

Suggested Routes

Check here for more suggested routes ->



Route 1 Kumamoto Castle & Suizenji Tour Route (about 5 hr)

We recommend the Two Hall Joint Admission Ticket



Route 2 The Full Kumamoto City Experience Route (about 7 hr)

We recommend the Three Hall Joint Admission Ticket



14th Floor of City Hall
The 14th floor observation lobby at City Hall offers great views of the entirety of Kumamoto Castle.

Wakuwakuza is packed with interesting exhibits like VR video, live performances, and projection mapping that make learning about the history of Kumamoto Castle fun! You can also dress up like a lord or lady and try riding in a palanquin!

The concept of this museum is "linking Kumamoto's memories to the future," and it introduces Kumamoto's history, culture, and environment. The impressive planetarium can show you the stars like you've never seen them. Don't forget to pick up some Kumamoto City Museum merch, too!

Kato-jinja Shrine is dedicated to Lord Kato Kiyomasa, a daimyo from the Warring States period. The grounds are home to one of Kumamoto's largest stone water basins, a memorial arched bridge, and a flag stand.

Josaien is filled with tons of delicious foods and souvenirs that are unique to Kumamoto. Try a popular Kumamoto dish for lunch, then stop by the Josaien Information Center for helpful info!

One of Japan's Three Great Castles. The 2016 Kumamoto Earthquakes caused extensive damage, but since the keeps were completely restored in 2021, visitors can enjoy the interesting and unique exhibits on each floor and the great view from the top of the Great Keep. Make sure you don't miss the sakura in the spring and the autumn leaves and bamboo sculptures in the fall!

Centered around a pond fed by spring waters from Aso, Suizenji Jojuen Garden is a great place to enjoy the changing of the seasons. You can also try some matcha and a sweet at Kokin Denju-no-ma.

The largest shopping arcade in the prefecture. Lined with department stores and boutiques and acting as Kumamoto's center for fashion and entertainment, the arcades also feature plenty gourmet options as well.

Tourist Information

Check these out for more info!

Kumamoto City Sightseeing Guide Kumabon

Introducing Kumamoto's various attractions, including Kumamoto Castle!

General Info

Kumamoto Activity Program

Learn about activities you'll only find in Kumamoto and meet the locals while you're at it!

Activities

Kumamoto Gourmet Book

Contains information on dining, souvenirs, and accommodations in Kumamoto City.

Cuisine

Kumamoto City Sightseeing Guide Map

We also recommend downloading the digital version of this map!

Map

Sightseeing Questionnaire

We are conducting a web survey to improve tourism in Kumamoto City and to help us prepare sightseeing projects in the future. (Time required: about 2 minutes) Show your survey completion screen at any of the following 6 locations and get an original Kumamoto Castle postcard!

- Kumamoto Castle Honmaru Rest Area
- Kumamoto City Zoological and Botanical Gardens
- Kumamoto City Museum - Museum Shop
- Kumamoto Castle Ninomaru Rest Area
- Sakuranobaba Josaien Information Center
- Kumamoto Station Information Center

Kumamoto Castle Audio Guide Service

Audio guides are available at the Sakuranobaba Josaien Tourist Information Center. Your audio guidance will begin as you approach signs within Kumamoto Castle. Includes earphones and a speaker, which means groups of people can share one audio guide device. Available in Japanese, English, Chinese, and Korean. Your new companion for sightseeing in Kumamoto is here.

Price: ¥500 (tax incl.) Hours: 9AM-3PM

There are no guides within the castle park grounds, including the Reconstruction Observation Path, castle keeps, etc.

Kumamoto City Sightseeing Guide Map

Sakuranobaba Josaien Information Center
Phone: 096-322-5060
9AM-5:30PM Closed: 12/30, 31
1-1-3 Ninomaru, Chuo-ku, Kumamoto City (within Sakuranobaba Josaien)

Kumamoto Station Information Center
Phone: 096-327-9500
9AM-5:30PM Open Year-Round
3-15-30 Kasuga, Nishi-ku, Kumamoto City (inside Kumamoto Station)

Kumamoto City Tourism Guide Website
@kumamoto_tourism_official

Kumamoto International Convention and Tourism Bureau
Senju Bldg. 5F, 4-30-1 Saiku-machi, Chuo-ku, Kumamoto City 860-0041
Phone: 096-359-1788

Transportation Information

Public transportation makes sightseeing convenient and easy!



Shiromegurin Kumamoto Castle Loop Bus Stops

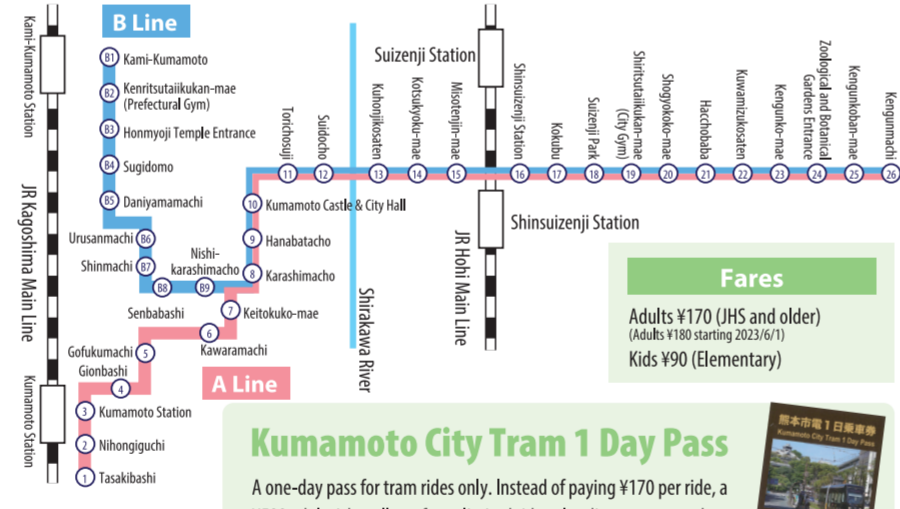
- 1 Kumamoto Station (Platform 2) (Start)
- 2 Gionbashi
- 3 Meihachibashi
- 4 Shinmachi
- 5 Usunamachi
- 6 Fujisakidai-shita
- 7 Sakuramachi Bus Terminal (Platform 2)
- 8 Sakuramachi Bus Terminal (Platform 5)
- 9 Kodomo Bunkaikaikan-mae
- 10 Kodomo Bunkaikaikan-mae
- 11 Kumamoto Castle & Ninomaru Parking
- 12 Museum & Former Hosokawa Gyobu Residence
- 13 Prefectural Art Museum Annex
- 14 Kumamoto Hotel Castle-mae
- 15 City Hall
- 16 Sakuranobaba Josaien (Platform 3)
- 17 Sakuramachi Bus Terminal (Platform 4)
- 18 Shoko Kaigisho-mae
- 19 ANA Crowne Plaza Hotel Kumamoto New Sky
- 20 Kumamoto Station (Platform 2) (Final Stop)

Operating Hours
Departs from Kumamoto Station every 30 min from 9AM to 5PM (except 12:30PM) on weekdays. On Sat, Sun, and holidays, buses depart from Kumamoto Station every 20 min from 9AM to 5:20PM from Kumamoto Station (except from 12PM to 2PM when buses depart every 30 min.)

Fares

- Flat rate: Adults ¥160 (JHS and older) Kids ¥80 (Elementary)
- Single-Day Pass: Adults ¥400 (JHS and older) Kids ¥200 (Elementary)

Kumamoto City Tram Route Map



Kumamoto City Tram 1 Day Pass

A one-day pass for tram rides only. Instead of paying ¥170 per ride, a ¥500 adult ticket allows for unlimited rides plus discounts around Kumamoto.

Adults ¥500 (JHS and older) Children ¥250 (Elementary schoolers)

Wakuwaku 1 Day Pass

This pass lets you use local buses, trams, and trains within the designated area as many times as you like for one day. As a special bonus, you can use affiliated facilities throughout the city at discounted rates.

Zone 1	Adults ¥700
Zone 2	Adults ¥900
All-Prefecture	Adults ¥2,000



You can also pay with a Japanese IC card.

National Smart Payment Cards
nimoca, sugica, manaca, PiTaPa, Suica, PASMO, ICOCA, Toica

Kumamoto Local Smart Payment Card

Amu Plaza Bus Stop Information (Shirakawa Entrance)

- 1 Bus Stop --- Sakuramachi Bus Terminal, Torichosuji
- 2 Bus Stop --- Shiromegurin, Sakuramachi Bus Terminal, Kikuchi & Yamaga
- 3 Bus Stop --- Kami-Kumamoto
- 4 Bus Stop --- Tasaki Khibi, Aqua Dome
- 5 Bus Stop --- Rendaji, Kumamoto Port, SW Kumamoto City, Amakusa
- 6 Bus Stop --- University Hospital (Towards Sangyo-doro Ave.)
- 7 Bus Stop --- Aso Kumamoto Airport, Takamori, Long-Distance & Highway Buses
- 8 Tram Stop --- For Downtown, Takabashi

Contact:
Train Phone: 096-361-5233
Kumamoto Tohshi Bus Phone: 096-312-5077
Sankei Bus Contact managing office directly
Dentetsu Bus Phone: 096-343-3023
Dentetsu Rail Phone: 096-343-2552
Kumamoto Bus Phone: 096-378-3447

Kumamoto Castle Area Map

Free Kumamoto Castle Volunteer Guides

- Reception: Next to Sakuranobaba Josaien Info Center
- Hours: 9AM-3PM
- Tour length: about 45 min
- Guide Fee: Free
- Closed: 12/29-1/3

City Hall 14th Floor Observation Lobby
Weekdays: 8:30AM-10PM
Weekends & holidays: 9AM-10PM
On weekends, holidays, and weekdays after 6PM, please use the south entrance. Closed for New Year's holiday.

The Shiromegurin Kumamoto Castle Bus departs Kumamoto Station and loops around the castle, giving you easy access to various sightseeing spots.