi City TEL.08388-8-0114

11[410 226 515



Happiness Fukue

TEL.0838-52-0356

M[588 343 637

> **Hagi Sansan Sanmi** 1028-2 Sanmi, Hagi City

TEL.0838-27-0041 243 788 238

Hagi Oukan

243 709 806

Aio

1520-4 Aio Higashi, Yamaguchi City
TEL.083-984-5704
101 93 100 064

***For more information on** business hours, please inquire with the respective





TEL.083-955-0777

TEL.083-957-0118

Niho no Sato

Kirara Ajisu

95 359 107

509-88 Ajisu, Yamaguchi City

TEL.0836-66-1001

TEL.083-929-0480

513 032 650

M[93 742 821

1[870 189 075



M[93 146 238 **Solene Shunan**

Shiosai Ichiba Hofu

2-3 Shintsukijicho, Hofu City

TEL.0835-28-2100

2713 Heta Oaza, Shunan City TEL.0834-83-3303 11[646 562 537



Ganjyoju Hot Springs W Kaminoseki Kaikvo

TEL.0820-62-1139

749 599 669



Pure Line Nishiki

TEL.0827-71-0011 **11** 354 401 107



Sazanseto Towa

1958-77 Nishigata Oaza, TEL.0820-78-0033

503 566 039



Yutori Park Tamagawa 2849-1 Shimotama, Hagi City

TEL.08387-2-1150 410 830 333



1258 Kasegasaka Aza Tsubak Oaza, Hagi City TEL.0838-22-9889







roadside station.



Kawatana Onsen

known to have effective anti-aging properties.

With more than 800 years of history, this radium hot

spring boasts transparent and clear spring water, which is

Toyoura Town Kawatana, Shimonoseki City

(Kawatana Onsen Tourism Assoc.)

TEL.083-772-0296

268 187 119

"Onsen" Hot Springs

Yamaguchi offers a variety of hot springs or "onsen baths across the prefecture with more than 50 hot spring areas each with diverse qualities. Enjoy a relaxing bath at a hot spring that matches you.



hot springs

Yuno Onsen

Enjoy a soothing experience at this hot spring village located in the upstream area of Yaji river. A well-known beauty hot spring that makes the skin smooth.



Yuno, Shunan City TEL,0834-83-2345 (Yuno Onsen Ryokan Cooperative Association)





Sozukyo Onsen

This hot spring village is surrounded by peaceful and scenic mountains. Natural radon found in its waters is said to be good for people with weak skin.



Nishikimachifukagawa, Iwakuni City TEL.0827-72-2110 (Iwakuni City Nishiki Sogo Branch Office Regional Promotion Section)







For Pleasant & Safe Driving

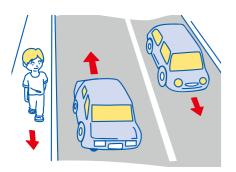
Using a rental car is convenient and fun, but may be dangerous because of traffic rules differing from your home country. For a more pleasant and safe driving experience, we summarized the important points. Please read this before you start vour trip!





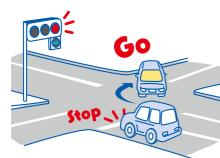
Precautions While Driving a Vehicle

Pedestrians should walk on the right side of the road and have the right-of-way. Automobiles and bicycles should travel on the left side of the road.



A red traffic light means STOP. However, motor vehicles may proceed in the direction indicated by a green arrow even if the traffic light is red or yellow.

Along with drunk driving, providing a vehicle to a drunk individual, offering alcoholic beverages to the driver or riding in a car of a drunk driver is punishable by law.





Approaching emergency vehicles like fire trucks and patrol cars must be given the right-of-way and must not be interfered



In case of an accident, immediately pull over the car and dial 110 to notify the police. Major and minor accidents resulting in property damage must also be reported to the police.



If someone is injured, call 119 immediately and wait for an ambulance to arrive. If possible, move the vehicle somewhere that does not interfere with other traffic.





Wear your seatbelt before driving. Passengers in all the seats, including the rear passenger seats must wear seat



Using any kind of mobile device while driving is prohibited by law.



Children under 6 years of age are required to use a child safety seat in the



Main Road Signs



Slow Down



or Stopping

Stop



No Entry

according to Road Lane



All Vehicles



Follow Directions Posted







Traffic Lane

Priority Vehicle

Crossing

Maximum One Way Speed Limit

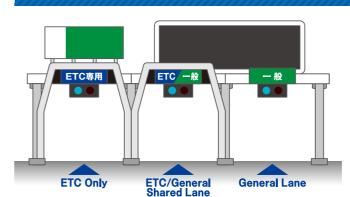




Expressway Service Area

Expressway Entrance





Passing through Tollgates

ETC (Electronic Toll Collection System) is an automatic system that allows you to pay the toll without stopping the car. In order to use the ETC system, you must have an onboard device and an ETC card. If you do not have an ETC card and an onboard device, use a regular paying (non-ETC) lane. Fees are paid at entrance and exit tollgates.



Expressways are one-way traffic!

Always check directional signs before entering an expressway. If you realize that you are going the wrong way or have missed an exit, keep on driving until you reach the next interchange before exiting. Expressways are one-way traffic roads and driving in the wrong direction may cause serious accidents. Do not make u-turns, back up or cross the divider on the expressway.

Rental Car Reservations & Returns

1. Check license and required documents

Check driver's license, passport's expiration date and documents needed for getting a rental car. If there is more than one person who will drive the car, everyone must undergo procedures to be able to use it. Also prepare a credit card for payment transaction.

2. Getting a rental car

Book a rental car by phone, online or visit a designated car rental outlet. If you are traveling with a child younger than 6 years old, reservation for a child seat is required. Also make sure to check insurance coverage and car navigation operation before traveling.

3. Returning a Rental Car

Contact the car rental company immediately if there is an expected delay in returning the vehicle. Additional charges will occur if you return the car past the scheduled time. Make sure to fill up the gas tank before returning the vehicle or further costs will be issued. Do not forget to check in advance if fuel receipts are to be submitted when you return the car.

Valid Driver's License in Japan

A valid driver's license is required to drive in Japan. Visitors who own a non-Japanese driver's license must have one of the following

• International Driver's License

If you have an international driver's license from a foreign country, driving a vehicle in Japan is allowed. However, you are not allowed to drive using an international driver's license

Foreign Driver's License

If you have a domestic driver's license from Taiwan. Switzerland, Germany, Slovenia or Monaco, you are allowed to drive in Japan. However, the domestic driver's license must be accompanied by a corresponding Japanese translation issued from the embassy or consulate in Japan.

Japanese Driver's License

Upon arrival in Japan, the International driver's permit and Foreign driver's license are only valid for 1 year from the date of its issue. Foreigners planning to stay in Japan for a longer term are advised to apply for a Japanese driver's