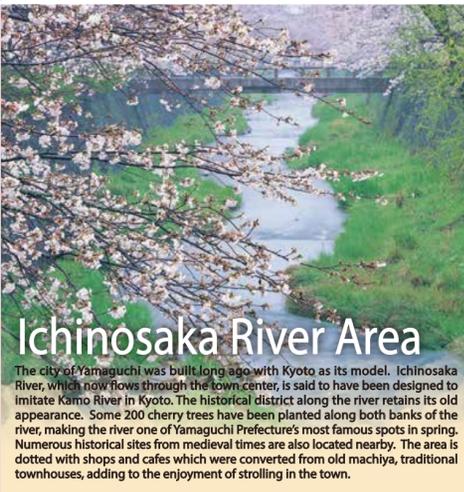




National treasure Rurikoji Temple's Five-Storyed Pagoda

Ouchi Moriharu, the most prosperous feudal lord in western Japan, is believed to have built this pagoda in 1442, roughly 600 years ago (during the Muromachi period) in order to mourn his deceased elder brother Yoshihiro. Thanks to the beauty of its changing appearances throughout four seasons – cherry blossom in spring, lush foliage in summer, colored leaves in fall, and snowy landscape in winter – it is numbered among the three greatest pagodas in Japan. There is a Japanese style sweets café in the park, where visitors can take a break from their walk enjoying hiyashime, a refreshing summer drink. The pagoda is lit up after sundown until 22:00.



Ichinosaka River Area

The city of Yamaguchi was built long ago with Kyoto as its model. Ichinosaka River, which now flows through the town center, is said to have been designed to imitate Kamo River in Kyoto. The historical district along the river retains its old appearance. Some 200 cherry trees have been planted along both banks of the river, making the river one of Yamaguchi Prefecture's most famous spots in spring. Numerous historical sites from medieval times are also located nearby. The area is dotted with shops and cafes which were converted from old machiya, traditional townhouses, adding to the enjoyment of strolling in the town.



Furusato Heritage Center

Visitors can enjoy viewing displays of Ouchi-nuri, a traditional lacquerware craft of Yamaguchi, as well as trying their hand at making chopsticks. ■ Reservation required: 083-928-3333



Yamaguchi City Saikoutei

Originally a restaurant frequented by famous politicians and literati, Saikoutei has been relocated and restored here. Hengaku/framed tablets with calligraphy by successive prime ministers are displayed in the main hall. A kimono rental service is also available, so visitors can walk around Ichinosaka River and Rurikoji Temple's Five-Storyed Pagoda dressed in authentic kimonos. ■ Admission: Adults ¥100, elementary/junior high school students ¥50 ■ Reservations: 083-934-3312



Ryufukuji Temple

It's designated an Important Cultural Property for its architectural style typical of the Muromachi period. The use of cypress bark in its roof is a technique unique to Japan.

Yamaguchi Xavier Memorial Church



Oji Lobby

This facility provides information on tourist sites and shops around the Ichinosaka River area, and offers a resting room. Visitors can also try on Japanese samurai costumes that can be easily worn over your regular clothing.



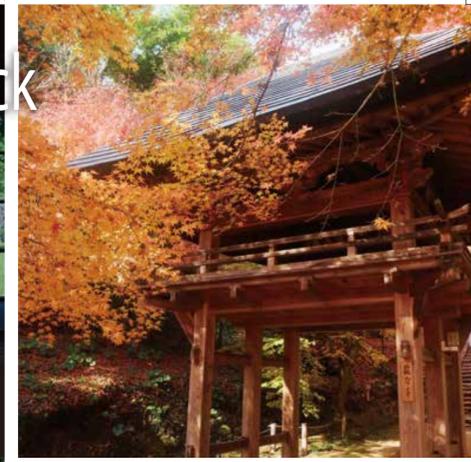
Joui-ji Sesshutei

It's thought that master painter Sesshu was asked to design this garden about 600 years ago (during the Muromachi period). Surrounded by woods on the east, west, and north sides, this garden is famous for its resemblance to Sesshu's landscape paintings and has been nationally designated as both a historical site and place of scenic beauty. At the southern end is Nanmei Garden, a traditional dry landscape garden. Guests can also enjoy matcha tea at the teahouse. ■ Admission: Adults ¥300, junior high/high school students ¥200



Chogen no Sato

This activity-oriented park has recreated the nostalgic look of a mountain village with thatched roofs and water wheels. Visitors can try their hand at paper-making, woodworking, bamboo crafts, and soba-making. ■ Admission: Adults ¥500, children ¥300 ■ Contact: 0835-52-1250



Ryosokuj Temple

Ryosoku-ji Temple is so famous for its autumnal leaves that people call it "Momiji (maple) Temple". There are about 150 maple trees situated along the path from the temple gate and in the precincts. The temple is enlivened by vivid red in autumn each year.

Aiosou

This lodge has the perfect location overlooking the Seto Inland Sea. The landscape seen from the open-air baths placed on the hill is spectacular, and guests can enjoy the onsen while taking in the panoramic view of the Suonada waters. ■ Contact: 083-984-2201



Transit information for getting to tourist spots in Yamaguchi Prefecture

Transportation Access in the Yamaguchi Area

Main Modes of Transportation to Yamaguchi city

Get info on Yamaguchi online!
Yamaguchi City Tourism Information Website: Nishinokyo Yamaguchi

Access by PC, smartphone, or cell phone!
<http://yamaguchi-city.jp/w/en/>

Nishinokyo, Yamaguchi Search

June, 2019

Yamaguchi, the "Kyoto of the West"

Yamaguchi City Tourism Guide

Yuda Onsen

One of the top hot spring destinations in the San'yō area of Japan, its history stretches back some 800 years. With great transportation access to main sightseeing spots in Yamaguchi Prefecture, its streets are lined with restaurants, pubs and hotels, that bustle with activity in the evening hours. After a full day of sightseeing, spend your evening warming up in the hot springs and enjoying Yamaguchi Prefecture's local delicacies, which include fresh seafood and delicious local sakes.

Festivals

Yamaguchi, with its wealth of natural resources, has numerous festivals that preserve traditions and express love toward nature and appreciation for its beauty. Check out the various festivals that enliven Yamaguchi throughout the year.

- July** Yamaguchi Gion Festival
- Aug** Yamaguchi Tanabata Lantern Festival
- Apr** Yuda Onsen Byakko Festival
- May** Firefly Viewing Week!
- July** Yuda Onsen Sake Festival
- Sept** Yamaguchi Yurameki Corridor
- Oct** Yuda Onsen Sake Festival
- Nov** Yamaguchi Tenjin Festival
- Dec** Yamaguchi X-mas City

Yuda Onsen Sightseeing Information Plaza

Kitsune no Ashi Ato

This tourist facility provides information on Yuda Onsen sightseeing spots, restaurants, and gift shops. It has a foot bath and a cafe, and you can enjoy local Yamaguchi sakes (from 18 breweries) and desserts made from local ingredients while you soak your feet in the foot baths. ■ Admission: free (¥200 to use the foot bath) ■ Hours: 8:00-22:00

Local Yamaguchi cuisine available in the town at Yuda Onsen

Pubs and other restaurants stand side by side in the Yuda Onsen area. Visitors can enjoy local Yamaguchi cuisine including blowfish and other seafood as well as Kawaraboba-noodle.

Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM]

This multipurpose cultural facility includes an exhibition space, a drama theater, a mini-theater, and the city's central library. It hosts exhibitions of installation artwork by Japanese and international artists, performance art shows, sound events, workshops, movie screenings, and more.

Steam Locomotive Yamaguchi

Affectionately known by the nickname "The Lady," steam locomotive Yamaguchi runs through verdant mountain valleys and rice fields, in a 2-hour journey between Shin-Yamaguchi and Tsuwano stations, blowing smoke as it goes. It's a nostalgia-laden experience that will make your trip unforgettable. There's also plenty to see and experience around the stations along the route: Yuda Onsen, the famous hot spring resort; Yamaguchi, from where to access the city's historical neighborhood and Chomonji Gorge, a place of scenic beauty.

Operating zone: JR Yamaguchi line, Shin-Yamaguchi – Tsuwano (one round trip per day)
Operating times: Sat., Sun., and public holidays from mid-Mar. to late Nov. To purchase a ticket, please visit a "Midori no Madoguchi" JR ticket office.
Website: <http://www.c571.jp/>

Gifts and Souvenirs

Take home one of the confections and crafts unique to Yamaguchi... the result of old traditions handed down from the Muromachi period.

- Ouchi dolls**: Ouchi Hiroyo, the 24th Ouchi clan head, had these dolls made for his wife. They are popular among people who desire happiness in marriage.
- Ouchi-nuri lacquerware**: This traditional craft uses lacquer and gold leaf. You can get bowls, chopsticks, trays, vases, and more.
- Uiro**: This traditional Yamaguchi confection is made from azuki beans. Broken starch is used in Yamaguchi uiro, adding a smooth texture to it.
- Yamaguchi Hagi-ware**: This earthenware is mainly known for highly decorated tea bowls. It's distinctive in its simplicity of shape and design.

Yamaguchi Travel Support Call Center

Tel. 083-902-6370 (open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year)

Inquiries regarding hotels and inns
Yuda Onsen Tourist Center
Tel. 083-901-0150 2-1-23 Yudaonsen, Yamaguchi-shi 753-0056

Inquiries regarding tourism
Shin-Yamaguchi Station Tourist Office-North Gate
Tel. 083-902-0037 North-Gate, JR Shin-Yamaguchi Station 1291-14 Ogorishimogo, Yamaguchi-shi 754-0002

Yamaguchi Tourism Convention Association
<http://yamaguchi-city.jp/w/en/>
Tel. 083-933-0088 2nd floor, JR Yamaguchi Station 2-1 Sodayu-cho, Yamaguchi-shi 753-0042

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