



Tanegashima

General Affairs & Planning Division, Kagoshima Prefecture Kumage Branch Office
The reverse side features Yakushima.
Tanegashima Space Center

Access to Tanegashima

By airplane

From Fukuoka	From Osaka	From Tokyo
Fukuoka Airport	Osaka Airport	Haneda Airport
50 min.	1 hour 10 min.	1 hour 45 min.

→ Kagoshima Airport (40 minutes) → Tanegashima Airport

By Shinkansen Bullet Train and Ferry

From Fukuoka	From Osaka	From Tokyo
Hakata Station	Shin-Osaka Station	Tokyo Station
Shinkansen Bullet Train 1 hour 16 minutes	Shinkansen Bullet Train 3 hours 41 minutes	Shinkansen Bullet Train 4 hours 52 minutes

→ Nishinoomote Port → Tanegashima Airport (16 min. by bus / 13 minutes by car)

From Ibusuki Port

High-speed Ferry 2 hours 20 minutes (Via Yakushima Island) → Nishinoomote Port

From Yakushima Island

Miyaura Port / Anbo Port → High-speed Ferry 50 minutes → Nishinoomote Port

Miyaura Port → 2 hours by ferry → Nishinoomote Port

Miyaura Port → Ferry 1 hour 5 minutes → Shimama Port

*For details, please check the latest information provided by each transportation provider. *Travel times shown for each transport are the quickest available.

Island Transportation

Car rental

Company Name	Location	Phone Number
Hayashi Rent-A-Car	Tanegashima Airport	0997-24-8077
	Minamitane	0997-26-1164
ORIX Rent-A-Car	Nishinoomote	0997-23-4152
TOYOTA Rent a Car	Nishinoomote	0997-23-3211
	Tanegashima Airport	0997-27-7077
Nissan Rent-A-Car	Nishinoomote	0997-24-3923
	Tanegashima Airport	0997-27-5523
Inomoto Rent-A-Car	Nishinoomote	080-8000-3045
EVERY TIME Rent-A-Car	Nishinoomote	0120-627-023
GORILLA Rent-A-Car	Nishinoomote	090-7815-4825
SUN SUN RENTAL CAR	Nishinoomote	080-1730-5000
Nippon Rent-A-Car	Nishinoomote	050-1712-2398
Lotas Itoh	Nishinoomote	080-8913-6093
Tanegashima Sun Rental Car	Minamitane	080-5268-0577
HOPE Rent-A-Car	Minamitane	0997-26-7235

Taxi

Company Name	Location	Phone Number
Hayashi Taxi	Nishinoomote	0997-22-1411
	Nakatane	0997-27-3077
	Minamitane	0997-26-2727
Ichimaru Taxi	Nishinoomote	0997-22-1010
	Nakatane	0997-27-1010
Tanegashima Taxi Co., Ltd.	Minamitane	0997-26-6456

Local Specialties

Tanegashima offers a wide variety of fascinating local specialties, including Anno sweet potatoes, fruits such as passion fruit and mango, seafood such as flying fish and tokobushi abalone, Ingi chicken, and shochu.

Agricultural Products

- Koshihikari (Super Early-harvest Rice)
- Red Rice
- Sugarcane
- Nigatake (Bitter Bamboo Shoot)
- Broad Bean
- Snap Pea
- Gajutsu (Zedary)
- Tankan Orange
- Ponkan Orange

Marine Products

- Bigfin Reef Squid
- Japanese Spiny Lobster
- Kibinago
- Japanese Tiger Prawn
- Flying Fish
- Blunt Slipper Lobster

Crafts

- Tanabashi Scissors
- Tanebocho Knife
- Tanegashima-yaki (Tanegashima Ware)

Processed Food Products

- Brown Sugar
- Ingi Chicken Dishes
- Thistle Tsukudani, Tea

- Tanegashima is located approximately 40 kilometers southeast of Cape Sata, the southernmost point of mainland Kyushu.
- The elongated and relatively flat island is 58 km long, with a circumference of 165 km, a maximum width of 12 km, and a highest point of 282 meters, making a striking topographical contrast with neighboring Yakushima.
- Tanegashima is the island where matchlocks were first introduced to Japan, greatly influencing its history. It is also known as the island with a rocket launch site, dubbed as the most beautiful launch site in the world.
- The island is also known for its surf spots, scattered all around the island, making it known as "a surfing paradise."
- The Anno sweet potato, very popular for its sweet and unique texture, the super early-harvest rice (Koshihikari), tea, sugarcane, leather-leaf fern, and freesia bulbs are some of the crops actively farmed on the island.
- The island also offers abundant seafood, including tokobushi abalone, bigfin reef squid, kibinago (silver-stripe round herring), Asahigani (red frog crab), and flying fish.

[Tanegashima Tourist Information]
Tanegashima Tourism Association
49-1 Nishi-machi, Nishinoomote, Kagoshima
Phone: 0997-23-0111



Website of the Tanegashima Tourism Association (Created in February 2026)

Activities

Tanegashima Space Center Guided Tour

You can explore the launch-related facilities at the Tanegashima Space Center, with explanations provided by certified guides (reservation required).

- **Hour Hours:** 10:30-11:45 (Not available on Saturdays, Sundays, and public holidays from December to February) / 13:00-14:15 / 15:00-16:15 (Not available on weekdays from December to February).
- **Tour Operating Days:** opening days of the Space Science & Technology Museum
- **Inquiries:** Tanegashima Space Center Space Science & Technology Museum Phone: 0997-26-9244

Surf School

The school offers a variety of courses for everyone, from beginners to those looking to improve their skills. Board rentals available.

- **Duration:** 3 Hours
- **Operating Seasons:** Year-round

Diving Experience

Under the guidance of instructors, even beginners can enjoy diving safely and with peace of mind.

- **Duration:** 3 Hours to 1 Day
- **Operating Seasons:** Year-round

Sea Kayaking

Enjoy sea kayaking with experienced instructors. Mangrove Kayaking Tours are available too.

- **Duration:** 2 to 3 Hours
- **Operating Seasons:** Year-round

Brown Sugar Making Workshop

The workshop offers experience of the process from pressing sugarcane to making brown sugar. Sugarcane harvesting experience is also available.

- **Duration:** Approximately 2 Hours
- **Operating Seasons:** December through March

Pottery Workshop

Tanegashima-yaki (Tanegashima ware) is known for its distinctive look and feeling, created by firing the locally sourced iron-rich soil without a glaze. Some of the pieces are uniquely created by making use of handbuilding techniques or a pottery wheel.

- **Duration:** 1.5 to 2 Hours
- **Operating Seasons:** Year-round

*For inquiries about activities other than the Tanegashima Space Center Facility Tour, please contact:
Tanegashima Tourism Association Phone: 0997-23-0111

Guided Town Walk

Volunteer guides will take you to a historical walking tour through the central part of Nishinoomote City, to explore various themes such as historical sites related to the production of matchlock guns and landmarks associated with the Tanegashima clan.

*For inquiries about the guided town walk, please contact:
Tanegashima Development Center: Gun Museum Phone: 0997-23-3215

Bicycle & Motorcycle Rental

Company Name	Location	Phone Number	Type
HOTEL LEXTON TANEGASHIMA	Nishinoomote	0997-22-2000	Electric Bicycles *For guests only
SHIMAYADD HOPE	Minamitane	0997-26-7235	Electric Bicycles
SPACE ART TANEGASHIMA Secretariat	Minamitane	0997-22-9708	Electric Bicycles *Available for rental on weekdays only

Chartered Bus

Company Name	Location	Phone Number	Type
Tanegashima-Yakushima Transportation Co., Ltd.	Nishinoomote	0997-22-0450	Large / Medium
Tanegashima Inomoto Kankou	Nishinoomote	0997-28-3810	Large / Medium / Small
GLOBAL THINK Co., Ltd. (Sun Marine Sightseeing)	Minamitane	0997-26-0078	Large

Travel Time

*Travel time by car

- 6min: Kishigasaki
- 10min: Urada
- 15min: Anno
- 20min: Nishinoomote Port
- 25min: Yokino Beach
- 30min: Sumiyoshi Galumaru Tree Coastal Protection Forest
- 35min: Otatsu & Metatsu Rocks
- 40min: Matate no Iwaya
- 45min: Noma
- 50min: Chikura no Iwaya
- 55min: Kadokura Cape
- 60min: Shimama Port
- 65min: Nishinoomote Port
- 70min: Nishinoomote Port
- 75min: Nishinoomote Port
- 80min: Nishinoomote Port
- 85min: Nishinoomote Port
- 90min: Nishinoomote Port
- 95min: Nishinoomote Port
- 100min: Nishinoomote Port
- 105min: Nishinoomote Port
- 110min: Nishinoomote Port
- 115min: Nishinoomote Port
- 120min: Nishinoomote Port
- 125min: Nishinoomote Port
- 130min: Nishinoomote Port
- 135min: Nishinoomote Port
- 140min: Nishinoomote Port
- 145min: Nishinoomote Port
- 150min: Nishinoomote Port
- 155min: Nishinoomote Port
- 160min: Nishinoomote Port
- 165min: Nishinoomote Port
- 170min: Nishinoomote Port
- 175min: Nishinoomote Port
- 180min: Nishinoomote Port
- 185min: Nishinoomote Port
- 190min: Nishinoomote Port
- 195min: Nishinoomote Port
- 200min: Nishinoomote Port

1 Urada Beach and Campground
One of Japan's top 88 beaches. It is located in a quiet cove with blue water and white sand. This beautiful beach also offers a nice campsite during the season. It is also dubbed as the "Yoga Sanctuary." Yoga Mecca. [45 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport] [20 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

2 Wild Hego Grove
A large evergreen forest called "hego" grows here in dense clusters. The Hego Grove is surrounded by remarkable vegetation and has been designated a Natural Monument by the City of Nishinoomote. Yoga Mecca. [45 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport] [20 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

3 Tanegashima Development Center: Gun Museum
Tanegashima Development Center: Gun Museum Inside its unique building shaped in a Nanban trading ship, known as Gun Museum, items such as matchlock guns brought from Portugal and the first domestically produced Tanegashima gun are exhibited. [45 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport] [20 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

4 Akaogi Castle Cultural Heritage Center: Gessotei (Currently Closed)
Built as the residence of the Habu family, chief retainers of the Tanegashima clan, this house was later home to successive heads of the Tanegashima clan from the mid-Meiji period onward. The residence has been designated a cultural property of Nishinoomote City and is open to the public. [25 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport] [15 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

5 Amamegakura
A popular spot for hang gliding and paragliding, offering a 360-degree view. Yoga Mecca. [40 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport] [15 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

6 Kanehama Coast
One of the most popular surf spots on Tanegashima. The coast is named for its long history of iron sand collection along the coast. [15 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport] [20 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

7 Otatsu and Metatsu Rocks
Unique natural rocks. Otatsu (Male Dragon) is on the right, and Metatsu Rock (Female Dragon) is on the left. The sunset over the East China Sea can be seen between the two rocks. [10 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport] [30 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

8 Matate no Iwaya and Injo Coast
Matate no Iwaya (Rock Cave of Standing Horse) is a natural cave formed by wave erosion. It is said to have been named after the story of the 10th clan lord of the island, Hatatoki, who disappeared in this cave, while his beloved horse waited in front of the cave for his return. [15 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport] [50 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

9 Obuchi and Mubuchi Waterfall
This is actually a two-tiered waterfall, with the upper tier called Otatsu (Male Pool) and the lower tier called Metatsu (Female Pool). Being unusual on the generally flat Tanegashima, this waterfall continues to flow even in the dry season. [20 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport] [40 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

10 The Largest Cycad (Sago Palm) in Japan
Located within the premises of Sakai Shrine, the tree is Japan's largest cycad, standing 7 meters tall with a crown spread of 10 meters, a trunk circumference of 2 meters, and an estimated age of over 600 years. [25 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport] [50 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

11 Kumano Beach and Nature Recreation Village
This beach features white sands, the colors of offshore islands, and a vivid contrast between the blue sea and sky. It also offers camping facilities and a hot spring resort center. [30 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport] [50 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

12 Tanegashima Mangrove Park
Kandelia candellii grows naturally on Tanegashima, and a vast mangrove forest forms around the Oura River. There is a boardwalk so you can stroll through the mangroves or try sea kayaking. [30 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport] [50 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

13 Chikura no Iwaya and Hamada Beach
Chikura no Iwaya (Thousand Seats Cave) is a cave formed by the rough waves of the Pacific Ocean. It is said to have been named for its area wide enough to accommodate as many as 1,000 people. *Recommended around low tide. [45 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport] [1 hour by car from Nishinoomote Port]

14 Ebinoe Viewpoint Park
The park offers the closest view of rocket launches. It is possible to enjoy watching a rocket ascending from the beautiful sea of Tanegashima. [40 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport] [1 hour 5 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

15 Hirota Archaeological Site Museum
The museum exhibits artifacts from the Hirota Site, widely known for its burial remains dating back to the Early Yayoi period. It houses numerous important Cultural Properties of Japan, including shell tags inscribed with the character of mountain "山". It is believed to be the oldest known Japanese character. [40 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport] [1 hour 5 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

16 Tanegashima Space Center
Established in 1969, the Tanegashima Space Center occupies a vast area of 9.7 million square meters and is equipped with related facilities, such as rocket launch pads, the main control center, and assembly buildings. Facing the transparent tropical sea, the center is said to be the most beautiful spaceport in the world. [45 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport] [1 hour 10 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

17 Space Museum
Museum Hours: 9:30-16:30
No admission charge.
Closed: Mondays (The following day if Monday falls on a national holiday. No closures in August and December 28th - January 2nd)
Phone: 0997-26-9244
[45 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport] [1 hour 10 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

18 Kadokura Cape
Landing Site of the Portuguese Site of the Introduction of Matchlocks
[1 hour 10 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]