

Mt. Aso



Aso Gogaku (the five peaks of Mt. Aso) stand in the center of one of the world's largest calderas.

The view from the Uchinomaki Hot Springs and Daikanbo Peak is known as the "Reclining Buddha of Aso" and is popular with visitors.



Nakadake

Located in the center of the five peaks, Nakadake is an active volcano and volcanic plumes can be seen spewing out of the 1st crater. The Nakadake crater is 600m in diameter, 130m deep and 4km in circumference, with seven craters.

Suna-senrigahama

Frequent volcanic activity has created a desolate landscape, with a sandy land covered in volcanic ash. You can experience the grandeur of the place by following the path at the crater viewing area (Zone B).



Reizan

The volcanic crater at Mt. Aso has long been worshipped as a sacred place of the gods. The area around the crater flourished for several hundred years as a major center of mountain worship. The calming of an eruption was regarded as a national prayer, and Aso Shrine enshrines the crater as Takeiwatatsu-no-Mikoto. Buddhism was also connected to the area, and prayers were performed by monks and mountain priests. As proof of this, Aso Sanjo Shrine and Saigandenji Okunoin still exist to this day, and people still visit to pray for the calming of volcanic activity.



Mt. Aso Nakadake crater viewing hours

*Open throughout the year, but entry may not be possible due to volcanic activity.

3/20 ▶ 10/31 8:30~18:00 (gate closes at 17:30)

11/1 ▶ 11/30 8:30~17:30 (gate closes at 17:00)

12/1 ▶ 3/19 9:00~17:00 (gate closes at 16:30)

Mt. Aso Park Road

Regular/Compact Cars: 1,000 yen Motorcycles: 400 yen

Microbuses: 2,800 yen Bicycles: Free

Medium-sized Buses: 3,300 yen



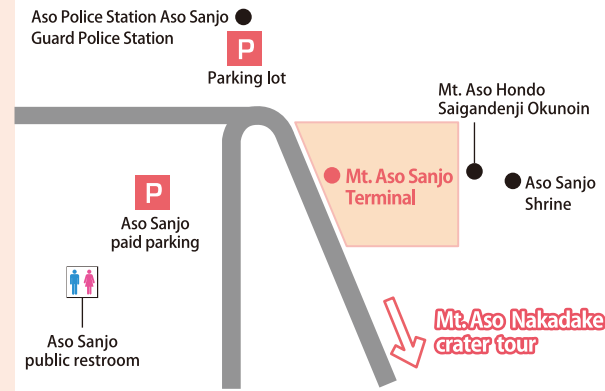
Information on Aso volcano crater restrictions

Mt. Aso Sanjo Terminal

Inquiries

TEL 0967-34-0411

Fare



Tourist information

TEL 0967-34-1600

Aso City Tourism Association website
<https://www.asocity-kanko.jp/>



A geosite where you can feel the energy of Mt. Aso

Mt. Aso Nakadake crater tour



A view like no other!
Experience a living crater from up close!

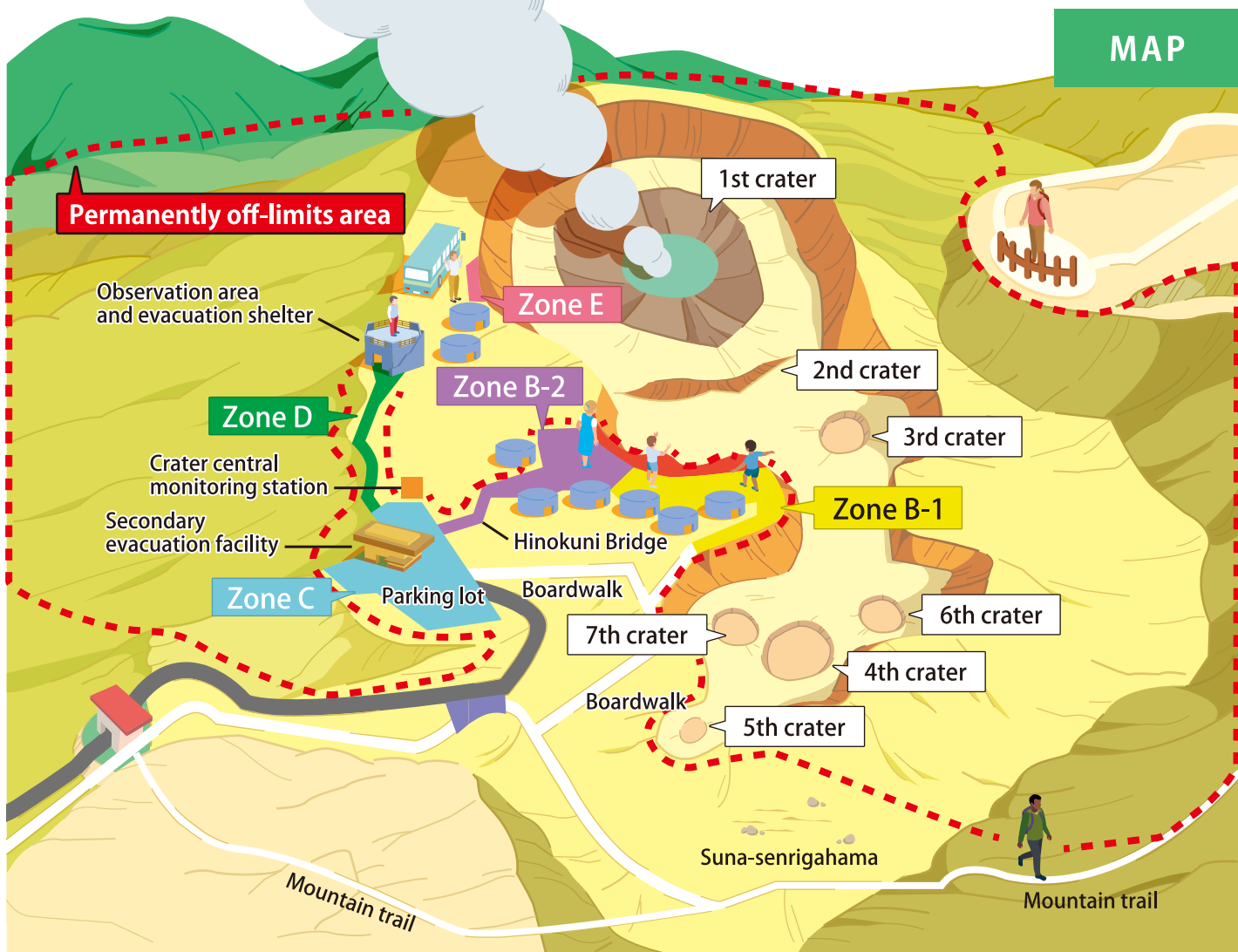


Mt. Aso Nakadake crater tour

Volcanic activity has an overwhelming energy on earth. Seeing a live crater at close proximity is something that cannot be experienced anywhere else. Mt. Aso Nakadake has seven craters, including the active 1st crater, and you can see all of them from the crater viewing area (Zone B) (weather dependent). Enjoy the sight of the volcanic plumes spewing from the crater and the dynamic crater wall.



unesco
Global Geopark
Aso Unesco Global Geopark



\\ The new viewing area Zone E is open //

Zone E is a viewing area that is open during periods when viewing is not possible at Zone B due to volcanic gas restrictions. As Zone E is located on the northwest side, you can see nearly all of the 1st crater (weather dependent). You can also hear the fumes spewing out of the crater. Note that transport is restricted to a *dedicated bus to ensure safety as Zone E is located closer to the crater.



*Dedicated bus operation

Operates when the general viewing area (Zone B) cannot be accessed due to volcanic gas restrictions and the volcanic gas level in Zone E is below the specified level (ticket required). Round-trip route, departing from the Aso Sanjo Terminal and arriving at Zone E.

The following conditions apply to board the Zone E bus.

- 1 There is always volcanic gas circulating in the air. Persons with respiratory disease or heart disease, or those are feeling unwell, cannot board the bus.
- 2 As we will be closer to the crater, you must be prepared for the worst-case scenario. You must watch the safety video and understand the content.
- 3 If volcanic gas restrictions are imposed during the visit, the visit will be canceled. The fare must be paid even in this case. However, payment is not required if the restrictions were imposed after departure and you did not get off the bus.
- 4 As we will be moving as a group, make sure to follow the instructions of the staff and obey the rules.

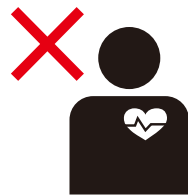
**Danger! There are toxic volcano gases around the crater.
You cannot view the crater if any of the following apply.**



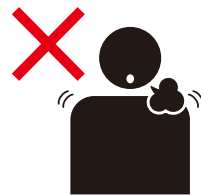
You have a respiratory (lung) disease



You have a heart disease



You have a pacemaker



You have asthma



You are unwell