





A spectacle that transcends time and space! Finding what makes Wakayama Castle extraordinary



Get hands-on with history at Wakayama Castle, a timeless emblem of tradition. Commissioned by Toyotomi Hideyoshi, the unifier of Japan's warring states, the castle has stood since 1585. Since then, its grounds have seen clans come and go alongside the changing tides of political power. Why not take in 360° views from the towering keep, unwind in gardens once reserved for nobility, and enjoy an

authentic tea ceremony? For history lovers, multilingual displays and exhibitions reveal the castle's grandeur through the ages. From its formidable walls to charming gardens, Wakayama's crown jewel offers endless things to discover.



●From natural stone formations to boldly chiseled faces, marvel at the evolution of stonewall masonry as you explore the castle grounds.

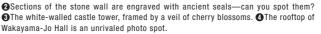


Glide through the castle's inner moat on a relaxing boat ride, guided by a skilled pilot. The boarding area is near the stone walls at the far end of Otemon Gate

Touring the grounds







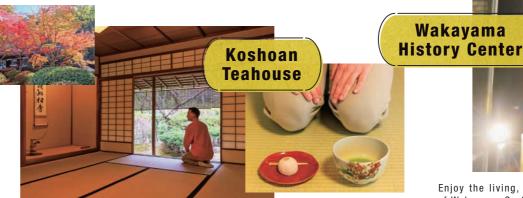


Wakayama

Few Japanese castles boast an entire zoo. With some 50 species of birds and mammals, the zoo offers a captivating array of wildlife



© 9:00AM-5:00PM C Tues. from Jun.-Sep. & Dec.-Feb. (or next weekday if a nat. hol.) Free 073-424-8635 (Wakayama Castle Park Zoo)



Nestled in Nishinomaru Garden, this teahouse invites you to savor matcha and Japanese sweets without the pressure of formal etiquette. Famed for its autumn scenery, the garden is also known as the "Valley of Autumn Foliage." Entry is free.

9:00AM-4:30PM (entry until 4:00PM) ¥ ¥470/tea & sweet set C New Year's hol. 073-431-8648 (Occasionally closed for private

Enjoy the living, breathing history of Wakayama Castle with immersive exhibits and a CG reproduction of the castle in the Edo period. Don't forget to pick up a memento from the souvenir shop or plan your next adventure at the tourist information center on the first floor

9:00AM-5:30PM (entry until 5:00PM) ¥ Adults (incl. H.S. students) ¥100; children (Elem. and Jr. high students) free / Joint tickets incl. entry to the castle are available C Year-end hol. 📞 073-435-1044

Wakayama Castle Tower 🚹 3 Ichibancho, Wakayama City 🎯 9:00AM-5:30PM (admission until 5:00PM) ¥ Adults (incl. H.S. students) ¥410; children (Jr. high and below) ¥200. Joint tickets incl. entry to history center are available C Year-end hol. 073-422-8979

NEARBY DESTINATIONS

Funday Bagels

For bagels with the perfect texture and chew, this shop has you covered. Using domestic wheat and local rice flour, their bagels are great for lunch or a tasty gift!

© 11:00AM-6:00PM





ventotto

Indulge in a lineup of exquisite and eye-catching sweets crafted with fresh fruits from Wakayama Prefecture and select ingredients from across Japan.

© 12:00PM-6:00PM (L O 5:00PM): open from 11:00AM on weekends & hol C Irregular hol

Castle-Front Square

The plaza in front of city hall offers a view of Wakayama Castle. With food stands that serve onigiri, paninis, and Chinese cuisine, you can relax on a bench and savor a casual lunch or an afternoon snack.

1 24 Shichibancho Wakavama City Business hrs, and hol. vary



Saikazaki

Bandoko Garden

Soar above the ocean at this historic coastal garden, once a lookout for foreign ships. The cape offers a bird's eye view of nearby islands, towering cliffs, and mind-blowing sunsets. Enjoy a BBQ with a view (resv. req'd; bring your own food) and seasonal flowers too!





①The Sightseeing Promenade that hugs Wakaura Bay. ② Beaches that feel like your own private paradise. Take a deep breath and bask in the ocean's freedom. ③Meander along the winding pathway, with waves as your background music. ④Capture the perfect shot at Horai Rock, but tread carefully as you navigate the terrain. ⑤Discover brick ruins that whisper tales of history.

2 Shinwakaura, Wakayama City

Towering above Cape Saikazaki, this lighthouse offers panoramic views of Awaji Island, Shikoku, and the sun as it sinks into the sea.

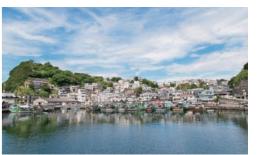
809-2 Saikazaki, Wakayama City





Touring Wakaura and Saikazaki





Step back in time in Saikazaki, a charming fishing town, where nostalgia lingers in the air. Don't miss the maze of alleys leading from the hilltop down to the fishing port.



Wakaura

orai Bock

Velcome to Wakaura's Sightseeing romenade strewn with maritime wonder legin your beach stroll at Wakaura ishing Port and head toward Saikazaki to ncounter this unique rock, offering good uck and epic photo ops.

Shinwakaura Wakayama

Wakanoura Cruise



Boat tours of Wakaura Bay operate on weekends and are ¥2,000 for adults and ¥1,000 for children (ages 3-11). Reservations are required for the special fireworks and sunset cruises, where you can even feed seagulls.



Tour the stunning scenery of Wakaura Bay

Explore Wakaura Bay from a rare perspective. Ordinarily offered Apr.-Oct., fishing boats, piloted by captains who know the local waters like the back of their hand, serve as your guide. From sunset to fireworks cruises, a variety of courses are available in addition to the standard 40-min cruise.

Shinwaka Cruise 1 1-1 Shinwakaura, Wakayama City (boarding area) 8:00AM-5:00PM (reserve via phone) Wed. (tours operate weekends Apr.-Oct. and during the Wakayama Marina City fireworks show)

Times and courses subject to change or cancellation due to weather. Visit https://wakanourabay.com for reservations.

Sea breezes and perfect photo ops— Off to the sprawling scenery of Wakaura and Saikazaki!



Wash ashore Wakayama City's coastlines to discover the laid-back charm of seaside life in Wakaura and Saikazaki. Saikazaki features quirky street art, narrow alleyways, fish markets, and a dash of Italian zest. Selected as one of Japan's top 100 sunset spots, its dramatic landscape and sheer cliffs are a real showstopper!

Visited by emperors across history, Wakaura's ocean vistas have been penned into Japan's most ancient poetry collection, the Man'yoshu. Sprawling ocean views and rugged coastal mountains backdropped by the setting sun make for picture-perfect moments.

NEARBY DESTINATIONS



Choux Paris (¥194), matcha custard and chocolate cream pastries—this confectionery has it all. Strawberry cream puffs are a new spring favorite!

Shuneido



Rich custard cream wrapped in crispy puff pastry, dusted with almond powder, and baked to perfection—the Choux Paris is a Wakaura specialty. On a good day, nearly 2,000 are sold. Originally a Japanese sweet shop, this confectionery still offers traditional sweets as a century-long local favorite.

1-5-13 Wakaura Naka, Wakayama City
8:00AM-6:00PM Wed., Sun.

Choose from options like a cake set with drink (¥935). Located near the port, look for the colorful wave painted on the exterior.

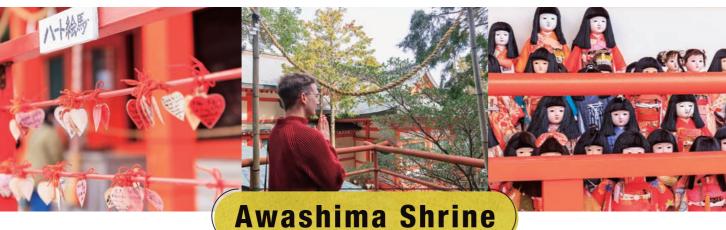
Le Vogue 1008



Perched atop a hill overlooking Saikazaki Fishing Port, this café is a remodeled heritage home filled with antique furniture and sweets lovingly crafted by the pâtissier-owner. For a delectable meal, try the omelet rice and quiche, among other lunchtime specials.

↑ 1008 Saikazaki, Wakayama City ⑤ 11:00AM-6:00PM (L.O. 5:30PM); lunch until 2:00PM C Tue.





Channel your spiritual side at Kada's most mystical spots



Uninhabited islands, abandoned military ruins, vibrant shrines all cloaked in spiritual energythe mystical essence of Kada will energize your soul. Check out Awashima Shrine, famous for its 20,000 dolls from all over Japan, and the uninhabited Tomogashima Island cluster. Okinoshima, the only accessible island, is

brimming with discovery—from gun battery ruins lurking in forest groves to a cavern where you'll find the birth place of the ancient Shugendo faith to scenery featured in a famous anime. Shrouded in mystery, Kada is a must-visit for anyone seeking the best of

Kamijima, a site of spiritual power tied to the origins of Awashima Shrine. Though landing on the island is forbidden, visitors can pray for blessings from the opposite shore.









1 Take off from Nonaura Pier and head to the ruins of the 3rd gun battery. Tomogashima's jungle-like paths are made to be explored, with the 3hr/3.3km course covering famous landmarks. 2 The 2nd our battery jutting out into the coastline. @Built in 1872, the Tomogashima Lighthouse remains in operation

Rapyu-café

Refuel from your coastal escapade with a cozy café meal. Right next to the pier, this café operates in sync with the Tomogashima Steamship.



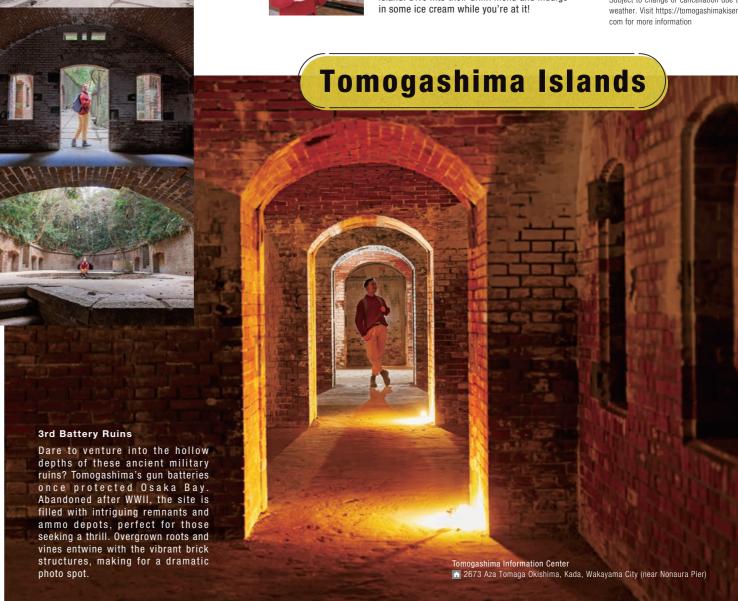


Serving an assortment of curry, omelet rice, udon and pasta, this café has you covered with fresh dishes-even on an uninhabited island! Dive into their drink menu and indulge

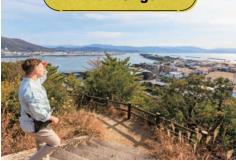


Tomogashima Steamship (b) 9:00AM-4:00PM (O) Mar.-Dec.: Closed Wed. (operates on nat. hol. and other special periods); Jan.-Feb.: Operates on weekends and nat, hol. (except New Year's hol.) ¥ Kada Port-Tomogashima (round trip): Adults ¥2,200, Children ¥1,100 Boat ride takes approx. 20 min.

Subject to change or cancellation due to weather. Visit https://tomogashimakisen.



Mt. Tengu



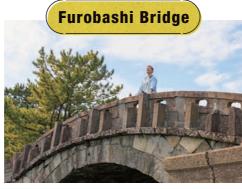
A view admired by emperors and poets alike. Climb the low mountain behind Tamatsushima Shrine to get a panoramic view of Wakanoura. Be mindful of the time as you lose yourself in the enchanting tidal flats, ever-changing in their beauty.

3-4 Wakaura Naka, Wakayama



Near Tamatsushima Shrine's torii gate, this fence is steeped in legend. It is said that one of Japan's most famous poets, Ono no Komachi, visited the shrine to pray for improved writing skills, pausing here to rest her sleeve and compose a poem or two.

3-4-26 Wakaura Naka, Wakayama City



Few views inspire quite like the one from this bridge. Built in 1851 by the Kishu-Tokugawa clan, it was exclusively used by high-ranking persons during the famous Wakamatsuri festival.

3 Wakaura Minami, Wakayama City

Wakanoura's Tidal Flats





①The pavilion is adorned with carvings and sculptures. ②Don't miss the exquisite wall paintings. ③Keep an eye out for the sleeping cat sculpture! ②The Waka Matsuri Festival, held every May, features the thrilling descent of a portable shrine down Kishu Toshogu's 108 steps—a tradition dating back 400 years, and once recognized as one of Japan's three largest feativale.

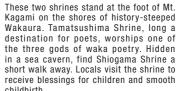
Looking up from inside the worship hall, the elegantly lacquered main shrine sits quietly atop a low mountain. The hall of worship houses a portable shrine and other important relics.





Tamatsushima Shrine and rabbits are deeply connected in legend. Known locally as the "rabbit shrine," the site offers bunny-shaped amulets and omikuji fortune slips.

Tamatsushima Shrine and Shiogama Shrine



↑ 3-4-26 Wakaura Naka, Wakayama City Open to public (shrine office 9:00AM-4:00PM)





Wakaura Tenmangu Shrine

Kishu Toshogu Shrine

Built in 1621 to enshrine Tokugawa leyasu. Also known as "Nikko of the West," the pavilion features extravagant architecture and has been designated a National Important Cultural Property. Check out the online guide to the unique carvings, readable on your smartphone

2-1-20 Wakaura Nishi, Wakayama City Open to public (shrine office 9:00AM-4:30PM)

(entrance fee: ¥300).



Tidal flats fading into the sea, cranes taking

flight, and their songs echoing as they dive into the reedbeds — renowned poet Yamabe no Akahito used this timeless imagery to

praise Wakanoura through poetry.

Makaura Naka, Wakayama City

Wakanoura's ocean views are a masterpiece in the making. From white sands and green pines to ever-changing tidal flats and mountain ranges, the dreamy scenery has been cherished since Emperor Shomu's visit 1,300 years ago. Once a retreat for generations of feudal lords, this historic gem has been immortalized in the

Watch 1,300 years of poetry come to life

on the shores of Wakanoura

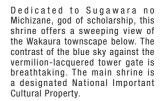
Man'yoshu, Japan's oldest poetry anthology. Thanks to its rich history and views that have inspired poets across the ages, Wakanoura is now proud to call itself a Japan Heritage site. Bask in the ocean breeze and get your creative juices flowing as you walk along its ebbing tides!







A statue of the cow that is the divine servant of Sugawara no Michizane stands on the shrine grounds. It's believed that rubbing the cow's head will grant wisdom.



MARINE ADVENTURE

Summer's not just for swimming.

Take in Wakayama's blue sky and ocean with thrilling marine sports!





This 1.2 km sandy paradise has been named one of Japan's top 100 beaches. Join a sunset beach yoga session from Jul.-Sep., on the 1st and 3rd weekend of each month. The sinking sun sets the scene and the waves provide the background music for perfect bliss

↑ 3-1740 Wakaura Minami, Wakayama City S 1st and 3rd weekends, Jul.-Sep. (from 6:00PM July-Aug., from 5:00PM Sep.; approx. 1 hr.) ¥ \$500 (free up to Jr. high, and those over 64) No reserv. req.

Subject to change or cancellation due to weather. Visit https://shrikali.jp for more information





Kick back on the golden sands of one of Kansai's most popular surf spots. During swimming season there are designated swimming spots. From thrilling surfing to relaxing swimming to barefoot beach strolls, these shores are your playground for adventure

↑ 386-2 Isonoura, Wakayama City S Year-round Beginners course ¥8,000 (150 min.) R Reserv. req. Subject to change or cancellation due to weather, etc. Visit https://isonoura-w.jp for more information



BANA BOAT

Head to Marina City's closest beach and wade into its shallow waters, which maintain a 1.5m depth even 100m from shore. The seaside resort area features a plethora of marine activities, including banana boat rides, making for an unmissable experience.

Hamanomiya Beach

↑ 1523 Kemi, Wakayama City S May-Oct. (closed Thu., open on nat. hol.) ¥ ¥4,400 (approx. 20 min. / from 3 people) R Reserv. req.

Subject to change or cancellation due to weather, etc. Visit https://hamanomiya-jet.amebaownd.com for more information



AND OF COURSE, SWIMMING!



Explore this striking coastline of glorious sands, shallow waters, and gentle waves. Enhance your visit with a BBQ, available in designated areas or on the beach outside of swimming season (fee req.). The beach offers a sweeping view of the Kitan Straight.

↑ Kada, Wakayama City S Jul 1-Aug 31 Subject to changes/closings due to weather



Overlooking the beautiful Wakaura Bay brimming with history, this beach has been named one of the Ministry of the Environment's 100 best beaches. With playgrounds and BBQ facilities (fee req.) it's perfect for families.

↑ Tano, Wakayama City 5 Jul 1-Aug 31 Subject to changes/closings due to weather

WITH THE FAM

Dive into maritime charm with the fam jam in hot spots that offer all-day fun and fantastic deals.





Marina City might feel like a European paradise or a tropical getaway, but it's right on Wakayama's shores. From Porto Europa, with its European cityscape, to the Kuroshio Market, selling local fish and more, there's something for everyone.







Eat, farm, and adventure your way through Food Hunter Park's wild landscape! A stream flows through the central plaza, leading to hands-on facilities, a greenhouse, playground, and dog park. Don't miss the farmer's markets, restaurants, and fully equipped BBQ area.

479-1 Myooji, Wakayama City 10:00AM-5:00PM (from 9:00AM on weekends and hol.) Year-end & New Year's hol. Free

Park always open; administrative buildings closed Tue. Park facility hrs. and hol. vary; visit https://fh-park.jp for more information





Test your hand at fishing red sea bream, striped horse mackerel, yellowtail, greater amberjack, and more seasonal delights. Rental rods and bait sets are available, ensuring even beginners and families can have hassle-free fun.

↑ 101-3 Tano, Wakayama City 8:00AM-1:00PM







If you love trains, or simply traveling in style, the Kishigawa Line offers an epic experience. With the Tama Train, inspired by one of Japan's first cat stationmasters, a strawberry train, and even a pickled plum train, Wakayama Electric Railway is pushing the boundaries of rail design.

73 Idakiso, Wakayama City Day pass (adults ¥800, children ¥400). The day pass is a bargain if going roundtrip from Wakayama Sta.-Kishi Sta.

Visit https://wakayama-dentetsu.co.jp for information about the Tama Train and more.





Savor French cuisine of the highest caliber with

This restaurant serves innovative and

delicate course meals made with ingredients nurtured by Wakayama's rich natural environment. Delight in authentic and

↑ 2F, 1-1-29 Kataokacho, Wakayama City © 11:00AM-3:00PM (L.O. 2:00PM), 5:30PM-

10:00PM (L.O. 8:30PM) C Mon., 2nd and 3rd

Tue, (or following weekday if nat, hol.) Y Courses

from ¥3,300 for lunch / ¥7,150 for dinner

all five senses

beautiful French dishes.

Local production for local consumption. Experience exquisite dishes with fresh Wakayama ingredients pulled together by top-notch culinary skill.





Interweaving taste with subtractive aesthetics

Dedicated to using local Wakayama products somewhere in every plate, this restaurant serves up the love and care of local farmers. The owner personally visits producers and turns their seasonal ingredients into diverse course meals. At lunch, the restaurant offers soba dishes under the name "Juwari Soba Yamamichi." Look out for the sensational collaboration lunch menu.

1 2F, 25 Yorozumachi, Wakayama City 5:30PM-L.O. 9:00PM (11:00AM-L.O. 2:00PM for Juwari Soba Yamamichi) C Wed. ¥ Courses from ¥8,000 (reserv. by day before); à la carte and lunch: no reserv. req.





Beatific Italian for casual prices

trattoria con anima

For colorful Italian cuisine popping with local zest, this restaurant has you covered. No compromises are made in delivering highend dining at a reasonable price. Trained in Kobe, the chef transforms seasonal ingredients into beatific delicacies.

⋒ B102, 3-2 Junibancho, Wakayama City 🕲 11:30AM-2:00PM (2 sessions: from 11:30AM and 1:00PM), 6:00PM-10:00PM (L.O. 9:00PM) Mon. + irreg. closures ¥ Courses from ¥3,300 for lunch $\overline{}$ $\overline{\phantom{$ before); à la carte menu avail. for

Green Corner Tsukijibashi

Mouthwatering local fish at a seaside diner

WAKAYA Tsuya

Look no further for seafood dishes that champion the best of Wakayama. Dig into seasonal specialties and old-fashioned kettle-cooked rice in a retro atmosphere that enhances every bite.

 2-6-2 Wakaura Higashi, Wakayama City 🕲 10:30AM-L.O. 6:00PM (Lunch only, dine-in 11:00AM-L.O. 1:30PM) C Open every day 🛛 Set of the day for



Ramen ¥700

A perfect way to end the evening

This local favorite is part of Wakayama's DNA, starting as a street stall over 60 years ago. Open until midnight in the bustling nightlife of Arochi, roll up your sleeves, pair your ramen with a beer, and feel like a true local.

2-50 Tomodacho, Wakayama City5:30PM-L.O. 3:00AM C Sun.



Marutaka Ramen

Wakayama Ramen takes it one step further.

Ide Shoten

Ramen ¥800

The spark that ignited the Wakayama ramen boom

This famous establishment, located near JR Wakayama Station, has been serving ramen for 70 years. The mild yet full-bodied pork bone and soy sauce broth is what put Wakayama ramen on the map.

🚹 4-84 Tanakamachi, Wakayama City

© 11:30AM-10:00PM (L.O. 9:30PM) C Thu



RAMEN

Ramen ¥880

Broth piled high with green onions

Don't let the mountain of green onions intimidate you. Crisp scallions and noodles are the perfect match for a broth meticulously prepared over

1F, 87 Junibancho, Wakayama City 11:00AM-9:00PM (until 5:00PM on Sun.) C Open every day

Marui Ramen

JOY Mimura

Tenkake Ramen ¥390

Comfort food that's the pride of Wakayama

Treat yourself to local comfort food. This café's ramen consists of a light broth topped with tasty tempura bits. Be sure to get some of the famous Green Soft matcha ice cream too!

🚹 1-1 Funazucho, Wakayama City (11:00AM-L.O. 10:00PM C Year-end & New Year's hol.



Get in line for iconic flavor

Serving ramen with soy sauce-based broth, Nankai Wakayamashi Station's ramen store attracts a loyal crowd. Don't miss out on this full-bodied ramen that speaks for itself.

 1F, 39 Higash City © 11:00AM-L.0 2:00PM, 6:00PM-L.0 9:00PM C Tue.

Ramen ¥900



Enjoy a bowl of ramen elevated to new heights with traditional and novel techniques.

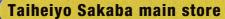
Spend the night away in Arochi, Wakayama's vibrant entertainment district near JR Wakayama Station.



A neo-retro bar serving intoxicating flavor

Got the munchies? Taiheiyo Sakaba delivers great value for money and offers set meals late at night. The owner takes pride in sourcing fresh, seasonal ingredients, crafting delicious dishes that leave customers raving. Even if you don't drink, you'll be captivated by the flavors in this spot that blends retro charm with modern flair.

© 11:30AM-12:00AM (L.O. 11:00PM)





For seafood caught from the ocean on the same day, you've come to the right place. Get a taste of Wakayama's coast at affordable prices and pair it with a beverage. This bar is serious about sake, offering 70 varieties from all over Japan.

Iroha Gekiio

Tuck into local fish

🚹 62 Saikamachi, Wakayama

© 5:00PM-12:00AM
C Irregular hol.

and sake





An orthodox bar with a taste of the finest

Sip on expertly crafted cocktails made with Wakayama fruits and lose yourself in an exquisite night brimming with flavor and

↑ 1F, 11 Kusuemon Shoji, Wakayama City © 9:00PM-2:00AM **C** Sun.

Local ingredients, global stimulation

Experience Wakayama with a touch of global flair. 6:00PM-11:30PM (Thu.-Sat.), Located on the first floor of a questhouse, this spot offers cafe 6:00PM-10:00PM (Sun. international flavors with local ingredients. Enjoy intercultural Wed.) C Open every day communication with guests from across Japan and around the

 ↑ 1F, 5-6 Shintori, Wakayama City 🕒 Bar and restaurant

Escape into the luxury of Wakayama City for fantastic views, magnificent oceans, and hot springs that are designed to be savored.



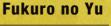
Experience the infinity bath

Feel at one with the sea and sky in Kyukamura Kishu-Kada's outdoor infinity bath. Loved by people of all ages, the indoor baths have slightly viscous waters made to beautify the skin. The bathhouse offers panoramic views of dreamy expanses, starry nights, and a sunset chosen as one of Japan's top 100. Why not stay the night?

© 12:00PM-3:50PM (last entry at 3:00PM) C Open every day ¥ Day trip bathing: Adults



Kyukamura Kishu-Kada









Reward yourself with a trip to the spa

Treat yourself to natural springs and a stone sauna at this bathhouse located in the heart of Wakayama City. The baths use spring water piped from 1,500 m underground. Reward yourself for Children ¥600

⋒ B1F Forte Wajima, 2-1 © 10:00AM-11:00PM (last entry 10:00PM), until 12:00AM Fri.-Sat. and before hol. (last entry 11:00PM) C Every 3rd Tue. ¥ Adults ¥1,200



Hanayama Onsen Yakushi no Yu

Kansai's ultra carbonated hot spring!

Uncover the healing waters of this super-concentrated natural carbonate spring. Attracting hot spring enthusiasts from across Japan, the high carbonate concentration forms crystals on the bath walls, producing benefits that even help athletes recover.

City (9 8:00AM-10:00PM (reception ends 9:00PM) C Thu. (open if Thu. is a nat. hol.) ¥ Day trip bathing: Adults ¥1,150, children ¥580; other plans. Discounted rates after 5:00PM