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OKAYAMA, KURASHIKI and SETO-OHASHI BRIDGE



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

Tourist Information Center (TIC)

Tokyo Office: Tel. (03) 3201-3331

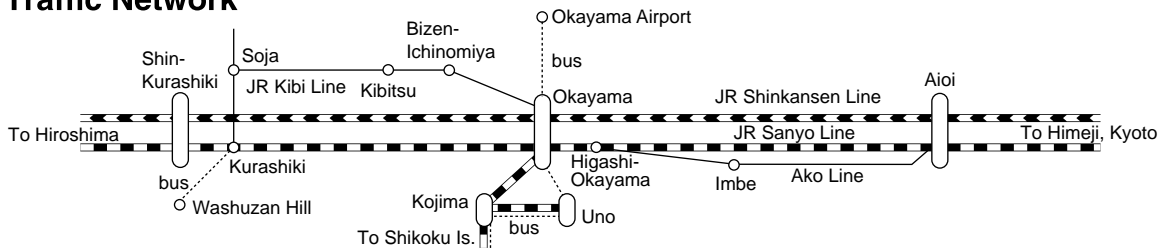


"YOKOSO" means "welcome"

Okayama (岡山) is one of the major commercial, industrial and cultural cities in the Chugoku District in western Japan. It is nationally known for its celebrated Korakuen Garden. It also serves as a main gateway to Inland Sea National Park and Shikoku Island.

Kurashiki (倉敷) is an old merchants town near Okayama. In feudal days, it thrived as a port for the shipment of rice; several old rice granaries remain there. Its olden time atmosphere and a variety of museums lure many visitors to Kurashiki.

Traffic Network



Access:

By Air from Tokyo (Haneda Airport)

To	Operated by	Time required	Daily Flights	One-way fare	Access airport – downtown
Okayama	ANA Toll free: 0120-029-222	1 hr. 20 min.	5	¥25,500 - ¥27,500	35 min. to Okayama Sta. by bus (¥680) 45 min. to Kurashiki Sta. by Airport Limousine bus (¥1,000) *Only 4 bus services per day. Please confirm the time table.

By Train

*Number of flights and fare may change by season.

To	From	Type of Transportation	Time required	Daily runs	One-way fare
Okayama	Tokyo	JR Shinkansen (By Hikari)	3 hrs. 53 min. - 4 hrs. 10 min.	32	¥16,360
		JR Shinkansen (By Nozomi)	3 hrs. 12 min. - 3 hrs. 18 min.	16	¥17,690
	Kyoto	JR Shinkansen (By Hikari)	1 hr. 7 min. - 1 hr. 29 min.	34	¥7,330
		JR Shinkansen (By Nozomi)	56 min. - 1 hr. 2 min.	17	¥8,000
		JR Sanyo Line (local train)	1 hr. 20 min.	22	¥1,450
Kurashiki	Okayama	JR Sanyo Line, Hakubi Line (local train)	12 - 16 min.	every 10 min.	¥320
		JR Sanyo Line (local train)	25 min.	every 10 min.	¥480
		JR Shinkansen	12 min.	every 30 min.	¥1,310
Imbe	Okayama	JR Ako Line (local train)	40 min.	25	¥570

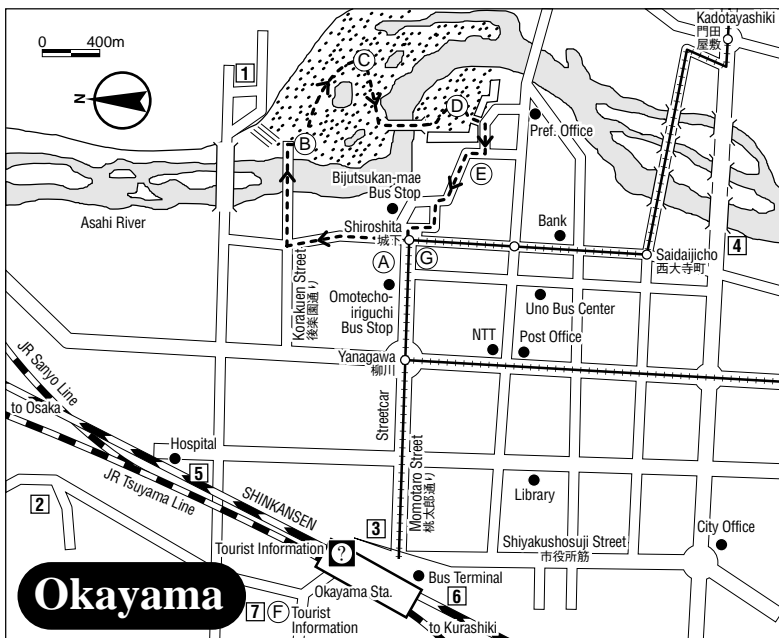
Uno Bus offers first-time ride service for ¥100 anywhere along the route between Okayama Sta. and Uno Bus Center. Taking this bus is the easiest way to go to Okayama City Orient Museum and Okayama Symphony Building.

OKAYAMA

Places of Interest: (A) – (C) correspond to those on the map of Okayama on page 2/5

(A) **Okayama City Orient Museum** (岡山市立利工美術館), 10 min. by streetcar from Okayama Sta. or 3-min. walk from Bijutsukan-mae Bus Stop, specializes in Oriental arts, the first of its kind in Japan. It was modeled after the Pantheon in Greece. Exhibited are some 2,000 items. Open from 9:00 to 17:00. Closed on Mon and Dec. 28 – Jan. 4. Admission: ¥300.

(B) **Okayama Prefectural Museum** (岡山県立博物館), 10-min. walk from Okayama City Orient Museum, is a historical museum, displaying ancient materials unearthed in the district; fine arts and sculpture, pottery, swords and armor, etc., totaling 5,000 items. Open from 9:00 to 18:00. (Apr. to Sep.) and 9:30 to 17:00. (Oct. to Mar.) Closed on Mon. and Dec. 28 – Jan. 4. Admission: ¥200.



Suggested Walking Tour Course (4 hrs.)
 Okayama Sta. (10 min. by streetcar to Shiroshita or 5 min. by bus to Bijutsukan-mae)

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Ⓐ Okayama City Orient Museum

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Ⓑ Okayama Prefectural Museum

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Ⓒ Korakuen Garden

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Ⓓ Okayama Castle

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Ⓔ Hayashibara Art Museum

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Ⓕ Okayama Symphony Building

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Okayama Sta.

Numbers ①-⑦ show the accommodations listed below.

- Ⓒ **Korakuen Garden (後樂園)**, next to Okayama Prefectural Museum, is located on the east bank of the Asahi River. It is one of the three most celebrated gardens in Japan, the other two being Kenrokuen in Kanazawa and Kairakuen in Mito. The garden, covering about 14 ha., was completed in 1700. It contains rustic tea arbors, extensive lawns, lovely ponds, graceful groves, and peaceful hills, lanes and streams. All are tastefully arranged to harmonize with the surrounding hill and mountain. The maple trees, cherry and Japanese apricot groves offer beautiful seasonal contrasts. Open from 7:30 to 18:00 (Apr.–Sep.) and 8:00 to 17:00 (Oct.–Mar.). Admission: ¥350.
- Ⓓ **Okayama Castle (岡山城)**, 3-min. walk from the south exit of Korakuen Garden, was originally constructed in the 16th century. The four-storied donjon was rebuilt in 1966, which displays many relics of local history. It is called “Ujo” or Crow Castle since it is painted black. Open from 9:00 to 17:00. (Closed Dec.28–31) Admission: ¥300.

- Ⓔ **Hayashibara Art Museum (林原美術館)**, 5-min. walk from the castle, exhibits some 4,000 relics including swords, armor, lacquerware, pottery, fine arts and calligraphy, all of which once belonged to the Ikeda family, the former owner of this castle. Open from 9:00 to 17:00. Admission: ¥300.
- Ⓕ **Okayama International Center (岡山国際交流センター)**—The purpose of the Okayama International Center, opened in 1995, is to promote international exchange. This center has various features such as an international conference room equipped with simultaneous interpretation facilities for four languages, and an event hall and hotel accommodation.
- Ⓕ **Okayama Symphony Building (岡山シンフォニービル)**, in front of Shiroshita Streetcar stop, is one of the three largest fullscale concert halls in Japan. Many internationally famous artists have performed here.

Accommodations:

Name of facilities	Tel.	Room rate (¥)	Name of facilities	Tel.	Room rate (¥)
Okayama:			Okayama:		
① Okayama Plaza Hotel(H)	(086)272-1201	13,000~	Shin-Matsunoe(R)	(086)252-5131	16,800~
② Okayama Royal Hotel(H)	(086)254-1155	17,600			
③ Hotel New Okayama(H)	(086)223-8211	12,000	Bizen:		
④ Okayama Grand Hotel(H)	(086)233-7777	7,400	Torien(R)	(0869)64-3363	11,500~
⑤ Okayama Business Hotel(BH)	(086)222-2224	4,700	Tokiwa Ryokan(R)	(0869)64-2032	7,350~
Okayama Kokusai Hotel(H)	(086)273-7311	17,000~			
⑥ Hotel Sunroute Okayama(BH)	(086)232-2345	7,480	Tsuyama:		
Okayama-ken Seinen-Kaikan(Y) <u>W</u>	(086)252-0651	3,400~	Saraen(M)	(0868)28-1641	5,500
⑦ Okayama International Center	(086)256-2000	*			

Remarks: Standard rates are quoted.

Accommodation rates are due to change by season or days. Please check the correct rates before you visit.

① – ⑦ correspond to those on the map of Okayama.

- H = Hotel Rate for a twin room.
- R = Ryokan Rate per person including 2 meals, tax and service charge.
- BH = Business Hotel Rate for a single room, including service charge and excluding tax.
- Y = Youth Hostel Rate per person with 2 meals.
- M = Minshuku (family-run inn) Rate per person with 2 meals.
- W = **Welcome Inn** member
- * = International center has 7 guest rooms. ¥8,000 for a twin room including tax.

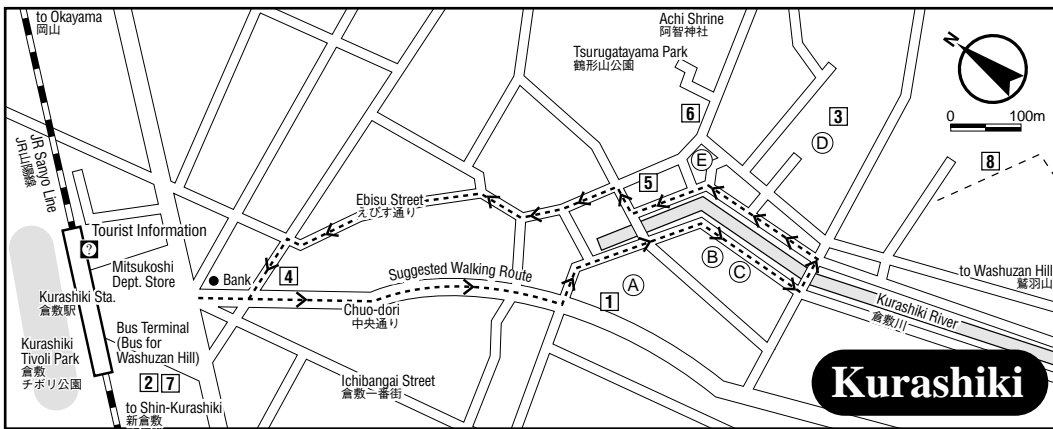
KURASHIKI

Places of Interest: (A)–(E) correspond to those on the map of Kurashiki.)

- (A) **Ohara Museum of Art** (大原美術館), 15-min. walk from Kurashiki Sta., was built in 1930 by the late Mr. Magosaburo Ohara. It is a white, two-storied stone building modeled after the Greek Pantheon, housing his rich collection of Western art. There are precious works of El Greco, Corot, Rodin, Gauguin, Picasso, etc. A new gallery was added to the south of the main building in 1961, displaying a collection of famous modern Japanese paintings. Recently, Japanese tapestries, wood-block prints, pottery and Oriental antiques have been added to the collection. Open from 9:00 to 17:00. Closed on Mon. and Dec. 28–Jan. 1. (When Mon. falls on a national holiday, the museum is open.) Admission: ¥1,000.
- (B) **Kurashiki Museum of Folkcraft** (倉敷民藝館), close to the Museum of Art, consists of Three two-storied rice granaries, made into museums. The buildings have white walls and black-tiled roofs in the style of the Edo Period. Some 4,000 folkcraft objects are shown, including ceramics, rugs,

fancy mats, wooden ware, bamboo ware, textiles and other products from Japan and other countries. Open from 9:00 to 17:00 (Mar. to Nov.), 9:00 – 16:15 (Dec. to Feb.). Closed on Mon. and Dec. 29–Jan. 1. (When Mon. falls on a national holiday, the museum is open.) Admission: ¥700.

- (C) **Japanese Rural Toy Museum** (日本郷土玩具館), next to the Museum of Folkcraft, is the house of Mr. Masaaki Oga, now open to the public as a museum. About 5,000 folk-toys collected from many parts of the world are exhibited. Open from 9:00 to 17:00. Closed on Jan. 1. Admission: ¥500.
- (D) **Kurashiki Ivy Square** (倉敷アイブスクエア), 3-min. walk from the Rural Toy Museum, is constructed in the center of the former weaving plant. This brick-paved square is embraced by a small pond and the clean river. A hotel, restaurant, coffee shop and stalls surround the square. It is very popular among young people.
- (E) **Kurashiki Archaeological Museum** (倉敷考古館), 6-min. walk from the Square, is a white-walled storehouse. Opened in 1950, it exhibits more than 1,400 archaeological relics unearthed in this district plus several relics from China and South America. Open from 9:00 to 16:30 (Dec.–Feb.) 9:00 to 17:00 (Mar.–Nov.). Closed on Mon. and Dec. 29–Jan. 2. Admission: ¥400.



Numbers 1–8 show the accommodations listed blow.

Suggested Walking Route (3 hrs.):

Kurashiki Sta. — 15-min. walk — (A) Ohara Museum of Art — (B) Kurashiki Museum of Folkcraft — (C) Japanese Rural Toy Museum — (D) Kurashiki Ivy Square — (E) Kurashiki Archaeological Museum — 15-min. walk — Kurashiki Sta.

Accommodations:

Name of facilities	Tel.	Room rate (¥)	Name of facilities	Tel.	Room rate (¥)
Kurashiki:			Kasaoka:		
1 Kurashiki Kokusai Hotel(H)	(086)422-5141	17,000~	Manabe Island		
2 Kurashiki Terminal Hotel(H) [W]	(086)426-1111	11,900	Santora Ryokan(R)	(0865)68-3515	10,500
3 Kurashiki Ivy Square(H)	(086)422-0011	12,500~	Shiraishi Ryokan		
4 Kurashiki Station Hotel(BH) [W]	(086)425-2525	6,000	Minshuku Nakanishiya(M)	(0865)68-3553	7,000
5 Ryokan Tsurugata(R)	(086)424-1635	26,250	Shiraishi Island Int'l Villa [W]	(086)256-2535	*
6 Kamoi(M)	(086)422-4898	6,000	Ushimado:		
7 Young Inn Kurashiki(H) [W]	(086)425-3411	11,000~	Ushimado Int'l Villa [W]	(086)256-2535	*
Kurashiki Ishiyama Kadan(R)	(086)422-2222	11,550			
8 Kurashiki Youth Hostel(Y) [W]	(086)422-7355	4,150			
Washuzan Youth Hostel(Y)	(086)479-9280	3,400			

Accommodation rates are due to change by season or days. Please check the correct rates before you visit.

Remarks: Standard rates are quoted.

1 – 8 correspond to those on the map of Kurashiki.

- H = Hotel Rate for a twin room.
- R = Ryokan Rate per person including 2 meals, tax and service charge.
- BH = Business Hotel Rate for a single room.
- Y = Youth Hostel Rate per person with 2 meals.
- M = Minshuku (family-run inn) Rate per person with 2 meals.
- [W] = **Welcome Inn** member

* Okayama International Villa Group is a non-profit organization established mainly by Okayama Prefectural Government for the purpose of providing international guests with a place to rest and relax in the beauty of rural Japan. There are six of these villas in Okayama Prefecture. No meals are served but there is a kitchen for guests' use. Baths and toilets are communal. For the initial stay, you need to pay a ¥500 membership fee. Overnight charge is ¥2,500 per person (¥3,000 in case of single occupancy) including tax.

VICINITY OF OKAYAMA & KURASHIKI

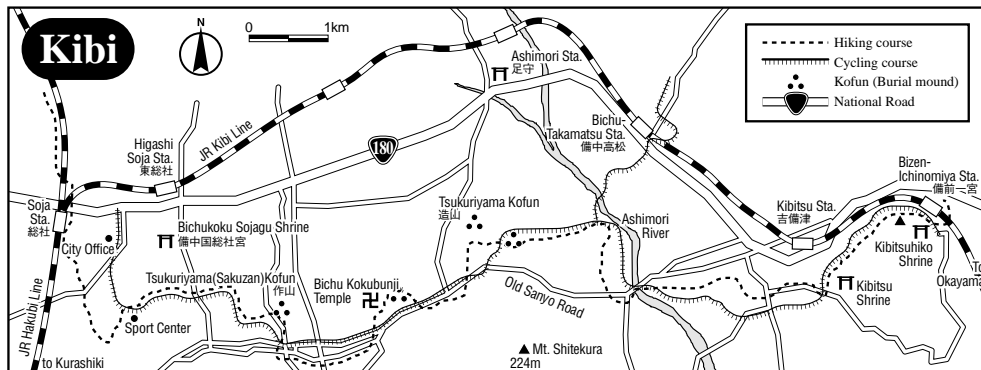
Kibi (吉備) Area, the site of the prosperous area of Kibi dating back to the 4th c., is rich with legends related to the mythological origin of Japan. Visitors can enjoy a hiking or cycling course in the country between Okayama and Kurashiki.

Places of Interest:

Kibitsu Shrine (吉備津神社), founded in the 4th c., is dedicated to Kibitsu-hiko-no-Mikoto, ancestor of the leaders of Kibi region. The main sanctuary, in the graceful style of a double tympan and a 300 m. gallery, slightly curving, are worth visiting.

Tsukuriyama Kofun (造山古墳), a mausoleum was built in the 5th c. for a lord of the district. It is 350 m. long and 30 m. high, and is surrounded by six burial mounds, much smaller.

Bichu Kokubunji Temple (備中国分寺), was founded in the 8th c., and the present architecture dates back to the mid-Edo Period. Its five-storied pagoda is a landmark of the Kibi area.



Access:

Kibitsu Shrine 5 min. Kibitsu Sta. 15 min. Okayama Sta.
 walk JR Kibi Line

Bichu Kokubunji Temple 20 min. Soja Sta. 10 min. Kurashiki Sta.
 bus (every 90 min.) JR Hakubi Line

Note: Rent-a-cycle is available near Bizen-Ichinomiya Sta., Bichu-Kokubunji Temple & Soja Sta.
 ¥400 / 2hrs. (¥200 for every additional hour) or ¥1000 /one day (8:00-18:00)

Suggested Cycling Route: (about 4 hrs.)
 Bizen-Ichinomiya Sta. (備前一宮駅) — 5 min. — Kibitsu-hiko Shrine (吉備津彦神社) — 10 min. — Kibitsu Shrine (吉備津神社) — 30 min. — Tsukuriyama Kofun (造山古墳) — 20 min. — Bichu Kokubunji Temple (備中国分寺) — 15 min. — Tsukuriyama (Sakuzan)Kofun (作山古墳) — 25 min. — Soja Sta. (総社駅)

Sightseeing Buses (Guided in Japanese)

* Reservation can be made through major travel agencies.

Name of course	Operated by	Departure time/place	Time required	Sights to be visited	Fare
Okayama/Kurashiki operated daily (Mar. 20 – Nov. 30); Sat., Sun. & national holidays (Dec. 1 – Mar. 19.)	Shimotsui Dentetsu Tel.(086)231-4331 Ryobi Bus Tel.(086)232-2155	12:20 p.m. from JR Okayama Sta.	4 hrs.30 min.	JR Okayama Sta. – Okayama Castle – Korakuen – Yumeji Kyodo Museum – Kurashiki Bikan area (preserved area) – JR Okayama Sta. or Kurashiki Sta.	¥4,000 (Lunch is not included.)
Okayama/Kibiji (operated Sat., Sun. & national holidays only. Jan. 11–Dec. 20)	Chutetsu Bus Tel.(086)222-6604	10:45 a.m. from JR Okayama Sta.	6 hrs.	JR Okayama Sta. – Komori Zuka – Bichu Kokubunji – Hofukuji – Inariyama – Kibitsu Shrine – JR Okayama Sta.	¥3,400 (Lunch is not included.)

Bizen (備前), 45 min. by JR Ako Line from Okayama to Imbe Sta.—the entrance to Bizen, enjoys a nationwide reputation for its Bizen-yaki porcelain ware, made here for centuries. Bizen-yaki tea utensils, sake bottles, flower vases, tableware and various ornaments are popular souvenir items. Around Imbe Sta., there are workshops for the visitors to observe the process or try their hands at making their own souvenir pottery items.

Washuzan Hill (鷺羽山), 1 hr. 15 min. by bus from Kurashiki rises 133 m. It is regarded as one of the best points to enjoy a panoramic view of the Inland Sea and the many islets near and far. You can climb the hill in half an hour from

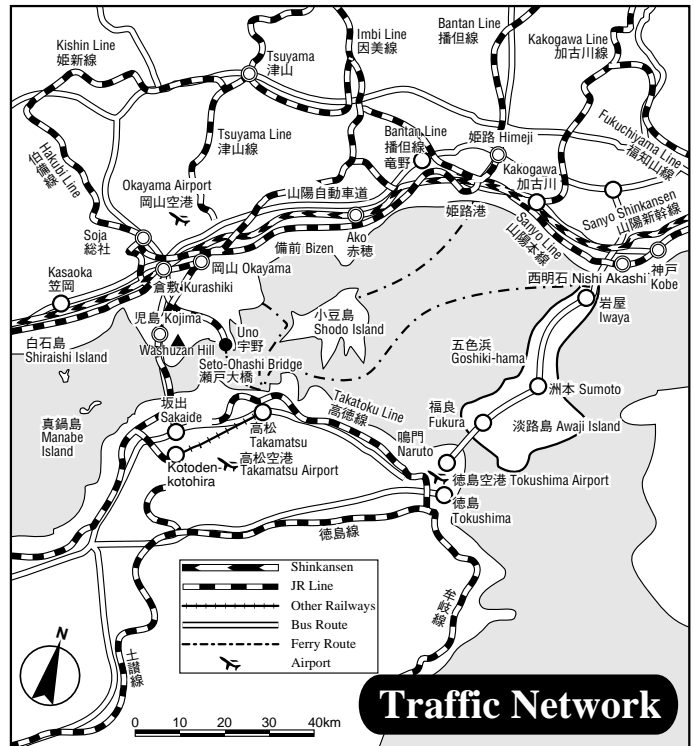
Washuzan Bus Stop on the Shimotsui Railways Bus, enjoying ever-changing picturesque scenery on the way to the summit.

Shiraishi Island (白石島) and **Manabe Island (真鍋島)** are two of 30 islets which constitute the Kasaoka islands. Both islets command a panoramic view of the Inland Sea National Park and offer ideal seabathing in summer.

SETO-OHASHI BRIDGE

Seto-Ohashi Bridge (瀬戸大橋), the double decked bridge for trains and cars, which took nearly 10 years and one trillion yen to complete, actually consists of 6 different bridges. These connecting spans link 5 islands, and join Honshu and Shikoku. These cover almost 13 km. of sea and island that form the Inland Sea National Park. The construction involved a variety of new methods and technology especially designed to protect the natural beauty of the park. To see Seto-Ohashi Bridge, you can take tour buses or boats from Okayama or Shikoku. The bridge with the light of the setting sun reflected is especially beautiful and also at night when it's lighted up. If you cross the bridge via bus, Kojima Station and then get off the bus at Keihan Fisherman's Wharf-mae Bus Stop, and operated Kotosan Bus leaves the slopes.

Seto-Ohashi Tourist boat (瀬戸大橋観光船), leaves from Kojima Island's tourist port, a 5 min. walk from Kojima Sta. One course is to go pass under Shimotsui Seto-Ohashi and head north. It takes about 45 min. Fare: ¥1,550. Operating hours: 9:00 - 15:00 (Between Dec. 1 and Mar. 19, 10:00 - 14:00). Closed: Every Tue. and Wed. between Dec. and Feb., (national holidays are open.) and day after national holidays. Daily runs: every 1 hr.



Traffic Network



Goodwill Guide Groups like the following offer tourists from overseas free local tours guided in English or other languages. They are registered with JNTO and display a badge. There is no charge for their service as they are volunteers. You are only expected to pay for their travel expenses, admissions to tourist facilities if you are visiting them, and to pay for their meals if you eat with them.

Association of Kurashiki Goodwill Guide
We can take you around at your request.

Apply a week in advance by phone to Ms. Junko Mino (086-424-7774).



TOURIST INFORMATION

("i" Tourist Information Offices)

Okayama City Tourist Information Office:

JR Okayama Station, 1-1, Eki-Motomachi, Okayama City, Okayama Pref.
9:00-18:00; Closed on Dec.30~Jan.1 Tel. (086)222-2912

Okayama Prefectural International Exchange Foundation:

Okayama International Center, 2-1-1, Hokan-cho, Okayama City, Okayama Pref.
Tel. (086)256-2000

9:00-17:00; Closed on Mon., Dec.29~Jan.3

Kurashiki-Kan Information Center:

1-4-8, Chuo, Kurashiki City, Okayama Pref. Tel. (086)422-0542
9:00-18:00 (Apr.-Oct.); 9:00~17:00 (Nov.-Mar.); Closed on Dec.29~Jan.3

JR Kurashiki Station Information Office:

JR Kurashiki Station, 1-1-1, Achi, Kurashiki City, Okayama Pref.
Tel. (086)426-8681

9:00-18:00 (Apr.-Oct.); 9:00~17:00 (Nov.-Mar.); Closed on Dec.29~Jan.3

Home Visit System

Visit a Japanese Home in Kurashiki

The Home Visit System offers overseas visitors a chance to visit a Japanese family at home and have a glance at Japanese customs and lifestyle. In general, you are invited in the evening time for tea. The families are volunteers who enjoy making international friends. The Home Visit System, operating in 13 cities, is organized by each respective local authority or local-authority-affiliated non-profit organization. For arrangements in Kurashiki, contact the following office.

Kurashiki Association of International Friendship

Apply by phone / fax to Ms. Hara, Secretary General at 086-475-0543 between 8:00-22:00.



The Welcome Inns comprise a range of accommodations from hotels, business hotels, ryokan, minshuku and pensions to youth hostels. Most of them have guest rooms the charge for which is a modest ¥8,000 or less per night for a single room.

Reservation for Welcome Inns is available through International Tourism Center of Japan (ITCJ).

Reservation before your departure for Japan

Visit ITCJ's website at <http://www.itcj.or.jp> or JNTO's at <http://www.jnto.go.jp>. Also your request by mail, fax or e-mail is accepted and processed at ITCJ's head office. To make a reservation, simply complete the Reservation Request Form available from your nearest JNTO offices and send it to the head office at least one week ahead by e-mail or fax, or three weeks ahead of your departure from home by mail. Confirmed flight booking required for application. Especially for your first night in Japan, we accept the reservation request only when you have a firm booking on a flight arriving in Japan by no later than 7:00 p.m.

Reservation after your arrival 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 (TICs) operated by JNTO (in Tokyo) or ITCJ (at Narita Airport and Kansai Airport).

Welcome Inn Reservation Center

c/o International Tourism Center of Japan
9th Fl., Kanda Urban Bldg., 2-4-2, Kanda Tsukasacho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 101-0048
Tel:03-3252-1717 Fax:03-3252-1521

All information contained in this leaflet is based on data as of February 2002. Transportation schedules, fares and accommodation charges are subject to change. Check with organizations concerned for updated information.