

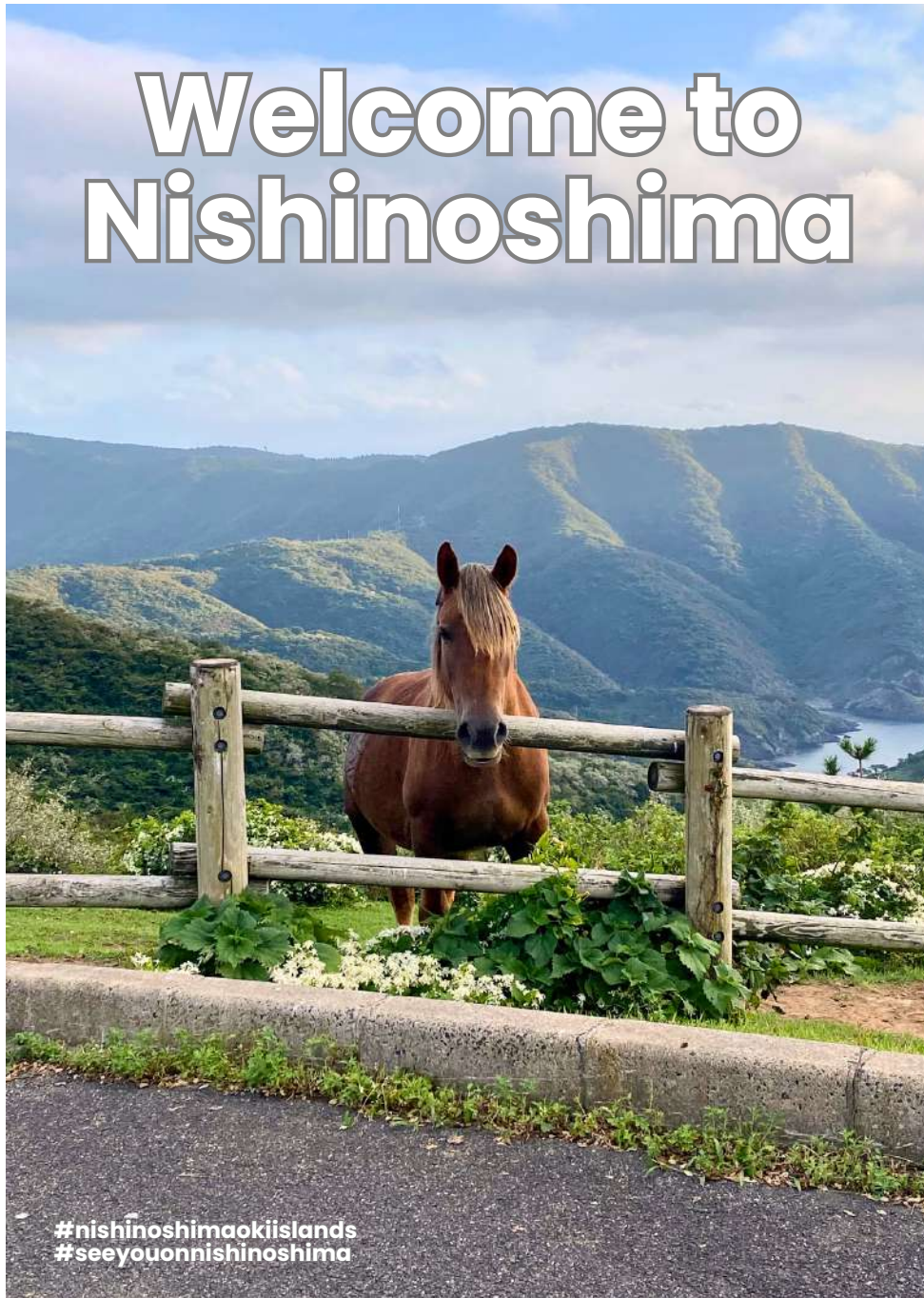
NISHINOSHIMA

OKI ISLANDS, SHIMANE PREFECTURE, JAPAN

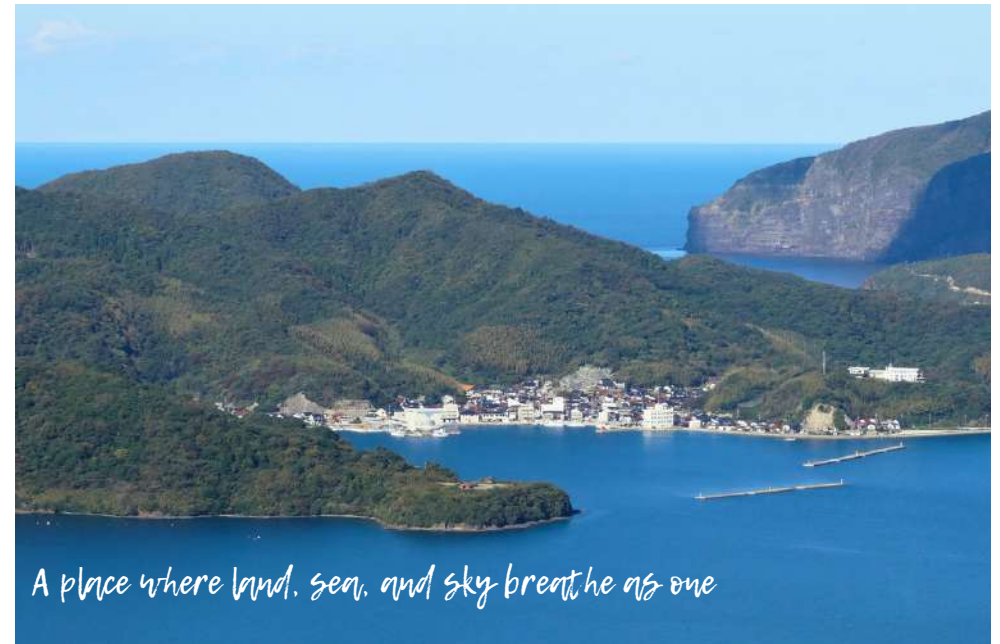


VISITORS GUIDE 2025

Welcome to Nishinoshima



#nishinoshimaokiislands
#seeyouonnishinoshima



A place where land, sea, and sky breathe as one

Located in the Sea of Japan, Nishinoshima is one of the scenic Oki Islands of Shimane Prefecture. At 55.96 km² and home to around 2,500 people, the island thrives on tourism, fishery, and cattle farming. A highlight of the Oki Islands UNESCO Global Geopark and Daisen-Oki National Park, Nishinoshima is renowned for its towering sea cliffs, sea caves, and rock formations that tell

the story of Earth's evolution. Visitors can hike coastal trails, kayak along rugged shorelines, or simply enjoy the seasonal blooms at scenic lookouts. Whether you seek adventure, photography, or a slower pace of life, Nishinoshima offers a unique island experience—where nature, culture, and hospitality meet in harmony.

STAY IN TOUCH

Inquiries & Bookings:

Nishinoshima Tourism Association
4386-3 Mita, Nishinoshima Town,
Oki Islands, Shimane, 684-0303
TEL: +81-8514-7-8888
FAX: +81-8514-7-8890
<https://nkk-oki.com/english>



Drones & Filming Permits:

Industry Promotion Division,
Nishinoshima Town
600-4 Mita, Nishinoshima Town,
Oki Islands, Shimane 684-0303

E-mail: sangyou-shinkou@town.nishinoshima.shimane.jp



The Oki Islands lie in the Sea of Japan and are made up of more than 180 islands, of which four are inhabited. The largest, Dōgo Island—home to Okinoshima Town and Oki Airport—sits to the east, while Nishinoshima,

Nakanoshima, and Chiburijima form the Dōzen Islands to the west. Together, these islands are celebrated for their dramatic landscapes, rich culture, and warm island communities.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Name of Island: Nishinoshima Island

Name of Municipality: Nishinoshima Town

Name of Port (Passenger Ferry): Beppu Port

WE ARE HERE

NISHINOSHIMA
ISLAND

DŌGO
ISLAND

NAKANOSHIMA
ISLAND

CHIBURIJIMA
ISLAND

KUNIGA
COAST

AKAO

LOOKOUT

MATENGAI
CLIFF

SOTOHAMA
BEACH

URAGO
AREA

ONIMAI
LOOKOUT

MT. TAKUHI
452M

BEPPU
PORT

MIMIURA
CAMPGROUND

Learn more about the Oki Islands at the website
of the [Oki Islands Geopark Management Bureau](#):



PLACES TO SEE

Far from the rush of modern life, Nishinoshima offers raw beauty and quiet charm. Towering sea cliffs, glowing sunsets, winding trails and sacred shrines—all here, waiting to be discovered.



KUNIGA COAST

Stretching along the northwestern edge of Nishinoshima, Kuniga Coast is a dramatic showcase of nature's artistry. The sky-scraping cliff, sea-carved arch and sweeping view make it one of the most iconic sites in the Oki Islands.

TSŪTENKYŌ ARCH

Carved by wind and sea, this wonderfully-shaped rock arch is one of the most photographed landmarks of Nishinoshima Town. Shaped continuously by coastal erosion, the arch is not just a geological wonder but also a serene spot where visitors can feel the island's timeless connection to nature.

From Beppu Port:
25 min by car or 45 min by bicycle
Then 5 min on foot (downhill) from
Kuniga Bay car park



MATENGAI CLIFF

Soaring to 257 metres, Matengai Cliff is one of the highest sea cliffs in Japan. From the top, the views are both humbling and unforgettable, offering a stunning panorama of the Sea of Japan. The Kuniga Coast Hiking Trail connects the cliff top with the shore below, weaving through a common pasture. The mid-point of the trail provides the best vantage point for observing the cliff's sheer face, which, with its coloured rock layers, resembles a colossal piece of multi-layered cake.

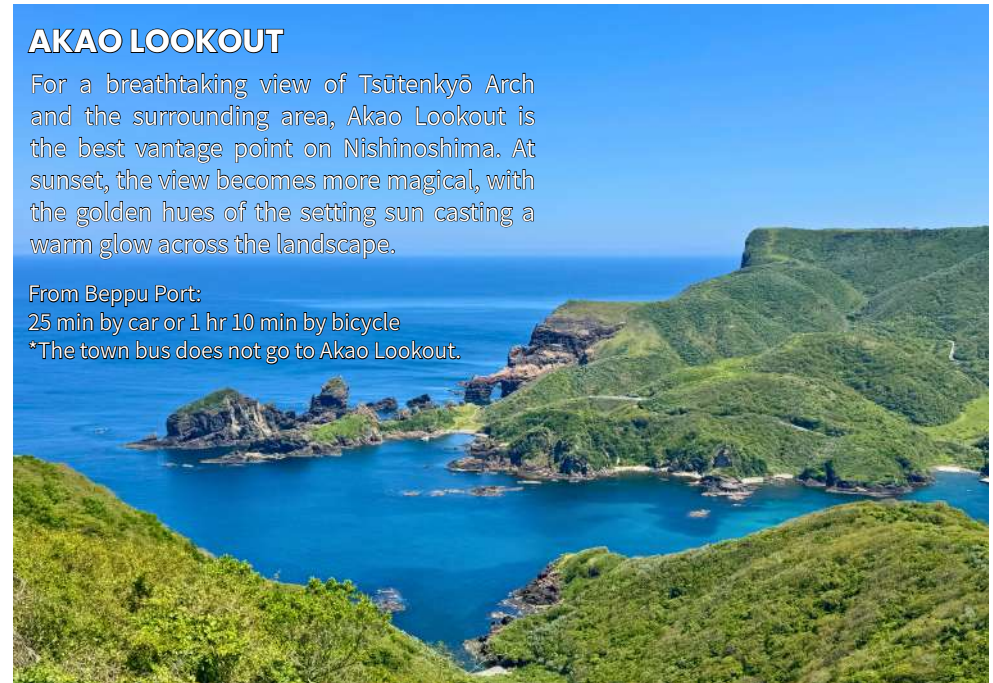
From Beppu Port:
25 min by car or 1 hr by bicycle
*The town bus does not go to Matengai Cliff



AKAO LOOKOUT

For a breathtaking view of Tsūtenkyō Arch and the surrounding area, Akao Lookout is the best vantage point on Nishinoshima. At sunset, the view becomes more magical, with the golden hues of the setting sun casting a warm glow across the landscape.

From Beppu Port:
25 min by car or 1 hr 10 min by bicycle
*The town bus does not go to Akao Lookout.



View from Akao Lookout 3

YURAHIME SHRINE

Gently overlooking a small inlet, Yurahime Shrine is a place of great historical and spiritual significance. The shrine was designated as a Myōjin Taisha (a grand shrine enshrining a powerful deity) and the Ichinomiya – or the highest-ranking shrine – of the former Oki Province, and has been a place of worship and protection for seafarers for centuries.

A unique local legend connects the deity to shoals of squid mysteriously washed into the inlet in front of the shrine. As a result, you'll find many squid-related decorations within the shrine grounds.

From Beppu Port:
10 min by car or 30 min by bicycle, or
25 min by town bus
Nearest bus stop: Yurahime Jinja



TAKUHI SHRINE

Perched high on the forested slopes of Mt. Takuhi, Takuhi Shrine is one of the most important shrines on the Oki Islands. Hidden within a rocky cliff face and partly sheltered by a cave, the shrine has served as a guardian for seafarers for centuries.

The hike from the car park to the shrine building is short and enjoyable, and interesting flora and fauna can be observed.

From Beppu Port:
20 min by car or 50 min by bicycle
Then 25 min on foot (uphill) from Takuhi Shrine car park
*The town bus does not go to Takuhi Shrine.



NISHINOSHIMA FURUSATO-KAN MUSEUM

Located near Beppu Port, Nishinoshima Furusato-kan Museum offers a rich introduction to the island's culture, history and everyday life. Inside, you'll find displays on island life, fishing tools, farming implements, and traditional festivals. The Furusato-kan is a great place to start your journey on the island. It's small, engaging and full of heart – just like the island itself.

From Beppu Port: 5 min on foot
Business Hours: 9am – 5pm (Apr through Oct)
Ticket: JPY 150 per adult
*Present your passport or residency card to get discounted admission (50% off)



SOTOHAMA BEACH (Season: mid-July – mid-August)

Just a quick ride from Beppu Port, Sotohama Beach is the town's most beloved swimming spot. With its calm shallow waters, and clear views across the Sea of Japan, it's the perfect place to relax, take a dip, or enjoy a quiet coastal sunset.

In summer, the beach becomes a hub of laid-back island life – popular with families, locals, and travellers looking to unwind. Facilities such as showers and changing rooms are open during the beach season, and the beach shop nearby serves ice-cream and soft drinks.

From Beppu Port:
10 min by car or 15 min by bicycle, or
15 min by bus, alight at "Sotohama"
and a few minutes on foot
*If you are going by car, please park at the designated car park (free of charge) near the bus stop.



FLAVOURS TO FLAVOUR

Blessed by the bountiful sea, Nishinoshima is a seafood lovers' paradise. From plump and juicy iwagaki oysters to hearty set meals prepared with local ingredients – and yes, even comforting bowls of ramen – there's something to satisfy every craving. Don't forget to try a glass of locally brewed Oki sake – the perfect touch to your island experience.

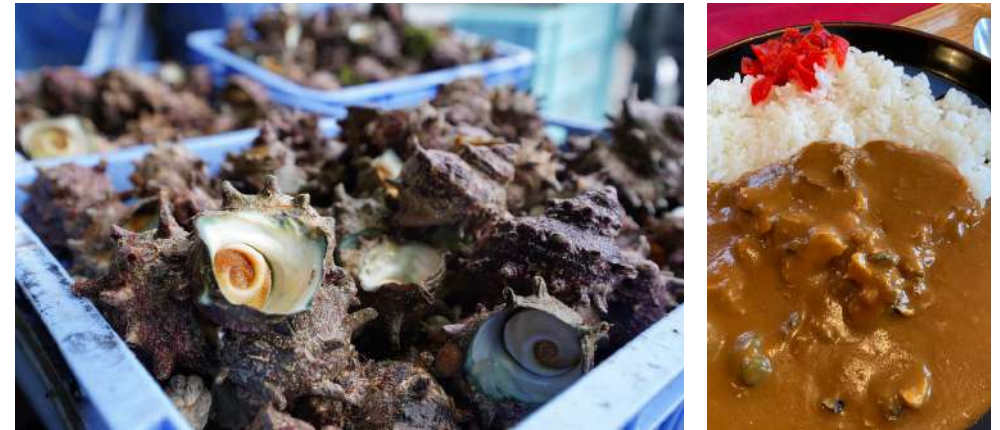


IWAGAKI OYSTER

In 1992, Nishinoshima Town made history as the first place in Japan to successfully cultivate iwagaki oysters. Grown in the island's clean, nutrient-rich waters, these creamy, succulent oysters are now a signature delicacy of the Oki Islands. The best time to enjoy them is from March to June, when they're at peak size and flavour. Our iwagaki oysters are simply irresistible – a true taste of the sea and a point of local pride.



SAZAE TURBAN SHELL



Sazae turban shell is a beloved summer treat on Nishinoshima. Its subtle sweetness shines in signature dishes like sazae gohan (rice cooked with turban shell) and sazae curry. Springy and full of flavour, it is a must-try for anyone visiting the island.

ERİYAKI NABE



Originally enjoyed by fishermen out at sea, eriyaki nabe is a local speciality. This fish stew features slices of fish and onion cooked in a sweet and spicy sauce, with the signature kick of eagle-claw chilli peppers. This flavourful dish is perfect for those who want to taste the essence of island life.

Explore dining options on the island [here](#):



JAPANESE HOME COOKING

Beyond seafood and seasonal specialties, Japanese home cooking is a quiet highlight of Nishinoshima's food culture. Restaurants on Nishinoshima are independently owned, each offering a warm, personal take on humble home-cooked dishes. From daily lunch specials to comforting favourites like karaage (Japanese fried chicken), there's no shortage of satisfying meals to choose from.

Kacchan's Pro Tip on Dining:

Plan ahead for mealtimes in Nishinoshima — many restaurants pause between lunch (around 11:30-13:00) and dinner (around 18:00-20:00). Arriving on time ensures you won't miss the island's delicious specialties!

Kacchan the Squid
Mascot of Nishinoshima Town



THINGS TO DO

Nishinoshima may be small, but it offers plenty of ways to detox from the everyday and reconnect with nature. Whether you are drawn to outdoor adventure, cultural discovery, or simply quiet moments surrounded by sea and sky, there is something here for every kind of traveller.

WALKING / HIKING

Nishinoshima may be hilly, but it is compact and easy to explore on foot. All major areas are connected by the main road, and it takes just about 1.5 hours to walk from Beppu Port to the sightseeing boat boarding point in Uragō. The Kuniga Coast Hiking Trail

(between Matengai Cliff and Kuniga Bay) and the path to Takuhi Shrine are well-maintained and rewarding. Just be sure to bring a comfortable pair of walking shoes – and let the island's landscapes unfold at your own pace.

STAY ON TRACK

Please stay on the designated paths to help protect the natural habitats of Nishinoshima's plants and wildlife. By staying on the trails, you contribute to preserving the island's delicate ecosystem for future visitors to enjoy.



SEA KAYAKING

Surrounded by clear blue waters, gliding along Kuniga Coast in a sea kayak is an unforgettable way to experience Nishinoshima's dramatic shoreline. Friendly, experienced instructors will guide you to the best locations of the day, based on weather and sea conditions – so you get the most out of both the scenery and the adventure. When conditions allow, you may even explore hidden sea caves tucked along the coast.

SEA KAYAKING CAVE TOUR by Club Noah Oki

*Guided tours available in Japanese, with limited English support

*Booking required.

Suitable for beginners

Season: April – November

Session: about 2 hours from 9:00 or 13:00

JPY 6,500 per person (min. age: 9 years old)

Included in the price: life jacket and marine shoes

Please wear clothing suitable for marine sports.

*Participants must be at least 9 years of age.

CYCLING

Cycling in Nishinoshima Town is a fantastic way to take in the island's iconic coastal scenery and dramatic landscapes. Whether you rent an electric one on the island or bring your own bike, it's an easy and rewarding way to explore at your own pace. Quiet roads, sea views, and fresh island air make for an unforgettable escape on two wheels.

BICYCLE RENTAL

offered by Nishinoshima Tourism Association

Electric commuter bike: Easy to ride and perfect for short distances, electric commuter bikes come equipped with a front basket – ideal for carrying small bags or local finds. These bikes are great for exploring the neighbourhoods around Beppu Port, or cruising over to the Uragō area at a relaxed pace. A convenient, comfortable way to see the town like a local.
Model: Bridgestone Frontia, 9 bikes available
Price: JPY 700/hour, JPY 3,200 for 6+ hours (insurance included)

*Same-day return only

Book [here](#) ↓:



E-bike: Fast, powerful, and beginner-friendly, e-bikes make it easy to explore Nishinoshima's varied terrain – from sea level to scenic viewpoints over 200 metres high. Each bike comes equipped with panniers for your gear and a weatherproof smartphone mount, so you can navigate hands-free and focus on the ride. It's the perfect way to see more of the island without breaking a sweat.

Model: Panasonic XU-1, 11 bikes available

Price: JPY 2,600 for 3hrs, JPY 5,000 for 6+ hours (insurance included)

*Same-day return only

Book [here](#) ↓:



TIPS FOR VISITORS



1) You will notice cattle grids (also known as Texas Gates) at the entrances to pastures around Nishinoshima. These are designed to prevent cows and horses from wandering in or out. Please dismount and walk your bike across the grid. Take extra care when crossing to ensure your safety.



2) You'll find bicycle racks at the car parks at Kuniga Bay, Matengai Cliff, Akao Lookout and Onimai Lookout. Please use these racks to park your bike, ensuring it doesn't interfere with vehicle or pedestrian traffic.



3) Always ride on the left side of the road, in the same direction as traffic. This is the standard in Japan and helps keep cyclists, pedestrians, and vehicles moving safely.

4) In Japan, bicycles are considered vehicles, and it is illegal to drink and ride. Enjoy your ride responsibly.



Special note for e-bike cyclists: While the e-bikes are powerful and perfect for exploring, keep in mind that the battery may not last for long trips with steep slopes. If you are planning a longer ride, stop by the Nishinoshima Community Library or Chūōkōminkan in Uragō area to get a fully charged battery and keep your adventure going effortlessly.

FABRIC DYEING at Takuhi-gama Kiln

Tap into your artistic side and connect with nature here at Takuhi-gama Kiln. In this two-hour, beginner-friendly workshop, you will be guided step by step in crafting a one-of-a-kind tenugui—a traditional rectangular cotton towel—using local clay as a natural dye. If the weather is kind, you will complete your

creation by rinsing it at the shore, setting the colour in the most scenic way possible. Best of all, you will be able to take your handmade masterpiece home the very same day.

*The workshop is conducted in Japanese, with limited English support available.

AM & PM sessions available

Duration: 2 hours

JPY 3,300 per person

*Min. 2 participants

Book [here](#) ↓ :



SIGHTSEEING BOAT / BUS TOURS by Oki Kanko Co. Ltd.

Hop on a sightseeing boat tour and experience the dramatic beauty of Nishinoshima's Kuniga Coast from the water. Cruise along the base of majestic sea cliffs, glide past rugged rock formations, and—if sea conditions allow—venture into mysterious sea caves for a truly unforgettable encounter with nature.

Season: late March through October

Duration: Boat 1.5 hours; Bus 1.75 hours

JPY 4,000 per adult, JPY 2,000 per child

Book sightseeing boat tour [here](#):



Book sightseeing bus tour [here](#):



For those who want to explore on land as well, sightseeing bus tours offer easy access to the area's most iconic spots. You can even hike a scenic stretch from Matengai Cliff to Tsūtenkyō Arch before continuing your journey by bus.

*Tours are in Japanese, but you can follow along with the provided English pamphlet.



Sightseeing boat

PLACES TO STAY

From seaside hotels with stunning views to cosy ryokans, welcoming minshukus (family-run guesthouses), and even a peaceful campground tucked away in a quiet corner of the island—Nishinoshima Town offers a wide range of accommodations to suit every kind of traveller.

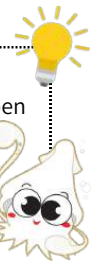
Explore our lodges [here](#):



Many lodgings also serve meals prepared with fresh, locally sourced ingredients, offering you a delicious taste of island life. Whether you're seeking comfort, tradition, or a close connection to nature, you'll find the perfect place to unwind during your getaway.

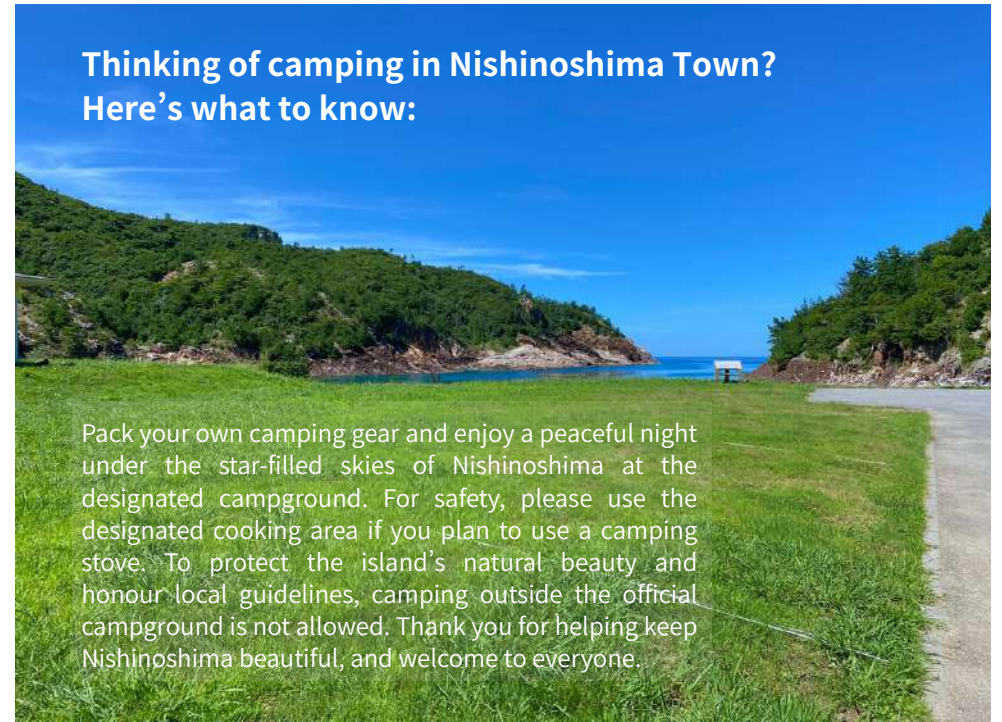
Kacchan's Pro Tip:

Most eateries in Nishinoshima open from 10:00am, so booking a stay that includes breakfast will help you start your day off right.



Thinking of camping in Nishinoshima Town? Here's what to know:

Pack your own camping gear and enjoy a peaceful night under the star-filled skies of Nishinoshima at the designated campground. For safety, please use the designated cooking area if you plan to use a camping stove. To protect the island's natural beauty and honour local guidelines, camping outside the official campground is not allowed. Thank you for helping keep Nishinoshima beautiful, and welcome to everyone.



Mimiura Campground 8



Shūhaira at Mita Hachiman Shrine (odd-numbered years)

From energetic mikoshi parades to solemn traditional dances to coastal cleanups and community-driven local events, there's something happening in every season. Come join us and immerse yourself in the vibrant culture and heartfelt hospitality of Nishinoshima!

KUNIGA BIRAKI FESTA

Held every April, Kunga Biraki Festa marks the start of a new tourist season on Nishinoshima. This multi-day celebration features a variety of events, from serene cherry blossom light-ups to the popular Sunset Café at Kuniga Coast.

The heart of the Festa is the half-day coastal cleanup at Kuniga Bay—a meaningful community effort to collect marine litter and protect the island's natural beauty. Join local residents in this hands-on event and be part of something bigger. Everyone is welcome, and no sign-up is needed!



GRAND FESTIVALS AND MIKOSHI PARADES

Throughout the year, shrines host rituals and festivals to honour important events and pray for a bountiful harvest. However, every two years, the island comes alive with the grand mikoshi (portable shrine) parades of Takada Shrine, Yurahime Shrine, and Kai Shrine. Local heroes carry the mikoshi through the streets, bringing blessings and good fortune to the community. These vibrant festivals take place each July and span

two exciting nights. Yurahime Shrine Grand Festival is the highlight of all these celebrations, and features a breathtaking fireworks display on the first night, lighting up the skies. The lively parade, solemn Kagura (Shinto dance) performance, and festive atmosphere make it a true cultural centrepiece of the island—an unmissable experience for anyone visiting Nishinoshima.



Yurahime Shrine Grand Festival

MIKADO MATSURI

Held in September of even-numbered years, Mikado Matsuri commemorates Emperor Go-Daigo, who was exiled to the Oki Islands in 1332. The emperor lived on Nishinoshima before escaping back to the capital in 1333. The festival takes place near Beppu Port, and at the Kuroki-gosho Imperial Residence Site, where the exiled emperor is believed to

have stayed during his time on the island. Join the locals for an atmospheric evening in Beppu, featuring local delicacies, stage performances, and a vibrant fireworks display. It is a special opportunity to connect with the island's imperial history while enjoying its warm community spirit.

SHŪHAIRA / NIWA-NO-MAI

In contrast to the energetic atmosphere of the grand festivals, Shūhaira and Niwa-no-mai offer a more solemn experience. Shūhaira is a traditional Dengaku dance developed to celebrate and pray for a bountiful harvest. It has been officially designated as an Important Intangible Folk Cultural Property in Japan, reflecting its deep historical and cultural significance.

Though Shūhaira is performed at both Mita Hachiman Shrine and Hiyoshi Shrine, the costumes and choreography differ noticeably between the two, giving each performance its own unique character. Slow-paced and spiritually grounded, these sacred dances provide a rare glimpse into Nishinoshima's living heritage.



Shūhaira and Niwa-no-mai at Hiyoshi Shrine (even-numbered years)

*For the latest event schedules and updates, please check with the tourism office or follow our official social media channels.



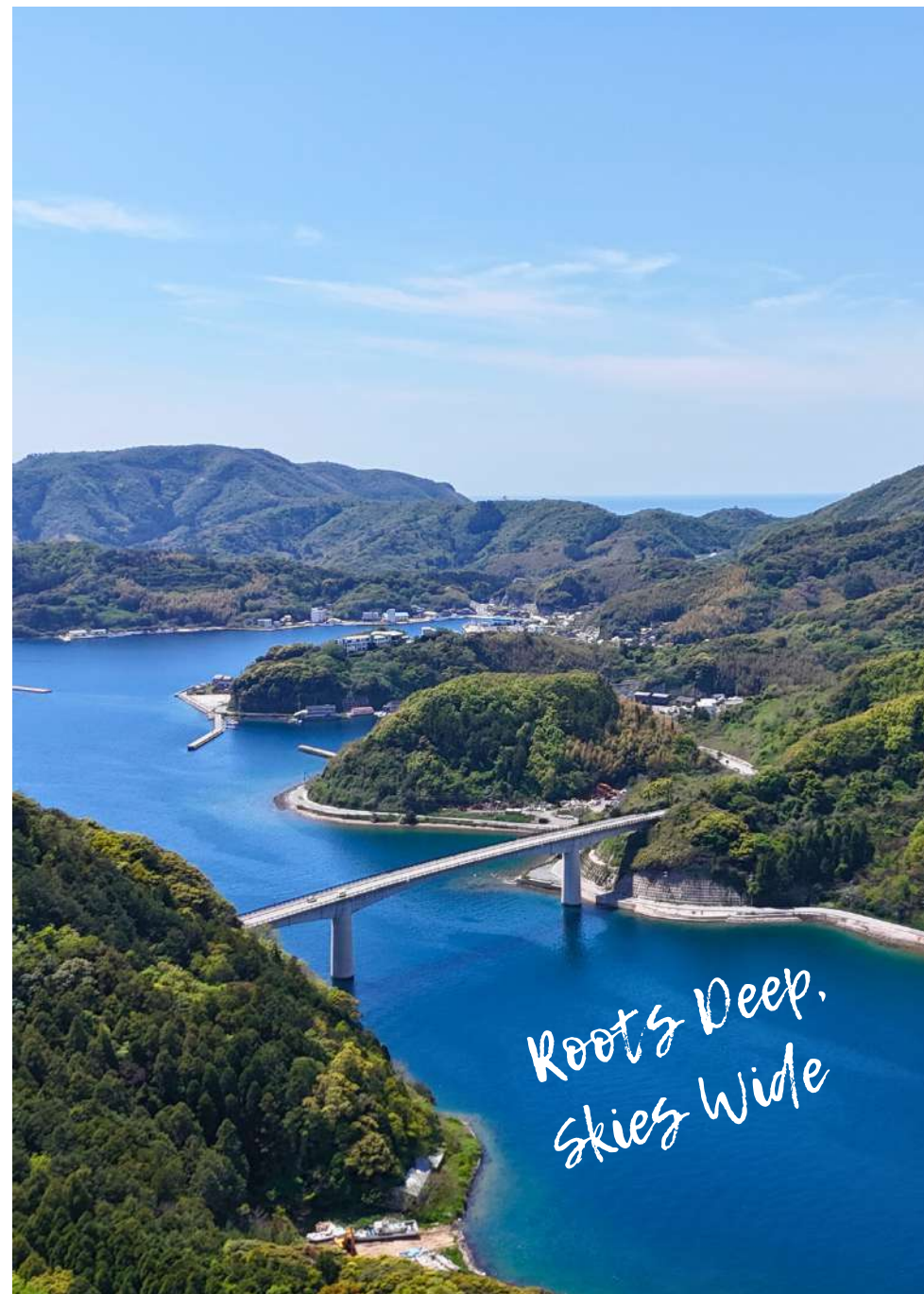
OKI_NISHINOSHIMA

Nishinoshima Tourism Association
(Japanese page)



VISITNISHINOSHIMA_EN

Nishinoshima Town
(English page)



WHEN TO VISIT

SPRING (MARCH–MAY)

Spring marks the beginning of the tourism season on Nishinoshima. Highlights include cherry blossoms, the start of the Oki iwagaki oyster season, and Kuniga Biraki Festa, which celebrates the return of warmer days with local events and coastal cleanups. Sightseeing boat tours also resume in late March, offering a fresh perspective of the island's dramatic coastline. While early spring can still be chilly, temperatures rise steadily, with May bringing comfortably warm weather, perfect for exploring.

SUMMER (JUNE–AUGUST)

Summer is the peak of the tourist season in Nishinoshima, when the island comes alive with energy and colour. The teal-blue sea, vibrant summer festivals, and mouthwatering sazae turban shell curry are seasonal highlights. Sotohama Beach opens for swimming from late July to mid-August—perfect for a relaxing afternoon by the sea. Be sure to bring your swimsuit and soak up the sun while enjoying the island's sunny season.

*Obon is an annual Buddhist tradition during which families honour the spirits of their ancestors. In Nishinoshima, the Obon period typically spans about a week, with the sending off of the Shārabune Spirit Boats on August 16 marking the emotional close of the observance. During this time, many local

businesses may close or operate at reduced hours, and restaurants often reach full capacity throughout the day. Transportation also becomes significantly busier—ferries and the fast ferry Rainbow Jet tend to fill up quickly, so advance bookings and early planning are highly recommended.



Shārabune Spirit Boat of Uragō area



The Candle at Kuniga Coast – a fleeting natural wonder that graces the shoreline in spring and autumn

AUTUMN (SEPTEMBER–NOVEMBER)

Autumn brings crisp air, clear skies and vivid scenery—making it an excellent time for walking, sightseeing, and cultural exploration. This season is rich with traditional events, such as the Mikado Matsuri in early September (even-numbered years) and solemn Shūhaira dance ritual performance. With fewer crowds and comfortable weather,

autumn is perfect for those seeking a deeper, slower-paced experience of Nishinoshima. While out exploring, keep an eye out for stinging insects such as hornets (suzumebachi) and wasps, which are more active in the autumn months. Avoid wearing strong fragrances or dark clothing, and steer clear of nests if spotted.

WINTER (DECEMBER–FEBRUARY)

Windy days, long nights and rough seas make winter the quietest and least visited season on Nishinoshima. Sightseeing boats and marine activities are not in operation, and ferry crossings are often delayed or cancelled due to strong winds and waves. Some accommodation facilities also take a winter break, particularly during the New Year holidays. The weather is cold and damp, with a higher chance of sleet

and “wet snow”, typical of the island's coastal climate. If you're planning a winter visit, come prepared: waterproof gear and a spare pair of thick, woolly socks will go a long way toward keeping you warm and comfortable. While it's not the most popular time, winter offers a peaceful, reflective side of the island for those who don't mind a little weather.

GETTING TO NISHINOSHIMA TOWN

While the island may feel far from the bustling cities, it's easily accessible, allowing visitors to step into an untouched world that seems worlds away from modern life. With a little planning, the journey becomes part of the adventure!

BY FERRIES AND FAST FERRY

Nishinoshima Island is accessible from the mainland via the Oki Kisen ferries and the fast ferry Rainbow Jet (hydrofoil), with departures from Shichirui Port in Shimane Prefecture and Sakaiminato Port in Tottori Prefecture. From JR Matsue Station, you can catch a convenient connecting bus to both ports, while travellers from JR Yonago Station can take the JR train to Sakaiminato Station—the ferry terminal is located right next to the station, making transfers

quick and easy. Ferries to Beppu Port on Nishinoshima take just over 2.5 hours, while the fast ferry takes around 2 hours, depending on sea conditions. There are usually three daily crossings, with additional services during peak periods. With limited daily crossings and higher demand during peak periods, we strongly recommend planning your trip in advance to make the most of your island visit.



One of the ferries of the Oki Kisen fleet

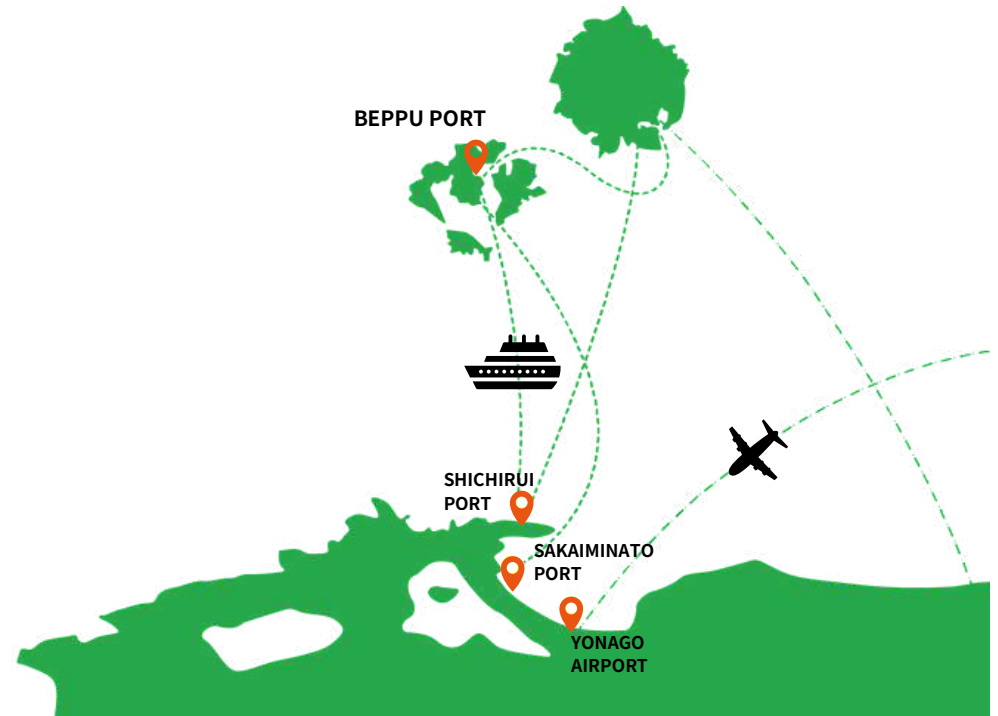
[Ferry Timetable \(2025-2026 Season\)](#) ↓ :

*The ferry timetable varies by season, so please check the latest schedule before travelling, as departure times and durations do differ.



Fast Ferry Rainbow Jet

Learn more about the ferries [here](#) ↓ :



*CANCELLATION OF FERRIES

Tucked away in the corner of Shimane Prefecture, the Oki Islands—Nishinoshima included—rely heavily on ferry services as a lifeline between the islands and the mainland. When the sea is rough, the fast ferry Rainbow Jet, which glides along the surface, is often the first to be cancelled. Standard ferries can

also be suspended, especially during winter or when a typhoon approaches. When planning your trip to Nishinoshima, be sure to have a flexible schedule and a Plan B, just in case you're delayed getting to the island or returning to Honshu to continue your journey.

BY PLANE

There is no airport in Nishinoshima Town, but travelling by air can still significantly shorten your journey to the island. You can fly directly to Oki Airport in Okinoshima Town from either Izumo Airport (Shimane Prefecture) or Itami Airport (Osaka). After arriving in Okinoshima Town, take a short transfer

to the port and catch a ferry or fast ferry to Beppu Port in Nishinoshima Town. Alternatively, if you are coming from Tokyo, you can take a domestic flight to Yonago Airport (Tottori Prefecture). From there, ride the JR train to Sakaiminato Station, and board your ferry to Nishinoshima.

GETTING AROUND THE TOWN

BY CAR

Renting a car is the most convenient option for a scenic drive along the breathtaking Kuniga Coast. Driving gives you the flexibility to explore the island's hidden corners at your own pace. However, do note that many of the roads on the island are narrow. Please drive cautiously and be prepared to yield when passing other vehicles. The winding road up to Matengai Cliff, for example, is just wide enough for the coach-sized sightseeing bus—so take it slow and stay alert for oncoming traffic.

Visitors from abroad will need an International Driving Permit (IDP) or an official translation of their driving licence (depending on the country of issue) to rent and drive a car in Japan. Be sure to obtain the required documents in your home country before travelling. If you prefer not to drive, the town bus offers a convenient alternative, connecting Beppu Port with Uragō area, and stopping at key points around the island. It is a reliable and budget-friendly option for sightseeing.

BY E-BIKE

Exploring Nishinoshima by e-bike is a peaceful and scenic way to experience the island's natural beauty. With quiet roads and coastal views, it's ideal for a pleasant cycling adventure. Rental e-bikes are available near Beppu Port. E-bikes are especially helpful for reaching the picturesque Kuniga Coast, or the long slopes to Matengai Cliff.

*Please remember that in Japan, riding two abreast is not allowed—you must always ride in single file. Be extra cautious in pasture areas, where free-roaming cows and horses may block the road. Slow down and give animals plenty of space. With proper care and awareness, cycling is a wonderful way to connect with the island's peaceful rhythm.



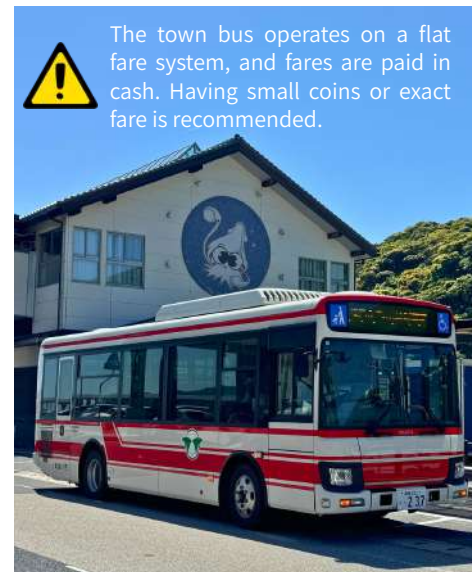
Nishinoshima is a compact island town that's easy to explore, whether you prefer scenic drives or leisurely walks.

BY BUS (JPY 200 per adult and JPY 100 per child (one-way))

Nishinoshima Town's local bus offers a convenient and affordable way to explore the island. The bus connects Beppu Port—the main gateway to the island—with Uragō area and other key spots around the town. While the bus is primarily used by local residents, it is a reliable option for visitors to reach areas beyond walking distance.

Please note that service is limited, with only a few buses running each day. Be sure to check the timetable at the tourism office or online in advance to avoid long waits.

The bus is a great way to experience the island like a local while giving yourself a break from navigating the narrow roads.



The town bus operates on a flat fare system, and fares are paid in cash. Having small coins or exact fare is recommended.

BY TAXI

Taxis may not always be immediately available, especially in the evening. If you need to ride back to your accommodation after dinner or a visit to an izakaya, feel free to ask the owner or a staff member for assistance—they'll be happy to help you arrange one.

ON FOOT

Nishinoshima is a hilly island, but the town is well-connected with a network of roads, making it surprisingly easy to explore on foot. Walking not only offers a relaxing pace for taking in the island's natural beauty, but it's also the perfect choice for those who appreciate slow travel and spontaneous discoveries.



EXPLORE NISHINOSHIMA: YOUR PERFECT ITINERARY

Whether you have one day or a few to explore, our model itineraries are designed to help you make the most of your time on Nishinoshima. From breathtaking coastal views, hands-on workshops and vibrant local festivals, these curated itineraries offer a blend of nature, history, and community. Embark on your journey and discover the best of Nishinoshima!

1-DAY AROUND NISHINOSHIMA ON 2 WHEELS [CYCLING]

- 9:00 Pick up rental e-bike at Beppu Port
Visit Matengai Cliff, Kuniga Bay and Yurahima Shrine
- 11:30 Enjoy lunch in Uragō
If the battery of the e-bike is running low, go to Nishinoshima Community Library and exchange it for a fully charged one for your journey in the afternoon.
- 13:00 Arrive at Takuhi-gama Kiln and try your hand at fabric dyeing
- 15:00 End of workshop
Proceed to climb to Takuhi Shrine by e-bike
- 17:00 Start to make your way back to Beppu Port
- 18:00 Return e-bike before the office of Nishinoshima Tourism Association calls it a day

3-DAY NISHINOSHIMA ADVENTURE TRAVEL, IN CONJUNCTION WITH KUNIGA BIRAKI FESTA [SPRING]

Day 1 Travel to Nishinoshima

- Catch a bus or JR train and go to Sakaiminato Port
- 14:25 Ferry Shirashima leaves Sakaiminato Port
- 17:05 Ferry Shirashima arrives at Beppu Port
Check-in at accommodation and enjoy the evening

Day 2 Explore Nishinoshima

- AM Enjoy breakfast at accommodation
Take a bus to Takuhi-gama Kiln (alight at “Hotel Tsurumaru” and 20 min on foot)
Release your creativity and create your own uniquely dyed tenugui towel
After the workshop, take a bus to Beppu area for lunch
*Bus leaves “Hotel Tsurumaru” at 11:50
- PM Pick-up e-bike at Beppu Port
Explore Nishinoshima Town on two wheels
*If the battery is running low, go to Nishinoshima Community Library and exchange it for a fully charged one before you continue your adventure
Return e-bike to Beppu Port
Enjoy dinner and put your legs up after an afternoon of pedalling

Day 3 Take part in Coastal Cleanup at Kuniga Bay

- 7:00 Enjoy breakfast at accommodation
*If you are staying in Beppu area, take the bus bound for Uragō 7:50)
*If you are staying in Uragō area, walk to Kuniga Bay
- 8:50 Check-in at Kuniga Bay, and take part in Coastal Cleanup with the local community
- 11:00 Go to Uragō area for lunch after Coastal Cleanup
Purchase ticket for sightseeing boat tour at the ticket office
- 13:00 Kuniga Sightseeing Boat tour
- 14:30 Sightseeing Boat returns to Uragō
- 14:52 Catch the bus back to Beppu Port
- 15:15 Bus arrives at Beppu Port
Drop by the tourism association’s office and show the staff the pictures or reels you’ve posted on your socials (public account) and receive a souvenir!
- 15:45 Ferry Oki leaves for Shichirui Port
- 17:55 Ferry Oki arrives at Shichirui Port
Continue journey to JR Matsue Station or JR Sakaiminato Station by bus

ENJOYING NISHINOSHIMA RESPONSIBLY:

A NOTE TO OUR VISITORS

We love welcoming visitors to Nishinoshima Town—exploring its stunning landscape, enjoying local activities, and connecting with the community. While we are delighted to share our island with you, we kindly ask that you follow a few important guidelines to help protect Nishinoshima for generations to come. To make your visit even more enjoyable and meaningful, we have also put together some useful tips for responsible travel.

DRIVING ON THE ISLAND

Nishinoshima is a small island with many narrow, single-track roads, including routes to Matengai Cliff, Akao Lookout, and Onimai Lookout. Passing places are provided for vehicles to safely get by—please drive slowly and stay alert for oncoming traffic.

When driving through pasture areas on the western side of the island, be especially cautious. It's common to encounter cows and horses relaxing in the middle of the road. If animals block your path, remain inside your vehicle and wait patiently until it's safe to continue.

PASTURE SAFETY

Please practice respectful distance when encountering cows and horses on the island. Do not feed, touch, or startle them, and avoid getting too close—especially to calves. Never position yourself between a calf and its mother, as this may provoke protective behaviour. Your care helps keep both you and the animals safe.

NO LITTERING

Help us keep Nishinoshima clean and beautiful by disposing of your rubbish (organic waste included) responsibly. We recommend carrying a small rubbish bag in your backpack to collect any rubbish during your outing. Please note that bins near vending machines are designated for plastic bottles and cans only—other waste should be taken with you and disposed of properly at your accommodation or designated facilities.

SUN SAFETY

From spring through autumn, sun exposure can pose serious risks, including sunstroke and sunburn. This is especially true at Kuniga Coast, where there is little natural shade—particularly along the hiking trail between Matengai Cliff and Kuniga Bay.

To stay safe, be sure to wear appropriate sun protection, such as sunscreen, sunglasses, and UV-protective clothing. And don't forget to bring plenty of water to stay hydrated during your visit.

FLYING DRONES

If you plan to fly a drone or capture aerial footage at Kuniga Coast*, please contact Nishinoshima Town Hall to apply for a free permit in advance. Permits are required for both commercial and non-commercial purposes, and applications must be submitted at least 10 business days before your intended filming. Drone operators are also asked to be considerate—avoid disturbing animals, local residents, and other visitors.

*Matengai Cliff, Kuniga Bay, Akao Lookout and Onimai Lookout are located within Kuniga Coast and are included in the permit requirements.

FILMING ON NISHINOSHIMA

A permit is required for all commercial filming at sightseeing spots and facilities on the island, including Kuniga Coast. To obtain a permit (free of charge), please contact Nishinoshima Town Hall and submit your application at least 10 business days before your planned filming activities.

BEACH SAFETY AND ETIQUETTE

For your safety, please swim only at the two designated beaches during the official swimming season. Avoid swimming alone, and always check the weather forecast before heading out. To protect yourself from the sun and potential scrapes, wear a rash guard and water shoes. Don't forget to apply sunscreen, and bring a change of clothes so you're ready for the next stop on your itinerary after enjoying the beach. Please be mindful of other visitors and inhabitants nearby by keeping noise levels low and disposing of all rubbish properly. Both camping and barbecuing are prohibited at both beaches.

FISHERY RIGHTS

Fishery rights are strictly regulated in the waters around the Oki Islands. Please do not collect marine life such as abalone, sazae turban shell, sea urchins, or other shellfish. These resources are protected by law, and unauthorised harvesting is a legal offence that may result in penalties. Thank you for helping preserve the marine environment and respecting local livelihoods.

