

ASO GUIDE MAP

熊本の交通

Kumamoto Public Transport

You are advised to check public transport timetables prior to your visit. Taxi ranks can be found at all major stations, providing a hassle-free means for sightseeing.

JR Lines

To Kumamoto Station

Express Trains
The "Trans-Kyushu Limited Express" bound for Hitoyoshi (last train bound for Kumamoto) stops at Kumamoto Station. The express train runs 4 times a day. In addition, the Kumamoto bound limited express train "ASO BOY!" runs twice daily on weekends and public holidays. Regular ticket and express ticket to Kumamoto Station required. 1 hour travel time from Aso Station to Kumamoto Station.

Local Trains

Some local trains are bound for Kumamoto. However, in most cases you will need to catch a train bound for Higo-Ozu and change at the last stop, Higo-Ozu Station, to a Kumamoto bound train. Trains run every 1-2 hours. Ticket required. 90-minute travel time from Aso to Kumamoto Station.

To Hakata Station

For Hakata Station, change trains at Kumamoto Station and catch the "Kyushu Shinkansen".

To Oita and Beppu Stations

For trains bound for Oita and Beppu Stations, the "Trans-Kyushu Limited Express" runs 4 times a day.

About "Trans-Kyushu Limited Express" and "ASO BOY!"

The Trans-Kyushu Limited Express has reserved and non-reserved seating. There are no Green (1st class) seats. In addition to a regular ticket, passengers require an extra reserved express ticket or non-reserved express ticket. Purchase reserved express tickets at a ticket counter prior to boarding. The Trans-Kyushu Limited Express is a 2 or 3 carriage train. The first carriage is reserved seating, with the remainder being non-reserved. Cabin attendants provide information service and trolley sales. All seats on the limited express train ASO BOY! are reserved. Japan Rail Pass and JR Kyushu Rail Pass are valid for the Trans-Kyushu Limited Express and ASO BOY! Show your pass at the ticket counter prior to boarding for reserved seat tickets.



Local trains from Miyaji, Aso and Tateno Stations
How to purchase regular tickets
Tickets available at Miyaji, Aso and Tateno Station from the ticket counter or vending machines.

Taking Local Trains
When ticket counter is open:
Show your ticket at the ticket gate when boarding. When getting off, give your ticket to the attendant.

When ticket counter is closed:
Only the front carriage doors (driver's carriage) open. Please note that the rear carriage doors will remain closed.

- Boarding:
Board from the rear door of the front carriage and take a numbered ticket.
- Getting off:
Get off from the front door of the front carriage (behind driver). Hand your train ticket and numbered ticket to the driver.
- Japan Rail Pass and JR-Kyushu Rail Pass holders are to show their pass to the driver.

Minami Aso Railway

Traveling to Minami Aso, you change trains at JR Tateno Station to the Minami Aso Line. The JR Line and Minami Aso Line stations are adjacent. There is about one train every hour. JR Tateno Station: Tel. 0967-68-0002
Minami Aso Railway (Takamori Station) : Tel. 0967-62-0058



A tourist tram with open carriages runs from March to November on weekends and public holidays (daily during spring/summer holidays and Golden Week).



Regular trains have only one driver. Please take a numbered ticket when boarding and pay the fare when getting off.

Taking Minami Aso Railway

When boarding regular trains, take a numbered ticket from the rear door. When getting off, check the fare that corresponds to your ticket number on the list near the driver and place fare in collection box. Please purchase tickets for tourist trams prior to your trip. Tickets are available at Kumamoto Station, as well as Takamori Station by telephone reservation. Seats are limited, so early reservation is advised.

Bus

Aso City

In addition to regular routes, buses travel from Aso station to Mt. Aso's summit and Kusasenri. Sanko Bus Aso Office: Tel. 0967-34-0211

Minami Aso Village

In addition to regular routes, buses travel from Aso station to Mt. Aso's summit and Kusasenri. In addition to regular routes, the "Yurutto Bus" provides leisurely rides across 3 scenic routes through the village. Starts from Minami Aso Tateno Station and Takamori Station. Sanko Bus Takamori Office: Tel. 0967-62-0515



Note that there are few buses on regular routes.



The number of Yurutto buses differs by route. These buses are not recommended for those in a hurry.



Please take a numbered ticket when boarding.



When getting off, check the fare displayed below your ticket number and place your fare in the collection box.

Electric Bicycles

For an easy ride around Aso's scenic countryside, electric bicycles are available to rent at Aso Sta., Miyaji Sta., Takamori Sta., Asosan-Nishi Sta., and Minami Aso Visitor Center.



Electric bicycles not suitable for mountain climbing

Taxi

Taxis are easily identified by the illuminated company logos on their roofs. Wave down a taxi at a rank or along the street. The rear door opens automatically - then hop in. Tell the driver your destination or show a map, and pay the fare on the meter when you arrive.

Onsens (hot springs) at and near Stations

Aso Bochu Onsen Yumenoyu



Onsen in a traditional wooden house. Tel. 0967-35-5777 Hours: 10 AM - 10 PM (Enter by 9 PM) Closed 1st and 3rd Monday (if public holiday, closed next day - subject to change) Entrance fee: Adult ¥400

Aso Shimodajo Fureai Onsen Station



Unike Onsen in a train station. Tel. 0967-67-1919 Hours: 9 AM - 9 PM (Enter by 8:30 PM) Closed: Last day of the month (if public holiday, closed previous day) Entrance fee: Adult ¥300

Inquiries:
Aso Tourist Information Center
Tel. 0967-32-1960

<http://www.asocity-kanko.jp/>

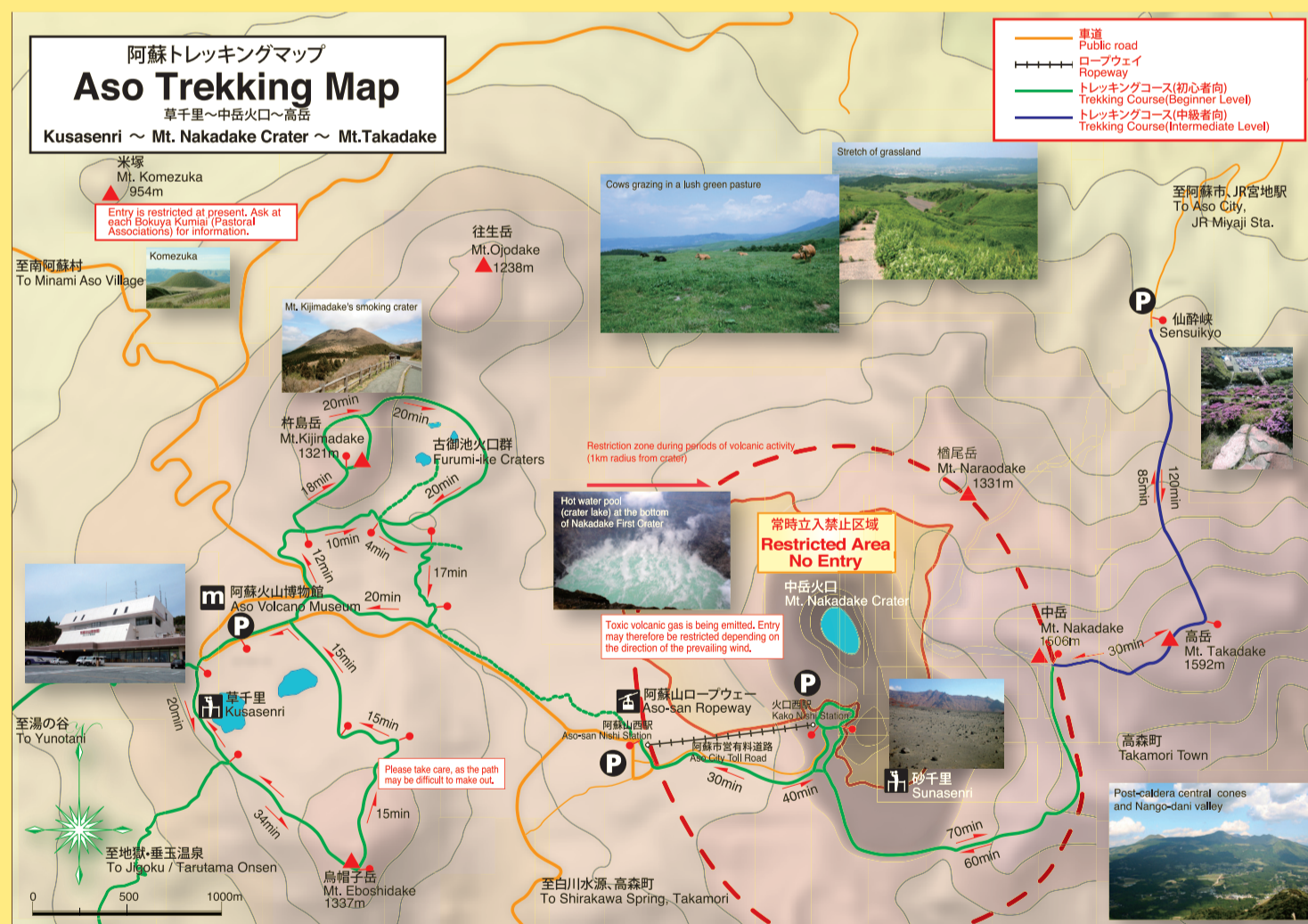


Relax and enjoy Aso's rich local culture and beautiful scenery created by the Earth's energy.



ASO GLOBAL GEOPARK

Trekking in Aso



Let's Walk Around Aso

Why not see Aso's mountains on a trekking course? Enjoy the area's diverse scenery, including desolate mountain-sides and horses playing in fields. Aso is one of the few

places in the world where you can see an active volcano up close. More people are choosing to walk and feel the Earth's energy under their feet.

About Money

Exchanging Money

You cannot exchange foreign currency in the Aso area. Cash cards and international credit cards are the most convenient forms of payment.

Cash ATM

Cash withdrawals can be made by credit card at post office and convenience store (7-Eleven) ATMs.
* You may not be able to use your card, even if the cash machine displays the same logo.
* Commission fees may apply.

Overseas credit cards accepted for cash withdrawals at post offices

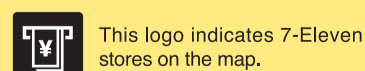
VISA, American Express, Diners Club, JCB, Master, Maestro, 中国銀聯 (China Union Pay)

Overseas credit cards accepted for cash withdrawals at 7-Eleven.

VISA, American Express, Diners Club, JCB, 中国銀聯 (China Union Pay), Discover



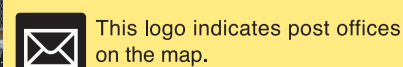
7-Eleven stores bear this mark (left).



This logo indicates 7-Eleven stores on the map.



Post offices bear this mark (left)



This logo indicates post offices on the map.

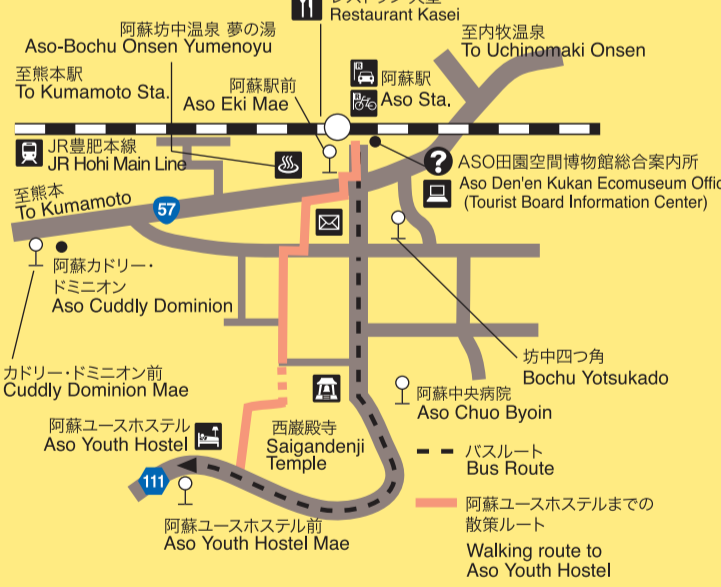


ちょっと足を延ばして町歩き

Strolling Around Town

Stop-off Course 1 Bochu

This area is famous as a center of Buddhist worship and has been home to many monks and priests since ancient times. Today, it is known for its local cuisine, plentiful hot springs and natural beauty, drawing in many visitors. Find out more from the Aso Den'en Kukan Ecomuseum information desk next to JR Aso Station. Tel. 0967-35-5077 Open 9 AM - 6 PM Open 7 days



Aso Youth Hostel

English speaking staff available.



Accommodates many overseas guests and is a hub of international exchange. No meals offered but self service kitchen available. Staff can guide you around Aso. Tel. 0967-34-0804 Accommodation rates per night no meals : Adult ¥2,000 Child ¥1,800

Aso Cuddly Dominion

Animal theme park. The animal show "Miyazawa Theater" is a popular attraction among visitors. Tel. 0967-34-2020 Open 9:30 AM - 5 PM (may change with season) Closed : Tue, Wed and Thur from Dec - Feb (open public and winter holidays) Admission : Adult ¥2,400



ちょっと足を延ばして町歩き

Strolling Around Town

Stop-off Course 2 Miyaji

Home to Aso Shrine, dedicated to Emperor Jimmu's descendant Takeiwa Tatsu-no-mikoto and other 11 deities. The town grew up around the shrine. Its abundant spring water is used to make local cuisine and confectionary. Sample local delicacies as you walk around town.

Ichinomiya Information Center : Tel. 0967-22-8181 Open 8:30 AM - 5 PM Open 7 days



Aso Shrine

Head shrine with 500 branch shrines throughout Japan. Designated a National Important Cultural Property. Its double-roofed shrine gates are said to be one of the three most magnificent in Japan. Tel. 0967-22-0064 Inquiries : 9 AM - 5 PM Open 7 days



Mizuki Meguri

Mizuki meguri means to visit and taste the water at several of the 36 natural sources around Aso Shrine. It is said by drinking the sacred water the gods will bring you prosperity.



Transport from Aso Station to Miyaji

Catch the Hoho Main Line from JR Aso Station to Miyaji Station (2nd stop). Please note that there are few trains. You can also take a taxi or rent an electric bicycle at Aso Station. JR Aso Station: Tel. 0967-34-0751

Transport from Aso Station to Aso Youth Hostel

20-minute walk from JR Aso Station towards Mt. Aso (see map). 3 minutes by bus from Aso Eki Mae on the Asosan Nishi bound bus. 9 buses every day. Sanko Bus Aso Office : Tel. 0967-34-0211