



Various Services for Use in Case of Emergency

This website provides information helpful in dealing with COVID-19-related emergencies before, during and after entry to Japan. Official guide for traveling Japan. Access the site here.

Japanese Interpreting Services

- Call Centers
Call Center Interpreters for Tourists
+81-50-3816-2878
Available year-round, 24-hours a day (English, Chinese and Korean services)
Kyushu and Yamaguchi Multilingual Call Center
+81-92-687-6639
24-Hours a day / 365 days a year
This service is available to provide phone interpretation support to foreign tourists and others who cannot speak Japanese.
Okinawa Medical Interpreter Support Center
+81-570-050-235
9:00-17:00 / 365 days a year
This phone consultation service handles sickness, injury and other medical issue-related calls from foreign tourists and others. Among other things, callers can discuss their symptoms and conditions, receive essential advice and find out about multilingual medical facilities.
Medical Information White Traveling in Japan
For safety and peace of mind while traveling in Japan. Use this in emergencies or when receiving medical treatment in Japan.

Traffic Rules in Japan

Basic Rules
In Japan, the basic rule is that, when riding a bike or driving an automobile, you stay to the left when walking, you stay to the right. Pedestrians have right-of-way. Bicycles are treated as light vehicles and must, as a rule, be ridden on the road. Ride in a single line along the left-hand side of the road. Bicycles may be ridden on the sidewalk when there are markings or signs indicating that it is permissible to do so or when necessitated by the situation, such as when there are dangerous traffic conditions; however, remember not to impede the flow of foot traffic. At intersections with traffic lights, always obey the traffic light signals. Also, remember to perform a two-stage right turn at intersections.

Violations
Cycling under the influence of alcohol
Cycling without a light at night
Cycling side-by-side
Cycling while using a mobile phone or smartphone
Impeding foot traffic on sidewalks
Ignoring traffic signals

Traffic Signs
No entry
Bars entry to bicycles as well
Closed to vehicular traffic
Stop
Pedestrians only
Bicycles and pedestrians only
Bicycle crossing

Secondary Transportation and Sightseeing Information

Please feel free to use the recommended app which provides more detailed secondary transportation and sightseeing information.

Japan Official Travel App
Latest Japan travel-related information
Twitter @JapanSafeTravel

This app is primarily focused on provided updated news and information. For example, it provides information about police and fire emergency hotlines and about weather forecasts. Also, it not only provides links to COVID-related informational sites but also delivers push notifications to users in affected areas after natural disasters to ensure they have access to safety information.

Essential Information for Sightseeing in Japan
Find essential information and resources for safe travel in Japan, including tourist information centers, multilingual-capable hospitals, and currency exchange locations.

Nearby Sightseeing Information
The app uses GPS data to let users know the locations and details about sightseeing spots near to their current location.

Reservation and Purchasing Functionality
The app introduces you to pages where you can reserve and/or purchase airplane tickets, accommodation, local tours, activities and more. The app also offers "how-to" information about such topics as how to purchase tickets or rent a car in Japan.

Getting Around in Japan
You can search different ways to travel from region to region. Add your travel to any method, such as JR, bus, car, walking, etc.

Other
Not only are foreign travelers introduced to handy apps and websites, as well as short, useful Japanese phrases to help in difficult situations, they are also provided with alert information and information issued by embassies.

Traveling with a Bicycle in Kyushu and Yamaguchi - Services for Traveling with a Bicycle

When transporting your bicycle with you, make sure that it can either fold up or is disassembled and stored in a bike bag.

IMPORTANT
Weight and size restrictions will vary according to the means of transport, so check the homepage of each company beforehand. Make sure to check terms of use and other details before using any of these services.

Airplane
Items up to a specified weight and size can be transported for free as checked baggage. Anything above the specified weight and size will incur a fee.
JAL
ANA
Solaseed Air
SkyMark Airlines
Star Flyer

Railway and Bullet Train
Items up to a specified weight and size can be carried with you on the train. On bullet trains, it is possible to reserve seats along with space for oversized luggage (i.e., seats with oversized luggage space). There is no extra charge for this.
JR Kyushu
Okinawa Urban Monorail

Bus, Express Bus, Overnight Bus (Blueliner)
Items up to a specified weight and size can be transported in the trunk room (e.g., in the storage space under the bus floor). If the trunk room is small or is already too filled up with other passengers' luggage, please wait for the next bus. Overnight buses have a limit of two bikes per bus. You will need to reserve space for your bike when you reserve your bus seat. There is a fee of approximately 1,500 yen per bike.

Kyushu Sanko Bus
Nishitetsu Bus
Blueliner Bus
Okinawa Bus

Ferry
Bikes can be brought on board with you as special baggage (for a fee). You may be able to bring your bike with you for free if carried on in a bike bag as part of your personal effects. If the ferry is full or overloaded, please wait for the next one. There are some days for which Kyushu Ferry will let you make reservations.

Hakata to Shikanoshima Fukuoka Municipal Ferry
Kyushu Ferry
Kagoshima City to Sakurajima Sakurajima Ferry
Onilko to Kuchinotsu Shimatetsu Ferry

Kyushu, Okinawa and Yamaguchi Prefecture Cycling Tourism-related Website Links

Find prefectural information here
Cycle in Kyushu
https://www.welcometokyushu.jp/cycle-in-kyushu/cyclemap/

Yamaguchi Prefecture Site
Fukuoka Prefecture Site
Saga Prefecture Site
Nagasaki Prefecture Site
Kumamoto Prefecture Site
Oita Prefecture Site
Miyazaki Prefecture Site
Kagoshima Prefecture Site
Okinawa Prefecture Site

COVID Pandemic Cycling Manners
Watch your health and pace yourself
Stop the spread of airborne droplets
Wear a mask during breaks
Maintain a two-car-length gap
Wash and sanitize your hands
Keep your group as small as possible

Pay attention to traffic safety!
In light of the fact that it is often cyclists who are at fault in traffic accidents, a revision to the traffic laws was made on June 1, 2015 which requires cyclists who are repeat traffic offenders to attend a cycling instruction course.

Bicycles should only stay on the road and only use sidewalks in exceptional circumstances
Yield to pedestrians and reduce speed when alongside the road
Wear a helmet
Travel in the left lane

Follow the safety rules
Do not drink and ride
Do not ride double on a bike
Do not ride abreast
Use a bike light at night
Stop at intersections to check if safe; obey traffic signals

*Follow the traffic rules, wear a helmet, remember to share the road and have fun cycling.

Cycling Map Pictograms

Airport
Bullet train
Ferry
Day-use bath facility
Cyclist-friendly accommodations
Cycle Station
Roadside Station
Tourist Information

Bullet train
National Route
Expressway
Prefectural boundary

Google My Map
Use to find information on day-use spots and travel warnings

Trans-Kyushu North Route
Trans-Kyushu South Route
Ariake Sea Circuit Route

Overview of Kyushu and Yamaguchi

Kyushu is located at the southwestern end of the Japanese archipelago, while Yamaguchi Prefecture is located in the westernmost end of the island of Honshu, and Okinawa Prefecture is located in between Taiwan and the island of Kyushu. The natural environment of Kyushu and Yamaguchi is incredibly diverse, offering magnificent mountains, beautiful coastlines and other scenery, as well as numerous hot springs at which to rest and relax after cycling. Given this rich natural abundance, there is also an abundance of food ingredients, with each region producing its own, distinctive, local cuisine. As you enjoy cycling through the different regions, make sure to try out all of their delicious food as well.

Voltage 100 V
The voltage in Japan is 100 V.

Transportation
Accepted Cards
Climate
Japanese National Holidays

Route 18 Ariake Sea Circuit Route Omuta City to Tara Town

This course is filled with historical spots, including the Yanagawa riverside district, Mike Port, and the Mike Coal Mine Miyahara Pt. At the Chikugo River Lift Bridge, you will push your bike across. Once in Saga, the famous sites include the world heritage Momiji Nawabi Dock Ruins and Hizen Hama-shuku. You can also enjoy the nature of the Saga plains and the Mt. Tara orange road along the coast.

[Total travel distance] Approx. 116.77 km [Elevation gain] Approx. 533 m

VIEW POINT
1 Mike Port (Mike Port Observation Deck)
2 Ariake Sea Island (Shigayama Island/Higashiyama)
3 ROTH2-3-3
4 Inaho Restaurant

LOCAL ATTRACTIONS
5 Chikugo River Lift Bridge
6 Yanagawa Yokanokan
7 Hizen Hama-shuku
8 Floating Torii Gates of Oou Shrine

Route 19 Ariake Sea Circuit Route Isahaya City to Arao City

This route circumnavigates the Ariake Sea. On the Shimabara Peninsula, you can enjoy magnificent views of Mt. Heisei-shinzan as you head toward Amakusa in Kumamoto Prefecture. You will ride along the coast, overlooking the Ariake Sea on your left, and then cross the Five Bridges of Amakusa going north. Make sure to enjoy the scenery of Mt. Kinpo, which overlooks Kumamoto City.

[Total travel distance] Approx. 239.43 km [Elevation gain] Approx. 2,327 m

VIEW POINT
1 Isahaya Bay Reclamation Embankment Road
2 Genyama Observatory Park
3 Shimabara Castle Ruins Park
4 Todoroki Spring
5 Nabeshima Residence in Kojirokuj Area
6 Hara Castle Ruins
7 Takabotayama Lookouts
8 Kingyo to Kei no Sato Park

Recommended Routes for Kyushu and Yamaguchi-wide Exploration

The four routes featured in this cycling map were created in conjunction with local governments and businesses in Kyushu, Okinawa and Yamaguchi in order to help you enjoy these prefectures by bike. Route descriptions also point out interesting and appealing locations, such as beautiful and majestic mountains, sparkling seas, hot springs and cultural/historic sites, Instagram-worthy spots and delicious food stops. Please make use of this map to enjoy cycling throughout the regions of Kyushu, Okinawa and Yamaguchi. Use the QR codes to access Strava, Ride With GPS, Google My map, and the various prefectural websites to find more information.

Kyushu-Okinawa-Yamaguchi Circuit Route
This route takes you on an extra-long circuit around the prefectures of Kyushu and Yamaguchi Prefecture. If you catch a flight to Okinawa during your ride, you can get the full, nine-prefecture experience that includes Kyushu, Okinawa and Yamaguchi. The ocean has a different feel depending on whether you are looking at from Kyushu, Okinawa or Yamaguchi. Use this ride to fully explore the distinctively different sightseeing spots, specialties and other charms within each prefecture.

Envisioned route order
Fukuoka Prefecture -> Oita Prefecture -> Miyazaki Prefecture -> Kagoshima Prefecture -> Okinawa Prefecture -> Yamaguchi Prefecture -> Saga Prefecture -> Nagasaki Prefecture -> Kumamoto Prefecture -> Fukuoka Prefecture

Trans-Kyushu North Route
This route starts from Beppu/Nobeoka and cuts across Kyushu. This is a great ride for those who want majestic mountains along with sites of myth and legends. From Kumamoto Port, where the route ends, you can cross over to the Shimabara Peninsula in Nagasaki Prefecture.

Envisioned route order
Oita Prefecture -> Kumamoto Prefecture -> Miyazaki Prefecture -> Kagoshima Prefecture

Trans-Kyushu South Route
This route cuts across southern Kyushu from Miyazaki to Kagoshima. On this ride you will experience Kyushu's distinctive great outdoors while enjoying the waterside beauty of rivers, lakes and falls. The scenic charm also changes with the changing seasons.

Envisioned route order
Miyazaki Prefecture -> Kagoshima Prefecture

Ariake Sea Circuit Route
A route running counterclockwise around the Ariake Sea. This area has the largest tidal variation in Japan and boasts some of Japan's largest tidal lands where you can see creatures found nowhere else. Give this distinctively Kyushu ride a try.

Envisioned route order
Fukuoka Prefecture -> Saga Prefecture -> Nagasaki Prefecture -> Kumamoto Prefecture

