

See. Feel. Experience.

Regional Event Guide for Three Cities Spanning Prefectural Borders

Shikoku Mannaka Sightseeing Map



四国まんなか交流協議会

Cuisine

Miyoshi City Iya Soba Noodles

Big differences in day and night temperatures make the Iya region perfect for growing and harvesting buckwheat. Just as in the Iya Flour Grinding Folk dance, stone mills have been used in the Iya region to grind buckwheat since antiquity. This soba is made without a thickener, so the noodles are short and thick, with a simple flavor that warms you to the core. The native Iya buckwheat has a great aroma and an excellent reputation. Buckwheat soba can be eaten at famous soba shops in the city, and also makes a popular souvenir.



KAN-ONJI CITY

Sanuki Udon Noodles



Wheat flour, salt, soy sauce, and "Iriko" (dried anchovy bouillon)—the ingredients for udon—have been Kagawa specialties since the olden days. In particular, the main breeding grounds for "Iriko" (dried anchovy bouillon) are around Ibuki Island near KAN-ONJI CITY, and the anchovies from this area are branded as Ibuki Iriko. The combination of the chewy, springy textured udon, with the savory anchovy broth, produces a premium bowl of udon noodles. There are more than thirty udon shops in town, each with their unique take on the simple bowl of udon, so try to find your favorite!

Shikokuchuo City

Doi Imotaki Hotpot



Imotaki is the flavor of fall in Ehime prefecture. The taro yam used in imotaki (a kind of hot pot) is a Shikokuchuo-City's specialty. In Shikokuchuo-City, where a regional gale known as the Yamaji wind blows, the cultivation of wind-hardy yams spread, especially the Iyo Bijin, a tender yet sticky and savory yam. Imotaki made with chicken broth and locally produced taro is a must-try. Discovering the different kinds of imotaki in shops around town is one way to have fun.

Sightseeing Spots

Miyoshi City

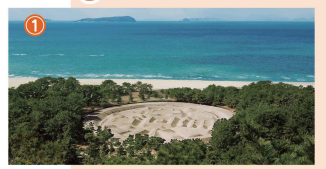
Ikeda Awaodori dance



Awaodori is the Tokushima prefecture's premier summer dance event. Tokushima City Awaodori is famous throughout Japan as the largest dance festival in the prefecture, but local Awaodori events exist throughout Tokushima. In the city of Miyoshi, the Ikeda Awaodori is held for three days from August 14 to 16, when dancers and tourists beat the already hot summer. The Ikeda Awaodori Eve Festival is held on the night of the 13th by Miyoshi City Tourism Association.

KAN-ONJI CITY

Zenigata Sunae



This Edo-era coin, also known as Kanei Tsuho, is a symbol of KAN-ONJI CITY. It's drawn in white sand in Kotobiki park, a national scenic spot. This enormous sand picture runs 122m east-to-west, 90m from north-to-south and 345m in diameter, and is said to have been made in a single night to welcome feudal lords in 1633. Legend says that all those who see this live a long and healthy life and never lack money. Enjoy views of the Seto Inland sea along with the Zenigata Sunae sand sculpture from the lookout point inside the park.



Takaya Shrine

This historic shrine is recorded in the Engishiki, a book of laws and customs compiled in the Heian period. The main shrine sits atop Mt. Inazumi at an altitude of 404 meters and is also known as Inazumi Shrine or Inazumi San. The temple atop the shrine overlooks panoramic views of KAN-ONJI CITY and the beautiful Seto Inland sea from the shrine on the summit, and its torii-gate, also known as the "torii-gate in the sky", was added to the 88 Signs of Shikoku in 2018. Nature is abundant here, and you may be lucky enough to see a wild rabbit as you climb from the shrine in the foothills up the mountain path and stone steps toward the main shrine.

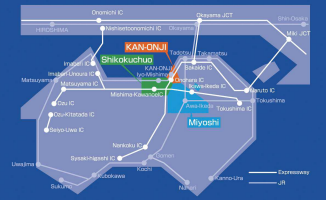
Shikokuchuo City

Sankakuji Temple



This is the 85th site on the Shikoku 88 Pilgrimage, and the last stop in Ehime prefecture. The eleven-faced image of Kanon in the main hall is a prefectural cultural property believed to bring safe birth and ward off evil. According to temple legend, Gyoki (a Buddhist priest) established the temple at the behest of the Emperor Shomu. When Kukai (Kobo Daishi, a Buddhist) visited, he carved the Kanon statue along with a triangular hula mandala, then performed mystic rituals for 21 days. The current structure was rebuilt in 1849. 75 Sankakuji, Kanadacho, Shikokuchuo-City

Access Map



● Car (by expressway)
From the Gateway to Shikoku
Kobe Awai Nanto Expressway Harado IC → Within Miyoshi-City approx. 70 min
Takamatsu Expressway Sakado IC → Within KAN-ONJI CITY approx. 65 min
Nishi Seto Expressway Imabari IC → Within Shikokuchuo-City approx. 60 min

From the Prefectural Office
Within Takamatsu → Within KAN-ONJI CITY approx. 45 min
Within Matsuyama → Within Shikokuchuo-City approx. 70 min

● JR
Tokushima Station → Awaikeda Station approx. 75 min approx. 125 min
Takamatsu Station → KAN-ONJI Station approx. 45 min approx. 80 min
Matsuyama Station → Iyo-Mishima Station approx. 80 min approx. 180 min

For inquiries about Shikoku Mannaka Sightseeing Map, Access Map
Shikokuchuo City Shikokuchuo City
Department of Tourism Traffic Division
https://www.city.shikokuchuo.ehime.jp/
4-6-55 Michimanyagawa, Shikokuchuo-City, Ehime 799-0497
TEL.0896-28-6187 FAX.0896-28-6242

KAN-ONJI CITY KAN-ONJI CITY
Economic Department, Commerce and Tourism Division
https://www.city.kanonji.kagawa.jp/
1-1-1 Sakamoto-cho KAN-ONJI CITY, Kagawa-ken 768-8601
TEL.0875-23-3933 FAX.0875-23-3956

Miyoshi City Miyoshi-City
Department of Tourism Strategy Division
https://www.miyoshi-i.tokushima.jp/
1-2145 Meshi-keicho Miyoshi-City, Tokushima 778-0002
TEL.0853-72-7620 FAX.0853-72-6203

Souvenirs

Miyoshi's Selection

The abundance of nature in Miyoshi means all kinds of delicious produce, including sake, Iya soba, soba rice porridge, sweetfish, and trout. Find a wide selection of the best of Miyoshi's food and craft items at Miyoshi's Selection store. The simple, nostalgic gift sets are highly recommended as gifts. Enjoy all the delicious food Miyoshi has to offer.



KAN-ONJI CITY Japanese Sweets

There are multiple sweet shops in the town, offering diverse items from sweet manju and "Ebi Senbei" (crispy shrimp senbei crackers), to beautiful colored o-ri balls, used by the Japanese in celebrations. There is a variety of flavors, such as the rich Ebi Senbei made of a whole cooked fresh shrimp. Colorful o-ri balls made using mochi rice are given as small gifts at weddings. They are approximately 1 cm in diameter and a delight to the eye in colors such as peach, white and green.



Shikokuchuo City Shingu Tea

Located at a high altitude, the town of Shingu has misty mornings and evenings, large differences between day and night temperatures, and pristine water and air. The town's soil also contains high amounts of greenschist, which helps enhance the flavor of the tea. Bringing all these elements together, pesticide-free Shingu tea is richly fragrant and has a beautiful savory flavor. Tea to try here include not only sencha leaf tea, but roasted green tea, Japanese black tea, and more. Recently, cold brew tea has also enjoyed a rise in popularity.



Shikokuchuo City

Manabe Residence



As Ehime prefecture's oldest townhouse, not only is Manabe House historic, but renowned for its architecture, and was designated a national cultural treasure in 1970. Take a tour of the townhouse, where thick earthen walls constructed between pillars and the original layout remain. Growing close by is the Omo-zakura cherry tree, which, at 400 to 500 years old, is almost the same age as the Manabe Residence. In 2019, the traditional thatched roof was replaced for the first time in 40 years. 2030-2 Yamada, Kinseicho, Shikokuchuo-City

Miyoshi City

Iya Vine Bridge



Made of vines that could be chopped down to escape pursuers, legend has it that the original bridge builders were of the Taira (Heike) clan. As one of the top three strangest bridges in Japan, this bridge has also been nationally designated as an Important Tangible Folk Cultural Property and is rebuilt every three years. At 45 meters long and 14 meters wide, this bridge, which was once the only means of traversing the deep gorge, is a thrill to cross. The nearby Biwa Falls are also linked to the Heike clan, helping visitors to feel the long history of this place.



Miyoshi City Ochiai Village

This village spans a difference in elevation of approximately 390 meters and a look-out point across the way offering panoramic views. This settlement, with its traditional homes, stone walls, and fields, evokes scenes of a bygone Japan. The area is also a nationally-designated preservation site for important historical buildings.

KAN-ONJI CITY

Honenike Dam



This was the first multi-arch concrete dam completed in Japan, and today its weathered surfaces are reminiscent of old castles of medieval Europe. The release of water, called yurumi, is a famous summer event, where the roar of the water combined with the view of the rushing water creates a spectacular sight.

Shikokuchuo City

Tomisato Valley

Stretching for 6 kilometers along the upper reaches of the Dozan River, this scenic valley lets visitors enjoy all that nature has to offer with fishing in the cool breezes of summer, red and yellow leaves of fall, and snowy landscapes in winter.



~Map symbols~

- Border
 - Municipal boundaries
 - Expressway
 - National highway
 - Local Road
 - J.R.L. Line
 - Private railway sidings way
 - Tourist Facilities
 - Interchange Junction
 - Service area
 - Parking area
- JR Station
 - Road side station
 - Hot spring
 - Temple
 - Shrine
 - Sightseeing Spots
 - Campground
 - Cherry Blossom
 - Autumn Leaves



Chosa Kaikan

Every year in October, brightly decorated Chosa drum floats are paraded through town for the Chosa Festival. At Toyohama's Chosa Kaikan museum, you can see an actual Chosa drum float on display, along with footage where you can feel the energy of the festival regardless of when you visit.



Ibuki Island

Ibuki Island is known for its plentiful, high-quality "Iriko" (dried anchovy bouillon). The island is the venue for the Setouchi Triennale, where visitors can enjoy fusion nature and art. Take a rest among the artwork at a hermitage designed to incorporate island culture, using bamboo steamers used in the production of "Iriko" (dried anchovy bouillon) and more.



Kaminomachi Museum

Shikokuchuo-City boasts the top paper production in the nation. Enjoy exhibitions and sales of paper items, displays of mizuhiki (paper cord) craft, and special temporary exhibits themed around paper. You can also try papermaking using traditional Japanese methods (reservation required). 4069-1 Kawanocho, Shikokuchuo-City



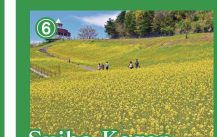
Kiri no Mori "Misty Forest"

There is a cafe where you can enjoy tea along with snacks made on the premises, such as the famous Kiri no Mori Daifuku, a restaurant serving dishes made with wild produce, hot springs and cottages. 4491-1 Umatae, Shingucho, Shikokuchuo-City



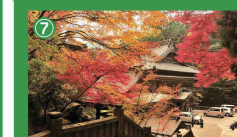
Gyou-u Hall

In 1795, the poet Kobayashi Issa visited Gyou-u Hall (the current facility was built on the site). Achievements of ancestors such as Tokuzan Kondo and Seigaku Ando are presented here, along with exhibitions of rocks and minerals from the Akaishi mountains. 178-1 Irino, Doicho, Shikokuchuo-City



Suiha Kogen Highland

Located at the heart of the Suiha Mountains, these highlands are covered in yellow rapa blossoms in spring, then early-blooming cosmos flowers from summer to early fall. From April to May, this spot is popular for its cherry blossom varieties, such as Somei-Yoshino, Yamazakura and Yaezakura. 306-1 Hiranoyama, Kinshacho, Shikokuchuo-City



Senryuji

Known as the inner shrine of the Shikoku 88 site pilgrimage, The 13th spot on the "Twenty Other Sacred Places on Shikoku". It is said that Kukai (Kobo Daishi, a Buddhist monk) spent 21 days performing the Goma ritual here to ward off danger and insects and guarantee bumper crops. The main object of worship is known as the "Danger-Warding Daishi" or "Insect-Repelling Daishi". 1200 Umatae, Shingucho, Shikokuchuo-City



Kurozo Marshland

This 2700 square-meter marshland is located at an altitude of 600m. From the levees to the foot of the mountains grow many water plants, and you can relax at the rest area or meander along the footpaths to enjoy all the different plants. The early morning mist makes the entire area ethereal.



Shiozuka Plateau

Also known as the Aoe of Shiozuka, this plateau is approximately 100 hectares. Don't miss the dynamic field burnings that herald the arrival of spring. In Autumn, many people come to visit to see the beautiful pampas grass fields. This sightseeing spot is also known for being Instagrammable.



Hi no Ji Valley

The meandering Iya river forms a shape here that looks like the hiragana letter "hi", earning this valley its name. This gorge, created from Nature itself, offers stunning views, making it a popular spot among visitors.

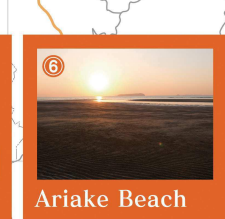
KAN-ONJI CITY



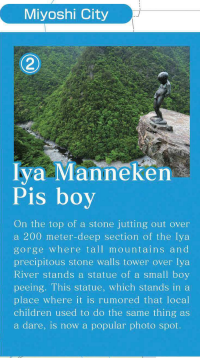
No. 68 & No. 69: Jinne-in & Kannon-ji Temple
This temple was established more than 1,300 years ago by the Buddhist priest Nisho Shonin, then when Kobo Daishi was the 7th Head Priest, he enshrined Honzan Shokanzonji (Redicative, Kannon-ji temple). During the Meiji period, Kotshihachimang Shrine were moved inside Kannon-ji temple grounds as a result of the government's policy to separate Shintoism and Buddhism, and is the only place of Shinto's eighty-eight sacred places where there are two sacred places inside one temple.



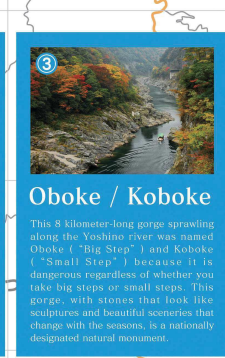
Ichinomiya Park & Beach
Inside the park is a clock tower resembling a rocker about to take off into space, along with sculptures intended as play equipment, all designed by the world-famous sculptor Isamu Noguchi. You can enter in Isamu Noguchi's world as you play on sculptures not intended only as art but also as a playground.



Ariake Beach
Located inside Seto Naikai National Park, this white sand beach stretches 2 kilometers and is open for swimming in summer. Watch the beautiful setting sun sink into Huchinada Bay, which has earned a place on Japan's list of "100 Top Sunsets". This beach is also home to several precious sea plants.



Iya Manneken Pits boy
On the top of a stone jutting out over a 200 meter-deep section of the Iya gorge where tall mountains and precipitous stone walls tower over Iya River stands a statue of a small boy peeing. This statue, which stands in a place where it is rumored that local children used to do the same thing as a dare, is now a popular photo spot.



Oboke / Koboko
This 8 kilometer-long gorge sprawling along the Yoshino river was named Oboke ("Big Step") and Koboko ("Small Step") because it is dangerous regardless of whether you take big steps or small steps. This gorge, with stones that look like sculptures and beautiful scenery that change with the seasons, is a nationally designated natural monument.

