

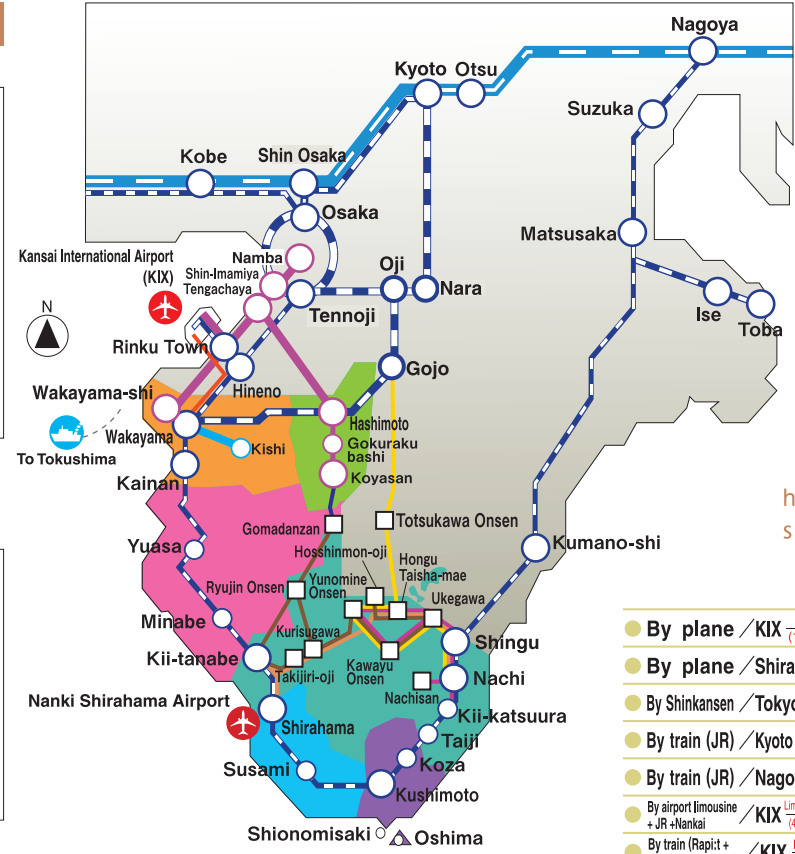


WHERE IS WAKAYAMA?

Wakayama faces the Pacific Ocean and occupies a large slice of the Kii peninsula. The prefecture is part of the Kansai region, which includes Osaka, Nara, and Kyoto. The prefectural capital is Wakayama City and is just one hour from Osaka by train, and 45 minutes from Kansai International Airport (KIX). Inland Wakayama is dominated by the Kii mountains, home to World Heritage ancient pilgrimage routes, sacred shrines, and mountaintop temples. Along the 600-kilometre coastline, there are world-class beaches, hot spring resorts, and fantastic ocean views.

MAIN ACCESS

- JR Shinkansen
- JR Line
- Nankai Line
- Wakayama Electric Railway Kishigawa Line
- Wakayama Bus
- Nankai Rinkai Bus
- Ryujin Bus
- Kumano Bus
- Meiko Bus
- Nara Kotsu



- Wakayama City
- Koyasan
- Yuasa, Arida, Hidaka
- Kumano
- Shirahama, Susami
- Kushimoto, Kozagawa

Explore More Wakayama

Wakayama's tour companies offer a wide range of tours and experiences, from cemetery visits after dark to customized itineraries for trekking the Kumano Kodo pilgrimage routes. Whether you are traveling alone or in a group, the tour companies listed below can cater to your needs.

<https://visitwakayama.jp/en/stories/spiritual>

- By plane / KIX (1hr) Tokyo (Haneda)
- By plane / Shirahama (1hr) Tokyo (Haneda)
- By Shinkansen / Tokyo (2hrs) Nagoya (40min) Kyoto (20min) Shin Osaka
- By train (JR) / Kyoto (20min) Shin Osaka (1hr) Wakayama (1hr 15min) Shirahama (1hr 30min) Shingu
- By train (JR) / Nagoya (3hrs) Shingu (15min) Kii-katsuura
- By airport limousine + JR + Nankai / KIX (40min) JR Wakayama (1hr) Hashimoto (45min) Koyasan
- By train (Rapid + other Nankai train) / KIX (30min) Namba (45min) Hashimoto (45min) Koyasan



The Official Wakayama, Kansai Travel Guide

Visitwakayama.jp





和歌山百景

The Universe of Wakayama

The Spiritual Heart of Japan

Wakayama Prefectural Government



Wakayama Prefectural Government, Japan 1-1 Komatsubara-dori, Wakayama City 640-8585
TEL +81-73-441-2703 E-mail e0003001@pref.wakayama.lg.jp URL <https://visitwakayama.jp>

Expo 2025, Osaka, Kansai, Japan

Theme Designing Future Society for Our Lives Schedule 184 days from April 13 to October 13, 2025 Venue Yumeshima, Osaka
©Expo 2025



Kansai Pavilion Wakayama Exhibition

The Universe of Wakayama – The Spiritual Heart of Japan –

The Kii Mountain Range in Wakayama has been considered a special place where deities have dwelled since mythological times. With a spirit of generosity, it has accepted and facilitated the fusion and coexistence of all, regardless of religion, social status, or difference in perspectives.

The spirituality, which respects diverse values, can serve as a model for achieving a "sustainable world" where mutual respect prevails, and Wakayama Exhibition aims to express this model.

Experience Wakayama, the birthplace of Japan's spirituality, within the refined and artistic ambiance.



Provided by : Japan Association for the 2025 World Exposition

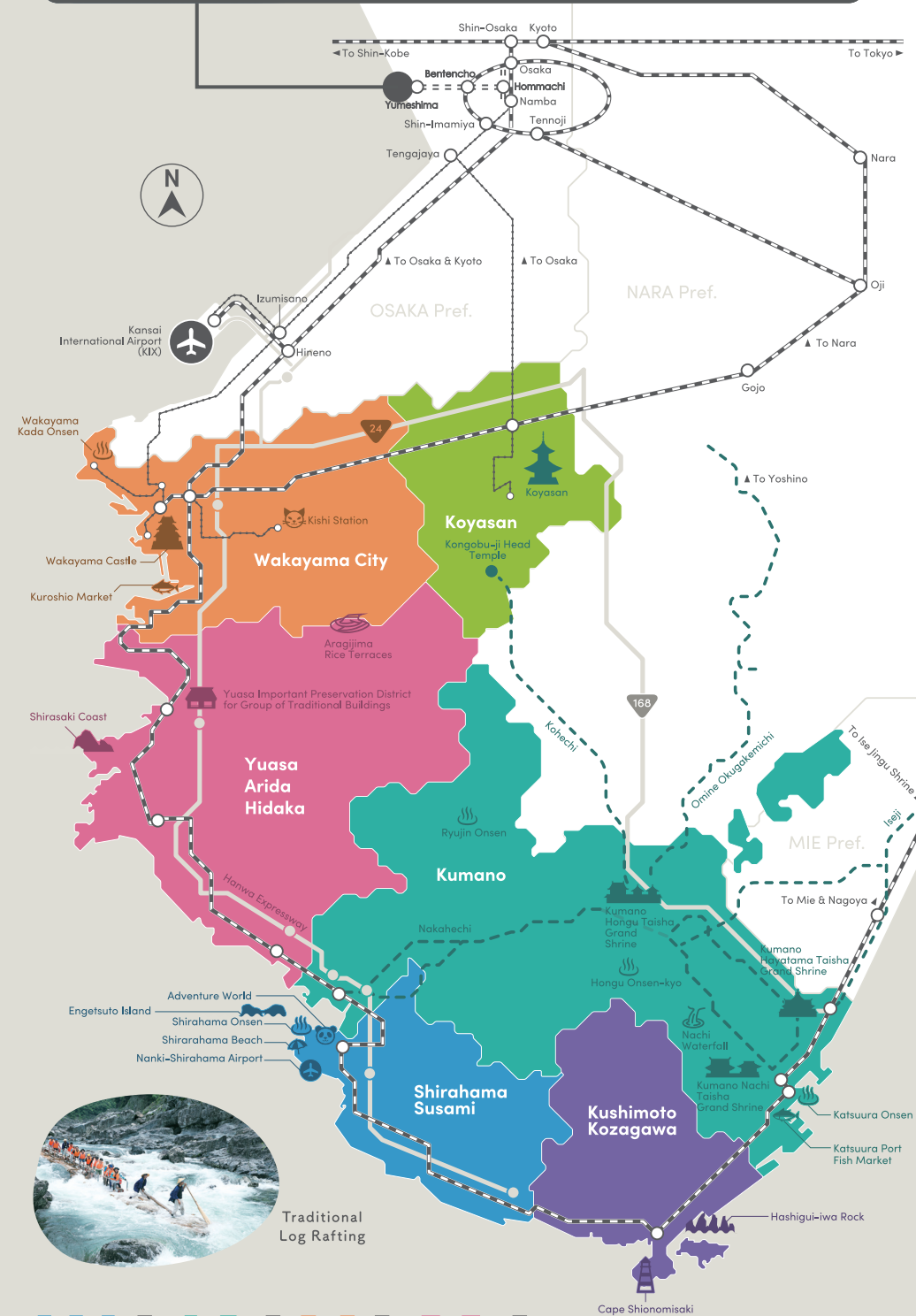


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Traditional Log Rafting



Fruit Picking

WAKAYAMA AREA MAP

The Kumano Kodo and the Way of St. James (Camino de Santiago) in Spain are both UNESCO World Heritage pilgrimage routes. Those who walk both are rewarded with Dual Pilgrim status.

<https://dual-pilgrim.spiritual-pilgrimages.com/>



Wakayama City

The impressive white castle with its distinctive gabled roof sits on top of a hill overlooking Wakayama City. Explore inside the castle and stroll the scenic grounds.

Koyasan

MICHELIN★★★

High-up in the Kii mountains where the air is crisp and the atmosphere sublime, there lays Koyasan. In this ethereal landscape, more than 12 centuries ago, an esoteric Buddhist sect known as Shingon was born. To this day, visitors journey to wonder at the 117 temples on this sacred mountain, which is designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Yuasa/Arida/Hidaka

Captivating palates the world over, soy sauce was first produced in Japan in this rural area of Wakayama. It is also the home of the most famous Japanese salt-pickled ume (Japanese Apricot) relish, umeboshi.

Kumano

MICHELIN★★★

For millennia the mountainous region of Kumano has been thought to be the mythical "holy ground where gods dwell." During the Heian period (794 - 1185), the Imperial household and court made the 30 to 40 day arduous journey from the ancient capital of Kyoto to this remote area, in search of heaven on earth. It is here that Kumano Sanzan, the three grand shrines and Nachisan Seiganto-ji Temple, were established.

Shirahama/Kushimoto

Unspoiled natural landscapes abound in Shirahama and Kushimoto. These areas boast some of the best beaches in all of Kansai (south-central Japan), and are home to historic onsen areas, as well as offering coral reefs said to be a diver's paradise.