



Tsunoshima Island
This island offers spectacular views of the cobalt-blue sea and white sands. The sunset and the stars at night are also gorgeous. Part of the island is in Kita-Nagato Kaigan Quasi-National Park, and the Tsunoshima Island Bridge (1,780 meters long) which links the island with the mainland has become a famous film and TV commercial location since it opened in 2000. (Traveling to Tsunoshima Island) 70 min. drive from Shimonoseki I.C. (expressway entrance / exit) or 30 min. by bus from JR Takibe Station to "Hotel Nishi-Nagato Resort Higuchi" and 3 min. walk.



The food of Shimonoseki

Fugu (blowfish)
Shimonoseki boasts the largest blowfish handling in Japan. Throughout the year, you can enjoy a variety of fugu dishes in the city's restaurants, including sashimi, hotpot, kara'age, sushi, soups, rice porridge, rice topped with fugu, and hot sake flavored with fugu fins.



Kawara soba
This unique dish from Shimonoseki can be enjoyed mainly in the Kawatana Onsen district. Soba noodles made with matcha aromatically prepared on a searing hot roof tile are enjoyed with beef, egg ribbons and green onions dipped in steaming hot dashi.

Cultural experiences in Shimonoseki

Fugu (blowfish) cooking experience
At "Fuku Rakusha" near Japan's top fugu market "Haedomari," you can prepare fugu under the supervision of a professional chef and eat it on the spot. (Neutralized fugu is used.)

Matcha
You can have matcha at the "Chofu Mori Residence" and "Chofu Garden" in the castle town of Chofu where you can sense the ambiance of Japan.

Fishing
At "Kuroi Tourist Fishing Pond" and the "Fishing Park," even beginners can enjoy fishing casually.

Golf
There are golf courses that offer ample facilities, food, and low pricing.

Karato Market
Located along the Kanmon Strait, the fish market attracts ordinary citizens as well as those in the food service industry. It is very popular on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and holidays when food stalls offering sushi, seafood bowls and deep fried dishes prepared with fresh seafood open for business.

Tonchan Nabe
Shimonoseki's regional dish is a hotpot of offal and vegetables cooked in a sauce made of authentic Korean spices.

Soft serve ice cream
You can enjoy soft serve ice cream in a variety of flavors, including pear, strawberry, wakame seaweed, tomato, and sea urchin at tourist facilities and roadside stations in the city.

A treasure-trove of seafood
Surrounded by the sea on three sides, Shimonoseki is a city of marine products blessed with an abundant fishing ground and fishing port.

Soba/tofu-making experience
You can get a taste of making soba and tofu at Toyota Agricultural Park "Minori no Oka".

Fruit picking
Places: Toyoura-cho, Toyota-cho, Hohoku-cho, etc. You can pick and eat seasonal fruits such as mandarin oranges, apples, grapes, and strawberries, as well as the local specialty pears. Availability: pears & grapes (Sep.) mandarin oranges (mid Oct. to early Dec) apples (late Aug. to late Nov.) strawberries (mid Apr. to early May)

Onsen (hot springs)
The city is dotted with hot spring towns which have been enjoyed since old times, hot springs with spectacular sea views, and those in the mountains.

Events & Festivals

5 May The Shimonoseki Strait Festival
This festival held every year on May 3rd and 4th is based on an actual historical event that took place in the Kanmon Strait. The Festival reenacts various historical events associated with Shimonoseki. These include the "Parade of court ladies of the Sentei (Former Emperor) Festival", the sea parade and the "Samurai Parade", which are all depicting important events during and after the war.

6 June Tour de Shimonoseki
This cycling event is appealing for its scenic course which takes cyclists through the coastline and leafy roads.

6 June Toyota Firefly Festival and Firefly Boats
When: Late May to Early June Place: Toyota-cho Area This festival is held in early summer when the light of the fireflies is the most beautiful. You can enjoy a firefly bus tour and a variety of staged events. A spectacular dance of fireflies can be seen from Japan's first "firefly boats" while slowly traveling down the river.

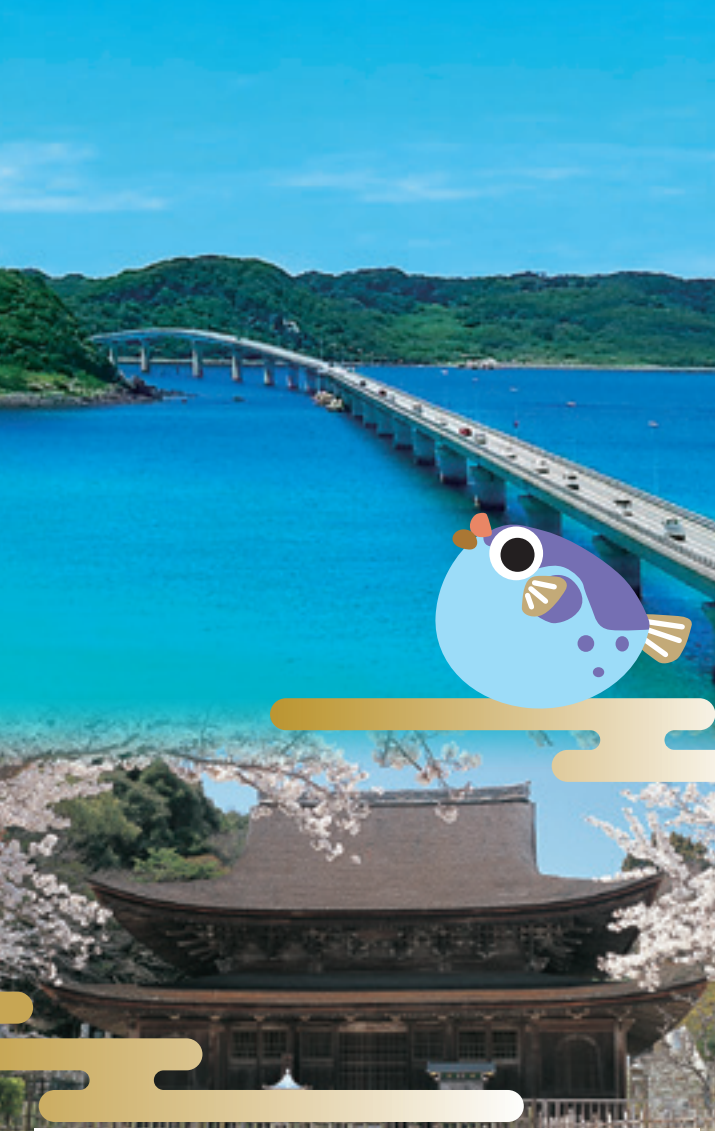
8 August The Strait fireworks
A splendid fireworks display is staged by shooting around 15,000 fireworks into the night sky from both banks of the Kanmon Strait on August 13th every year. The sea reflects the mesmerizing fireworks to form a unforgettable scene. (The event is still held on a rainy day but is cancelled if there is severe weather.)

10 October Toyoura Cosmos Festival
When: Early to Mid October Place: Refresh Park Toyoura This festival is held while a million cosmos flowers bloom. It offers a range of programs, including the Cosmos Maze and a horse-riding experience.

11 November Shimonoseki Kaiyō Marathon
A very popular marathon event in Japan which takes participants along the Kanmon Strait.

SHIMONOSEKI SIGHTSEEING GUIDE

Welcome to Shimonoseki



The information provided is current as of March 1, 2023.

Shimonoseki City Tourism Policy Division
TEL: 083-231-1350 FAX: 083-231-1853
<https://shimonoseki.travel>



Around Shimonoseki Station

The area around Shimonoseki Station is the center of Shimonoseki. There is an observatory tower that commands panoramic views of the city, the Green Mall where people can feel Shimonoseki's history with Korea, and many stores and restaurants. It is about a 5 minute walk from Shimonoseki Station to the international ferry terminal. The terminal is connected to Busan, Korea. Shimonoseki Station is connected to everywhere in Japan, such as Kyushu in the south and Tokyo in the east. You can get on the Shinkansen (bullet train) from Shin-Shimonoseki Station, which is located two stations away from Shimonoseki Station.

Legend:
 H Accommodation, B Bank, C Coin Locker, P Post Office, WC Restroom, D Drug Store, S Special Needs Restroom, P Public Phone, C Convenience Store, P Parking Lot, 100 100-yen Shop, B Bus Stop, ? Tourist Information, R Car Rental

Karato Area

This area is famous for delicious foods using fresh seafood from the Karato market. The waterfront developed a long time ago as people and goods travelled into and out of Karato Pier. This is still a very popular sightseeing location with many restaurants and stores. It takes about 10 minutes by bus or 30 minutes on foot to travel from Shimonoseki Station to the Karato Area.

Kameyama-hachimangu Shrine, Fugu (blowfish) statue
 7min. bus ride from Shimonoseki Sta. to Karato and 5min. walk. This is the largest Fugu (blowfish) statue in the world. This is a symbol of Shimonoseki city, which has the largest blowfish handling in Japan.

Kanmon Pedestrian Tunnel (Mojji Entrance)
 12min. bus ride from Shimonoseki Sta. to Mimososogawa. You will not find many pedestrian tunnels that go under the ocean like this one. This tunnel is 780m long and it takes about 15min. to get to Kyushu. Free admission. There is a tunnel for automobiles above the pedestrian tunnel.

Sino-Japanese War Peace Treaty Memorial Hall
 10min. bus ride from Shimonoseki Sta. to Akama-jingu Mae and 2min. walk. The furniture in the conference room where the peace treaty of the Sino-Japanese War was signed in 1895, is exhibited here. The Hall is a registered cultural property of Japan because the exhibition of furniture is related to the imperial family and the design of the building is unique. Free admission.

Monument commemorating the landing of Saint Francis Xavier in Shimonoseki
 The monument was established to commemorate the landing in Shimonoseki of Francis Xavier, a Spanish who was the first to spread Christianity in Japan.

Castle town, Chofu

By the 7th century a feudal government had already been formed in Chofu. It is a historic town with many old stories stretching back thousand of years. We recommend strolling around the town, enjoying the cherry blossoms in the spring and changing leaves in the fall. It is a 23-minute bus ride from Shimonoseki Station. Be sure to get off the bus at the "Jokamachi (Castle town) Chofu" stop.

National Treasure, Kozanji Temple
 23min. bus ride from Shimonoseki Sta. to Jokamachi Chofu and 10min. walk. The Buddhist stupa is the oldest Zen Buddhist style architecture in Japan. A national treasure - it was built during the Kamakura Period (in 1320) and is a representative building of the wooden Zen Buddhist architecture. It has a significant meaning in the history of the Religious architecture. The Kozanji Temple also witnessed many historical events. Free admission. To enter Shoin, you must pay ¥300.

Chofu Mori Residence
 23min. bus ride from Shimonoseki Sta. to Jokamachi Chofu and 10min. walk. It was built in 1903 by Mototoshi Mori, the feudal lord at the time. The Meiji Emperor stayed here once. The imposing main building and pure Japanese style garden surrounded by white mud walls remind people of a bygone era. It offers a tea service, and people can use it as a rest place during the season. Furthermore, in the gallery of the former storehouse, various exhibits are held. Admission fee: ¥200

Chofu Garden
 20min. bus ride from Shimonoseki Sta. to Shirtsu Bijutsukan Mae. It is a traditional Japanese garden which includes the residence sight of high ranking samurai of the Chofu Mori clan. In an approximately 31,000 m² area in front of a small hill, there is a ston (drawing room), chashitsu (tea ceremony room), and a creek, centered around a pond. You will enjoy strolling from season to season. Furthermore, in the gallery of the former storehouse, various exhibits are held. Admission fee: ¥200

Shimonoseki City Art Museum
 20min. bus ride from Shimonoseki Sta. to Shirtsu Bijutsukan Mae. The Museum exhibits a variety of ancient oriental artwork and excellent pieces of local artists as well as great paintings from both inside and outside of Japan. Admission fee: Adults ¥210, University students ¥100, Elementary / junior high / high school students free. (Except for special exhibits) AM9:30 - PM5:00 (Admission is until 16:30.) Closed on Mondays (if Monday is a holiday, it is open) and year-end and beginning of the year.

Seamall Shimonoseki
 Next to Shimonoseki Station Integrated shopping center (Specialty shops, Department Store Daimaru) The mall offers restaurants, fashion stores, beauty stores and a ¥100 Store. You can also find commemorative gifts of Shimonoseki city and Yamaguchi prefecture.

Kaikyo Yume Tower
 7min. walk from Shimonoseki Station The Tower is 153m, one of the tallest in western Japan. The view of the Kanmon Strait from the top of this Tower is splendid. On the observatory floor, there is also a coffee shop. Admission fee: Adults ¥600, Children (elementary, junior high school) ¥300 (AM9:30 to PM9:30)

Shimonoseki Marine Science Museum "Kaikyō-kan"
 5min. bus ride from Shimonoseki Sta. to Kaikyokan Mae and 3min. walk. This place offers a lot to see, including a water tank that can replicate the tidal current of the Kanmon Strait, an "ocean tunnel" in the water tank that people can walk through, and exhibitions of many blowfish from around the world. You can also enjoy dolphin and sea lion shows. In the Penguin Aquarium, which contains the world's largest swimming pool (water volume 700 t and water depth 6 m max.), live about 140 pretty penguins (5 types). In the "Temperate zone", you can have a close view of their nests. In the "Subantarctic zone", you can enjoy watching the penguins swim. They swim majestically as if they were flying.

Haikara's Yokocho
 5min. bus ride from Shimonoseki Sta. to Kaikyokan Mae and 2min. walk. Haikara's Yokocho is an amusement park with a 60 meter high Ferris wheel.

Former Akita Co., Ltd. Building (Pictured right)
 7min. bus ride from Shimonoseki Sta. to Karato and 1min. walk. Being built in 1915, it was used as an office as well as residence for Akita Co., Ltd.

Shimonoseki Nabecho Post Office (Pictured left)
 It was built in 1900. It is the oldest existing western style building in Shimonoseki. It is also the oldest post office that is currently in use in Japan. It has a gallery and courtyard which has the atmosphere of the time when the building was built.

Shimonoseki City Museum of History
 23min. bus ride from Shimonoseki Sta. to Jokamachi Chofu and 10min. walk. You can learn out about the history and culture of Shimonoseki at the museum. It houses and exhibits artifacts and documents with a focus on the Chofu Mori family and the Restoration period at the end of the Edo period. Permanent collection: Adults ¥210, students ¥100 9:30-17:00 (Last admission 16:30) Closed on Mondays (open if Mon. is a holiday) end of the year and New Year holidays.

Boat Race Shimonoseki
 3min. walk from Chofu Station The public race is operated by Shimonoseki City. The speed of the boats hurtling across the water and the exhilarating sound of the motor are gripping. Even novices can enjoy the race as betting starts at ¥100.

Shimonoseki Motorboat Race
 Sun Yat-sen Lotus

Green Mall
 2min. walk from Shimonoseki Station Green Mall, which is located 200 m north of Shimonoseki Station, has many vendors that handle Korean food and specialty products. You can enjoy shopping in a homey atmosphere. There are some tax-free stores on the street.

Shimonoseki Port International Terminal
 7min. walk from Shimonoseki Station This is the entrance to the international port city, Shimonoseki, where ferries to and from Busan arrive and depart. There is a ferry once a day to Busan.

Ganryujima Island
 10min. boat ride from the Karato Pier On this island, there was a famous battle between Miyamoto Musashi and Sasaki Kojiro to determine the best swordsman in 1612. The Book of Five Rings "Gorin-no-sho", which was written by Miyamoto Musashi, is now translated into English and is known around the world. There is a ferryboat to and from the Karato Pier. Fare: Roundtrip Adults ¥900 Children ¥450

Hinode Hot Spring
 10min. walk from Shimonoseki Station It is the only natural hot spring around Shimonoseki Station. This spring type is classified as "simple hot spring". It can be helpful for neurological pain, muscle ache, joint pain, etc. PM3:00 - PM10:00 (Closed Monday) (Fee) Adults ¥450, Children (elementary) ¥160, Infant (under 5) ¥80

Karato Market
 7min. bus ride from Shimonoseki Sta. to Karato and 3min. walk. You will enjoy shopping, centered around fresh fish, which you can only experience in a fishery city like Shimonoseki. On Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, and national holidays, a temporary gourmet market is held and is very popular with tourists. The top floor is filled with a grassy lawn. You can relax there while watching the view of the Kanmon Strait.

Kamon Wharf
 7min. bus ride from Shimonoseki Sta. to Karato and 2min. walk. This place has a restaurant area where you can enjoy Shimonoseki's signature delicacies such as "Fugu (blowfish)", "Uni (sea urchin)", and "Anko (anglerfish)". There is also a shopping area which sells various products such as freshly processed fish products and souvenirs. You can enjoy majestic view of the Kanmon Strait.

Akama Shrine
 10min. bus ride from Shimonoseki Sta. to Akama-jingu Mae. This shrine is dedicated to Emperor Antoku, who drowned after his defeat in a battle that divided Japan in half about 830 years ago. It is characterized by the red color of the Setonai National Park. The Setonai in May is well known as a gorgeous and spectacular festival. Free admission/Closed on Tuesdays (open if Tue. is a holiday)

Mount Hinoyama
 12min. bus ride from Shimonoseki Sta. to Mimososogawa and 5min. walk. Mount Hinoyama is a view point within Setonai National Park. From there, you can enjoy the soothing movement of the various ships in the background of Kanmon Bridge during the day. At night, you can enjoy a beautiful night view sometimes called "the night view worth 10 million dollars".

Mimososogawa Park
 12min. bus ride from Shimonoseki Sta. to Mimososogawa. The ocean in front of the Park is the narrowest part of the Kanmon Strait. The strait's current is at its fastest there and the stream changes four times a day. The Kanmon Bridge that connects the Honshu Island and Kyushu Island is located right across the Park. You can enjoy watching the various sizes of the 700 ships coming and going, a representative scenery of the Kanmon Strait.

Discount Bus Ticket

Sanden 1 day Pass
 Unlimited ride available on all local bus route in Shimonoseki for one day. Ticket price: Adults 1,000yen Children 500yen Ticket office: Shimonoseki Sta. Tourist Information Center Shin-Shimonoseki Sta. Tourist Information Center Shimonoseki Sta. Bus Ticket Office Karato Sta. Bus Ticket Office

SUNQ Pass
 SUNQ Pass holders can take unlimited ride on most of the expressway / local buses and some boats in both Kyushu and Shimonoseki within the designated period. Ticket prices: Northern Kyushu + Shimonoseki: 3 days, ¥9,000 All Kyushu + Shimonoseki: 3 days, ¥11,000 All Kyushu + Shimonoseki: 4 days, ¥14,000 Ticket office: Shimonoseki Sta. Bus Ticket Office

Yamaguchi Bus Pass
 Unlimited-ride bus ticket within Yamaguchi Prefecture for foreign tourists. Ticket prices: 1 day, ¥2,000 2 days, ¥4,000 3 days, ¥5,000 Ticket office: Shimonoseki Sta. Bus Ticket Office

Accommodations		
1 Ryokan Sumire	Tel.083-222-3191	15 Kinraku Ryokan
2 Prince Hotel Shimonoseki	Tel.083-232-2301	16 Kiraku Ryokan
3 Hotel Wing International	Tel.083-235-2111	17 Karato Central Hotel
4 Shimonoseki Station Hotel	Tel.083-231-2225	18 Super Hotel Premier Shimonoseki
5 VIA INN Shimonoseki	Tel.083-222-6111	19 Shimonoseki Grand Hotel
6 Shimonoseki-Eki Nishi Washington Hotel Plaza	Tel.083-261-0410	20 Ryokan Shunpanro
7 Smile Hotel Shimonoseki	Tel.083-233-0111	21 uzuhouse
8 Green Hotel Shimonoseki	Tel.083-231-1007	22 Ryokan Hatagoya Danoura PA Branch
9 Ryokan Tenkai	Tel.083-222-3676	23 Ryokan Mimososogawa-bekkan
10 Dormy INN Premium Shimonoseki	Tel.083-223-5489	24 Ryokan Genpeiso
11 Toyoko INN Shimonoseki Kaikyo-yume-tower Mae	Tel.083-234-1045	25 Shimonoseki Hinoyama Youth Hostel
12 Yufuku Ryokan	Tel.083-231-0029	26 National Hotel Kaikyo View Shimonoseki
13 Plaza Hotel Shimonoseki	Tel.083-223-3333	27 Manjuso
14 Sky Heart Hotel Shimonoseki	Tel.083-232-0001	

How to get on a train (JR Shinkansen, local line)

There are automatic ticket machines at the station. Please buy a ticket to your destination and get on the train. If you are using a Shinkansen or rapid express train, please purchase the ticket at the "ticketing office" in the station.

How to get on a bus

You pay the bus fare when you get off. First check the route and schedule. When you get on the bus, please take the numbered ticket from the ticketing device which is located either on the left or right side of the bus entrance, depending on the type of bus. The fare is based on the distance traveled and is displayed together with the ticket numbers on the screen mounted on the upper left side of the driver's seat. When you get off, please check your fare price on the screen and insert the fee with the numbered ticket into the fare box as you leave.

Shimonoseki Station Loading Zone

1 to Chofu, Ozaki
 2 to Ube, Akoyoshida, Nagato
 3 to Ayayagi, Yessuoka, Yutakamachi
 4 to Shin-Shimonoseki Sta., Heda, City Circuit, Hatabu Sta.
 5 to Suwayama, Takao Line
 6 to Hikoshima(Nahiyama)
 7 to Hikoshima(Tourai)
 8 to Boat Race Shimonoseki, etc.
 Any bus will go to Karato from Bus Stop 1, 2, 3, and 4.

SUNQ Pass 全九州 中下関

Yamaguchi Bus Pass