ACCESS

Kobe is easily accessible by plane, bus, car, train and Shinkansen (bullet train), making travel from major international ports seamless.

Kobe Bay Shuttle connects Kansai Airport to Kobe Airport in just 30 mins, and a Port Liner connects Kobe Airport to Sannomiya (Central Kobe) in 18 mins. From Shin-Kobe Shinkansen station to Sannomiya is just one stop by subway. Transportation to Kobe is easy and convenient.

Within Kobe, local trains, buses and ferries depart regularly to connect you to sightseeing spots in and around the city. Take just one train to Osaka, the historic cities of Nara and Kyoto, and other major cities such as Tokyo, Himeji, Okayama, Hiroshima, and Fukuoka. Complete your perfect holiday in Japan by connecting with Kobe.
FEEL KOBE

Countless unforgettable attractions await you in Kobe

Kobe is one of Japan’s most famous and exciting regions with a wealth of attractions for all ages. Kobe’s glittering harbor, majestic mountains, and enchanting night views impress even the most seasoned traveler, and are easily accessible for even first-time travelers. Since opening its port in 1868, Kobe has flourished and developed in its own way, becoming the metropolis it is today. As Japan’s sixth largest city, Kobe offers an abundance of museums, temples, cuisine, and attractions, providing the best of both old Japan and modern culture.

Where the seas meet the mountains, and history welcomes contemporary culture, there’s plenty to discover in Kobe. Kobe’s treasured nature, culture, and food await you.
KOBE AREA MAP

Legend
- JR Local Line
- JR Shinkansen (Bullet Train)
- Hankyu Railway
- Municipality Subway Seto-Yamada Line
- Municipal Subway Seto-Osakagawa Line
- Kobe Arima Railway
- Hakoguchi Railway
- Hanshin Railway
- Kobe Electric Railway Arima Line
- Kobe Electric Railway Sannomiya Line
- Kobe Rapid Transit Railway

NORTHERN KOBE

CENTRAL KOBE

EASTERN KOBE

WESTERN KOBE

KOBE ISLANDS

KOBE AIRPORT

3 MODEL COURSE

MODEL COURSE 1
Feel the Nature of Mt. Rokko & Experience the Scenic Beauty of Arima
<1night 2 days>

DAY 1
10:30 Leave Shinkansen Kobe Station
Take Kobe Electric Railway Arima Line (Walk & Lunch)
Take Kobe Arima Railway
Mt. Rokko (Eighting at Rokko Garden Terrace, Rokko Alpine Botanical Garden, etc.)
Take Kobe Arima Railway
Day at Arima Onsen (Dine & Hot Spring)

DAY 2
Deserved by Kobe Electric Railway to Central Kobe

MODEL COURSE 2
Explore Mt. Rokko & Mt. Maya
<1night 2 days>

DAY 1
10:00 Take Kobe Cable Car
Mt. Rokko (Lunch at Seven Cafe)
Mt. Maya (Tenshaku Terrace)
Stay at Hotel de Maya

DAY 2
Deserved by Maya View Line to Central Kobe

MODEL COURSE 3
Enjoy Sake & Beer
<1day>

DAY 1
11:00 Studio ura Sake Brewery
Walk
Kikusumon (Enomoto Sake Brewery Factory)
Take Hankyu Railway
Chugoku Production and Human Communication
Take Hankyu Railway
Visit Dorinking (small tour) in Sannomiya

Scan the QR Code to view more information about Kobe.
An incredible blend of history and contemporary culture can be found right in the heart of Kobe. Kyukyoryuchi, the historic former foreign settlement; Sannomiya, a shopaholic’s and foodie’s paradise; Harborland and Meriken Park, with Kobe’s best waterfront views; and Kitano, where the hilly northern topography allows for pristine views of Kobe. The central Kobe area entertains all visitors with its diverse and sophisticated streets.

1. Kobe Nunobiki Herb Gardens

There’s no better way to enjoy Kobe’s stunning views a year round. Picturque view of Kobe’s city and harbor and other attractions await you.

Hours: Varies depending on the season.
Price: Free

2. Weathercock House

Transport yourself back a century to see how foreign families lived. Weathercock House is a designated Important Cultural Property of Japan.
House: 10:00-18:00, last entry 17:00
Closed: Nov 24–Feb 28
Price: Free

3. Kitano Meister Garden

Gain an intimate view of Kitano by visiting this luxurious facility that includes a Japanese garden, teahouse, and crafts workshops and much more.
Hours: 10:00–18:00
Price: Free

4. Nunobiki Waterfall

A peaceful promenade and flower-filled water garden in the northern part of Kobe is a perfect spot to unwind. It’s also a great place to enjoy the natural beauty of Kobe.

5. Akasihimachi

An elegant oasis situated in the heart of the Kobe shopping district. Akaginryu is designed to be a place to unwind with and important examples of Western architecture and a shopping mall.

6. Tor Road

One of the most popular shopping streets in Kobe. Tor Road hosts a collection of unique, trendy and fashionable shops, restaurants, and cafes.

7. Kobe City Museum

Kobe City Museum opened its doors in 1997. It’s an elegant neoclassical building. It’s housed in an impressive collection of art and objects, including those that are designated as National Treasures.

8. Pears

Kobe, the City of Pears. As a major port, it’s perfectly located near the finest pear groves. Kobe is the hub for Japan’s pear industry, as it handles 80% of the country’s pear processing and distribution. You can visit many examples of the world’s finest pears in Kobe.

9. Kita Shrine

One of Japan’s oldest shrines, Kita Shrine was founded in 201, and is a serene oasis for relaxing, recharging, and connecting to the spiritual heart of Kobe. Kita Shrine is highly regarded for its history, beauty, and elegance.

10. Kobe Beef

Experience the decadence of what is unequivocally the world’s most famous beef. Kobe Beef is held to incredibly high standards, as the meat must satisfy very strict requirements in order to even be called “Kobe Beef.”

11. Central Kobe

Sannomiya / Kyu-Kyoryuchi Area

RECOMMENDED

In Central Kobe, beautiful scenery, stunning views, Japanese architecture, museums, and fine dining area are within walking distance of each other. Two incredible restorations, Nunobiki Waterfall and Kobe Nunobiki Herb Gardens, are located near Shin-Kobe Station. Other notable spots in Central Kobe include the historical Honkan-zaka residence area, the culturally significant Kobe Shrine, and Kobe commercial and dining center with ample opportunity to shop and try some Kobe Beef.
CENTRAL KOBE

Motomachi / Nankinmachi

Nankinmachi
This thriving tourist attraction welcome hungry travelers. One of Japan's bustling Chinatowns, Nankinmachi gives you a glimpse into the historical district that helped contribute to Kobe's history, culture and international trade.
Opening days & times vary depending on the store.

Chinese Cuisine
From street food and Dim Sum to Cantonese and Sichuan cuisine, Kobe is possibly the best place to experience the world's finest authentic Chinese cuisine.

Otsunakadori Street
Fascinating treasures await those who tread off the beaten path. If you are in search of unique and inspiring gifts or art and crafts, then look no further.

Sorakuen
Nestled in the heart of Kobe, yet remarkably unassuming and peaceful. Sorakuen is the perfect place to experience the serenity of an elegant Japanese garden.

Kobe Port Tower
A symbol of Kobe and the world's first lattice tower, Kobe Port Tower offers stunning views, both day and night. It's a fascinating walk down Kobe's memory lane. There are 3 observation floors in the beautifully-nested steel structure.

Kobe Anpanman Children's Museum & Mall
Put for the whole family, the museum on the second floor transports you into the existing world of Anpanman. The mall on the first floor has many shops and restaurants.

Meriken Park
This waterfront park is the perfect place to relax and take in the beautiful sights of Kobe Harbor and its surrounding area. It beautifully lights up at night to give you a romantic view of Kobe's most famous icons.

Kawasaki Good Times
World
A fun look into the history and growth of both Kobe and the Kawasaki Company. Numerous activities and displays such as current and past models of motor bicycles and helicopters will entertain visitors of all ages.

Kobe Harborsland umie and MOSAIC
With romantic views, this stores, a mall, restaurants, and child-friendly areas and activities, umie and MOSAIC are a must-visit for all. Don't forget to check out the beautiful sight of illumination of Gas Light Street and the Ferris wheel.

Kobe Harborland umie Shops, Restaurants & Cafe: 10:00 – 21:00
MOSAIC: Burgers 15:00 – 23:00
MOSAIC: Ice Cream 11:00 – 23:00

*Various shops, and restaurants open
Open all year round

To celebrate the 195th anniversary of the opening of Port of Kobe, a new monument was created to embody the heart, mind, and spirit of Kobe's proud, distinctive, and resilient culture. Situated perfectly on the iconic waterfront, the monument is one of Kobe's best photo spots.

Harborland / Meriken Park

Recommended by: Liesl Lienig, USA; Assistant Language Teacher
Harborsland can be enjoyed by couples, shoppers, and even families. You can have a romantic date night or spend the day with friends taking photos with the sea as your background. Recommend shopping for the latest fashion in umie, buying unique crafts along the MOSAIC, and enjoying a delicious meal while looking out over the harbor while the Ferris wheel or climb to the top of Kobe Port Tower to take in the incredible views.
KOBE ISLANDS

Port Island hosts many significant facilities such as an International Convention Center and Concert Hall, as well as entertaining facilities like Kobe Animal Kingdom, that can be enjoyed by all ages. Just South is Kobe Airport, a new 18-minute monorail ride from Sannomiya. Meanwhile, Rokko Island’s fashion and art museums create a unique international atmosphere.

RECOMMENDED

Kobe Fashion Museum
Japan’s first fashion museum takes you on a journey through the history of Japanese fashion.
Open: 10:00-17:00 Closed: Mon (except holidays) Please check the museum for details.

ASICS Sports Museum
A highly unique experience exploring the history of one of the world’s most famous and appealing sports brands, ASICS. Learn about the history of this brand and the sports equipment of the superstars who have endorsed it.
Open: 10:00-17:00 Closed: Mon (except holidays) Please check the museum for details.

Kobe City Koike Memorial Museum of Art
Dedicated to the works of renowned local artist Ryusuke Koike, this elegant museum contains Koike’s studio and exemplifies his everyday work.
Open: 10:00-17:00 Closed: Mon (except holidays) Please check the museum for details.

UCC Coffee Museum
UCC is a coffee museum in Japan, dedicated to learning about coffee from seed to cup.
Open: 10:00-17:00 Closed: Mon (except holidays) Please check the museum for details.

Kobe Animal Kingdom
An all-weather family-friendly adventure awaits you. An array of exotic animals from around the world is housed here in this spacious and interactive animal paradise.
Open: 10:00-17:00 Closed: Mon (except holidays) Please check the museum for details.

Kobe Airport
Kobe’s airport gives you easy access to domestic flights.
Open: 10:00-23:00

RECOMMENDED by

Kobe Airport: Port Kobe and Rokko Island are Kobes three main tourist areas, all three are easily accessed via monorails and buses from Sannomiya, the center area of Kobe. When you visit Kobe, please visit Kobe Animal Kingdom, Rokko Island has three art museums, making it a true hidden gem and an essential visit for art lovers. The Kobe City Koike Memorial Museum of Art is one of my favorite places to visit.
NORTHERN KOBE

Arima Onsen

1. Kin-no-yu (Golden Hot Spring)
This "golden", reddish-brown hot spring contains high levels of Iron, Calcium and Salt, which is said to be good for muscle aches and the skin.

2. Gin-no-yu (Silver Hot Spring)
This "silver", clear and colorless hot spring contains minute amounts of sodium and carbonates, which is said to be very good for blood conditions.

3. Arima Ningyo Fude (Doll brush)
This lovely, traditional, handmade Arima dollbrush is a popular souvenir. Handcrafted in Arima, this beautiful and popular brush is said to bring luck to families, and for those wishing to have children.

4. Zuihoji Park
Famous for its 1,600 spring views, this park never fails to impress. If you like to stroll and enjoy the scenery, Zuihoji Park is a must visit.

Source of Arima’s Hot Springs
No trip to Arima is complete without visiting one of the main sources of Arima's world famous hot spring water, called "tenjô furoku", sourced directly from Tanzan Shrine.

Tansan Sembei (Carbonated sweet crackers)
A specialty of Arima is this thin, sweet carbonated wafer. It has a distinct flavor and texture as it's made with Arima's carbonated spring water, and is enjoyed by all who try it.

Kobe-Sanda Premium Outlets
The largest outlet mall in western Japan, Kobe-Sanda Premium outlets stocks numerous International and Japanese premium brands, as well as casual and sports wear too. There is also a great food court to energize the second half of your shopping adventure.

HOURS: 10:00 - 21:30
CLOSING: Sunday

Farm Circus

One of the top birches in Japan, Kirin Brewery is well-known for its beer. Kirin Brewery offers tours of the brewery and a chance to taste various Kirin beers.

HOURS: 10:00 - 17:00
Closed: Sunday, holidays

Recommended by: Yonemura Shinya, Parkland Teacher
Retail therapy at Kobe-Sanda Premium Outlets is incredibly rejuvenating. The wide ranges of boutiques offer special promotions that make your trip even more worth while. I also love the nearby Michino-Kobe Fruit & Flower Park Ozero, which offers organic, locally-grown produce throughout the year. If you’re a hot spring lover, you can’t miss Arima Onsen. Spending the day walking through the historic streets, sipping in the Golden Hot Spring, and even taking a ride on a real Japanese Sanders – it’s the best I have lived back in time! The tranquil town was a perfect contrast to the city.

NORTHERN KOBE

Hokushin Area

Kobe-Sanda Premium Outlets

One of the top birches in Japan, Kirin Brewery’s Kobe offers tours of the brewery and a chance to taste various Kirin beers.

HOURS: 10:00 - 17:00
Closed: Sunday, holidays

Michino-Kobe Fruit & Flower Park Ozero

An outdoor adventure where you can dine and buy local delicacies, enjoy the amusement park, have a BBQ, and relax in a hot spring or even stay the night at the hotel.

HOURS: 9:00 - 17:00
Closed: Monday<br>Open: 11:00 - 17:00
Mt. Rokko & Mt. Maya

**Rokko Snow Park**
A Gentle Slope and Special Areas for Skiing and Playing in the Snow. Perfect for Families, Beginners or Local Skiers.
*Hours*:
- Spring: 9:00 - 22:00
- Autumn: 10:00 - 21:00
*Admission*:
- Adults: ¥1,500 per person
- Children (6-12 years): ¥750 per person

**Mt. Maya Tenjoji Temple**
Built in A.D. 584, this temple is a standing and spiritual place to enjoy Kobe's stunning beauty. Awe-inspiring can be seen from the temple grounds on a sunny day.
*Hours*:
- 8:00 - 17:30
*Open All Year Round*

**Maya View Line (Maya Cable Car & Maya Ropeway)**
A unique cable car and ropeway connecting to Mt. Maya and the foot of the mountain. Do not miss the “10 million dollar view” at night.
*Hours*:
- Mar. - Nov., Wed. in Spring & Fall: 9:30 - 17:30; Sun. in Spring & Fall: 9:30 - 17:00; Mar. - Oct., Sun. in Spring & Fall: 9:30 - 17:30; Nov. - Feb., Sun. in Spring & Fall: 9:30 - 17:00
*Closed*: Tuesday in Spring & Fall, Winter Open 3 days in a national holiday, then closed
*Admission*:
- Adults: ¥1,300 per person
- Children (4 - 12 years): Roundtrip ¥700 per person

**Night Views (Mt. Maya Kikusaiji, Tenmangu Observatory, etc.)**
Used among the top three night views in Japan, the beautiful night view of Kobe from Kikusaiji Observatory should not be missed.
*Hours*:
- 11:00 - 21:00 (Tenmangu Observatory)
*Open All Year Round*

**Mt. Maya & Mt. Rokko**
Located on the east coast of the island, these two sacred mountains offer breathtaking views of the ocean and the surrounding islands.

**Rokko Garden Terrace - Rokko-Shidare Observatory**
Experience the panoramic view with cool modern and unique view inspired by Mt. Rokko's natural elements.
*Hours*:
- 10:00 - 17:30 (Closed: Mon. and holidays)
*Admission*:
- Adults: ¥1,000 per person
- Children (6 - 12 years): ¥500 per person

**Kobe Municipal Arboretum**
One of the largest botanic gardens in Japan, Kobe Municipal Arboretum boasts over 1,200 species of trees. Many visitors enjoy the beautiful flower leaves in autumn.
*Hours*:
- 9:00 - 17:00 (Last entry at 16:30)
*Closed*:
- Thanksgiving Day, Dec. 25: Open for a national holiday, then closed during winter season.
*Admission*:
- Adults: ¥1,000 per person
- Children (6 - 12 years): ¥300 per person

**Kobe City Museum**
Located in the heart of Kobe, this museum offers a wide range of exhibits and exhibitions. Admission is free.
*Hours*:
- 10:00 - 18:00 (Last entry at 17:00)
*Closed*:
- Thanksgiving Day, Dec. 25

**Rokko Snow Park** offers a gentle slope and special areas for skiing and playing in the snow. Perfect for families, beginners, or local skiers.

**Mt. Maya Tenjoji Temple** was built in A.D. 584 and is a standing and spiritual place to enjoy Kobe's stunning beauty. Awe-inspiring views can be seen from the temple grounds on a sunny day.

**Maya View Line (Maya Cable Car & Maya Ropeway)** is a unique cable car and ropeway connecting to Mt. Maya and the foot of the mountain. Don't miss the “10 million dollar view” at night.

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**Rokko Garden Terrace - Rokko-Shidare Observatory** offers a panoramic view with cool, modern, and unique design inspired by Mt. Rokko's natural elements.

**Kobe Municipal Arboretum** is one of the largest botanic gardens in Japan, boasting over 1,200 species of trees. Many visitors enjoy the beautiful flower leaves in autumn.

**Kobe City Museum** is located in the heart of Kobe and offers a wide range of exhibits and exhibitions. Admission is free.

**Mt. Maya & Mt. Rokko** are my favorite places in Kobe because of the variety of walking and hiking trails. The view from Mt. Rokko is particularly enchanting, offering breathtaking views of the ocean and the surrounding islands.
Western Kobe

The Western part of Kobe proves how interesting and diverse Kobe really is. From the rich Japanese culture in Hyogo and Nagata, the fun beaches and harbor activities in Suma, plus an outlet mall in Tarumi with a clear view of Akashi-Kaikyo Bridge, Western Kobe has a lot to offer.

1 Sobameshi
Kobe Nagra's local dish of grilled fish seasoned with sauce and rice on a teppan warming the heart and mind. A specialty dish that was invented in this area.

2 Kobe Misaki Stadium
Catch a game with the most passionate and skillful fans in the world. Also known as Noevir, this stadium sports a remarkable roof, and is home to Vissel Kobe and Kobe Steel top leagues in Football and Rugby respectively. Kobe Misaki Stadium hosted the 2002 FIFA World Cup, and will host the Rugby World Cup in 2019.

3 Stature of Gigantor
(Tetsujin No. 28)
This 50-ton, 64-foot statue is a tribute to one of Kobe's most famous animators, Mitsutoshi Tetsujin. It stands amongst a popular shopping district. A must-see for anime and comic fans worldwide.

Open all year round
Parking: Free

Eastern Kobe

Fancy sweets shops are gathered in this area, which is also Japan's top Saké production district. Combined with the art museums, zoo and a learning facility for disaster prevention, and more, there is lot of things to see and experience.

1 Kobe Oji Zoo
The only zoo in Japan that is home to both a giant panda and koalas. Kobe Oji Zoo has a wide variety of attractions to keep kids entertained.

Features: Open 9:30 - 11:30 and 13:30 - 16:00
Fax: 078-312-1178
Closed: Mondays, major holidays
Parking: Free

2 Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art
Designed by famed architect Ando Tadao, this museum hosts an impressive collection of art in one of the largest galleries in Western Japan.

Features: Open 9:00 - 17:00
Closed: Mondays, national holidays, and New Year
Parking: Free

3 Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institution
Opened to commemorate the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake that changed Kobe City, and touched the lives of all its residents, a learning facility for disaster prevention.

Features: Open 9:30 - 16:30
Closed: Mondays, national holidays, and New Year
Parking: Free

4 Kobe Sweets (Confectioneries)
Kobe is synonymous with sweets, and here you will find some of the best bakeries, sweet makers, chocolatiers and confectioneries speckled throughout the city. Perfect for those with a sweet tooth.

5 Nada's Saké
The top saké producing area in Japan, Nada is home to many of the world's best saké breweries. There are many breweries in the main 5 regions of Nada, offering unique experiences such as museum tours, brewery tours and testing events.

Recommended

RECOMMENDED
By Tanaka Tetsuo, President, Host/Owner, Self-employee
If you're a fan of vintage comics like me, then you might have heard of Statue of Gigantor (Tetsujin No. 28), a tribute to a famous Kobe-based manga artist. For fans, you must try a popular local food such as sobameshi. Kobe is also home to many nationally famous confectionary makers and sweeties. And, one of my favorite spots is Kobe Oji Zoo, where you can see both pandas and koalas.
1. **Akashi-Kaikyo Bridge**
   The Akashi-Kaikyo Bridge is the longest suspension bridge in the world. Viewed from the observation deck, you can see the suspension and 1,991 lights illuminate this stunningly beautiful bridge.
   - Hours: Weekdays: Sunset to 23:00, Sat, Sun: National Holidays and Special Days: Sunset to 24:00
   - Open all year round
   - Price: Free

2. **Bridge World Tour**
   See how the world’s longest suspension bridge was built and travel around 300 meters to enjoy 360° views of Kobe.
   - Hours: Mon–Fri: 8:30–17:00, Sat: 10:00–17:00
   - Open all year round
   - Price: Free

3. **Suma Rikyu Park**
   Modeled after the Palace of Versailles, Suma Rikyu Park was built to honor the imperial wedding. Lively roses provide captivating beauty and seasonal flowers entertain you all year round.
   - Hours: 9:00–17:00 (Last entry by 16:30)
   - Open all year round
   - Price: Free

4. **Suma Aqualife Park**
   A beachfront aquarium with additional attractions for both kids and adults.
   - Hours: 9:00–17:00 (Last entry in the same day)
   - Open all year round
   - Price: Free

5. **Suma Park**
   An area rich in nature and history, as well as a zoo and cherry blossom area. It is also home to the Suma Art Museum.
   - Hours: 9:00–17:00 (Last entry in the same day)
   - Open all year round
   - Price: Free

6. **Seishin Area**
   Western Kobe

7. **Recommanded**
   By Stephie Lu, LLS, American Language Teacher

The western side of Kobe is full of interesting sites. My favorite place is Suma area. Suma Aqualife Park is a beachfront aquarium that’s home to penguins, dolphins, and many species of fish. Suma Rikyu Park has beautiful botanical and rose gardens, an impressive courtyard, fountains, and other seasonal flowers. Lastly, I recommend visiting Suma Outlets Park Marine Pa Kobe, which is located just next to the ocean and offers great views of the famous Akashi-Kaikyo Bridge.