

Welcome to Wakayama

JAPAN'S SPIRITUAL HEARTLAND



Spring

Mar.-May

4°C - 26°C



Summer

Jun.-Aug.

21°C - 36°C



Autumn

Sep.-Nov.

8°C - 24°C



Winter

Dec.-Feb.

-1°C - 14°C

Wakanoura's sweeping seascapes



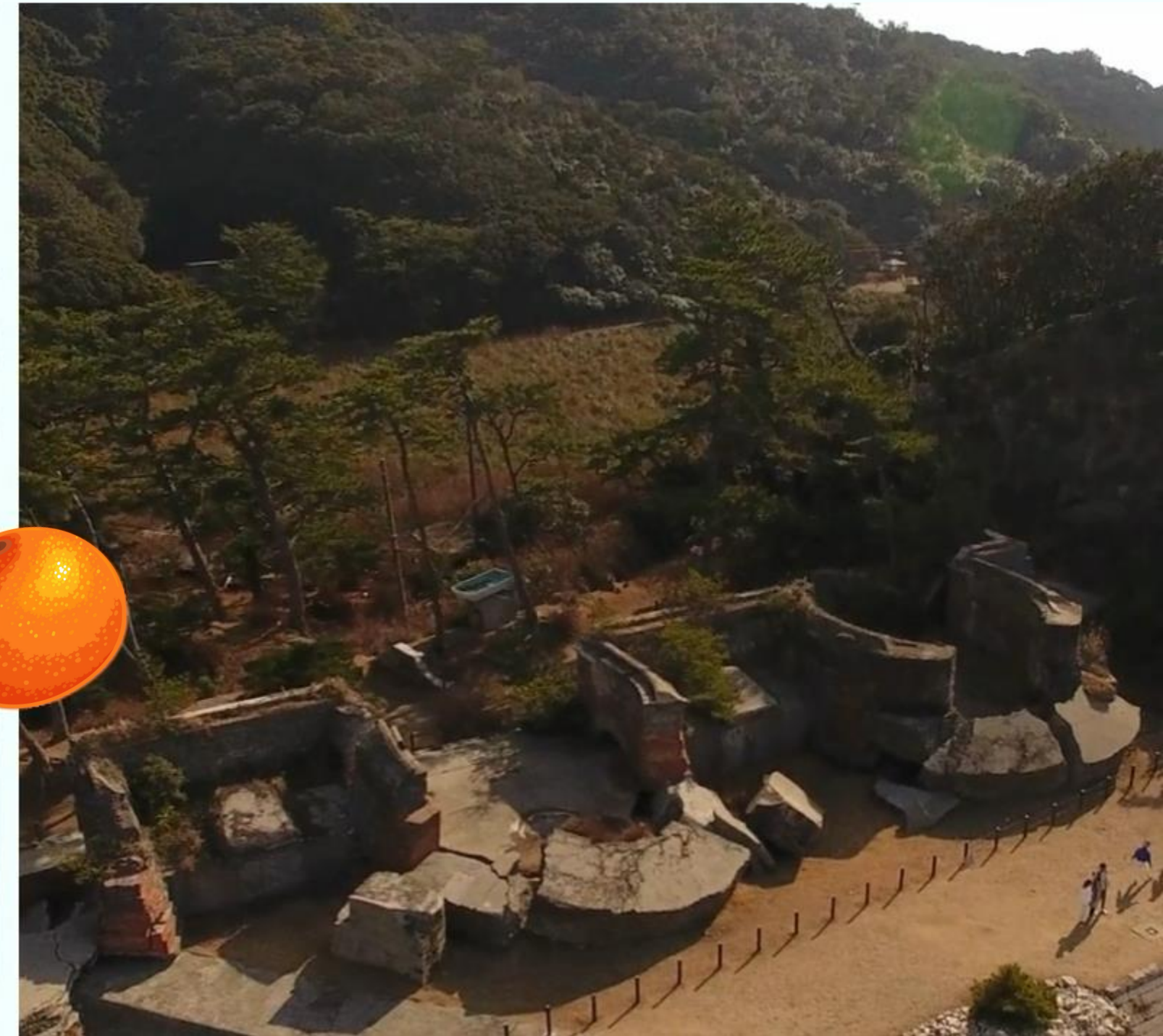
Japan Heritage “A Treasure Trove of
Scenic Beauty”



Tomogashima Island

(Tanaka, 2022, p. 1)

Real life
inspiration for
the setting of
**Summer Time
Rendering.**



TOMOGASHIMA HIGHLIGHTS

Step into anime scenes brought to life





Wakayama Castle

Built in **1585** as
the seat of the
powerful **Kishu**
Tokugawa Clan



WAKAYAMA TOURISM

Not just sightseeing, but forging
unforgettable, hands-on
experiences





(A Guide to Wakayama City
Japan, p. 1)

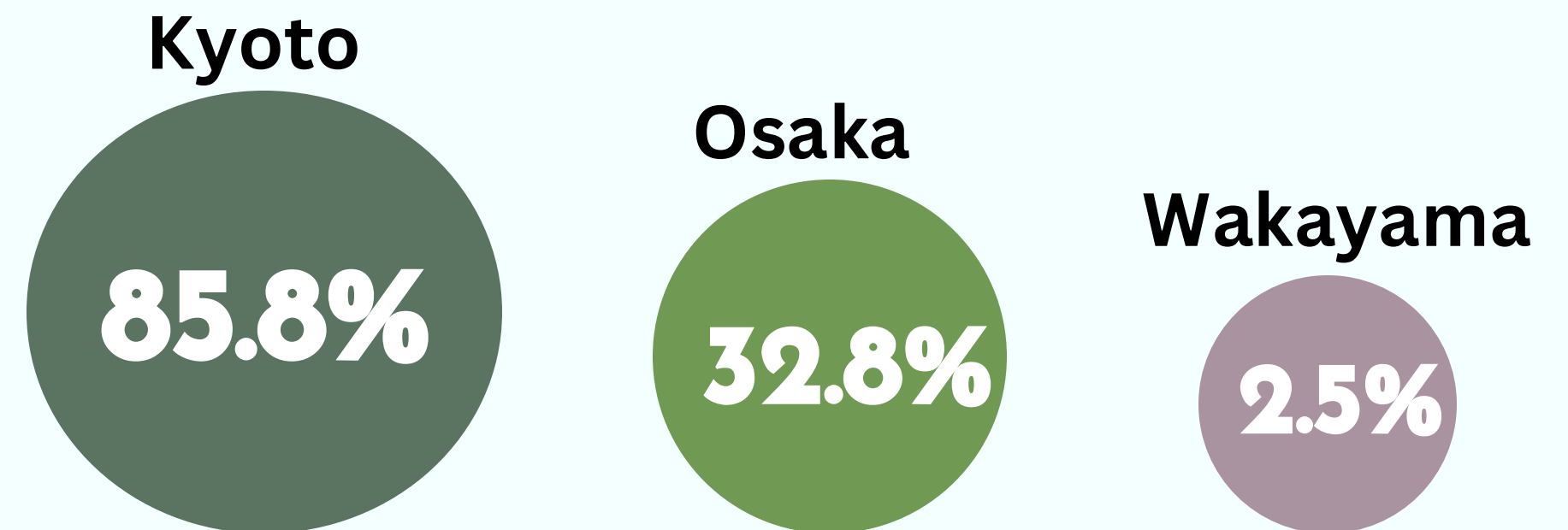
BUSINESS POTENTIAL



A major untapped market easily
accessible from Osaka and Kyoto

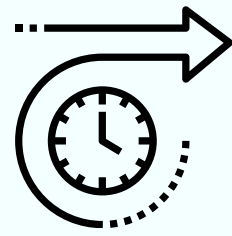
321,500 British tourists in 2023

Visitation Rates by Region

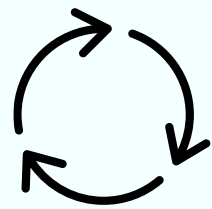


BRITISH TOURIST TRENDS

Explore beyond the classic Kyoto-Osaka circuit with self-guided packages



60% spend **2 weeks+** in Japan



42.1% are repeat visitors



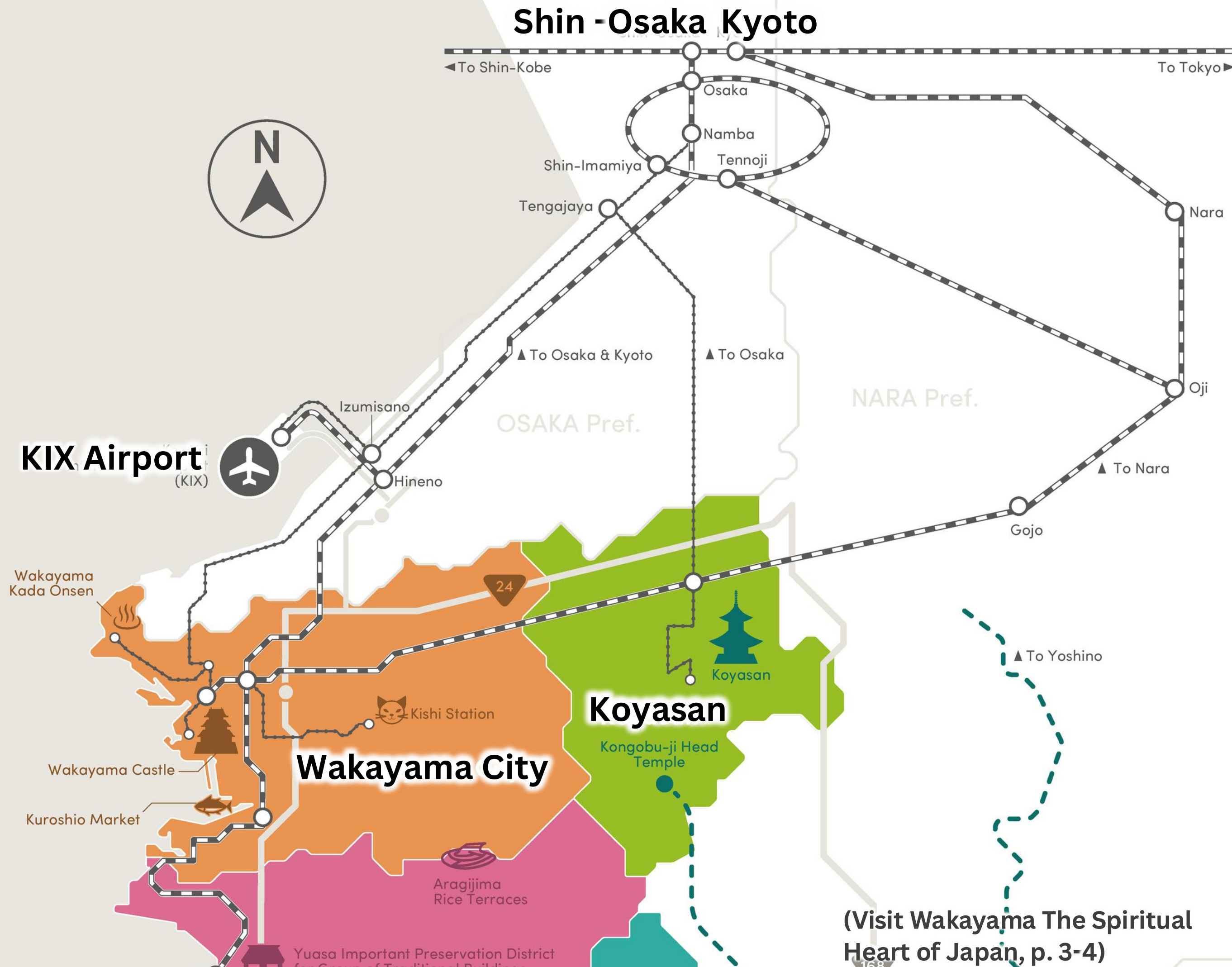
93.8% plan trips independently



Inter-Prefectural Access



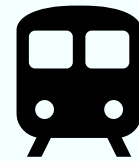
- 🚆 **Osaka to Wakayama City** in 1 hr
- 🚆 **Kyoto to Wakayama City** in <2 hrs
- 🚆 **Osaka to Koyasan** in 2.5 hrs
- 🚆 **KIX to Wakayama City** in <1 hr



(Visit Wakayama The Spiritual Heart of Japan, p. 3-4)

Local Transportation

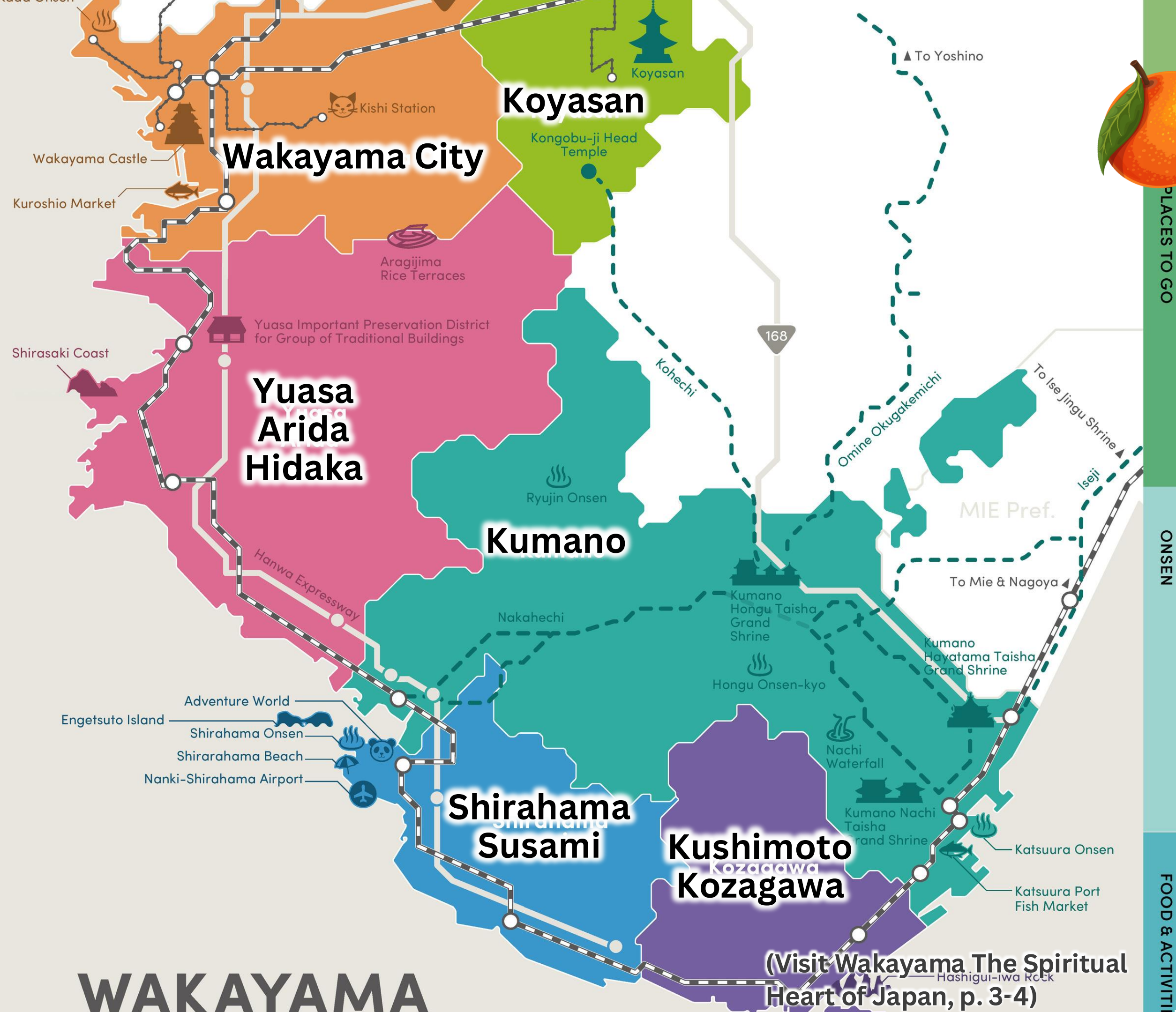
- **Wakayama Bus Day Pass:** Adult ¥1,000 (Child ¥500)
- **Kada Sightseeing Ticket:** Adult ¥2,120 (Child ¥1,040)
- **Bike Rentals** ¥600/day



(Wakayama City Tourism Guide, p. 13)

Prefecture-wide Transportation

- 🚆 **2-3 hours** from **North** to **South** via **Kuroshio** or **Kinokuni Line**
- 🚆 **2 hours East** along **Kinokawa River** via **Wakayama Line**

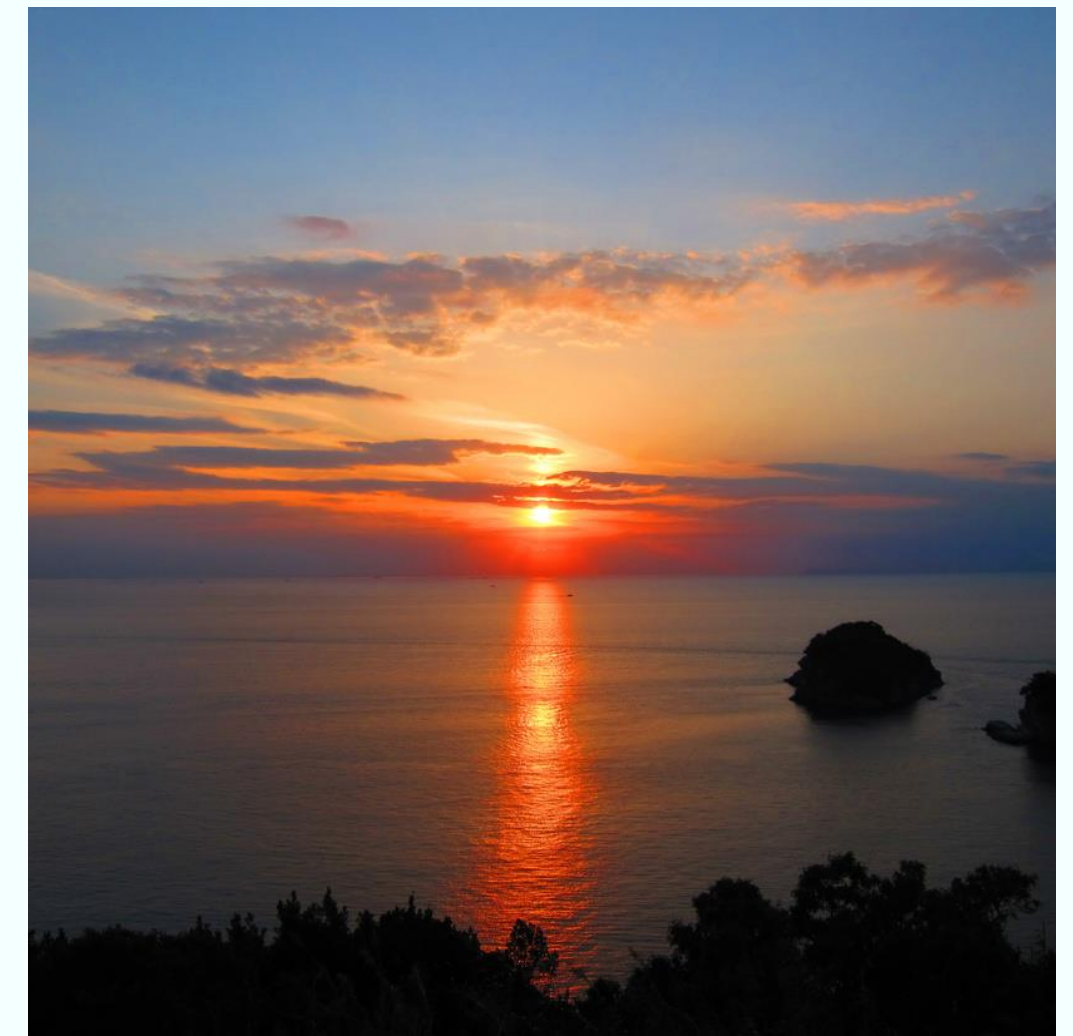


COASTAL HERITAGE



Highlights:

- Saikazaki Fishing Port & Restaurants
- Saikazaki Light House
- Yosuien Garden
- Bandoko Garden



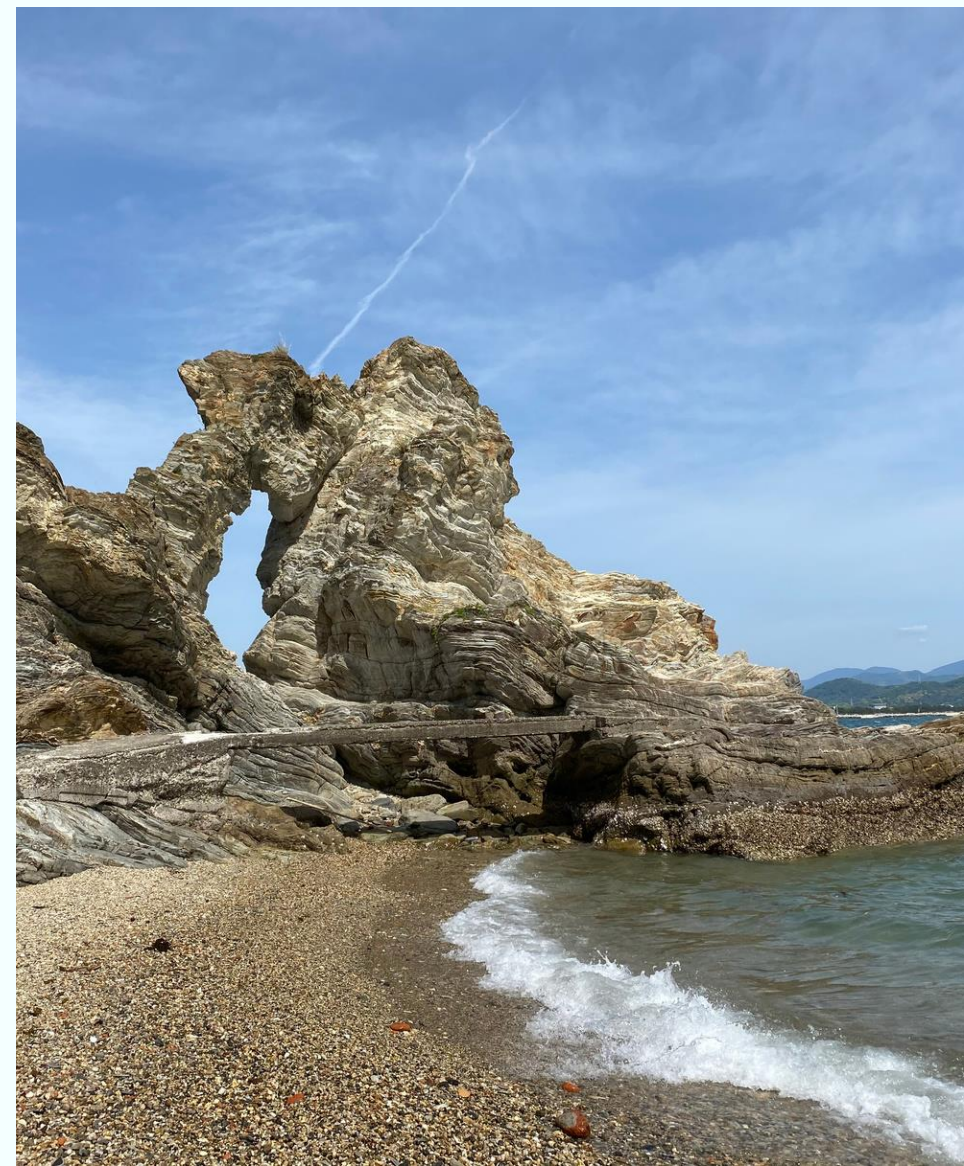
Saikazaki Cape

Narrow alleys, cheerful street art,
and bustling fish markets
backdropped by perfect sunsets

COASTAL HERITAGE

Wakanoura Bay

White sand beaches, verdant pine forests, and poetic ocean vistas that have inspired poets for 1,300 years



Highlights:

- Kishu Toshogu Shrine
- Tamatsushima Shrine
- Tenmangu Shrine
- Kataonami Beach
- Furobashi Bridge

Feudal History

Wakayama Castle

Catch a glimpse of
feudal history

(Next Stop... Wakayama City!, p. 2)

Main Tower

Ascend to the castle's main tower and be rewarded with stunning panoramic views of the city below. Each floor reveals the rich history of the Kishu Domain, immersing you in centuries of intrigue.



Highlights:

- History Center & Souvenir Shop
- Castle Keep
- Ohashi-Roka Bridge
- Momijidani Garden
- Koshoan Teahouse
- Castle Zoo



Windsurfing



Miyahama Beach

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES



Kumanokodo



Kinokawa Cycling Road



Kimiidera Temple



Awashima Shrine
Hina-nagashi Ceremony

SPRING EVENTS



Kimiidera Temple



Wakayama Castle



Wakayama Port Festival Fireworks



Bundarabushi Dance Festival

SUMMER EVENTS



Bundarabushi Dance Festival



Wakamatsuri Festival

Wakayama Castle



Jazz Marathon



FALL & WINTER EVENTS



Porto Europa



KEYAKI Light Parade

ANIME

Tomogashima Island

Inspiration for Hitogashima in
Summer Time Rendering



(Next Stop... Wakayama City!, p. 7)

- "Summer Time Rendering" – A hit sci-fi suspense manga.
- Serialized on Shonen Jump+ with 130+ million page views.
- Set on Hitogashima, inspired by Wakayama's Tomogashima Islands.
- Known for its gripping mystery and suspenseful storytelling.
- Adapted into an anime, with a live-action version in development.



ANIME

Kada

- Train: Wakayamashi to Kada (30 min) on the sea bream-inspired Nankai Kada line.
- Walk: 20 min through Kada's coastal town with restaurants & anime landmarks
- Ferry: 20 minutes to the island.

(Tanaka, *Seichi Wakayama no Tabi* 2022, p. 4)



(*Medetai Train Kada Sakanasen*, p. 1)



ISLAND ACCESS

Year-round ferry access
and cafe for a comfortable
adventure



(Tanaka, *Real-Life Locations* 2022, p. 4)



Adults: 2,200 yen round trip (1,100 yen one way)

Children: 1,100 yen round trip (550 yen one way)

*Group discount: 15 people or more (prior inquiry required)

Time required:
about **20** minutes

● **Kada Port - Tomogashima Route Timetable**

● **Timetable**

(Note: Different timetable for the Golden Week holiday period and summer season)

Trip	Departure from Kada	Departure from Tomogashima
Trip 1	9:00	9:30
Trip 2	11:00	11:30
Trip 3	13:00	13:30
Trip 4	16:00	16:30

Ferries only run on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays during the winter from Jan. 4 to the end of February (except for Dec. 29 to Jan. 3)

● **Suspension of service**

No service on Wednesdays

(Except for Apr. 29 to May 5 and Jul. 20 to Aug. 31. Ferries run on Wednesdays if it is a national holiday.)

Service may be cancelled due to weather conditions or other reasons.

● **Timetable for Golden Week holiday period and summer season**

(Apr. 29 to May 5 and Jul. 20 to Aug. 31)

Trip	Departure from Kada	Departure from Tomogashima
Trip 1	9:00	9:30
Trip 2	10:00	10:30
Trip 3	11:00	11:30
Trip 4	13:00	13:30
Trip 5	15:00	15:30
Trip 6	16:00	16:30

● **Baggage fees**

Small bags	Under 10 kg	200 yen
	10 kg to under 20 kg	400 yen
	20 kg to under 30 kg	600 yen
Special items (bicycles, etc.)		800 yen

ANIME

Tomogashima Island

Real life scenery vs the manga

(Tanaka, *Real-Life Locations* 2022, pp. 2-3)

Introductions to 7 recommended spots on Tomogashima!

Summer Time Rendering × 和歌山市 聖地巡礼マップ Real-Life Locations Map

1 Tomogashima Information Center

This is the setting for the Hitogashima Police Station!

The Tomogashima Information Center is located in Nonaura Plaza. Applications for camping are accepted here during the camping season. The center is in a great location near Nonaura Pier, the entrance to Tomogashima, with a view of Osaka Bay sprawling before your eyes.

2 Fort 2 Ruins

The weathered look creates a somber atmosphere...

This is the site of the interception fort set up by the government during the Meiji period (1868-1912) to bombard enemy ships, attempting to enter Osaka Bay, from the side. The shells passed through the Kitan Strait between the Tomogashima Islands and Awaji Island. Currently, the site is partially collapsed due to typhoons, wind, and rain.

3 Slope leading to the Fort 1 Ruins

A road with thick vegetation that reverberates with the sound of rustling leaves

Tomogashima had five forts. This slope leads to Fort 1, which was located on a cliff at the western end of Tomogashima, facing the Kitan Strait. Fort 1 was the first fort built in the area during the Meiji period, and its purpose was to fire on enemy ships passing between the Tomogashima Islands and Awaji Island.

4 Tomogashima Kisen Ferry

This is the only regular service between Kada Port and Tomogashima, connecting them in about 20 minutes. Service is currently provided by two ships, "Tomogashima-go" and "Laputa-go." If the weather is nice during the ride, you can see Tomogashima getting closer and closer aboard the boat.

You'll arrive here once you get off the ferry!

5 Pine trees on Tomogashima

Many Japanese black pine trees grow wild along the coast of Tomogashima. The islands' climate helps them grow quickly, and their thick branches and leaves spread to reach a variety of sizes. The plaza in front of Nonaura Pier is lined with especially tall, thick trees.

A famous writer hanging from a pine tree...!?

Hizuru swings upside down from this large, sturdy-looking black pine tree. According to her, hanging from it helps her think clearly. It seems that she has done this many times, given that she recommends it when talking on the phone, but it seems difficult for beginners.

6 Torajima Island

Tomogashima consists of four islands, including Torajima, and is registered as a Japan Heritage site as the birthplace of Katsuragi Shugen mountain asceticism. The island is currently closed to visitors, but can be seen from ferries such as Tomogashima Kisen.

This island of Tomogashima becomes the site of a fierce battle!

While separated from his friends, Shinpei learns that they are headed for Torajima. Shinpei knows his enemy's movements from looping, but there is a possibility it is a trap set by the enemy. Shinpei rushes to Torajima...

7 Fort 3 Ruins

Explore every nook and cranny of the atmospheric darkness!

This was the site of Fort 3, the most powerful fort on Tomogashima during the Meiji period. The fort is well-preserved, and almost all of the facilities can be visited. It has become a popular photo spot, but be careful when visiting as some areas are dark.

Before his time traveling, Shinpei meets "Ushio," who knows everything, aboard the ferry on the way to Hitogashima. The two talk while crossing time and space. To bridge the gap, they embark on a three day excursion into the unknown...

Nonaura Pier is the gateway to Tomogashima, with the Tomogashima Kisen ferry frequently traveling between Kada Port and Tomogashima. Overlooking the vast Kitan Strait, the view from the pier is spectacular, with the azure sky and sea creating a world of blue.

*As of January 2022, Torajima Island is closed to visitors.

Shinjaike Pond

Okinoshima Island

Kamijima Island

Torajima Island

Nonaura Pier

Jagaikie Pond

目玉... あけてよ... 龍之介ッ!!!!

Hizuru Minakata is reminded of the abhorrent past when she is reunited with familiar faces. As her brother lies helplessly on the ground near the ruins of the fort, the sound of her own voice frantically calling his name and the buzzing of cicadas are the only sounds that echo in the air.

1 Tomogashima Information Center

This is the setting for the Hitogashima Police Station!

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After his second loop, Shinpei calls the police station to prevent damage caused by a "shadow" lurking on the island. At this shoreside police station, the police officer Totsumura may or may not be seen hard at work...

2 Fort 2 Ruins

The weathered look creates a somber atmosphere...

This is the site of the interception fort set up by the government during the Meiji period (1868-1912) to bombard enemy ships, attempting to enter Osaka Bay, from the side. The shells passed through the Kitan Strait between the Tomogashima Islands and Awaji Island. Currently, the site is partially collapsed due to typhoons, wind, and rain.

When Shinpei first meets "Ushio" and experiences the horrific summer festival, he learns that Ryunosuke Nagumo can fight the Shadows. After he loops, Shinpei arrives here to ask for Nagumo's help.

3 Slope leading to the Fort 1 Ruins

A road with thick vegetation that reverberates with the sound of rustling leaves

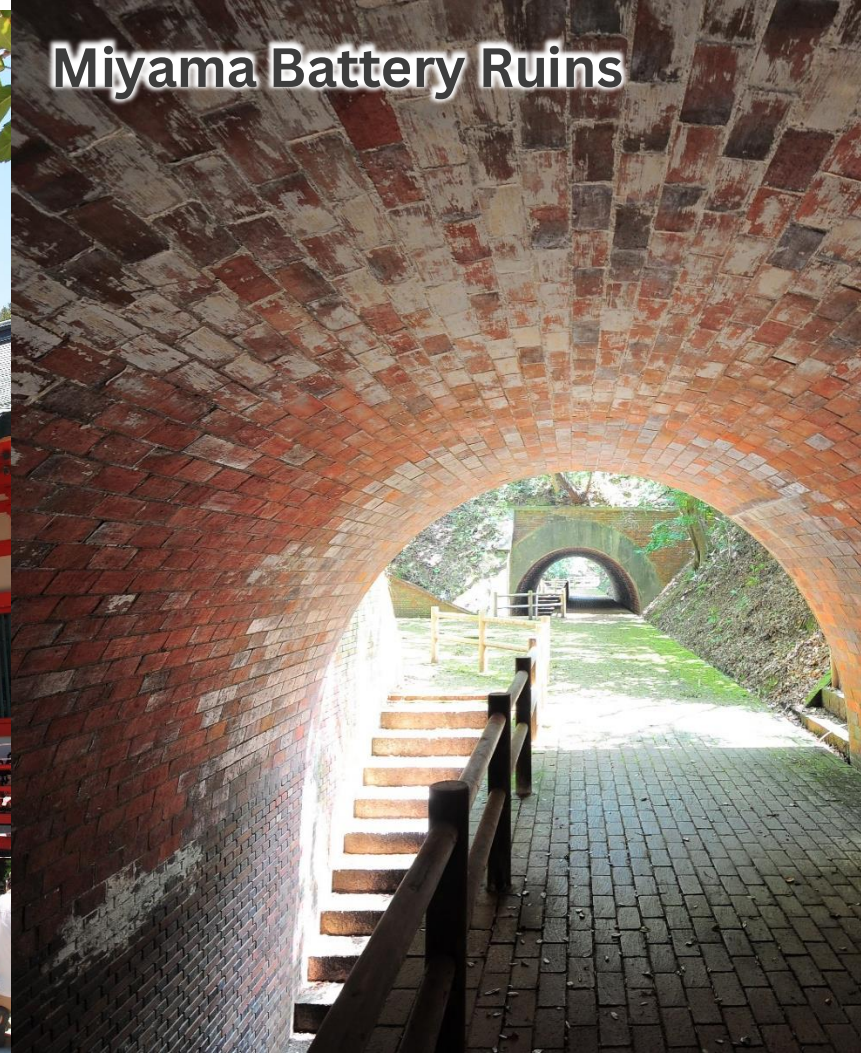
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ANIME

Kada Area

Combines coastal nature, anime landmarks, cultural treasures, and hot springs overlooking the ocean.



MODEL ITINERARIES

1-Day Trip
SAKURA & Japanese Heritage in Wakayama City

Time	Activity / Description
10:30	Wakayama Castle Join a guided tour of the famous cherry blossom spot, Wakayama Castle.
12:00	French Lunch at JOY Mimura Enjoy a seasonal Sakura-dai (spring sea bream) lunch prepared by award- winning Chef Mimura.
14:00	Kimiidera Temple Special guided tour of the Tokugawa family’s “Onarigoden.” Admire cherry blossoms selected as one of Japan’s top 100.
15:30	Wakayama Marina City Explore the resort area featuring a market, theme park, great food, and hotsprings.



MODEL ITINERARIES

1-Day Trip: Tama Train, Strawberry Picking & Hanayama Onsen

Time	Activity / Description
10:00	Local Tama Train Ride from Wakayama Station to Kishi Station. Meet the world-famous cat stationmaster at Kishi Station.
11:30	Lunch at Hino Shokudo Enjoy Japanese traditional flavors prepared with local ingredients at Shiki no Sato Park.
14:00	Strawberry Picking Pick Wakayama’s original “Marihime” strawberries at Watanabe Farm.
16:00	Hanayama Onsen Relax in one of Japan’s top carbonated therapeutic springs.



MODEL ITINERARIES

2-Day Trip: Kumano Kodo, Nachi Waterfall, Shirahama, and Wakayama City

Day 1 – World Heritage Kumano Region

Time	Activity / Description
AM	Kumano Hayatama Taisha Grand Shrine, Kumano Nachi Taisha Grand Shrine
PM	Nachi Seiganto-ji Temple, Waterfall, and Hashigui-iwa Rock Then travel from Nachi to Shirahama and visit Toretore-Ichiba (Fish Market)→Overnight in Shirahama.

Day 2 – Wakayama Castle and Kimiidera

Time	Activity / Description
AM	Senjojiki Rock Plateau Travel from Shirahama to Wakayama City.
	Kimiidera Temple Special opening of the Tokugawa family’s “Onarigoden.”
PM	Wakayama Castle Guided tour of the historic castle in Wakayama City.



MODEL ITINERARIES



3-Day Trip: Koyasan, Shirahama & Wakayama City

Day 1 – Discover Koyasan Temple Complex

Time	Activity / Description
AM	Tourist Train “Tenku” to Koyasan Enjoy the scenic journey up the mountain.
PM	Guided Tours of Koyasan Visit Kongobu-ji (head temple), Danjo Garan, and other sacred sites.
	Overnight in Koyasan



Day 2 – Explore Shirahama’s Coastal Scenery

Time	Activity / Description
AM	Optional Meditation Session or Sutra Copying (Shakyo) in Koyasan. Then travel from Koyasan to Shirahama.
PM	Beach, Onsen, Fish Market, Zoo (pandas, etc.) Experience Shirahama’s sandy beaches and hot springs.
	Overnight in Shirahama



Day 3 – Wakayama Castle & Kimiidera Temple

Time	Activity / Description
AM	Travel from Shirahama to Wakayama City. Kimiidera Temple – Special opening of the Tokugawa family’s “Onarigoden.”
PM	Wakayama Castle – Enjoy a guided tour of this historical landmark.



CONTACT US Got a question?
Contact Wakayama City's
Tourism Division!



Nate Shiori
 +81-73-435-
1234/073-435-1234
 kanko@city.wakaya
ma.lg.jp



ACCOMODATIONS

Near Wakayama Castle (city central)

These hotels are 10 mins from JR

Wakayama St./Wakayamashi St by bus

<https://www.mysecretwakayama.com/cat/stay>



Dormy Inn Premium Wakayama

3-36 Misonocho,
Wakayama City
+81-35-295-7866
Standard Room
15,400JPY~/ night
Features a natural
hotspring bath. Have
a relaxing experience
and feel at home.



Daiwa Roynet Hotel WAKAYAMA

26-1 Shichibancho,
Wakayama City
+81-73-435-0055
Single Room 6,400JPY
~/ night
Twin Room 9,800JPY
~/ night
etc. Offering
panoramic views of
Wakayama City.



CANDEO HOTELS NANKAI WAKAYAMA

Standard Room
13,500JPY~/ night
39
Higashikomaecho,
Wakayama City/ +81-
36-435-6122
Directly connected
to Wakayama City
Station on the
Nankai Electric
Railway.



HOTEL GRANVIA WAKAYAMA

Single Room 9,400JPY~/n
5-18 Tomodacho,
Wakayama City / +81-
73-425-3333
2-minute walk from JR
Wakayama Station.
Facilities: Japanese
restaurant, buffet style
restaurant, café,
banquet and wedding
facilities.

ACCOMODATIONS

Kimiidera & Wakanoura
(south)

<https://www.mysecretwakayama.com/cat/stay>

Kada (north, near
Tomogashima Islands)



Wakanoura Onsen MANPA RESORT

2-10 Shinwakaura,
Wakayama City / +81-73-
444-1161
Standard Room
15,000JPY~/ night
Breakfast & Dinner
included



WAKAYAMA MARINA CITY HOTEL

1517 Kemi, Wakayama City
+81-73-448-1111
Don't miss the famous
tuna cutting show, held at
the breakfast restaurant
every day!



Kada Kaigetsu

1905 Kada, Wakayama
City
Standard Room
28,600JPY~/ night
+81-73-459-0015
An onsen hot spring
hotel with a panoramic
view of the Kitan Strait.



National Park Resort KYUKAMURA KISHU- KADA

483 Miyama, Wakayama
City
+81-73-459-0321
Standard Room
10,480JPY~/ night
Breakfast & Dinner
included

USEFUL RESOURCES

Accommodations:

- My Secret Wakayama: <https://www.mysecretwakayama.com/cat/stay>

Book a Professional Tour Guide:

- Wakayama Local Guide Association: <https://wakayamalocalguide.com/en/>

Tourism Info from Local Sources

- Wakayama Prefecture Official Tourism Page: <https://visitwakayama.jp/en/index.html>
- Wakayama City Official Tourism Page <https://www.mysecretwakayama.com/cat/stay>
- Activities (Prefecture-wide): <https://visitwakayama.jp/en/stories/activities/index.html>
- Activities in Wakayama City (Japanese): https://www.wakayamakanko.com/wakayama_asobi/

Other Travel Guides and Articles:

- Wakayama Overview: <https://www.japan.travel/en/destinations/kansai/wakayama/>
- Wakayama City Overview: <https://www.japan.travel/en/destinations/kansai/wakayama/wakayama-and-around/>
- Japan Travel - Wakayama Guide: <https://en.japantravel.com/wakayama>
- Top Ten Things to Do: <https://en.japantravel.com/wakayama/top-10/59707>

Transportation

- Wakayama Bus Info: <https://www.wakayamabus.co.jp/english/>
- Nankai Railway Info: https://www.nankai.co.jp/en_railway
- Bike Rentals: <https://www.mysecretwakayama.com/introduce/954/>

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https://www.city.wakayama.wakayama.jp/_res/projects/default_project/_page_/001/056/146/e_brochure.pdf

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https://www.pref.wakayama.lg.jp/prefg/062400/doutai2_d/fil/R5houkokusho.pdf

Wakayama City. (2024). *Wakayama City Cycling Map*. Wakayama City.

city.wakayama.wakayama.jp/_res/projects/default_project/_page_/001/025/049/cyclingmap-english.pdf