

Explore Aso!

neo Aso

The **New** Aso Sightseeing Guidebook

On Foot | Exploring Monzenmachi & Uchinomaki

Activities | Aso: Heaven for Lovers of the Outdoors

Hot Springs | Sublime Onsen Tour

Landscape | Aso's Four Seasons

Gourmet | 3 Famous Aso Dishes

Souvenirs | Aso Souvenir Ideas

TAKE FREE

The Aso Grasslands are a gift from our ancestors

Grasslands are integral to the landscape of Aso. While they may look like they developed naturally, Aso's grasslands actually exist thanks to centuries of maintenance by the locals. The result is a diverse grassland ecosystem and rich landscape. Without the help of the locals, these "artificial" grasslands of Aso would revert into scrubland and forests. Aso's 2,200 hectares of grassland are Japan's largest and they represent a culture where people live in harmony with nature.



Q1 Why are Aso's grasslands important?

A1. They are a habitat for many living things.

There are about 600 plant species found in the grasslands of Aso, some of which are very rare. The region is home to all kinds of wildlife, birds, and insects. So many butterflies live here that Aso is known as a butterfly paradise!



The endangered *orurishijimi* butterfly



Haru gentian blooming in a meadow

A2. They absorb carbon dioxide.

By fixing carbon in the soil as ash and through root growth, grassland soils actually absorb more carbon dioxide into the ground than what is released into the atmosphere by controlled burns. This in turn helps prevent global warming.



A3. They help retain water.

Grasslands allow less water to evaporate and store more water underground than forests. The groundwater that originates in Aso's grasslands feeds six rivers, including the Shirakawa and Chikugo Rivers, in turn providing water for Fukuoka City, Kumamoto City, and other population centers.



By grazing on the grasslands, akaushi cattle play a role in their protection

A4. Grass is used as a resource.

Grass from the grasslands is used as fodder for cattle and horses. It is also a high-quality building material and is used throughout Japan to make thatched roofs for historical buildings.



Aso's sustainable agriculture involves a cycle of controlled burns, grazing by cattle and horses, and grass harvesting. This cycle earned Aso its designation as a Globally Important Agricultural Heritage System.



Q2 How are the grasslands maintained?

A. By human hands.

Through repeated cycles of controlled burns, cattle and horse grazing, and grass harvesting, Aso's grasslands have been protected by human hands for over 1,000 years. *Noyaki* (controlled burns) prevent the grasslands from turning into woodland and help eliminate pests that harm crops and animals. *Noyaki* require many people to be effective, but fewer farmers and an aging population have made it difficult for *noyaki* to be carried out in full. We need the understanding and support of many in order for the grasslands to survive.



Noyaki (controlled burns) clear the land of old growth

Aso: A holy place where Shinto and Buddhism coexist

The Aso Nakadake Crater attracts tourists from all over the world. Aso's frequent eruptions earned it reverence as a god of nature. Since ancient times, Aso Shrine has worshiped the crater as the embodiment of Takeiwatatsu-no-Mikoto, the god who created Aso. Buddhism also has religious links to Aso, as the crater was worshiped as the eleven-faced Kannon Bosatsu (an incarnation of Takeiwatatsu-no-Mikoto). According to one theory, the area around the crater became a sacred site starting in 8th century and flourished as a major center of mountain Buddhism, with 37 monasteries and 51 hermitages built as bases for monks and mountain priests. The coexistence of Shinto and Buddhism continues to this day, as do prayers for the volcano to remain calm.



Aso Shrine

Aso Shrine is the head shrine for about 500 other shrines throughout Japan.



Aso Shrine is revered as the most important shrine in Higo Province (modern-day Kumamoto). It combines Shinto religion with the ancient belief in the volcano itself as a deity. The shrine worships a family of 12 deities, including Takeiwatatsu-no-Mikoto, grandson of Emperor Jimmu and the founder of the Aso region. The shrine dates back approximately 2,300 years, with its history passed down through 93 generations of the Aso family.



Restoring one of Japan's Greatest Tower Gates

Aso Shrine was severely damaged by the Kumamoto Earthquakes of 2016. Its worship hall and other buildings were rebuilt in 2021. The only major restoration work remaining is the tower gate, which is scheduled to be completed in December 2023.

Mt. Aso Hondo Saigandenji Okunoin

The reconstructed main hall of Saigandenji Temple stands atop Mt. Aso, adjacent to Aso Sanjo Shrine. Buddha and the gods of Japan protect Mt. Aso's summit.



The spectacular scenery of Aso's Summit: Nakadake Crater, Kusasenri & Sunasenri

Nakadake Crater and Kusasenri are Aso's most recognizable symbols, and nearby Sunasenri has a landscape that looks like something from Mars. These three major sightseeing spots boast spectacular scenery and are close to one another, making it easy to visit all three in one go. They also offer unique perspectives on Aso's 600-meter-wide active volcanic crater.

The breathtaking, endlessly smoking Aso Volcano. Climbing the mountain to the crater is called *miike-mairi* and is a type of religious worship.



The Aso Park Toll Road offers easy access to the crater by car.



Horseback rides on Kusasenri



Sunasenri is a desolate, sandy expanse covered with volcanic ash.

Visiting the Aso Nakadake Crater and Sunasenri
 Aso Park toll road hours:
 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)
 Open year-round. Entry restrictions may apply due to volcanic activity.
 Motorcycle: 200 yen, Light vehicle: 600 yen, Standard vehicle: 800 yen, Minibus: 2,500 yen, Mid-size bus: 3,000 yen

Aso Sanjo Plaza
 Address: 808 Kurokawa, Aso City Parking: Yes
Kusasenri
 (Aso Volcano Museum, Aso Visitor Center)
 Address: Kusasenrigahama, Aso City
 Parking: Yes (Motorcycle: ¥200 yen, Passenger vehicle: ¥500, Minibus: ¥1,000, Large bus: ¥2,000 (These rates allow one use of both parking lots on the same day.)

For information on conditions for visiting the crater, check here ▶



Hifuri Shinji & Onda Matsuri: Local Tradition Thrives in Aso

Aso's Agricultural Rituals: A National Important Intangible Folk Cultural Asset

Hifuri-shinji (fire-waving ritual) is held in mid-March to pray for a bountiful harvest in Aso. The farm god marries his bride as part of the mystical Goze Mukae ceremony where, in order to welcome the gods, bundles of thatch are lit on fire and swung around on ropes.

The Onda Matsuri is a festival where the 12 deities enshrined at Aso Shrine are transported on four portable shrines to visit the green rice fields around the shrine to observe how the crops are growing.

The Tanomi Matsuri is an event held at harvest time in which the first harvest rice is offered to the gods out of thanks for the year's bounty. The locals of Aso pass down these Shinto agricultural rituals and events from generation to generation.



▲Onda Matsuri. The gods are accompanied by a procession of about 200 people, including *unari*, holy women dressed entirely in white.
 ◀The Hifuri Shinji ritual is spectacular, with overlapping rings of whirling fire.
 ▼ Shinto rituals such as *gan no sumo* wrestling and *yabusame* (horseback archery) are held to appease the gods.



See the sights in Monzenmachi & Uchinomaki



near Aso

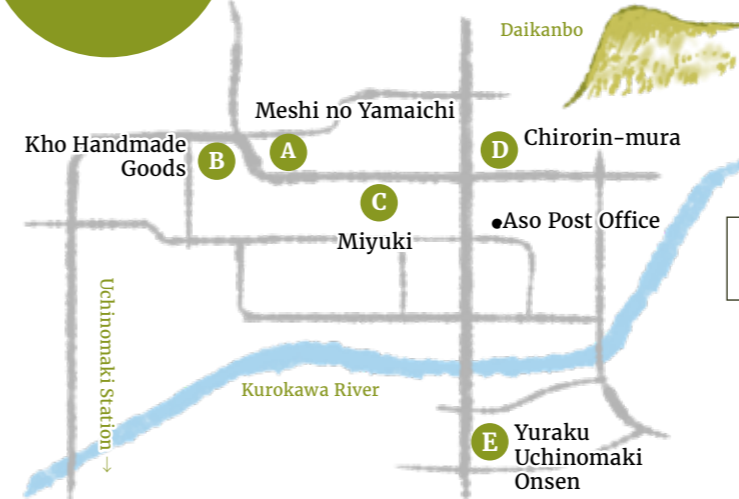
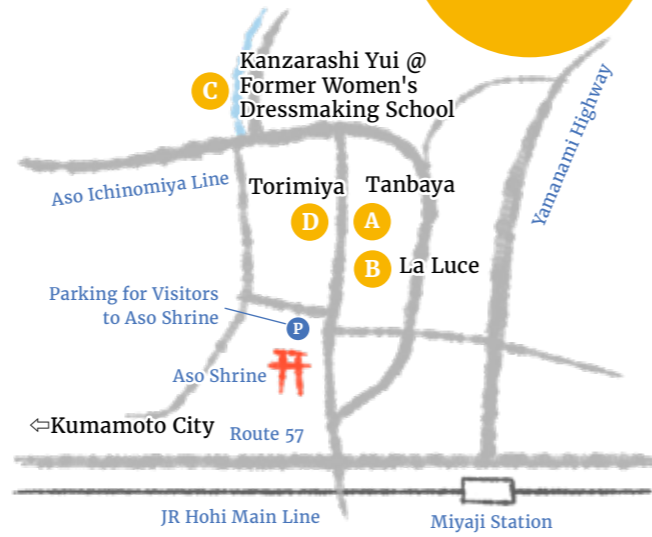
Visit the fountains at the foot of Mt. Aso

Monzenmachi Area

Uchinomaki Area

Spend the day in a retro onsen town

The Monzenmachi Shopping Street extends from the approach to Aso Shrine. Thirty-six spring water fountains called *mizuki* are scattered throughout the nearby neighborhood and are great when you need a quick drink of water. Various stores, cafes, and souvenir shops in the area make for an enjoyable day out.



Uchinomaki Onsen is dotted with inns and hotels and dates back over 120 years. The area is a base for sightseeing, with plenty of restaurants, sweets shops, and boutiques nearby. A visit to one of the *machiyu* public bath houses is a must!

Tanbaya

MAP A

This stationery store was established in 1913. Inside you'll find *omikuji* (fortunes) that consist of a *tenugui* (hand towel) that, when dipped in water, reveals your fate!

Address: 1857-1 Miyaji, Ichinomiya-machi, Aso City
Tel: 0967-22-0115
Hours: 8:00-18:00 (9:00-18:00 on Sat, Sun, holidays)
Closed: No regular holidays



Try your luck with a fortune



A perfect dessert spot!

Kanzarashi Yui

MAP C

Relax in a renovated old house while you enjoy traditional sweets like *kanzarashi* and *zenzai*. *Somen-nagashi* is also available in summer.

Address: 3204 Miyaji, Ichinomiya-machi, Aso City
Tel: 0967-22-5488
Hours: 10:00-Last order: 17:00
Closed: Wed



La Luce Italian Restaurant

MAP B

La Luce is a casual place to enjoy Italian cuisine. The menu includes a wide variety of pastas, risottos, and pizzas. Take-out drinks are also available.

Address: 1858 Miyaji, Ichinomiya-machi, Aso City
Tel: 080-2090-3903
Hours: 11:00-22:00 (last order at 21:00)
Closed: 2nd and 4th Wed



Casual Italian dining

Visit the Former Women's Dressmaking School

The Former Women's Dressmaking School is located about five minutes' walk from Aso Shrine past Monzenmachi Shopping Street. The former school is home to a number of places to shop and eat, including Kanzarashi Yui. This retro spot is a great place to enjoy some light shopping and a tasty lunch.



Instagram Spot!

Aso Torimiya

MAP D

Torimiya offers horsemeat and akaushi beef as well as various deli items. The fried-to-order *uma-rokke* and *hatake no menchikatsu* are popular.

Address: 3092-2 Miyaji, Ichinomiya-machi, Aso City
Tel: 0967-22-0357
Hours: 9:00 - 18:00 (fried food from 10:00)
Closed: Wed



There's always room for korokke!



Patisserie d'Aso Miyuki

MAP C

Miyuki offers a variety of cakes made with fresh milk, eggs, and seasonal fruits, including the famous Kakasaka Chocolat, recipient of a Superior Taste Award! Miyuki also offers gelato in the summer.



Best cakes in town

Address: 224 Uchinomaki, Aso City
Tel: 0967-32-0153
Hours: 10:00-18:00
Closed: Tue



Meshi no Yamaichi

MAP A

This restaurant is owned by Yamaichi Shokuhin, a pickle shop specializing in Aso Takana. The akaushi wagyu steak bowl topped with sweet garlic soy sauce is to die for!

Address: 235 Uchinomaki, Aso City
Tel: 0967-32-2511
Hours: 11:00 - 16:00
Closed: No regular holidays



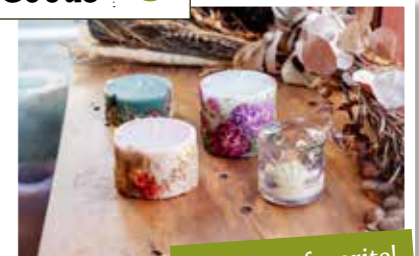
First, let's eat!

Kho Handmade Goods

MAP B

Kho offers many botanical candles and handmade items in a space decorated with dried flowers. Candle-making workshops (starting at ¥2,750) are also available.

Address: 364-2 Uchinomaki, Aso City
Tel: 050-3698-0967
Hours: 10:00-16:00
Closed: Tue, Wed



Find your favorite!

Chirorin-mura

MAP D

Chirorin-mura is filled with old-fashioned candy, frozen treats, and toys. The café/bar Showa-kan also features displays of vintage home appliances and other retro items.

Address: 253 Uchinomaki, Aso City
Tel: 0967-32-0044
Hours: 11:00-18:00 (10:00 on Sun, holidays)
Closed: Wed (open if Wed is a holiday), reservations required for Showa-kan



Take a step back in time

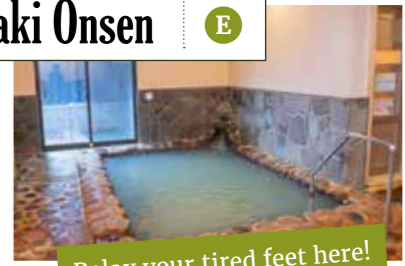


Yuraku Uchinomaki Onsen

MAP E

This day onsen opened in October 2020 and is known for its green-tinted, milky hot spring waters. Admission is ¥400 (¥500 yen with nano mist sauna) and ¥1,500 for a private bath (50 minutes).

Address: 1126-1 Uchinomaki, Aso City
Tel: 0967-24-6090
Hours: 13:00-22:00
Closed: Tue



Relax your tired feet here!

Adventure to the max! Aso: Heaven for Lovers of the Outdoors

With all the best the great outdoors has to offer, Aso is a paradise for activities such as cycling, horseback riding, and fruit picking. Come enjoy an exciting experience you'll only find in Aso!



Experience Aso on horseback!

Horseback Riding

Green Valley is located at an altitude of 850m on Aso's northern outer mountain ring and offers panoramic views of Mount Aso and the Kuju Mountain Range. The entire ranch covers 1.5 square kilometers and visitors can enjoy 360-degree panoramic views of the Aso grasslands, mountains, and valleys on horseback. Horse trekking is also available for riders who have completed training. Come enjoy a ride through grasslands that stretch as far as the eye can see.

The views of Aso on horseback are sure to impress! Unique courses take you through the wide Aso grasslands.



Data

Green Valley

Address: 1674-18 Yunoura, Aso City
Tel: 090-1773-3366
Hours: 10:00 - 17:00
Closed: No regular holidays
Prices: from ¥6,600 yen for mini-trekking (about 30 minutes)



Enjoy full 360-degree views



Gaze upon the traces of ancient eruptions and feel the power of the Earth

Volcano Trekking

Trek through wide grasslands and feel the power of Mt. Aso. Hike along the dormant crater rim of Kishimadake while enjoying views from above of the dormant craters of Kusasenri and Furunomike. This point offers panoramic views of the highly active Nakadake crater and Takadake (Aso's highest peak) to the east, Mt. Unzen far to the west, and Daikanbo and the Kuju Mountain Range to the north.

Data

Aso Be Tai

Phone: 090-4998-4472
Meeting place: at Aso Volcano Museum reception booth, Kusasenri parking lot
Duration: 2 hours 30 minutes
Number of people: 4-50
Appropriate trekking attire: shoes, hat, long pants, long sleeves, water, backpack
Price: ¥4,500 yen (reservations required)



Take in the beauty of
Aso from the sky

Scenic Helicopter Rides

Helicopter tours offer stunning panoramic views of Aso in all four seasons. Five courses are available: a casual mini-flight course; a course over the foothills of Mt. Aso; a course that flies over the crater; a course around half of the five Aso peaks; and a private charter flight. After entering Cuddly Dominion, please register at the helicopter boarding area (no reservations required).

Explore the wide-open skies of Aso. The sights around Komezuka and the crater are unbelievable!



Data

Aso Cuddly Dominion

Address: 2163 Kurokawa, Aso City
Tel: 0967-34-2020
Hours: 9:30 - 17:00 (until 17:30 on Sat, Sun, holidays, 10:00 - 16:30 in winter) (Helicopter tours are available 10:00 - 17:00, last admission 16:30, 11:00 - last admission 16:00 in winter)
Closed: Wed from Dec to Feb (except winter vacation and national holidays)
Fee: from 3,000 yen (park admission fee not included)
Minimum party size: 2. Visit our website via QR code for details.



Feel the exhilarating wind in your face as you race downhill!

Panorama Cycling

The tour starts near picturesque Komezuka and is all downhill, making it an easy ride for anyone. On the way down, you'll see plenty of great Aso scenery while passing by grazing cattle and horses. Your 700m descent to the base of the mountain offers relaxing views of the bucolic Aso countryside. Be sure to stop frequently along the way and take plenty of photos!

Data

CLAMP

Address: 48 Uchinomaki, Aso City
Tel: 0967-32-0928
Hours: 9:00 - 18:00 (open at 10:00 from Nov to Feb)
Closed: Thu
Prices: Basic plan (mountain bike) from ¥4,800, E-bike plan from ¥5,500 (For details, use the QR code to check our website)



Enjoy how the scenery changes as you coast down the mountain. If you join the morning session, you can visit various places at your leisure as long as you return by 5PM.



A pesticide-free PYO farm!

Fruit Picking

Pick delicious fruit while enjoying fantastic views of Mt. Aso. Couples grows its apples and strawberries without the use of pesticides. Fresh strawberries are in season from December to May; crisp apples from September to November, and plump, sweet grapes are available in September. Strawberry soft serve ice cream and gelato are also popular.



Data

Couples Fruit Country

Address: 1003-3 Nishimachi, Aso City
Tel: 0967-34-0100
Hours: Weekdays 10:30-15:00, Sat 10:30-16:30, Sun and holidays 10:00-16:30, Closed: No regular holidays
Prices: All-you-can-eat PYO strawberries: Adults from ¥1,800, Elementary school students from ¥1,400, 3yo and up from ¥900, Under 3yo from ¥550 (Prices vary depending on season).
Apple picking: Prices vary, check before picking from September onwards.
Grape picking ¥1,400 per 1kg.



Even more activities!

Paragliding / Aso Nature Land

A one-of-a-kind bird's-eye view of Aso's grandeur!

Address: 1092-1 Uchinomaki,
Phone: 0967-32-4196



Airsoft / Zipang

Test your mettle on a battleground spanning 20 hectares.

Address: 1492-1 Kurabaru,
Aso City
Phone: 070-3967-3021



Camping / Gotanbatake Campground

Enjoy camping at the base of Mt. Aso.

Address: 832 Shochino,
Namino, Aso City
Tel: 090-1876-2947



Get activity information here!



Aso Information Center

An outdoor resort nestled
in majestic Aso

Glandome

With a vast site almost a square kilometer in size, this resort offers three types of accommodations, a BBQ area, a golf course, and plenty of stuff to do during your stay. The large glamping domes are designed in Scandinavian style and furnished with a special attention to detail.



Data

Kosugi Resort

Address: 2052 Otohime, Aso City
Tel: 0967-32-5565
(Accepting calls 10:00-17:00)
Open year-round
Rates: from ¥19,500 per night with 2 meals and hot spring (per person rate for 3-person dome) (Rates vary depending on each dome)



Heal Mind & Body on a Blissful Onsen Tour



Data

Address: 365 Uchinomaki, Aso City
Tel: 0967-32-0041
Hours: 10:00-19:00
Closed: Wed

Set of 3 items:
choice of fluffy "angel" or "devil" bread,
Aso natural ice cream, and a drink

neoAso



Aso City boasts plenty of hot spring area known your heart's consent in

high quality hot springs, centering on Uchinomaki, a as a favorite to many great writers. Heal yourself to the natural hot springs around Mt. Aso.

Otohime

Relax to your core in warm flowing waters Yurayura

Located in the Kosugi Resort, this private bath facility features free-flowing spring baths that are popular with all ages. Choose from 15 different rooms, including a Japanese-style bath with tatami mats, a bath with a slide, and special rooms (reservations required) with hot stone spa capsules and a private lounge. There are also special lunch plans that include bath admission and a natural food buffet.

Data

Address: 2052-3 Otohime, Aso City
Tel: 0967-32-5526
Hours: 11:00-25:00 (9:30-23:00 on Sun and holidays)
(Reception closes 1 hour prior to end time)
Price: Private baths from 2,000 yen Open year-round



Natural hot springs are the best healing Yume no Yu - Aso Bochu Onsen

Bochu

This municipal onsen was built using local lumber. The characteristic brown-tinged color of this iron sulfate spring leaves you feeling warm and toasty after your bath. Feel the freedom of bathing outdoors in the roofed outdoor baths! The large public bath also features an infrared sauna and cold water bath. Relax in the tatami-floored rest area after your soak. Free footbaths are also available.

Data

Address: 1538-3 Kurokawa, Aso City
Tel: Public bath: 0967-35-5777
Private baths: 0967-34-0021
Hours: Public bath 10:00-22:00 (last entry 21:30) Private baths: 14:00-22:00 (last entry 21:00)
Prices: Public bath ¥400 (elementary school students ¥200)
Private bath: ¥1,500
Closed: Public bath: 1st and 3rd Mondays (or next day if holiday)
Private baths: Mon.



Uchinomaki

A moisturizing dip in a bath cures all Aso Plaza Hotel

A staple of Uchinomaki Onsen established over half a century ago, the baths at Aso Plaza Hotel feature spring water that bubbles up from two springs on-site and offer great views of the Five Peaks of Aso. The Hobo no Yu on the 2nd floor of the annex is open to non-overnight guests. The spring is a mildly radioactive (sodium/calcium) sulfate spring that supposedly cures all ills. A relaxing soak in the hot spring will heal both body and soul.



Data

Address: 1287 Uchinomaki, Aso City
Tel: 0967-32-0711
Hours: 13:00 - last entry 16:00
Fee: Public bath ¥1,000 (¥1,000 for elementary school students, free for younger children)
Closed: Mon through Fri (only available on Sat, Sun, holidays)



A post-bath treat



A luxuriously chocolatey crepe plus a drink for ¥1,100

Data

Address: 625-1 Kurabaru, Aso City
Tel: 0967-34-0087
Hours: 11:30-16:00 (last order: 15:00) Closed: Wed

Chocolat Crepe at Chagura Cafe

Refreshing lemonade and rich soft serve made with Oguni Jersey milk are a hit!



Data

Address: 1284-2 Nagakusa, Aso City
Tel: 090-2969-1990
Hours: 10:00 - 17:00
Closed: No regular holidays (Closed during winter season)

Miu Milk soft serve and lemonade

Aso no Tsukasa Villa Park Hotel Yurari

Bochu

Based around the concept of universal design, this onsen facility features public and private baths with outdoor bathing areas. There are also wheelchair-accessible private baths, making it a space where all can feel at home.



Data

Address: 1230 Kurokawa, Aso City Tel: 0967-34-0811
Hours: 15:00 - 21:00 (last entry 20:00)
Prices: Public bath: ¥700 (¥350 for ages 3 and up), Private bath ¥2,000 + ¥700 (¥350 for ages 3 and up) (reservations required) Open year-round



Kamenoi Hotel Aso

Miyaji

This ryokan offers magnificent views of the foothills of the Five Peaks of Aso. Equipped with open-air baths, large public baths, sleeping baths, and barrier-free baths, visitors can fully enjoy all the benefits natural spring water brings.



Data

Address: 5936 Miyaji, Ichinomiya-machi, Aso City
Tel: 0967-22-1122
Hours: 11:00 - 21:00 (last entry 20:00)
Prices: Public bath ¥700 (¥300 for elementary school students) Open year-round



Aso-no-yu

Uchinomaki

An onsen ryokan full of character with baths that resemble old-school public baths. The waters are mildly alkaline and are great for your skin. Enjoy luxurious natural springs in the big public bath, outdoor baths, or private baths.



Data

Address: 6 Ozato, Aso City Tel: 0967-32-1521
Hours: 12:00 - 21:00 (last entry 20:00)
Prices: Public bath ¥500 (¥400 for 4 year olds to elementary school students, free for children under 3), Private bath ¥1,500 Closed: Tue



Irifune

Uchinomaki

This ryokan features two different types of spring water. There is plenty to enjoy, from indoor baths at two different temperatures, to outdoor baths with milky white water and two hot spring sources, plus five different private baths.



Data

Address: 834-2 Ozato, Aso City Tel: 0967-32-0781
Hours: 13:00 - 21:00 (reception closes at 20:00)
Prices: Public bath ¥600 (3 years old - elementary school ¥350), Private bath ¥1,500 and up. Closed: Wed, one other day each month



Daikanso

Uchinomaki

This onsen ryokan is supposedly the oldest in Uchinomaki Onsen. The spacious public bath is a natural hot spring and its gypsum/mirabilite-containing waters are said to be effective for ailments like rheumatism and nerve pain.



Data

Address: 246 Uchinomaki, Aso City
Tel: 0967-32-0999
Hours: 13:00 - 20:00 Closed: Mon
Prices: Public bath ¥500 (elementary school students ¥300, younger children free)



Volcanic activity means hot spring activity!

What Makes Aso Onsen Special

Aso is famous for its abundance of high quality hot springs. Uchinomaki Onsen is Aso's most famous hot spring area. The springs of Uchinomaki are high in iron, help moisturize your skin, and are known for their beautifying properties. Bathers love how Uchinomaki water leaves their skin feeling soft and supple. Make sure to visit one of the machiyu public baths frequented by the locals. These steaming waters that bubble up from the foothills of Aso are sure to cleanse both mind and body.



Check these out, too! More Onsen Spots in Aso City

🍷 **Yuraku Uchinomaki Onsen**
Address: 1126-1 Uchinomaki, Aso City
☎: 0967-24-6090
Hours: 13:00-22:00
Prices: Adult ¥400, Child ¥200, Private baths from ¥1,500

🍷 **Hotel Kadoman**
Address: 1095-1 Uchinomaki, Aso City
☎: 0967-32-0615
Hours: 15:00-22:00
Prices: 6 years and older ¥500, ¥300 for 3-5 years

🍷 **Unkai Yakushi Onsen**
Address: 39 Uchinomaki, Aso City
☎: 0967-32-0116
Hours: 10:00-21:00
Prices: Adult ¥300, Elementary school students and under ¥100

🍷 **Takarayu**
Address: 186-1 Uchinomaki, Aso City
☎: 0967-32-1563
Hours: 10:00 - 21:30
Prices: Adults ¥400, 3 years old - elementary school students ¥200

🍷 **Gogaku Hotel**
Address: 264 Uchinomaki, Aso City
☎: 0967-32-1151
Hours: 14:00-23:00
Prices: Adult ¥350, Child ¥200 yen

🍷 **Shichifuku Onsen**
Address: 1132 Uchinomaki, Aso City
Hours: 13:00-22:00
Fee: Adult ¥100, Child ¥50

🍷 **Kintoki**
Address: 1131 Uchinomaki, Aso City
☎: 0967-32-0038
Hours: 13:00-20:00
Prices: Adult ¥500 yen, Child ¥300

🍷 **Oaso**
Address: 135 Uchinomaki, Aso City
☎: 0967-32-0157
Open: 7:30 - 21:00
Prices: Adult ¥200, Child ¥100

Shikisai Landscapes of the Four Seasons

From colorful flowers, to green meadows, blankets of silvery grass, and a fantastic world of ice, Aso shows many faces throughout the year, each with different colors to enjoy.

spring

Grasslands Human hands have maintained the grasslands of Aso for centuries. Kusasenri is just a small part of the entirety of Aso's grasslands, which give the region a unique landscape and act as a habitat for Aso's diverse flora and fauna.

Sensuikyo

About 50,000 miyama-kirishima rhododendrons grow wild in this valley. The best time to see the flowers is from mid-May when they are in full bloom and cover the mountainsides in pink. The paths are well-maintained and crowded with tourists during the blooming season.

summer

Komezuka Komezuka is about 80 meters high and looks like an upturned rice bowl. Its unique shape was likely formed in an eruption about 3,300 years ago. The slopes are covered with young grasslands that are a vibrant green in spring and summer.

autumn

Autumn leaves at site of Matoseki Teahouse and Hayataka Tenmangu Shrine

This is the site of a mansion where the ruling Hosokawa clan rested on trips to the capital. The garden viewed from the approach to Hayataka Tenmangu Shrine and the autumn leaves reflected in the pond next to the temple are one of Aso's top autumn spots.

Unkai (sea of clouds)

If you're lucky, you may be able to observe the rare "sea of clouds" phenomenon from Milk Road, a road that runs along the north side of the Aso outer mountain ring. The view from Daikanbo, the highest peak on the northern Aso outer mountain ring, is breathtaking.

winter

Koga Falls

This waterfall consists of Otoko Falls (height: about 80 meters) and Onna Falls (height: about 100 meters). At the coldest parts of the year, the frigid winds from the Aso Valley freeze the falls, creating beautiful, delicate ice sculptures along the exposed rock face.

EVENT CALENDAR

● Noyaki (controlled burns)
Season: Late February to March

Noyaki is done throughout the Aso foothills and outer mountain ring.



● Cherry blossoms at Aso Shrine, Azaleas at Chojugaoka Park

Season: Aso Shrine: late March - early April, Chojugaoka Park: late April - early May



● Miyama-kirishima at Sensuikyo and Takadake

Season: Sensuikyo area: early to mid May, Mt. Aso: late May to early June, Takadake: early to mid June

● Lilies of the Valley in Namino

Season: Mid May

Pretty white lilies of the valley bloom in the highlands of Namino.



● Onda Matsuri
Dates: July 26 at Kokuzo Shrine, July 28 at Aso Shrine

This event prays for a good harvest and honors the gods of Aso for making the land arable and prosperous.



● Oaso Genki Walk
Dates: First Saturday and Sunday in September

Experience the people, nature, and townscape in the green and vibrant village of the Fire God.

● Tanomi Matsuri (Aso Shrine)
Date: September 25 and 26

Thanksgiving festival for rice harvest. Yabusame (horseback archery) is performed on the 25th.

● Kagura Festival
Date: First Saturday in October

About 10 groups from around Japan perform regional *kagura* together at Kaguraen at the Namino Roadside Station.

January

February

March

April

May

June

July

August

September

October

November

● Koga Falls illumination

Dates: Every Sat night from the 2nd Sat in January to the end of February every year

Koga Falls freezes over in midwinter. The waterfall looks totally different when lit up at night.



● Hifuri Shinji (Aso Shrine)

Date: The day of the monkey between the first day of the rabbit in March and the day of the boar

This is the wedding date of the gods. Bundles of thatch are lit on fire and spun in circles to welcome the goddess.



● Haru gentian and kisumire violets in Aso grasslands

Season: Spring gentian: early April to early May, Kisumire violets: early April to late April

● Nakae Iwato Kagura Performances

Dates: First Sunday of month from April to November (except October)
Nakae Iwato Kagura and Children's Kagura are performed at Nakae Kaguraden. (Free entry)

● Hana Aso Bi Spring Rose Festival

Season: Mid-May to mid-June
Free entry



● Namino Plateau Noryo Matsuri

Date: August 15

The festival is held at Kaguraen at Namino Roadside Station. The festivities also include fireworks.

● Oaso Hinoyama Matsuri

Date: Around August 20

Summer festival held in Uchinomaki with many food stalls and fireworks.

● Flowers in Namino buckwheat fields

Season: Mid- to late September



● Hana Aso Bi Autumn Rose Festival, Pampas grass on the Aso Panorama Line

Season: Hana Aso Bi: Mid October to mid November, Aso Panorama Line: early October to late November



Akaushi-don

Get a local taste of rare akaushi wagyu beef!

Aso's most famous dishes are: *akaushi-don*, a rice bowl topped with akaushi wagyu beef; *takana meshi*, fried rice with pickled takana greens; *dagojiru*, a hearty dumpling soup; and locally grown Namino soba. Be sure to try out these dishes while you're in Aso!

Try 'em all! Aso's Top 3 Local Dishes

Imakin Shokudo Uchinomaki

An Uchinomaki hotspot that's worth the wait!

This restaurant in Uchinomaki has been around for over 100 years and the locals still love it. What to order here is the *akaushi-don*, a bowl of rice topped with steak cooked rare. Mix in some soft-boiled egg for an even more sublime experience. There is usually a line outside even before they open, so be prepared to wait. They also offer other options like an akaushi hamburger steak meal and champon noodles.

Address: 290 Uchinomaki, Aso City
Tel: 0967-32-0031
Hours: 11:00-15:00
Closed: Wed



Aso Hanabishi Miyaji

This restaurant is located near Aso Shrine. The *akaushi-don* comes topped with an *onsen tamago* and comes with soup and housemade pickles. The Akaushi Aburi Gyukatsu-ju is also popular, featuring a healthy lean beef cutlet fried to perfection.

Address: 1861 Miyaji, Ichinomiya-machi, Aso City
Tel: 0967-22-0896
Hours: 11:00 - 16:00
last order
Closed: Tue



Gotoya Miyaji

Gotoya uses secret dashi soy sauce and Akaushi meat miso, made with Maboroshi no Miso from the long-established soy sauce maker Yamauchi Honten. Don't miss the *akaushi-don*, a fusion of healthy akaushi beef and traditional flavor.

Address: 3075-1 Miyaji, Ichinomiya-machi, Aso City
Tel: 0967-22-5080
Hours: 11:00 - 16:00 (last order 15:30) Closes early when out of stock
Closed: Tue, 3rd Mon



Yoka Yoka Tei - Sakanashi Honten Sakanashi

Yoka Yoka Tei offers Koseigyu beef, a prized brand of akaushi wagyu carefully raised Yoka Yoka Tei's own ranch. Koseigyu beef is elegant, mellow, and deliciously tender. The *akaushi* rice bowl comes with an *onsen tamago* (soft-boiled egg).

Address: 1400-1 Sakanashi, Ichinomiya-machi, Aso City
Tel: 0967-22-0917
Hours: 11:00-20:00
Open year-round



Iwasaki Otohime

Offering rare akaushi wagyu beef on a bed of rice topped with an *onsen tamago* (soft-boiled egg). Enjoy it a few different ways: first as-is, then with some of our original meat miso made in collaboration with Hamada Soy Sauce, then with wasabi and the egg mixed in.

Address: 2006-2 Otohime, Aso City
Tel: 0967-32-2677
Hours: 11:00-14:30
Closes when out of stock
Closed: Fri, 2nd Thu



Yayoi Miyaji

This restaurant has been loved by locals for over 70 years and is a great cozy spot to enjoy a meal. The *akaushi* wagyu cooked rare on a bed of lettuce matches perfectly with Yayoi's homemade special sauce. The meal includes miso soup and a side.

Address: 3079 Miyaji, Ichinomiya-machi, Aso City
Tel: 0967-22-0228
Hours: 11:00 - 21:00
Closed: Thu



Aso Calendrier Miyaji

An eight-course Kaiseki Akaushi-don meal is available at this restaurant on the first floor of Hotel Sun Crown Oaso. The Akaushi Koharuni-don can be enjoyed three different ways (with sauce, with broth, etc.).

Address: 4518-4 Miyaji, Ichinomiya-machi, Aso City
Tel: 0967-22-4823
Hours: 11:30-14:30
Open: Sat, Sun, Mon, holidays



A famous Aso dish that is simple yet addictively delicious!

Sanzoku Tabiji Bochu

This meal includes takana rice made with homemade pickled takana greens and sesame seeds, and *dagojiru*, a miso-based soup packed with vegetables. Items are also available a la carte, allowing you to fully enjoy all the flavors and aromas of Aso.

Address: 2127 Kurokawa, Aso City
Tel: 0967-34-2011
Hours: 11:00 - 15:00 last order
Closed: Wed (or next day if holiday)



Himeji Otohime

In addition to the combo meal of takana meshi made with house-grown Koshihikari rice and *dagojiru* made with flavorful vegetables and savory soup and dumplings, other sampler meals and the stewed horumon meal are popular.

Address: 1732-1 Otohime, Aso City
Tel: 0967-32-4252
Hours: 11:00-15:30 (last order 15:00)
Closes early when out of stock
Closed: Tue



Wakana Udon Bochu

This restaurant is wheelchair accessible and barrier-free. They use Aso Koshihikari rice to make their addictively delicious takana meshi. Both the udon and soba noodles are handmade in-house.

Address: 2140-4 Kurokawa, Aso City
Tel: 0967-34-2528
Hours: 11:00-17:00
Closes early when out of stock
Closed: Mon



Nagomino Sakanashi

The restaurant is decorated like an old home and serves *dagojiru*, a hearty soup filled with vegetables from the restaurant's own garden. The dumplings are known for their pleasantly chewy texture. The takana meshi, made with homemade pickled takana greens, is also popular.

Address: 569-7 Sakanashi, Ichinomiya-machi, Aso City
Tel: 0967-22-6570
Hours: 11:00-18:00
Closes early when out of stock
Closed: Mon



Namino Soba: Made with buckwheat grown in the Aso highlands with pure water

Namino Soba



Aromatic and delicious soba that can only come from a climate like Aso's

Iwatobiraki Namino

This restaurant is part of Namino Roadside Station. Here, harvested buckwheat seeds are dried, processed, milled, and made into noodles all in one location, making it possible to enjoy delicious soba all year round. Tempura made with fresh vegetables from Namino is also popular. Meals such as *katsudon* flavored with delicious broth are also available.

Address: 1602 Shochino, Namino, Aso City
Tel: 0967-24-2331
Hours: Market 8:00-18:00, Restaurant 11:00-15:30 (last order 15:00) Closed: 2nd Wed (except in May and August)



Uban Sakanashi

The store is run by Shiga Shokuhin, which makes and sells homemade pickles. The soba restaurant serves Kurumi Soba, a style of soba noodles made with walnut paste served in a rich, savory broth.

Address: 1435-1 Sakanashi, Ichinomiya-machi, Aso City
Tel: 0967-22-0515
Hours: 11:00-16:00 (last order 15:30; pickle shop open 9:00-17:00)
Closed: Tue (open if holiday); closed on one Wed a month



More Aso Gourmet!

In addition to local cuisine, you'll find bread, fried food, izakaya, cafes, and much more! Here are some more gourmet foods unique to Aso.

List of Hotels, Ryokan, and Guest Houses

Name	Phone	Address	Rooms	Prices, etc.
Asonoshiki	0967-22-3618	3030-2 Sakanashi, Ichinomiya-machi, Aso City	8	1 night, 2 meals: ¥14,000 and up
Aso no Tsukasa Villa Park Hotel & Spa Resort	0967-34-0811	123 Kurokawa, Aso City	219	1 night, 2 meals: ¥12,000 and up No meals: ¥10,000 and up
Asonoyu	0967-32-1521	6 Ozato, Aso City	11	1 night, 2 meals: ¥12,500 and up No meals: ¥7,000 and up
Aso Plaza Hotel	0967-32-0711	1287 Uchinomaki, Aso City	95	1 night, 2 meals: ¥14,300 and up
Aso Resort Graandvrio Hotel	0967-35-2111	1600-3 Akamizu, Aso City	180	1 night, 2 meals: ¥14,750 and up
Aso Hakuun Sansou	0967-35-0111	7-1 Muta, Aso City	66	1 night, 2 meals: ¥14,450 and up
Aso Hotel 1-Bankan, 2-Bankan	0967-32-0008	99 Uchinomaki, Aso City	99	1 night, 2 meals: ¥14,450 and up
Arumu no Mori	0967-32-4500	2083-115 Otohime, Aso City	5	1 night, 2 meals: ¥13,000 and up (no children elementary age and younger)
Irifune	0967-32-0781	834-2 Ozato, Aso City	7	1 night, 2 meals: ¥18,200 and up
Windy Umbrella	0967-32-3951	2132-102 Otohime, Aso City	4	1 night, 2 meals: ¥11,000 and up No meals: ¥5,500 and up
Ogasawara	0967-34-2000	2323 Kurokawa, Aso City	16	1 night, 2 meals: ¥18,850 and up No meals: ¥14,250 and up
Kakashi no Kakureya	0967-32-4111	2083-111 Otohime, Aso City	5	1 night, 2 meals: ¥12,150 and up
Kamenoi Hotel Aso	0967-22-1122	5936 Miyaji, Ichinomiya-machi, Aso City	66	1 night, 2 meals: ¥9,720 and up
Kintoki	0967-32-0038	1131 Uchinomiya, Aso City	32	1 night, 2 meals: ¥13,350 and up No meals: ¥7,000 and up
Gogaku Hotel	0967-32-1151	264 Uchinomiya, Aso City	42	1 night, 2 meals: ¥9,700 and up No meals: ¥6,500 and up
Hotel Crown Oaso	0967-22-3888	4518-4 Miyaji, Ichinomiya-machi, Aso City	15	1 night, 2 meals: ¥10,200 and up No meals: ¥4,700 and up
Syukubo Aso	0967-34-0194	1076 Kurokawa, Aso City	11	1 night, 2 meals: ¥14,000 and up
Shinwaen	0967-32-0330	1354 Uchinomaki, Aso City	12	1 night, 2 meals: ¥17,650 and up
Pension Snoopy	0967-32-4123	2070-1 Otohime, Aso City	8	No meals: ¥4,400 and up
Sozankyo	0967-32-0515	145 Uchinomaki, Aso City	20	1 night, 2 meals: ¥16,500 and up
Daikanso	0967-32-0999	246 Uchinomaki, Aso City	18	1 night, 2 meals: ¥14,450 and up No meals: ¥8,950 and up
Taizansou	0967-32-0631	1164-2 Uchinomaki, Aso City	13	1 night, 2 meals: ¥11,000 No meals: ¥5,500
Tsuruya Ryokan	0967-22-0102	1873 Miyaji, Ichinomiya-machi, Aso City	5	1 night, 2 meals: ¥27,000 and up No meals: ¥18,000 and up
Hokosugi-so	0967-32-0079	415-10 Uchinomaki, Aso City	12	1 night, 2 meals: ¥6,600 and up No meals: ¥5,000
Hotel Kadoman	0967-32-0615	1095-1 Uchinomaki, Aso City	103	1 night, 2 meals: ¥13,150 and up No meals: ¥7,000 and up
Moshimoshi Pierrot	0967-32-4112	2083-112 Otohime, Aso City	5	1 night, 2 meals: ¥12,250 and up
Yumeoi-sou	0967-32-0622	385-1 Uchinomaki, Aso City	94	1 night, 2 meals: ¥12,100 and up No meals: ¥9,900 and up
Asobei	0967-32-0381	1952-18 Otohime, Aso City	14	1 night, 2 meals: ¥15,000 and up No meals: ¥5,000 and up
Rokugatsu no Kaze	0967-24-6555	1884 Otohime, Aso City	2	Adults: ¥5,000
Taka no Sho	0967-32-5880	686 Ozato, Aso City	10	1 night, 2 meals: ¥23,000 and up
El Patio Ranch	0967-22-3861	2305-1 Sanno, Ichinomiya-machi, Aso City	4 (9 after April)	1 night, 2 meals: ¥8,250 and up

パン Bread

Bakery Genki



Bakery Genki offers a wide variety of breads, from standards like *shokupan* and baguettes to fruit-filled danishes and stuffed breads. The café space in the back offers a panoramic view of majestic Mt. Aso.

Address: 1015-19 Uchinomaki, Aso City
Tel: 0967-32-2462
Hours: 9:00-18:00
Closed: Mon (closed Tue if Mon is a holiday)



Richmond



Located near JR Miyaji Station and popular with all ages for its hamburgers and pizza toast and sweeter options like French toast and cupcakes.

Address: 4717-1 Miyaji, Ichinomiya-machi, Aso City
Tel: 0967-22-3849
Hours: 7:00-19:00
Closed: Sun



居酒屋 Izakaya



Makanaiya Matsu

The Caldera Plate, where cut akaushi steak is arranged like a caldera, is a perennial favorite. It comes with hayashi sauce made with plenty of local Aso tomatoes.

Address: 2311-5 Miyaji, Ichinomiya-machi, Aso City
Tel: 0967-22-1188
Hours: 11:00-15:00 last order (last order at 14:00 on Mon),
17:30-20:00 last order
Closed: 1st Mon and Tue *Open only for lunch on Mondays



Murakami Shoten

The interior of the restaurant has a distinctly retro atmosphere where you'll find old-fashioned dishes like choboyaki, ham cutlets, and neapolitan. They also offer ramen as a tasty way to end to your meal.

Address: 217 Uchinomaki, Aso City
Tel: 090-7472-8916
Hours: 18:30-22:30
Closed: Wed



唐揚げ Karaage

Yoshida Karaage



Offering karaage, potato tempura, eggplant tempura, and more. The karaage is perfectly crispy with just the right amount of salt!

Address: 1246-43 Miyaji, Ichinomiya-machi, Aso City
Tel: 0967-22-1217
Hours: 10:30-18:00
Closed: Thu



Shopping Fujita



Juicy karaage made with young herb chicken. The karaage are fried-to-order and come in a choice of fried with *panko* or potato starch.

Address: 216-3 Otohime, Aso City
Tel: 0967-32-0302
Hours: 7:00-18:00
Closed: Sun



Morimoto Kashiwa



The crispy garlic-soy sauce flavor breaded karaage are popular. Choose from either bone-in or boneless.

Address: 11-1 Uchinomaki, Aso City
Tel: 0967-32-1181
Hours: 9:00-17:00
Closed: No regular holidays



カフェ Cafes



Tien Tien

Features great menu items like Curry with Coarse Minced Akaushi Beef with Seasonal Steamed Vegetables and Grilled Akaushi Beef Salad Bowl. Accessories and boutique items are also available.

Address: 3204 Miyaji, Ichinomiya-machi, Aso City
Tel: 080-6406-8133
Hours: 11:30-17:00
Closed: Wed and Thu



Kusasenri Coffee Roastery

This café overlooks Kusasenri, one of Aso's most popular tourist attractions, and offers pour over coffee, lattes, and cappuccinos.

Address: 2391-15 Nagakusa, Aso City
Tel: 080-3519-5151
Hours: 10:00 - 17:30 (last order: 17:00) (Subject to change depending on season and weather)
Closed: No regular holidays



Fees may vary depending on the number of people using the room.



Here are some special Aso items that you might want to pick up or have delivered home!

Souvenirs from Aso



Aso's finest, world-renowned Drinkable Yogurt

Just milk and Sensoto sugar (mildly sweet sugar) slow fermented and aged. The natural taste of the milk really shines through, earning it the highest rank of three stars by the iTQI (International Taste Institute).

01

Abe Farm



02



A quality daily drinker Aso Sansou Tea

This caffeine-free mountain herb tea is a blend of 17 different kinds of mountain herbs, centered around Aso corn. Each pack is filled with pesticide- and chemical fertilizer-free wild grasses from Aso.

Aso Yakusoen



03



So good with rice!

Pickled Aso Takana

This pickled takana is made by hand with local and domestic ingredients using traditional methods. Thanks to Aso's unique climate, Aso Takana develops a crunchy texture and spicy flavor. It makes for tasty takana onigiri or as a snack to enjoy with a drink.

Kenzo (Eto Processed Foods)



04

Chocolate that erupts like Mt. Aso! Nakadake Chocolat

This fondant chocolat has mochi in it and, when microwaved for about 10 seconds, the surface expands as if it were erupting.



Kashin Nakamura



05

Gold medal winner in Germany Bacon, Sausages, Ham

Made with an original blend of spices, spring water from Aso, and natural salt with no preservatives or coloring agents. Awarded gold at the SÜFFA Processed Meat Awards in Germany.

Hibari Factory



07

Artistic dried flowers Floral Swags

Dried flowers are great for decoration and relaxation. Peony offers a diverse selection of dried flowers, including small bouquets, basket arrangements, swags, and other floral arrangements. Arrangements can be made to order as well.

Peony



06

Takana seeds transformed into mustard Aso Takanade

Aso Takana is a traditional vegetable that grows only in the Aso region. This mustard is made from takana seeds and a traditional mix of rice vinegar and local Amakusa salt. This innovative product is a new way to enjoy takana!



Aso Sato Farm



08

Healthy donuts made with ingredients from Aso Donuts

Donuts made with local ingredients such as okara from the local Kimura Tofu Shop and milk from Abe Farm. The dough is made without butter and fried in rice oil, giving the donuts a light texture.



Marugo Donuts

Address: 1415-5 Kurokawa, Aso City
Tel: 0967-24-6660 Hours: 11:00-18:00
Closed: Mon and Tue Not available for mail order

Aso's Souvenir Stops & Ordering Site

● Aso Roadside Station

Address: 1440 1 Kurokawa, Aso City
Tel: 0967-35-5088
Hours: 9:00-18:00 Open year round



● Kaguraen Namino Roadside Station

Address: 1620 Shochino, Namino, Aso City
Tel: 0967-24-2331
Hours: 10:00-19:00 Closed: 2nd Wed.



Scan here to order! →

asomo

An online store where you can order from Aso's famous stores and fine Aso products made according to authentic methods and traditions.



Aso A treasure trove of superb views

The Five Peaks of Aso resembling a reclining Buddha. A sea of clouds filling the entire Aso Valley.

Surrounded by a caldera, Aso is a treasure trove of spectacular scenery. Please come visit Aso and enjoy the breathtaking views you can only see here.



Views of the Aso cityscape and Five Peaks of Aso

Kusasenri Overlook



This spot overlooks Kusasenri, one of the symbols of Aso. The volcanic smoke from the Nakadake crater can be seen from this elevation of 1,100 meters. Many tourists visit with their cameras to capture the stunning scenery. The lush green grassland and ponds formed when it rains are a beautiful sight that should not be missed.

Data Kusasenri Overlook
Address: Nagakusa, Aso City
Parking: Yes



Daikanbo

This 936-meter-high overlook lies on the northern outer rim of the Aso Caldera. The view from here is spectacular and the Five Peaks of Aso seen from here supposedly resemble a reclining Buddha. Under the right conditions, you may even see the rare "sea of clouds," where a layer of clouds fills the valley and only the mountain tops are visible. There is also a souvenir store and a restaurant at Daikanbo, and it is a popular spot for star gazing.

Data Daikanbo
Address: Yamada, Aso City (Aso Daikanbo Tea Shop)
Hours: 8:30-17:00
Parking: Yes



Kabutoiwa Overlook



This overlook lies along Route 339 (Milk Road) on the west side of the north outer rim of the caldera. The spot offers panoramic views of the Five Peaks of Aso and the Aso Caldera, and is a good spot to see the sea of clouds in the morning. There is also a restroom next to the store, making it a convenient stopover on a road trip. The store sells souvenirs and refreshments.

Data Kabutoiwa Overlook
Address: Nishikoazono, Aso City (Kabutoiwa Overlook Shop)
Hours: 9:00-16:30
Parking: 40 cars



Shiroyama Overlook



This overlook is located along the Yamanami Highway connecting Ichinomiya-machi, Aso and Yufuin, Oita. Located on the 748-meter-high outer rim of the Aso caldera, it faces the Five Peaks of Aso and overlooks the townscape of Aso below. The sunset here is beautiful and, if you are lucky, early in the morning from spring to autumn you may glimpse the sea of clouds.

Data Shiroyama Overlook
Address: 2351 Mino, Ichinomiya-machi, Aso City
Open 24hr Parking: 15 cars



Ogidake Overlook



From the overlook at the top of Mt. Ogidake, there is a magnificent 360-degree panoramic view of the Five Peaks of Aso to the west, the Kuju Mountains to the north, and the mountains of Sobo to the south. The Furusato Nature Trail is easy enough for beginners and is a great hiking spot. Asahi Inari Shrine is located near the summit and is marked by a series of red torii gates.

Data Ogidake Overlook
Address: Nakae, Namino, Aso City
Parking: Yes



ASO CITY MAP



Getting to Aso

From Kumamoto City



Train

JR Hohi Main Line, Local for Oita
Kumamoto Station - Aso Station (approx. 1hr 40min), Kumamoto Station - Miyaji Station (approx. 1hr 55min)

JR Hohi Main Line, Trans-Kyushu Express
Kumamoto Station - Aso Station (approx. 1hr 15min), Kumamoto Station - Miyaji Station (approx. 1hr 25min)



Bus

Kyushu Sanko: Yamabiko Limited Express (for Oita)
Kumamoto Ekimae - Aso Ekimae (approx. 1hr 50min), Kumamoto Ekimae - Miyaji Ekimae (approx. 1hr 55min)

Kyushu Sanko: Kyushu Odan Bus (for Kurokawa Onsen, Yufuin, Beppu)
Kumamoto Ekimae - Aso Ekimae (approx. 1hr 50min), Kumamoto Ekimae - Uchinomaki (approx. 2hr 10min)

From Fukuoka



For visitors by car

It takes about 1hr 20min from Fukuoka IC to Kumamoto IC. After getting off at the Kumamoto IC, drive north on Route 57 for about 50 minutes to Aso City. It takes about 50 minutes from Fukuoka IC to Hita IC. After getting off at the Hita IC, drive south on Route 212 for about 1 hour and 40 minutes to Aso City.



For visitors by train

Take a train on the JR Kagoshima Main Line from Hakata Station to Kumamoto Station. Transfer to the JR Hohi Main Line and get off at Aso Station or Miyaji Station.

From Aso Kumamoto Airport



For visitors by car

Take Route 36/Route 443 north and turn right at Ozu onto Route 57. It takes about 30 minutes to Aso City.



For visitors by bus

From Aso Kumamoto Airport, take the Yamabiko Limited Express (Kyushu Sanko Bus) bound for Oita to Aso Station. Takes about 60 minutes.



Times to Aso Kumamoto Airport

- From Haneda Airport about 1hr and 55min
- From Narita International Airport about 2hr and 10min
- From Kansai International Airport about 1hr and 20min
- From Chubu International Airport about 1hr and 25min

>>> For tourism inquiries about Aso

Aso City Tourism Association Website



- Aso Information Center
TEL.0967-34-1600
- Ichinomiya Information Center
TEL.0967-22-8181

Aso City Website



- Aso City Tourism Division
TEL.0967-22-3174
- Aso Roadside Station (Aso Denen Kukan Museum & General Information Center)
TEL. 0967-35-5077

Aso Roadside Station Website

