

Kobe Beef

The Best Beef in the World,
Kobe Beef

Whether visiting from overseas, or from a nearby prefecture, most visitors refuse to leave Kobe without trying the famous, world-class Kobe Beef. It was named by the foreign settlers that came and lived in Kobe when the Port of Kobe opened in 1868. The tender, juicy, beautifully colored, and highly marbled meat was extremely popular, and it is still loved by gourmets across the world today.



Kobe Plaisir

MAP P34 E-3



Kobe Beef steak, shabu-shabu, and seiro-mushi (steamed in a wooden frame holder) served with other fresh ingredients from Hyogo. Enjoy a nice, relaxing dinner with specially selected Japanese sake and wine.

Website: <http://www.kobe-plaisir.jp/e-index.html>
Hours: Lunch 11:30-15:00 (Last call 14:00), Dinner 17:00 - 22:30
(Last call 21:00) Closed on Mondays
Access: 3 minute walk from Sannomiya station

Misono

MAP P34 E-3



Misono is the first restaurant in the world which served 'Teppanyaki Steak' and still keeps its original flavour alive. English speaking staff will surely make your dining experience more enjoyable.

Website: <http://misono.org/en/>
Hours: Lunch 11:30-14:30(LO 13:30), Dinner 17:00-22:00(LO 21:00)
Tel: 078-331-2890
Access : 2 minute walk from Hankyu/Subway Sannomiya station

Kobe steak restaurant Mouriya (Flagship restaurant)

MAP P34 E-3



The established Kobe beef restaurant first opened its door back in 1885. The finest quality is always guaranteed.

Website: <http://www.mouriya.co.jp/en/> Tel: 078-391-4603
Access: 3 minute walk from Sannomiya station.
Opening hours: 11:00-15:00 (Lunch), 15:00-22:00 (Dinner)
Last call 21:00

Steakland Kobe

MAP P34 E-3



Teppanyaki chefs prepare steaks right in front of you. Kobe beef steaks are served at affordable prices. You're sure to satisfy your appetite here.

Website: <http://steakland.jp/index.html>
Hours: 11:00-22:30 (Last call 22:00)
Open year-round. The door is closed between 14:00 and 17:00 on weekdays.
Tel: 078-332-2900
Access: South exit of Hankyu Sannomiya station.

Arima Onsen

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Arima Onsen is located near the downtown of Kobe, yet it is surrounded by the beautiful nature of Mt. Rokko. One of the three best hot springs of Japan, this hot spring town with a nostalgic atmosphere has three public baths. Visitors don't have to stay at the inn to use its hot spring, so the visitors can enjoy different hot springs in one day.



Kin no Yu and Gin no Yu



Arima Onsen's most famous bath, kinsen, or the gold spring, is popular for its high salinity and mineral-rich water.



Kin no Yu

Website: <http://www.arima-onsen.com/eng/> Tel: 078-904-0680
Hours: 8:00-22:00 (Last entry 21:30) Closed on 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month, and New Year's Day.
Price: Adults ¥650, Elementary School Students ¥340, Infants ¥140
Access: 5 minute walk from Kobe Electric Railway Arima Onsen station. JR Bus runs from Sannomiya station to Arima Onsen station (40 minutes.)

Gin no Yu

Website: <http://www.arima-onsen.com/eng/> Tel: 078-904-0256
Hours: 9:00-21:00 (Last entry 20:30) Closed on first and third Tuesdays of the month, and New Year's Day.
Price: Adults ¥550, Elementary School Students ¥290, Infants ¥120
Access: 10 minute walk from Kobe Electric Railway Arima Onsen station.

Arima Toys & Automata Museum



This museum displays a vast array of toys such as vintage tin toys, and explains how they work. There is no doubt that people of all ages can enjoy.

Website: <http://www.arima-toys.jp/> Tel: 078-903-6971
Opening Hours: 9:30-18:00 (Last Entry 17:30)
Price: Adults ¥800, Children ¥500, Free under the age 3.
Access: 5 minute walk from Arima Onsen station.



Nesta Resort Kobe

MAP P31 A-1



Visitors can enjoy their stay at this resort facility featuring a vast natural environment and many state-of-the-art activities. Nesta Resort Kobe offers amusement year round at the hotel, glamping cabins, barbecue park, illuminated areas, swimming pool, and many more facilities.

Website: <http://www.nesta.co.jp/>
Access: 2 minute walk from JR Sannomiya station.(Shinki Bus Sannomiya Bus Terminal) It is approx. 40 minute from Sannomiya to Nesta Resort Kobe.

Hotel The Pavone

Tel: 0794-83-5000
Room rate: Twin-bedded room for one night: ¥15,000~.
The price depends on the period. Hot Springs tax doesn't be included in the room rate.
(Junior high school students or older ¥150)

Water Fort (Pool)

Tel: 0794-83-5000 Hours: Jul-Oct 1st (9:00-18:00,19:00)
Admission: Adults ¥2,000, elementary school students and under ¥1,400
Sep - Oct 1st Adults ¥1,500, elementary school students and under ¥1,000

Glamp(Glamorous Camp) BBQ Park

Glamp Cabin(Up to 8 people can use)
Tel: 0794-83-5211 Hours: 11:00-21:00 (L.O.20:30)
Fees: ¥30,000(11:00-15:00 or 16:00-21:00. Meals +¥3,500~)



Himeji

MAP P35

A City with a World Heritage Site

In the old days, Himeji was situated as an important site for transportation, and it was the center for politics, economy, and culture for the Harima region. The importance of the city can be seen from historical assets like Himeji Castle, which is a registered UNESCO World Heritage site, and Engyoji Temple on Mt. Shosha. The city is still filled with unique festivals and local industries today.



Himeji Castle ★★★



Himeji Castle was the first Japanese site to be registered as a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1993. Qualities such as the unique structure of the castle and the beauty of its white plastered walls earned it the nickname White Heron Castle. Its well-preserved towers and the structures surrounding the castle have mainly kept their original form, and have helped the castle earn its excellent reputation. It has been about 400 years since the castle was first built, and it is a storehouse of numerous national treasures and important cultural properties.

Approach to the Main Keep

● Entrance of the Main Keep

The entrance consists of big double-door-style, outer one is covered with plaster and inner one is covered with iron plate.



This construction avoids fire as with storehouse (Japanese traditional construction). The entrance connected to I passage turret (I Watari yagura) has double-door-style as well.

● Sliding doors on stairs

Some sliding or wooden doors are attached on the stairs in the main keep. These doors have function in prevention of fire spreading.



● Window in the gable

There is a gap under the gable on the upper stories of the



Main Keep, and openable and closable plastered lattice is attached there. This window is used on the renovation of the roof, so to speak side door.

● Letters on the pillars

Some letters and marks are engraved on the pillars in the Main Keep. These are called 'Banzuke', which shows each component used to which part.



● East main pillar

This is one of the two main pillars (25-meter-long) sustaining the Main Keep. This region was endowed with mountain forest resources since then.



● Effective use of the base

The difficulty of castle construction is to build a high architecture on stone wall because it is very difficult work to pile random-sized stones and make the surface even and rectangular. The base is needed here. Correcting the gap and roughness of the stone wall by timbers used for the base makes the construction easier since the pillars are set vertically on an even and rectangular surface.

Castle Information

Hours: 9:00-16:00 (for gate closing, 17:00)
※Summer (April 27-August 31), 9:00-17:00 (for gate closing, 18:00)
December 29 and the 30th are closed.

Access: 15 minute walk from JR/Sanyo Himeji station
Admission: Adult ¥1,000, Child ¥300
Website: <http://www.himeji-kanko.jp/en/>
Tel: 079-285-1146

To learn more about Himeji Castle... Amazing facts about Japan's greatest castle!

● The castle has never been damaged by war.

Himeji city was an important military site during World War II and the city was heavily attacked and a large part of the city was destroyed during the war. But miraculously, the castle was not damaged. It's the largest castle in the country that has kept its original structure.

● There are many traps around the castle.

The paths to get to the main tower have quite a few twists and turns, making it very difficult to reach the tower. Even the gates themselves are very small so that only one person can go through at a time.

- (1) The Hishi-no-mon gate to the I-, Ro-, and Ha-no-mon gates seems like the shortest route to the castle, but it is actually a roundabout way.
- (2) Going through the Ru-no-mon gate is the shortest route, but there is a hole in the stone wall nearby, called the Uzumi-mon, which is a trap that can send landslide through it and block the Ru-no-mon gate.
- (3) Standing at Ha-no-mon, the main tower looks extremely close, but if you continue on that path, it will take you away from the tower.
- (4) Although the path between Mizu-no-nimon and Mizu-no-sanmon is the correct way to the main tower, the path between these two gates is a downhill slope built on purpose to make intruders think they're going the wrong way.

● Stone walls that even ninjas cannot climb.

The walls at Himeji Castle are built in the shape of a fan, meaning the walls aren't built straight, but they are built with a curve so that ninjas can't climb up from the outside wall.

There are more interesting facts at Himeji Castle.
Take your time to explore and learn about the castle.
There is more than meets the eye in the magnificent structure.



Even ninjas can't climb this stone wall!

