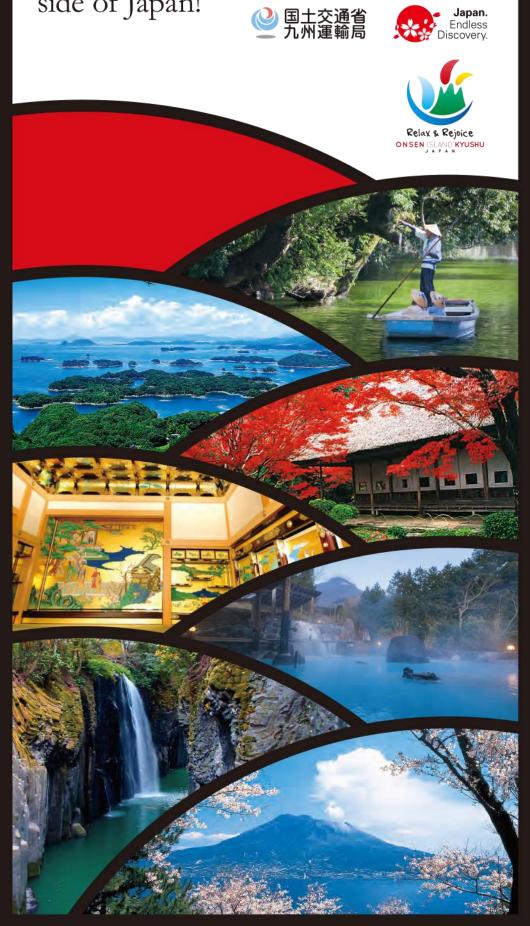
KYUSHU

Be inspired to explore the wondrous side of Japan!



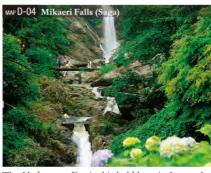
Nature & Scenery

Kyushu is blessed with an abundance and variety of natural features to attract visitors through every season. For example, magnificent snow-capped mountains, natural hot springs surrounded by fresh green forests and beautiful beaches where we can enjoy marine sports in summer.





Hiraodai is one of the most well-known karst plateaus in Japan, and offers fascinating views of limestone and underground caverns.



The Hydrangea Festival is held here in June, when the beauty of the falls is enhanced by 40,000 hydran-



The mountains are beautifully adorned with pink Miyama-Kirishima flowers during the early summer, natural features, has many well-designed walking and vivid reds and yellow trees in the autumn.



Kikuchi Valley, surrounded by beautiful seasonal trails suitable for all ages.



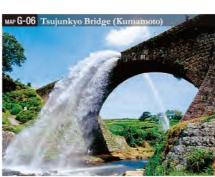
ulture & History

The origins of many Japanese mythological stories can be traced to Kyushu. Yet, despite treasuring its numerous home grown traditions, Kyushu has always tried to take on new things as a gateway to international cultures. By embracing this diversity, it has managed to forge its own unique culture and history.





This museum was established as Japan's 4th national museum, and its Cultural Exchange Exhibition Room mainly displays the history of the exchanges between Japan and other Asian countries.



This is Japan's largest stone-arch aqueduct bridge, where visitors can witness a dynamic discharge of water with tranquil countryside as a backdrop. (No discharge in winter).

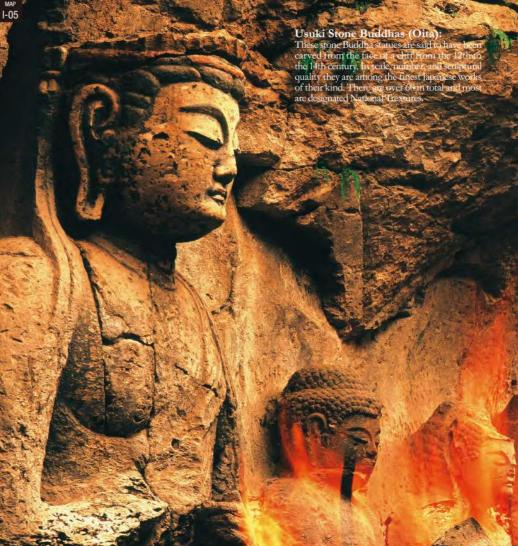


Hashima Island, also known as Gunkanjima This beautiful town of traditional streets is known as (Battleship Island), once prospered from coal-mining and gained worldwide attention as a model for a Period still remain here. setting in the 007 movie Skyfall.



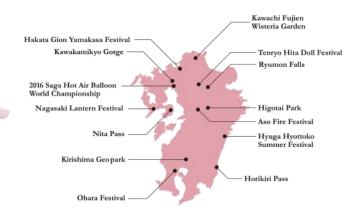
"Satsuma's Kyoto." Samurai residences from the Edo





Seasonal Events

Kyushu is really a place for festival lovers, with a plethora of events to pique the interest, including traditional festivals and lively events for the passionate Kyushu people. There are also dozens of places to enjoy seasonal flowers, such as cherry blossoms and cosmos.





The Kirishima Mountain Range has over 20 volcanoes, including the highest peak on Mt. Karakuni, and a number of crater lakes, including Onami-no-ike Pond. It was designated as a Japan Geo Park in 2010



Carp streamers are strategically placed on the downstream side of the Kanjin Bridge, Kase River, and swim effortlessly in the sky. This traditional symbol of the growth of children is set up annually between late March and early May.



These double-layered falls are 40 meters wide with a drop of 20 meters. In summer, some people enjoy playing on the natural water slide on the gently sloping rocks.



Horikiri Pass, an excellent vantage point for surveying the beautiful coastline, is further enhanced by the sight of poinsettias, which bloom from mid October to mid November.



There are two tunnels of 80m and 220m with 22 types of wisteria. The beautiful blossoms attract attention from around the world. The flowers bloom from early April till early May.



Nita Pass, the tourist mecca of Unzen, is covered with 10,000 glorious pink Miyama-Kirishima, or Rhododendron kiusianum, in mid May.



This park has a collection of flowers and rare species of wild plants native to Aso, such as Higotai, or Echinops setifer, which bloom in summer. Fields of cosmos, with their riot of color, are another special feature of autumn.

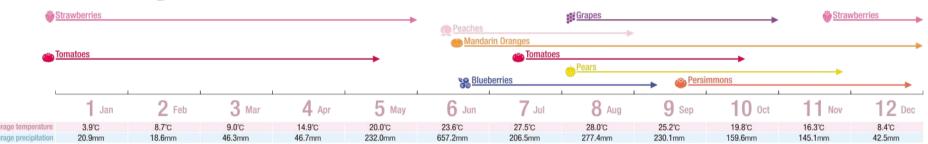


This world championship is organized by The World Air Sports Federation (FAI) in order for hot air balloon pilots from member countries to compete with each other. This is the third time for Saga to host this championship, following the events in 1989 and 1997.

Venue: Kase River bank, Saga City

Dates: Friday, October 28 to Sunday, November 6, 2016





*The data indicates monthly average temperature and average precipitation in each prefecture in Kyushu(based on the data for January - December 2011, provided by the Japan Meteorological Agency)





Nagasaki Lantern Festival (Nagasaki): In this festival, held from late

In this festival, held from late January to early February, the town is decorated with approximately 15,000 lanterns and large illuminated objects.



Aso Fire Festival (Kumamoto):

(Kumamoto): This fire festival, including a series of fire-themed events, is held from mid February to May to pray for good harvests.



Tenryo Hita Doll Festival (Oita):

Traditional hina dolls are displayed at various spots around the city, including former noted residences and museums, from mid February to March.



Hakata Gion Yamakasa Festi-

val (Fukuoka):
Two of the special features of this festival are the lavishly decorated floats and the spectacular "Oiyama" race on the final day. Held from the 1st to the 15th of July.



Hyuga Hyottoko Summer

Festival (Miyazaki):
Dancers wearing comical masks
parade around in a lively festive
atmosphere during this joyful
event. Held on the first Saturday
in Avenue.



Ohara Festival(Kagoshima):

Over 20,000 dancers take part in this festival. It is held on the second and the third of November every year.

Cuisine

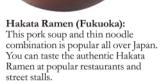
As Kyushu is blessed with an abundance of natural produce from both the ocean and mountains, it can offer distinctive local tastes with fresh ingredients. It also has a variety of unique dishes, influenced and developed through contact with other countries.





Boiled Tofu at Ureshino Hot Spring (Saga):

This tofu boiled in hot spring water is this resort's specialty. A combination of nutritious tofu and spring water is good for your health. This water is good to drink and great for digestion.





Amaou Strawberries (Fukuoka):

The Amaou Strawberries is a variety produced in Fukuoka. Large and red on the outside and perfectly sweet and tart inside. Amaou îs popular in both Japanese and Asian markets.



Sasebo Burger (Nagasaki): A hamburger based on a U.S. Navy recipe adjusted to suit the apanese palate.

Yobuko Squid (Saga): Yobuko is well known for its fresh squid, but there are actually different species according to the season. Ikizukuri, the preparation of sashimi made from live squid, is a great way to eat and enjoy fresh squid. Squid is also extremely tasty when cooked, such as in tempura



This is the ultimate Nagasaki cuisine with origins dating back over 400 years, from China. It was further developed to become a Nagasaki original with additions of Portuguese, Dutch and Japanese styles. In this dining experience, you receive an array of dishes laid out on a round red table, including soup, sashimi, Nagasaki-style tempura, braised pork and other seasonal specialties

Yobuko Squid

Boiled Tofu at



Satsuma Black Pork and Black Beef

Shirokuma (Kagoshima): Shirokuma, meaning Polar Bear, is Kagoshima's original shaved ice dessert with fruits like banana and cherry piled on top and covered with condensed

Seki-Horse mackerel, Seki-Mackerel (Oita): Mackerel caught in the rough waters of

Saganoseki are well-known all over Japan. They are caught using a traditional fishing method (caught individually by fishing rod) and taken to market under strict conditions to maintain their freshness and superior taste.





seafood cooked using hot spring steam acquire a profound taste due to the flavors and nutrition provided by the properties found in hot spring water.

Miyazaki Beef (Miyazaki):

Miyazaki Prefecture is one of the top black beef producers in Japan. The brand name "Miyazaki Beef" is given only to selected meat that meets strict criteria, including tenderness, taste, and color. Its rich and profound taste has garnered it a high reputation both in Japan and



Dago Soup (Kumamoto):

Kumamoto is one of the areas that can boast an original Dago Soup, which is traditional local cuisine of the Kyushu Region. This soup typically contains thinly sliced pork and root vegetables, such as burdock, carrots and taro, as well as flat dumplings made from kneaded flour. The soup is seasoned with miso and has been long cherished by the locals for its simple yet subtle taste.



Chicken Nanban (Miyazaki):

Chicken nanban is a popular dish nationwide, but has its origins in Miyazaki. It is made with crunchy and crispy deep-fried young Miyazaki chicken, dipped in an exquisite sweet and sour sauce, and dressed with tartar sauce.





Satsuma Black Pork and Black Beef (Kagoshima):

Kagoshima is well known for its livestock farming, and has the largest number of pigs and cows in Japan. Black pork is especially popular for its tender texture and deep flavor. Black beef also satisfies the tastes of many connoisseurs due to the quality of the meat and well-balanced marbling.

Hot Springs

Kyushu has the largest number of hot springs and produces the most spring water in Japan. Visitors can relax their mind and body in the hot springs and by walking around the hot spring towns in a yukata or kimono.



In terms of numbers of hot springs and output of thermal water, Beppu proudly ranks first in Japan. A wide range of different spring-water types and natural settings make for highly individualized bathing experiences.



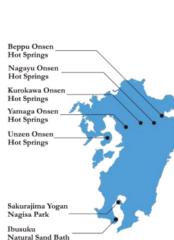
Yamaga Onsen has a Kimono salon where visitors can rent a kimono. Wearing a kimono and strolling through the old streets of Yamaga Town will create a wonderful holiday memory.



One of the most unique hot spa experiences in the world, visitors lie on the beach wearing a simple, light cotton kimono and are then buried under hot spring warmed sand.



At 100m long, this park is home to one of the longest foot spas in Japan. The hot spring water source is 1,000m underground. Here you can relax and enjoy the gorgeous view of Kinko Bay and Sakurajima.

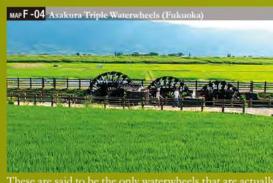


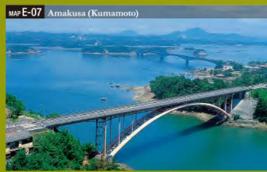




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More Nature & Scenery



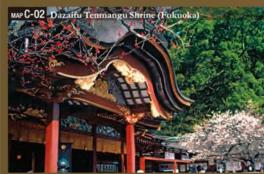




The huge caldera is 24km across from south to Naka remains active and currently gives off of this active giant crater makes you realize the magnificence of Aso. Visitors cannot get close to the crater during periods of eruption.

More About Kyushu

More about Culture & History





Culture column



Churches Aiming for World Heritage Registration During the 15th and 16th centuries, Kyushu was Japan's gateway to the world and Christianity was introduced. For 250 years the religion was suppressed during shogunate control. The religion was concealed and then miraculously recovered through missionary work unseen before in the world. 13 locations are registered on the UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List. These include the Oura Church in Nagasaki, Hara Castle Ruins which is the site of the uprising by Christians, and Sakitsu Village in





remain in this area. A waterway runs down the center of these streets to provide water for domestic use. Visitors are able to enter these residences and see how samurai used to





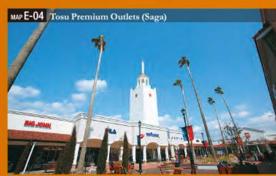




Attraction



Shopping











Nature column



north and 18km across east to west. The steaming crater is 4km in circumference. Inside the caldera, there are five craters: Mt. Neko, Mt. Taka, Mt. Naka, Mt. Eboshi and Mt. Kishima. Mt. white smoke. Mt. Naka, is 600m in diameter, 130m deep and 4km in circumference. The sight

Kyushu Rail Pass Plan

JR Hakata Sta

Kumamoto

Japanese style garden.



Kumamoto Castle is one of the top

three castles in Japan, and is situated





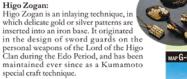












Aso

The size of the grass field here is the widest in Japan with 22,000ha. The area is a member of Gloval Geoparks Network. Visitors to this beautiful area can enjoy horse riding etc.

Kagoshima

The symbol of Kagoshima is the erupting Mt. Sakurajima. There are approximately 270 springs in the city supplying numerous hot springs visitors can enjoy.

Satsuma Kiriko:

This glassware was first developed during the 19th century, and features delicate cutting and

Ibusuki

Ibusuki is famous for hot spring water-infused beach sand. Mt. Kaimon is a similar shape to Mt. Fuji and is known as Satsumafuji to locals. Satsuma is the old name for the area. The largest lake in Kyushu is Ikeda Lake and the surrounding area is home to delightful flowers each

Kirishima

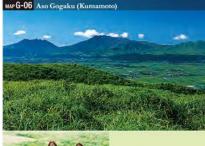
Kirishima Shrine has a rich history since it was built in the 6th century. Visitors take the cedar lined path to reach the splendid vermillionlacquered building which has been designated an Important Cultural Property of Japan. There are hot springs in the area around Kirishima

Ebino

of natural beauty. In spring, the area is known for beautiful pink Kyushu Azaleas and in autumn, we can see the vivid, enchanting orange and red colored leaves. Ebino plateau, which is attractive all year round, also has popular hiking courses.

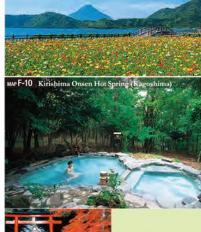








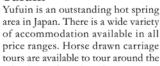














Kaido Road in Yufuin

SUNQ Pass Plan







JR Hakata Sta

Yutoku Inari Shrine is the shrine of the guardian of food, shelter and clothing, where many people come to pray. The main hall and Kagura Hall are decorated in vibrant colors.

Ureshino

The hot springs of Ureshino are wellknown to make the skin feel and look beautiful. What's more Tofu made in the water from local springs with its smooth taste, makes the local Tofu Hot Pot a famous dish. And Ureshino Tea has an established reputation for delicious taste and fragrance.

Sasebo

The Kujukushima Islands are the center of the Sasebo's tourist spots. More than 200 islands are dotted along the coastline in the beautiful sea. The area can be enjoyed from a pirate ship style sightseeing cruiser, sea kayak or yacht.

Nagasaki

During the Edo Period, Nagasaki was the busiest trading port in Japan. The influence from the Netherlands and China created a unique culture in the city. During winter, the city holds the Nagasaki Lantern Festival. It was started to celebrate the Chinese New Year and has grown to become a winter attraction in its own right.

Amakusa

Along the Amakusa coastline some 200 wild dolphins live in the sea. Dolphin watching can be enjoyed year

*See "Amakusa" shown at the upper part of the "more about Nature & Scenery" for more details.

Minamiaso

Every minute, 60 tons of spring water gushes out of the Shirakawa Suigen Spring located in Minamiaso, in the south area of Mt. Aso. There are cafes and shops near Shirakawa Suigen Spring, which use the spring water in their teas and coffees.



Yufuin

area in Japan. There is a wide variety of accommodation available in all price ranges. Horse drawn carriage tours are available to tour around the calm the rural area in style.

Fukuoka Airport

Rent-a-Car Plan

Fukuoka Airport





Mojiko

The Mojiko Retro area has many western style buildings built from the end of the 19th century to the beginning of the 20th century. Art galleries, businesses, and restaurants fill the build-



Usuki

The Usuki Stone Buddhas are a collection of stone sculptures in the local rocky mountains. The statues were selected as National Treasures of Japan. With more than 60 statues, the collection is one of Japan's best, in terms of the number and the quality of the sculptures.

A famous delicacy in Mojiko, which is

made by putting curry and cheese of the rice and baking it in the oven.



Saiki has abundant fresh food from the nearby sea and mountains. Local dishes including Saiki Sushi and Bungo-don can be found in the many restaurants of this gourmet town.

Bungo Futamigaura:

It is known as the married couple rock as two big rocks are tied together with a shimenawa rope.

Takachiho

It is said that Takachiho is the stage of Japanese mythology. Even now, an all night long dance dedicated to god is performed every winter. And every night of the year"Dance Number Shrine.



110km

for the Aoshima Shrine of love, and marine sports. Miyazaki has many great surfing beaches.

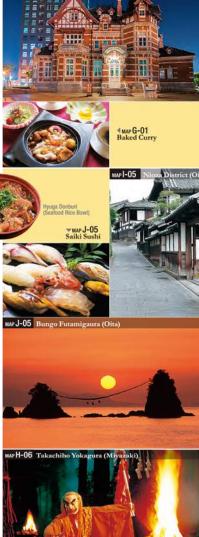
Nanjakora Dajfuku (Miyazaki):

Daifuku is a Japanese sweet that consists of a small round mochi (sticky rice cake), usually stuffed with sweet adzuki bean paste. Th Daifuku contains a chestnut, stray cheese covered with bean p

Rent-a-Car Fukuoka Airport

Miyazaki Airport

Kagoshima Airport









































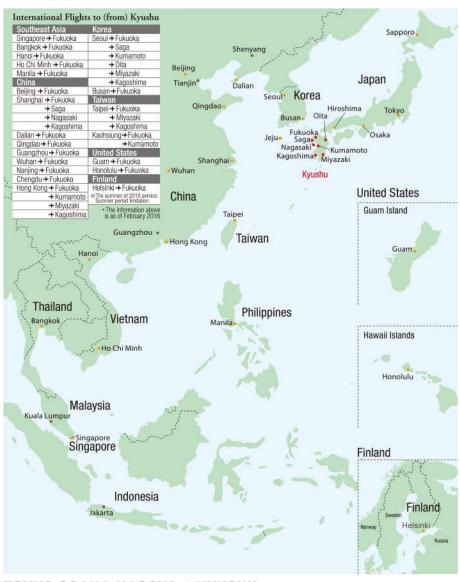


The Ebino plateau is a treasure chest

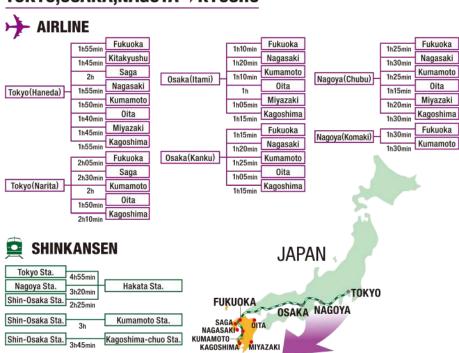
Fukuoka Airport

Kagoshima Airport

Access



TOKYO,OSAKA,NAGOYA → KYUSHU



KYUSHU