

ワンピース


OSZU PLUCCU KUMAMOTO REVIVAL PROJECT The Straw Hat Pirates "Hino Kuni Reconstruction Arc" The Treasure Map (Guidebook)



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 NOT FOR SALE



ワンピース


An epic adventure at sea,
 centered around a
 legendary treasure!
 The protagonist, Luffy, sets out
 on a great journey
 to become the Pirate King!!

Comics now
 on sale!!

KUMAMOTO REVIVAL PROJECT The Straw Hat Pirates "Hino Kuni Reconstruction Arc"

The Treasure Map
 A Guidebook

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**Download the
IKOU app here!**

An app that allows you to search for routes by specifying spots such as statues of the Straw Hat Pirates or remains of the earthquake disaster as departure points and destinations. Check the details with the QR code.



Regarding this guide

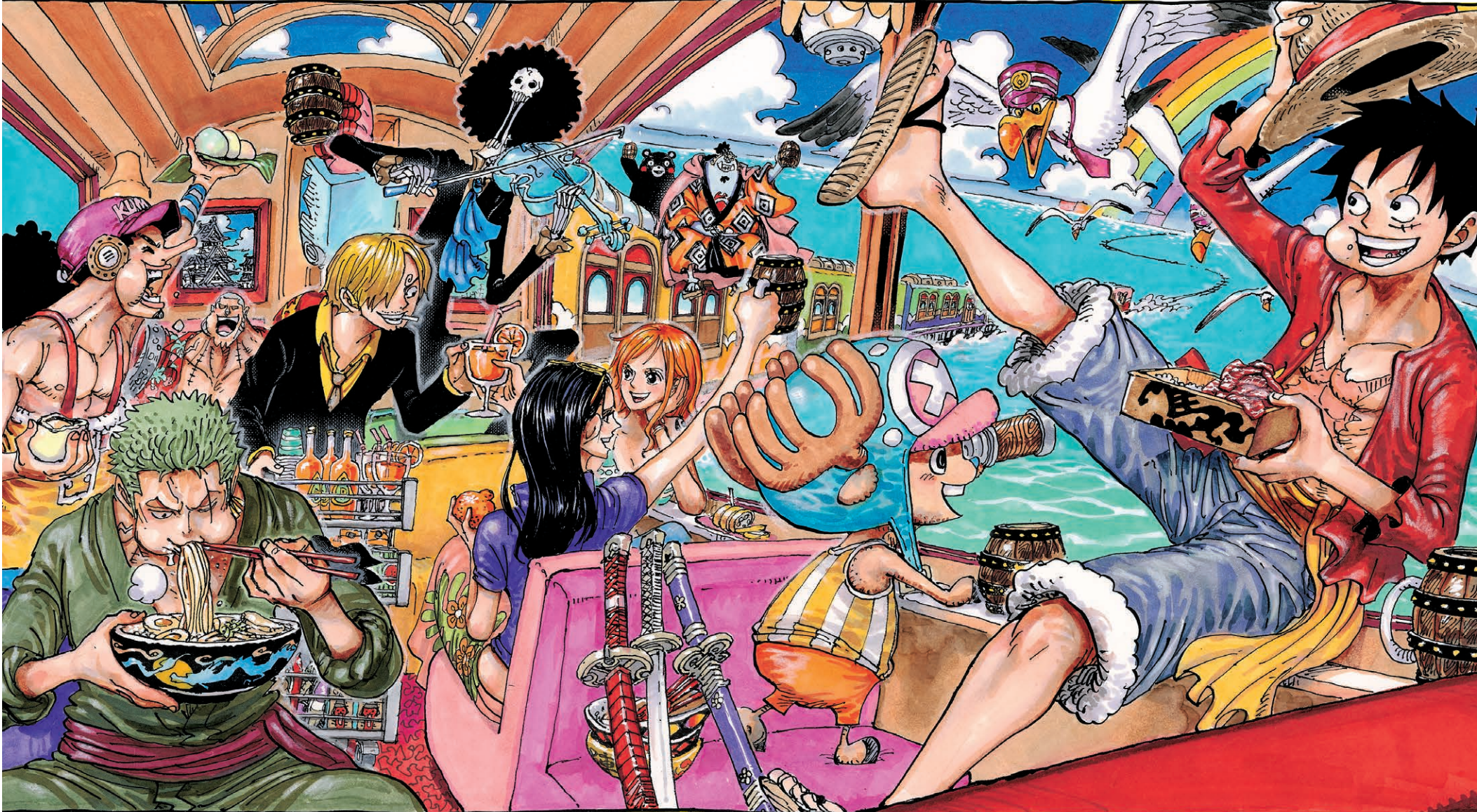
※The posted information is current as of February 2024. Products, offers, fees, and other data may be changed, and may not be available due to changes in time or temporary closures. Please check in advance when using it.

※Prices that are not specifically stated, such as the entrance fee, are adult rates.

※The required travel time in the access information is only a guide. ※In principle, regular holidays are omitted from the year-end and New Year holidays, Obon holidays, Golden Week and temporary holidays.

※Transportation shows the main means and the estimated required time.

ONE PIECE



① Monkey.D.Luffy ④ Tony Tony.Chopper



Kumamoto City

It is the capital city of Kumamoto Prefecture and it has five administrative districts: Chuo Ward, Higashi Ward, Nishi Ward, Minami Ward, and Kita Ward. It has one of the largest covered arcade streets in western Japan, and a population of about 740,000 people.

② Sanji

Mashiki Town

Located between Kumamoto City and Aso, it is a commuter town where city and nature are in harmony. There are also two highway interchanges, Aso Kumamoto Airport and Kyushu Expressway, which are also key for logistics and transportation in the prefecture.

⑩ Jinbe

Uto City

Located in the central part of the prefecture, it is overlooking the Ariake Sea, which has the largest tidal basin in western Japan. Known as the castle town of Christian daimyo Konishi Yukinaga, who was baptized as Augustine, it has been a strategic location for transportation since medieval times.

⑤ Brook

Mifune Town

In 1979, excavation and research efforts were fully launched following the discovery of dinosaur fossils in the Kami Umeki area of Mifune Town, as it was the first carnivorous dinosaur found in Japan. As a result, numerous valuable fossils were subsequently discovered, leading to the area being known as the "Land of Dinosaurs".

⑨ Roronoa Zoro

Ozu Town

The town has developed through numerous projects by Lord Kato Kiyomasa, such as large-scale irrigation projects and the cypress tree-lined streets. It is characterized by a large number of yakiniku (grilled meat) restaurants, so much so that it's known as the "Yakiniku Street". These restaurants offer a variety of high-quality domestic beef at reasonable prices.

⑦ Nami

Nishihara Village

A green village with meadows and forests located at the western foothills of the outer rim of Mount Aso. Situated within a 30-minute radius of Kumamoto City, it also serves as the gateway to southern Aso tourism. With the convenient access of being adjacent to Aso Kumamoto Airport, the population is on the rise.

⑥ Franky

Takamori Town

Located at the easternmost tip of Kumamoto Prefecture, it is bordered by Miyazaki Prefecture to the south and Oita Prefecture to the east. In the vast grasslands at the foot of Mt. Neko, the symbol of the town, wildflowers bloom profusely throughout the four seasons, and the seasonal winds bring a fragrant breeze, creating a place known as the "Village of Wildflowers and Fragrant Breezes."

⑧ Nico Robin

Minamiaso Village

It has 11 springs listed in "Japan's 100 Famous Waters" and "Heisei's 100 Famous Waters" and is also called "The Birthplace of Water". Agricultural products such as buckwheat and melons that take advantage of the temperature difference between day and night are also actively cultivated in high cold areas at an altitude of 400 to 500 metres.

③ Usopp

Aso City

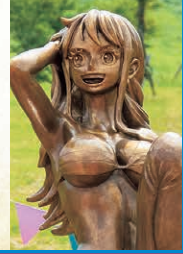
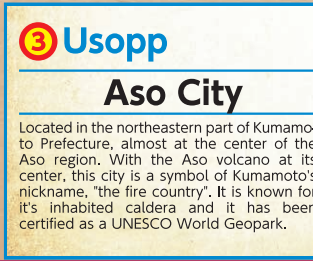
Located in the northeastern part of Kumamoto Prefecture, almost at the center of the Aso region. With the Aso volcano at its center, this city is a symbol of Kumamoto's nickname, "the fire country". It is known for its inhabited caldera and it has been certified as a UNESCO World Geopark.



... Check out the statues locations! ...

- Straw Hat Pirates
- Hino Kuni Reconstruction Arc

Area Guide



The Kumamoto earthquake occurred in April 2016. On April 17, immediately after the earthquake, We received a heartwarming message from Mr. Eiichiro Oda, a manga artist from Kumamoto Prefecture, saying that he would definitely come and help us.

くまもん

熊本で大地震が起きました。(九州全域)
 僕は熊本生まれふるさとなんです。
 直接甚大な被害を受けた方々に、深く、心より
 お見舞い申し上げます。家族や友達と直接連絡が
 とれるわけですが、ホントにみんな恐くて、ごも
 頑張ってます。連絡したこちも安心させる
 様な事をみんな言ってくれて、たくましい!!
 だけど人間が気と
 張れる時間の限界が
 あります。その糸が切れる
 前に何とか心が落ちつける
 状態になってほしいです。
 大人は子供達を不安に
 させない様に必死です。子供達に、1番に笑って
 ほしい! そしたら大人は頑張れるんだ!!
 今、まだ民間から手を出すのは難しいですが、
 必ずや復興のお手伝いさせて頂きます。
 どうかフンバってください!!



2016. 4. 17

尾田栄一郎

Following this message, a collaboration between the manga ONE PIECE and Kumamoto Prefecture, named the "ONE PIECE Kumamoto Revival Project," was launched to serve as a "driving force" for recovery efforts in Kumamoto. In 2018, Eiichiro Oda received the Kumamoto Prefectural Honor Award as a tribute to his achievements as a manga artist and his significant support for the reconstruction efforts. A statue of Luffy was installed on the Kumamoto Prefectural Office Promenade as a symbol of recovery. Starting from 2019, statues of the Straw Hat Pirates were installed in nine municipalities in the prefecture, over a period of four years, creating the narrative of "The Straw Hat Pirates 'Hino Kuni Reconstruction Arc'." Even now, the prefecture is still implementing various related projects.

2016

Reconstruction support begins with an original key visual!

The "ONE PIECE Kumamoto Revival Project" begins in 2016 to support recovery efforts following the Kumamoto earthquake. Initiatives such as the Kumamoto Castle Reconstruction Project in Kumamoto City, the Furusato Nozei (hometown tax system) return gifts in Mashiki Town, and stamp rallies with limited edition goods in Takamori Town, Yunomae Town, and Kamiyamakusa City are implemented.



▲A blanket from the hometown tax return gifts in Mashiki Town, which suffered particularly heavy damage.

2017

A collaboration for the "coming of age" of ONE PIECE (20th anniversary of serialization)!

A message and a small gift from "Weekly Shonen Jump" and Mr. Oda are distributed to the coming of age ceremony participants (20 year olds). In addition, a wrapped school bus is gifted by local contributors in Mashiki Town.



▲A message and clear file from Mr. Oda



▲Hiroyasu Nishi Elementary school wrapped school bus

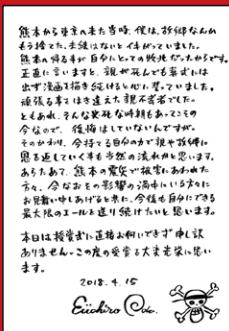
2018

Mr. Eiichiro Oda receives the Kumamoto Prefectural Honour Award for his significant support to recovery efforts! Installation of Luffy's statue!

In April, Mr. Oda receives the Kumamoto Prefectural Honour Award. It is later revealed in the comments section of the "Weekly Shonen Jump" (January 22, 2019) that Mr. Oda himself was present at the unveiling ceremony of Luffy's statue in November.



▲On the day of the unveiling ceremony, many people gathered under clear skies.



▲Comment upon receiving the Prefectural Honor Award

2019

"The Straw Hat Pirates 'Hino Kuni' Reconstruction Arc" Starts!

The installation of the Straw Hat Pirates statues starts. It begins with the statues of Sanji and Usopp in December 2019, and ends with the statue of Jinbe in July 2022. Statues are installed in 9 municipalities in the prefecture over 4 years.

2020

Installation of Straw Hat Pirates statues one after the other! A digital stamp rally starts!

A collaboration project is launched matching the resumption of operations between Higo-Ozu and Aso on the JR Hoho Main Line, and a digital stamp rally is organized at the sites of the 6 bronze statues installed by November 2020.

2021

The ceramic plaque of the "ONE PIECE Kumamoto Revival Project" is completed & unveiled at Amu Plaza Kumamoto!

The illustration drawn by Mr. Oda of the Kumamoto adventure and the illustrated ceramic blank donated to the Kumamoto Revival Project are completed and installed inside the shopping center facing Kumamoto Station.



▲Unveiling in conjunction with the opening in 2021



▲Illustrations are drawn on the front and back of the ceramic plaque



▲A recent illustration of Jinbe, which was secret until its reveal

2022

The statues of the Straw Hat Pirates as mini figures!

The Straw Hat Pirates make their appearance as World Collectible Figures, the prized miniatures. In addition, a new production associating ONE PIECE and "Seiwa Bunraku," the important intangible cultural property of Kumamoto Prefecture, is performed.



▲Please check the purchase locations of the mini figures page 70

2023

The entire Minamiaso Railway is restored! Thousand Sunny train departs!



▲Operating on fixed dates (page 40), be careful!

Check the distance between each statue!

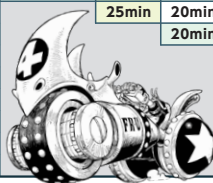
Access Guide

Let's estimate the time needed between each statue and create a route.



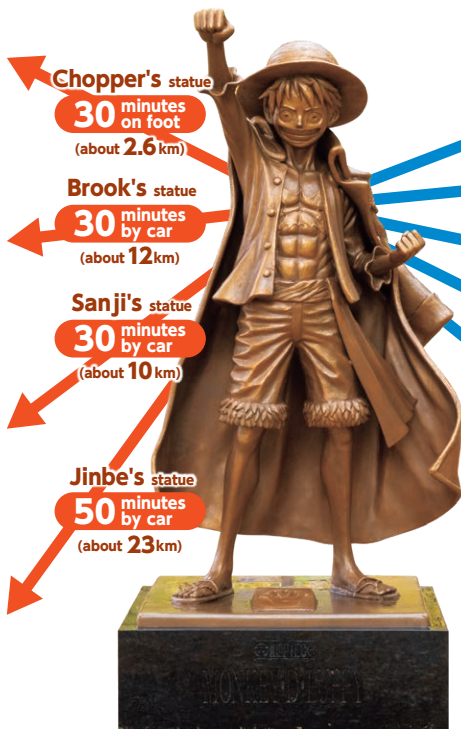
● Time required between each bronze statue ※For those using a car (estimate)

	Chopper	Brook	Sanji	Jinbe	Zoro	Nami	Robin	Usopp	Franky
Luffy	10min(30min on foot)	30min	30min	50min	40min	40min	55min	65min	70min
Chopper		25min	20min	40min	40min	40min	55min	65min	70min
Brook			20min	45min	40min	40min	55min	65min	65min
Sanji				50min	30min	25min	40min	50min	50min
Jinbe					65min	65min	80min	90min	90min
Zoro						20min	25min	30min	40min
Nami							25min	40min	30min
Robin								20min	30min
Usopp									40min



WEST

EAST



Chopper's statue

30 minutes on foot
(about 2.6km)

Brook's statue

30 minutes by car
(about 12km)

Sanji's statue

30 minutes by car
(about 10km)

Jinbe's statue

50 minutes by car
(about 23km)

Zoro's statue

40 minutes by car
(about 20km)

Nami's statue

40 minutes by car
(about 21km)

Robin's statue

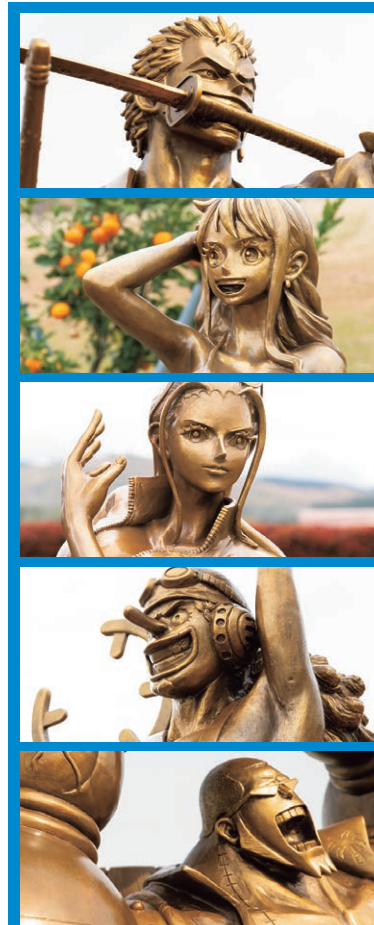
55 minutes by car
(about 32km)

Usopp's statue

65 minutes by car
(about 43km)

Franky's statue

70 minutes by car
(about 44km)



Return trip from Kumamoto Station

+ Travel using public transportation

Let's enjoy the train ride while visiting the statues and other tourist attractions!

By train for 2 days and 1 night

[Day 1]

▶ 9:11

From Kumamoto Station



▶ 10:35

Aso Station.
Take pictures of Usopp's statue. Lunch & shopping at Roadside Station Aso



▶ 14:15

Take a picture of Franky's statue & Mr. Oda's Autograph card!

Minamiaso Railway • JR

▶ 16:03

Higo-Ozu Station.
Take a picture of the Zoro's statue & get a souvenir!



Stay in Kumamoto City



If you use the limited express, it takes about 1 hour and 20 minutes from Kumamoto Station to Aso Station. When you arrive, have an early lunch at the neighbouring "Roadside Station Aso"



When you leave the station, the statue of Usopp stands right in front of you (page 42). Start the statue tour from here!



Nearby tourist attractions

Aso City
Michinoeki (Roadside Station) Aso

- 📍 Kurokawa, Aso City 1440-1
- ☎ 0967-35-5088
- 🕒 9:00~18:00
- 🗓 Open every day
- 🚶 Just a short walk from JR Aso Station
- 🅐 Available



At Tateno Station, transfer to Minamiaso Railway and go to Takamori Station where the statue of Franky (page 44) is waiting. If the time is right, maybe you could ride the "Thousand Sunny" train?!



More than 100 manga artists' signed cards and a support message from Mr. Oda are displayed in the station building.

Nearby tourist attractions

Takamori Town
Takamori Yusui Tunnel Park



Inside the 2055-metre-long tunnel, you can see spring water fountains and waterfall-like exhibitions.

- 📍 Takamori, Takamori, Aso county 1034-2
- ☎ 0967-62-3331 (Takamori Town Hall)
- 🕒 9:00~18:00 (From November to March, until 17:00)
- 🗓 Closed Monday (open if it is a national holiday)
- 🆓 Free of charge
- 🚶 Minamiaso Railway
- 🕒 10 minutes on foot from Takamori Station
- 🅐 Available



Zoro's Imkenpi ("secret potato sword") can be purchased at the michinoeki Ozu, which is located 7 minutes away from Higo-Ozu Station by car.

Transfer again at Tateno Station and get off at the closest station to Zoro's statue, Higo-Ozu Station (page 50). From there, it's a 10 minutes walk to the statue.

[Day 2]

▶ 10:00

Kumamoto Castle
Castle visit & lunch at Sakura no Baba Josaien.

Kumamoto City Tram



Visit Kumamoto Castle (page 32) using the "special walkway" and the newly restored main keep.

Nearby tourist attractions

This spot is designed like a castle town of old. You can enjoy local food, buy souvenirs, and learn about the history of Kumamoto Castle in the museum.



Kumamoto City
Sakura no Baba Josaien

- 📍 Ninomaru, Chuo Ward, Kumamoto City 1-1
- ☎ 096-288-5600 (Wakuwakuza)
- ☎ 096-288-5577 (Sakura no Aji)
- 🗓 Depends on the facility.
- 🕒 7 minutes on foot from Kumamoto Castle and City Hall
- 🅐 Available

▶ 13:06

Zoological and Botanical Gardens
Entrance tram stop
Take pictures of Chopper's statue and visit the Zoo.

Kumamoto City Tram



Nearby tourist attractions

You can see elephants and giraffes in the animals zone. There is also a plants zone and amusement area.



Kumamoto City
Zoological and Botanical Gardens

- 📍 Kengun, Higashi-ku, Kumamoto City 5-14-2
- ☎ 096-368-4416
- 🕒 9:00~17:00 (Admission is until 16:30)
- 🗓 Closed Monday ※The park is open on the 4th Monday of the month (if it is a national holiday, it will be closed on the next weekday)
- 🎫 ¥500
- 🚶 10 minutes on foot from the entrance of the city tram stop for the zoo and botanical garden
- 🅐 Available

Chopper's statue (page 24) is in front of the entrance of "Kumamoto City Zoological and Botanical Gardens". Let's take a picture together before entering the park or on the way home.

▶ 14:26

Shirutsutaikukan mae tram stop
Take pictures of Luffy's statue, and walk around Suizenji garden.

Kumamoto City Tram



Suizenji Garden ("Jojuen") (page 34), built by the Hosokawa family, the lord of the domain at the time, is designated as a national heritage and historic site.

Nearby tourist attractions



Kumamoto City
Amu Plaza Kumamoto

- 📍 3-15-26 Kasuga, Nishi-ku, Kumamoto City
- ☎ 096-206-2800
- 🗓 It depends on the facility. Open every day
- 🚶 Close to JR Kumamoto Station
- 🅐 Available

Return to Kumamoto Station

From the entrance of Zoological and Botanical Gardens, there is a train every 7 to 8 minutes in front of the municipal gymnasium (Shirutsutaikukan mae), which is nearby the statue of Luffy (page 22).

Return trip from Kumamoto Station

Visit the 10 bronze statues in 2 days.

Rent a car at Kumamoto Station and visit the statues. If you have the time, visit the nearby sightseeing spots!

By car for 2 days and 1 night

[Day 1]

10:30

From Kumamoto Station

About 6km/
about 20min



From Kumamoto Station, first head to Luffy's statue (page 22). There are 54 ginkgo trees along the promenade to symbolize the 540,000 koku of Higo (feudal Japan fief measurement).



The flag of the Straw Hat Pirates on a street lamp of the prefectural office promenade.

Take pictures of Luffy's statue

About 2.6km/
about 10min



Chopper's statue (page 24) greeting visitors at the entrance of "Kumamoto City Zoological and Botanical Gardens" (page 15).

Nearby tourist attractions

Kumamoto City Lake Ezu



A lake divided in two, upper and lower Lake Ezu. A relaxing place for locals where they can enjoy plants and wild birds.

- 935-1 Hiroki, Higashi-ku, Kumamoto City
- Free to visit
- Free of charge
- 5 minutes on foot from Hatcho Baba on the city tram
- Available

Take pictures of Chopper's statue

About 8km/
about 20min



Sanji's statue (page 30) is located in a corner of the general sports park in Mashiki Town.

Mashiki Town Mashikiriri (Container mall) BOX SQUARE



A two-story complex built with earthquake-resistant containers. Events are also held here.

- 1505-1 Oaza Soryo, Mashiki, Kamimashiki county
- It depends on the store.
- Get off at Sanko Bus Soryo
- Available

Take pictures of Sanji's statue and have lunch at Mashikiriri

About 10km/
about 20min



Brook's statue is in the dinosaur park, where temporary emergency housing used to be (page 28).

Nearby tourist attractions

Mifune Town Melody Bridge



A bridge with a three-dimensional horn artwork on the main pillar. I think I can hear music even now...

- Tagigawa, Mifune, Kamimashiki county
- Free to visit
- Free of charge
- Kumamoto Bus, get off at Imajo
- None

Take pictures of Brook's statue

About 26.7km/
about 42min



Jinbe's statue (page 26) is along the coast, facing the "Nagabeta Seabed Road"!

Nearby tourist attractions

Uto City Okoshiki Coast



A scenic spot where you can see the beautiful sand curves created by the Ariake Sea and the wind.

- Shimoamida, Uto City
- Free to visit
- Free of charge
- 15-minute walk from JR Tsunada Station
- Available

Take pictures of Jinbe's statue

About 22.2km/
about 44min

Stay in Kumamoto City

[Day 2]

10:00

From Kumamoto City

About 20km/
about 45min

Take pictures of Zoro's statue

About 12km/
about 20min

Go to Robin's statue via the Shin-Aso Bridge.

After taking pictures of the statue, visit the Kumamoto Earthquake Museum "KIOKU"

About 18.2km/
about 30min

After worshipping at Aso Shrine, enjoy lunch at Monzencho Shopping Street

About 4.6km/
about 10min

After visiting the statue of Usopp, you can go to Kusasenri and to the statue of Franky.

About 23km/
about 30min

Visit Nami's statue

About 25km/
about 50min

Return to Kumamoto Station



In the park where the Zoro's statue (page 50) is located, there is also an "Imo-kun" statue promoting Ozu Town's specialty, Karaimo (spicy sweet potatoes).

Nearby tourist attractions

Ozu Town Seta Shrine

The main shrine was reconstructed, while the huge stones that fell during the Kumamoto earthquake were left untouched. This allows visitors to physically sense the scale of the damage caused by the earthquake. (page 57)



The "Shin-Aso Bridge" (page 56) connecting Kumamoto City and Aso is also a symbol of Kumamoto's reconstruction!

About 5km/
about 10min



Robin's statue is installed in front of the former Tokai University Aso campus, which was left damaged by the earthquake. (page 48).



After seeing the statue of Robin, visit the museum (page 56) on the same site



Aso City Aso Shrine

It is the head shrine of 500 other Aso shrines nationwide. The main gate, which is the largest in Kyushu is a must-see.

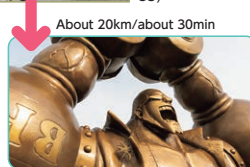
- Monzen-machi shopping street is near Aso Shrine
- 3083-1 Miyaji, Ichinomiyama, Aso City
- Free to visit
- Free of charge
- 15-minute walk from JR Miyaji Station
- Available



After taking a picture of the Usopp's statue (page 14), go to "Roadside Station Aso" (page 14)

About 13km/about 20min

"Kusasenri gahama" with its idyllic scenery and horses walking in the grasslands (page 53)



About 20km/about 30min

The statue of Franky (page 44) installed at Takamori Station can be visited without using the train.



Nami's statue (page 46) is on the lawn in front of the temporary Parking lot, on the left when looking at "Tawarayama Exchange Centre Moe no Sato."

Return trip from
Aso Kumamoto Airport

A Kumamoto
travel plan full of
sightseeing spots

Use a rental car from the airport and
visit the sightseeing spots around
Kumamoto Prefecture as well as the
bronze statues.

By car for 3 days and 2 nights

[Day 1]

▶ At 9:00

Aso Kumamoto Airport
Take pictures at the
"ONE PIECE" welcome
area and check your
travel schedule!



Take a break in the welcome area in the arrival lobby of Aso Kumamoto Airport, and then depart for the first statue!

About 8.3km/
about 15min

Take a picture of
Nami's statue &
enjoy sweets with
Nami's picture on them.



Take a picture with the mandarin oranges planted next to Nami's statue (page 46).



Tawarayama Exchange Centre Moe no Sato sells Nami's mandarin orange ice cream parfait (¥700). Please try it when visiting the statue.

About 23km/
about 30min

After taking a picture of
Franky's statue,
go to Usopp's
statue via the
Aso Panorama Line.



Aso Panorama Line



You can take a picture of Franky's statue (page 44) from a lower diagonal angle to capture an image that makes it seem he is reaching into the sky.

About 33km/
about 50min

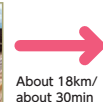
The statue of Usopp (page 42) with his left hand reaching up to the sky, his famous pose from ONE PIECE.

After lunch at
Uchinomaki Onsen,
head towards
Robin's statue.



A hot spring town typical of Aso. The public hot spring tour called "Machiyu" is popular.

📍 781 Ozato, Aso City, Kumamoto Prefecture
(Aso Onsen Kanko Ryokan Cooperative)
Tel 0967-32-3330



Robin's statue (page 48) is also recommended for panoramic photography with the outer ring mountains (page 53) in the background.

Nearby tourist attractions

Minamiaso Village Sugaru Falls



It is in the 100 best waterfalls in Japan ranking and has a drop of 60 metres. This is a view from the "Sugaru Falls Scenic Overlook" along National Route 57.

- 📍 Minamiaso Village Oaza Tateno 301-2 (Sugaru Falls Collapse Observatory)
- 🆓 Free to visit
- 🆓 Free of charge
- 🕒 40 minutes by car from Kumamoto IC
- 🅇 Available

About 15km/
about 20min

Take pictures of
Zoro's statue



Zoro's statue (page 50), which has a higher base than other statues, looks cool when shot from below.

About 20km/
about 45min

Stay in Kumamoto City

[Day 2]

▶ 10:00

From Kumamoto City
(Hotel)

About 20km/
about 40min

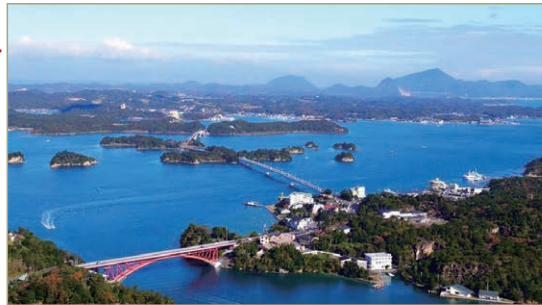
After taking pictures
of Jinbe's statue,
go to Kamishima via
the Amakusa Pearl line.



The statue of the largest member of the crew, Jinbe (page 26), is impressive no matter how it's photographed. Don't forget to focus on the face as well.

About 33km/
about 42min

Meet dolphins at
Amakusa Pearl
Garden Marine
Aquarium Sea
Donut & have lunch



Because pearl farming thrived here, the Amakusa Five Bridges, a route which connect large and small islands, is called the Amakusa Pearl Line.

Shake "hands" with dolphins at "Amakusa Pearl Garden & Marine Aquarium Sea Donut" (page 60)

About 62km/
about 1 hour
and 15 min

Visit churches,
museums, and world
heritage sites that tell
the history of Hidden
Christians



Oe Tenshudo Church

Visit the white-walled church, typical of the Amakusa Christians. (page 61)

About 750m/
about 2 min

About 70km/
about 1 hour
and 20 min



Sakitsu Church

It is one of the heritage sites spread amongst 8 municipalities including Nagasaki and Sasebo (page 61).



Amakusa Rosary Museum

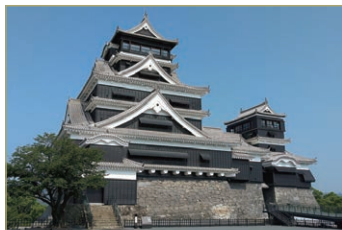
Valuable items related to Amakusa Christians are on display (page 61)

Visit the Amakusa
Shiro Museum



"Amakusa Shiro Museum" where you can learn about the situation at that time, including the "Shimabara Amakusa Rebellion" (page 60)

Stay in Amakusa

[Day 3]**▶ 9:00****Departure from the hotel**About 50km/
about 1 hour
and 15 min**Kumamoto Castle Tour & Lunch**About 5km/
about 20min**Before heading to Luffy's statue, you can visit Kumamon Square.**About 2.6km/
about 10min**Take pictures of Chopper's statue**About 10.3km/
about 22min**Take pictures of Brook's statue & visit the Mifune Town Dinosaur Museum**About 10km/
about 20min**After visiting Sanji's statue, go to the Shiken Fujin Memorial Museum.**About 4.2km/
about 10min**Aso Kumamoto Airport**

You can see Kumamoto City from the top of the main keep, which was completely restored in 2021. The contrast of the castle's black and white colors is beautiful (page 32).



Luffy's statue with ginkgo trees aligned in the background makes beautiful pictures. (page 22)

Kumamoto City Kumamon Square

This is Kumamon's base of activity. There is also information about tourism and local products.



- 📍 Kumamoto Building 1st Floor, Tetoria, 8-2 Tetorihonmachi, Chuo-ku, Kumamoto City 096-327-9066
- 🕒 10:00 to 19:00 Open every day
- 🎫 Free of charge
- 🕒 17 minutes on foot from the city tram Suidocho
- 🅐 Available



Take many pictures of Chopper's adorable statue (page 24) from various angles and close ups.



Brook's statue (page 28) is photogenic no matter which angle it is shot from

Mifune Town Mifune Dinosaur Museum

- 📍 Spinosaurus and allosaurus bones are on display.
- 📍 995-6 Oaza Mifune, Mifune, Kamimashiki-gun 096-282-4051
- 🕒 9:00 to 17:00 (last entry at 16:30) Closed Monday (or the next day if it is a public holiday) ¥500
- 🚌 Kyushu Sanko Bus, get off at Mifune Dinosaur Museum
- 🅐 Available



Sanji's statue (page 30). Make sure to take pictures from the left to see his eyebrows clearly.

Mashiki Town Shiken Fujin Memorial Museum

The achievements of the Yajima sisters and the four women who laid the foundation of today's gender-equal society are exhibited here.



- 📍 1250 Sugido, Mashiki, Kamimashiki-gun 096-286-4959
- 🕒 9:30-16:30 Closed Monday (or the next day if it is a holiday) ¥200
- 🚗 20 minutes by car from Koike Takayama IC
- 🅐 Available



In the departure area, there are restaurants where you can enjoy Kumamoto's speciality foods and shops selling famous products.

**WEST AREA**



MONKEY.D.LUFFY

Kumamoto City ▶ Monkey.D.Luffy's statue

“Hino Kuni,” the symbol of Kumamoto's reconstruction!

On November 30, 2018, it was installed on the “Prefectural Office Promenade” as a symbol of reconstruction efforts. Kumamoto City, where the statue is located, has Kumamoto Castle, the symbol of the city, and one of the largest shopping arcade in western Japan, and it is always crowded.

- 📍 6-18-1 Suizenji, Chuo-ku, Kumamoto City
- 🕒 Open 24/7 🆓 Free
- 🚶 6 minutes on foot from Shirtsutaiikukan mae on the city tram
- 📌 Available



STORY

The Straw Hat Pirates who landed in Kumamoto, also known as “Hino Kuni”, know that the damage caused by the Kumamoto earthquake is widespread, and that residents are still suffering.

So, Luffy instructed his comrades to help rebuild the disaster area!

The companions support the disaster-stricken areas with their respective skills, pledging to reunite with Luffy, who is sending encouragement for reconstruction.

COLUMN

“Hino Kuni Reconstruction Arc” starts!

Starting with Luffy's statue, the installation of statues of the crew members begins as part of the Straw Hat Pirates “Hino Kuni Reconstruction Arc.” To aid in reconstruction, the Straw Hat Pirates split up into nine municipalities within the prefecture, providing support for the recovery efforts.



On the day of the unveiling ceremony, to celebrate the completion of Luffy's statue, a pirate flag was raised on the rooftop for the first time in the history of the prefectural government ▼



▲ Oda's handprint and signature at the foot of Luffy's statue



TONY TONY.CHOPPER

Kumamoto City TonyTony.Chopper's statue

The ship's doctor, Chopper, watches over animals and children!

Installed in front of Kumamoto City Zoological and Botanical Gardens on November 7, 2020, Kumamoto City is known as a city of water and forests, abundant in nature. Adjacent to the zoo, Lake Ezu (page 16) serves as an oasis for the citizens.

- 📍 5-14-2 Kengun, Higashi-ku, Kumamoto City
- 🕒 Open 24/7 🆓 Free
- 🕒 10 minutes on foot from Zoological and Botanical Gardens Entrance on the city tram
- 📌 Available



STORY

The ship's doctor, Chopper, rushes into Kumamoto City Zoological and Botanical Gardens, which suffered damage to its animal enclosures due to the earthquake. He assists in caring for the animals, some of which have been evacuated to zoos outside the prefecture, and puts smiles on the faces of children visiting the zoo.

COLUMN The cherry blossoms of "Hino Kuni"

There are many famous cherry blossom spots in Kumamoto City, such as Kumamoto Castle, Akizu River, and Suizenji Garden. Additionally, there are also famous places such as Kikuchi City and Minamiaso Village. You might be reminded of Chopper's hometown the 'Sakura Kingdom' that was featured in the manga.



Suizenji Garden (page 34)



Kumamoto Castle (page 32)



Kikuchi Park (Kikuchi City)



Takamori Pass Senbonzakura (Takamori Town)



Isshingyo Cherry Blossom (Minamiaso Village)

This QR code has information on cherry blossoms!





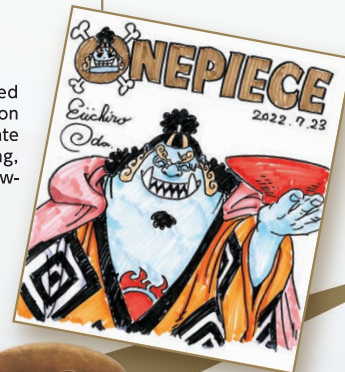
The helmsman, Jinbe, rushed to Uto City, where reconstruction of the city hall that was damaged in the earthquake is progressing. With the magnificent sea in the background, he warmly watches over the citizens and steers the city toward further reconstruction.

Uto City Jinbe's statue

- 📍 3162-1 Sumiyoshi, Uto City
- 🕒 Open 24/7 🆓 Free
- 🚶 20 minutes on foot from JR Sumiyoshi Station 📶 Available

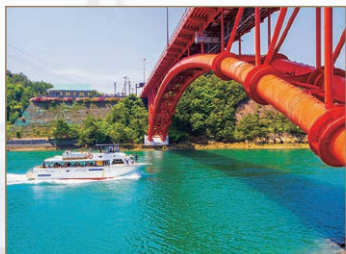
Leading the reconstruction along the coast whilst looking at the sea!

Installed nearby the "Nagabeta Seabed Road" (page 35) facing the Ariake Sea on July 23, 2022. Uto City has a mild climate throughout the year, perfect for fishing, and in the mountainous area, citrus, strawberries, and tomatoes are cultivated.



COLUMN Boat rides you can enjoy in "Hino Kuni"

Kumamoto features seas like the Ariake Sea and the Yatsushiro Sea, where there are abundant activities to be found. Just like the Straw Hat Pirates advancing on the Grand Line under Jinbe's guidance, hop on a boat and enjoy the seas and rivers of Hino Kuni!



Cruising around the Five Bridges of Amakusa (Kamiamakusa City)



The Kuma River (page 67)



Sightseeing Utase boat (Ashikita Town)



Dolphin watching (Amakusa City, Kamiamakusa City)



ONE PIECE
JINBE



BROOK

Mifune Town Brook's statue

- 📍 100 Oaza Hetami, Mifune, Kamimashiki-gun
- 🕒 Open 24/7
- 🆓 Free
- 🚌 Get off at Kumamoto Bus Mifune Dinosaur Museum, 5 minutes on foot
- 🅑 Available

Music to support the reconstruction played in the town where Kyushu's only music university is located!

Installed in "Mifune Fureai Hiroba" on November 8, 2020, Mifune was the first place in Japan where the teeth of carnivorous dinosaurs were discovered and is known as "Dinosaur Village". It also has the only music university in Kyushu.



STORY

Brook, the musician, rushes to Mifune, where many houses, in addition to the music university, have been damaged. He will support the recovery of the residents' hearts with cheering songs and light jokes for the revival played with music college students, and aim for the bright reconstruction of the town.

COLUMN

Mifune, a place full of bones.

At the Dinosaur Museum in Mifune Town, known as the 'Land of Dinosaurs' (page 20), fossils of dinosaurs that served as models for the Ancient Zoan Devil Fruits are exhibited such as the jaw of a Spinosaurus and the skeletal remains of an Allosaurus.



▲In the permanent exhibition, about 850 items including valuable fossils and dinosaur skeletons collected from all over the world are exhibited and are divided into 5 sections.



▲There are also open labs where you can observe scientists at work, something you usually don't see.



Check out +Plus "Dinosaur Island"!

Goshoura Town in Amakusa City consists of 18 islands large and small. It is known as the 'Dinosaur Island,' where layers of earth from 100 million years ago remain. In addition to fossils of seashells and ammonites, it is also home to fossils of teeth from Japan's largest carnivorous dinosaurs.



SANJI

Mashiki Town Sanji's statue

- 📍 236 Kiyama, Mashiki, Kamimashiki-gun
- 🕒 Open 24/7 📱 F Free
- 🚌 Sanko Bus, get off at Kiyama Sanko, 10 minutes on foot
- 🆓 Available

The cook, Sanji, goes to Mashiki Town, a treasure trove of ingredients!

Installed at the "Minateras Exchange and Information Center" on December 7, 2019, Mashiki Town was originally a town where agriculture was thriving, but it is also focussing on tourism on the occasion of the reconstruction from the earthquake.



SANJI

STORY

In Mashiki Town, where the school lunch center was damaged by two magnitude 7 earthquakes, Sanji rushes to the scene. Using local agricultural products, he creates delicious and warm school lunches, fostering the health and smiles of the children who will shape the future of the town.

COLUMN

Mashiki Town is rich in fresh ingredients!

Mashiki Town is abundant with delicious produce such as Mashiki watermelons, Taishu persimmons, grapes, and sweet potatoes. It's a delight for chefs with its plentiful supply of fresh vegetables and fruits.



Mashiki pudding

Homemade pudding to support the reconstruction efforts of Mashiki Town

Taishu Persimmon

It's so fresh and crispy that it reminds me of pears!



Mashiki watermelon

It is characterised by its early harvest time, from November to June of the following year.



Ichidago

Local sweets made with rice flour and wrapped in red bean paste



One of the three famous castles in Japan and a symbol of Kumamoto's reconstruction!



▲Kumamoto Castle is also the key visual of the Revival project!

Kumamoto City
Kumamoto Castle

About 30 minutes tram ride from Luffy's Statue



The castle was built in 1607 by Kato Kiyomasa. The overall restoration from the damage caused by the Kumamoto earthquake is set to be finished in 2052, but the castle's main keep was fully restored in 2021.

- P** 1-1 Honmaru, Chuo-ku, Kumamoto City
- T** 096-223-5011 (Kumamoto Castle Management Centre)
- O** 9:00 to 17:00 Open every day
- C** ¥800
- T** 10 minutes on foot from Kumamoto Castle/City Hall Tram stop
- P** Available

Check out the highlights from the raised walkway!!

The tour of the castle, which is still under restoration work, is only available from two special entrances in the north and south. (The north route is partially closed except Sundays and public holidays)



Sukiymaru Two-storey Hall

This is a hall where Noh plays and tea parties were once held.

Two kinds of stone walls

The slope of the stone wall is different on the left and right, and you can see the progress of technological innovation.



Important cultural property of Higashitakenomaru

An area that was responsible for the Defence of the eastern part of the castle and is also designated as an important cultural property of the country.



Castle tower

Its distinctive architectural style features 'Chidori-hafu' and 'Kara-hafu' gables. The large ginkgo tree that became the origin of the nickname 'Ginkgo Castle' is also a notable feature here.



Honmaru Palace Great Hall (Dark Passage)

Above the underground passage is the Honmaru Goten (main palace). The 'Dark Passage' is known for its low light even during the daytime



Uto tower

Also called the third castle tower, it is a tower of scale and structure comparable to the castle tower.



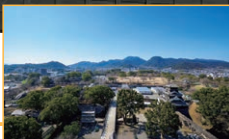
Kumamoto City **Kato Shrine**

Kato Kiyomasa, who built Kumamoto Castle, is the main deity, and it is believed to bring blessings to civil engineering, architecture, and good luck. It was relocated twice before reaching its current location.

- P** 2-1 Honmaru, Chuo-ku, Kumamoto City
- C** Free to visit
- T** 9 minutes on foot from Kumamoto Castle and City Hall
- P** Available

Castle's main keep floor guide

- 6F** Observation floor
- 5F** Passage
- 4F** Modern days
- 3F** Contemporary times
- 2F** Hosokawa period
- 1F** Kato era
- B1F** Hidden storeroom



▲A panoramic view of the city from Kumamoto Castle

The restoration is complete! A glimpse into the castle's main keep!

In 2021, the exhibits were also renewed, along with the completion of overall restoration, focusing on the history of the main keep.



▲The development of the castle and the castle town progressed during the era of the Hosokawa family.



▲Large scale model of the keep



▲Entrance utilizing the existing remains

Enjoy the tastes of the four seasons



Kumamoto City

About 10 minutes on foot from Luffy's statue



Suizenji Garden (Suizenji Kouen)

The Momoyama-style strolling garden, completed during the era of Hosokawa Mitsunari (Tsunatoshi) the third lord of the Higo Hosokawa clan. It features a pond where spring water from Mt. Aso flows, with arrangements of artificial hills and floating stones. The view from the Koko Denju no Ma (a room for imparting ancient and modern knowledge) is considered exquisite.

- 📍 8-1 Suizenji Park, Chuo-ku, Kumamoto City 📞 096-383-0074
- 🕒 8:30 to 17:00 (last entry 16:30) Open every day 🎫 ¥400
- 🚶 3 minutes on foot from Suizenji Kouen on the city tram 🅐 Available

▲ On the north side of the park, there is also Izumi Shrine, which has enshrined the Hosokawa family for generations.



A mysterious scene created by the rise and fall of the tide



▲ In the distance, you can also see Mt. Unzen in Nagasaki Prefecture.

Uto City

A short walk from Jinbe's statue



Nagabeta Seabed Road

This approximately 1km-long road was constructed in 1979 for seaweed cultivation and shellfish harvesting fishermen. The road, which is submerged underwater during high tide, becomes visible and walkable during low tide. It is recommended to visit around 2 hours before or after high tide or low tide for the best experience.

- 📍 3125-1 Sumiyoshi-cho, Uto City
- 🕒 Open 24/7
- 🎫 Free
- 🚶 20 minutes on foot from JR Sumiyoshi Station
- 🅐 Available (okagesama MOBA parking lot)



Kumamoto City

About 11 minutes on foot from Luffy's statue



The oldest existing Western-style building in the prefecture



▲ It collapsed in the Kumamoto earthquake. In 2023, it was relocated to the current location and restored.

Kumamoto Western School Teacher Janes' Residence

A Western-style building constructed in the 4th year of the Meiji era to accommodate the foreign teacher, Mr. Janes, at the Kumamoto Western School. Mr. Janes lived in this house for five years until the 9th year of the Meiji era, and his personal belongings are exhibited. It is designated as an important cultural property of the prefecture.

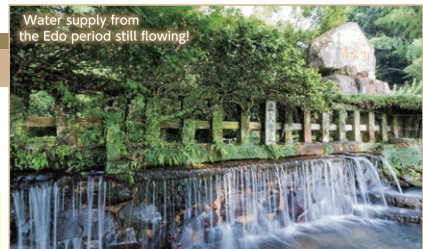
- 📍 12-10 Suizenji Park, Chuo-ku, Kumamoto City 📞 096-382-6076
- 🕒 9:30-16:30 Closed on Mondays (and the following day if it falls on a public holiday) 🎫 ¥200
- 🚶 Right in front of the private gymnasium city tram stop 🅐 None

Uto City

About 15 minutes by car from Jinbe's statue



Water supply from the Edo period still flowing!



▲ It is also designated as one of the 100 best waters in Japan.

Todoroki spring

It is based on the "Gosen Waterway" built in the Edo period, and it is the oldest water supply in Japan that is still used as municipal water. It is one of the three famous waters of Higo, and it produces 4200 liters per minute of fresh spring water.

- 📍 Miyanosho town, Uto City
- 🕒 Open 24/7 🎫 Free
- 🚗 10 minutes by car from JR Uto Station 🅐 None



There are many tanukis in Senbayashi

▲ There is a tanuki statue next to the stop of the city tram Senbashi

Kumamoto City

About 25 minutes by car from Chopper's statue



Tanuki of Senbayama

The "Senba-yama" mentioned in the lyrics of the song "Antagata ga Dokosa" is said to refer to a small, elevated grove near Funabashi Bridge. In homage to this song, there are many tanuki statues around Funabashi Bridge, which spans the Tsuboi River.

- 📍 2-3 Shinmachi, Chuo-ku, Kumamoto City
- 🕒 Open 24/7 🎫 Free
- 🚶 Just a short walk from the city tram Senbashi
- 🅐 None



Kumamoto City

About 15 minutes on foot from Chopper's statue



Kengun Shrine

This is the oldest shrine in the city, one of the four shrines of Aso shrine group. Along its approximately 1200-meter-long approach called "Haccho Babā", some cedar trees are believed to have been planted during the time of Kato Kiyomasa. It also served as the rallying point for the Kumamoto troops during the Satsuma Rebellion.

- 📍 13-1 Kengun Honmachi, Higashi-ku, Kumamoto City
- 🕒 Free to visit
- 🎫 Free
- 🚶 5 minutes on foot from Kengunkou mae on the city tram
- 🅐 Available (until 21:00)



▲ It used to be called "Takemiya"

The oldest shrine in the city that enshrines Takegumi no Mikoto



The beautiful cherry blossoms on the surface of the lake are breathtaking.

▲ The best time to see cherry blossoms is from late March to early April

Uto City

About 20 minutes by car from Jinbe's statue



Tateoka Natural Park

This natural park features two ponds: Tateoka Pond, believed to have been dug by Kato Kiyomasa, and Hanazono Pond, completed in the late Edo period. Approximately 2,000 cherry blossom trees are planted around the ponds, making it one of the most famous cherry blossom viewing spots in the prefecture. The park also includes a campground and a sports center.

- 📍 Hanazono town, Uto City
- 🕒 Open 24/7 🎫 Free
- 🚗 10 minutes by car from JR Uto Station
- 🅐 Available

Uto City

About 20 minutes on foot from Jinbe's statue



Sumiyoshi Nature Park

This park along the Ariake Sea offers views of Mt. Kinpo and Mt. Fugen on clear days. Approximately 2,000 hydrangea bushes are planted, and during their peak bloom around mid-June, music events are held. The small island visible from the park, called "Furyu Island" (Tawarejima), is a place immortalized in "The Pillow Book" and "The Tale of Genji."

- 📍 Sumiyoshi-cho, Uto City
- 🕒 Open 24/7 🎫 Free
- 🚶 20 minutes on foot from JR Sumiyoshi Station 🅐 None



▲ The road to Sumiyoshi Shrine at the top of the park



Enjoy the 360° view of the expansive nature!

Mifune Town

Midori no Mura - Yoshimuta Highlands

This plateau is located at the foothills of the Aso Caldera, at an elevation of 600 to 700 meters. Surrounded by nature, it offers opportunities for leisurely walks during the day and to enjoy stargazing at night. To take advantage of the natural slopes, activities such as lawn skiing and mountain biking are also recommended.

▲ You can enjoy well-equipped glamping at "Hoshi no Mori Villa Zone"

- 📍 8405-24 Tashiro, Mifune town, Kamimashiki-gun 📞 096-285-2210
- 🕒 9:00 to 17:00 Closed : Wednesdays (and the following day if it falls on a public holiday) 📄 ¥230 (Yoshimuta Plateau utilisation fee)
- 🚗 10 minutes by car from Ueno Yoshimada IC 🅇 Available

About 25 minutes by car from Brook's statue



If you want to "party" like the Straw Hat Pirates, this is the place!



At the campsite, you can fully enjoy nature while drinking, eating, and even dancing. Take your pick!

▲ "Yusuge no Oka," you can travel by car



The longest stone bridge in the prefecture with a length of 62 meters

Mifune Town

Yase Megane Bridge

In 1855, Hayashida Yoshihiro, a respected figure in Mifune Town, invested his own funds to build a bridge over the difficult terrain of Yasegawa, part of an ancient road connecting Higo (present-day Kumamoto) and Hyuga (present-day Miyazaki). With the completion of the bridge, transportation improved significantly, and Mifune Town flourished as a vital hub for logistics.

- 📍 Ueno, Mifune town, Kamimashiki-gun
- 🕒 Open 24/7 📄 Free
- 🚗 10 minutes by car from Ueno Yoshimada IC 🅇 Available

▲ It was damaged by the earthquake, but it was restored to its original appearance.

About 15 minutes by car from Brook's statue



Mifune Town

Shiroyama Park

Perched on a modest hill at the town's center, the remnants of Kai Soun's Mifune Castle offer a glimpse into Japan's Warring States period. Now a public park, it provides a tranquil spot for locals and visitors to enjoy. In spring, cherry blossoms draw crowds for hanami, or flower viewing, while offering panoramic views of the city below.

- 📍 980 Mifune, Mifune town, Kamimashiki-gun
- 🕒 Open 24/7 📄 Free
- 🚗 15 minutes by car from Ueno Yoshimada IC
- 🅇 Available

About 10 minutes on foot from Brook's statue



Enjoy the scenery overlooking Mifune town!

▲ Passing through the Soun Gate, a vast lawn unfolds before you



A building that leaves the image of a white-walled town in the present

Mifune Town

Mifune Street Gallery

Standing tall along Honmachi Street, this imposing townhouse is believed to be the birthplace of Noh playwright Hayashida Yoshihiro. Once thrived as a sake brewing town, Mifune was the economic hub of the region, with its streets lined by sake breweries and merchant houses built in the distinctive white-walled storehouse style.

- 📍 794 Mifune, Mifune town, Kamimashiki-gun
- 📞 096-202-5113 🕒 9:00 to 17:00 Closed on Mondays (and the following day if it falls on a public holiday)
- 📄 Free 🚗 15 minutes by car from Ueno Yoshimada IC
- 🅇 Available

About 15 minutes on foot from Brook's statue



Mashiki Town

About 15 minutes by car from Sanji's statue



Shioi Shrine

The enshrined deity is the god of abundant harvests, Akitsuhiko-no-kami. Within the precincts, clear water springs from the source at Mt. Tsurugamine, serving as a vital water source for the local community. This is also the birthplace of the journalist Tokutomi Sohō, who was active from the Meiji to the late Showa period.

- 📍 1342-1 Shioi, Sugido, Mashiki Town (in Shioi Natural Park)
- 🕒 Free to visit 📄 Free
- 🚗 20 minutes by car from Koike Takayama IC
- 🅇 Available



A palace that enshrines the water god where clear water springs

▲ After the Kumamoto earthquake, the Futa River fault appeared on the stone steps.



A valuable fault designated as a national natural monument

Mashiki Town

About 5 minutes by car from Sanji's statue



Futa River Fault Zone Tanigawa District

One of the faults exposed by the Kumamoto earthquake. Visitors can visually appreciate the rare "conjugate fault" that appears in a "V-shaped" pattern from the same viewpoint, providing a unique geological feature not commonly found in Japan.

- 📍 1770 Fukuhara, Mashiki town, Kamimashiki-gun
- 🕒 Open 24/7 📄 Free
- 🚗 15 minutes by car from Koike Takayama IC
- 🅇 Available

▲ The notable variation in terrain also holds significant academic value.



Check out the sacred places related to "love"!
Misato town

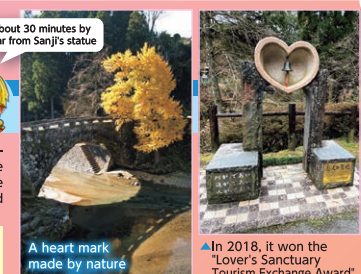
About 30 minutes by car from Sanji's statue

Futamata Bridge



Around noon from October to February, for approximately 30 minutes, sunlight piercing through the bridge illuminates the surface of the river, creating an image resembling a heart shape. This phenomenon has earned the area the nickname "Lovers' Sanctuary."

- 📍 Samata, Misato town, Shimomashiki-gun, Komaku
- 🕒 Open 24/7 📄 Free 🚗 5 minutes on foot from Sanko Bus Komaku stop
- 🅇 Available



A heart mark made by nature

▲ In 2018, it won the "Lover's Sanctuary Tourism Exchange Award"

Local specialties

WEST
edition

From menus rooted in China and Fukuoka to nutritious food for the lord of the domain, Lord Hosokawa!

Horse Meat

Kumamoto boasts the highest production of horse meat in Japan. It is commonly enjoyed thinly sliced and dipped in a sweet soy sauce along with onions, grated ginger, and garlic. Due to its clean-cut appearance with a pinkish hue, it's also known as "sakura meat."



Karashi Renkon

This dish involves filling the holes in lotus root with a mixture of miso and Japanese mustard, then deep-frying it in oil. It originated as a nourishing dish presented to Lord Hosokawa Tadatoshi as a tribute.



Choboyaki

This is a flour-based dish where thinly cooked, chewy dough is wrapped around fillings such as meat, shrimp, or squid, then topped with sauce.



Kumamoto Ramen

One of the tonkotsu ramen varieties originating from Fukuoka and Kurume. It features medium-thick noodles with toppings like charred garlic and wood ear mushrooms. The soup, blended with chicken broth, offers a mild flavor profile.



Tai pien

This is a Chinese-style soup with stir-fried vegetables, pork, and shrimp served with glass noodles. It's believed to have been introduced to Kumamoto and Nagasaki by Chinese immigrants, originating from Fujian Province. It's so popular that it's even served in school lunches.



Ikinari Dango

This snack consists of a slice of sweet potato and sweet bean paste wrapped in wheat flour dough. Traditionally eaten during the autumn season when sweet potatoes are in season. "Ikinari" means "quickly" or "suddenly" in Kumamoto dialect, suggesting its simplicity and speed of preparation.



Chikuwa Salad

This tempura dish was born around 30 years ago. It involves stuffing chikuwa with potato salad before deep-frying. The local tradition dictates dipping it in sauce and taking a hearty bite.



Kosode Mochi

An Uto specialty, this sweet treat consists of sweet bean paste wrapped in soft mochi. It's important to note that its shelf life is only one day, as the mochi hardens after that. It pairs well either with Japanese tea or with coffee.



Commemoration of the whole line restoration!!
ONE PIECE × Minamiaso Railway

The Minamiaso Railway, which was damaged by the Kumamoto earthquake, was completely restored and resumed service in July 2023.

Thousand Sunny Train



Thousand Sunny Train

The "Thousand Sunny Train" features special exterior and interior designs which operates between Tateno Station and Takamori Station, making round trips. Both stations serve as the starting and ending points, and are equipped with photo spots for visitors.

Operation section Kumamoto Prefecture Minamiaso Railway
 "Tateno Station - Takamori Station"

Takamori Viewing platform **Minamiaso Shirakawa water source**

Hakusui Kogen, the birthplace of Minamiaso Water **Nakamatsu** **Aso Shirakawa**

Aso Shimoda Castle **Kaisei** **Choyo** **Tateno**



Click here for details such as operation date and fare!

There was also a sailing (departure) ceremony on July 22, 2023!

On the start day of the special collaboration train, a departure ceremony was held at Tateno Station, and 50 local elementary school students were invited to board. Fans gathered along the line and at each station.



▲Local residents cheered while holding flags between Tateno and Takamori stations to welcome the arrival.



EAST AREA



STORY

Usopp, the sniper, rushes to Aso City where the grasslands of Aso, the pride of residents, has been greatly damaged. With a tool that manipulates the power of nature, he will help revitalize the grassland and restore the pride and smiles of the residents.

USOPP



Aso City Usopp's statue

- Kurokawa, Aso City
- Open 24/7
- Free
- Just a short walk from JR Aso Station
- Available

Usopp, wielding plants as weapons, heads to the vast grasslands of Aso!

This statue was installed in front of Aso Station on December 8, 2019. Aso City is home to one of the world's largest calderas, with Mount Aso as its center and vast grasslands, offering numerous natural attractions for tourists.

COLUMN Let's look for the stars!

When it comes to Usopp's killer techniques, they are called "stars"! If you are looking for the "stars" in Kumamoto Prefecture, the Seiwa Kogen Observatory in Yamato Town comes highly recommended. This stunning night sky has earned the "Milky Way Award" at the Ministry of the Environment's national competition for "Starry Sky Towns & Towns of Blue Skies."



Yamato-cho Seiwakogen Astronomical Observatory And Seiwakogen Inn

An observatory with accommodation facilities located on the southern outer rim of Mount Aso. In addition to daily stargazing sessions when observation conditions are favorable, there are also stargazing events held. Reservation is required (2 days in advance), so make sure to attend!



- 1238-14 Inada, Yamato town, Kamimashiki-gun 0967-82-3300
- 14:00-22:00 ※Closed on days when there is bad weather
- Closed on Tuesdays Observatory admission fee: ¥550
- 30 minutes by car from Yamatotsu Junbashi IC Available





FRANKY

Takamori Town > Franky's statue

- 📍 1526-5 Takamori, Takamori town, Aso-gun
- 🆓 Free to visit
- 🆓 Free of charge
- 🚶 Close to Minamiaso Railway Takamori Station
- 📍 Available

He watches over the terminal station of the Minamiaso Railway, a line running through magnificent scenery!

Installed at Takamori Station on November 21, 2020. Takamori Town, with its statue, situated in what is known as the innermost part of Minamiaso, is blessed with abundant nature. At the foot of the town's symbol, Mount Nekodake, wildflowers bloom proudly throughout the seasons.



ONE PIECE
FRANKY

STORY

Franky, the Shipwright, has rushed to Takamori Town, where the Minamiaso Railway, a vital means of transportation to access medical treatments and schools, has been severed. Like his master Tom, who built the Sea Train, Franky aims to become a beacon of hope for the disaster-stricken area, hammering away at the railway's restoration to full operation from its terminals.

COLUMN Railways in "Hino Kuni"

In Kumamoto Prefecture, there are also original trains that run along the coast and rivers, much like the "Sea Trains" that connect Water 7 and neighboring islands. These include the "Hisatsu Orange Railway," running along the Yatsushiro Sea and the East China Sea, and the "Kumagawa Railway," which offers views of the Kuma River.



▲ "Garden Symphony" on the Kumagawa Railway, which becomes a sightseeing train on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. Operates between Hitoyoshi Onsen Station and Yumae Station



▲ The "Orange Dining Car," a popular tourism train, offers the opportunity to enjoy locally sourced cuisine.

STORY

In Nishihara Village, where damage occurred on a village-wide scale and community reconstruction is a challenge, Nami has rushed to the scene. Drawing on her experience in Cocoyashi Village, she continues to send a supportive breeze to power up the wind turbines of the village and the reconstruction of all its settlements.

NAMI



Nishihara Village Nami's statue

- 📍 2115-3 Omori, Nishihara village, Aso-gun
- 🕒 Open 24/7 🆓 Free
- 🚗 14 minutes by car from Aso Kumamoto Airport
- 📌 Available

Nami, the Navigator of the crew, continues to send a tailwind to aid reconstruction!

It was installed in Nishihara Village's "Tawarayama Exchange Centre Moe no Sato" on July 31, 2021. Nishihara Village, and its beautiful nature, is located in the vast fields centered on Tawarayama, which is part of the eastern side of Aso's outer ring of mountains.

COLUMN Mandarin oranges of "Hino Kuni"

Kumamoto Prefecture is one of the leading producers of Satsuma mandarins, commonly known as "mikan," in Japan. Additionally, it is renowned for specialty citrus fruits such as Dekopon, which is gaining popularity overseas, and the world's largest citrus fruit, the late-maturing "Banpeiyu," with diameters reaching around 20cm.



Dekopon

◀ Only those that meet the standards among the varieties called Shiranui are certified as Dekopon.

Banpeiyu



▲ Known for their long-lasting fragrance and shelf life, they are commonly displayed in places like houses entrances to be enjoyed for their appearance and aroma before being eaten.



ONE PIECE NAMI



NICO ROBIN

Minamiaso Village Nico Robin's statue

Robin, the Archeologist, goes to a museum that inherits the memory of the earthquake!

Installed on October 9, 2021, at the Former Tokai University Aso Campus. Minamiaso Village is known for its diverse hot springs with various mineral compositions and the Shirakawa water source, selected as one of Japan's 100 best natural waters. It is also cherished as a land where water springs forth.

- 5343-1 Kawayo, Minamiaso Village, Aso-gun
- Linked to Kumamoto Earthquake Museum KIOKU
- Free
- 45 minutes by car from Kumamoto IC
- Available



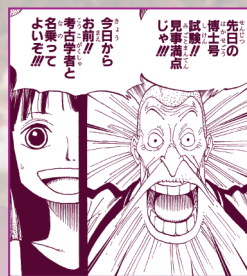
STORY

Robin rushed to the former Tokai University Aso Campus, which serves as a core hub for earthquake museums, aiming to pass down the lessons and legacy of earthquake damage to future generations. By delving into research as an oral repository of history, she assists in ensuring the flourishing revival of Minamiaso Village and passing on memories and lessons learned.

COLUMN

A message from the ancients

Kumamoto Prefecture boasts the highest number of "decorated ancient tombs," where sculptures, patterns, and paintings adorn the interior and exterior surfaces of stone coffins, stone chambers, or horizontal stone chambers. These decorations are imbued with various meanings, much like the "text of history."



▲The Chibusan Tomb, located inside a keyhole-shaped mound, features drawings of circles, triangles, diamonds, and other shapes on the walls of the stone coffin in its interior.



👉 You can see it here! 👈



Kumamoto Prefectural Decorated Tomb Museum (page 64)



RORONOA ZORO

Ozu Town Roronoa Zoro's statue

- 📍 1156-3 Ozu, Ozu town, Kikuchi-gun
- 🕒 Open 24/7
- 🆓 Free
- 🚶 8 minutes on foot from JR Higo-Ozu Station
- 🅐 Available

Zoro, who never skips training, watches over the thriving kendo town of Otsu!

Installed in Ozu Central Park on January 22, 2022. Ozu Town is a post town from the Edo period, and still boasts one of the largest number of accommodation facilities in the prefecture. Karaimo (satsuma sweet potato) is a special product of the town.



RORONOA ZORO



STORY

In Ozu Town, where children diligently train in the dojo, which was affected by the disaster, and lives have been completely changed, Zoro, the Combatant, has rushed to the scene. Leveraging the town's enthusiasm for kendo, he practices swordsmanship with the children in the square, aiming to build a resilient community that will not be defeated by mere earthquakes.

COLUMN

Aiming to be the best swordsman in the world

In the bustling kendo town of Ozu, children diligently practice kendo every day, like Zoro did in his youth. Additionally, there are activities allowing you to experience kendo at historic martial arts halls and practice iaido with practice swords.



▶ Iai experience



▶ Kendo experience

+Plus

The sacred place of Japan's best swordsman

In the western part of Kumamoto City, there is the famous Reigando Cave at Unganzenji Temple, where Miyamoto Musashi, a master swordsman of the twin sword style, is said to have written his life's work, the martial arts treatise "The Book of Five Rings." The surrounding area exudes a solemn and dignified atmosphere.



Kumamoto City Unganzenji

At this Soto Zen temple, the wooden swords used by Musashi and Sasaki Kojiro in their duel are also preserved. Reigando Cave is located in the temple's backyard.

- 📍 589 Hirayama, Matsuo town, Nishi-ku, Kumamoto City
- ☎ 096-329-8854 🕒 8:00 to 17:00 Open every day
- 💰 ¥300 🚌 Sanko Bus, get off at Iwato Kannon Iriguchi, 20 minutes on foot 🅐 Available

A city that has developed with people inside a huge caldera

1

2

3

4

5

30-60 minutes by car from each statue



Aso City

Mount Aso (Five Peaks of Aso)

There is no mountain called Mt. Aso, but it is a general term for mountains that stretch from east to west centred on the five peaks of Mt. Neko, Mt. Taka, Mt. Nakadake, Mt. Kishima, and Mt. Eboshi.

📍 Aso City Akamizu 1930-1 Aso Volcano Museum 1F (Aso Sanzan Visitor Centre)
 ☎ 0967-34-2111 🕒 9:00 to 17:00 Open every day 🅐 Available

Check out the features of the Five Peaks!

The Five Peaks, reminiscent of Usopp's hometown, Syrup Village, each possess unique characteristics.



The jagged mountaintop is a landmark!



Mt. Neko (1)

Located at the far left, its summit resembles the teeth of a saw.

The highest peak of Aso!



Mt. Taka (2)

The highest among the Five Peaks, it consists of a central peak and several subordinate peaks, with its eastern side extending to Mount Neko.



▲If the weather conditions are right, you can see a sea of clouds from Mt. Taka.

Famous for its crater tours!



Mt. Naka (3)

It's so commonly known that when you think of crater tours, Mount Naka comes to mind.

Located in the westernmost part of the five peaks!



Mt. Kishima (4)

There is an old crater on the top of the mountain, an explosive crater on the west, and an old crater on the east slope.

You can also go from Kusasenri fields!



Mt. Eboshi (5)

The narrow, pointed summit is covered with grass, providing excellent views.

A scenic spot in Aso!

Other than Aso's Five Peaks, there are also natural sightseeing spots such as Daikanbo and Kusasenri.



Caldera outer rim

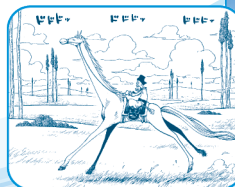
It is one of the world's largest volcano with a size of about 25 km from north to south, about 18 km from east to west, and about 128 km of circumference. When you face the five mountains from Daikanbo, the first peak in the north, it looks like a buddha statue.

The outer ring mountain pass was made by a God's kick!?

Once, the interior of the outer rim was a lake. However, Takeminakata-no-Mikoto, sent by Emperor Jinmu, kicked through the outer rim to drain the water, intending to create villages and fields for people to live in. The first place he kicked, now known as Futae Pass, didn't work out well. He then turned to the west, where a hole opened up and water flowed out, according to legend.



▲From the Shin-Aso Bridge, you can see the break in the north-south ring of the mountain.



Kusasenri fields

An iconic scenic spot of Aso. It is located at an altitude of about 1100 metres, and in the east is Mt. Naka that emits smoke. The sights change every season, with lush greenery in summer and snowy scenes in winter.



You can enjoy the great nature of Aso!

▲The hot air balloon experience is about 5 minutes. All experiences are by appointment.

Aso City

About 10 minutes by car from Usopp's statue

阿蘇ネイチャーランド

An outdoor sports facility where you can experience various activities such as paragliding, trekking, and early morning hot air balloon. There are also courses with instructors, so even beginners and children are safe.

- 📍 Aso City Uchinomaki 1092-1 📞 0967-32-4196
- 🕒 9:00 to 18:00 (until 17:00 from November to February)
Closed on Thursdays (open if it is a national holiday)
- 🍽️ It depends on the menu.
- 🚗 50 minutes by car from Kumamoto IC 🅑 Available

Aso City

About 3 minutes by car from Usopp's statue

Aso Cuddly Dominion

At Bear Valley, home to around 130 bears of four different species, you can interact with penguins, capybaras, and chimpanzees. It's the only place in Kyushu! Don't miss the chance to experience cuddling with baby bears. Plus, be sure to catch the performance show featuring trainers and the animals.

- 📍 2163 Kurokawa, Aso City 📞 0967-34-2020
- 🕒 9:30 to 17:00 (Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays until 5:30),
10:00 to 4:30 in winter Closed on Wednesdays from December to February ❄️ Except on holidays
- 🎫 Entrance fee ¥2800
- 🚗 50 minutes by car from Kumamoto IC 🅑 Available



You can also experience feeding bears.

▲Japanese black bear, Ezo brown bear, etc.



▲A sacred place with a divine atmosphere.

Takamori Town

About 7 minutes by car from Franky's statue

Takamori-don Cedars

Located along the Kyushu Nature Trail are a pair of giant cedar trees, each over 400 years old with a trunk circumference exceeding 10 meters. It is said to be the place where Takamori Iyonokami Korenao, the lord who ruled the Takamori area, and his followers committed suicide in the face of an invasion by the Satsuma Shimazu clan. It is designated as a natural monument of Takamori Town.

- 📍 3341-1 Takamori, Takamori-cho, Aso-gun 📞 Free to visit
- 🆓 Free 🚗 7 minutes by car from Minamiaso Railway Takamori Station 🅑 None

▲It is also said to have blessings for matchmaking.

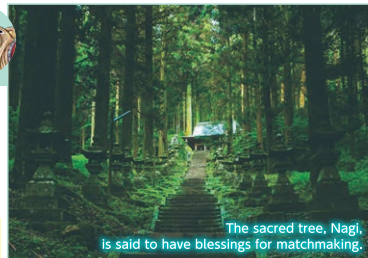
Takamori Town

About 10 minutes by car from Franky's statue

Kamishikimi Kumanoza Shrine

It is said to have been built from the late Kamakura period to the Muromachi period and enshrines Izanagi-no-Mikoto, Izanami-no-Mikoto, and the fierce spirit of Aso Oyamatsumi, Ishigimi Taishogun. The approach leading to the shrine, lined with 97 lanterns, has become a topic of discussion on social media due to its mysterious atmosphere, often referred to as "the gateway to another world."

- 📍 2619 Kamishikimi, Takamori town, Aso-gun
- 🆓 Free to visit 🆓 Free
- 🚗 10 minutes by car from Minamiaso Railway Takamori Station
- 🅑 Available



The sacred tree, Nagi, is said to have blessings for matchmaking.

▲At the back of the shrine, there is the reputed "Sondoiwa" rock, known for blessings of success and victory.

About 15 minutes by car from Nami's statue

Nishihara Village

Shiraito Falls

Selected as one of the "Famous Waters of the Heisei Era" in Kumamoto Prefecture, water flows down from a height of 20 meters like white threads. Known as "Yorihime no Taki," derived from the legend of a man who fell in love and married a woman he met at the waterfall, only to discover she was actually a serpent.

- 📍 Kawahara Aza Taki, Nishihara village, Aso-gun
- 🆓 Free to visit 🅑 ¥200 (cleaning cooperation fee)
- 🚗 16 minutes by car from Aso Kumamoto Airport
- 🅑 Available

▲A beautiful waterfall made of volcanic lava

▲You can see the cracks that formed when the lava cools and hardens.

Learn dairy farming while having fun



▲Original milk and cheese that make great gifts are also sold here

Nishihara Village

About 15 minutes by car from Nami's statue

Rakuno Mothers Aso Milk Farm

A spot where you can learn about dairy farming through various experiences such as milking, feeding, and butter making. You can also meet goats, sheep, and black pigs at the animal petting square.

- 📍 3944-1 Kawahara, Nishihara village, Aso-gun
- 📞 096-292-2100
- 🕒 10:00 to 17:00 Opening days depend on the season.
- 🎫 ¥500 🚗 17 minutes by car from Aso Kumamoto Airport
- 🅑 Available

Nishihara Village

About 7 minutes by car from Nami's statue

Nishihara Village Youth Forest "Kaze no Sato" Campground

A campground where you can enjoy the nature of Aso. There is also a lodge with a capacity of 8 people, including an auto camping site, and even a large group of people can enjoy it. The observation deck overlooks the city of Kumamoto.

- 📍 1731-7 Miyayama, Nishihara Village, Aso-gun
- 📞 096-279-2884
- 🕒 9:00 to 17:00 (park use) Irregular holidays
- 🎫 Admission fee ¥200
- 🚗 15 minutes by car from Aso Kumamoto Airport
- 🅑 Available

You can also enjoy stargazing at night.



▲There are also slides about 70 metres long and wooden playground equipment

You can see the magnificent outline of Aso.



▲If the right conditions are met, you can also see a sea of clouds.

Minamiaso Village

About 10 minutes by car from Nami's statue

Tawarayama Pass Observatory

An observatory at an altitude of 710 metres along Prefectural Road 28 on the border between Minamiaso Village and Nishihara Village. You can see the whole of "Aso" such as Kokonoe Mountains - Yonezuka, Aso five peaks, North Outer Ring, South Outer Ring, Aso Valley, Nango Valley, etc. The Minamiaso Outer Ring Mountain promenade is maintained, and you can also go to the top of Tawarayama.

- 📍 Mt. Tawara, Minamiaso town, Aso-gun
- 🕒 Open 24/7 🆓 Free
- 🚗 20 minutes by car from Aso Kumamoto Airport 🅑 Available

Minamiaso Village

Kumamoto Earthquake Museum KIOKU

A short walk from Robin's statue



Preserving and sharing memories of the earthquake.



▲ The museum is open on the former Tokai University Aso campus.

The core facility of the field museum 'Kumamoto Earthquake Corridor of Memory,' which aims to pass on memories, experiences, and lessons of earthquakes to future generations. In the exhibition zone, visitors can learn not only about the extent of damage caused by earthquakes but also about their mechanisms and disaster prevention measures.

- 📍 5343-1 Kawayo, Minamiaso village, Aso-gun
- ☎ 0967-65-8065
- 🕒 9:00 to 17:00 (last entry at 16:30) Closed on Mondays (in the case of a holiday, the next weekday) ¥3,500
- 🚗 45 minutes by car from Kumamoto IC 🅐 Available

Minamiaso Village

About 5 minutes by car from Robin's statue



Relax your mind and body with a healthy lifestyle

Aso Farmland

The largest leisure facility in Kyushu, with a focus on promoting health. Spanning approximately 1 million square meters, the vast grounds feature facilities where visitors can enjoy physical activities, as well as restaurants offering hot springs and healthy meals. Additionally, there are shops where visitors can purchase unique items specific to Aso, along with a hotel.



▲ "Nature Aso Health Forest" dotted with dome-shaped hotels

- 📍 5579-3 Kawayo, Minamiaso village, Aso-gun ☎ 0967-67-2100
- 🕒 10:00 to 17:00 (general information) Open every day
- 💰 It varies from facility to facility.
- 🚗 40 minutes by car from Kumamoto IC 🅐 Available

A bridge with a total length of 525 metres connecting Kumamoto City and Aso



Minamiaso Village

About 10 minutes by car from Robin's statue



New Aso Bridge

A new bridge constructed 600 meters downstream from the collapsed Aso Bridge due to the 2016 Kumamoto earthquake. It includes walkways, allowing pedestrians to cross on foot. From the observatory at the base of the bridge, visitors can view the Nagayoshi Bridge and the Shirakawa River First Bridge (Minamiaso Railway).

- 📍 Tateno, Minamiaso village, Aso-gun
- 🕒 Open 24/7 🆓 Free
- 🚗 30 minutes by car from Kumamoto IC 🅐 None

▲ At the observatory 'Yo Myuru,' soft-serve ice cream is also available for purchase.

One of the abundant springs found in Minamiaso Village.



▲ Elected as one of the "100 Best Waters in Japan" by the Ministry of the Environment

Minamiaso Village

About 20 minutes by car from Robin's statue



Shirakawa spring

Shirakawa, a pristine river flowing through the center of Minamiaso Village, serves as the primary source, gushing 60 tons of water per minute. The water from this source is drinkable as it is and visitors are free to take it with them. At the Shirakawa Yoshimi Shrine on the premises, the water deity is enshrined.

- 📍 2040 Shirakawa, Minamiaso village, Aso-gun
- 🕒 7:00 to 18:00 (until 17:00 from December to March) ※Reception hours
- 💰 ¥100 (environmental conservation cooperation fee)
- 🕒 15-minute walk from Minamiaso Railway Shirakawa Suigen Station
- 🅐 Available

Ozu Town

About 6 minutes by car from Zoro's statue



Showa Park

A site once visited by Emperor Showa, now developed as a urban park. In late April to early May, a variety of azaleas such as Miyama Kirishima, Satsuki, and Rhododendron come into full bloom, adorning the park.

- 📍 1249 Muro, Ozu town, Kikuchi-gun
- 🕒 Open 24/7 🆓 Free
- 🚗 15 minutes on foot from JR Higo-Ozu
- 🅐 Available

The colorful azaleas in full bloom are amazing.



▲ Outdoor stages, tennis courts, and children's squares

A symbol of regional revitalization



▲ Rocks left to convey the damage of the earthquake

Ozu Town

About 10 minutes by car from Zoro's statue



Seta Shrine

A well-respected shrine founded in 1570. Although the main hall collapsed due to falling rocks during the Kumamoto earthquake, with the cooperation of local residents, the restoration of the main gate and main hall was completed in March 2017. The main hall was rebuilt beside the fallen boulder.

- 📍 311 Seta, Ozu town, Kikuchi-gun
- 🕒 Free to visit 🆓 Free
- 🚗 12 minutes by car from JR Higo-Ozu Station
- 🅐 None

Ozu Town

About 7 minutes by car from Zoro's statue



Sports Forest, Ozu

A recreational facility boasting a natural grass field, training rooms, and arenas of various sizes. Visitors can enjoy a wide range of sports and participate in various sports-related events held at the facility.

- 📍 Mori 1000, Ozu town, Kikuchi-gun ☎ 096-293-8088
- 🕒 8:30 to 22:00 Closed on Tuesdays (or the next day if it is a holiday) ※General gymnasium only
- 💰 It varies from facility to facility.
- 🚗 8 minutes by car from JR Higo-Ozu Station
- 🅐 Available

An athletics park overflowing with greenery



▲ You can exercise while facing majestic Aso in front of you.

Local specialties

EAST
edition

There are plenty of dishes using ingredients of Aso's lush nature, such as Akaushi and soba.



Akaushi

It has a moderate amount of fat, making the meat tender, yet it is rather lean, making it healthy as well. It's recommended to grill it for yakiniku or as steak.



Buckwheat

It is said that Aso, which has a severe temperature difference between day and night, is suitable for growing delicious soba. There are many famous restaurants using flavourful local soba noodles.



Aso Jersey Milk Soft Serve Ice Cream

Aso jersey milk has a natural sweetness, rich flavour and high nutritional value.

Dagojiru & takana rice

Dagojiru is a dish in which kneaded wheat flour is stretched by hand and torn into dumplings, then cooked with seasonal vegetables and seasoned with miso or soy sauce. It's often served with rice mixed with Aso takana pickles, a traditional vegetable of Aso.



Dengaku

Long ago, it is said that villagers from Takamori town, who returned home after eating tofu dengaku, started using a local specialty called tsurunoko-imo, a type of taro, as a substitute. This led to the creation of a regional dish where tsurunoko-imo, along with konnyaku, tofu, and mountain trout, are skewered, coated with a secret miso sauce, and slowly grilled over a charcoal hearth fire.

More sightseeing spots!

AMAKUSA AREA

Amakusa Islands, consisting of over 120 large and small islands, are connected to the Kyushu mainland by a series of bridges known as the Amakusa Gokyo, or Amakusa Five Bridges.



AMAKUSA AREA

Amakusa City

Preserving the way of life of the Christians of the time.



▲ You can learn about the propagation of Christianity to its oppression and resurrection

Amakusa Rosary Museum

A museum that collects valuable items related to Amakusa Christians, such as a Maria Kannon statue, which was an object of worship during the forbidden period, and the holy water jar used for ceremonies. A "hidden room" made for secret worship is also reproduced here.

- 📍 1749 Oe, Amakusa, Amakusa City
- ☎ 0969-42-5259
- 🕒 8:30 to 17:00 (last entry 16:30) Closed Wednesdays
- 💰 ¥300
- 🚗 Get off at the entrance of the Kyushu Sanko Bus
- 🅑 Available

◆◆◆ One point Amakusa ◆◆◆

You can enjoy the Christian culture and the superb views of the islands!

There are many culturally significant facilities that convey the history of Nanban culture and Christianity, alongside opportunities to enjoy majestic nature such as dolphin watching all year round and cruising to view the scenery of Amakusa Matsushima from a boat.



Access

- Bus** The rapid Amakusa-go bus takes about 2 hours and 30 minutes from Kumamoto Sakuramachi Bus Terminal to Hondo Bus Center.
- Car** About 3 hours from Aso Kumamoto Airport to Hondo / About 2 hours and 30 minutes from Kumamoto Station to Hondo

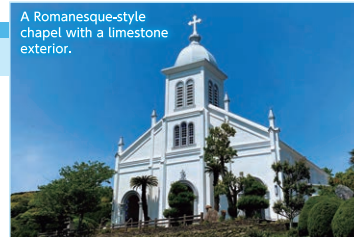
Amakusa City

Oe Church

The earliest church built in Amakusa after the lifting of the ban on Christianity. Constructed in 1933 through the efforts of the local believers and Father Garnier, a French missionary. It houses statues of Father Garnier and the Virgin Mary, remaining a symbolic presence for Amakusa Christians to this day.

- 📍 1782 Oe, Amakusa, Amakusa City
- ☎ 0969-22-2243
- 🕒 9:00 to 17:00 Open every day
- 🚗 Get off at the Kyushu Sanko Bus Tenshudo Iriguchi, 5 minutes on foot
- 🅑 Available

A Romanesque-style chapel with a limestone exterior.



▲ Photography and video photography are prohibited in the hall, so be careful.

Recommended spots



A chance to see dolphins up close



▲ Dolphin trainer experience (reservation required) is also available!

Kamiamakusa City

Amakusa Pearl Garden & Marine Aquarium Sea Donut

A complex facility featuring restaurants, specialty pearl shops, and an aquarium. The unique aquarium 'Underwater Aquarium Sea Donut,' floating in the sea, allows visitors to interact with dolphins.

- 📍 6225-8 Aizu, Matsushima town, Kamiamakusa City
- ☎ 0969-56-1155
- 🕒 It depends on the facility. Open every day
- 💰 ¥1400 (aquarium entrance fee)
- 🚗 Get off at Kyushu Sanko Bus I'Isola Terrace Amakusa
- 🅑 Available

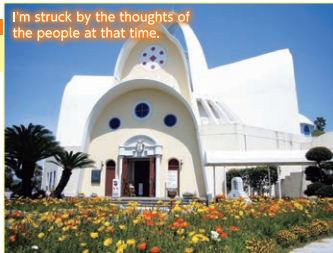
Kamiamakusa City

Amakusa Shiro Museum

The historical background of the Shimabara-Amakusa Rebellion centered around the enigmatic youth, Amakusa Shiro, and the influence of Nanban culture at the time is conveyed through materials and videos. Within the park, there is also a 'Bell of Love,' said to transmit one's feelings to their beloved.

- 📍 977-1 Naka, Oyano town, Kamiamakusa City
- ☎ 0964-56-5311
- 🕒 9:00 to 17:00 (last entry 16:20)
- 🗓 Closed on the second Wednesday of January and June
- 💰 ¥600
- 🚗 Get off at Kyushu Sanko Bus Sanpal mae, 3 minutes on foot
- 🅑 Available

I'm struck by the thoughts of the people at that time.



▲ Appearance inspired by Maria's veil

Amakusa City

World Heritage Site

Sakitsu Church

In 1888, a wooden church was completed near Sakitsu Suwa Shrine, serving as the predecessor. The current building was completed in 1934. The settlement, including the church, is one of the component sites of the World Heritage Site 'Hidden Christian Sites in the Nagasaki Region.'

- 📍 539 Sakitsu, Kawaura town, Amakusa City
- ☎ 0969-78-6000
- 🕒 9:00 to 17:00 Irregular holidays
- 🚗 Get off at the Kyushu Sanko Bus Church Entrance, right away
- 🅑 Available

◀ Even now, it is a place for believers to pray, so you need to make a reservation in advance to visit the church.

Standing near Yōkaku Bay, also known as the "Church by the Sea"



Amakusa Area's Local Specialty Foods



▲ Octopus, shrimp, white fish, etc. are all fresh

The waters near Amakusa are rich in various types of fish, and the fish caught in the fast-flowing Hayasaki Seto Strait are firm and flavorful due to the strong currents. Sashimi made with such seafood is delicious. Another specialty is the Amakusa Daiho, a local chicken known for its tender texture and subtle sweetness.

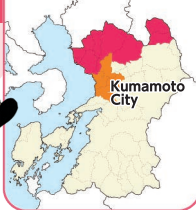


▲ It was once considered an extinct species, even in the early Showa period.

More sightseeing spots!

NORTH AREA

The northern part of Kumamo Prefecture bordering Fukuoka Prefecture and Oita Prefecture. An off the beaten path area with a rich history and hot springs.



Oguni

The area is known for hot spring resorts like Kurokawa and Yufuin.

It is also the birthplace of Kitazato Shibasaburo, a pioneer of modern Japanese medicine. Located in the mountains, the area is naturally beautiful.



Access	Train	About 3 hours from Kumamoto Station to Kurokawa Onsen by JR Hoho Main Line and bus
	Bus	About 3 hours from Kumamoto Station to Kurokawa Onsen by Kyushu Crossing Bus
	Car	About 75 minutes from Aso Kumamoto Airport to Kurokawa Onsen / About 2 hours from Kumamoto Station to Kurokawa Onsen

Kikuchi

The powerful Kikuchi clan, which once wielded influence throughout Kyushu during its peak, ruled and thrived for approximately 450 years from the latter half of the Heian period. Famous landmarks include the Kikuchi Valley, selected as one of Japan's 100 best waterscapes, and Kikuchi Onsen.



Access	Bus	About 70 minutes by Kumamoto Electric Railway Bus from Kumamoto Sakuramachi Bus Terminal to Kikuchi Onsen - Shimin Hiroba mae
	Car	About 30 minutes from Aso Kumamoto Airport to Kikuchi City / About 60 minutes from Kumamoto Station to Kikuchi City

Yamaga

It prospered around the Buzen Kaido, a major road during the Edo period for the travelers of the Sankin Kotai system. The town boasts a traditional atmosphere with preserved historic streetscapes, and the summer spectacle of the Yamaga Lantern Festival is a must-see.



Access	Bus	About 70 minutes from Kumamoto Sakuramachi Bus Terminal to Yamaga Bus Center by Kyushu Sanko Bus
	Car	About 50 minutes from Aso Kumamoto Airport to Yamaga City / About 60 minutes from Kumamoto Station to Yamaga City

Arao and Tamana



Arao, bordering Fukuoka Prefecture's Omuta City to the north, developed as a town around the Mitsui Miike Coal Mine. Tamana, thriving alongside the abundant blessings of the Kikuchi River, is the hometown of the father of Japanese marathon, Kanaguri Shizo.

Access	[Arao]	
	Train	About 45 minutes from Kumamoto Station to Arao Station on the JR Kagoshima Main Line
	Car	About 60 minutes from Aso Kumamoto Airport to Arao City / About 60 minutes from Kumamoto Station to Arao City
Access	[Tamana]	
	Train	About 30 minutes from Kumamoto Station to Tamana Station on the JR Kagoshima Main Line
	Car	About 50 minutes from Aso Kumamoto Airport to Tamana City / About 50 minutes from Kumamoto Station to Tamana City

Oguni

Hot spring village



Located close to the border of Oita Prefecture, across the outer ring mountains of the Aso Caldera, it has long been known for its hot spring resorts. Within a 30-minute drive are eight distinctive hot spring resorts, including Tsuetate Onsen, which is famous for its steam baths, Waita Onsen, and the popular Kurokawa Onsen.

Waita Onsen



A hot spring resort consisting of Yamakawa Onsen, Take-no-yu, and Hage-no-yu, utilizing the geothermal energy of Mount Wairata, located on the border between Kumamoto and Oita prefectures. It is known for its coin-operated private baths.

Photogenic natural curtains



▲ Admission requires advance web reservation.

Oguni

Kitazato Shibasaburo Memorial Museum

Introducing, with photos and videos, the life and achievements of Kitazato Shibasaburo, who contributed to the prevention and treatment of infectious diseases through tetanus bacterium research. Part of his childhood home and a guesthouse are preserved and exhibited on the premises.

📍	3199 Kitazato, Oguni town, Aso-gun	☎	0967-46-5466
🕒	9:30-16:30	🗓	Open every day
💰	¥600	🚗	50 minutes by car from Hita IC
📄	Available		

Kurokawa Onsen



One of Kumamoto's iconic hot spring resorts. With a ¥1500 ticket, you can enjoy bathing in three different hot springs of your choice. It's also great that the ticket is valid for 6 months from the date of purchase, until you visited all three.

Tsuetate Onsen



The steam baths, utilizing the high water temperature of approximately 98 degrees Celsius from the source, are popular. The style varies depending on the inn, including lying down types and sitting types where only the head is exposed.

Oguni

Nabegataki Park

The waterfall has a drop of about 10 metres and a width of about 20 metres and became famous by being featured in TV commercials. It is said that it was made by a huge eruption about 90,000 years ago, and the waterfall flowing down like a curtain is quite a sight. You can also go under the waterfall.

📍	Kurobuchi, Oguni town, Aso-gun	☎	0967-46-4440
🕒	9:00 to 17:00 (last entry at 16:30)	🗓	Open every day
💰	¥300	🚗	60 minutes by car from Hita IC
📄	Available	🌐	https://ogunitown.info/nabegataki/



On the portrait of the new 1,000 yen bill!

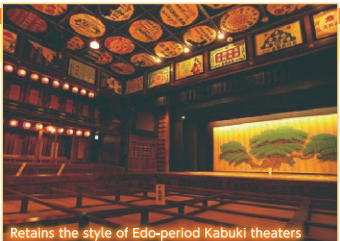
▲ The guest house, which was also used as a home when returning from travel

Yamaga City

Yachiyoza

An active theater designated as an Important Cultural Property of Japan. Built in 1943, it features a revolving stage and a hanamichi (flower path) using rails imported from Germany. The Western-style construction of the roof structure on top of the pillars allows visitors to tour on days when there are no performances.

- 📍 1499 Yamaga, Yamaga City 📞 0968-44-4004 🕒 9:00-18:00 (last reception 17:30) Closed the second Wednesday of every month
- 🎫 ¥730 (common admission fee for Yachiyo-za and museum)
- 🚶 4 minutes on foot from Kyushu Sanko Bus Yamaga Onsen (Yachiyoza entrance) 🅄 Available



Retains the style of Edo-period Kabuki theaters

▲ It was built by Yamaga business owners.



A magnificent festival that highlights the summer in Yamaga.

▲ The gold lanterns are traditional crafts made only with paper and glue

Yamaga City

Yamaga Lantern Festival

A summer tradition in Yamaga City, held over two days during the Bon Festival period. The highlight is the Senbon Lantern Dance, where women in yukatas adorned with golden lanterns dance to the 'Yoheho-Bushi' song. Other attractions include a fireworks display, the festival finale, and floating lanterns, all of which are a must-see.

- 📍 Yamaga City, Yamaga 🕒 August 15th and 16th

Yamaga City

Kumamoto Prefectural Decorated Tumulus Museum

The museum, built adjacent to the Iwahara Tomb Group, was designed by the architect Ando Tadao. Inside the museum, faithful reproductions of 12 decorated tombs from Kumamoto Prefecture, including the Chibusan Tomb, a nationally designated historic site, are exhibited. It also displays excavated burial items and meticulously crafted life-size replicas.

- 📍 3085 Iwaharu, Kao town, Yamaga City 📞 0968-36-2151
- 🕒 9:30-17:15 (last entry 16:45) Closed Monday (or the next day if it is a holiday) 🎫 ¥430
- 🚶 20 minutes on foot from Kyushu Sanko Bus Kumamoto Prefectural Decorated Tumulus Museum Entrance 🅄 Available



Look at the ancient patterns up close

▲ Classes such as magatama making and fire-starting are also held



Relaxing spots amidst rivers and forests

▲ A clear stream with a low average water temperature of 13 degrees even in summer

Kikuchi City

Kikuchi Gorge

Known for its selection as one of Japan's Best Forest Bathing spots and Japan's top 100 Famous Waters, Kikuchi boasts a naturally relaxing forest stretching between 500 to 800 meters above sea level. Blanketed by natural broad-leaved trees and enriched by underground water from the Aso Caldera, it offers a varied and picturesque landscape.

- 📍 5026 Kikuchi Ichihara (Kikuchi Valley Management Office)
- 📞 0968-27-0210 🕒 8:30 to 17:00 Open every day
- 🎫 ¥300 (maintenance and management cooperation fee)
- 🚗 50 minutes by car from Ueki ICI 🅄 Available

It was preserved even after its closure in 1997. ▶

World Heritage Site

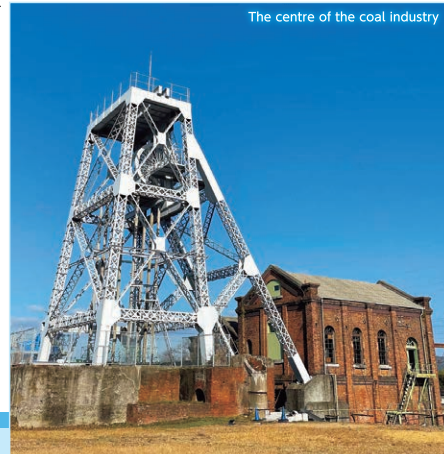


▲ It had two of the largest shafts in Japan.

Arao City

Manda mine

One of the mine shafts of the Miike Coal Mine, which supported Japan's modernization. In 2015, it was registered as one of the component assets of the 'Sites of Japan's Meiji Industrial Revolution' World Heritage. Original lockers and cages used by the miners remain intact from that time.



The centre of the coal industry

- 📍 200-2 Hara, Manda, Arao City
- 📞 0968-57-9155 (Manda Mine Station)
- 🕒 9:30-17:00 (last entry 16:30) Closed Monday (or the next day if it is a holiday) 🎫 ¥410
- 🚶 Get off at Mandako-mae Station of Kyushu Sanko Bus
- 🅄 Available

Tamana City



▲ He actually lived here until 1983.

Kanaguri Shizo's residence and museum

The 120-year-old house where Kanaguri Shizo, known as the father of Japanese marathon and also the protagonist of a popular historical TV drama, lived until his later years. Visitors can tour the interior from the entrance and the veranda. In the renovated annex, a museum displays his belongings, memorabilia, family photos, and more.

- 📍 600 Kamioda, Tamana City 📞 0968-57-7548
- 🕒 9:30-16:00 Closed Wednesday
- 🚗 10 minutes by car from Kyushu Shinkansen Shin Tamana Station
- 🅄 Available

NORTH Area's Local Specialty Foods



▲ The tonkotsu style soup is filled with medium-thin straight noodles

From Tamana Ramen, said to be the roots of Kumamoto Ramen, to dishes like 'mushiba' using the geothermal heat from hot springs and soba noodles made with water from the Aso mountain range, the area is a treasure trove of culinary delights. It's also known for its long history of rice cultivation.



▲ There are many rice brands such as Hinohikari and Seven Stars

More sightseeing spots!

SOUTH AREA

Hitoiyoshi and Kuma are known for their many valuable architectural structures. Yatsushiro is a city of technology. Minamata and Ashikita have beautiful nature.



Hitoiyoshi and Kuma

A basin through which the Kuma River runs, one of Japan's three rapid-flowing rivers. Thanks to the achievements of the Sagara clan, who ruled this area for about 700 years, many Buddhist statues and buildings from the Heian period remain.



Access
Bus About 2 hours from Kumamoto Station to Hitoiyoshi IC by express bus
Car About 80 minutes from Aso Kumamoto Airport to Hitoiyoshi City / About 80 minutes from Kumamoto Station to Hitoiyoshi City



Yatsushiro

Located in the heart of Kyushu, it boasts the second largest population in the prefecture.

Many of the 'megane bridges' found across the country are said to have been crafted by stonemasons from Yatsushiro, earning it the nickname 'Stonemason's Village.'



Train About 30 minutes from Kumamoto Station to Shin-Yatsushiro Station on the Kagoshima Main Line
Bus About 50 minutes from Aso Kumamoto Airport to Shin-Yatsushiro Station by express bus
Car About 50 minutes from Aso Kumamoto Airport to Shin-Yatsushiro Station / About 60 minutes from Kumamoto Station to Shin-Yatsushiro Station

Minamata and Ashikita

A town in southern Kumamoto Prefecture facing the Uto Peninsula, also known for being a producer of Dekopon oranges, taking advantage of its warm climate. Be sure to check out the seafood delicacies such as red shrimp and swordfish caught in the Uto Sea.



Train About 25 minutes from Kumamoto Station to Shin-Minamata Station by Kyushu Shinkansen
Car About 80 minutes from Aso Kumamoto Airport to Shin-Minamata Station / About 90 minutes from Kumamoto Station to Shin-Minamata Station

SOUTH Area's Local Specialty Foods

Surrounded by the Kyushu mountains, Minamata and Ashikita have fertile soil and are known for their production of vegetables and fruits. In Hitoiyoshi and Kuma, eel and shochu are specialties.



Minamata and Ashikita make safe and reliable ingredients



The Kuma River with good water quality is also a nursery area for eels.



Hitoiyoshi and Kuma, where rice shochu making has been popular since the Muromachi period

Hitoiyoshi

Aoi Aso Shrine

A representative shrine of the Hitoiyoshi-Kuma region, where the main hall, corridors, offering hall, worship hall, and tower gate were designated as national treasures in 2008. It is rare for an entire shrine complex to be designated as a national treasure, and it is the first time in Japan for a thatched-roof shrine to be designated as such. A commemorative museum is also scheduled to open in 2023.

118 Kamiyai town, Hitoiyoshi City Free to visit Free Kyushu Sanko Bus, get off at Aoi Jinja Ura (Shin), 2 minutes on foot Available



The southernmost national treasure building in the country

It is said that it was founded in 806.



The Kuma and Muro Rivers are natural moats

Ninomaru and Sannomaru overlook the city of Hitoiyoshi

Hitoiyoshi

Hitoiyoshi Castle Ruins

The ruins of the castle, which was the stronghold of the Sagara clan. During reconstruction, stones with crescent moon patterns were excavated, leading to the castle being also known as 'Akatsuki Castle'. Today, only the stone walls remain, but the Western-style stone walls with 'mushagaeshi' (overhanging stones) are rare nationwide and led to its selection as one of Japan's Top 100 Castles.

Fumoto Town, Hitoiyoshi City Open 24/7 Free 15 minutes on foot from Kyushu Sanko Bus Shinmachi (Hitoiyoshi) Available

Hitoiyoshi

HASSENBA HITOYOSHI KUMAGAWA

The Kumagawa-kudari Hassenba, which was reborn in 2021 as a tourist complex featuring cafes and shops, now operates the 'Umeka no Watashi' sightseeing boat service, cruising between the Hassenba and the ruins of Hitoiyoshi Castle.

333-1 Shimoshinmachi, Hitoiyoshi City 0966-22-5555 It depends on the facility. Kyushu Sanko Bus Kumagawa outboard departure, get off in front of the dock, 2 minutes on foot Available



The starting point of the Kuma River

Sightseeing the Kuma River in the same Japanese-style boat as river rafters

Visit the largest limestone cave in Kyushu

Kuma Village

Kyusendo Cave

This limestone cave spans approximately 4800 meters in length. Formed over a staggering 300 million years, the cave continues to be shaped by erosion to this day. Visitors have the option of exploring either the challenging exploration course, which descends to a depth of 200 meters underground, or the circular course, which takes about 30 minutes to view the stalactites.

1121 Ose, Kuma Village, Kuma-gun 0966-32-0080 9:00 to 17:00 (last reception at 16:30) Closed on Wednesdays (Except from August to November) ¥1100 (entrance fee) 30 minutes by car from Hitoiyoshi IC Available

The groundwater flowing into the Kuma River is crystal clear.

Nishiki town

A Navy town in the mountains Nishiki Secret Base Museum

The museum was built on the site of the Hitooyoshi Naval Air Base, which was constructed in the late stages of the Pacific War. Visitors can explore the largest underground torpedo adjustment facility among the surviving underground structures.

- 2-107 Kinoue Nishi, Nishiki town, Kuma-gun 0966-28-8080
- 9:00 to 16:00 (July and August until 17:00) Open everyday
- ¥800 15 minutes by car from Hitooyoshi IC
- Available



Reflect on what peace and war mean.

▲ There is also a panel exhibition about the history of the base

Yunomae town

Yunomae Manga Art Museum

In order to continue passing Japan's outstanding manga culture to future generations, there is a permanent exhibition room showcasing the works of the late satire manga artist, Mr. Ryosuke Nasu, who hails from the town, as well as a special exhibition room. Visitors can also enjoy manga comic books by authors from the prefecture within the facility.

- 1834-1 Yunomae town, Kuma-gun 0966-43-2050
- 9:30 to 17:00 Open every day ¥300
- 40 minutes by car from Hitooyoshi IC Available

Also featuring a corner dedicated to teachers with connections to Kumamoto.



▲ The library where you can read more than 3,000 comics for free is also nearby.

Yatsushiro City

Kumamon Port Yatsushiro

A gateway for international cruise ships. Adjacent to the terminal is the Kumamon-themed park, 'Kumamon Park.' Welcoming visitors are 84 Kumamon statues including the approximately 6-meter-tall Big Kumamon, Kumamon Choir, and Kumamon statues representing the twelve zodiac signs.

- 1-25 Shinminato town, Yatsushiro City 0965-62-8246
- 9:00 to 17:00 Closed on Wednesdays (or the following day, if national holiday or cruise ship call)
- Free 20 minutes by car from Yatsushiro IC
- Available

You can meet various Kumamon statues.



▲ Kumamon poses in the choir with various expressions



A vast park of more than 40 hectares

▲ The "Lover's Sanctuary" on the seaside

Minamata City

Eco Park Minamata

A park divided into four zones: sea, town, village, and mountain. In the village zone, there is a rose garden boasting 850 varieties of roses, as well as Michinoeki Minamata with restaurants. It also offers sports facilities such as tennis courts and baseball fields.

- 1-231-12 Shiomi town, Minamata City
- 0966-62-7501 It depends on the facility,
- 15 minutes by car from Shir-Minamata Station on the Kyushu Shinkansen Available



SOUVENIRS



You can shop near the statues,
at the airport, and at the station!

Get "ONE PIECE" souvenirs

Items that can only be bought in Kumamoto are perfect for souvenirs. Please note that WCF (World Collectible Figure) are only sold near the statues!



You can enjoy decorating statues of the Straw Hat Pirates!

"ONE PIECE" World Collectible Figure

-Kumamoto Revival Project-
¥2200 each (tax included)

Lineup	Authorised seller
Monkey,D,Luffy	Kumamoto Prefectural Office Shop / Hotel Kumamoto Terra
Roronoa Zoro	Hobby Shop Creation / Roadside Station Otsu
Nami	Tawarayama Exchange Centre Moe no Sato
Usopp	Roadside Station Aso
Sanji	Mashiki Town General Gymnasium
Tony Tony,Chopper	Kumamoto City Zoological and Botanical Gardens Front Gate (Main Gate)
Nico Robin	Earthquake Museum KOKU/Roadside Station Asobochi no Sato Kugi no Ajiwaikan
Franky	Minamiaso Railway Takamori Station
Brook	Dino Base Mifune
Jinbe	Roadside Station Uto Marina Okoshikikan/okagesama MOBA

ONE PIECE KUMAMOTO REVIVAL PROJECT

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