



Resources for foreign tourists

Tourist Information Center

① Kochi prefecture "i" information center
2-10-7 Kita Honmachi, Kochi City
TEL.088-879-6400
8:30-18:00

(In the Kochi Prefecture Tourism Information-
Disseminating Center "Tosaterasu")

② Kochi Tourist Information Center
2-1-25 Obiyamachi, Kochi City
TEL.088-856-8670 FAX.088-856-8675
10:00-18:30



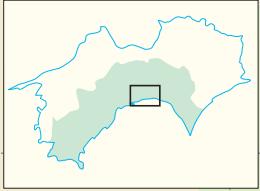
あ Kochi Guide book

Kochi General Tourist Information

WELCOME TO KOCHI!



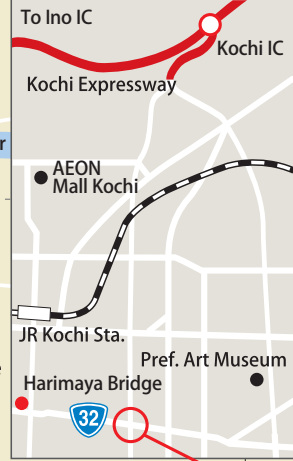
MAP A Kochi Pref. Central Area



MAP B Kochi City Central Area

- Accessible Toilets
- Coin Lockers
- Shrine
- School
- Post office
- Tourist information center

500m



A: Bus Loading Zone, Kochi Sta.

Kochi-eki Bus Terminal

Bus Ticket Booth

JR Kochi Sta.

Train Loading Zone

Pedestrian Bridge

To Harimaya Bridge

My Yu Bus (Godaisan / Katsurahama Course)
[My Yu Bus Contact]
Kochi Visitors & Convention Association
Tel.088-823-1434

B: Bus Loading Zone, Harimaya Bridge

Central Park

Harimaya Bridge

↑ To Kochi Sta.

Dentetsu Terminal Bldg.-mae

↑ To Pref. Gov. Bridge

↑ To San-bashi

A Sakai-machi
For Katsurahama, Nagahama
For Race Track, Haruno
For Kochi Sta., Med. Univ., Tai

B Sakai-machi
For Takaoka, Usa, Susaki
For Ino, Iwameji

C Dentetsu Terminal Bldg.-mae
For Kochi Ryoma Airport
Express Bus (All Services At Kochi Sta.)
For Aki
My Yu Bus (Godaisan, Katsurahama Courses)

D Minami-Harimayabashi
For Katsurahama

Shikoku Bank

Minami-Harimayabashi

Hitsuzan Park

Resources for foreign tourists

Kochi International Association

4-1-37 Honmachi, Kochi City TEL.088-875-0022/FAX.088-875-4929
8:30-17:15
(Closed on Sunday, National holidays, Saturdays in August and during New Year holiday season)

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2-1-25 Obiyamachi, Kochi City TEL.088-856-8670/FAX.088-856-8675
10:00-18:30

Smoking is prohibited around Kochi Station, Ote-suji, the Central Shopping Mall, and City Hall. Please refer to the Kochi City Environmental Policy Division's homepage for details.

Tosa Fiefdom and Samurai Culture

Sakamoto Ryoma

Ryoma paved the way in the transition from feudal times in Japan to the Meiji constitutional government, and then to today's democratic republic.

On November 15, 1835, near the end of the Edo period, Ryoma was born to a low-ranking samurai engaged in small business. Although he was shy and cried easily when he was young, he defined himself through the practice of Japanese swordsmanship. In 1861, he joined the Tosa Loyalist Party (Tosa is the old name for Kochi). After many incidents, including exchanges with like-minded samurai of other clans and becoming a disciple of Katsu Kaishu, a vassal of the shogun, he decided to leave the clan and discard the restrictive status of clan samurai. He accomplished many historic achievements that led to the structure of modern Japan, such as founding the trading company and private navy Kameyama Shachu, as well as forming the Satsuma-Choshu Alliance and restoring imperial rule in Japan. On November 15, 1867, he was assassinated at the Omiya Inn in Kyoto along with his sworn friend, Nakaoka Shintaro. He was 33 years old. Three months after his death, the new Meiji government was established. Ryoma's humility, his principle of living according to his beliefs, and his fearlessness in the face of change still do not fail to attract the hearts and minds of many people even to this day.



Spectacular Katsurahama

MAP A4-E

The glistening blue ocean reflects dazzling sunshine at Katsurahama, where there are colorful stones on the beach with white sand and green pines lining the coast. A statue of Sakamoto Ryoma stands on a hill, inviting visitors to this charming land that is famous for having a beautiful moon. There is also an aquarium by the sea, which has sea lion shows, and a souvenir center, where Kochi souvenirs are available.

Access

30 minutes by car
from the Kochi Station
OR Local bus headed for
"Katsurahama" from Minami
Harimayabashi bus stop.
OR MY Yu Bus (see pg. 16). Get
off at "Katsurahama".



The Sakamoto Ryoma Memorial Museum

MAP A4-E

This Memorial Museum introduces the life and promotes the image of Sakamoto Ryoma. Located on a hill in Katsurahama Park, from where a sweeping view of the Pacific Ocean can be seen, it also serves as an information center for documents related to Ryoma.



Statue of Sakamoto Ryoma

MAP A4-E

Built in 1928 through the nationwide fund-raising efforts of Kochi youths, this magnificent statue conveys the achievements of Ryoma to future generations. Here he is dressed in traditional Japanese clothing and western boots as he gazes at the Pacific Ocean and conceals his hand.

Ryoma's Birthplace Memorial Museum

MAP B1-C



Located in Kamimachi, where Ryoma was born and raised, this museum introduces Ryoma's boyhood years through images, audio, and CG. Many visitors take pictures sitting next to the seated Ryoma statue. "Pendoku", a multilingual audio guide, is available for easily understandable explanations of exhibits in four languages: English, Chinese, Taiwanese, and Korean.



Access

15 minutes by streetcar from Kochi Station,
get off at Kamimachi 1-chome



Kochi Castle



MA P E2-B

Access

10 minutes by streetcar from Kochi Station. Get off at Kochijo-mae, and walk for 5 minutes.

Construction of Kochi Castle, which towers above the center of Kochi City, was started in 1601 by the first lord of the Tosa Clan, Yamanouchi Katsutoyo. It is nationally designated as one of Japan's Important Cultural Properties. Only three castles in Japan have both their main keep and main gate still intact, and Kochi Castle is the only one where both can be easily photographed in one shot. The main keep commands a panoramic view of Kochi City. Around the castle grounds there are statues of Lord Yamanouchi Katsutoyo and his wife Chiyo, who is famous for her support behind the scenes. There is also a statue of Itagaki Taisuke, who was the leader of the Liberty and People's Rights Movement.



Getting around the City



➔ Harimaya Bridge

MA P E4-B



The Harimaya Bridge is known for the sad story of a love affair between a monk named Junshin and a woman named Ouma, and it is one of the most famous tourist spots in Kochi. In 2009, a movie entitled "The Harimaya Bridge" was released. From the four sides of the automaton clock on the opposite side of the street, a group of dancers, as well as the Harimaya Bridge, Kochi Castle, and Katsurahama appear in time with the melody of the Yosakoi song. It is illuminated at night.



Automaton Clock
9:00 - 21:00 (every hour on the hour)
※Does not operate in heavy weather.

➔ Streetcars

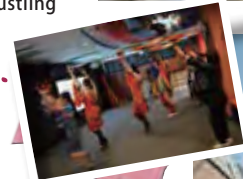
Streetcars are a popular method of transportation for the citizens of Kochi. The Tosa Electric Railway streetcars are the oldest existing in Japan, and many people take photographs of them. Kochi streetcars also have the longest set of railways of any streetcars in the country, and they are useful for downtown sightseeing. Streetcars from Germany, Norway, and Austria, and other special streetcars are available for rent to groups. The sound of streetcars is a symbol of the bustling city.



➔ Kochi Yosakoi Museum

MA P E5-B

Once you enter, be sure to head left to the "Yosakoi Circle" first. Here you can learn about the basics and history of the festival. Afterward, pass through the "Yosakoi Tunnel" to the "Yosakoi Square." In the theater and hands-on corner, you can experience the joys of the Yosakoi festival yourself.



Let's go to Sunday market

MA P B3 ~4 -B

Access

10-minute walk from Kochi Station.

Sunday Market, which has a history of over 300 years, is an important market for Kochi's citizens. As many as 500 open booths are lined in a row eastward from Kochi Castle for about 1km, displaying all kinds of goods from rarities to everyday items, including fresh vegetables, fruits, seafood, and antiques. It is recommended that you go in the morning while there are still a lot of items.

[Market Hours]

(including preparation time for opening and closing)

April to September: 5:00 - 18:00

October to March: 6:00 - 17:00

Closed on January 1 and 2, and during Yosakoi Festival (August 10 - 12)



Experience Nature

Kochi's rich nature, with the majestic Pacific Ocean in the south and the deep mountains in the north, is full of sights to be seen. Visit them at your leisure.



Access

20 minutes by car from Kochi Station. OR MY Yu Bus (see pg. 16). Get off at "Mt. Godai Observation Deck", "Makino Botanical Garden", or "Chikurinji Temple".

➔ Mt. Godai MAP A5- D

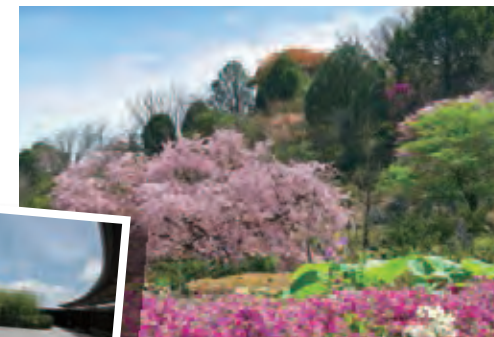
Mt. Godai is situated in the southeast part of Kochi City, and it is famous for cherry blossoms and azaleas. You can get a great view of the city from the mountain's observation deck, and it is also a famous spot for a night view.



➔ Makino Botanical Garden

MA P A5- D

Makino Botanical Garden was opened in memory of Makino Tomitaro, a world famous botanist. There is a section introducing his life and a project exhibition room in the exhibition pavilion. There are also restaurants and shops that adults and children alike can enjoy. The buildings are built mostly out of wood, seeming to be in harmony with Mt. Godai. You can also enjoy different plants in the garden each season.



➔ Chikurinji MAP A5- D

Why don't you adopt the heart of a traveler and become an "Ohenro-san", or pilgrim, and visit Shikoku's eighty-eight sacred temples? You will be able to encounter beautiful nature and human warmth. Chikurinji is the 31st temple on the holy pilgrimage.





Kochi's Famous Yosakoi Festival

Yosakoi was started in Kochi in 1954 to help shore up the ailing economy and to encourage local citizens. It then spread not only throughout Japan, but also throughout the whole world. In Kochi City, where Yosakoi originated, the festival is held every year at 17 different venues for four days starting on the evening of August 9th, which is the Pre-Festival Show. Approximately 190 teams totaling almost 20,000 dancers participate in the main part of the festival on August 10th and 11th. Each team presents a creative and energetic dance, and their unique costumes, music, and choreography envelop the whole city in the Yosakoi Festival. On the 12th, the Post-Festival Show and the Yosakoi National Contest are held. Please visit Kochi and experience this festival, where the sound of wooden clappers resounds throughout the city.

[Pre-Festival Show]

Date: August 9
Venue: Chuo Koen ("Central Park")

[Main Festival]

Date: August 10 and 11
Venues: There are many sites for competition and performance around Kochi City, including Otesuji

[Post-Festival Show/Yosakoi National Contest]

Date: August 12
Venues: Otesuji, Chuo Koen, Obiyamachi Arcade, and Kochi Castle



Yosakoi National Contest

Yosakoi has spread to more than 200 places throughout Japan, and each region has its own unique characteristics. In the Yosakoi National Contest, teams participating from around the country and award-winning teams from the main festival compete against one another.



Kochi City Summer Evening Fireworks

Kochi City holds a fireworks display every year the evening before the Main Yosakoi Festival with approximately 4,000 fireworks of various types.

Date: August 9

Venue: Midori-no-hiroba (Green Square)





Enjoy Hirome Market

MA P 3-B

There are seven sections in Hirome Market, such as "Castle Square" and "Ryoma Street", which hold many unique shops such as fish vendors, butchers, sundries shops, clothing stores, and restaurants. Everyone buys food separately and then sits and eats together at the tables and chairs that are placed throughout the market. After you are done eating, the staff will collect your dishes. You can eat, drink, and shop to your heart's content. At Hirome, locals and tourists alike can be found sharing tables and friendly conversation while enjoying the festivities from morning to late evening.



Access

10 minutes by streetcar from Kochi Station.
Get off at Ohashidori.

[Hours]

Weekdays, Saturdays, & National Weekdays: 10:00 - 23:00
Sundays: 9:00 - 23:00
(Operating hours and off days are different from shop to shop)



Rich Food Culture

We are proud of Tosa food culture, cultivated by nature and rich tradition.



⇒ Katsuo (Bonito)

Kochi Prefecture boasts of having the highest consumption of katsuo in Japan. There are a variety of ways to eat it, but "katsuo no tataki" is the most representative of Kochi. It is prepared by searing the katsuo briefly, then slicing and seasoning it with green onion or myoga (Japanese ginger). Since each shop and region has its own seasoning or special sauce, you can savor a variety of flavors. "Shio tataki", seared katsuo served hot with salt, is one popular variety.



⇒ Hat bread

This hat-shaped bread was created in Kochi. The top part of the hat is soft, and the brim is crispy, sweet sponge cake. It is available at most bakeries in Kochi.



⇒ Imo Kenpi (sweet potato sticks)

This snack is made by frying sweet potatoes and sprinkling them with sugar. They are crisp and sweet and have a taste you won't ever get tired of.

⇒ Inakazushi (sushi from the countryside)



This healthy dish is made with fresh, seasonal ingredients. These ingredients change based on the region and season, but they include many local vegetables such as bamboo shoots and shiitake mushrooms.

⇒ Fruits

Some famous Kochi citrus fruits are buntan (pomelo), konatsu orange, and ponkan (Chinese honey orange). They are bright yellow, juicy, and sweet.



⇒ Aisukurin (derived from ice cream)



Aisukurin, a Kochi specialty, has a texture between ice cream and sherbet. It has a low fat content and a pleasant aftertaste. It is popular for its old and familiar flavor, and it is often sold at tourist spots like Katsurahama.

A Taste of Sake Culture

Living up to the name "Tosa, land of sake", Kochi Prefecture is known as a place where men and women of all (legal) ages enjoy sake. Kochi has a variety of locally brewed sake rich with regional flare that is characterized as transparent with a crisp and dry flavor that never gets old. Kochi also has unique banquet games such as "Hashi Ken" and "Beku Hai", which are not seen in other regions.



酒

⇒ Hashi Ken (game using chop sticks)



This traditional Tosa enka game is played by two people and involves guessing the number of chopsticks hidden in the sleeve of the opponent's outstretched arm. The loser has to drink sake, making the game more heated as the players become drunker.



⇒ Kiku No Hana (chrysanthemum flower)

In this game, many sake cups are placed upside down, and a chrysanthemum is placed under one of the cups. Each player has to flip over one cup in turn. If you lift the cup under which the flower is hidden, the cups already turned over will be filled with sake, and you have to drink all of them! This enka game is really brutal!

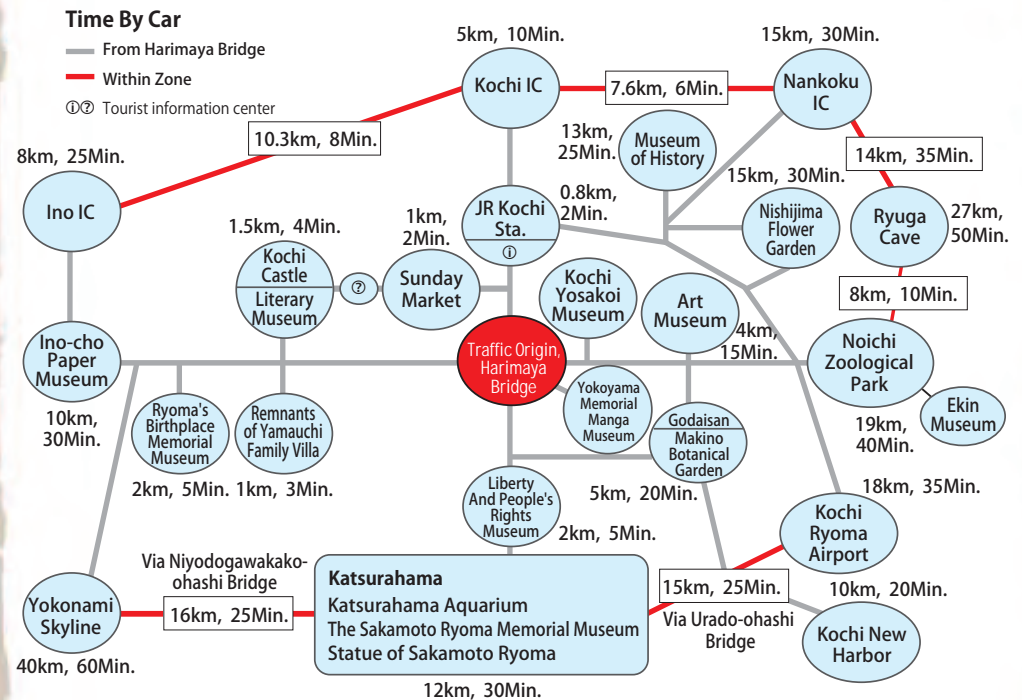
⇒ Beku Hai (cups that cannot be put down until the sake inside has been finished)



Players of Beku Hai, another traditional enka game, spin a top and drink from the cup indicated on the upward facing side of the top when it falls. The bottoms of the cups are hard to balance, and one has a hole in it, so you cannot put them down until you finish the sake inside.

Sightseeing Transportation Guide for Kochi City

Distance Map For Vicinity Of Kochi City



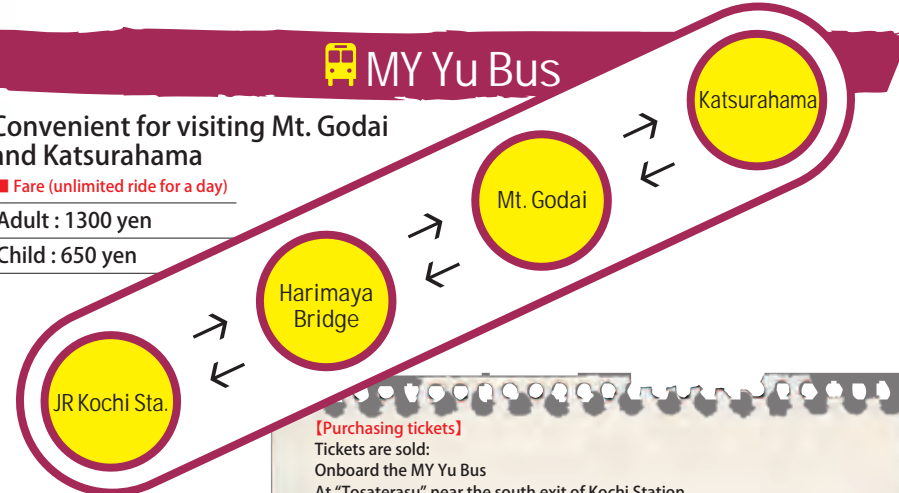
MY Yu Bus

Convenient for visiting Mt. Godai and Katsurahama

■ Fare (unlimited ride for a day)

Adult : 1300 yen

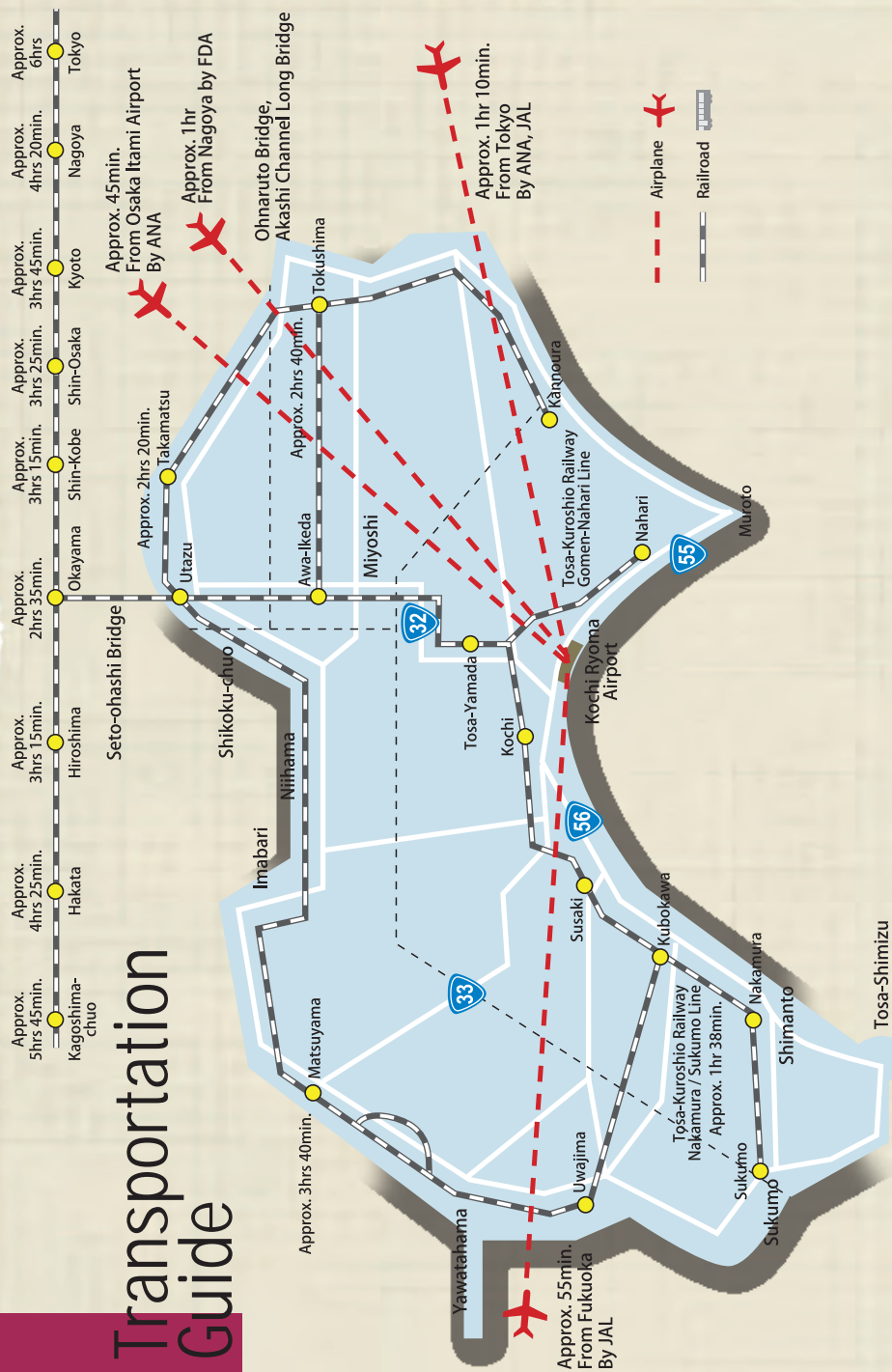
Child : 650 yen



[Purchasing tickets]

Tickets are sold:
 Onboard the MY Yu Bus
 At "Tosaterasu" near the south exit of Kochi Station
 At the Kochi Station Bus Terminal near the north exit of JR Kochi Station
 At designated inns and hotels
 At ticket offices (midori-no-madoguchi)/Warp Plazas in JR Shikoku stations

Transportation Guide



Tourist Facilities Guide

Name	Address/contact	Open	Charge	Closed/Remarks
Terada Torahiko Memorial Museum	4-5 Ozu-cho, Kochi City Tel.(088) 873-0564	9:00~17:00	Free	Wednesday December 27 – January 3
The Kochi Prefectural Makino Botanical Garden	4200-6 Godaisan, Kochi City Tel.(088) 882-2601	9:00~17:00	Adult:730 yen;Free for high Group rate:630 yen for 20 or more people	December 27 – January 1
Remnants of Yamauchi Family Villa	1-3-35 Takajo-machi, Kochi City Tel.(088) 832-7277 (Kochi City Hall Civil Rights and Cultural Assets Division)	7:00~17:00	Free	Open all year ※May be temporarily closed
Kochi Castle Kaitokukan (tenshukaku)	Inside Kochi Castle, 1-2-1 Marunouchi, Kochi City Tel. (088) 824-5701	9:00~17:00	Adult: 420 yen; Free for high school student and younger	December 26 – December 31
OTEPIA Kochi Library	2-1-1 Otesuji, Kochi City Tel.(088) 823-4946	9:00~20:00 (Saturday / Sunday 9:00~18:00)	Free	Mondays(or the next day if Monday is a Holiday) December 27 - January 4 3rd Friday of every month
Okawa-suji Samurai Residence Museum	2-2-15 Okawa-suji, Kochi City Tel.(088) 871-7565	9:00~17:00	Free	Wednesday December 27 – January 3
Ryoma's Birthplace Memorial Museum	2-6-33 Kamimachi, Kochi City Tel.(088) 820-1115	8:00~19:00	300 yen Free for high school student and younger	Open all year (With guide to surrounding historic sites by a volunteered tour guide)
Yokoyama Memorial Manga Museum	Kochi City Culture Plaza Cul-Port, 2-1 Kutanda, Kochi City Tel. (088) 883-5029	9:00~18:00	Adult: 410 yen Free for high school student and younger	Monday (open on holiday and makeup holiday) December 28 – January 4
Kochi Yosakoi Museum	1-10-1 Harimaya-cho, Kochi City Tel.(088) 880-4351	10:00~18:30	Free	Wednesday December 29 – January 1
Katsurahama Aquarium	778 Urado, Kochi City Tel.(088) 841-2437	9:00~17:00	Adult: 1,600 yen; Senior/junior-high student: 600 yen; Elementary school student: 600 yen Infant (age 3 and older): 400 yen	Open all year
The Sakamoto Ryoma Memorial Museum	830 Urado-shiroyama, Kochi City Tel. (088) 841-0001	9:00~17:00	Permanent exhibition Adult: 500 yen; Free for high school student and younger	Open all year
Kochi Liberty and People's Rights Museum	4-14-3 Sanbashi-dori, Kochi City Tel.(088) 831-3336	9:30~17:00	Adult: 320 yen; Free for high school student and younger	Monday (or the next day if Monday is a Holiday) December 27 – January 4
Wan Park Kochi	6-9-1 Sanbashi-dori, Kochi City Tel.(088) 834-1890	9:00~17:00	Free Playground equipment usage fee once 200 yen ~	Wednesday (or the next day if Wednesday is a Holiday) December 28 – January 1
The Museum of Art, Kochi	353-2 Takasu, Kochi City Tel.(088) 866-8000	9:00~17:00	Permanent exhibition Adult: 370 yen; College student: 260 yen Free for high school student and younger	December 27 – January 1 ※May be temporarily closed
Hamaguchi Osachi House	4377 Godaisan, Kochi City Tel.(088) 832-7277 (Kochi City Hall Civil Rights and Cultural Assets Division)	9:00~16:00	Free	Wednesday December 27 – January 3
Kochi City Tanaka Ryosuke Former Residence Museum	381 Shibamaki, Kochi City Tel.(088) 823-9457 (Kochi City Hall Tourism Promotion Division)	10:00~17:00	Free	Monday - Thursday December 27 – January 3
Kochi City Haruno Folk Museum	340 Harunocho Nishibun, Kochi City Tel.(088) 894-2805	10:00~18:00 (Saturday / Sunday 10:00~17:00)	Free	Every Monday/ holiday/20th of every month December 28 – January 4

The contents are subject to change