# Hidden Japan Iya Valley Oboke Gorge

Experience this otherworldly place, teeming with natural wonders, home to legends and adventure, and where old world charm awaits.





Convenient multi-lingual guide with listening explanations for Oboke / Iya

Miyoshi Travel App Free







## Self-Guided Walking Tours

One of the best ways to experience the area would be to get out of your vehicle and see some sights on foot. All the places below are great spots for exploring on your own. Detailed maps and area information are available at each location, found at places with the \* symbol. Approximate total time to explore



#### Climb Mt. Tsurugi for a Panoramic View

Starting at Minokoshi\*, take either the chairlift half-way up, or choose to climb the whole route. If you walk, the first section will be under a canopy of maple trees which is lovely in the autumn. Either way, be sure to stop by the Otsurugi Shrine where you can taste the mountain's renowned spring water. When you finally crest the broad summit you can enjoy the breathtaking view from various spots, or even choose to hike further to one of the neighboring peaks. Large huts\* on top offer meals and



#### **Stroll Along Ikeda's Historic Streets**

From JR Awa-Ikeda Station\*, head down through the old covered arcade and then cross the main road to enter the old town. The streets here are lined with a mix of newer buildings and traditional "Udatsu" architecture. Be sure to stop at the Ikeda Tobacco Museum\* which is set in a lovely old house, and have a break within the small courtyard garden here. Side-streets branch out here and there and are worth exploring. while heading north from the small red-roof shrine leads to the peaceful Suwa Park, 1-2 hours



#### **Seek Out Eerie Yokai Monster Statues**

Start at the YOKAI House\* in the Roadside Station Oboke\*, go 200 meters down Rt 32 and turn left onto Rt 272 where the first statue appears on the corner here. Follow Rt 272 through the narrow side valley and try to spot all the statues along here (about ten total). Turning at the first left to go over the bridge will lead you to a couple more. Back on Route 272, you'll eventually reach Fujinosato Park (about 2km from start) for the last statue. A longer version with more statues is also possible. 1.5-2 hours



#### Traverse the Old Iya Highway By Foot

Starting in central Nishi-Iya, follow the valley's original road of Rt 32 northward into lyakei to enjoy the gorge's magnificent view points, including the impressive "Hi-no-Ji" Bend. Later, take a break at the Iya Onsen\* to ride the cable car down for a riverside bath, and then continue on to the dizzying Peeing Boy Statue overlook. Follow the curvy hillside road further down through thick forest and past other gorge viewpoints to Deai bus stop. 4-5 hours (Buses travel this route as well if you wish to shorten the trip.)



#### **Experience Nature at Kurozo Marshland**

Walk out from the parking area\* and follow the loop path to the right out into the main marsh. Depending on the season you will see different flowers in bloom. Various birds make their home here, as well as a large range of butterflies. The sound of croaking frogs fills the air, and in the summer the cicadas are also buzzing. Different side paths lead off for further exploration while others criss-cross the marsh. On the far end, a trail leads down to/from the Matsuogawa Onsen\*. Picnic points are



#### **Explore Ochiai Mountainside Village**

From the bottom, follow the old stone footpaths up into the village, passing by the small terraced farm plots as you see the residents go about daily life. Visit the historic Nagaoka-ke house\* to walk through a traditional lya residence, and then climb further to Sansho Shrine and take a break under its cool old-growth cedar trees. Continue up the various paths more. where the view gets better with every step as the thatched roofs of the Togenkyo-lya cottages peek out here and there. Every season offers its own unique scenery. 1.5-3 hours

#### Workshops Connect with local people through hands-on learning experiences!

#### ①Traditional Soba Making ②Henro Soba Making



Learn how to make the famous Iya Soba. Historically, Iya Soba has been given to Henro With this class you can experience the whole process including grinding the buckwheat by stone mortar, kneading out the dough by hand, and cutting the noodles. Then feast on what you made. No experience needed to enjoy

Contact: Tsuzuki Atelier ☎0883-88-5625 Fax:0883-88-5415 Prior reservation of at least 3 days needed. (pilgrim) travelers, and with this class you can including mixing and kneading the dough, rolling it out, and cutting up noodles. After eating what you've made, you'll be given a

Contact: SunRiver Oboke 20883-84-2111 Prior reservation of at least 2 days

#### **3Wild Game Sausage Making 4Konnyaku Making**



Learn how to make real wild game sausage from deer hunted in the Iya Valley. Under the guidance of a master mountain chef you can experience the whole process, including mincing the meat, seasoning and stuffing, and then cook/smoke what you made. Afterwards, gorge on your results!

Contact: Nakochi 2090-9831-7522 Prior reservation of at least 7 days By using indigenous Japanese vams, learn the process of making konnyaku (yam cake). The locally grown yams are prized in this region, and by following a time-honored process passed down through generations, you can make this traditional countryside delicacy in a lovely natural setting.

Contact: Kirisako Village ☎0883-86-1115 Prior reservation of at least 3 days

MAPCODE \*357 450 522 \* 00





MAPCODE 357 077 599 \* 14

TODE 357 271 010 \* 20

MAPCODE 357 172 497 \* 07

# Miyoshi Quality

Taste the bounty of offerings from the unspoiled mountains and rivers, as the time-honored local cuisine includes wild game and macrobiotic delicacies. Throughout Japan, this region is known for its hearty, natural flavors.



As the Iya Valley is an area renowned for growing buckwheat, the short, thick hand-made soba noodles that are ground with a stone are a famed culinary delight. Feel the warmth of this





#### Hirara Yaki

Cooked on a large flat stone or griddle, a wall of miso paste encloses a robust stew of river trout, tofu, and vegetables. This unique aromatic feast is indigenous to Iya, and able to be reserved at some accommodations.



#### Omiki-nabe

The base for this local hot-pot is a mix of sake, miso, and soy sauce, and served with Tokushima area pork and Shikoku Sake Festival (mid-February)



#### Iya-konnyaku, Iwa-dofu, Goshi-imo

The culinary bounty of the Iya Valley farms is sure to excite those who appreciate pure flavors. The local konnyaku (yam cake) is firm and hearty, the famous "iwa-dofu" (stone tofu) is so dense that a large brick of it was traditionally carried by a single strand of rope, and the chewy "goshi-imo" (potatoes) are valued for their solid consistency.

'he YOKAI Menu

Special dishes based on local monster legends!

Satisfy your sweet-tooth

Yokai Sweets



#### Heike Gozen

This traditional boxed set neal of local farm products eatures recipes that date back to the ancient days of the Heike, with the offerings ased on what the season



#### Deko Mawashi

This uniquely lya offering onsisting of a thick slice of nyaku yam cake, a hefty cube of "stone" tofu, and a dense local ootato, all skewered together, slathered with miso, and slow asted around a fire.



Also referred to as "gibier" in Japanese (taken from the French term for wild game), in Miyoshi City this is a traditional fare, as the deep mountains have been superb hunting grounds since long ago. Wild boar and deer are the styles throughout the area.

deep and hearty.



Grilled Ayu and Amego

The local "ayu" sweetfish and

"amego" river trout are taken

Please contact the Miyoshi City Tourist Office for more information. ☎0120-404-344



\*The products and foods listed above are available at various places.



#### Yokai-Zukushi

This set includes the "One-Eved Rice Bowl" which features a fried egg atop a heaping serving of grilled wild boar and "stone" tofu, as "Yokai" tea that was picked and processed i

Named after the legendary

people to a realm of lethargic gluttony, this potent ramen noodle

soup is decked with hunks of boar meat and wild mountain sprouts.

A large variety of packaged

products using the natural,

local offerings are also available, including river fish,

mountain sprouts, fruit, and honey. Indeed, Miyoshi City

For inquiries, contact: Restaurant Mannaka ☎0883-84-1211

# Miyoshi Specialties

#### Souvenirs of Miyoshi

For more information, please check here: Miyoshi Specialty Web Shop www.miyoshi-yamabiko.jp



These cute bite-sized little treats are a specialty with a long tradition in Ikeda. Made of sweet bean ielly. they come in a variety of shapes

Traditional Sweets





The local soy sauce is for those who can hand-made tastes



Miyoshi sake uses the area's natural ingredients, creating an exquisite taste



evered by aficionados.



Bamboo Arts

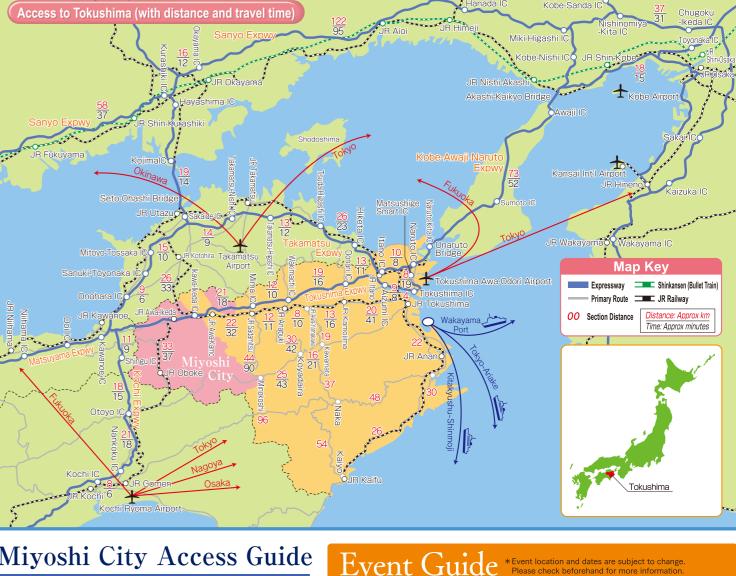
Using only natural bamboo, fine detail, and delicate Miyoshi City has a rich history of producing hand-made sweets. craftsmanship, creations Including fish-shaped cakes filled with sweet bean paste and traditional ring cakes, these simple but pure flavors are popular with local people.



Ippin" specialty set ffers a variety of local foods featuring the area's authentic flavors. Great for vourself or as a



Terminal in Ikeda. Open daily 10:00-19:00 for souvenirs and tourist info. Food and drink corner open 10:00-18:40



#### Miyoshi City Access Guide

Necessary Travel Time

#### JR Train o From JR Tokyo ·JR Okayama······ · JR Awa-Ikeda About 5 hrs o From JR Shin-Osaka ·······JR Okavama······ JR Awa-Ikeda About 2 hrs 30 min JR Awa-Ikeda About 1 hr 30 min o From JR Okayama o From JR Tokushima JR Awa-Ikeda About 1 hr 10 min o From JR Takamatsu JR Awa-Ikeda About 1 hr o From JR Kochi JR Oboke About 1 hr From JR Matsuvama ··JR Tadotsu··· JR Awa-Ikeda About 3 hrs o From JR Awa-Ikeda JR Oboke About 20 min

●Car ·····				١
$\circ \operatorname{From} \operatorname{Kobe}$	·····Tokushima······	Awa-Ikeda	About 2 hr 30 min	
○ From Okaya	ma7ontsuji	Awa-Ikeda	About 1 hr 40 min	

#### • From Airport (by car) o From Kochi Ryoma Airport to Oboke ·· About 1 hr 20 min From Takamatsu Airport to Awa-Ikeda o From Tokushima Awa-Odori Airport to Awa-Ikeda ··About 1 hr 20 min

\*From Awa-Ikeda to Oboke is about 40 minutes by car

2145-1 Machi, Ikeda-cho, Miyoshi City, Tokushima, Japan 778-0002

●Highway Bus ·····	•••••
From Osaka ·······Awa-Ikeda Bus Terminal	
○ From Kobe ······Awa-Ikeda Bus Terminal	About 3 nrs

TEL 0883-72-7620 FAX 0883-76-0203

Shiozuka Highland Field Burning

See the highlands flare up in bright red! For one night each spring, a fire-line is set alight to help pr and support natural vegetation. The controlled flame crawls act the hills like a fiery snake. An amazing sight!



Yokai Festival Late Novembe Celebration in the hometown

local Yokai monsters among the autumn leaves includes a portable Yokai shrine, a Yokai parade, and even a Yokai band!

Iya Fusuma-karakuri, traditional Japanese sliding screen stage art

Enjoy the nostalgic comfort with this refined performance, on the



#### Yukigassen Shikoku Tournament Last weekend of January

winner going to the national championship. Your passions will burn



Ikeda Awa-Odori Festival

Awa-Odori dance is renowned for its ardor. Join the fun!

Miyoshi Nagayoshi

gust 14-16 (with opening party on the 13th

Parade Farly Nove

This festival includes lots of warrio



Shikoku Sake

open their doors for tours. Not a time for teetotaling!

•Inquiry



**Miyoshi City Tourist Information** Tourist sites in Miyoshi City **OBOKE IYA TOURIST** 000120-404-344 **NAVIGATION** Miyoshi City Office Tourism Strategy Division

https://miyoshi-tourism.jp/en/





This pamphlet was created based on information as of May, 2020



# Oboke • Iya Active Area

#### This scenic region is recommended by the Michelin Green Guide

World-class attractions and activities abound in the Oboke / Iya area, which is filled with dramatic valleys and majestic views. The breathtaking road through Iyakei with the emerald waters of the Iya River flowing below is praised by travel specialists, including the Michelin Green Guide. Crossing the famed Iya-no-Kazurabashi Vine Bridge brings a thrill to anyone, while those looking for more adventure can go rafting down the torrents of the Yoshino River as it blasts through the stunning Oboke Gorge.



#### Unkai (Hachi-go-Giri) "Sea of Clouds"

The valleys in and around Oboke through which the Yoshino River flows offer a rare natural phenomenon called unkai, which means "sea of clouds". Also referred to locally as hachi-go-giri, this awe-inspiring cloud formation occurs in the early mornings (7AM or before) when the fog settles into the valley, and if seen from above it looks like an expanse of ocean with the mountain tops peeking out like islands. Most common when the seasons change in March and April, as well as from October to December, there are several recommended viewing points for those who wish to witness this amazing sight.

(Unkai viewpoints are marked on the map with this symbol: 5)



#### 24 Iya-no-Kazurabashi (Vine Bridge)

One of Japan's Three Strange Bridges, the astounding Kazurabashi suspension bridge is made of local vines and is a nationally designated Important Cultural Property. Legends say that the ancient Heike

residents made such bridges in order to easily cut them away if pursued by invading warriors. Rebuilt every 3 years and stretching 45m long, 2m wide, and swaying 14m above the river below, walking across the creaking vines of this back-country marvel will surely make your heart pound!

Contact: Miyoshi City Tourist Information 20120-404-344 (For car navigation, use this number: 0883-87-2200) Location: 162-2 Zentoku, Nishi-Iya, Miyoshi City Entry fee: Adults 550 yen, Children 350 yen





#### 25 Oboke Gorge · Koboke Gorge

The steep canyons formed by the rushing Yoshino River are known as the Oboke and Koboke Gorges, the names of which interestingly translate as "big step danger" and "little step danger" probably due to the historic risks involved when traversing through these formidable wonders. Believed to have formed 100 to 200 million years ago, the 8km long walls of sculpted rock in this impressive National Natural Monument beautifully change in appearance with the above or by boat from below.

Contact: Miyoshi City Tourist Information ☎0120-404-344 Contact: ☎0883-84-1211 ocation: Between Shigezane and kamimyo, Yamashiro, Miyoshi City Entry fee: Adults 1,200 yen,





#### 26 Iyakei / Peeing Boy Statue

The spectacular lower reaches of the Iva Valley are known as Iyakei (gorge area), where for about 20km the emerald waters meander through undeveloped mountains and dramatic cliffs. One can follow the mostly one-lane old "Iya Highway" (Rt 32) which twists precariously high along the mountainside through here. About halfway through the gorge, perched on a protruding precipice with a 200m drop-off, stands the daring little Peeing Boy Statue. Built in 1968, this bronze sculpture was to celebrate the local tradition of boys who would courageously relieve themselves from this

Contact: Miyoshi City Tourist Information 20120-404-344 Along the old "Iya Highway"









#### Iyakei / Hi-no-Ji Bend

Though the views along the "Iya Highway" as it winds through lyakei are as plentiful as they are impressive, of particular note is the renowned Hi-no-Ji Bend. At this point in the gorge, the Iya River below strikingly hooks around a mountain. providing a sight like no other. Taking its name due to its resemblance to the Japanese letter 'hi" (U), this fantastic spot is beautiful any time

Contact: Mivoshi City Tourist Information ☎0120-404-344

maproot 357 308 375 \* 47

#### 27 Iva Fureai Park

Enjoy the abundance of nature at this park along the banks of the Iya River. Offering a fun mono-rail ride that wanders 430m along the mountainside gardens here, there is also zip-line across the lya valle and a tranquil campground. It's also a popular spot to try fishing

Operating time: March to November

#### 28 Roadside Station Nishi-Iya

This rest area in central Nishi-lya is part of Japan's Michi-no-Eki system and is near to the Iva-no-Kazurabashi. Lots of hand-made Iva souvenirs and treats are available here, including Iya Soba and local honey.

Contact: **5**0883-87-2670 ocation: 348-2 Oinouchi, Nishi-Iya, Miyoshi City

Operating time: Open all year (shop closed

#### <sup>29</sup> The Heike Residence Museum

thatched roof buildings. The museum exhibits materials and relics of Heike Clan.



Contact: 20883-84-1408 Location: 46 Higashinishioka, N Operating Time: 9:00-17:00, Entry fee: Adults 500 yen, Children 300 yer

#### 30 White Water Rafting

The white-waters of the Yoshino River as it blasts through the Oboke and Koboke Gorges are world renowned. Thrill-seekers come from across the globe to experience the consistent Class 3 and Class 4 rapids, which are as wild and impressive as the canyon they shoot through. As the "birthplace" to Japanese rafting tours, many operators now offer a variety of exciting trips.

Contact: Miyoshi City Tourist Information ☎0120-404-344
Operating time: March to November

manR=4



33 Statue of Konaki-jiji

Konaki-jiji is a famous

Yokai monster that was

born in the perilous Oboke

area and featured in the acclaimed manga comics

of the late author Shigeru Mizuki. Erected in his

honor and featuring Mr.

Mizuki's autograph, Yokai fans from across Japan

#### Roadside Station Oboke

Located near the heart of the Oboke Gorge, this large rest area is part of the Michi-no-Eki system and offers an array of souvenirs and treats, as well as a rock museum full of stunning geological treasures. This is also home to the unique "YOKAI House", which is great for anyone looking for a spooky and fun experience.

/amashiro, Miyoshi City March to Nov. but closed or Tuesdays Dec to Feb

ap**B-5** MAPCODE °357 151 315 \* 35



#### YOKAI House The Yamashiro area of Miyoshi City is



historically noted as being home to over 150 spots for legendary monsters (called "Yokai"), probably due to the daunting landscape. These mythical monsters have a variety of different attributes, and are well known across Japan for their strange and peculiar ways. The YOKAI House is home to a collection of Yokai sculptures, images, stories, and history. Fun for kids or anyone interested in traditional folklore.

Contact: 20883-84-1489 ation: 1553-1 Kamimyo, Yamashiro, Miyoshi City ee: For museum, adults 600 yen, children 300 yen

apB-5 MAPCODE 357 151 315 \* 35

#### 32 Mt. Nokanoike

Rising to a height of 1,294m, the misty primeval forest of this mountain rare plant species, including true including



rhododendron and blunt-leaved bog moss. Featuring boardwalks and ancient shrines, it is also the site of a rhododendron festival in early June when the flowers are in bloom.

Contact: Miyoshi City Tourist Information

to a height of 950m and about 4km long, it

bursts with color in the autumn as the

maple leaves turn vivid red, and is noted as

being featured in traditional paintings

Contact: Miyoshi City Tourist Information

map D-4 MAP(UDE) 357 343 433 \* 42

34 Ryugatake

The bold cliff-face of

Ryugatake, with its

maple trees, is a

prominent feature of

the sparkling Matsuo

River Valley. Rising

mapB-5 [MAPEODE] 207 055 725 \* 13

#### mapB-5 MAPCODE 207 179 407 \* 44 35 Handa Iwa Rocks

come here to pay tribute. 
©Mizuki Production

Location: Kamimvo, Yamashiro, Miyoshi City

Contact: Mivoshi City Tourist Information

surroundings of these

giant stones are well known for their beauty. Fireflies come out in abundance in the summer, while the autumn leaves are simply spectacular. This riverside area offers a nostalgic feel with

its old-time waterwheel and as being a notable resting place for traveling ancient samurai. Contact: Miyoshi City Tourist Information

Location: Yorihiro, Yamashiro. Mivoshi City

mapB-3 [MAPCODE] 207 416 625 \* 3



#### 36 Shiozuka Highland

This fantastic 100 hectare plateau is dominated by the 1.043m peak of Shiozuka-mine Spreading across both Tokushima and Ehime Prefectures, on clear days this lofty area offers views as far as the Seto Sea and beyond to the north. At night the unobstructed sky explodes with stars, while the early morning provides a chance to see the wondrous *unkai* (sea of clouds). Each spring the area is burned off in a glaring display of snaking fire. Bungalows and camping are available along with other outdoor

Contact: Shiozuka Highland Campground ☎0883-86-307 Location: Tairano, Yamashiro, Miyoshi City Operating time: Open April 1 to Nov 30 (closed in winter)

mapA-4 [MAPCODE] 207 352 780 \* 36



# Oku-Iva Elime

#### A secret place of Heike legends and natural wonders

The eastern half of the Iya Valley, known locally as Oku-Iya (Deep Iya) has a long history of being a place to get away from it all. This truly off-the-beaten-path area was once the hiding place for fleeing Heike warriors centuries ago, and today it still holds on to a lifestyle and environment of old-time Japan. Home to historic villages of thatched roof farmhouses and surrounded by some of Shikoku's highest mountains, many surprises await those who make the effort to explore this back-country wonderland.



#### Mt. Tsuruqi

Noted as one of Japan's 100 Famous Mountains and standing at 1.955m. Mt. Tsurugi is the highest mountain in the region and home to lush woodlands. With its name translating as "sword" and also referred to locally

as "Ken-zan", legend has it that the sword of the Heike child Emperor Antoku is buried somewhere within. Suitable for even novice hikers, climbing the mountain is not overly difficult, and one can also take a chairlift half-way up. Upon reaching the meadow-covered top, the grand view extends to the Seto Sea northwards, while starry nights and early morning unkai (sea of clouds) await those who opt to stay in one of the summit lodges

Location: Minokoshi, Higashi-Iya, Miyoshi City Entry fee for chairlift (one way): Adults 1,050 yen, Children 520 yen

(round trip): Adults 1.900 ven. Children 900 ver

Shikoku geranium

Yellow waxbells



Also referred to locally as "Sanrei" Mt. Miune straddles Tokushima and Kochi Prefectures and is considered one of the most beautiful mountains of Shikoku. Trails up the side lead through tranquil forests full of rare plant species, while near to its craggy 1,893m summit lies an idyllic pond. On top, the commanding view across the upper lya Valley and beyond is both unparalleled and unforgettable.

Contact: Miyoshi City Tourist Information ☎0120-404-344 Location: Sugeoi, Higashi-Iya, Miyoshi City

MAPCODE 357 028 568 \* 54

#### 16 Oku-Iya Niju Kazurabashi (Double Vine Bridges)

Tucked away in a quiet glen at the deepest end of the Iya Yaen Valley lies two hidden treasures. The tranquil Oku-lya (rope cart) Double Vine Bridges capture the imagination with their verdant forest setting and rustic charm. Considered "wife and husband bridges" due to one being "male" and the other "female", those who make the effort to seek out these secluded creations of twisted vine will certainly fall in love with them. And those looking for an extra thrill can opt to

Location: 620 Sugeoi, Higashi-Iya, Miyoshi City Operating time: Closed Dec 1 to March 31

and Folklore Museum

19 Higashi-Iya History

This collection of antiques

and heirlooms documents

the rugged life of the lya Valley inhabitants, dating

Contact: 20883-88-2286

back hundreds of years. It also features many artifacts

their defeat in the 12th century Genpei War.

from the fleeing Heike Clan, who hid in the valley after

Contract: Audios-060-200 Location: 14-3 Kyojo, Higashi-Iya, Miyoshi City Entry Fee: Adults 410 yen, Middle School Students 210 yen, Children 100 yen

Operating time: Open daily, but closed on



MAPEODE 497 401 602 \* 66

17 Kakashi-no-Sato (Scarecrow Village) n the valley's final village

of Nagoro dwells one of Japan's utmost oddities. Though home to only a handful of living residents the hamlet is populated by

hundreds of life-size dolls that "work" the fields, gather along the road, and ven attend the school. It's easy to mistake them for real, and one is welcomed to wander among

ntact: Mivoshi City Tourist Information \$0120-404-344 ocation: Nagoro, Higashi-Iva, Miyoshi City

maproot 497 362 349 \* 36 mapF-5



#### Oku-Iya Monorail

This back-woods monorail climbs nearly 5km into the mountainside forest, offering a leisurely 65 minute long ride in its twin seat cars, where one can experience nature and see a variety of wildlife. It is considered the world's longest

sightseeing monorail of this type. Contact: Monorail Station 2090-7781-5828 ocation: Sugeoi, Higashi-Iya, Miyoshi City Operating Time: April to Sept (8:30-16:00); Oc n Nov (8:30-15:30), closed Dec to March Entry Fee: Adults 2,000 yen, Children 1,000 yer

MAPCODE 357 117 835 \* 52 map E-5

#### glide across the river via the traditional yaen rope cart. Contact: Miyoshi City Tourist Information ☎0120-404-344 MAPCUDE 497 365 080 \* 74 mapF-5 Entry fee: Adults 550 ven, Children 350 ver

#### 20 Bukevashiki Kita-ke (Samurai Residence)

Built over 250 years ago, this impressive thatched-roof house was home to the Kita Clan, which once presided over the Iva

Valley. Architecture fans will enjoy the traditional construction. Nearby stands the enormous 800 year old Hoko-Sugi cedar tree Contact: \$0883-88-2040

closed Dec 1 to March 31 Entry fee: Adults 310 yen, Children 100 yer

MAPCODE 357 137 058 \* 04 map D-5

#### MAPCODE 357 109 691 \* 66 map D-5 21 Chiiori Trust

The organization that maintains this 300 year old thatched-roof house is led by author and East Asia researcher Alex Kerr. who was attracted to the beauty and



is open for tours with prior reservation, or for

Contact: \$0883-88-5290

Location: 209 Tsurui, Higashi-Iya, Miyoshi City mapCODE° 357 103 263 \* 18 map D-5

#### 22 Ryugugake Cottage

Ryugugake Park, this secluded assortment of fully equip rental cottages allows one to stay in a pleasant

natural setting. Overlooking the Manpu Gorge, which one can also cross here via a soaring wire suspension foot-bridge, the area is noted for its stunning autumn leaves.

Contact: \$080-2981-6221 Location: 438-3 Tsurui, Higashi Iya, Miyoshi City Operating time: Closed Dec 1 to March 31

MAPCODE 357 075 797 \* 68 map D-5



#### 23 Ochiai Village

Nationally Important Preservation District for Groups

Climbing 390m up the side of a mountain, the historic Ochiai Village acclaimed for its collection of classic architecture, winding footpaths, rock walls, and terraced farm-plots, which all date back centuries. Still inhabited by the residents, wandering around this bucolic "living museum" allows one to get a feel for traditional lya life. The Nagaoka-ke Historic House is open to the public, but if one wishes to stay the night, the eight beautifully restored thatched-roof rental homes of Togenkyo-lya offer a once-in-a-lifetime experience. On the opposite side of the valley, the Ochiai Village Viewpoint allows one to take in the full grandeur of this picturesque hamlet

Contact: Miyoshi City Tourist Information 20120-404-344 ocation: Ochiai, Higashi-Iya, Miyoshi Cit

MAPCODE 357 172 526 \* 60 map E-4 • E-5

# Northern Area Culture Area

#### Feel enriched through history and culture

Long known as the cross-roads of Shikoku, the northern area of Miyoshi City offers a collection of historical sights, local heritage, and natural glory. Bisected by the Yoshino River, here one can visit ancient mountaintop temples that offer contemplative appreciation, or stroll along quiet streets lined with traditional architecture that herald days of yore. Nature lovers will also welcome the variety of waterfalls, verdant parks, and scenic landscapes in this all-encompassing area.

#### Unpenji Temple As number 66 in Shikoku's 88 Temple Pilgrimage, Unpenji Temple is also the highest of the set with its mountainton perch of 910m. Founded in the year 789 by the esteemed monk Kobo Daishi, this peaceful temple is also referred to as "Shikoku Kova", and can be accessed by local road or via pilgrim trails that lead Location: 763 Norouchi, Hakuchi, Ikeda

#### 2 Hashikuraji Temple 🚾 357 761 306\*16 map D-2

One of the main temples of the Shingon sect of Buddhism, Hashikuraji Temple is located up a mountain and accessed via ropeway. It is said that this splendid temple was founded in 828 when the monk Kobo Daishi traveled here, and through a vision he received at this site, he carved a statue honoring the spirit of the Konpira Temple, which is located just

Contact: Hashikuraji Temple. Conpira Office ☎0883-72-0812 Location: 1006 Kuratani Shuzu, Iked



Ikawa Ski Resort

- Kainayama

With a panoramic

view looking towards the Seto

Sea, Shikoku's first ski area is

continually supplied

with fresh powder

Higashimiyoshi

Prefecture

Tokushima Prefecture

Miyoshi City

#### Awa-Ikeda Udatsu Streets Tobacco Museum

through Ehime Prefecture.

Contact: 20883-74-0066

MAPCODE 207 717 724 \* 14

Mivoshi City

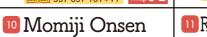
The town of Ikeda has a centuries-spanning history of once being a hub for the area's tobacco industry. The Tobacco Museum. with its udatsu architecture, offers a glimpse of the prosperity enjoyed by the old-world traders, as it is set in the stately home of a 19th century tobacco merchant.

Contact: 20883-72-3450 ocation: 2465-1 Machi, Ikeda, Miyoshi City Operating time: 9:00-17:00 (closed Wednesdays and during the New Year's period) Entry fee: Adults 320 yen, university and high school students 210 yen, middle and elementary school students 100 yen

#### Ikeda Townscape

The central part of Ikeda, once prosperous due to the bygone tobacco trade, is nice for strolling since much of the old town remains in its traditional form. Many of the historic houses here feature unique udatsu half-walls that extend off the second floor, and the neighborhood is also home to a long-standing sake brewery.

MAPTODE 357 697 161 \* 77 map C-2





thermal water while enjoying the pleasant mountainside view.

Contact: \$0883-77-2954 (for day use) Location: 1467 Kamonomiya, Mino, Miyoshi City Operating time: Closed Mondays

mapE-2 228 193 506 \* 8 mapE-2

#### Kurozo Marshland

27 hectares at an altitude of 600m, otherworldly wetland is the habitat for a wide

variety of rare plants, insects, and small animals. Each month, different species of flowers come into bloom, and the web of walking paths and shady resting spots makes this pristine retreat accessible to all.

tact: Miyoshi City Tourist Information ☎0120-404-344 on: Kurozo, Shitsukawa, Ikeda, Miyoshi City

MAPCODE °357 489 898 \* 40 map C-3

#### Sakuragaoka Park Takiji Temple

This hilltop park is filled with over 1,100 cherry trees. Though the main blooming time is early spring, due to the large variety of subspecies

here, blossoms can be enjoyed throughout the year. Pleasant views can be had here of Yoshino River and surrounding countryside.

Contact: Miyoshi City Tourist Information ₹0120-404-344 Location: 1395-1 Nishiikawa, Ikawa, Miyoshi City

MAPEODE 357 703 520 \* 34 map D-2

Roadside Station Mino



A variety of fresh, locally grown produce is available here, as well as a souvenir shop and a cafe/restaurant.

Contact: 20883-76-2050 Location: 1909-1 Tachino, Mino, Miyoshi City perating time: Closed Monday

mapcoot °228 157 725 \* 62 map E-2

#### JR Dosan Line Tsubojiri Station

Located deep in the mountains near the border of Tokushima and Kagawa Prefectures, this tucked away most remote in Shikoku. Railway fans from across the country come to see this peculiar little depot and its unique switchback rail link.

This venerable

temple is said

to have been

established by

the ancient

Daishi in the

vears between

Kobo

Contact: 20883-77-2486

This hilltop park

offers a fantastic view of the Yoshino River

Valley and the Shikoku Mountain

ocation: 1796 Kamonomiya Mino Miyoshi City

12 Kenko-to-Fureai

MAPTODE 228 193 559 \* 6 map E-2

monk

Contact: JR Shikoku Awa-Ikeda Station

marcoot 357 789 064\*6 mapC-2

Contact: 20883-78-3003 Location: Hirayama, Juchinishi, Ikawa, Miyoshi Cit Operating time: Dec to March

from its snow machines, giving optimal

conditions. Five courses for various levels are on

offer, and night skiing is available on Saturdays.

MAPCODE °357 466 164 \* 30 map D-3

#### Ryuzu-no-Taki/ Kongo-no-Taki Waterfalls



824 and 834. Revered inside is a large spectacular Kongo-no-Taki waterfall blasts wooden Buddha statue dating from the from out of the rock face, splashing down ancient Heian Period and is nationally over 40m below. The autumn leaves at these designated as an Important Cultural Asset. waterfalls are sure to delight.

> Contact: Miyoshi City Tourist Information ☎0120-404-344 Location: Kamonomiya, Mino, Miyoshi City

MAPCODE 228 223 233 \* 36 map F-2

#### 13 Tsuji Townscape

-no-Mori Park



Range. A great place to bring the family, as it features an adventure castle, playground, and slides in a lovely woodland setting. Barbecue spots and bungalows are also available

Contact: 20883-77-4320 ocation: 1342-3 Shibo, Mino, Miyoshi City Operating time: Open all year

MAPCODE® 228 191 618\*3

#### Long ago, when

main form of transport along Yoshino River, Tsuji was a prominent river



the 19th century tobacco trade, the prosperous residents built lovely homes many of which still stand today.

Contact: Mivoshi City Tourist Information **2**0120-404-344 ocation: Tsuji, Ikawa, Miyoshi City

MAPCODE 228 090 118 \* 88 map D-2

## Accommodation Directory

Where to stay if you are in Miyoshi!

☎090-5271-4015 Ochiai, Higashi-Iya

☎080-2981-6221 Tsurui, Higashi-Iya

20883-88-5290 Tsurui, Higashi-Iya

A wide range of accommodations are available to suit the desires of every visitor, including campgrounds, family-run guesthouses, traditional inns, thatched roof farmhouses, and relaxing hot spring hotels.

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Oboke / Iya Area			
			MAP "
1 Hotel Iya Onsen		Matsumoto, Matsuo, Ikeda	C-4 <b></b>
1 Iyakei Campground		Matsumoto, Matsuo, Ikeda	C-4 🗘
13 Hyakunenkura		Miyanomae, Kawasaki, Ikeda	C-3
1 Kakumi-no-Hatago	☎0883-86-1115		C-3
15 Haretoke Design Hostel	☎0883-75-2208	,	C-3
6 Hotel SunRiver Oboke		Nishiu, Yamashiro	B-4 <b></b>
Hotel Oboke-kyo Mannaka			B-5
Guesthouse Boke Nouen		Kamimyo, Yamashiro	B-5
Smonkey		Simomyo, Yamashiro	B-5
			C-5
	<b>☎</b> 0883-87-2300	•	C-4
12 YOKI Café & Guesthouse	☎0883-86-2334	Ichiu, Nishi-Iya	C-4
13 Iya vine bridge Guest house	<b>☎</b> 090-4765-2630	Zentouku, Nishi-Iya	C-5
1 Hotel Kazurabashi	☎0883-87-2171	Zentouku, Nishi-Iya	C-5
📵 Iya Bijin	☎0883-87-2009	Zentouku, Nishi-Iya	C-5
16 Kazuraya	☎0883-87-2831	Kanjo, Nishi-Iya	D-5
슚 Iya Kanko Ryokan	☎0883-87-2125	Zentouku, Nishi-Iya	C-5
📵 Minshuku Minami	☎0883-87-2342	Zentouku, Nishi-Iya	C-5
¹¹ Minshuku Iya-so	☎0883-87-2242	Zentouku, Nishi-Iya	C-5
Minshuku Oyama-so	☎0883-87-2133	Kanjo, Nishi-Iya	D-5
<b>1</b> Ku-Nel-Asob	☎080-6282-3612	Enoki, Nishi-Iya	C-5
22 Tabibito-no-yado Nakone	☎0883-72-5557	Enoki, Nishi-Iya	C-5
23 Rental House FOREST	☎0883-87-2367	Shigesue, Nishi-Iya	C-5
24 Iya Fureai Park Campground	☎0883-76-8585	Oinouchi, Nishi-Iya	C-4
25 Kazurabashi Campground	☎090-1571-5258	Kanjo, Nishi-Iya	D-5 🕼
26 Kenmi Onsen	☎0883-86-2982	Kurokawa, Yamashiro	B-3 🕼
<b>1</b> Guesthouse-Kannmannyo	☎090-9556-4788	Suesada, Yamashiro	B-3 🅾
28 Backpackers	☎0883-86-3033	Shirokawa, Yamashiro	B-4
29 Nenrinan	☎0883-84-1629	Kamimyo, Yamashiro	B-4
🚳 Akanoya	☎090-2789-1252	Kamimyo, Yamashiro	B-5
🛐 Inomoto-beya	☎090-7786-1655	Busshi, Yamashiro	B-4
<b>A</b>			

#### Oku-Iya Area

18 Momonga Village

1 Torinosu-Mamaan

**36** Guesthouse-Wakimizu

**35** YAMAYA

Ikawa-Ikeda IC

(Awa-Ikeda)

(MAP) 38 Kiritanisan-so 20883-88-2013 Sugeoi, Higashi-Iya E-4 1 Iyashi-no-Onsenkyo ☎0883-88-2975 Sugeoi, Higashi-Iya Maruishi Parkland ☎0883-88-2768 Sugeoi, Higashi-Iya

Guesthouse Osakanakunti 20883-86-2086 Otsuki, Yamashiro

③ Shiozuka Highland Caground ☎0883-86-3077 Tairano, Yamashiro

•Mt. Tsurugi Climbing Trailhead About 2 hours 30 minutes by car Oku-lya Niju Kazurabashi About 2 hours 10 minutes by car

**B-3** 

Oku-Iya Monorail About 1 hour 50 minutes by car

•lya-no-Kazurabashi (Vine Bridge) About 1 hour by car

☎0883-86-2334 Nobumasa, Yamashiro

**☎**080-4037-9573 Suesada, Yamashiro

**☎**0883-86-1898 Okawamochi, Yamashiro **B-3** 

☎0883-86-2650 Oono, Yamashiro

•lyakei / Peeing Boy Statue About 50 minutes by car Oboke Gorge & Koboke Gorge About 40minutes by car

Shiozuka Highland About 1 hour by car

( Oku-Iya Area )			
ORA IYA AICA			MAP
41 Hotel Okuiya	☎0883-88-2045	Kyojo, Higashi-Iya	D-5
42 Heike-so	☎0883-88-2848	Kyojo, Higashi-Iya	D-5
1 Yoshida Ryokan	☎0883-88-2843	Kyojo, Higashi-Iya	D-5
4 Kajiya Iya Romantei	☎090-5144-9277	Kyojo, Higashi-Iya	D-5
15 Minshuku Iya Hakkei	☎0883-88-2358	Nakaue, Higashi-Iya	E-5
46 Komimka Yado Koya	☎080-6378-8984	Kubo, Higashi-Iya	E-5
1 Minshuku Matsuura	☎0883-67-5009	Minokoshi, Higashi-Iya	G-5
Minshuku Heike-no-Yado	☎0883-67-5296	Minokoshi, Higashi-Iya	G-5
49 Unkai-so	☎088-622-0633	Top of Mt. Tsurugi, Higashi-Iya	G-5
1 Tsurugi-san Chojo Hutte	☎088-623-4533	Top of Mt. Tsurugi, Higashi-Iya	G-5
1 Tsurugi-Jinjya Minshuku	☎0883-67-5017	Minokoshi, Higashi-Iya	G-5
	☎0883-88-2540	Ochiai, Higashi-Iya	E-4·5

6 Oku-lya Niju Kazurabashi Campground 20883-88-2640 Sugeoi, Higashi-lya

Tsurugi-san Enpuku-ji 20883-67-5276 Sugeoi, Higashi-lya

#### Northern Area

63 Minshuku Umemoto

Ryugugake Cottage

**6** Chiiori Trust

(MAP) C-2 & **188** Awanosho 20120-018-081 Hakuchi, Ikeda **C-2** Business Hotel Awa-Ikeda 20883-72-1010 Ueno, Ikeda C-2 60 4S STAY Awaikeda Honmachi St. 20883-70-0166 Machi, Ikeda Business Hotel Yamashiro 20883-72-0277 Machi, Ikeda **C-2 C-2** 20883-72-0868 Machi, Ikeda fukuya Ryokan 20883-72-7422 Machi, Ikeda **C-2** Sushiroku Ryokan 64 Marufuku Ryokan ☎0883-72-0027 Machi, Ikeda **C-2 C-2** 65 Hakuchi Onsen Konishi Ryokan 20883-74-0311 Hakuchi, Ikeda C-3 **66** Kawakami 20883-74-0829 Nakanishi, Ikeda **C-2 1** Daikokuya Ryokan ☎0883-72-0587 Shima, Ikeda **C-2 188** Takaoka Ryokan 20883-72-1041 Shima, Ikeda 1 Hakuchi-so 20883-74-0487 Hakuchi, Ikeda C-2 **B-3** 10 Minshuku Okada ☎0883-74-1001 Sano, Ikeda Awa Ikeda Youth Hostel 20883-72-5277 Nishiyama, Ikeda **C-2 C-2** minshuku Tabibito-Yado 20883-76-4727 Hakuchi, Ikeda **C-2** 4S STAY Awaikeda Ekimae ☎0883-70-0166 Sarada, Ikeda **C-2** 1 COCO-CROSS Hostel ☎0883-72-0011 Sarada, Ikeda C-3 & 15 Matsuogawa Onsen **☎**0883-75-2322 Kurogawa, Matsuo, Ikeda 16 Hotel Eleven ☎0883-72-8115 Sarada, Ikeda **C-2 D-2** 1 Isamurou Ryokan ☎0883-78-2051 Tsuii, Ikawa D-3 🕼 20883-78-3003 Hirayama, Ikawa 18 Ikawa Finland Cottage ☎0883-78-2227 Nishikawa, Ikawa **D-2** 179 Guesthouse UEDA

80 Kenko-to-Fureai-no Mori Cottage 20883-77-4320 Shibou, Mino

1 Nashikubo-no-le

Shikokuchuo City

2090-9775-2899 Tachinoyama, Mino

E-2 🕼

**Ehime Prefecture** 





xi
·····TEL.0883-72-3300
·····TEL.0883-74-0057
·····TEL.0883-72-3740
·····TEL.0883-84-1225
·····TEL.0883-86-1221
····TEL.0883-87-2017
····TEL.0883-87-2013
····TEL.0883-88-2420

•Ikawa Ski Resort - Kainayama

●Kenko-to-Fureai-no-Mori Park

Bus			
Ikawa			
Shikoku Kotsu Bus	··TEL.0883-72-217		
Ikeda			
Ikeda Kanko Bus	··TEL.0883-72-4848		
Awa-Ikeda Bus Terminal Information	TEL.0883-72-123		
<ul><li>Mino</li></ul>			
Mino Kotsu Bus	··TEL.0883-77-234		
Car Rental			

About 1hour by car

About 45 minutes by car

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Map Code is a numeric code given for specific locations. If you enter the Map Code into your car navigation system, it will easily set to the destination. \*Map Code is limited to compatible models only.

## Please be careful when driving mountain roads!

#### When going downhill, shift into low gear.

When going down long hills, it is easy for your car breaks to overheat from overuse. This may cause the breaks to be less effective or for the breaks to fail completely.

Therefore, please use the "engine break" by shifting into a lower gear and letting the engine resistance help slow the car. By doing so you will not need to use the breaks as much, and it will help maintain cooler breaks.

#### Take notice of drivers behind you.

On the rural mountain roads there is often little traffic, so you may not notice when drivers approach behind you. Please be sure to check your mirror sometimes to know if other vehicles are present. Also, since you may be driving slowly due to being unfamiliar with the area, please allow other vehicles to pass when it is safely possible.

#### For current weather information in Engli

Japan Meteorological Agency http://www.jma.go.jp/jma/ index.html

For current road conditions and traffic information

Tokushima Prefecture Land Disaster Prevention Information https://bousai.pref.tokushima.lg.jp/

33-87-2017			
Miyoshi Rental Cars······TEL.0883-79-5650  Higashi-miyoshi  Miyoshi Rental Cars······TEL.0883-79-5650			
Car-sta Rental Cars			
Oboke / Iya Area	マップコード		
Iya-no-Kazurabashi (Vine Bridge)	357 130 587 * 55		
Kazurabashi Campground	357 161 188 * 71		
lya Fureai Park  Roadside Station Nishi-lya	357 188 480 * 36 357 187 260 * 22		
Kazurabashi Yume-Butai Stage	357 130 429 * 82		
Heike Yashiki Museum	357 154 511 * 41		
Furumiya Shrine	357 095 449 * 71		
Iyakei / Peeing Boy Statue	357 308 375 * 47		
Ryugatake	357 343 433 * 42		
lyakei Campground	357 397 059 * 88		
Oboke Gorge	357 151 826 * 18		
Koboke Gorge	357 330 837 * 82		
Oboke Gorge Pleasure Boat	357 151 856 * 71		
Roadside Station Oboke / YOKAI House	357 151 315 * 35		
Shiozuka Highland	207 352 780 * 36 207 352 780 * 44		
Shiozuka Campground Statue of Konaki-jiji	207 332 780 * 44		
Tobinosu Canyon	207 296 696 * 44		
Hotaru-no Sato (Firefly Park)	207 415 027 * 58		
Handa Iwa Rocks	207 416 625 * 3		
Oku-Iya Area			
Minokoshi / Mt. Tsurugi Climbing Trailhead	497 401 602 * 66		
Oku-Iya Niju Kazurabashi (Double Vine Bridges)	357 130 556 * 14		
Kakashi-no Sato (Scarecrow Village)	497 362 349 * 36		
Bukeyashiki Kita-ke (Samurai Residence)	357 137 058 * 04		
Kimura-ke Historic Farmhouse	357 104 458 * 88		
Koune-ke Historic Farmhouse	357 117 776 * 88 357 172 203 * 47		
Soba Dojo Noodle Shop Oku-lya Monorail	357 117 826 * 63		
Ochiai Village	357 172 526 * 60		
Ochiai Village Viewpoint	357 142 727 * 71		
Higashi-Iya History and Folklore Museum	357 109 691 * 66		
Tsuzuki Atelier (Soba Making Workshop)	357 077 599 * 14		
Tougenkyo-lya	357 105 224 * 60		
Ryugugake Cottage	357 075 797 * 68		
Mt. Miune Climbing Trailhead	357 028 568 * 54		
Northern Area	057.400.504.00		
Matsuogawa Onsen Kurozo Marshland	357 428 564 * 22 357 489 898 * 40		
Suwa Park	357 697 350 * 68		
Miyoshi City Tourist Information Center	357 666 778 * 82		
JR Dosan Line Tsubojiri Station	357 789 064 * 6		
Awa-Ikeda Udatsu Streets / Tobacco Museum	357 697 161 * 77		
Hashikuraji Temple	357 761 306 * 16		
Unpenji Temple	207 717 724 * 14		
Ikawa Ski Resort - Kainayama	357 466 164 * 30		
Shimokage-no-Tanada (Rice Paddy Terraces)	357 554 579 * 74		
Goraiko-no-Taki Waterfall	357 588 111 * 06		
Sakuragaoka Park	357 703 520 * 41		
Kinryusan Noson Park  Kongo-no-Taki Waterfall	228 060 714*34 228 223 322*28		
Ryuzu-no-Taki Waterfall	228 223 233 * 36		
Hachimai-Nabera Waterfall	228 247 516 * 41		
Roadside Station Mino	228 157 725 * 62		
Kenko-to-Fureai-no-Mori Park	228 191 618 * 3		

