

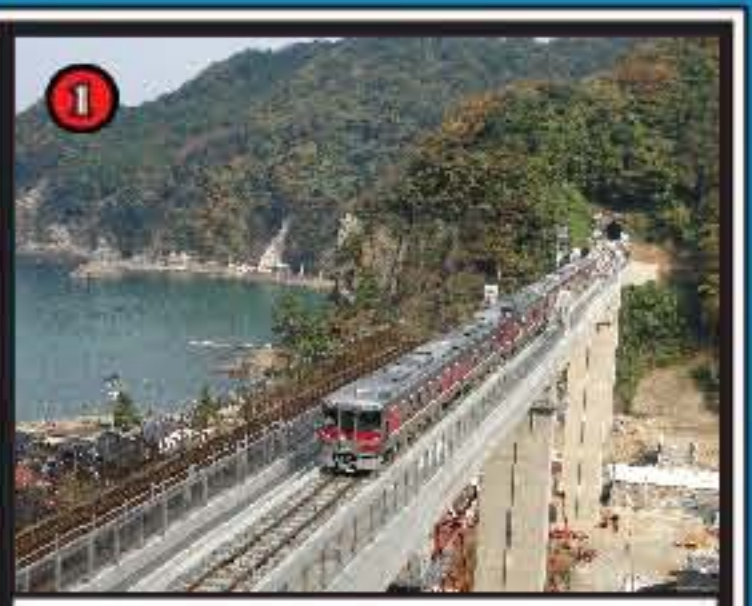
KAMI-TOWN ENGLISH TOURIST GUIDE



**A GUIDE TO
THE SIGHTS OF
KAMI-TOWN FOR
ENGLISH-SPEAKING
VISITORS**



Kami-Town Skiing and Snowboarding
December through March, Kami-Town becomes a skier's paradise, with four ski resorts operating within 15 minutes' drive of each other. Full winter wear, skis or snowboards and boots can all be rented for about 6,000 yen total per day, and ski lift tickets are sold by the day, half-day or season's pass. See www.snowjapan.com for more info.



Amarube Bridge
Where: Amarube, Kasumi-ku
Ph: 0796-36-1234
It reaches a height of 41 metres and it is the highest trestle bridge in Japan.



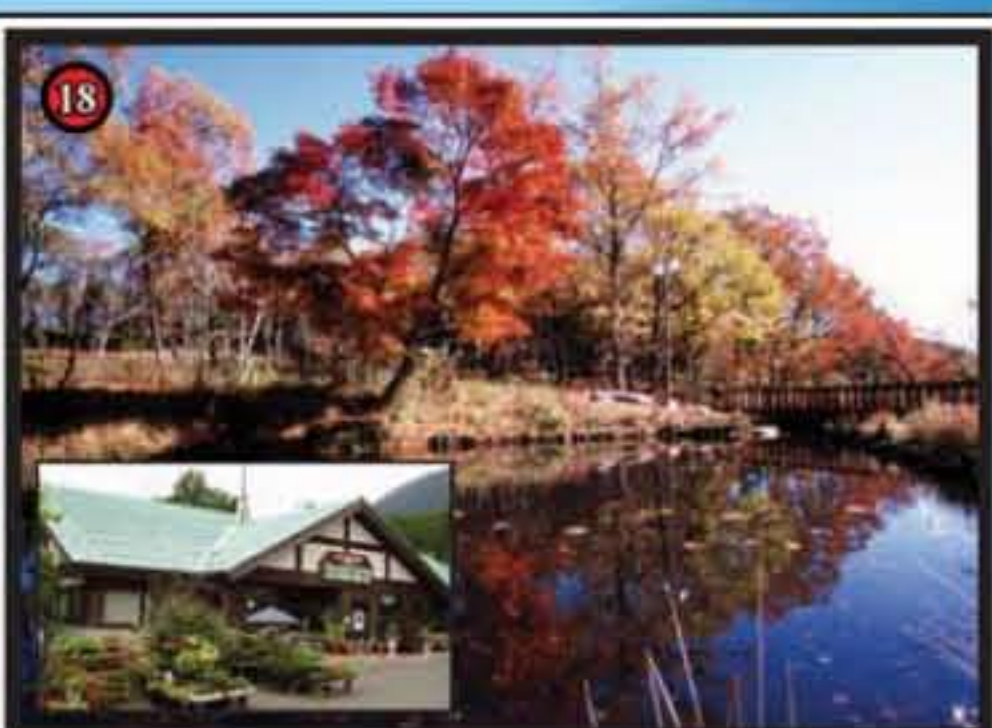
Daijo-ji Temple
Where: 860 Mori, Kasumi-ku, open 9-4 p.m.
Ph: 0796-36-0022, Admission: 800 yen
Built in 1745, Daijoji houses some of the most famous shoji screen door paintings of the Edo period by artist Oukyo Maruyama.



Kasumi-tsuru Sake Distillery
Where: 600-2 Kohara, Kasumi-ku
Ph: 0796-36-0029, www.fukuchiya.com.jp
One of the premier sake makers in the region, Kasumi-tsuru offers tours (book 1 day ahead) and an expansive shop selling sake and souvenirs.



Kebi Lake Campground
Where: Route 265, Ph: 0796-95-1109
Prices: 2,500 (camp) - 19,000 (cottage) yen
A lakeside campground with cottages and tents for rent. Visit in the Fall to see the leaves changing colour, or in Summer to view the stars.



Tajima Highlands Botanical Gardens
Where: 709 Wachi, Muraoka-ku. Ph: 0796-96-1187
Open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. April-November. Admission: 500 Yen
Founded in 1997 to conserve the Katsura tree, the Tajima Highlands Botanical Gardens have a thousand kinds of trees and flowers and three hundred types of plants. There are also two ponds and many types of birds.



Choraku-ji Temple
Where: Kawai, Muraoka-ku
Ph: 0796-95-1270, Admission: 800 yen
Built over 1,200 years ago, Choraku-ji features three wooden buddhas, each over 50-feet tall and a 231-foot five-story pagoda.



Ojiro Ski Resort
Where: Ojiro-ku
Ph: 0796-97-2717, www.ojiro.or.jp
Ojiro features five lifts, three beginner slopes, three advanced slopes and one difficult slope. Full/half day passes: 4,300/3,000 yen.



Muraoka Onsen and Spa
Where: 51 Shikada, Muraoka-ku
Ph: 0796-98-1512, Admission: 500 yen
The Muraoka Onsen and Spa is open every-day from 9 a.m.-10 p.m. and features indoor onsen pools.



Mahoroba Ethnic Museum
Where: 2324-1 Muraoka, Muraoka-ku
Ph: 0796-98-1154, Admission: 150 yen
Built in 1894, the museum was once a county government office. Open from 1 p.m.-5 p.m. Tues.-Fri., and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. on weekends.



Uheyama Terraced Rice Paddies
Where: Nukida, Ojiro-ku
Uheyama has some of the best views of terraced rice paddies in Japan. In early summer the mountains are reflected in the flooded paddies, which get bright green with grown rice by late summer.



The Ki-No-Dendo Wood Museum
Where: Wachi 951, Muraoka-ku
Ph: 0796-96-1388, Free, closed on Mondays.
Built entirely of wood, this unique museum features wooden models and displays. Open from 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (4 p.m. in the winter). On the web at: www.inaker.or.jp/wood/



Hachikita Onsen and Spa
Where: Osasa, Muraoka-ku
Ph: 0796-96-1666, Admission: 600 yen
This onsen is located below the Hachikita ski hills and features a restaurant and souvenir stand inside. Open 10 a.m.-10 p.m. daily during the ski season, and 11 a.m.-9 p.m. (closed Tuesdays) the rest of the year.



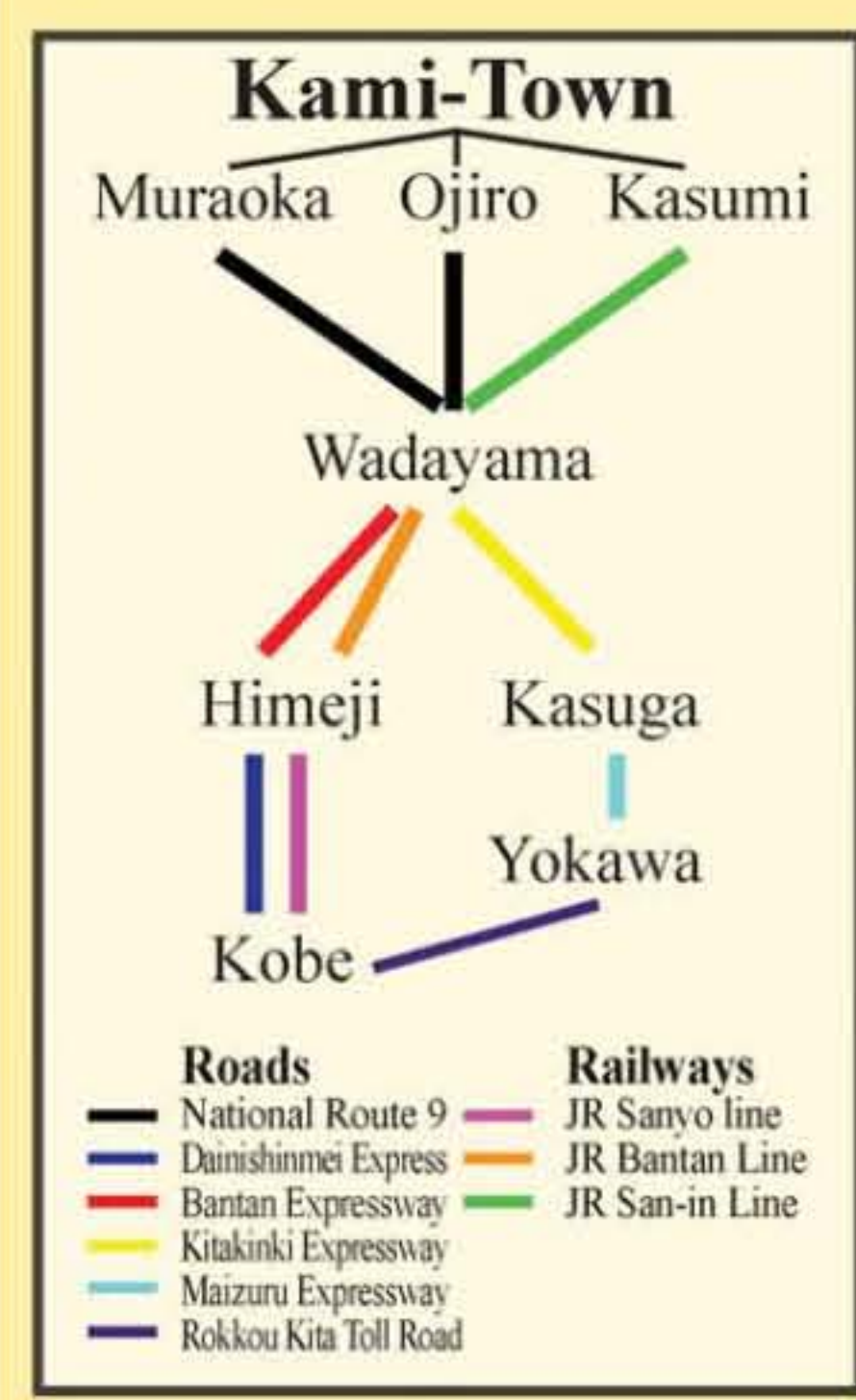
Sky Valley Ski Resort
Where: 701 Nakaotani, Muraoka-ku
Ph: 0796-96-0375, www.skyvalley.jp
This eight-course snow park caters mostly to snowboarders, has a variety of challenge levels, and offers full/half day passes: 3,500/2,500 yen. Arrive early to get a close parking spot.



Syakunage Restaurant
Where: 739-1 Kanzui, Ojiro-ku
Ph: 0796-97-2687
A great number of places in Kami-Town, such as Syakunage Restaurant, serve the tender Tajima Beef, which is the origin of many famous types of beef, such as Kobe Beef and Matsuzaka Beef.

How to get to Kami-Town

Kami-Town is made up of three smaller towns: Kasumi, Muraoka and Ojiro. The following map and guide show the different ways to get to Kami-Town by road and rail.



KAMI-TOWN EVENTS

- January 1-3.....
Choraku-ji Temple New Year's Visit (Muraoka)
 - Early February.....
Hyogo Snowball Fight (Ojiro)
 - Late February.....
Hachikita Ski Festival (Hachikita Ski Resort)
Mikata Highlands Snow Festival (Mikata Ski Resort)
 - Early March.....
Crab Appreciation Festival (Shibayama Fishing Port)
 - Early March.....
Ojiro Winter Festival (Ojiro Ski Resort)
 - June (2nd Sunday).....
Mikata 24km Cruel Marathon
 - Mid-July.....
Beaches Open
 - July (2nd Sunday).....
Saruodaki Waterfall Festival
 - July 24.....
Mantou Fire Festival
 - Late July.....
Kasumi Town Festival and Fireworks
 - Early August.....
Muraoka Town Festival and Parade
 - Late September.....
Kasumi Sea Breeze Marathon
 - Late September.....
Muraoka Double-full Ultra Marathon (44km/88km/100km)
 - Mid-October.....
Kasumi Crab Examination
 - Early December.....
Kasumi Crab Festival (Kasumi West fishing port)
- Web site: <http://www.town.mikata-kami.lg.jp>



This Guide was designed by:
Katsuya Azuma, Tomomi Fukugaki, Noriko Morimoto, Ayumi Nakamura, Shie Okamoto, Kenichiro Takebe, Ayaka Ueji, Takayuki Kumoda and Jeff Morrice

Muraoka Senior High School:
2931 Muraoka, Muraoka-ku, Kami-cho, Mikata-gun, Hyogo-ken. Postal code: 667-1311
Tel: (0796) 94-0201
www.hyogo-c.ed.jp/~muraoka-hs/