ENGLISH

TANEGASHIMA YAKUSHIMA Travel Brochure

TANEGASHIMA

General Affairs and Planning Division, Kumage Branch Office, Kagoshima Prefectural Government
Rear: Information on Yakushima Island

Play

Tanegashima Island has far more than its fascinating history to offer. Visitors can explore the various tourist attractions on the island including the beaches, forests, agriculture, fisheries, industries, etc.

Activities

- **Tour of the Tanegashima Space Centre**
  Tour of the Tanegashima Space Centre will be conducted by a professional guide (free-of-charge).
  Tour Time: 11:00 - 12:15 HRS
  Closed On: Mondays (closed on Tuesday if Monday is a national holiday), Dec 29 to Jan 1, and days of rocket launch. In general, open throughout August.
  (Service Hours: 09:00 - 17:00 HRS)
  TEL: 0997-26-9244
- **Surfing School**
  Surfing lessons for beginners to experienced surfers. Surf board rental available.
- **Anno-Imo Sweet Potato Harvesting**
  Learn harvesting techniques from the farmers and harvest your own Anno-Imo sweet potatoes. Tour participants may bring home the self-harvested sweet potatoes.
- **Sea Kayaking**
  Enjoy sea kayaking with experienced instructors. Mangrove Kayaking Tours are available too.
- **Making Brown Sugar**
  Experience the process of brown sugar manufacturing, beginning from squeezing fresh sugarcane juice. Sugarcane harvesting is also available.
- **Pottery Experience**
  The unglazed Tanegashima style pottery uses iron-rich clay from the Island. Fashion your original pottery ware by hand or using the potter's wheel.
- **Akagomekan Tour**
  Explore the vicinity of the Akagomekan (Red Rice Centre) with a voice guide pen and map, answering quiz questions along the way. A downloadable smart phone application allows users to take photos with original characters during the tour.

Tour of the Tanegashima Space Centre

Surfing School

Anno-Imo Sweet Potato Harvesting

Sea Kayaking

Making Brown Sugar

Pottery Experience

Akagomekan Tour

※ For more information regarding the above tours, contact the Tanegashima Green Tourism Promotion Association (within Tanegashima Tourism Association).
TEL 0997-23-0111 FAX 0997-23-0770
URL:http://tanekan.jp

City Tour by Foot

Volunteer guides will show you around Nishinoomote city, visiting historical sites such as those related to matchlock rifle manufacturing, the Tanegashima family, etc.
Size: 1 - 10 people (for groups, kindly check in advance)
Required Time: 1 - 2 hours
Fee: 500 yen per person *1,000 yen for a one-person tour
Available all year round

Tanegashima Tourism Volunteer Guides "Jaro Jaro"
TEL 0997-23-3215
FAX 0997-23-3250

Tanegashima Island - From Matchlock Rifle to Space Exploration

Learn

Tanegashima Island is located about 40km southeast of Cape Sata, the southernmost tip of Kyushu mainland. It has a circumference of about 165km and stretches 58km from north to south, and 12km (greater width) and 6km (lesser width) from east to west. With the highest point of elevation at 282m, the island is generally flat and elongated.

The island is known as the location where guns first arrived in Japan, as well as home to the only space station in Japan for launching satellites.

The matchlock rifle arrived in 1543 through Portuguese sailors. Together with the excellent iron-crafting techniques of Tanegashima, the very first Japanese-made rifles were created, and later on greatly affected the history of Japan.

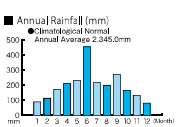
Tanegashima Space Centre is located on the south of the island surrounded by beautiful nautical scenery, and is known as the most beautiful rocket base in the world. Playing an important role in Japan's space exploration programme, this is where satellites are regularly launched. In recent years, about four to five rockets are launched annually.

Regional Information

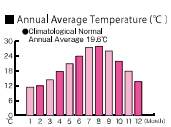
- Total land area: 452.47 sq km
  (including Mageshima Island)
  Tanegashima: 444.30 sq km
  Mageshima: 8.17 sq km
- Island circumference
  Tanegashima: 132 km
  Mageshima: 16.5 km
- Highest elevation
  Tanegashima: 282 m (Hananomine)
  Mageshima: 71 m (Takenokoshi)
- Population
  Nishinoomote City: 15,236 people
  Nakatane Town: 7,794 people
  Minamitane Town: 5,533 people
  Total: 28,563 people
  (As of 1 Oct 2018)

■ Time-Distance Map

■ Annual Rainfall (mm)



■ Annual Average Temperature (℃)



Getting to Tanegashima Island

By airplane

From Fukuoka	From Osaka	From Tokyo
Fukuoka Airport	Osaka Airport / Haneda Airport	
55 minutes	1 hour 10 minutes	1 hour 45 minutes
Kagoshima Airport		
40 minutes		
Tanegashima Airport		

By Shinkansen Bullet Train and Ferry

From Fukuoka	From Osaka	From Tokyo
Hakata Station	Shin-Osaka Station	Tokyo Station
Shinkansen Bullet Train 1 hour 16 minutes	Shinkansen Bullet Train 3 hours 41 minutes	Shinkansen Bullet Train 4 hours 5 minutes
		Hakata Station
		Shinkansen Bullet Train 3 hours 41minutes
Kagoshima Chuo Station		
20 minutes by bus / 5 minutes by car		
Kagoshima Honko Minami-Futo Wharf		
High Speed Jetfoil 1 hour 25 minutes		
Nishinoomote Port		

From Ibusuki
Ibusuki Port
High Speed Jetfoil
2 hours 20 minutes (Via Yakushima Island)
Nishinoomote Port

From Yakushima Island

Miyanoura Port/Anbo Port	Miyanoura Port
High Speed Jetfoil 50 minutes	2 hours by ferry
Nishinoomote Port	
Ferry 1 hour 5 minutes	
Shimama Port	

For more details on latest updates, kindly check with the respective transportation organisations. Travel time on various transportation modes shown are the shortest time available.

[Enquiries on Tanegashima Tourism]
● Tanegashima Tourism Association
4Ⅰ-1 Nishi-machi, Nishinoomote City, Kagoshima
Tel. 0997-23-0111
http://tanekan.jp
● Nishinoomote City Economic and Tourism Division
7612 Nishinoomote, Nishinoomote City, Kagoshima
Tel. 0997-26-1111
http://www.city.nishinoomote.kagoshima.jp
● Nakatane Town Planning Division
5180 Noma, Nakatane-cho, Kumage-gun, Kagoshima
Tel. 0997-27-1111
http://town.nakatane.kagoshima.jp
● Minamitane Town Planning Division
2Ⅰ-1 Nishi-machi, Minamitane-cho, Kumage-gun, Kagoshima
Tel. 0997-26-1111
http://www.town.minamitane.kagoshima.jp
● General Affairs and Planning Division, Kagoshima Prefectural Government Kumage Branch Office
7590 Nishinomote, Nishinoomote City, Kagoshima
Tel. 0997-22-0498
● Kagoshima Prefecture Website Tourism Guide
http://www.kagoshima-kankou.com

Compiled in Sep 2019

Roundabout Trips (Estimated travelling time is calculated based on movement by car)

For further details pertaining to the tours marked with ★, kindly check with the Tanegashima Green Tourism Promotion Association (TEL: 0997-23-0111)

●Recommended Tour (approx. 5 hrs 40 min)
Visiting during low tide recommended.
Nishinoomote Port 5min → Tanegashima Airport 25 min → Teppokan (Map①) 5min → Gessotei (Map②) 80min → Kadokura Cape (Map③) 20min → Tanegashima Space Centre (Map④) 20min → Chikura-no-Iwaya Shoreline Cavern (Map⑤) 30min → Otatsu and Metatsu Rocks (Map⑥) 10min → Nishinoomote Port 30min → Tanegashima Airport

●Historical Walk (approx. 7 hrs)
The oldest building on Tanegashima and representative of island architecture, this is a designated national cultural property.
Nishinoomote Port 5min → Tanegashima Airport 25 min → Teppokan (Map⑨) Kindly contact "Teppokan" for more information. 60min → Nishinoomote City Tour by Foot (Map⑩) 80min → Kadokura Cape (Map③) 15min → Tanegashima Akagomekan (Red Rice Centre) (Map⑪) 20min → Hirota Site Museum (Map⑫) 15min → Furuichi Residence (Map⑬) 60min → Nishinoomote Port 30min → Tanegashima Airport

●Forest and Sea Tour (approx. 4 hrs)
Nishinoomote Port 70 min → Tanegashima Airport 45 min → Tanegashima Space Centre (Map④) 10min → ★Sea Kayaking 5min → Chikura-no-Iwaya Shoreline Cavern (Map⑤) 60min → Nishinoomote Port 35min → Tanegashima Airport

●Shochu Tour (approx. 2 hrs 20 min)
Nishinoomote Port 15min → ★Pottery Experience (at Jaro Nishinoomote City) → Shochu Distillery Tour
Takasaki Shuzo (25min)
TEL 0997-25-0707
Tanegashima Shuzo (5min)
TEL 0997-22-0265
Kouzumi Shuzo (60min)
TEL 0997-26-0012
Kindly contact the distilleries directly regarding visits and tours.

Making Sake sets (Tsuchi-nabe used to serve Sake)

Would you like to try some shochu or liquor?

Tanegashima - Island Transportation

■Car Rental

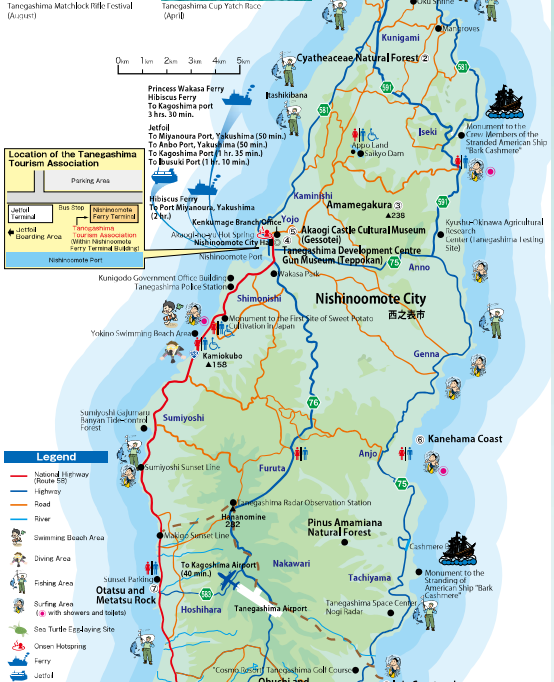
Company Name	Location	TEL (0997)	Company Name	Location	TEL (0997)
Toyota Rent-A-Car	Nishinoomote	23-3211	Nansei Rent-A-Car	Nishinoomote	23-2837
	Tanegashima Airport	27-7077		Tanegashima Airport	
Nippon Rent-A-Car	Nishinoomote	23-5050	Lotas Itoh	Nishinoomote	22-0222
Nissan Rent-A-Car	Nishinoomote	24-3923	Hidaka Rent-A-Car	Nakatane	27-9955
	Tanegashima Airport	27-5523	Orix Rent-A-Car	Nishinoomote	23-4152
Fukumura Rent-A-Car	Nishinoomote	23-1661		Tanegashima Airport	27-5080
	Nakatane	24-0156	Sunrise Rent-A-Car	Minamitane	26-5057
	Nishinoomote	22-1800	Hope Rent-A-Car	Minamitane	26-7235
Hayashi Rent-A-Car	Tanegashima Airport	24-8077			
	Minamitane	26-1164			

■Taxi

Company Name	Location	TEL (0997)
Ichimaru Taxi	Nishinoomote	22-1010
	Nakatane	27-1010
Hayashi Taxi	Nishinoomote	22-1411
	Minamitane	26-0373
Shimajma Taxi	Minamitane	26-4231
Daiwa Kanko Taxi	Minamitane	26-6366

Tanegashima Matchlock Rifle Festival (August)

Tanegashima Cup Yatch Race (April)



Eat

Tanegashima Island has a rich agriculture and aquaculture which in turn yields quality products. The island is famous for dishes utilizing seasonal vegetables such as early-harvested rice, saccharine and creamy Anno-Imo sweet potatoes, and fresh seafood throughout the year such as Small abalone, Bigfin Reef squid, etc.

Specialty Product

Agricultural Product
Koshihikari Rice (Early Harvest)
Akagome Red Rice
Sugarcane
Bamboo Shoot
Broad Bean
Snap Pea
White Turmeric
Tankan Tangerine
Ponkan Tangerine

Mango

Passion Fruit

Anno-Imo Sweet Potatoes

Fisheries
Bigfin Reef Squid
Japanese Spiny Lobster
Japanese Mitten Lobster
Silver Herring
Tiger Prawns
Flying Fish
Slipper Lobster

Small Abalone

Red Frog Crab

Handicrafts

Tanegashima-yaki Pottery

Tanegashima Scissors and Knife

Processed Food
Sweet Cooked Thistles
Green Tea

Brown Sugar

Tanegashima Hoshidori (Jerky)

Tanegashima Chicken Curry

See

Tanegashima Island is famous for the first arrival of Western guns to Japan. It is also home to the "Tachikiri Iseki Remains" where items suggesting civilization from more than 30,000 years ago (the oldest in Japan) were unearthed. In conjunction with age old history is the presence of the one and only space station in Japan for launching satellites.

①Urada Coast
Selected as one of the 88 best beaches of Japan
Camping is allowed during the season.
[45 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport]
[20 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

②Cyatheaceae Natural Forest
The large spiny tree ferns within the forest are designated as natural monuments by Nishinoomote City.
[45 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport]
[20 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

③Amamegakura
Offering a 360 panoramic view, hang-gliding and para-gliding activities.
[40 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport]
[15 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

④Tanegashima Development Centre Gun Museum (Teppokan)
Nicknamed "Teppokan" (Portuguese matchlock rifles and the very first muskets) in Japan rifles are on display here.
■ Opening Hours: 8:30 - 17:00 HRS (Last entry by 16:30 HRS)
■ Fees: Adult: 400 yen (300 yen), High School: 300 yen (200 yen), Junior High and Elementary: 150 yen (80 yen)
* Figures in brackets: Group discount - price for groups of 20 people or more.
■ Days: Open every month except for 1st and Aug, and Tuesdays, Dec 31 to Jan 2
■ Tel: 0997-26-0915
[25 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport]
[10 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

⑤Akagi Castle Cultural Museum (Gessotei)
Home of the Inatsu family, chief retainer of the Tanegashima family. This house is designated as a cultural monument by Nishinoomote City.
■ Opening Hours: 9:00 - 17:00 HRS (Last entry by 16:30 HRS)
■ Fees: Adult: 200 yen (150 yen), High School: 150 yen (100 yen), Junior High and Elementary: 100 yen (50 yen)
* Fig. non-brackets: Group discount price for groups of 20 people or more.
■ Days: Closed on 25th of every month, except for 1st and Aug
■ Tel: 0997-26-2101
[25 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport]
[5 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

⑥Kanehama Coast
The most popular surfing spot on Tanegashima Island.
[35 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport]
[20 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

⑦Otatsu and Metatsu Rocks
Natural rock formations. A great location to watch the sunset in the East China Sea.
[10 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport]
[30 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

⑧Injo Coast and Matate-no-Iwaya Shoreline Cavern
The cavern is a natural cave formed by wave erosion. The cavern's name literally means "Standing Horse", resembling a horse waiting for its master through the master rocking disappeared into the cave.
[15 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport]
[50 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

⑨Largest Cycad (Sago Palm) in Japan
Located within the complex of Sakoi Shrine, this cycad is about 7m in height, 10m in length, 10m wide at its base, and an estimated age of about 600 years.
[25 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport]
[40 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

⑩Kumano Beach and Nature Recreation Village
A camp ground and hot spring health centre is located nearby.
[30 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport]
[30 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

⑪Tanegashima Mangrove Park
Equipped with boardwalk facilities, one can take a leisurely stroll through the mangrove or even explore by kayaking.
[30 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport]
[50 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

⑫Chikura-no-Iwaya Shoreline Cavern and Hamada Beach
With the name [Iwa] (literally "A Thousand Swans", this large shoreline cave, formed by wave erosion from the Pacific Ocean, is said to be high enough to accommodate one thousand sitting people. *Visiting during low tide recommended.
[35 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport]
[60 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

⑬Hirota Site Museum
This museum shows scales of tatacts from the early Yayoi period (300 BC - 250 AD) unearthed in the area, including designated "Important National Cultural Properties".
■ Opening Hours: 9:00 - 17:00 HRS
■ Closed On: Mondays (closed on Tuesday if Monday is a national holiday), Dec 29 to Jan 3
■ Fees: Adult (High school students and older): 300 yen
Children (Junior high school students and under): 150 yen
■ Tel: 0997-26-0811
[40 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport]
[90 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

⑭Tanegashima Akagomekan (Red Rice Centre)
Static displays provide information about the culture of red rice production and consumption.
■ Opening Hours: 9:00 - 17:00 HRS (Last entry by 16:30 HRS)
■ Fees: Free
■ Closed On: Wednesdays, Dec 28 to Jan 4
■ Tel: 0997-26-2464
[35 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport]
[40 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

⑮Kadokura Cape
This is the spot where the matchlock rifle was first introduced in Japan in 1543. Located on the southernmost tip of Tanegashima Island, On clear days, one can even see Yakushima Island from this point.
[60 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport]
[75 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

⑯Tanegashima Space Centre
This space rocket launching facility spans 9,200,000 sq.metres, and faces the clear seas of the south. It is reputed to be the most beautiful of space centres in the world.
[45 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport]
[70 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

⑰Aerospace Science Centre
■ Opening Hours: 9:00 - 17:00 HRS (Jul - August until 17:30)
■ Fees: Free
■ Closed On: Mondays, Dec 29 to Jan 1
■ Tel: 0997-26-9244
[45 minutes by car from Tanegashima Airport]
[70 minutes by car from Nishinoomote Port]

■Information on Viewing Sites

Tanegashima Island is home to the only satellite rocket launch base in Japan. Rocket launching is conducted several times a year, during which several thousand people visit Tanegashima to witness the launch. At the viewing sites in Minamitane Town, visitors stand in awe upon hearing the loud rumbling during the moment of launch and behold the sight of the rocket flying straight into outer space. Be sure to witness this moment with your own eyes.

●Hase Park
・Parking space: 500 lots
・Toilet available
Countdown Audio Broadcast / Live broadcasting on TV monitors

●Minamitane Town Stadium
・Parking space: 80 lots
・Toilet available
Countdown Audio Broadcast

●Uchugaoka "Space Hill" Park
・Parking space: 250 lots
・Toilet available
Countdown Audio Broadcast / Live broadcasting on TV monitors

●Ebinoe Observatory Park
The nearest park to to the rocket launch complex, you can see the rockets rise above Tanegashima Island's beautiful sea.