

PG-704

KUMAMOTO and MT. ASO

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"

KUMAMOTO

Kumamoto (熊本) pop. 664,090 (as of August 2007) situated in the center of Kyushu, is the capital of Kumamoto Prefecture, and constitutes, along with Fukuoka, the political, commercial and cultural nucleus of the

island. With many green woods and delicately crafted gardens, Kumamoto was a thriving castletown for centuries. It has now developed into a modern metropolis with broad streets lined with high-rise buildings.

Access:

By Air:

From	To	Operated by	Time required	One-way fare(¥)	Access to downtown
Haneda (Tokyo)	Kumamoto	ANA / JAL	1 hr. 50 min.	33,700	54 min. by bus to Kumamoto Sta. ¥670
		SNA	1 hr. 50 min.	25,600	
Itami (Osaka)	Kumamoto	ANA / JEX	1 hr. 10 min.	21,600	
Nagoya (Chubu)	Kumamoto	ANA / JEX	1 hr. 15 min.	26,800	
Nagoya (Komaki)	Kumamoto	JAL	1 hr. 20 min.	26,800	

Remarks: SNA = SkyNet Asia Airways, JEX = JAL Express

By JR Train:

From	To	Type of Transportation	Time required	One-way fare(¥)
Tokyo	Kumamoto	Tokyo-Hakata by JR Shinkansen "Nozomi" and connecting limited express trains(change at Hakata) by "Ariake" or "Relay-Tsubame"	6 hrs. 40 min. "Nozomi"	26,260
Shin-Osaka	Kumamoto	Shin-Osaka-Hakata by JR Shinkansen "Nozomi" or "Hikari" & connecting limited express trains(change at Hakata) by "Ariake" or "Relay-Tsubame"	3 hrs. 55min. "Nozomi"	17,040
			4 hrs. 5 min. "Hikari"	16,740
Hakata	Kumamoto	Limited Express "Ariake" or "Tsubame"	1 hr. 30 min.	3,940
Tokyo	Kumamoto	Sleeping train "Hayabusa"	17 hrs. 40 min.	24,150 (B-class sleeper)
				31,200 (A-class sleeper)

Round-trip Discount Ticket (往復割引きっぷ). Valid for a trip from Nagoya, Kyoto, or Osaka. This ticket is good for a regular reserved seat on the Shinkansen or a B-class sleeper (except compartment) on the Limited Express. No stopover.

Fares: Kyoto-Kumamoto ¥26,350 (good for 2 weeks) Nagoya-Kumamoto ¥34,800 (good for 10 days)

Osaka-Kumamoto ¥26,800 (good for 1 week)

* The one-way fare is regular time price and change by seasons. Please check them in advance.

Places of Interest:

1 **Kumamoto Castle** (熊本城), the city's leading landmark is a 10-min. walk from Kotsu Center, or a 10-min. bus ride from Kumamoto Sta. The castle, towering on a low hill in the city, was originally built in 1607 after seven years of work supervised by Kiyomasa Kato (1562-1611), the local feudal lord, who laid the foundations of the present thriving city of Kumamoto. A large part of the castle burned down in 1877, but the donjon was restored to its former grandeur in 1960. The donjon now has a museum which houses valuable items associated with the Shogun and his lords. Open: daily. 8:30-17:30 (Apr.-Oct.), 8:30-16:30 (Nov.-Mar.). Admission: ¥500.

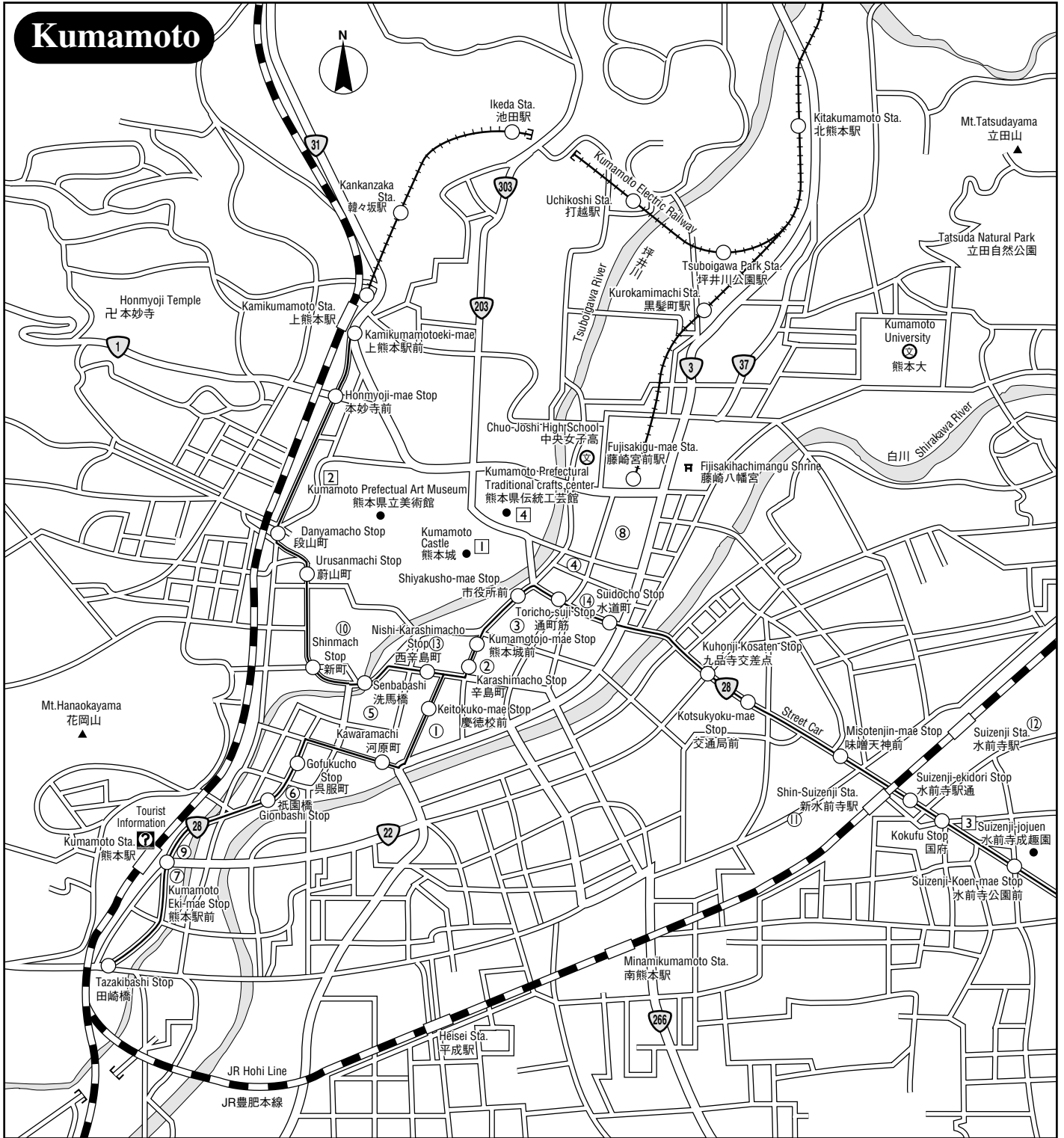
2 **Kumamoto Prefectural Art Museum** (熊本県立美術館) is in the vicinity of Kumamoto Castle. This modern structure houses a splendid collection of replicas of the ornamentally decorated tombs excavated in the prefecture. Open: 9:30-17:15 (enter by 16:45). Closed: Mon. (If Mon. is a national holiday, the next day will be closed.) Admission: ¥260. Additional fare will be needed for special exhibition.

3 **Suizenji-jojuen** (水前寺成趣園), 20 min. by bus from Kotsu Center, has a typical Momoyama-style hill garden called Jojuen, which was laid out in 1632 in the villa of the Hosokawa Clan, the rulers of this district after the Kato Clan. The park, 64.6 ha. in area, is unique for its unusually large-scale design, featuring models of Mt. Fuji, Lake Biwa and other outstanding scenes along the old Tokaido Road. Open: daily. 7:30-18:00 (Mar.-Nov.), 8:30-17:00 (Dec.-Feb.). Admission: ¥400.

4 **Kumamoto Prefectural Traditional Crafts Center** (熊本県伝統工芸館), 5min. walk from Shiyakusho-mae stop, has a grate variety of folk arts and crafts such as woodworks, ceramics, bamboo crafts and cutlery, including Higo inlay, Kumamoto's famous traditional craft. You can also purchase hand-made goods. Open: 9:00-17:00 closed: Mon (If Mon is a national holiday, the next day will be closed.) Admission: free.

Suggested Sightseeing Route (3 hrs.):

12 min. by streetcar	10-min. walk	5-min. walk
Kumamoto Sta. 熊本駅	Shiyakusho-mae Stop 市役所前停留所	Kumamoto Castle 熊本城
		Kumamoto Prefectural Art Museum 熊本県立美術館
15-min. walk	15 min. by streetcar	
	Shiyakusho-mae Stop 市役所前停留所	Suizenji-jojuen (Suizenji Koen-mae Stop) 水前寺成趣園 (水前寺公園前停留所)



① — ⑬ correspond to those in the Accommodations list on page 3/5.

① — ④ correspond to those in the place of interests on page 1/5.

Accommodations: Kumamoto

Name of facility	Tel.	Fax	Room rate (¥)	Name of facility	Tel.	Fax	Room rate (¥)
① Hokke Club (BH)	(096)322-5001	(096)354-9498	¥	⑧ Maruko Hotel (R)	(096)353-1241	(096)353-1217	¥¥
② Kumamoto Tokyu Inn Hotel (BH)	(096)322-0109	(096)322-3050	¥	⑨ Komatsu-so (M)	(096)355-2634	(096)355-2634	¥
③ Hotel Sun Route Kumamoto (BH)	(096)322-2211	(096)322-6987	¥	⑩ Minshuku Ryokan Kajita (R) W	(096)353-1546	(096)353-1546	¥
④ Kumamoto Hotel Castle (H)	(096)326-3311	(096)326-3324	¥¥¥	⑪ Suizenji Youth Hostel (YH)	(096)371-9193	(096)371-9218	¥
⑤ Kumamoto Kotsu Center Hotel (H)	(096)326-8828	(096)354-1120	¥¥	⑫ Youthpia Kumamoto Youth Hostel (YH)	(096)381-6221	(096)382-2715	¥
⑥ ANA Hotel Kumamoto New Sky (H)	(096)354-2111	(096)354-8973	¥¥¥	⑬ Chisun Hotel Kumamoto (H)	(096)322-3911	(096)356-5229	¥¥
⑦ Fujie Hotel (R)	(096)353-1101	(096)322-2671	¥¥	⑭ Hotel Nikko Kumamoto (H)	(096)211-1111	(096)211-1175	¥¥¥

Remarks:

① - ⑩ correspond to those on the map on page 2/5.

H = Hotel

R = Ryokan

BH = Business Hotel

Y = Youth Hostel

M = Minshuku (family-run inn)

W = Welcome Inn member

Rate for a twin room.

Rate per person.

Rate per person.

Rate per person.

Rate per person.

¥¥¥ more than 15,000 yen

¥¥ 8,001 yen – 15,000 yen

¥ 8,000 yen or less

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

MT. ASO

Mt. Aso (阿蘇山), symbolizing Kumamoto, the “Land of Fire,” is a national park with vast grassland, lakes, forests and hot springs at its base. The crater basin, measuring 24 km in length from north to south, 18 km in width from east to west and 128 km in circumference, is the largest of its kind in the world. Aso is the general name for five volcanic

peaks, each well over 1,000 m in altitude, of which Nakadake is active. The largest of the five craters of Nakadake, 600 m across and 160 m deep, is the most active, constantly spewing forth black smoke accompanied by underground trembling.

Access to the Crater:

Destination	Operated by	Time required	Remarks		One-way fare(¥)
Kumamoto Sta. ↑ Aso Sta.	JR Hohi Line Limited Express “Kyushu Oudan Tokkyu”	1 hr. 5 min.	Lv. Kumamoto 8:32, 11:36, 14:36, 17:36	Lv. Aso 10:16, 13:41, 16:41, 19:44	2,180
	JR Hohi Line Local train	1 hr. 30 min.	8 runs	7 runs	1,080
Aso Sta. bus ↓ Asozan Nishi (West side of Mt. Aso)	Kyushu Sangyo Co. bus	40 min.	7 runs		540
ropeway ↓ Kako Nishi (West Crater)	Kyushu Sangyo Co. Ropeway	4 min.	every 8–15 min. 9:00 to 17:00		410

*The one-way fare may change by seasons.

Accommodations: Mt. Aso

① - ⑪ correspond to those on the map on page 4/5.

Name of facility	Tel.	Fax	Room rate (¥)	Name of facility	Tel.	Fax	Room rate (¥)
Uchinomaki Spa:				Others:			
① Aso-no-tsukasa Villa Park Hotel (H)	(0967)34-0811	(0967)34-0816	¥¥	⑥ Evergreen (P)	(0967)67-1769	(0967)67-2585	¥
② Hotel Kadoman (R)	(0967)32-0615	(0967)32-0214	¥¥	⑦ Kulala (P)	(0967)67-1826	(0967)67-1826	¥¥
③ Aso Plaza Hotel Bosokaku (R)	(0967)32-0711	(0967)32-1756	¥¥	⑧ Cream House (P)	(0967)62-3090	(0967)62-3089	¥
④ Aso Hotel Ichibankan (R)	(0967)32-0525	(0967)32-0008	¥¥	⑨ Aso Youth Hostel (Y)	(0967)34-0804	-	¥
Akamizu Spa:				⑩ Kumamoto YMCA Aso Camp (Y)	(0967)35-0124	(0967)35-1642	¥
⑤ Aso Hakuun-sanso (R)	(0967)35-0111	(0967)35-1154	¥¥	⑪ Pension Akanegumo (P)	(0967)67-2001	(0967)67-2011	¥

Remarks:

H = Hotel

R = Ryokan

Y = Youth Hostel

P = Pension

Rate for a twin room.

Rate per person.

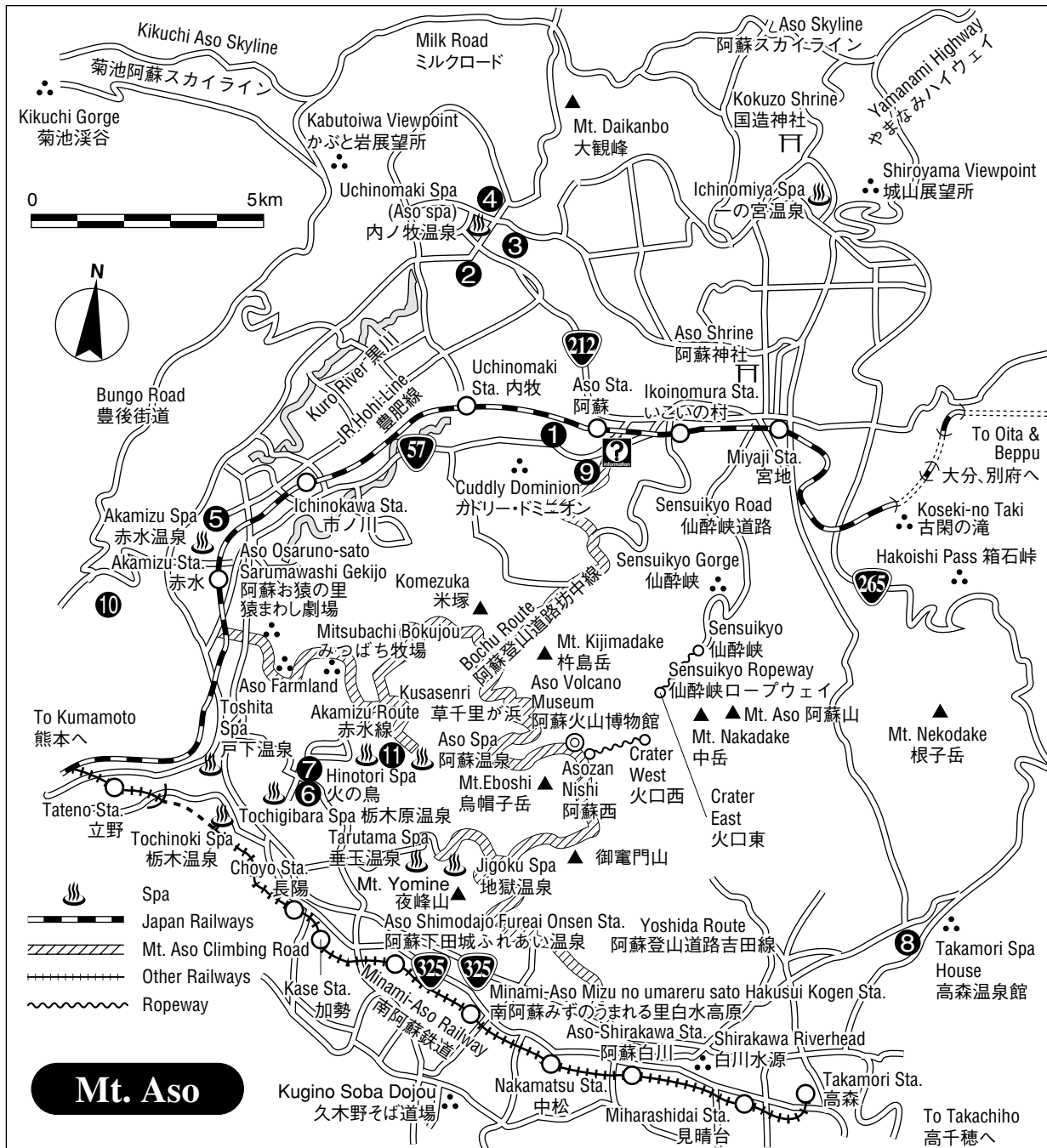
Rate per person.

Rate per person.

¥¥¥ more than 15,000 yen

¥¥ 8,001 yen – 15,000 yen

¥ 8,000 yen or less



① — ⑪ correspond to those in the Accommodations list on 3/5.

Trans-Kyushu Sightseeing Bus (Kumamoto - Mt. Aso - Beppu):

Name/Fare (¥)	Lv. JR Kumamoto Sta.	Mt. Aso		Ar. Beppu Sta.	Note
		Ar.	Lv.		
Kuju #1 3,850	8:30	10:06	10:09	13:12	Direct bus
Aso #1 6,450	10:00	11:39	11:42	17:06	Allow 90-min. for sightseeing and lunch (including lunch charge) at Asozan Nishi (west side of Mt. Aso)
Kuju #3 3,850	9:40	11:16	11:19	14:22	Direct bus
Kuju #5 3,850	14:20	15:56	15:59	19:02	Direct bus

No English-speaking guides.
Reservation required. Kyushu Sangyo Kotsu: Tel. (096)354-4845

Komezuka (米塚), 20min. by taxi from JR houhi line Aso sta. It is alt. 954m high a parasite volcano of Mt. Aso, it is covered with grass. Visitors can be enjoyed the beautiful green scenery from May. It is prohibited to enter the mountain's area for the conservation.

Kurokawa Spa (黒川温泉), From JR Aso sta., 1hr. by Sanko bus (産交バス) to Tsuetate spa then change at Yuu sta. to Kuromawa spa. 33min. bus riding. There are about 20 spa along Tanoharu river. Almost spa are open air bath, they are beside the river, the rocky mountain and in the grove. Kurokawa Spa is one of the popular spa in Kumamoto. Admission and time are depended on each spa.

Nagayu Spa (長湯温泉), 1hr. 45min. from JR houhi line Aso sta. to Bungotaketa sta. (豊後竹田). Then 1hr. by Taketa community bus from Bungotaketa bus stop to Nagayu bus stop. It is called lemon pop spa (ramune ラムネ温泉) because of it is a carbonated hot spring. Admission and time are depended on each spa.

Aso Farm Land (阿蘇ファームランド), 15min. from JR houhi line Aso sta. to Akamizu sta. then 7 min. by taxi. It is the largest theme park in Kyushu, there are restaurants, spa, ranch, accommodation, athletic fields and so on. Open: 9:00 - 17:00 (depends on seasons). Daily. Admission is free, but each facilities are required.

Cuddly Dominion (カドリー・ドミニオン), 3min by taxi from JR Aso sta. is a unique zoological park that holds 1,100 animals from 95 species. Various kinds of show are take place, and you will see lovely performance of chimpanzees, bears or penguins. You can also feed and touch the animals. Open: 9:30-17:30, 10:00-16:30 (Oct.-mid Mar.). Closed: Tue., Wed. & national holidays (Dec.-Feb). Admission: ¥2,300 (children: ¥1,200). Note: the shows and programs may be changed or canceled without prior notification.



TOURIST INFORMATION

(Visit Japan Information Network)

Kumamoto City Tourist Information Desk:

JR Kumamoto Station, 3-15-1 Kasuga, Kumamoto City,
Kumamoto Pref. Tel. (096)352-3743
8:30 - 19:00

Kumamoto Airport Information Office:

Kumamoto Airport, 1802-2, Oaza Oyatsu, Mashiki-machi,
Kami-mashiki-gun, Kumamoto Pref. Tel. (096)232-2810
6:50 - 21:30

Aso Information Desk:

Front of JR Aso Station, 1440-1, Kurokawa, Aso City,
Kumamoto Pref. Tel. (0967)34-0751
9:00 - 18:00
(Telephone service is not available on Mon. & Wed.)



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



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), Tourist Information Center (10th Fl Tokyo Kotsu Kaikan Bldg. 2-10-1, Yurakucho, Chiyoda-ku, 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

All information, including transportation schedules, fares, prices and accommodation charges, which is contained in this leaflet is based on data as of July 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.