

PG-508



SHIRAHAMA, KOYASAN, KUMANO KODO and WAKAYAMA PREF.

Wakayama Pref. (和歌山県), located on the southwestern side of the Kii Peninsula in Central Honshu and bordered by Osaka Pref. on the north, Nara and Mie Pref. on the East and the Pacific Ocean on the south, is blessed with natural beauty of mountains and coastlines. Many hot springs are scattered in the mountains, on the seaside and by the riversides. Koyasan, histor-

Access:

By Air

To	From	Operated by	Time required	One-way fare	Access from Nanki Shirahama Airport to Downtown
Shirahama (Nanki Shirahama)	Tokyo (Haneda)	JAL	1 hr. 10 min.	¥29,000	35 min. by bus to Kii-Tanabe Sta. ¥640 15 min. by bus to Shirahama Sta. ¥350

*Fare may changed by season.

By Rail and Bus.

To	From	Transportation	Time required and fare (one-way)
Wakayama	Kansai Int'l Airport	Bus	40 min. ¥1,100
		JR Kanku-Kaisoku via Hineno	45 min. ¥860
Shirahama Kii-Katsuura Shingu	Osaka (JR Shin-Osaka or JR Tennoji)	JR Kanku-Kaisoku and limited express "Kuroshio" or "Super Kuroshio" via Hineno	110 min. (¥4,600) to Shirahama 200 min. (¥6,490) to Kii-Katsuura 210 min. (¥6,490) to Shingu
		JR limited express "Kuroshio", "Super Kuroshio" or "Ocean Arrow"	140 min.* (¥5,450 / ¥5130 from Tennoji) to Shirahama 212-240 min.* (¥6,700) to Kii-Katsuura 226-256 min.* (¥7,010) to Shingu
Wakayama (Wakayama-shi Sta.)	Nankai Railway Namba Sta.	Nankai Railway Nankai Line limited express	57-63 min. ¥890 ("Southern" reserved seat ¥1,390)
Shingu	Nagoya	JR limited express "Nanki"	188-209 min. ¥7,190

* Time from Shin-Osaka. Required time from Tennoji is 17-20 min. shorter.

Access to Koyasan from Osaka

Easiest way to get to Koyasan from Osaka is to take a Nankai Railway train from Nankai-Namba Sta. It is also possible to go by JR to as far as Hashimoto with one to several changes on the way.

By Nankai Railway

To	From	Transportation	Time required and fare
Gokurakubashi	Namba	Nankai Railway Koya Line direct limited express "Koya" or limited express "Rinkan" via Hashimoto	85-95 min. by limited express ¥1,610 (¥1,990 to Koyasan including cable car) 100 min. by express ¥850
	(via) Hashimoto	Nankai Railway Koya Line	32-37 min. ¥930 (limited express) 38-49 min. ¥430 (express or local train)
Koyasan	(via) Gokurakubashi	Koyasan Cable car	5 min. (operated every 30 min.) ¥380

By JR Line

To	From	Transportation	Time required and fare
JR Hashimoto	JR Shin-Osaka	JR Tokaido-Honsen Line to Osaka, JR Osaka-Kanjo Line to Tennoji, JR Kansai-Honsen Line to Oji, JR Wakayama Line to Hashimoto via Takada and Gojo	120-140 min. ¥1,450
		JR limited express "Kuroshio", etc. to Wakayama, JR Wakayama Line to Hashimoto	150-180 min. ¥2,900
JR Namba		JR Kansai-Honsen Line to Oji, JR Wakayama Line to Hashimoto via Takada and Gojo	Direct trains are operated from Namba to Takada/Gojo. 110-120 min. ¥1,280
Gokurakubashi	(via) Hashimoto		See above "By Nankai Railway".
Koyasan	(via) Gokurakubashi		

• JR fares for limited express trains include the reserved seat charge which is ¥510.

• For JR limited express trains, a ¥200 discount during the off-peak season and a ¥200 surcharge during the peak season are applicable.

Places of Interest:

Shirahama Area

Shirahama (白浜), is an old hot-spring resort with a white sandy beach. Engetsu Island with inverted crevices and rock formations of Sandanbeki add to the beauty of the seascape. Various amusements including swimming and golf are available.

Shirahama Spa (白浜温泉), 15 min. by bus from JR Shirahama Sta. to Shirahama Bus Center, the center of Shirahama Spa, is one of the three oldest hot springs in Japan along with Arima and Dogo. It has a history of more than 1,300 years and many Emperors from those days are said to have visited the spa and taken a bath. There are several hot-spring public baths including **Sakino-yu Public Bath** (崎の湯), 5-min. walk from Yuzaki Bus Stop., an open-air bath on the seashore which is closed when waves are too high. Hours: 8:00-17:00 (Oct.-Mar.); 8:00-18:00 (Apr.-Jun. & Sep.), 7:00-19:00 (Jul.-Aug.), enter by 30 min. before closing time. Closed: Wed. Admission: ¥300

Senjojiki (千畳敷), 20 min. by bus from Shirahama Sta. to Senjoguchi Bus Stop. A spacious sandy rock formed by longtime

erosion. The setting sun is a beautiful sight to see.

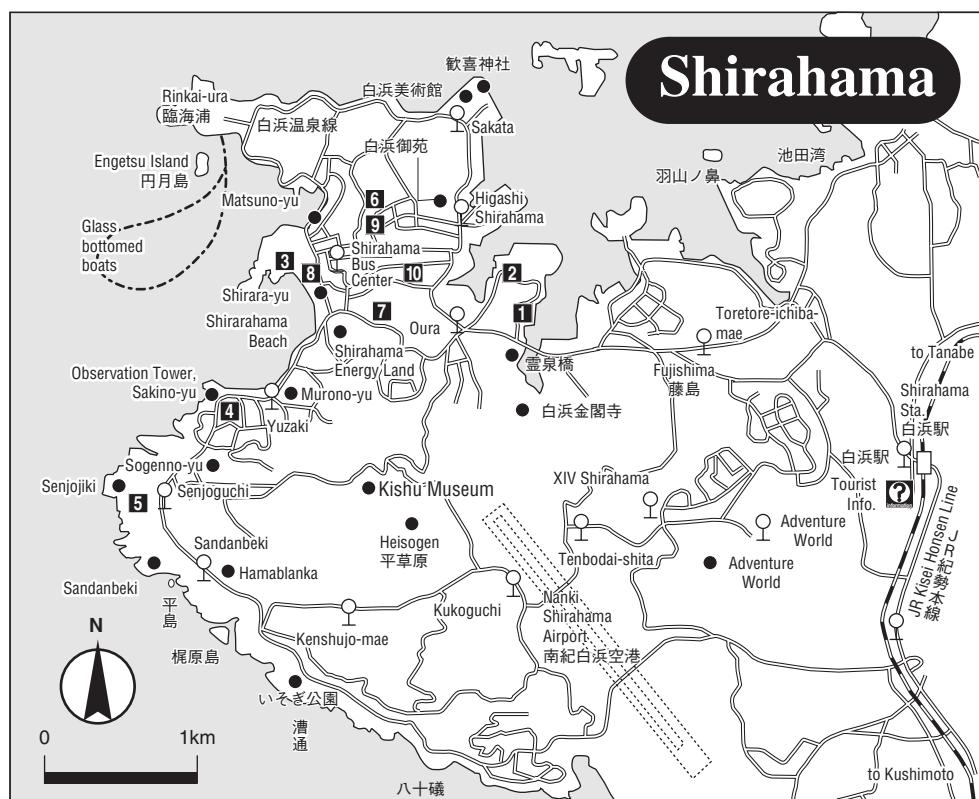
Sandanbeki (三段壁), 20 min. by bus from Shirahama Sta. to Sandanbeki Bus Stop. The steep rock cliff with a cave with an elevator access.

Submarine Observation Tower (白浜海中展望塔), 20 min. by bus from Shirahama Sta. 18 meters in height, and built 100 meters off shore, 6 meters under the sea, tropical fish can be enjoyed from the portholes, Open: 7:00-18:00 (May-Sep.), 8:00-17:30 (Oct.-Apr.) Admission: ¥800

Rinkai-ura (臨海浦), 8 min. by bus from Shirahama Bus Center. Engetsu Island can be seen. Glass-bottomed boats are operated every 30 min. (8:45-16:10 Apr.-Nov., 9:15-16:10 Dec.-Mar., fare: ¥1,500)

Kishu Art Museum (紀州博物館), 10 min. by taxi from Shirahama Sta. Displays of wood block prints, tea ceremony utensils, and antiques. The museum is located on the Heisogen Plateau commanding a view of Shirahama. Open: year round, 9:00-17:00, irregular closing days can be set before and after special exhibitions. Admission: ¥700

Rental Bicycles: At Shirahama Sta. ¥500 for a day (9:00-18:00).



1-10 correspond to those in the Accommodations list on page 5/6

Kushimoto, Katsuura Area

Kushimoto (串本), 1 hr. by JR limited express from Shirahama Sta. Shio-no-Misaki Cape (潮岬) in Kushimoto is located at the southernmost point of Honshu Main Island.

Kushimoto Marine Park (串本海中公園), 15 min. by bus from JR Kushimoto Sta., is noted for its aquarium and the undersea observatory. Open: 9:00-16:30 (enter by 16:00). Admission: ¥1,500. Enjoyable glass-bottomed boat is operated (9:30-15:30. Fare: ¥1,800, depending on the weather).

Kushimoto Okyo-Rosetsukan Gallery (串本応挙芦雪館), 10-min. walk from JR Kushimoto Sta., displays Fusumae works (pictures on the paper screens) of Okyo Maruyama and Rosetsu Nagasawa, noted artists in Edo Period. Open: 9:30-16:30 (enter by 16:00).

Closed: Dec.30 - Jan.3. Admission: ¥1,000

Katsuura (勝浦), 1hr. and 16 min. by JR limited express from Shirahama Sta. (Kii-Katsuura is the station name for Katsuura.), is a town of hot springs and fishing in a scenic setting. Cruise around Ki-no-Matsushima islets reminds one of the pine-clad islands of Matsushima in Sendai. (40-55 min. cruise, 3 courses, 12 departures a day from 8:00-16:50. Fare: ¥1,100 or ¥1,500, depending on course.) Hotel Urashima offers a unique hot spring bath located inside Bokido Cave. Hours: 9:00-18:00 (except 2 hrs for cleaning time) Admission: ¥1,000. Also popular are open-air baths with fine views at Katsuura Gyo-en Ryokan. Hours: 15:00-21:00 Admission: ¥1,500 There are also seven public baths.

Kumano Kodo (Kumano Ancient Roads)

Kumano Kodo (熊野古道), or Kumano Ancient Roads, are ancient passes used by pilgrims traveling from Kyoto to the Kumano's three shrines and they still hold the historical atmosphere of ancient days. They were designated as the World Heritage.

Kumano Sanzan (熊野三山), collective name for three Shinto shrines, Kumano Hongu Taisha Shrine at Hongu in Tanabe city, Kumano Hayatama Taisha Shrine in Shingu and Kumano Nachi Taisha Shrine in Nachisan, have been worshiped by pilgrims for hundreds of years.

Kumano Hongu Taisha (Shrine) (熊野本宮大社), 1 hr. 20 min. by bus from Shingu Sta. or 1 hrs. 50 min. by bus from Kii-Tanabe Sta., 15 min. by bus from Yunomine Onsen or 20 min. by bus from Kawayu Onsen. Situated in the dense forest, one can appreciate the serene atmosphere. The shrine is worshiped as the main shrine of all the Kumano shrines in Japan. Open: 7:00-18:00 (Treasure house: 9:00-16:00, Admission: ¥500)

Kumano Hayatama Taisha (Shrine) (熊野速玉大社), 15-min. walk from Shingu Sta., is noted for its treasures. Shingu is the gateway to Kumano Sanzan shrines.

Kumano Nachi Taisha (Shrine) (那智大社), 30 min. by bus from Kii-Katsuura Sta., or 20 min. by bus from Nachi Sta. Adjacent to the shrine, stands **Seigantoji Temple** (青岸渡寺) which has been popular among pilgrims. Nachi is also famous for **Nachi-no-Taki (Nachi Falls)** (那智の滝), 3min. walk from Taki-mae Bus Stop, the largest waterfalls in Japan, 133 m high and 13 m wide with its water source in the forests of the Nachi Mountains. The waterfall is the religious origin for Kumano Nachi Taisha Shrine and Seigantoji Temple and still the primary object of worship.

Katsuura Bus Stop Nachi Sta. Bus Stop 10 min. 20 min.

Nachi-San (Mt. Nachi) Bus Stop

The bus runs once or twice per hour from 6:45 to 18:05 (Katsuura-Nachisan bus route).

Inquiry: Kumano Kotsu (熊野交通) Tel: (0735)22-5101

Dorokyo Gorge (瀧峠), 35 min. by bus from Shingu Sta. or 25 min. by bus from Kumano Hongu. Marvel at the sight of rock cliffs rising from emerald waters as a glass-roofed boat carries you on a two-hour round trip from Shiko to the inner gorge and back. 8:30-15:10 (Mar.-Nov.5), 8:30-14:10 (Nov.6-Nov.30), 9:20-14:10 (Dec.-Feb.) Fare: ¥3,340

Tanabe (田辺), its station name is Kii-Tanabe, 15 min. by train or 30 min. by bus from Shirahama Sta. Tanabe is the entrance to Nakahechi Road, once the pass for pilgrims. Tokei Jinja Shrine is 10-min. walk from Kii-Tanabe Sta.

Walking Kumano Kodo

Among different routes, **Nakahechi** (中辺路), a mountain route connecting Tanabe and Kumano Hongu Taisha Shrine, has been the most popular route till today. With ancient atmosphere and many historic relics, the 40 kilometers between **Takijiri-Oji** (滝尻王子) and Hongu is excellent for hiking. You can stay overnight on the way, or take a bus running on Route 311 which runs parallel to the ancient pass and walk part of it just for the day. Takijiri Bus Stop is 40 min. by bus from JR Kii-Tanabe Sta. In front of Takijiri-Oji, there is Kumano-Kodo-kan, an information center for the Kumano ancient pilgrimage passes nearby.

Short Recommended Course of Nakahechi Route

If you do not have enough time to walk on the above 40 km route, the following shorter course is recommended. It will be about 3-hr. walk and when you walk along this path, you can't help but feel the hopes and dreams the ancient travelers must have had as they made their way to Kumano. This is most definitely an area of Japan that should be explored.

Hosshinmon-Oji (発心門王子) 1.8 km	Mizunomi-Oji (水呑王子) 30 min.
1.9 km 40 min.	Fushiogami-Oji (伏拝王子) 1.5 km
at (三軒茶屋跡) 1.5 km	20 min.
Haraido-Oji (祓戸王子) 1 hr.	0.1km
	3 min.

Hongu-Taisha (熊野本宮大社)

Sacred Sites and Pilgrimage Routes in the Kii Mountain Range: <http://www.pref.wakayama.lg.jp/sekaiisan/english/e-kiisanti.html>

Three Major Hot Springs

Kawayu Hot Spring (川湯温泉), 1hr. by bus from JR Shingu Sta., or 1hr. 40 min. by bus from JR Kii-Tanabe Sta., is a unique and well-known hot-spring area where it is said that one only has to dig a hole in the dry riverbed to create an open-air hot-spring bath. The hot springs come from the Otogawa River, a tributary of the Kumanogawa River. If you take a spade in hand and dig a hole only 30 centimeters deep, you can have your own natural outdoor hot-spring bath. You can adjust the temperature of the water with water from the river and make the bath as wide as you like. The temperature on the road side of the riverbed is high, and on the other shore, the temperature becomes hotter the deeper you dig, so you can enjoy trying out subtle differences in temperature.

Yunomine Hot Spring (湯の峰温泉) 1 hr. 10 min. by bus from JR Shingu Sta., or 1 hr. 40 min. by bus from JR Kii-Tanabe Sta., near by Kawayu Hot Spring. This hot spring is one of the oldest in Japan and has been famous since the ancient age in relation to Kumano faith. Pilgrims to Kumano would bathe in this hot spring in order to rid themselves of religious impurities before worshiping the Kumano Shrines.

Wataze Hot Spring (渡瀬温泉) 1 hr. 5 min. by bus from JR Shingu Sta., or 1 hr. 45 min. by bus from JR Kii-Tanabe Sta., near by Kawayu Hot Spring. The area of Yomuragawa is blessed with hot springs which originated here. You can relax comfortably in an open air bath among nature. Also nearby is the Kurhaus run by the Hongu Town office, which offers a relaxing spa and swimming pool that are open to everyone for a nominal fee.

Bus Routes from the Three Hot Springs to Hosshinmon-Oji

Yunomine Hot Spring Bus Stop → Wataze Hot Spring → Kawayu Hot Spring → Hosshinmon-Oji Bus Stop
30min.

The bus departs Yunomine, Wataze, Kawayu hot spring around 8:00, 11:00, 13:00, 14:00 everyday.

Inquiry: Ryujin Bus (龍神バス) Tel: (0739) 22-2100

Koyasan

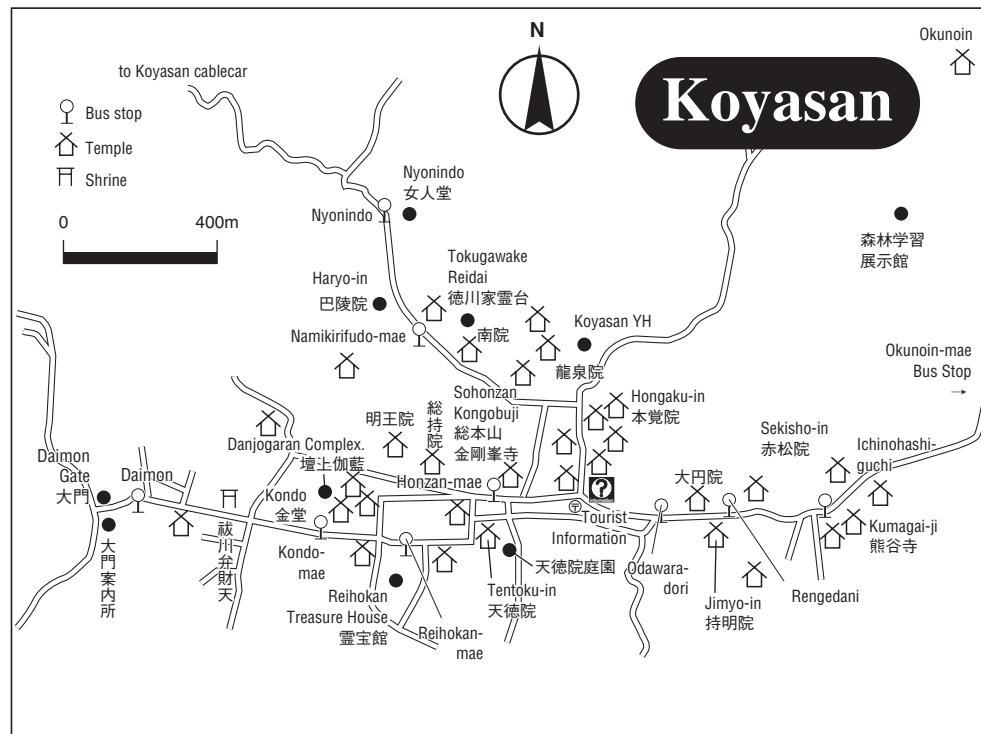
Koyasan (高野山) founded in 816 by Kobo-Daishi Kukai as the main temple of Shingon Buddhism, it is a complex of temples, monasteries and assembly buildings amid 900 m high mountain. This holy place was designated as the world Heritage. Bus services are operated from Koyasan cablecar Sta.

Inquiry: Nankai-Rinkan Bus (南海りんかんバス) Tel:(0736)56-2250
Okunoin (奥の院), 40-min. walk from Ichinohashi-guchi Bus Stop on the stone paved approach will lead one to the holy Okunoin Mausoleum of Kukai. The approach is lined on both sides with tombs, monuments and statues of historical characters. One can also get to the mausoleum from Okunoin-mae Bus Stop, which is a short-cut. The mausoleum is behind the Lantern Hall where 20,000 lanterns are hung.

Kongobuji (金剛峯寺), in front of Kongobuji-mae Bus Stop, built in 1592, has become the chief temple of the 117 temples in Koyasan community, and is famous for the pictures on Fusuma (sliding doors) in the Kano school. Open: 8:30-16:30. Admission: ¥500

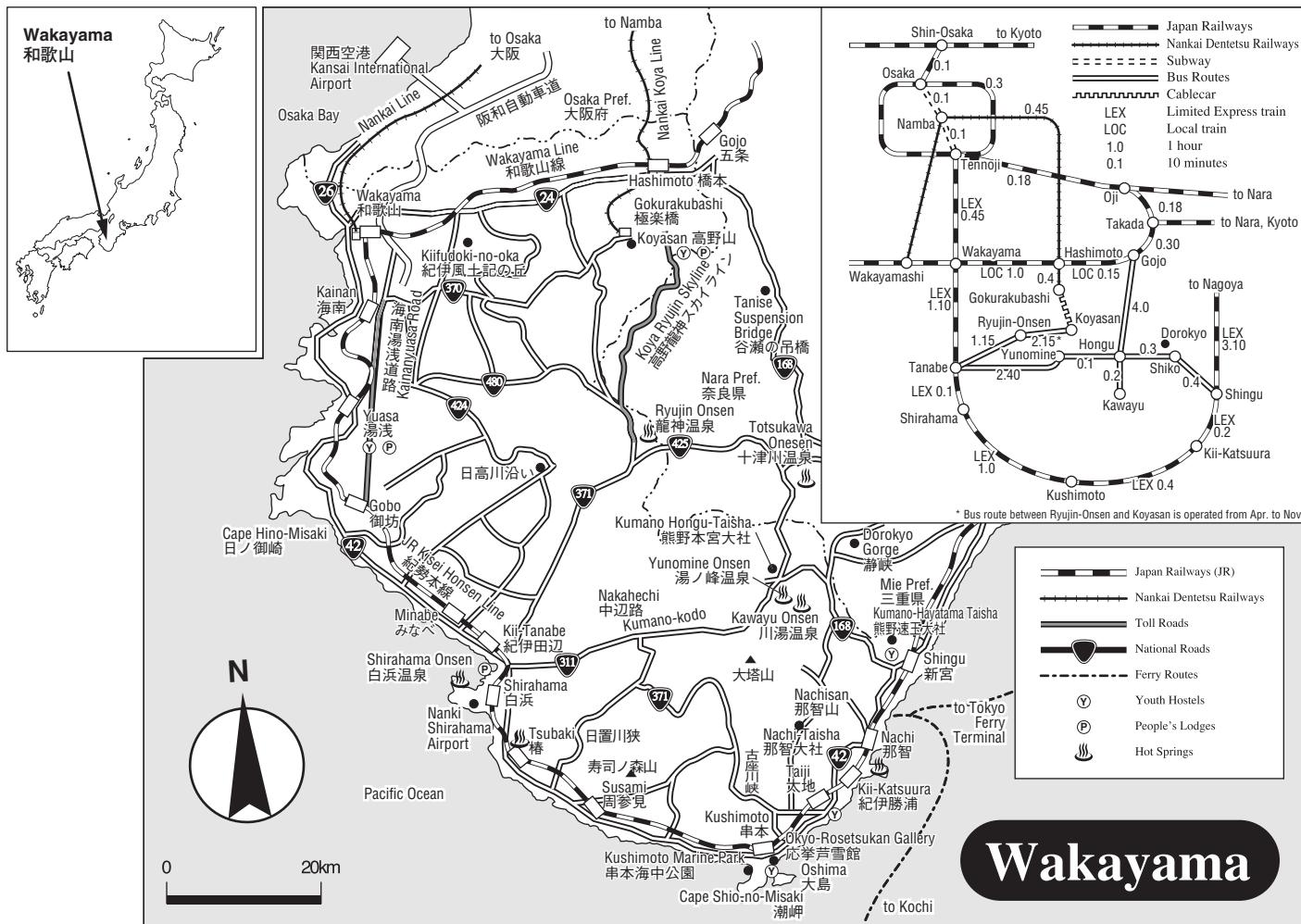
Danjogaran (壇上伽藍), 1-min. walk from Kondo-mae Bus Stop. Halls like **Kondo** (金堂), **Miedo** (御影堂) and two storied vermilion pagoda called **Konpon-Daito** (Great Pagoda / 根本大塔) comprise this Danjogaran Complex. Open: 8:30-16:30. Admission to Kondo and Daito : ¥200 each

Koyasanreihokan (高野山靈宝館), 1-min. walk from Reihokan-mae Bus Stop. Treasure House of Koyasan which preserves about 50,000 items including 21 National Treasures and 140 important cultural properties. Open: 8:30-17:30 (May-Oct.), 8:30-17:00 (Nov.-Apr.), enter by 30 min. before closing time. Closed: Year-end & the New Year's holiday. Admission: ¥600



Suggested Trip Itinerary:

	2 hrs. 40 min.-3 hrs.	15 min.	I hr. 45 min.	
1st day:	Tokyo Shinkansen	Shin-Osaka Sta. Subway	Nankai-Namba Sta. train & cablecar	Koyasan
	45 min.	1 hr. 10 min.	1 hr. 20 min.	
2nd day:	Koyasan cablecar & train	via Hashimoto train	Wakayama train	Shirahama
	1 hr.	40 min.		
3rd day:	Shirahama train	Kushimoto train	Kii-Katsuura Sta.	
	15-25 min.	35 min.	25 min.	Kawayu
4th day:	Kii-Katsuura Sta. train	Shingu bus	Shiko (2-hr. boat ride in Dorokyo Gorge) Shiko	bus Yunomine
	10-20 min.	I hr.	3 hrs. 15 min.	I hr. 40 min.
5th day:	Yunomine or Kawayu bus	Kumano-Hongu bus	Shingu train	Nagoya Shinkansen
				Tokyo



Accommodations:

Name of facilities	Tel.	Fax.	Room rate (¥)	Name of facilities	Tel.	Fax.	Room rate (¥)
Shirahama:				Katsuura:			
1 Hotel Koganoi (R)	(0739)42-2922	(0739)43-3434	¥¥	Hotel Urashima (R)	(0735)52-1011	(0735)52-0275	¥¥
2 Koganoi Bay Hotel (H)	(0739)43-6000	(0739)43-5805	¥¥¥	Katsuura Kanko Hotel (R)	(0735)52-0750	(0735)52-1469	¥¥
3 Shiraraso Grand Hotel (R)	(0739)43-0100	(0739)42-2438	¥¥¥	Ichinotaki (R)	(0735)52-0080	(0735)52-0082	¥¥
4 Taikoban (R)	(0739)42-2708	(0739)42-4225	¥¥	Hotel Nagisaya (R)	(0735)52-0015	(0735)52-5221	¥¥
5 Hotel Senjo (R)	(0739)43-2468	—	¥¥	Hotel Nakanoshima (R)	(0735)52-1111	(0735)52-1633	¥¥¥
6 Minshuku A Course (M)	(0739)42-3680	(0739)43-0477	¥¥	Katsuura Gyoen (R)	(0735)52-0333	(0735)52-3887	¥¥¥
7 Minshuku Katsuya (M)	(0739)42-3814	(0739)42-3817	¥	Nachi:			
8 Shirara (M)	(0739)42-3655	(0739)43-5223	¥¥	Minshuku Mitaki Sanso (M)	(0735)55-0745	(0735)55-0755	¥¥
9 Hotel Shirahama (PL)	(0739)42-3039	(0739)42-4643	¥	Kawayu:			
10 Hotel Meiko (M) □	(0739)43-5101	(0739)43-5293	¥	Midoriya	(0735)42-1011	(0735)42-0313	¥¥¥
Tanabe:				Kinokuni Hotel (R)	(0735)42-0353	(0735)42-0378	¥¥
Kii Tanabe City Plaza Hotel (BH)	(0739)24-0400	(0739)26-0996	¥¥	Pension Ashita-no-Mori (P)	(0735)42-1525	(0735)42-1333	¥¥
Garden Hotel Hanayo (BH)	(0739)26-0874	(0739)26-1001	¥¥	Koyasan:			
Kushimoto:				Haryo-in Temple (PL) □	(0736)56-2702	(0736)56-2936	¥
Urashima Habor Hotel (H)	(0735)62-1011	(0735)62-3906	¥¥	Sekisho-in (R) □	(0736)56-2734	(0736)56-4429	¥¥
Misaki Lodge Y.H. (Y)	(0735)62-1474	(0735)62-0529	¥	52 places of Shukubo (Temple Lodging) can be reserved through Koyasan Tourist Association			
Kushimoto Royal Hotel (H)	(0735)62-7771	(0735)62-7760	¥¥¥	Wakayama:			
Minabe:				Hotel Taikoubou (H) □	(073)444-1151	(073)446-0775	¥¥¥
Kisyu-Minabe Royal Hotel (H)	(0739)72-5500	(0739)72-5757	¥¥	Hotel Granvia Wakayama (H)	(073)425-3333	(073)422-1871	¥¥¥
Shingu:				Wakayama Tokyu Inn (BH)	(073)432-0109	(073)423-1045	¥¥
Shingu Hayatama Y.H. (Y)	(0735)22-2309	(0735)23-0721	¥				
Shingu Central Hotel (BH)	(0735)23-2000	(0735)23-2100	¥¥				
Sunshine Hotel (BH)	(0735)23-2580	(0735)23-2781	¥				
Shingu UI Hotel (H)	(0735)22-6611	(0735)22-4777	¥¥				

Remarks: 1–10 correspond to those on the map on page 2/6

H = Hotel

Rate for a twin room.

R = Ryokan

Rate per person.

BH = Business Hotel

Rate per person.

Y = Youth Hostel

Rate per person.

M = Minshuku (family-run inn)

Rate per person.

P = Pension

Rate per person.

PL = People's Lodge

Rate per person.

□ = Welcome Inn member

¥¥¥ more than 15,000 yen

¥¥ 8,001 yen – 15,000 yen

¥ 8,000 yen or less

Note: The Welcome Inns provide single rooms priced at 8,000 yen or less.



Welcome Inn Reservation Center (WIRC) is here to help you book economical accommodations at participating inns throughout the country. Our participating establishments, called "Welcome Inns", comprise a range of accommodations from hotels, business hotels, Ryokan, minshuku, pensions and Shukubo (temple lodgings) to youth hostels. Most of them have guest rooms at rates which do not exceed ¥8,000 yen per night (excluding tax and service charges) for a single room.

Reservation over the Internet

Visit our website at <http://www.itcj.jp> and apply through our system.

Application deadline – generally 5 days ahead of your check-in date

Reservation at booking counters in Japan

To take advantage of our service, you must appear in person at any of the Welcome Inn reservation counters located at the Tourist Information Centers: Tokyo (10th fl. Tokyo Kotsukaikan Bldg., 2-10-1, Yurakucho, Chiyoda-ku), Kyoto (9th fl. of JR Kyoto Sta.), Narita International Airport, Kansai International Airport.

Welcome Inn Reservation Center
c/o International Tourism Center of Japan
<http://www.itcj.jp>



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

JNTO Website

www.jnto.go.jp/eng/arrange/essential/guideservice.html



TOURIST INFORMATION

(Visit Japan Information Network)

Shingu Tourist Information Center:

JR Shingu Station, 2-1-1, Jofuku, Singu City, Wakayama Pref.

9:30 - 17:30

Tel. (0735)22-2840

Kii Peninsula Tourism Information Center:

JR Shirahama Station.

Tel. (0739)42-2900

9:00 - 18:00

Kushimoto Tourist Association:

JR Kushimoto Station, 33 Kushimoto, Kushimoto-cho, Wakayama Pref.

Tel. (0735)62-3171

8:30 - 17:00

Koyasan Tourist Association:

600 Koyasan, Koya-machi, Ito-gun, Wakayama Pref.

Tel. (0736)56-2616

Nachi-Katsuura Tourist Association:

JR Kii-Katsuura Station, 6-1-1 Tsukiji, Nachikatsuura-cho, Wakayama Pref.

Tel. (0735)52-5311

8:30 - 17:00 (Sun. - Fri.), 9:00 - 17:00 (Sat.)

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