

OKAYAMA CITY Guide Map

Embark on a journey of taste through superb dishes and experience a richly unique culture



Directions to Okayama City from Major Cities across Japan

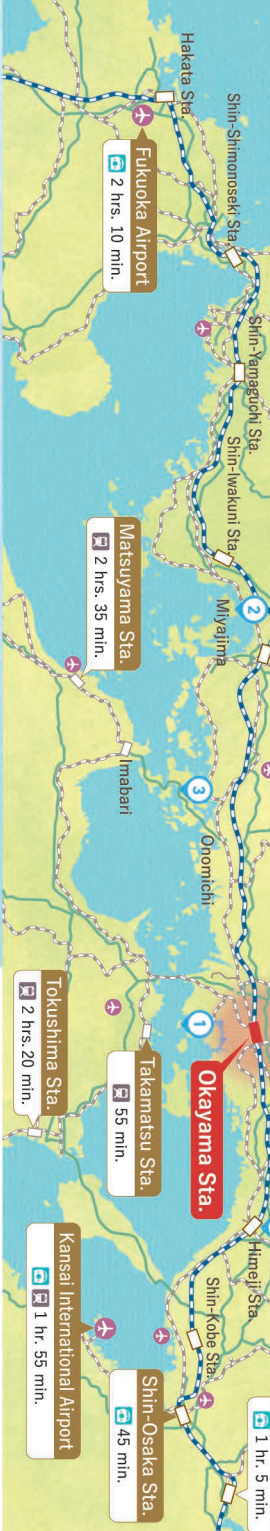
- JR (Shinkansen)
- JR (Conventional Lines)
- Non-JR railway
- Highway
- Airport
- Airplane
- JR (Shinkansen)
- JR (Conventional Lines)

Japan

Setouchi Area

- Sapporo**
✈️ 2 hrs. 15 min.
- Tokyo**
✈️ 1 hr. 20 min.
- Okayama**
✈️ 1 hr. 55 min.
- Okinawa**
✈️ 1 hr. 55 min.

- From Seoul: ✈️ Approx. 1 hr. 30 min.
- From Shanghai: ✈️ Approx. 2 hr. 15 min.
- From Taipei: ✈️ Approx. 2 hr. 40 min.
- From Hong Kong: ✈️ Approx. 4 hr.



Setouchi Area

Major Tourist Attractions around the Setouchi Area

1 Naoshima Island

Naoshima Island is a popular destination for art fans from all over the world.



- 📍 Naoshima Island, Kagawa-gun, Kagawa Prefecture
- 🌐 <https://naoshima.net/en/>
- 📷 Photo: Pumpkin ©Yayoi Kusama, 2006 Naoshima Miyunoura Pier Square Photo: Daisuke Aochi



3 Shimanami Kaido

The Shimanami Kaido is a popular cycling destination offering magnificent views of the numerous beautiful islands dotting the Seto Inland Sea.



2 Itsukushima Shrine

The buildings of this majestic World Heritage Site are located directly on the sea.



- 📍 1-1 Miyajima-cho, Hatsuyakahi, Hiroshima Prefecture
- 🌐 <https://www.itsukushimajinja.jp/en/>
- 📷 Photo courtesy of Hiroshima Prefecture



4 Himeji Castle

Himeji Castle, registered as a World Heritage Site, is a beautiful white-walled castle that has stood unchanged through most of its history.



Foreign Language Sightseeing Websites

Okayama City Official Guide

Languages available: English, Chinese (Traditional and Simplified), Korean



SETOUCHI Finder

Languages available: English, Chinese (Traditional)



Okayama City Area Map

- Tourist Information Center
- Police Office
- Wi-Fi
- Parking
- Restroom
- Hotel
- Tramway Stop
- Location
- Opening Hours
- Telephone Number
- Fee/Fare (in Japanese yen)
- Momotaro Statue
- Dog Statue
- Monkey Statue
- Pheasant Statue

Momotaro Tourist Information Center

Okayama Station 2F
 9:00 am – 8:00 pm (Open year-round)
 086-222-2912
 Languages:
 English (at all times),
 Chinese, Korean



Rent-a-Cycle "Ekin Kun"

Fee: ¥500 per rental

7:00 am – 9:00 pm
 086-223-7081

*Identification required.

*The number of available bicycles is limited.
 *Customers are responsible for accidents during rental.

MOMOchari

Enjoy sightseeing around Okayama on a rental bicycle available from various bike ports around the city.



Visit the following website for more information.
<https://okayama-ccs.jp/inbound/HowToUse>



JR Okayama Station 2F Information

Nekonote Station Baggage-Free Tourist Services

Drop off your baggage by 1:30 pm to have it delivered to any participating hotel by 5:00 pm.

8:00 am – 8:00 pm (Open year-round)
 080-6609-1694
 ¥500 per piece of baggage

Baggage drop-off and delivery services available.



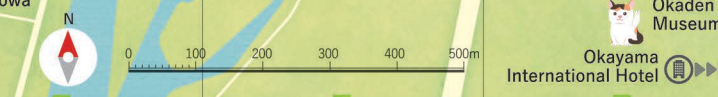
*Required times included in this pamphlet are approximate.



Tram Guide

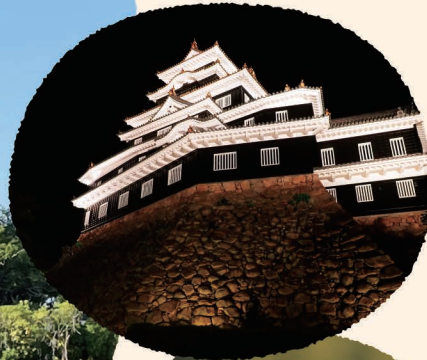
Higashiyama Line	Between Okayama Ekimae and Kencho-dori: ¥120 Other areas: ¥140
Seikibashi Line	Between Okayama Ekimae and Yubinkyoku-mae: ¥120 Other areas: ¥140
All-day basic fare tickets	Adult: ¥400 Child: ¥200

Transportation IC cards accepted.
 Travel times from Okayama Ekimae
 Shiroshita: 5 min. / Kencho-dori: 7 min. / Yubinkyoku-mae: 5 min.



Experience Japanese History and Culture

Okayama Castle and Okayama Korakuen Garden



Keep an eye out for the ornamental tiles with peaches!

Description of Icons Location Telephone Number Opening Hours Closed Fee/Fare (in Japanese yen) Access Website

Okayama Castle G-3

- 📍 2-3-1 Marunouchi, Kita Ward, Okayama City
- ☎ 086-225-2096
- 🕒 9:00 am – 5:30 pm (Admission until 5:00 pm)
- 📅 December 29 – 31
- 💰 [Okayama Castle] Adults: ¥400, Elementary/junior high school students: ¥100
*Free for children younger than elementary school students.
Okayama Castle and Okayama Korakuen Garden set: Adults ¥640
- 🚶 5 minutes by tram from JR Okayama Sta. to “Shiroshita” and then 10 minutes on foot or 25 minutes on foot from JR Okayama Sta.
- 🌐 <https://okayama-castle.jp/home/en/>



*Refer to the map on pages 1 and 2 for the location of each sightseeing spot (A-D).

Okayama Castle History

Okayama Castle was completed in 1597 by Ukita Hideie, the daimyo of the Okayama area. Utilizing the redirected flow of the Asahi River as protection from enemy attacks, Okayama Castle brought many merchants and craftsmen to the area, affirming Okayama City as a true castle town and paving the way for the development of present-day Okayama. Under new owners, the castle continued to grow with new buildings added in each era. The outer walls of Okayama Castle's keep (the castle's central building) are made of boards coated with black lacquer, earning the castle the nickname “U-jo” (Crow Castle) for its resemblance to crow's feathers. Although the keep was designated a national treasure before World War II, it was destroyed by fire during the war and rebuilt in 1966. The only original buildings still standing today are the Tsukimi and Nishinomaru Nishite towers. Rising high above Okayama City Center, Okayama Castle is a spectacular sight to behold.

400-year-old tower!



▲ Nishinomaru Nishite Yagura (Western Tower)
▲ Tsukimi Yagura Tower

Experience Japanese culture at Okayama Castle



◀ Kimono
Dress up like a feudal lord or a princess for free.

📷 Don't forget your commemorative photo!

- 🕒 First come, first served
- 💰 Free



◀ Okayama Castle Bizen Pottery Studio

Try your hand at making pottery with 800 years of history. *Pottery created will be delivered 1-2 months later. Postage fees apply.

- 🕒 Starting at 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, 2:00 pm, 3:00 pm
- 💰 ¥1,250 *Reservation required
- ☎ 086-224-3396



▲ U-jo Cafe

Enjoy a delicious parfait made with fresh Okayama fruit inside the castle.
🕒 9:00 am – 5:30 pm (Orders accepted until 5:00 pm)
☎ 086-206-2330

Okayama Korakuen Garden G-2, G-3

- 📍 1-5 Korakuen, Kita Ward, Okayama City ☎ 086-272-1148
- 🕒 Mar. 20 – Sep. 30: 7:30 am – 6:00 pm (Admission until 5:45 pm)
- 🕒 Oct. 1 – Mar. 19: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm (Admission until 4:45 pm)
- *Subject to change when events are held.
- 📅 No closing days
- 💰 Okayama Korakuen Garden only: Adults ¥410
Okayama Korakuen Garden and Okayama Castle set: Adults ¥640
- 🚶 5 min. by tram from “Okayama Ekimae” to “Shiroshita” and then 10 min. on foot
25 min. on foot or 15 min. by local bus from JR Okayama Sta.
- 🌐 <https://okayama-korakuen.jp/section/english/>



Okayama Korakuen Garden History

Considered one of Japan's three great gardens, Okayama Korakuen Garden was completed about 300 years ago after 14 years of construction by the daimyo Tsunamasa Ikeda—head of the Okayama Domain at that time—as a place of peace. Covering some 14 ha, Korakuen Garden includes wide lawns and Enyo-tei House (built as living quarters) as well as hills, flowers, trees, Seiden (Rice Fields), and a teahouse. The garden incorporates a small stream of clear water pulled from the Asahi River. This stream forms a waterfall and a pond within the garden before returning to the Asahi River. Beautiful trees and flowers can be found throughout the park, offering visitors a unique scene that changes with the season, from cherry blossoms in spring to the brilliant colors of autumn foliage. Despite undergoing slight changes from one feudal lord to the next, the garden largely retains its original form to this day. Don't miss the limited nighttime illumination offering a completely different landscape from the daytime.



The view from atop Yuishinzan, the hill overlooking the garden, is a must-see sight!



Exciting cultural facilities nestled in a beautiful cityscape

Okayama Culture Zone



Yumeji Takehisa, "Tatsuta Hime" (part), Yumeji Art Museum Collection



Yumeji Art Museum G-2

The Yumeji Art Museum features a collection of works by Okayama-born poet, artist, and designer Yumeji Takehisa. The museum cafe and gift shop are also popular.

- 2-1-32 Hama, Naka Ward, Okayama City
- 086-271-1000
- 9:00 am – 5:00 pm (Admission until 4:30 pm)
- 9:00 am – 5:00 pm (Admission until 4:30 pm)
- Mondays (or the following day if Monday is a holiday) and New Year's Holiday
- Adults ¥800
- <https://yumeji-art-museum.com/english/>



9:00 am – 4:00 pm

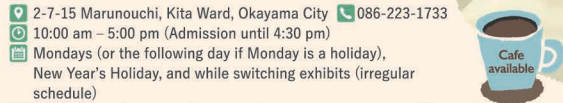


Hayashibara Museum of Art F-3

Presenting various themed exhibits featuring furniture, swords and other weapons belonging to the Ikeda Clan that ruled Okayama, East Asian art, and other items.

*Photo for illustrative purposes only.

- 2-7-15 Marunouchi, Kita Ward, Okayama City
- 086-223-1733
- 10:00 am – 5:00 pm (Admission until 4:30 pm)
- Mondays (or the following day if Monday is a holiday), New Year's Holiday, and while switching exhibits (irregular schedule)
- Adults ¥500 (Special exhibit fees determined independently)
- <https://www.hayashibara-museumofart.jp/data/en/>



Okayama Orient Museum F-3

The Okayama Orient Museum is the only public art museum in Japan that features art from ancient Mesopotamia and Egypt.

- 9-31 Tenjincho, Kita Ward, Okayama City
- 086-232-3636
- 9:00 am – 5:00 pm (Admission until 4:30 pm)
- Mondays (or the following day if Monday is a holiday), New Year's Holiday, and while switching exhibits
- Adults ¥310
- <https://www.city.okayama.jp/orientmuseum/>

Cafe available

Renaiss Hall F-4

Renaiss Hall—a renovated bank originally built in 1922—offers a glimpse of history with visitors welcome to enjoy tea in the old archive storage facility.

- 1-6-20 Uchisange, Kita Ward, Okayama City
- 086-225-3003
- 10:00 am – 7:00 pm
- Tuesdays (or the following day if Tuesday is a holiday), and New Year Holidays
- Varies by event
- <https://renaiss.or.jp/>



11:00 am – 5:00 pm

The heart of Okayama City features numerous locations where visitors can feel Japan's samurai culture and experience modern Japanese art.

From fresh homegrown fruit to local Okayama cuisine

Enjoy Delicious Gourmet Dishes



Fruit Parfait

Parfait made with fresh Okayama fruit can be found all over Okayama City.

Okayama, the Fruit Parfait City
<https://okayama-parfait.com/>

Fruit souvenirs



▲ Canned fruit



▲ Fruit collagen jelly



▲ Fruit kibandango

Take home your very own package of fresh Okayama fruits.

Okayama is one of Japan's leading fruit-producing prefectures offering a variety of seasonal tastes.

Thanks to its numerous sunny days and mild climate, Okayama is famous for a wide variety of fruits. The area attracts people from all over the country in search of fresh, sweet fruit.

Best Times to Enjoy Fruit >>> P.13



▲ White Peaches



▲ Muscat Grapes



▲ Pione Grapes



▲ Musk melon



▲ Strawberries



Okayama Bara-zushi

This sushi—luxuriously topped with delicious ingredients from both land and sea—was developed in Okayama some 200 years ago.

Okayama Demi-Katsudon

This dish includes deep-fried pork on rice and topped with a delicious sauce. Every restaurant has their own style and taste, so feel free to try it everywhere!



Mamakari (Japanese shad)

These small fish have been a popular Okayama treat for hundreds of years.



Ebi-meshi

This fried rice dish features a distinct shrimp flavor and is cooked with a sweet, dark brown sauce.



Okayama Curry

This local curry is made with white peach chutney for a unique flavor.



Okayama Ramen

Enjoy a delicious soy sauce-based chicken and pork bone broth with thin, straight noodles for an irresistible flavor.



Local sake and beer

Sake and beer made from Okayama's plentiful water resources.



Spanish Mackerel Sashimi

Savor the delicate texture of Okayama's Spanish mackerel sashimi.

From fashion goods and home electronics to signature Okayama products

Shopping Paradise!

- Description of Icons
- Misc. goods/Souvenirs
- Fashion goods
- Electronics/Gadgets
- Restaurants & Cafes Take-out
- TAX FREE Tax-free sales



The area around Okayama's city center features a number of commercial establishments including department stores, and shopping malls, making the area an ideal shopping location.



One of Western Japan's largest shopping malls!

Okayama Station and surrounding areas

The area around the station offers a wide range of shopping opportunities including a large shopping mall, a large home electronics specialty shop, and various discount shops—all within walking distance!

A AEON MALL Okayama C-4

- 1-2-1 Shimoishii, Kita Ward, Okayama City ☎ 086-803-6700
- Varies by store
- No closing days
- <https://en.aeonmall.global/mall/okayama-aeonmall/>



*Tax exemption availability may vary by store.

Find items not available anywhere else in the world!



2F: Haremachi Tokku 365

Haremachi Tokku 365 is a specialty shop offering carefully made Okayama gifts, making it the perfect destination for souvenirs.

B Okayama IchiBanGai shopping center, Sun Station Terrace Okayama C-3

- Okayama IchiBanGai Shopping Center ☎ 086-800-1020
- Basement IchiBanGai Ekimotomachi, Kita Ward, Okayama City
- No scheduled closing days (usually closed only 2 days a year)
- Sun Station Terrace Okayama ☎ <https://sun-ste.com/okayama-ichibangai/>
- 1-1 Ekimotomachi, Kita Ward, Okayama City



Shiroshita tram stop is just 10 minutes on foot from Okayama Korakuen Garden and Okayama Castle.



C Okayama Takashimaya C-3

- 6-40 Honmachi, Kita Ward, Okayama City ☎ 086-232-1111
- Varies by floor
- January 1
- <https://www.takashimaya-global.com/en/>



One of Japan's largest general discount stores! C-3

- Don Quijote Okayama Ekimae
- 6-30 Honmachi, Kita Ward, Okayama City ☎ 0570-067-911
- 9:00 am – 1:00 am
- 4 min. on foot from JR Okayama Sta.
- <https://www.donki.com/en/?pre=le>



Browse a variety of gourmet foods and fashion, beauty, and miscellaneous goods!

ICOT NICOT D-3

- 1-8 Ekimae-cho, Kita Ward, Okayama City ☎ 086-227-1525
- Varies by store
- 3 min. on foot from JR Okayama Sta.
- <https://icotnicot.jp/>

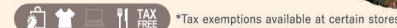


*Tax exemptions available only at Momotaro Jeans.

Enjoy various eats from Okayama and the Seto Inland Sea at the spacious food hall!

K Morinomachi Grace C-5

- 2-10-8 Shimoishii, Kita Ward, Okayama City ☎ 086-201-1233
- Varies by store
- 1 min. on foot from "Morinomachi Iriguchi" (Okaden bus)
- 12 min. on foot from JR Okayama Sta.
- <https://www.morinomachi-grace.jp/>



10 minutes on foot from Okayama Korakuen Garden

Omote-cho area

The Omote-cho area can be easily accessed from Shiroshita tram stop, the stop closest to Okayama Korakuen Garden. The shopping area offers something for everyone, from department stores and specialty brand stores to Okayama souvenir shops, kimono shops, and restaurants.

F Tenmaya E-4

- 2-1-1 Omote-cho, Kita Ward, Okayama City ☎ 086-231-7111
- 10:00 am – 7:30 pm
- January 1
- 10 minutes by bus from JR Okayama Sta. to "Tenmaya Bus Station"
- <https://www.tenmaya.co.jp/okayama/>



晴れの国キッチン HARENOKUNI KITCHEN

When hunger strikes while exploring Okayama Korakuen Garden, make the food court at Harenokuni Kitchen at Tenmaya Department Store your first destination. This food court boasts a wide selection of popular shops offering must-eat gourmet Okayama dishes including sushi, ramen, and topped rice bowls.

Stop by the one-stop tax exemption counter for all your tax exemption needs!

Tenmaya offers a one-stop tax exemption service that covers purchases from Tenmaya as well as various other shops throughout Omote-cho Shopping Street.

- Location: Tax Exemption Counter, Tenmaya Okayama Main Store 3F
- *Contact each store separately for tax exemption details.

A wide array of Okayama souvenirs

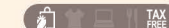
G Omote-cho Shopping Street E-3,E-4

- Omote-cho, Kita Ward, Okayama City
- Varies by store
- Varies by store
- 10 minutes by bus from JR Okayama Sta. to "Tenmaya Bus Station" or directly accessible from Shiroshita tram stop
- <http://omotecho.or.jp/>



H Hare no Kuni Okayama-kan E-3

- 1-1-22 Omote-cho, Kita Ward, Okayama City ☎ 086-234-2270
- 10:00 am – 7:00 pm
- Tuesdays (unless Tuesday is a holiday)
- 5 minutes by tram JR Okayama Sta. to "Shiroshita"
- <https://www.okayamakan.or.jp/>



The perfect place for a shopping break

Recommended Gourmet Dining Areas



Honmachi Area C-3,D-3

The Honmachi area offers a variety of restaurants including places where diners can enjoy local Okayama cuisine.

Haremachi St. D-4,E-4

Kencho-dori Street boasts fashionable shops with delicious food and drinks.





JAPAN HERITAGE
日本遺産
桃太郎伝説

Explore the legendary setting of Japan's most famous folktales!

Kibiji and Momotaro



Directions to the Kibiji area >>P.17

The amulets available at the shrine are in the shape of a peach.

Kibitsujinja Shrine

Kibitsujinja Shrine offers visitors spectacular views, from the Honden-Haiden main hall, a National Treasure, to the magnificent 360 m long corridor. The shrine is also closely associated with the myth of driving out demons, believed to have inspired the famous Japanese folk tale "Momotaro."

- 📍 931 Kibitsu, Kita Ward, Okayama City
- ☎ 086-287-4111
- 🕒 5:00 am – 6:00 pm 🚫 No closing days 🆓 Free
- 🚶 16 minutes on conventional lines from JR Okayama Sta. to JR Kibitsu Sta., and then 10 minutes on foot
- 🌐 <https://www.kibitsujinja.com/en/>

Narukama Shinto Ritual

This ritual is said to be able to tell the good fortunes of worshippers through the sound of worshippers through the sound of a cooker (kama) coming to boil (naru). Legend has it that a demon's neck was buried beneath the cooker.



Column: The Tale of Momotaro



Momotaro is one of Japan's most famous classic tales. Around Kibitsujinja Shrine, many shrines and other locations are named after Kibitsu-hiko-no-Mikoto—considered the model for Momotaro—the legendary prince who rid the area of the demon Ura, making the area a popular tourist attraction.

The Tale of Momotaro

Once upon a time there lived an old man and his wife. One day, the old man's wife picked a large peach from the river and brought it home. As the wife cut into the peach, a baby boy popped out. They named the boy Momotaro. When Momotaro grew up, he set about ridding the area of all the demons plaguing the locals. During his adventures, Momotaro met a dog, a monkey, and a pheasant, and shared with them a kibidango (dumplings coated with soybean flour). Thus Momotaro and the animals became friends and worked together to fight the demons. With their combined strength, Momotaro and his animal friends were able to drive away all of the demons from the area, and the old man and his wife lived happily ever after.



Kibitsu-hiko and Ura

The story of Kibitsu-hiko-no-Mikoto and the demon Ura—an Okayama original tale—is said to be the inspiration for Momotaro.

🌐 <https://on.lw/2nREX6V>



Kibi Dango



Kibitsu-hikojinja Shrine

Kibitsu-hikojinja Shrine—believed to at one point have been Kibitsu-hiko-no-Mikoto's mansion—is dedicated to worshipping the legendary prince. The beautiful way in which the sun falls on the front of the shrine during the summer solstice makes this a popular destination as a spot for good fortune.

- 📍 1043 Ichinomiya, Kita Ward, Okayama ☎ 086-284-0031
- 🕒 8:30 am – 5:00 pm 🚫 No closing days 🆓 Free
- 🚶 13 minutes on conventional lines from JR Okayama Sta. to JR Bizen-Ichinomiya Sta., and then 5 minutes on foot
- 🌐 <https://www.kibitsu-hiko.or.jp/>



Saio Inari

Saio Inari is one of Japan's three top Inari shrines and features an enormous 27.5 m tall torii. In addition to being famous for bringing good fortune in business, the shrine is a popular destination for divine assistance with both creating and ending relationships. Located atop a small mountain, Saio Inari overlooks the Kibi Plain and includes an approach leading through Monzenmachi, an area lined with various shops offering a variety of goods and souvenirs.

- 📍 712 Takamatsuinari, Kita Ward, Okayama City ☎ 086-287-3700
- 🕒 Not specified 🚫 No closing days 🆓 Free
- 🚶 5 minutes by taxi from JR Bitchu-Takamatsu Sta.
- 🌐 <https://inari.ne.jp/en/>

Recommended contemporary art sights around the island

Experience Scenery and Art at Inujima Island

Directions to the Inujima Island area >>P.18

Inujima Island

A prospering hub of the copper smelting industry about a century ago, the area is now known for its prominence in the arts thanks to the Setouchi Triennale art festival held in recent years. These unique islands offer the perfect blend of traditional townscapes and contemporary art. Relax and enjoy a beautiful sea view alongside works of art dotting the coastline.



Upon entering the town, visitors are treated to a welcoming collection of old-fashioned houses.



Local cuisine:
Takomeshi
(Rice with octopus)

1 Inujima Seirenscho Art Museum

The museum preserves and repurposes the remains of a copper refinery on the island. The museum also does its best to be considerate of the environment by utilizing natural energy sources such as solar and geothermal power.

2 Inujima "Art House Project"

The Inujima "Art House Project" includes galleries scattered throughout the village blending the everyday life of the island with art. The galleries are designed by the architect Kazuyo Sejima who won the Pritzker Prize in 2010.

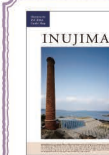
- 📍 Inujima, Higashi Ward, Okayama City ☎ 086-947-1112
- 🕒 9:00 am – 4:30 pm (Admission until 4:00 pm)
- *Ticket center hours: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
- 📄 See official website for details
- 💰 ¥2,100 (Combined ticket for Inujima Seirenscho Art Museum and Inujima "Art House Project")
- 🌐 <https://benesse-artsite.jp/en/>



1 Inujima Seirenscho Art Museum
Photo: Daici Ano



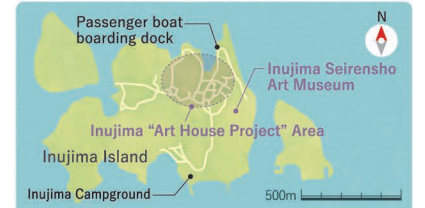
2 Inujima "Art House Project" A-Art House
Beatriz Milhazes: Yellow Flower Dream, 2018
Photo: Yoshikazu Inoue



Inujima Guide Map

The guide map includes recommended sightseeing spots and gourmet dining locations as well as detailed directions and transportation schedules regarding the island.

🌐 <https://okayama-city-travel.com/sightseeing/pamphlet/>



Nature's Enchanting Beauty



Cherry Blossoms
Late March
Early April

Okayama Korakuen Garden G-2,G-3

In spring, some 280 cherry trees come into bloom both inside and outside the garden.

Autumn Foliage
Mid-November to
early December

Okayama Castle also makes for a wonderful location for taking autumn foliage pictures!



Omizuen Garden MAP-P.17

At Omizuen Garden, trees with leaves dyed in autumn colors surround the tea-room-like building located on the banks of a pond. With roots tracing back to the 18th century, Omizuen Garden was a daimyo's garden during the Edo Period. The garden also features cherry blossoms for a complementary springtime scene.

- 📍 803 Ashimori, Kita Ward, Okayama City
- ☎ 086-295-0981 🕒 9:30 am – 4:30 pm
- 📅 Mondays (or the following day if Monday is a holiday) and New Year's Holiday 🆓 Free
- 🚶 Get off at Ashimori Station which is 28 minutes by train from JR Okayama Station. Omizuen is 5 minutes by taxi from JR Ashimori Station.
- 🌐 <https://www.city.okayama.jp/shisei/0000005100.html>

Sogen-ji Temple MAP-P.18

- A famous destination for beautiful autumn foliage.
- 📍 1069 Maruyama, Naka Ward, Okayama City
- ☎ 086-277-8226 🕒 8:00 am – 5:00 pm
- 📅 No closing days
- 💰 Adults: ¥100 (garden entrance fee)
- 🚶 20 min. by bus from JR Okayama Sta. to "Sogen-ji," and then 5 min. on foot

For those visiting Okayama, the area's spring cherry blossoms and autumn foliage offer the most spectacular views.

Asahi River Sakura Road G-2,H-3

Every year, the banks of the Asahi River spring to life as approximately 200 cherry trees come into bloom. The area is crowded with food stalls during the Okayama Sakura Carnival, and at night the trees are illuminated for a magnificent sight.

- 📍 Eastern bank of the Asahi River, Okayama City
- 🚶 3 minutes on foot from Okayama Korakuen Garden



Handayama Botanical Garden, Okayama City MAP-P.18

The trees are also illuminated, allowing visitors to enjoy the garden flush with the color of cherry blossoms even at night.

- 📍 3-1 Hokaiin, Kita Ward, Okayama City ☎ 086-252-4183
- 🕒 9:00 am – 4:30 pm (Admission until 4:00 pm)
- 📅 Tuesdays (or the following day if Tuesday is a holiday, with variations expected in March and April) and New Year's Holiday
- 👤 Adults ¥310 Children ¥125
- 🚶 15 minutes by bus from JR Okayama Sta., 5 minutes on foot from "Shokubutsuen-guchi" bus stop
- 🌐 <https://www.okayama-park.or.jp/facility/handayama>



Hands-On Experiences

Make your trip all the more memorable through Okayama's unique activities



Fruit Picking

Enjoy picking a wide variety of fruit in Okayama, the fruit kingdom!

- Fruits available for picking
- 🍑 Peaches
 - 🍇 Pione Grapes
 - 🍇 Muscat Grapes
 - 🍌 Pears
 - 🍓 Strawberries



Ishihara Fruit Farm MAP-P.18

- 📍 893-6 Sairyuji, Higashi Ward, Okayama City
- ☎ 086-944-0117 *Fruit picking available by reservation only.
- 🕒 Grape picking: 10:00 am – 3:30 pm (9:00 am start on Saturday, Sunday, and holidays)
- 📅 Grape picking is only available from July to October
- 🚶 20 minutes on conventional lines from JR Okayama Sta. to JR Saidaiji Sta., and then 10 minutes by taxi
- 🌐 <https://ifarm.jp/>



Okayama City South Village MAP-P.17

- 📍 2468 Kataoka, Minami Ward, Okayama City ☎ 086-362-5500
- 🕒 Grape picking: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm (Admission until 3:30 pm)
- 📅 Tuesdays (or the following day if Tuesday is a holiday)
- 🚶 30 minutes on conventional lines from JR Okayama Sta. to JR Bizen-Kataoka Sta., and then 7 minutes on foot
- 🌐 <https://www.southvillage.jp/>



Tomomien Fruit Farm MAP-P.18

- 📍 843 Odani, Akaiwa City ☎ 086-958-5444 (Fruit Picking General Reservation Office) *Advance reservation required 🕒 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
- 📅 Open throughout season *Peach picking is only available from July to August
- 🚶 55 min. by bus from JR Okayama Sta. to "Sakuragaoka Undoko-en-guchi," and then 10 min. on foot
- 🌐 <https://www.hakutou.jp/?mode=f1>



Cycling



Kibiji Cycling Road (Okayama City – Soja City)

MAP-P.17

Enjoy the view of historic sightseeing spots scattered across the countryside while cycling down the Kibiji Cycling Road.

- 🕒 9:00 am – 6:00 pm (Ends at 5:00 pm in winter [Nov. – Feb.]) (Reception time until 3:30 pm)
- 📅 New Year's Holiday; Rainy days
- 💰 Basic fee: ¥1,500
- 📍 Kibiji Cycling Map
- 🌐 <https://www.city.okayama.jp/kankou/cmsfiles/contents/0000006/6435/R4English.pdf>



- Uedo Rent-a-Cycle (JR Bizen-Ichinomiya Sta.) ☎ 086-284-2311
- Takaya Rent-a-Cycle (Bitchu Kokubun-ji Temple) ☎ 0866-93-3421
- Araki Rent-a-Cycle (JR Soja Sta.) ☎ 0866-92-0233

Painting



Painting at Manekineko Art Museum MAP-P.18

This museum houses a collection of manekineko (lucky cats) with raised hands inviting fortune in—a popular figure in Japan—and offers visitors a chance to enjoy painting.

- 📍 865-1 Kanayamaji, Kita Ward, Okayama City ☎ 086-228-3301
- 🕒 • Painting experience: 10:30 am – 5:00 pm (Admission until 3:30 pm; Priority given to reservations)
- Museum hours: 10:00 am – 5:00 pm (Admission until 4:30 pm)
- 📅 Wednesdays
- 💰 • Museum admission: General ¥600 • Painting experience: ¥1,700
- 🚶 8 minutes on conventional lines from JR Okayama Sta. to JR Bizen-Hara Sta., and then 10 minutes by taxi
- 🌐 <http://manekineko-m.jp/>

» P.08

Experience Japan at Omote-cho Shopping Street!

Take a stroll through the Omote-cho Shopping Street while enjoying experiences unique to the street's specialty shops.









Scented bag-making
Sankodo



Stay up to date on area events offering traditional experiences and flower/fruit seasons!

Okayama Events and Seasonal Calendar

Month	Events	Flowers	Fruit
1 January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hatsuyume Festival / New Year's Festival ... Okayama Castle / Okayama Korakuen Garden Kibitsu no Shamisen Mochitsuki ... Kibitsu Shrine Yadate Shinto Ritual ... Kibitsu Shrine Kibitsu Shrine Ebisu Festival ... Kibitsu Shrine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Narcissus Winter sweets Camellias Sasanqua camellias 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pears Strawberries
2 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grass Burning Ceremony ... Okayama Korakuen Garden Setsubun Bean-Throwing Festival ... Saijo Inari Hatsu-uma Festival ... Saijo Inari Jinya-machi Ashimori Dolls Display ... Ashimori District Saidaiji Eyo MAP-P18 ... Kin Ryozan Saidaiji Kannon-in Temple 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plums Plums in Kanzaki Plum Garden 	
3 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opening anniversary ... Okayama Korakuen Garden U-jo Castle Doll Festival / Spring Welcome Fair ... Okayama Castle / Okayama Korakuen Garden 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tulips Double-flowered weeping Japanese cherry (Yaebenishidare) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pine Grapes Musk melon
4 April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Okayama Sakura Carnival ... Banks of the Asahi River Goshinko at Munetada-jinja Shrine ... Munetada-jinja Shrine to Okayama Korakuen Garden Yosai Tea Ceremony ... Okayama Korakuen Garden U-jo Togenkyo Spring Castle Illumination / Genso Teien Spring Fantasy Garden ... Okayama Castle / Okayama Korakuen Garden 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cherry Blossoms Yaebenishidare in Okayama Korakuen Garden 	
5 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ujo castle fair ... Okayama Castle Seventy-Five Dish Ceremony ... Kibitsu Shrine Tea Picking Festival ... Okayama Korakuen Garden 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wisteria Peonies Azaleas Yaebenishidare in Okayama Korakuen Garden 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Muscad Grapes
6 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rice Planting Festival ... Okayama Korakuen Garden 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roses Iris Hydrangea 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Muscad Grapes

Month	Events	Flowers	Fruit
7 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lotus Flower Viewing ... Okayama Korakuen Garden Saturday Night Market ... Okayama City Center Shopping Street and other location 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lotus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pine Grapes Musk melon Muscad Grapes Peaches (Hakuro/Hakuto)
8 August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> U-jo Togenkyo Summer Castle Illumination / Genso Teien Summer Fantasy Garden ... Okayama Castle / Okayama Korakuen Garden Okayama Momotaro Festival ... Okayama City Center O-taue Rice-Planting Festival ... Kibitsu Shrine Ikeda Zoo's "Night Zoo" ... Ikeda Zoo  	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crape myrtle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peaches (Golden)
9 September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moon Viewing Ceremony ... Okayama Korakuen Garden Okayama Art Festival ... Okayama City Center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roses in RSK Rose Garden 	
10 October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fall Okayama Momotaro Festival ... Okayama City Center Seventy-Five Dish Ceremony ... Kibitsu Shrine Horseback Archery Festival ... Kibitsu Shrine Okayama Chrysanthemum Exhibition ... Okayama Castle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roses Sasanqua camellias 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pears
11 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> U-jo Togenkyo Fall Castle Illumination / Genso Teien Fall Fantasy Garden ... Okayama Castle / Okayama Korakuen Garden Special Public Exhibition of Tsukimi-yagura ... Okayama Castle Okayama Marathon ... Okayama Sta. and surrounding areas to Lake Kojima and surrounding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Autumn Foliage Camellias 	
12 December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Momotaroh Fantasy ... JR Okayama Station Square Nishigawa Illumination ... Nishigawa Canal Walk Saijo Inari Fireworks Festival ... Saijo Inari Japanese style welcome fair ... Okayama Korakuen Garden and Okayama Castle 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strawberries

Monthly Events

Enjoy a variety of delicious local dishes!

- Bizen Okayama Kyobashi Asaichi Morning Market
... Banks of the Asahi River **F-4**

Dates: Jan.: 2nd Sunday; Feb - Dec.: 1st Sunday (monthly); Dec. 29 (13 events total)




Follow in the footsteps of French columnist Noro Randria!

Refreshing Inujima Island Trip

Inujima is home to a beautiful sea and impressive contemporary art. Embark on a relaxing stroll around this wonderful island!

JR (Conventional Lines) Bus
Ferry/passenger boat On Foot

JR Okayama Sta.
Shinkansen ticket gate 0 min.

The adjacent Tourist Information Office can help you locate bus stops and offer other helpful information.

9:00 Nekonote Station >>P.01

Drop off any baggage you won't be needing at Nekonote Station near the Shinkansen ticket gate. Your baggage will be delivered to your hotel, an extremely convenient service!
*This service is only available within the deliverable area.



9:25 JR Okayama Sta. (Platform 4)
JR Aka Line (Bound for Banshu-Ako)

18 min.
9:43 Arrive at JR Saidaiji Sta.
Transfer to bus in front of station
10:20 Depart Saidaiji-eki bus stop

35 min.
10:45 Arrive at Nishihoden bus stop
5 min.

10:40 Arrive at Hoden Port

11:00 Depart for Inujima via passenger boat

11:10 Arrive at Inujima Port 3 min. 10 min.

Inujima Ticket Center
Art spot tickets should be purchased here upon arriving on the island.

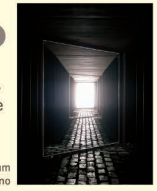


Inujima Ticket Center Photo: Yoshikazu Inoue

Boat tickets may be sold out on weekends or other days when the boat is crowded. Please head straight for the port after getting off the bus.

5 min.
Inujima Seirensho Art Museum >>P.10

Enter the museum to experience an intriguing area. Using only natural energy, the museum is a marvelous location.



Inujima Seirensho Art Museum Photo: Daici Aho



5 min.

Inujima "Art House Project" >>P.10

The ability to instill in each viewer a different impression is what makes contemporary art interesting. Visitors are encouraged to enjoy the various galleries available while walking around the island.



Inujima "Art House Project" A-Art House Beatriz Milhazes: Yellow Flower Dream, 2018 Photo: Yoshikazu Inoue

Inujima recommendation No. 2
Enjoy a harmonious and attractive view of the unique scenery of Inujima through the windows.



Inujima "Art House Project" F-Art House Kohei Nawa: Biota (Fauna/Flora), 2013 Photo: Takashi Homma

10 min. 10 min.

15:35 Depart Inujima Port

10 min. 40 min. 18 min.
16:54 Arrive at JR Okayama Sta.



Tea time at a local cafe

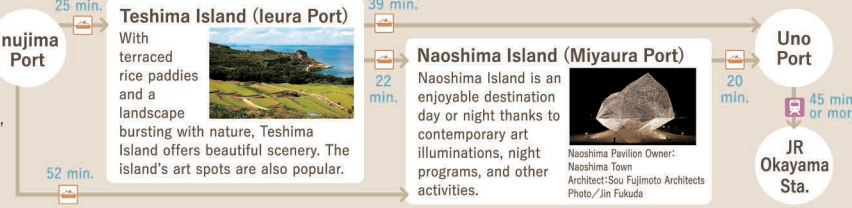
Baggage left at Nekonote Station will be waiting at your hotel!

Arrive at hotel

*Diagrams are current as of November 2016.

Optional courses Island hopping from Inujima

If you're interested in islands beyond Inujima, why not go and check them out? Direct trips from Inujima Port are available!



Recommended Courses

Tour the Setouchi Area with Okayama City at the core while enjoying experiences that can't be found anywhere else.

Enjoying Okayama and the Setouchi Area (3 days, 2 nights)

JR (Shinkansen) JR (Conventional Lines) Tram
Ferry/passenger boat Cycling On Foot

Day 1 AM

JR Okayama Sta.
5 minutes to Shiroshita tram stop 10 min.

Okayama Korakuen Garden
Enjoy green tea while taking in the garden's beauty.



5 min.

Okayama Castle
Experience a variety of Japanese cultural activities inside the castle.



10 minutes to Shiroshita tram stop 5 min.

JR Okayama Sta.

Day 1 PM

JR Okayama Sta.
13 minutes to JR Bizen-Ichinomiya Sta. Uedo Rent-a-Cycle

Kibiji Cycling
Take a refreshing ride through a truly historic area.



10 min.

Kibitsujinja Shrine
Walk through the shrine's spectacular corridor and experience the Narukama Shinto ritual.



10 min.

JR Bizen-Ichinomiya Station
13 min.

JR Okayama Sta.

Day 2 AM

Day 2 AM

JR Okayama Sta.
60 minutes to JR Uno Sta. 25 minutes to Ieura Port

Teshima Island
Fusing nature, art, and architecture, the Teshima Art Museum is a must-see spot.



Teshima Art Museum Photo: Ken-ichi Suzuki

PM

25 minutes to Inujima Port

Inujima Island
Take in the island views as you walk from one captivating art spot to the next.



Day 2 PM

Day 3 AM

JR Okayama Sta.

Course A Imbe (Bizen Pottery)
40 minutes to JR Imbe Sta. 5 min.

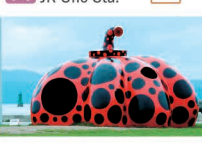


Experience more of what Okayama has to offer!

Course B Kurashiki Bikan Historical Quarter
20 minutes to JR Kurashiki Sta. 10 min.



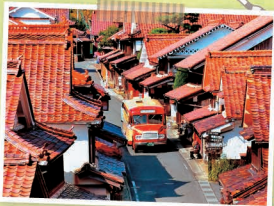
Course C Naoshima Island
60 minutes to JR Uno Sta. 20 minutes to Miyaura Port



Naoshima is full of interesting contemporary art works, beginning with the well-known "Red Pumpkin."
"Red Pumpkin" ©Yayoi Kusama, 2006 Naoshima Miyaura Port Square Photo/Daisuke Aochi

Okayama City and Surrounding Cities

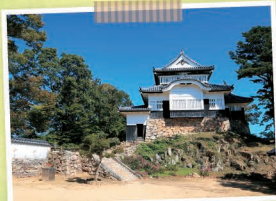
Travel time from JR Okayama Station via JR line
 JR (Shinkansen)
 JR (Conventional Lines)
 Bus
 Ferry/passenger boat
 Kibijii Bicycle Road
 Onsen (Hot Spring)
 Port
 Rent-a-Cycle



1 Fukiya Furusato Village

Unique city streets all painted in the traditional Bengara red ochre.

- Fukiya, Nariwacho, Takahashi City
- 0866-29-2222 (Nariwa Town Tourism Association, Fukiya Branch)
- 55 minutes by bus from JR Bitchu-Takahashi Sta. to "Fukiya" bus stop
- <https://sites.google.com/site/fukiyakankou/home>



2 Bitchu Matsuyama Castle

From fall to winter, this castle looks as if it is floating on a sea of clouds.

- 1 Uchisange, Takahashi City
- 0866-22-8666 (Takahashi City Tourist Information Center)
- 10 minutes by tourist share taxi from JR Bitchu-Takahashi Sta. and then 20 minutes on foot *Reservation required for share taxi.
- <https://www.bitchumatsuyamacastle.jp/>



4 Kojima Jeans Street

Visit jeans shops in the birthplace of Japan's domestic jeans.

- Kojima-ajino, Kurashiki City
- 086-441-9127 (Kojima Jeans Street Cooperative Office)
- 15 minutes on foot from JR Kojima Sta.
- <http://www.jeans-street.com/>

3 Kurashiki Bikan Historical Quarter

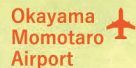
Stroll through streets boasting traditional architecture from the Edo Period.

- Honmachi, Chuo, Higashimachi, Achi, etc., Kurashiki City
- 086-422-0542 (Kurashikikan Tourist Information Center)
- 10 minutes on foot from JR Kurashiki Sta.
- <https://www.kurashiki-tabi.jp/for/en/index.html>

Takebe Yahata Onsen, Yahata Onsen District

Omizuen Garden

Saijo Inari



Kinojo Castle



5 Bizen Osafune Japanese Sword Museum

Enjoy an impressive sword-making demonstration. (Every second Sunday of the month)

- 966 Osafune, Osafune-cho, Setouchi City
- 0869-66-7767
- 7 minutes by taxi from JR Osafune Sta.
- <https://www.city.setouchi.lg.jp.e.amw.hp.transer.com/site/token/>



6 Imbe Bizen Pottery Galleries

Find your favorite pottery with more than a thousand years of history!

- Imbe, Bizen City
- 0869-64-1001 (Okayama Prefecture Bizenyaki Touyuuukai)
- Near JR Imbe Sta.
- <https://rihou.co.jp/en>



7 Old Shizutani School

Visit Japan's oldest school for common folk, especially picturesque in autumn.

- 784 Shizutani, Bizen City
- 0869-67-1436
- 10 minutes by taxi from JR Yoshinaga Sta.
- <http://shizutani.jp/english/>



8 Ichiba Fuku-fuku Street Okayama City Center Wholesale Market

Enjoy a variety of Okayama eats including "Kaisen-don" (fresh seafood served on top of rice), sushi, and fruits.

- 30 minutes by bus from JR Okayama Sta.
- <https://www.city.okayama.jp/jigyosha/0000014772.html>

Inujima Island via JR/bus

JR Okayama Sta.	
20 minutes on the JR Ako Line from Platform No. 3, 4	Korakuen Exit
	35 minutes by bus from stop No. 10
JR Saidaiji Sta.	
1 minute on foot	Saidaiji Bus Center
Saidaiji-eki bus stop	
25 min. by bus	20 min. by taxi
30 min. by bus	20 min. by taxi
Nishi-Hoden (bus stop)	
5 minutes on foot	
Hoden Port	
10 minutes by boat	
Inujima Port	

*Please visit the following website for more information.
<https://benesse-artsite.jp/en/access/>
 *1 Buses from Saidaiji Bus Center and Saidaiji Sta. to Nishihoden will make one round-trip per day from Apr. 1 to Nov. 27, 2023, only when Inujima Seirensho Art Museum is open.



▼ To Hiroshima

5km



▼ To Takamatsu

To Osaka