



# Yakushima Attractions in Two Pages

produced by Yakushima Life



## Popular attractions

1. **Ohko Falls**<sup>\*†</sup> (大川の滝 Spend 10 minutes, ¥0) Large waterfall. You can get rather close, but be careful of slippery rocks. 5 minutes by car from Kurio.
2. **Rhododendron Park**<sup>tb</sup> (石楠花の森公園 09:00-16:00 Spend 1 hour ¥500) Park with thousands of rhododendrons that bloom in early spring and a stream you can play in.
3. **Kurio Bathing Beach and Tide Pools**<sup>†</sup> (栗生浜海水浴場 Spend 1 hour, ¥0) Protected, sandy, swimming beach. Visit during summer between nightfall and midnight for a guided view of sea turtles either laying eggs or hatching. At low tide, snorkel or view coral tide pools off of Cape Tsukasaki (塚崎タイドプール).
4. **Nakama Banyan Tree** (仲間のガジュマル Spend 5 minutes, ¥0) Large banyan tree over a driveway.
5. **Yakushima Fruits Garden**<sup>†</sup> (屋久島フルーツガーデン 08:00-17:00 Spend 45 minutes, ¥500) An “agro-forest” of mostly tropical fruit trees not naturally found in Yakushima. Includes tour and fruit sample.
6. **Senpiro Falls**<sup>\*†</sup> (千尋の滝 Spend 10 minutes, ¥0) Stunning waterfall in a V-shaped valley between granite slopes. 25 minutes by car from Anbo.
7. **Torohki Falls** (トローキの滝 Spend 10 minutes, ¥0) Waterfall that empties into the ocean. View from a path across the street from the Ponkan/Tankan Tangerine Hall.
8. **Yakushima Botanical Research Park**<sup>†</sup> (屋久島ボタニカルリサーチパーク 08:00-17:00 Spend 1 hour, ¥500) Botanical gardens and green house.
9. **Monkey River Banyan Tree** (猿川ガジュマル Spend 20 minutes, ¥0) Sprawling banyan tree down a short forested path.
10. **Yakusugi Museum**<sup>†</sup> (屋久杉自然館 09:00-17:00 Spend 1 hour, ¥600) Learn about the cultural and natural history of Yakushima's forests. Admission price includes English audio guide.
11. **Yakusugiland**<sup>\*†</sup> (ヤクスギランド Spend ½ to 3 hours, ¥300) See ancient sugi trees, mossy needle-leaf forest, and perhaps wildlife in this nature park. Easy forest walks and increasingly challenging natural trails with access to Mt. Tacchu. Usually open even in poor weather. 40 minutes by car from Anbo.
12. **Kigen Sugi**<sup>\*</sup> (紀元杉 Spend 5 minutes, ¥0) Take the bus or drive to this 3,000-year-old sugi, standing next to the road 15 minutes beyond Yakusugiland.
13. **Harutahama Beach**<sup>†</sup> (春田浜 Spend 30 minutes to 2 hours, ¥0) Natural coral tide pools and a man-made swimming area.
14. **Yakushima Kayak Center** (屋久島カヤックセンター Spend 1 to 3 hours, ¥3,000~) Launch site for river canoe and kayak tours and rentals. Ask about tours and rentals at an information booth (\*), or book kayaks at Yamashita (山下) Rentals a couple minutes up the main road.
15. **Tashiro Beach** (田代海岸 Spend 45 minutes, ¥0) Rocky coast with various sedimentary layers exposed, including “pillow lava.”
16. **Shiratani-Unsuikyo Park**<sup>\*†</sup> (白谷雲水峡 Spend ½ to 5 hours, ¥300) See the Moss Forest, Taiko Iwa observation point, ancient sugi trees, and perhaps wildlife (especially deer). This nature park around a lush ravine is not accessible during downpours when the river floods. 30 minutes by car from Miyanoura.
17. **Yakushima Comprehensive Nature Park**<sup>†</sup> (屋久島総合自然公園 08:30-17:00 Spend 1 hour, ¥300) Botanical gardens and green houses for Yakushima's species.
18. **Yakushima Environmental and Cultural Museum** (屋久島環境文化村センター 09:00-17:00 Spend 45 minutes, ¥500) Museum in Miyanoura boasting a video with areal footage.
19. **Shitogo Gajumaru Banyan Garden**<sup>tb</sup> (志戸子ガジュマル園 08:30-17:30 Spend 45 minutes, ¥200) Banyan everyone park a bike-able distance from Miyanoura.
20. **Issou Swimming Beach**<sup>†</sup> (一湊海水浴場 Spend 45 minutes to 2 hours, ¥0) Sandy beach with swimming area. Nearby snorkeling is possible, but you'll need to join a tour or ask for directions.
21. **Inakahama Beach**<sup>\*†</sup> (いなか浜 Spend 5 minutes to 1 hour, ¥0) Large sandy beach popular for watching sea-turtle at night. You can see the sea turtles here after dusk from mid-May to September, but you will need a ¥700 reservation with the Sea Turtle Museum (ウミガメ館, ¥200 to visit during the day) and nighttime transportation. Beautiful, but not recommended for casual swimming.
22. **Yogo Valley**<sup>†</sup> (横河渓谷 Spend 30 minutes to 3 hours, ¥0) Have fun splashing among the boulders in the clear, cool river. Watch the weather and be careful of slippery rocks. Close to Nagata.
23. **West Forest Road** (西部林道 Spend 45 minutes, ¥0) Wildlife, scenic coast, lighthouse. Narrow, windy road through the World Heritage Site. Watch out for monkeys and deer. Not for inexperienced drivers.

\* indicates especially recommended attractions. † indicates daytime restrooms available in season.

<sup>b</sup> indications extended summer hours. Nature parks are staffed in the daytime only.

## Full Day Hikes

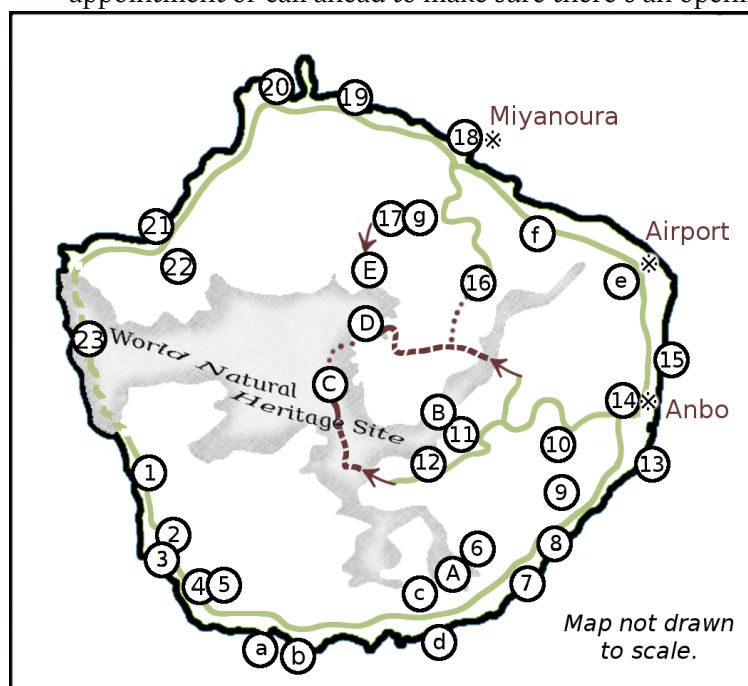
Hiking in Yakushima entails steep grades and using hands and feet to navigate rocks and roots. Times and distances are my estimates for round trips. Prior to hiking, please submit a "Mountain Climbing Notification."

- A. **Mt. Mocchomu** (モッチヨム岳 6 to 7 hours: 6 km, 670 m climb) Start from the trail head next to Senpiro Falls. Watch the flora change from sub-tropical to sub-alpine as you climb past Bandai Sugi and Taro Sugi and on towards the summit.
- B. **Mt. Tacchu** (太忠岳 6 to 7 hours: 10 km, 540 m climb) Follow the 150-minute course in Yakusugiland until you reach the turn-off for Mt. Tacchu. Then climb up to the huge granite pillar at the peak.
- C. **Mt. Miyanoura** (宮之浦岳 8 to 11 hours: 13 km, 580 m climb) Take a taxi or rental car to the Yodogawa Trail Head, about an hour's drive from Anbo. Pass the clear Yodogo River and the Hana no Ego high-altitude peat marsh. Then hike through the Interior Mountains for a 360-degree view of ocean (on clear days) from the tallest peak in Kyushu.
- D. **Jomon Sugi** (縄文杉 7 to 11 hours: 22 km, 730 m climb) Start from the Arakawa Trail Head (special bus ticket required from March through November) a 50-minute drive from Anbo and follow the old logging railway for 8.5 km. Then climb a well-maintained trail past Wilson's Stump to Jomon Sugi, estimated to be as old as 7,000 years. Strong hikers can start from Shiratani but will need transportation outside of normal bus hours. Please note that hikers on the ascent have priority when the trail is crowded.
- E. **Ryujin Sugi** (龍神杉 7 to 9 hours: 11 km, 770 m climb) 3,000-year-old tree on the opposite face of the mountain from Jomon Sugi. The trail head is about a 7-km drive from Miyanoura, the last several kilometers of which is unpaved gravel.

## Hot Springs

The facilities listed here use natural spring water. Hours are subject to change and prices may not include taxes.

- a. **Yudomari Hot Spring** (湯泊温泉 ¥100, 24 hrs.) Outdoors, unsheltered beside the ocean. Changing rooms, but no privacy. Please remove your shoes at the entrance and rinse off before entering.
- b. **Hirauchi Tidal Hot Springs** (平内海中温泉 ¥100, 24 hrs.) Outdoors, unsheltered beside the ocean. Not usable when underwater at high tide. Hottest after low tide. Mixed sex, no privacy. Please remove your shoes at the entrance and rinse off before entering. No bathing suits, please, but towel-covers are okay.
- c. **Iwasaki Hotel** (岩崎ホテル ¥1260, Reception: 15:00~17:00) Includes mountain-view outdoor baths.
- d. **JR Hotel** (JR ホテル ¥1000, Reception: 15:00~18:00) Lovely view of the ocean. Includes outdoor baths.
- e. **Onnoaida Hot Spring** (尾之間 ¥200, 7:00~21:00, closed Monday mornings) Very hot. Enjoy the small town atmosphere
- f. **Manten** (縄文の宿まんてん ¥1500, 10:30~22:30) Right near the airport. Includes outdoor baths.
- g. **Kusukawa Hot Spring** (楠川温泉 ¥300, 9:30~20:00) Laid back atmosphere. Tattoos were okay the last time I asked.
- h. **Yunokonoyu Hot Spring** (ゆのこの湯温泉 ¥400, 12:00~20:00) Small, private atmosphere. Make an appointment or call ahead to make sure there's an opening.



✳️ **Information Booths** run by the Tourism Association (観光協会案内所) are located at the port in **Miyanoura**, near the center of **Anbo**, and beside the **Airport**. They can provide phone numbers, hours, and updated details for sites, stores, rental shops, and accommodations in Yakushima.

Please note that there are no early morning or evening buses.

This unofficial pamphlet was produced in 2013 by Jenny at Yakushima Life. Map contour reproduced from public WHS files. To report errors or book a guided hike with Yakushima Life, please contact Jenny:

080-6457-8028

[YakushimaLife@gmail.com](mailto:YakushimaLife@gmail.com)  
<http://www.yakushimalife.com>