

## Himeji Culture

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

### Sweet

The sweets have been fashioned by craftsmanship following the traditions of the castle town.



**Tamatsubaki**

The Sweet which the lord of Himeji Castle ate.



**Gozasoro**

Pancakes stuffed with sweet bean paste.



**Sennensugi**

Tom Cruise purchased during his visit to Himeji.

### Traditional Craft

Expertise and craftsmanship in ancient arts and crafts remain.



**Myouchinhibashi**

Wind-bell using tongs.



**Himekawa**

Items made of the special white leather.



## Himeji Festivals

A variety of old and new festivals are held throughout the year.

### Spring



**Kan-o-kai**

(The Cherry Blossom Viewing Festival)

### Summer



**Himeji Minato Matsuri**

(Himeji Harbor Festival)

### Autumn



**Nada no Kenka Matsuri**

(Parade of Portable Shrines)

### Winter



**Onioi at Shosha**

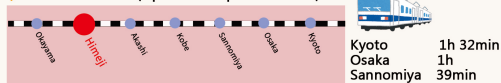
(Ceremony to Exorcise Evil)

## Access

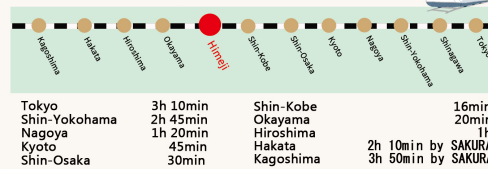
### From Airport

- Osaka International Airport (Itami Airport) ...1h 20min 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)

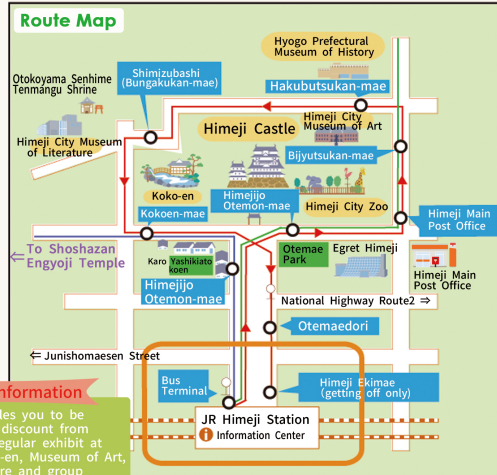
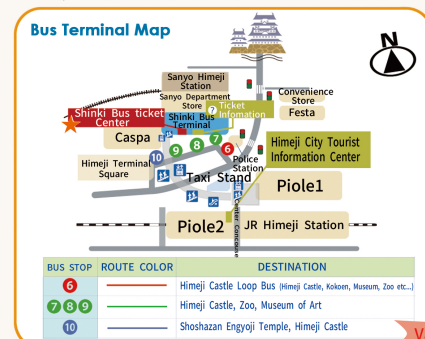
### JR Rail Line (Special Rapid Service)



### JR Shinkansen (by NOZOMI)



### Bus (Himeji Castle, Koko-en, Shoshazan Engyoji Temple)



### Valuable Information

One day pass enables you to be applicable for 20% discount from admission fee for regular exhibit at Himeji Castle, Koko-en, Museum of Art, Museum of Literature and group fee is applied at Museum of History.

### Shoshazan ropeway & Bus Tickets

Fee: Adult: ¥1,420 Child: ¥650  
Child (6-year old to 6th grader in elementary school)

★ Shoshazan Ropeway & Bus Tickets may be purchased at Shinki Bus Terminal.

### Loop Bus

The retro style bus will take you around Himeji.

<One ride> Fee: Adult: ¥100 Child: ¥50

Child (6-year old to 6th grader in elementary school)

<1day pass> Fee: Adult: ¥400 Child: ¥200

★ Oneday pass may be purchased at Shinki Bus Terminal.

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)

Operation hours: 9:00 - 16:30 (until 17:00 on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays)

Combined round trip Tickets of the bus and the ropeway. You can buy the following ticket at "Shinki Bus ticket center". Save 10% on Tickets! Save up to ¥140 off!



## Contact

### Himeji City Himeji Convention & Visitors Bureau

68Honmachi, Himeji Hyogo 670-0012 JAPAN TEL/+81-79-222-2285 FAX/+81-79-222-2410 <http://www.himeji-kanko.jp/en/>



# Location Map Himeji



Welcome to a Dramatic City /



Himeji Film Commission

# Journey to impressive scene

Quite a few famous movies were shot on location in Himeji;  
The Hollywood movie 'You Only Live Twice' starring Sean Connery,  
and 'The Last Samurai' features Tom Cruise, just to name a few.



## Koko-en Gardens

Oyashiki-no-niwa  
(The garden of the Lord's residence)



## Red leaves

Address : 68 Honmachi, Himeji, Hyogo  
Opening hours : 9:00~17:00  
(admission permitted until 16:30)  
Admission fee : adult 310 yen, child 150 yen

'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. It is composed of nine different gardens. At the entrance of each one you can see some reconstructed traditional buildings such as Nagaya-mon(Gate) and Yashiki-mon(Gate).

## Himeji Castle



## Sakura

Address : 68 Honmachi, Himeji, Hyogo  
Opening hours : 9:00~17:00  
(Gate close at 16:00)

Admission fee : adult 1000 yen, child 300 yen

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.



Rising sun



Night view



View from the top floor



Slope to Ha-no-mon

## Movies



In Himeji Castle, every single point is a prime film location. From any angle, you can take a great shot of the Main Keep, gates, turrets, stone walls and so on. The wonderful scenery makes long distance or close up shooting very vivid and realistic.



Watarirouka  
(Roofed corridor)



Tsuijibei  
(Roofed mud wall)



Taki  
(Water falls)



Soujuuan  
(Tea Ceremony experience)

## Rurouni Kenshin (2012)

Director : Keishi Otomo  
Actor : Takeru Sato, Emi Takei

A live-action film from a popular comic "Rurouni Kenshin". An important scene of making a tiny cut in the cheek of Kenshin (Samurai) was shot.



## Vai Raja Vai (2014)

Director : Aishwarya Dhanush  
Actor : Gautham Karthik, Priya Anand

A Indian Movie played in all the theaters in India. The leading actor and actress dancing to the music at the back of unique beautiful Japanese autumn color of leaves in the garden were shot.



## Fresh green



## Shoshazan Engyoji Temple

Address : 2968 Shosha, Himeji, Hyogo  
Admission fee : 500 yen  
Shoshazan Ropeway runs every 15 minutes from 8:30-17:00 (600 yen one-way, 1000 yen round-trip)



Daikodo, Jogyodo, Jikido(Mitsunodo)



Maniden(main temple)



Okuno-in



Experience sutra writing Experience Zen meditation

Open: All year around  
Fee: 1,000 yen for Heart sutra, 300 yen for flower petals sutra  
Reservation & contact: Shoshazan Engyoji Temple TEL: 079-266-3127  
\*Reservation must be made 3 days in advance, no walk ins.  
\*Entrance fee: 500 yen

## 007 series

### 'You Only Live Twice'(1967)

Director : Lewis Gilbert  
Actor : Sean Connery



Himeji Castle has adopted as a Dojo (Training Hall). Some scenes were shot such as James Bond landing on Sannomaru Square from a helicopter and he observed ninjas training.

### Kakushi-Ken Oni-no-Tsume (2004)

Director : Yoji Yamada  
Actor : Masatoshi Nagase, Takako Matsu



At Hishi Gate, a scene of samurais coming up in the remaining snow was shot.

### Tenchi Meisatsu (2012)

Director : Yoji Takita  
Actor : Junichi Okada, Aoi Miyazaki



At Ote-mon Gate (main gate), a scene crowded with samurai people coming up to the castle in the morning was shot.

## Ooku

(2006)

Director : Toru Hayashi  
Actor : Yukie Nakama, Hidetoshi Nishijima



The movie depicting the organization of only women in a castle called "O-oku (inner palace)". It was the filming location of a banquet. It was an enticing scene.

## Appear by copter!!



## Jyujiin



Tom's House  
Waiting room of Tom Cruise.

## The Last Samurai

(2003)

Director : Edward Zwick  
Actor : Tom Cruise, Ken Watanabe



The scene which the hero Algren played by Cruise, who had spent a year in Japan, scene was shot in Engyoji Temple. A winter and a spring scenes were staged to express Japan four seasons.

## Gunshi Kanbei

(2014)

Actor : Junichi Okada



The drama which depicts the life of Kanbei Kuroda, a samurai born in Himeji, who played an active role as a military strategist for Hideyoshi Toyotomi in the Sengoku period (period of warring states in Japan). It was broadcast by NHK.

## THE ASSASSIN

(2015)

Director : Hisao-Hsien Hou  
Actor : Qi shu, Chen Chang, Satoshi Tsumabuki



There was a large filming period of 5 years. The action movie depicted a lonely female assassin who had the strangest fate.

## The Akira Kurosawa Movies



### Kagemusha (1980)

Director : Akira Kurosawa  
Actor : Tatsuya Nakadai, Tsutomu Yamazaki

Himeji Castle is a location that famous director Kurosawa often used for "the Seven Samurai". Speaking of Samurai Movies, Himeji Castle is often portrayed as "Edo Castle".



### Ran (1985)

Director : Akira Kurosawa  
Actor : Tatsuya Nakadai, Hitoshi Ueki