

Kagoshima-Kirishima sightseeing course

JR, bus & car



Saigo Takamori Statue-mae

Kagoshima City View

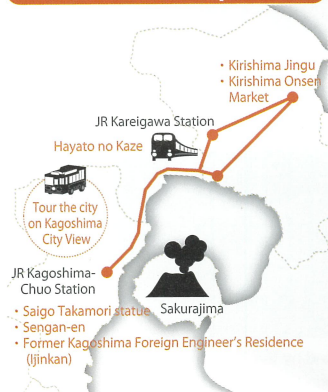
The sightseeing bus follows fixed routes covering the major sights and historic remains of Kagoshima City. Passengers can hop on and off the bus at any of the stops, meaning they can set their own pace for touring the city.



Hayato no Kaze

The sightseeing express train runs between JR Kagoshima-Chuo and Yoshimatsu stations. It comprises two cabins, one for reserved and the other for unreserved seating. The jet-black body expresses classic Kagoshima-style beauty.

Route map



JR Kagoshima-Chuo Station

Bus (City View)
15 min.

Saigo Takamori statue / Goromon gate

Bus (City View)
35 min.

Sengan-en

Walk 5 min.

Former Kagoshima Foreign Engineer's Residence (Ijinkan)

Bus (City View)
30 min.

JR Kagoshima-Chuo Station

Train (local service)
42 min.

JR Kokubu Station

Bus 39 min.

Kirishima Jingu

Bus 15 min.

Kirishima Onsen Market

Bus 28 min.

Kareigawa Station

Hayato no Kaze
64 min.

JR Kagoshima-Chuo Station

- Transportation
- 🏯 Shrine
- ♨️ Hot spring
- 🛒 Shopping
- 📌 Highlight

Ibusuki City

Ibusuki



A tropical hot spring city flecked with rape blossoms

Ibusuki is so warm that rape flowers bloom in mid-December. It is also a hot spring paradise, boasting more than 1,000 different springs. Of all the hot springs in the city, the greatest attraction is the natural sand baths seldom found anywhere else in the world.

Sand Bath Hall Saraku

Sand baths offer the unique experience of lying in sand warmed by the heat of a hot spring and feeling refreshed and warm to the core 10 minutes later. After the sand bath, rinse away sweat and sand in a natural hot spring bath.

- 📍 5-25-18 Yunohama, Ibusuki-shi
- 🕒 Weekdays 8:30-12:00, 13:00-21:00 / Weekends and holidays 8:30-21:00 (reception closes 20:30) / Open year round (except the 2nd Tuesday of July and December for inspection of hot spring facilities)
- 💰 Adults 1,100 yen / Children 600 yen (including yukata gown) 🚗 90 vehicles (free)



JR Nishi-Oyama Station

The southernmost train station operated by Japan Railway serves as a popular tourist destination. Highlights include the yellow postbox and bell believed to deliver happiness, and the view of the stunning Kaimondake, aka the Mt. Fuji of Satsuma.

- 📍 602 Yamagawa Oyama, Ibusuki-shi
- 🚗 10 vehicles (free)

Ordinary postboxes are red, but this is painted the yellow color of rape blossoms.



Chiringashima Island

The uninhabited island in Kinko Bay measures about 3 kilometers in circumference. During the low tide between March and October, an 800-meter-long sandbar emerges. Crossing this "Chiririn road" to the island is said to bring happiness.

- 📍 Nishikata, Ibusuki-shi
- 🚗 400 vehicles (free)

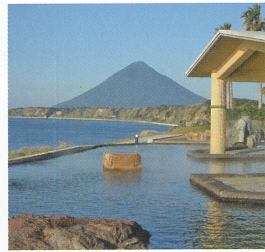
Chirin's Heart is a popular photo spot - if you look at the right angle, a heart shape emerges.



Flower Park Kagoshima

Designed with the theme "symphony of flora, breeze, and brilliance," the botanical park takes advantage of Ibusuki's balmy climate to feature subtropical plants from around the world. The illumination display from early December to early January is elaborate and romantic every year.

- 📍 1611 Yamagawa Okachogamizu, Ibusuki-shi
- 🕒 9:00-17:00 (last entry 16:30) / Closed December 30-31
- 💰 Adults 630 yen / Children 310 yen
- 🚗 525 vehicles / 7 buses (free)



Healthy Land Tamatebako Open Air Hot Spring

Situated on a plateau facing the sea, the spa facility offers the experience of bathing in an open-air hot spring while taking in the view of the stunning Kaimondake against the vast blue waters. Japanese- and Western-style baths alternate between men-only and women-only every day. Also visit Yamakawa Sandbath Sayuri next door, which can be reached via a free shuttle bus.

- 📍 3292 Yamagawa Fukumoto, Ibusuki-shi
- 🕒 9:30-19:30 (reception closes 19:00)
- 📅 Closed Thursdays (of the following day if Thursday falls on a holiday)
- 💰 Adults 510 yen / Children 260 yen 🚗 70 vehicles (free)

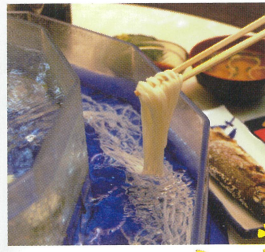


Ryugu Jinja

Situated on Cape Nagasaki and enshrining Princess Toyotama, aka Otohime, Ryugu Jinja is believed to bring luck in love and matchmaking. All of this builds on the legend of Urashima Taro, a fisherman who saves a turtle and is rewarded with a visit to the Ryugu Palace at the bottom of the sea. There he meets Otohime, an attractive incarnation of the turtle.

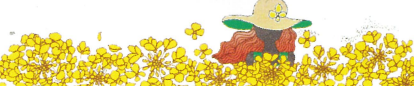
- 📍 1581-34 Yamagawa
- 📍 Okachogamizu, Ibusuki-shi
- 🚗 250 vehicles (free)

Shell Wish Amulets 100 yen
Write your wish on a shell at Ryugu Jinja and offer it to the gods so they can grant it.



Tosenkyo flowing noodles

Tosenkyo Gorge is the birthplace of rotating and flowing noodles, a summer dish enjoyed across Japan. Here, the noodles come flowing in fresh spring water—the area produces 100,000 tons every day. Diners pluck the noodles with their chopsticks, dip them in sauce, and enjoy a hearty meal surrounded by the fragrance of trees.



Ibusuki-Minamikyushu sightseeing course

JR, bus & car

Day 1

JR Kagoshima-Chuo Station

Bus 70 min.

Chiran Samurai Residence Gardens

Bus 44 min.

Bandokorobana Seaside Park

Walk 5 min.

House of Seahorse

Train 60 min. from JR Mizunarikawa Station

JR Ibusuki Station

Lodge in Ibusuki

Day 2

JR Ibusuki Station

Bus 33 min.

Flower Park Kagoshima

Bus 2 min.

Ryugu Jinja

Bus 30 min.

Sand Bath Hall Saraku

- Bus 5 min. to JR Ibusuki Station
- Ibusuki no Tamatebako 53 min. from JR Ibusuki Station to JR Kagoshima-Chuo Station

JR Kagoshima-Chuo Station

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House of Seahorse merchandise

Seahorses are a symbol of happiness! Charms containing a real sea horse make an ideal souvenir.



The Limited Express, Ibusuki no Tamatebako ("Ibutama")

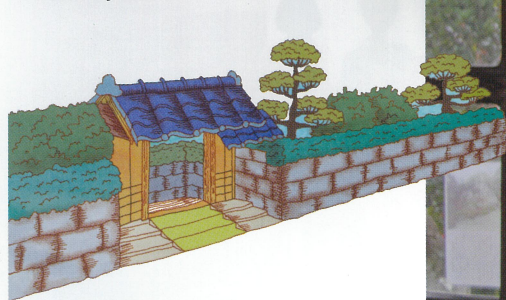
The sightseeing express train runs between JR Kagoshima-Chuo and Ibusuki stations. It is designed so that when the doors open, a mist blows just like the smoke from the jeweled box (tamatebako) in the legend of Urashima Taro. (All seats are reserved)

Route Map



Minamikyushu City

Minamikyushu



An inviting city where visitors can rediscover the Japan of old

One of Japan's largest producers of green tea and its largest producer of sweet potatoes, Minamikyushu boasts a rich food culture. The samurai residences Gardens, dubbed the "Little Kyoto of Kagoshima," offers the experience of traditional Japanese culture.

Chiran Samurai Residence Gardens

Take a journey back in time to the premodern Edo period. The complex of samurai residences is well preserved to reflect the lifestyle and streetscape of 270 years ago. The seven gardens open to the public are designated a national Place of Scenic Beauty.

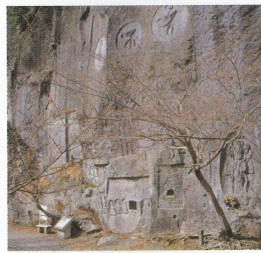
- 📍 Kori, Chiran-cho, Minamikyushu-shi
- 🕒 9:00-17:00 / Open year round
- 💰 Adults 530 yen / Elementary and junior high school students 320 yen
- 🚗 50 vehicles (200 yen/hour) / 20 buses (500 yen/hour)
- *100 yen each additional hour



Bandokorobana Nature Park / Seahorse Museum

The park features a promenade floating atop the sea commanding a view of Kaimondake, cozy benches designed for couples, and a "bell of fortune". The park includes a tourist farm for seahorses, one of the few in the world. Seahorses are considered a symbol of happiness that bring good fortune.

- 📍 5202 Eichō Beppu, Minamikyushu-shi
- 🕒 Seahorse Museum 10:00-16:30 / Closed Tuesdays (except holidays)
- 💰 Admission free 🚗 60 vehicles (free)



Kiyomizu Magaibutsu Complex

The Kiyomizu Magaibutsu complex, with its Buddhist images carved on a massive cliff face, will stun and awe you! An observation deck was completed in March 2020, so don't miss the view from there!

- 📍 3882 Kawabecho Kiyomizu, Minamikyushu-shi
- 🕒 6:00-22:00 / Closed Tuesdays (except holidays)
- 💰 Free entry
- 🚗 500 vehicles (free)



Chiran Peace Museum

The museum displays relics like letters and photographs of kamikaze pilots—youths of the Tokko Special Attack Forces who crashed themselves and their aircrafts into enemy warships in Okinawa in the closing stages of World War II.

- 📍 17881 Kori, Chiran-cho, Minamikyushu-shi
- 🕒 9:00-17:00 (last entry 16:30) / Open year round
- 💰 [Individuals] Adults 500 yen / Children 300 yen [Groups] Adults 400 yen / Children 240 yen
- 🚗 400 vehicles / 30 buses (free)



Kamafuta Jinja

The shrine is known for its unique method of worship where visitors wear the wooden lid of a rice pot atop the head to pray. The prayer is answered when the visitor makes his way from the gate to the shrine without dropping the lid. The shrine attracts even Olympic athletes, as the deity enshrined is believed to bring luck in competition.

- 📍 6827 Beppu, Ei-cho, Minamikyushu-shi
- 🚗 70 vehicles (free)

Hatanosato Midorikan

The hall invites visitors to join a workshop for making their own hand-rolled tea leaves and learning the proper way to brew and serve Japanese green tea. Enjoy a set of green tea and local sweets at the café.

- 📍 15025-8 Makinouchi, Ei-cho, Minamikyushu-shi
- 🕒 9:00-16:00 / Closed Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, December 29-January 2
- 🚗 40 vehicles (free)



Green tea treats

Chiran tea cookies, "Chaido" (tea soda pop), Chiran tea fishcakes, and the healthy Chiran tea set lunch... Enjoy treats made with Minamikyushu's specialty green tea.

