

EVENT CALENDAR

July-August

- Kirishima Kokubu Summer Festival July 1st
- Obama Beach Opening On Sea Day
- Kirishima Kokubu Summer Festival 2 days in late July
- Hayato Station-Mae Summer Festival Late July
- Mizobe Summer Festival Late July
- Kirishima International Music Festival From end of July to beginning of Aug.
- Kagaribi Concert During Kirishima International Music Festival
- Kagoshima Shrine Rokugataido Festival July 28th
- Makizono Santal Summer Festival Mid-Aug.
- Hinatayama Summer Festival The First Sat. in Aug.
- Kirishima Shrine Lantern Festival Aug. 5th
- Yokogawa Summer Festival First Sat. in Aug.
- Furusato Kirishima Summer Festival Second Sat. in Aug.
- Fukufuku Land Summer Festival Mid-Aug.
- Tenson-Korin Kirishima Festival End of Aug. Sun./Sat.
- Southern Kyushu Kagura Festival
- Kirishima Kougen Taiko Festival
- Hangiridashi Aug. 16th
- Hamanochi Minato Festival Mid-Aug.
- Kirishima Highlands Taiko Festival (Kirishima-jingu Shrine)

September

- Kirishima Hayato Hamakudari Third Sun. in Oct.
- Tenson-Korin Fire Festival Nov. 10th
- Hounen Hoze Festival Nov. 23rd

October

- Kirishima Kougen Taiko Festival
- Hangiridashi Aug. 16th
- Hamanochi Minato Festival Mid-Aug.
- Kirishima Highlands Taiko Festival (Kirishima-jingu Shrine)

November

- Tenson-Korin Fire Festival Nov. 10th
- Hounen Hoze Festival Nov. 23rd

Access

By Airplane

Tokyo	→	About 1 hr. 35 min.
Shizuoka	→	About 1 hr. 30 min.
Nagoya-Centrol	→	About 1 hr. 15 min.
Osaka-Kansai	→	About 1 hr. 10 min.
Kobe	→	About 1 hr. 10 min.
Fukuoka	→	About 40 min.
Yakushima	→	About 30 min.
Okinawa	→	About 1 hr. 20 min.
Shanghai	→	About 1 hr. 40 min.
Seoul	→	About 2 hrs.
Taipei	→	About 2 hrs.
Hong Kong	→	About 3 hrs.

By Expressway

Dazaifu IC	→	About 3 hrs. 10 min.
Sagayama IC	→	About 3 hrs.
Nagasaki IC	→	About 4 hrs. 10 min.
Oita IC	→	About 4 hrs. 25 min.
Kumamoto IC	→	About 1 hr. 45 min.
Miyazaki IC	→	About 1 hr. 35 min.

By JR / High Speed Bus

Shin-Osaka	→	Kagoshima	→	High Speed Bus About 45 min.
Osakayama	→	Chuo	→	JR Kirishima Express or JR Hayato no Kaze About 35 min.
Hiroshima	→	Kirishima	→	High Speed Bus About 35 min.
Kumamoto	→	Miyazaki	→	JR Kirishima Express 1 hr. 30 min.

Kirishima Sightseeing Bus
Exclusive service for weekends and holidays
Adults: 1,100 (Same fare for a round trip)
Youth (twelve and under): 550 per one trip



Kirishima Onsen

Enjoy famous Onsen steeped in history!

Kirishima Onsen Area
access: About 30 min by car from Kagoshima Airport
About 20 min by car from the nearest station, Kirishima Onsen Station.
In the heart of the mythical Kirishima Mountains are nine onsen with different mineral composition and healing properties. Other therapeutic sites nearby include Maruo Falls, volcanic rocky riverbeds, peaceful forest walks, and Kirishima's oldest open-air rock bath. The area is full of traditional Japanese inns (ryokan) and hotels that are ready to welcome you to your mountain getaway!

Myouken and Anraku Onsen Area
access: About 15 min by car from Kagoshima Airport
About 10 min by car from the nearest station, Kareigawa Station.
Stretching out along the banks of the Amori-Gawa River are a wealth of different onsen. Surrounded by striking trees and sitting in a valley carved out by the river, this onsen town is a must see for tourists looking to experience the magic of small-town Japan. Stay the night at any of the luxurious ryokan and soak your troubles away! The Bakumatsu patriot, Sakamoto Ryoma, visited Shiohishashi onsen here during what is said to be Japan's first honeymoon.

Kirishima Footbaths

Scattered throughout Kirishima are foot onsen, or in Japanese, ashi-yu. In just 15 minutes at in your feet throughout the day will disappear!

Kirishima-jingu Onsen Area
access: About 40 min by car from Kagoshima Airport
About 10 min by car from the nearest station, Kirishima-jingu Station.
This onsen hot spring area surrounds Kirishima-jingu Shrine, where enshrined is the god Ninigi-no-Mikoto, known for participation in the legendary story of the descent of the gods to earth. From hotbaths with large public baths to refined ryokan and private lodging, there are an abundance of facilities and hot springs to enjoy.

Hinatayama Onsen Area
access: About 15 min by car from Kagoshima Airport
About 5 min by car from the nearest station, Hinatayama Station.
This hot spring area was often visited by Saigo Takamori, who was one of the three great nobles who led the Meiji Restoration. The area has over 20 ryokan, public baths, and family baths.

Kirishima Tourism

New experiences are waiting!

Kirishima Mythology Park
0995-57-1711 C-6
The park hosts incredible views of the Kirishima Mountains and the Sakurajima volcano. Spend the afternoon riding up the ropeway and sliding down on boboggers whilst looking in the incredible landscape! After you're done, make sure to stop and eat Kirishima Kuruzuba, Kirishima's famous black pork.

Kirishima Onsen Market
0995-78-3121 E-6
Complete with foot bath, restaurants, souvenir shops, and the tastiest onsen eggs and sweet potatoes, this market is a great pit-stop!

Hinatayama Segodan Village
F-4
This house is modeled after the house where Saigo Takamori once stayed. Visitors can experience the mochi house and garden, buy souvenirs, and relax in the foot bath. The tourism information center is located next to the souvenir shop, so make sure to stop by and get insider info about local places!

Saigo Park
E-3
Come see Japan's largest Saigo Takamori statue (10.5 meters tall) and learn more about Saigo Takamori's life!

Kareigawa Station D-3
Built in 1903, this unmanned station has over 110 years of history. The wooden tourist train, "Hayato no Kaze", runs through this station. Make sure to pick up a "100 Year Kareigawa" lunch box while you're here!

Soujin-Ga-Oka Viewpoint I-6
Where Shimadzu Takahisa and Toyohisa headed their military headquarters in 1561, during the Shimadzu-Kinoshita war. In the four cardinal directions, you can see the Kirishima Volcanoes, the Takama Mountains and the Shibushi Bay, the Kinowan Bay, and on a clear day, Mt. Sakurajima.

Kirishima Horseback Riding Club C-5
An English style horseback riding club. Anyone from beginners to advanced riders can enjoy horseback riding. (all weather)

Maruo Falls C-6
A rare, warm waterfall that is sourced by a hot spring. This majestic waterfall has a height of 23m, a width of 16m and is illuminated at night.

Kirishima's Four Seasons

A treat for the five senses!
Breathe in the fragrance of nature's masterpiece...!

Spring
Wake Shrine
Tunnel of Trees
Myiama Kirishima Flowers

Summer
Kokubu Seaside Campground
Japan's Top 100 Roads

Winter
Frost covered trees

Fall
Onami Lake
Byakushi-ike Crater Lake
Yakumori no Kaze

Kirishima History

From the age of myths to ancient times, trace the footprints of prominent figures from the restoration across this eternal land.

Kirishima's 7 Mysteries

- Wind holes**: On the old road up to Kirishima Shrine there are holes in the rocks through which wind softly blows. It is said that if one passes through these holes one will see the rock's Kannon goddess of mercy softly smiling.
- Turtle Rock**: On the old road up to Kirishima Shrine there is a rock that looks just like a turtle. It is said that the turtle broke a promise made with the gods and was turned to stone.
- Ryoudo River**: There is a river next to Kirishima Shrine that starts flowing in June every year. This river dries up in around 10 days and then flows a few more times during the year. This is how it got its name, "Ryoudo" (both times).
- Writing Boulder**: Inside an approximately 10 cm crack in a large boulder mysterious Sanskrit lettering is engraved. Who could have written in such a space too narrow for the human hand?
- Mitarashi River**: Near Kirishima Shrine there is a stream that dries up between the months of Nov and April. The strange thing is that every year in May it annually starts flowing and fresh water and fish come forth together.
- The unseed**: In the Kirishima mountains there are instances of crops growing naturally even though no seeds have been sown. These crops are said to have originated from seeds brought down by the gods from the heavenly plains.
- Midnight music**: It is said that in ages past, in the middle of the night, the high sound of traditional music could be heard from the main building of Kirishima Shrine. Some say even now one can hear sounds very like traditional music in the middle of the night.

Kirishima-jingu Shrine D-7
0995-57-0001
This shrine enshrines the Japanese god Ninigi-no-Mikoto, one of the original gods to descend to earth on the summit of Mt. Takachiko. Originally built in the 6th century, the shrine now sits at its third location after years of being destroyed by volcanic eruptions. The current shrine was built by Lord Shimazu Yoshihisa in 1715.

Kagoshima Shrine Hatsumo Festival
Dazzlingly decorated horses lead a dancing procession in this lively festival. The festival follows the lunar calendar and is held annually on the first Sunday after Jan 16th.

Wake-jinja Shrine 0995-77-2885 E-4
This shrine is dedicated to Wake-no-Kiyomaru, a country official who served from the end of the Nara period to the beginning of the Heian period. Many visitors come to see the beautiful winter from mid-April to early May each year.

Shiohishashi Onsen and Ryoma Park 0995-76-0007 D-4
Sakamoto Ryoma and his wife Oryo spent 18 days at Shiohishashi Onsen while on their honeymoon. There is the hot spring where Ryoma is said to have gone for healing, a small museum explaining the history and connection between Ryoma and Kirishima, the honeymoon monument, and a footbath inside the park.

Miyauragu Ginkgo Trees I-6
Said to have been planted to commemorate the sitting of a temporary palace here by the Emperor Jimmu. The trees are both over a thousand years old.

Mt. Takaya Landing E-2
This is one of the three burial mounds for Hikoohodemi-no-Mikoto, who was Ninigi-no-Mikoto's son, the grandfather of the imperial line, and the deity enshrined at Kagoshima Shrine.

Kirishima City tour guide liaison council
(inside Kirishima City Tourism Association)
There are many guide organizations with Kirishima organizations, which will assist with finding guides for trekking, geo-tours, forest therapy, walking to historic spots, and sightseeing.
(Inquiries) 0995-78-2115

