

PG-506

# KOBE, HIMEJI and TAKARAZUKA



JNTO Website : <http://www.jnto.go.jp>

Tourist Information Center (TIC)

10th Fl., Tokyo Kotsu Kaikan Bldg., 2-10-1,

Yurakucho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-0006

Tel. (03)3201-3331



"YOKOSO" means "welcome"

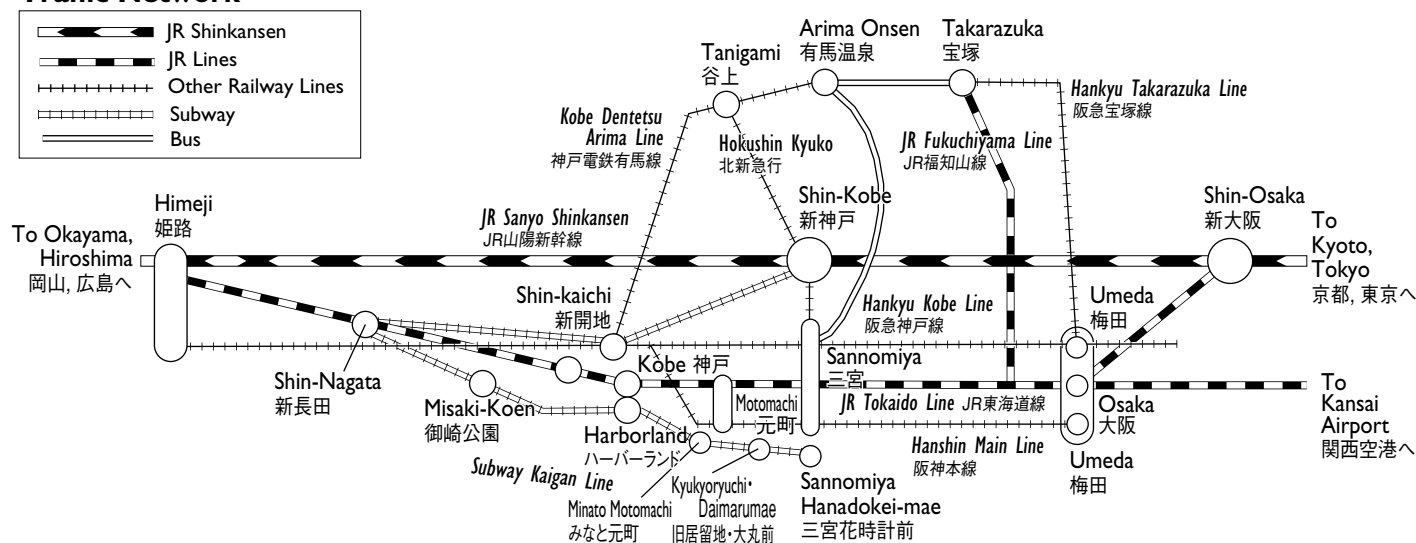
**Kobe** (神戸), the capital of Hyogo Prefecture, is the foremost international port city in Western Japan. Mt. Rokko, near the city center and Arima Onsen (hot spring) set in the suburbs offer a variety of attractions to visitors.

**Himeji** (姫路), noted for its imposing 400-year-old Himeiji

Castle, is a leading industrial and commercial city in the heart of the Harima Plain.

**Takarazuka** (宝塚), known as the "City of Music," is the seat of the Takarazuka Revue, an all-female musical theater group. Hot springs and many historical spots are found in and around the city.

### Traffic Network



### Access:

To	From	Transportation	Time Required	One-way Fare (¥)
Shin-Kobe	Tokyo	JR Shinkansen "Hikari"	3 hrs. 10-20 min.	14,270
Shin-Kobe	Tokyo	JR Shinkansen "Nozomi"	2 hrs. 50 min.	14,870
Himeji	Tokyo	JR Shinkansen "Hikari"	3 hrs. 35-45 min.	15,410
Himeji	Tokyo	JR Shinkansen "Nozomi"	3 hrs. 10 min.	15,910
Sannomiya (Kobe)	Osaka Umeda (Osaka)	JR Tokaido Line (Rapid)	20-25 min.	390
		Hankyu Kobe Line (Limited express)	27 min.	310
		Hanshin Main Line (Limited express)	30 min.	310
Takarazuka	Osaka Umeda (Osaka)	JR Fukuchiyama Line (Rapid)	30 min.	320
		Hankyu Takarazuka Line (Express)	32 min.	270
Himeji	Sannomiya (Kobe)	JR Tokaido Line (Rapid)	40 min.	950
Tanigami	Shin-Kobe	Hokushin Kyuko Dentetsu Railway	8 min.	350
		Hankyu Bus	40 min.	680
		Shintetsu Arima Line	55 min.	650
		Hankyu Bus	40 min.	550
Arima Onsen	Osaka	Hankyu Bus (Arima Kyuko Express)	1 hr.	1,330
Shin-Osaka	Kansai Airport	JR Limited express "Haruka"	50 min.	3,180
Osaka	Shin-Osaka	JR Tokaido Line	4 min.	160
Sannomiya	Kansai Airport	Limousine Bus	65-75 min.	1,800

• Between Shin-Kobe and Sannomiya (downtown Kobe), subways are operated. Time required: 2 min. Fare: ¥200.  
• The One-way fare may change by season.

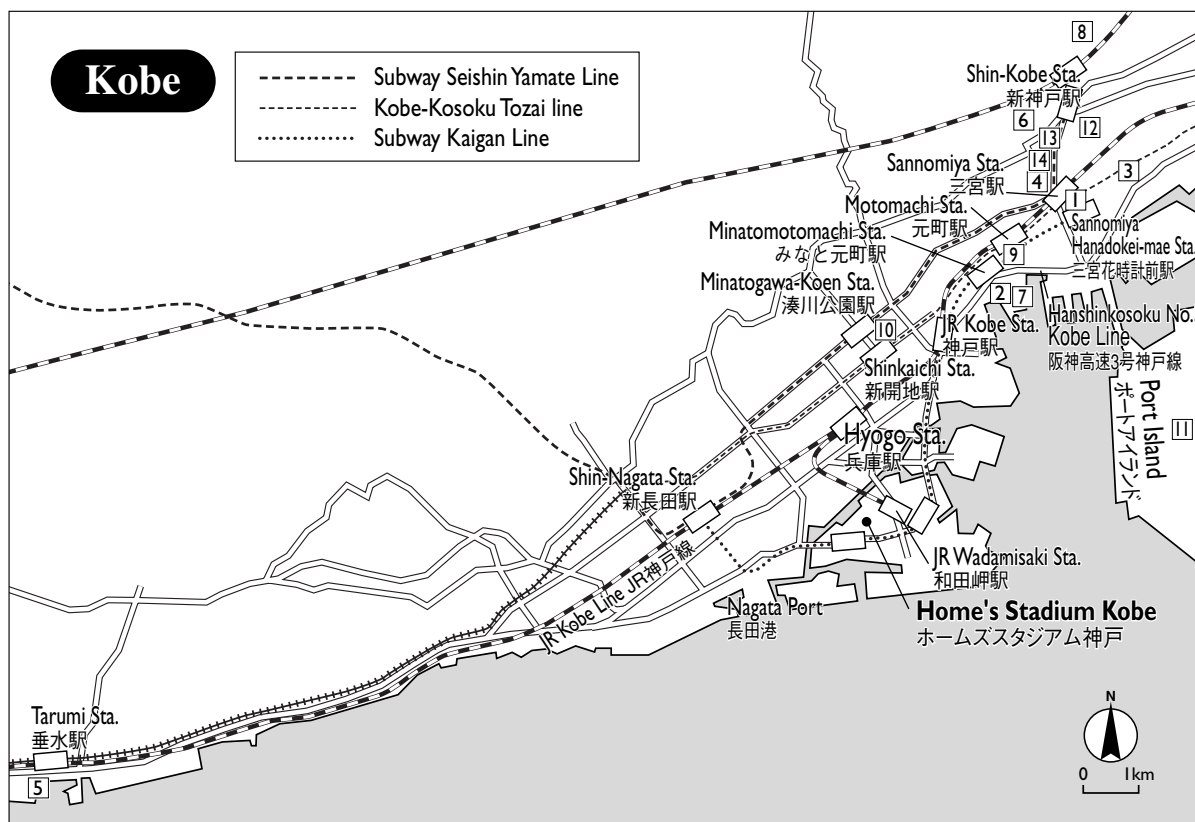
### The City Loop Bus (シティー・ループバス)

One-way ticket: ¥250. One-day ticket: ¥650.

The City Loop Bus circulates around many of Kobe's sightseeing areas, such as the Foreigner houses, Harborland, Motomachi and

the main stations of Kobe, Sannomiya, and Shin-Kobe. You can get on or get off as many times as you like if you buy the one-day ticket. You can also buy it on the bus. Service is offered every 18 - 20min., 1 round: 70min.

KOBE



Numbers 1-14 correspond to those in the Accommodations list on page 5/6.  
\* Only nearest station is shown.

Places of Interest:

Kobe City is known for its legendary **Kobe beef** (神戸牛) dishes and its clothing and fashion industries, especially for the pearl trading center. Both are worth trying and browsing around in. **Tasaki Shinju** (田崎真珠), one of the largest pearl companies in the world, operates a gallery on Port Island. (9:00-18:00 Tel: 078-303-7667, Open daily.)

**Downtown Kobe:** The 3 principal JR stations in Kobe are Shin-Kobe, Sannomiya and Kobe. The most convenient for tourists is **Sannomiya** (三宮), as it is in the center of the city and offers a variety of shopping opportunities. **Motomachi** (元町), next to Sannomiya on either JR or Hanshin Lines, is another choice for shoppers. **Port of Kobe** (神戸港) is one of the most distinguished trading ports in Japan. The 108m high Port Tower provides a panoramic view of the city and harbor.

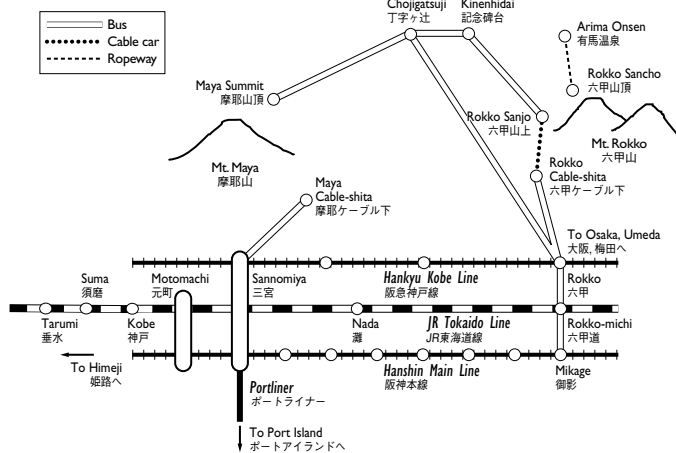
**Kitano** (北野), a 15-min. walk north from Sannomiya Sta., was once the heart of Kobe's foreign settlement during the Meiji and Taisho Periods. Old Western-style houses are well preserved and some of them are open to the public.

**Harbor Land** (ハーバーランド): A coastal commercial facilities complex located 3 min. on foot from JR Kobe, Harborland Sta. (Subway Kaigan Line) or Kosoku-Kobe Sta. (Kobe-Kosoku Line). Many shops and restaurants including department stores are all at hand here. At Mosaic, a shopping and amusement complex located along the seaside, there is a big ferris wheel from where you have a wonderful panoramic view of Kobe Port and the ocean, especially beautiful at night.

**Suma Beach** (須磨) Suma Seaside Park, 20 min. by JR Sanyo Main Line from Sannomiya Sta., is a beautiful white sand beach fringed with pine trees. **Suma Aqualife Park** (須磨海浜水族園) is one of the biggest aquariums in Japan. Open: 9:00-17:00, -20:00 (G.W. and Summer Holiday. enter 1 hr. before each closing time.). Closed: Wed. (vary on month) and New Year's holidays. Admission: ¥1,300.

**Maiko Coast** (舞子): The Akashi Kaikyo Bridge is the world's longest (3911.1 m.) suspension bridge connecting the Maiko district of Kobe and Awaji Island. Splendid views of this bridge can

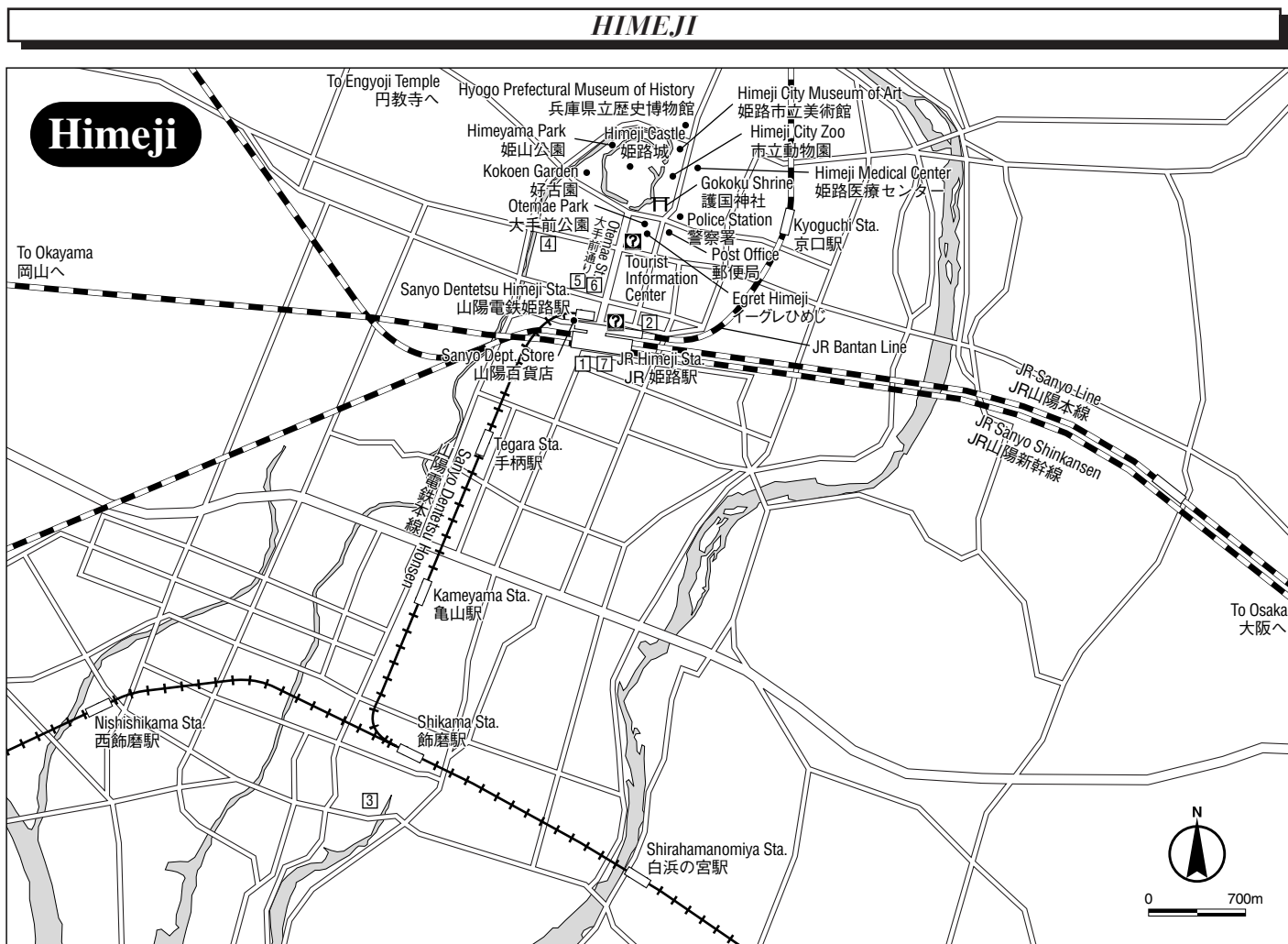
Traffic Network of Rokko Area



be enjoyed from the Marine Pia Kobe which houses the Fish School (a fisheries-related educational facility) and fashionable outlet shops in the large outlet shopping center Porto Bazaar.

**Mt. Rokko** (六甲山), spreading behind the city, provides year-round leisure and sporting opportunities. The mountains are accessible by buses, cable cars and ropeways, and there are numerous hiking trails, too. The night view of the city and the Port of Kobe from here has been dubbed the "Ten-million-dollar night view."

**Arima Onsen** (有馬温泉) is a historical, tranquil hot-spring resort on the other side of Mt. Rokko. Its common iron and salt springs are good for the treatment of diseases of the digestive organs, women's problems, neuralgia and rheumatism. Its natural radium and carbonate spring waters are efficacious against dyspepsia and skin diseases.



Numbers 1-7 correspond to those in the Accommodations list on page 5/6.  
\* Only nearest station is shown.

**Places of Interest:**

**Himeji Castle (姫路城)**, 5 min. by bus or a 15-min. walk from Himeji Sta., is a splendid and one of the few original castles remaining in Japan. It was built as a fort in the 14th century, and then rebuilt into the present style at the beginning of the 17th century. It was designated as World Heritage (Cultural heritage). An 8-year restoration project on the entire castle was completed in 1964. The five-storied main donjon together with the three smaller donjons forms a magnificent shape and is highly appreciated from both the esthetic and architectural viewpoints. Another name given to this castle is "Hakurojo" or White Heron Castle, for its resemblance, at a distance, of a white silhouette of a heron poised gracefully in the heart of the plain. It takes one and a half hours to see the castle's major structures. In Himeji Castle, the venue of some famous Japanese films such as "Shogun" and "Kagemusha," you can become familiar with the Samurai culture. English-speaking volunteer guides are at the castle's entrance most of the time to help you. Open: 9:00-17:00 (-18:00 from May to Aug.). (Enter by 1 hr. before closing time). Closed: Dec. 29-31. Admission: ¥600.

**Koko Garden (好古園)**, a 5-min. walk from the castle, is composed of 9 various sized traditional Japanese gardens on the former site where a mansion of the Himeji lord and his men's samurai houses existed. Open: 9:00-17:00 (-18:00 from May to Aug.) Closed: Dec. 29-31. Admission: ¥300.

**Himeji City Museum of Art (姫路市立美術館)**, a 5-min. walk from the castle, is a brick structure, which used to be the City Hall. Open: 10:00-17:00 (Enter by 30 min. before closing time). Closed: Mon., the day after a national holiday, and the New

Year's holiday. Admission: ¥200.

**Hyogo Prefectural Museum of History (兵庫県立歴史博物館)**, a 1-min. walk from the Art Museum, displays objects and materials concerning the history of Hyogo Pref. and Himeji Castle. Open: 10:00-17:00. Closed: Mon., the day after a national holiday and the New Year's holiday. Admission: ¥200.

**Nagoyama Cemetery (名古山霊苑)**, 10 min. by bus from Himeji Sta., then a 15-min. walk from Nagoyama-Kitaguchi Bus Stop., is a hill on which a 38-m-high stupa, or tower, stands. Magnificent interior. Open: 8:40-16:30. Closed: Dec. 29-31. Admission: ¥200.

**Engyoji Temple on Mt. Shoshazan (書寫山園教寺)**, 25 min. by bus from Himeji Sta. and 4 min. by ropeway (¥500 one way, ¥900 return), is a Tendai Sect temple with a history of more than 1,000 years. It consists of three magnificent buildings and several Buddhist statues, some of which are designated as Important Cultural Properties. The excursion will make your extra half-day in Himeji worthwhile. A part of "The Last Samurai" was shot here.

**Egret Himeji (イーグレひめじ)**, a 10-min. walk from JR Himeji Sta., is a community and commerce zone featuring Himeji International Exchange Center, Gender Equality Promotion Center, restaurants and shops. Tel: 079-289-3443.

**Himeji City Tourist Information Center (Otemae) (姫路観光ナビポート)**, a 10-min. walk from JR Himeji Sta. located at the south of Otemae Park. Tourist information (English) and rental bicycle registration are available. Open: 9:00-17:00 (-16:00 for rental bicycle registration) Closed: Dec. 29-Dec.31.

## TAKARAZUKA

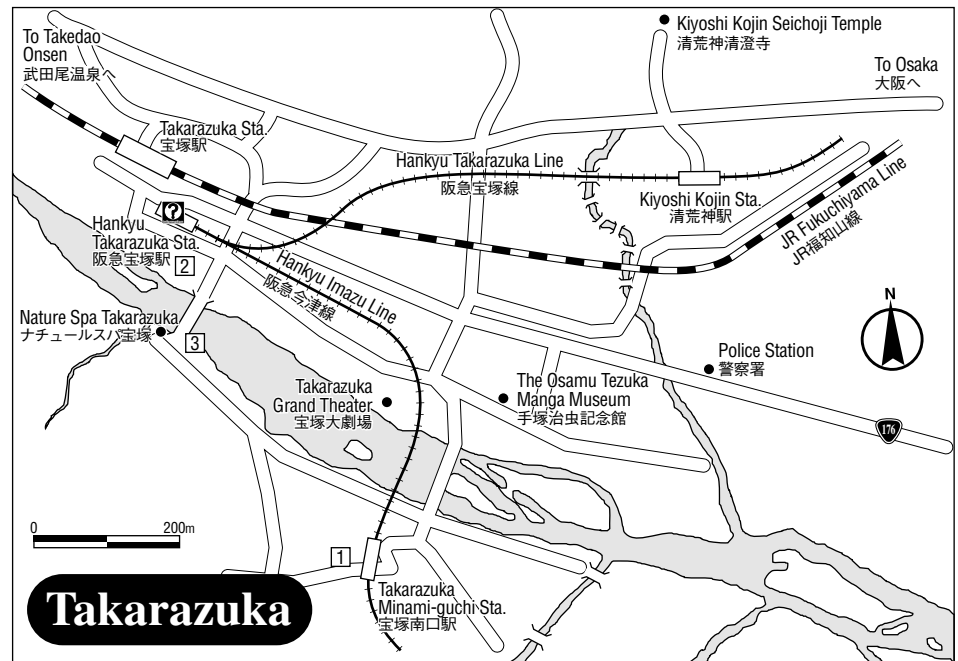
## Places of Interest:

**Takarazuka Grand Theater** (宝塚大劇場) 5-min. walk from JR / Hankyu Takarazuka Sta., is where an all-female revue is staged. The revue company was founded in 1914 by Mr. Ichizo Kobayashi who ingeniously blended the traditional Japanese drama with the Western opera and succeeded in creating a new form of entertainment. Showtime differs for each program. Charge: Depends on the stage.

Tel: (0570) 00-5100

**Kiyoshi Kojin Seichoji Temple** (清荒神清澄寺), a 15-min. walk from Hankyu Kiyoshi Kojin Sta., is revered for its "God of Fire." A 1-km-long approach to the temple is lined with small shops selling religious objects, antiques and souvenirs. Paintings by Tessai Tomioka, one of the representative artists of modern Japan, are displayed in Tessai Art Museum in the temple precinct.

**Takedao Onsen** (武田尾温泉), 10 min. by JR Fukuchiyama Line from Takarazuka (Get off at Takedao Sta.) Sta., is a quiet, simple hot spring resort situated deep in the mountains. Hiking can be especially enjoyed during early spring and fall when the respective col-



Numbers 1 - 3 correspond to those in the Accommodations list on page 5/6.  
\* Only nearest station is shown.

ors of the leaves are the brightest.

**Takarazuka Onsen** (宝塚温泉), 3-min. walk from JR or Hankyu Takarazuka Sta., is a little hot spring resort located near the Mukogawa river and surrounded by mountains. Those spas, contain carbon dioxide, are effective against neuralgia and muscle pain.

**The Osamu Tezuka Manga Museum** (手塚治虫記念館), 8-min. walk from Takarazuka Sta., "Astro Boy" and other characters of his animation greet you here. The museum features a high-definition TV theater showing his animation works, galleries in which his works are exhibited, as well as a library of his comics. Open: 9:30-17:00. (enter by 16:30) Closed: Wed. (except Aug.), Dec. 29-31 & Feb. 21-29. Admission: ¥500

**Accommodations:**

Name of Facilities	Tel.	Fax	Room Rate (¥)
<b>Kobe:</b>			
1 Sannomiya Terminal Hotel (H)	(078)291-0001	(078) 291-0020	¥¥¥
2 Kobe Towerside Hotel (H)	(078)351-2151	(078) 351-2154	¥¥¥
3 Kobe Sannomiya Union Hotel (H)	(078)242-3000	(078) 242-0220	¥¥
4 Kitagami Hotel Annex (BH) <input type="checkbox"/>	(078)391-8781	(078) 391-8785	¥
5 Kobe-Tarumi YH (Y) / Kobe Guest House (M)	(078)707-2133	(078) 707-1575	¥
6 Kobe Kitano YH (Y)	(078)221-4712	(078) 251-5682	¥
7 Hotel Okura Kobe (H)	(078)333-0111	(078) 333-6673	¥¥¥
8 Rokkosan Hotel (H)	(078)891-0301	(078) 891-0736	¥¥¥
9 Kobe Plaza Hotel (BH)	(078)332-1141	(078) 331-2630	¥¥
10 Hotel Mizukami (BH)	(078)575-5871	(078) 575-2164	¥
11 Portopia Hotel (H)	(078)302-1111	(078) 302-6877	¥¥¥
12 Holiday Inn Express Shin-Kobe (H)	(078)222-1212	(078) 222-1222	¥¥¥
13 Green Hill Hotel Kobe (BH) <input type="checkbox"/>	(078)222-0909	(078) 222-1139	¥
14 Green Hill Hotel Urban (BH) <input type="checkbox"/>	(078)222-1221	(078) 242-1194	¥
<b>Arima Onsen:</b>			
Gekkoen Yugetsusanso(R)	(078)904-0366	(078) 904-0360	¥¥¥
Arima Grand Hotel (R)	(078)904-0181	(078) 904-0297	¥¥¥
Nakanobo-zuien (R)	(078)904-0781	(078) 904-0346	¥¥¥
Hotel Hanakoyado (H)	(078)904-0281	(078) 904-3601	¥¥¥
<b>Himeji:</b>			
1 Himeji Castle Hotel (H)	(079)284-3311	(079) 284-3729	¥¥
2 Hotel Sunroute Himeji (BH)	(079)285-0811	(079) 284-1025	¥
3 Himeji Portside Hotel (BH)	(079)234-7568	(079) 234-4334	¥
4 Himeji Green Hotel Sakamoto(BH)	(079)289-0088	(079) 225-1455	¥
5 Hotel Claire Higasa (BH) <input type="checkbox"/>	(079)224-3421	(079) 289-3729	¥
6 Himeji Green Hotel Tatemachi (BH)	(079)288-2000	(079) 286-7000	¥
7 Hotel Nikko Himeji (H)	(079)222-2231	(079) 224-3731	¥¥¥
<b>Takarazuka:</b>			
1 Takarazuka Hotel (H)	(0797)87-1151	(0797)87-9833	¥¥¥
2 Takarazuka Washington Hotel (H)	(0797)87-1771	(0797)86-2287	¥¥¥
3 Hotel Wakamizu (R)	(0797)86-0151	(0797)86-2846	¥¥¥
<b>Takedao Onsen:</b>			
Kajikaso (R)	(0797)61-0331	(0797)61-2148	¥¥
Maruki Ryokan (R)	(0797)61-0221	(0797)61-2234	¥¥
Motoyu Ryokan (R)	(0797)61-0234	(0797)61-0235	¥¥

**Remarks:**

1-14(Kobe), 1-7(Himeji) and 1-3(Takarazuka) correspond to those on the maps on page 2/6, 3/6, 4/6 respectively.

- H = Hotel Rate for a twin room.
- BH = Business Hotel Rate per person.
- R = Ryokan Rate per person.
- Y = Youth Hostel Rate per person.
- M = Minshuku Rate per person.
- = **Welcome Inn** member

- ¥¥¥ more than 15,000 yen
- ¥¥ 8,001 yen – 15,000 yen
- ¥ 8,000 yen or less

Note: The Welcome Inns provide single rooms priced at 8,000 yen or less.

### JNTO Website

JNTO Website can be a great help for getting detailed information for your travel to Japan. It provides a wide range of travel information in English and other 5 languages (Français · Deutsch · 中文简体字 · 中文繁體字 · 한국어) via the internet on transportation, accommodations, shopping and events. Information is updated frequently to enable you to access the latest information anytime.

URL: <http://www.jnto.go.jp>

**W** **Welcome Inn Reservation Center (WIRC)** is here to help you book economical accommodations at participating inns throughout the country. Our participating establishments, called "Welcome Inns", comprise a range of accommodations from hotels, business hotels, Ryokan, minshuku, pensions and Shukubo (temple lodgings) to youth hostels. Most of them have guest rooms at rates which do not exceed ¥8,000 yen per night (excluding tax and service charges) for a single room.

#### Reservation over the Internet

Visit our website at <http://www.itcj.jp> and apply through our system.

Application deadline – generally 5 days ahead of your check-in date

#### Reservation at booking counters in Japan

To take advantage of our service, you must appear in person at any of the Welcome Inn reservation counters located at the Tourist Information Centers (at Narita International Airport and Kansai International Airport), Tokyo Tourist Information (on the 10th fl. of Tokyo Kotsu Kaikan, 2-10-1, Yurakucho, Chiyodaku, Tokyo) and Kyoto Tourist Information (on the 9th Fl. of JR Kyoto Sta. Bldg.).

### Welcome Inn Reservation Center c/o International Tourism Center of Japan

Kinseisha-Kanda Bldg. 3F, 3-15 Kanda-Nishikicho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 101-0054

Tel:03-3233-3303 Fax:03-3233-3305



**Goodwill Guide Groups** offer tourists from overseas local tours guided in English or other languages. The guides are registered with JNTO and display the badge shown. As they are volunteers, there is no charge for their service. You are only expected to pay for their transportation, admission to tourist facilities if you visit any and their meals if you eat with them.

JNTO Website

[www.jnto.go.jp/eng/arrange/essential/guideservice.html](http://www.jnto.go.jp/eng/arrange/essential/guideservice.html)



## TOURIST INFORMATION

### (Visit Japan Information Network)

#### Kobe Information Center (Hello Station Kobe)

Beside Sannomiya Station, 1-10-1, 1F Kotsu Center Building, Sannomiya-cho, Chuo-ku, Kobe City, Hyogo Pref.

Tel. (078)322-0220

9:00–19:00, Closed on Dec. 31 – Jan. 2

#### Kobe Tourist Information (Shin-Kobe Station)

JR shin-Kobe Sta., (Shortened during New Year holidays)

1-3-1, Kanou-cho, Chuo-ku, Kobe City, Hyogo Pref.

Tel. (078)241-9550

9:00–18:00

#### Arima Hot Spring Tourist Information Center

790-3 Arima-cho, Kita-ku, Kobe City, Hyogo Pref.

Tel. (078)904-0708

9:00–19:00.

#### Himeji Tourist Information Center

JR Himeji Sta. Concourse, 188-1, Godenmae, Ekimae-cho, Himeji City

Tel. (079)285-3792

10:00–15:00

Closed Dec.28 – Dec.31.

#### Takarazuka Tourist Information

2nd Fl., Hankyu-Takarazuka Sta. 2-3-1, Sakae-machi, Takarazuka City

Tel. (0797)81-5344

9:00–17:15, Closed Dec.29 – Jan.3

All information, including transportation schedules, fares, prices and accommodation charges, which is contained in this leaflet is based on data as of August 2007, and is subject to change without notice. While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of all information, regrettably errors do occasionally occur. Therefore, you should check with organizations concerned for updated and accurate information on your chosen destination. JNTO shall not be liable for any loss or damage of whatever nature that may arise as a result, directly or indirectly, from the use of any of the information or material contained in this leaflet.