Diverse cultures have been passed down in Himeji with a long history as a castle town.

**Cuisine**
- *Tematsubaki*: The sweets which the lord of Himeji Castle ate.
- *Gosasaro*: Pancakes stuffed with sweet bean paste.
- *Sennensuji*: Tom Cruise purchased during his visit to Himeji.
- *Himehawa*: Items made of the special white leather.

**Festivals**
- *Kan-en-kai* (The Cherry Blossom Viewing Festival)
- *Himeji Minato Matsuri* (Himeji Harbor Festival)
- *Nada no Kenko Matsuri* (Parade of Parked Shōshūn)
- *Onoi at Shosha* (Ceremony to beg for capital funds)

**Access**
- **From Airport**
  - Osaka International Airport (Itami Airport) ~1h 30min by airport limousine (8.5 round trip / day)
  - Kansai International Airport ~2h 10min by airport limousine
  - Kobe Airport ~1h by Port Liner and JR (Special Rapid Service)
- **JR Shinkansen** (by NOZOMI)
  - Tokyo ~3h 10min
  - Osaka ~2h 45min
  - Nara ~2h 20min
- **JR Local Line (Special Rapid Service)**
  - Tokyo ~3h 10min
  - Osaka ~2h 45min
  - Nara ~2h 20min
- **Bus** (Himeji Castle, Koko-en, Shosha-En Jogyuji Temple)

**Route Map**

**Map Details**
- **Location Map**
- **Welcome to a Dramatic City**
- **Himeji Film Commission**

**Contact**
- Himeji City
- Himeji Convention & Visitors Bureau
- **Office**: 6F-2013 JAPAN
  - TEL: 079-223-2220
  - FAX: 079-223-2103

*One ride* Fee: Adult ¥100 Children ¥90 Child (6-year-old to 3rd grade in elementary school) *Day pass* Fee: Adult ¥400 Children ¥200

Operation days: Every day from March to November, Saturday, Sunday and holiday from December to February (Operation may be suspended at the end/beginning of the year)
**Koko-en Gardens**

‘Koko-en’ is a traditional Japanese-style garden constructed on the exact site of samurai houses. It comprises of 3.5 hectares, and is located next to Himeji Castle.

At the entrance of each one you can see some reconstructed traditional buildings such as Nagaya-mon(Gate) and Yashiki-mon(Gate).

**Himeji Castle**

Himeji Castle is one of the most beautiful, and oldest wooden castles, preserved in its original condition, in Japan. It is also a symbol of Japanese traditional craftsmanship and designated as one of the World Heritage sites. The glorious architecture has survived for over 400 years. It constantly amazes people with its somber, white elegant walls and wooden frame.

**Shoshaean Engyoji Temple**

Engyoji Temple on the top of Mt. Shosha has a long history of over 1,000 years, and has a lot of ancient religious architecture.

**The Akira Kurosawa Movies**

Himeji Castle is a location that famous director Kurosawa often used for "The Seven Samurai," "Rashomon," "Yojimbo," "Kagemusha," and "Ran." Himeji Castle is often portrayed as "Toki Castle."