

Kagoshima, Japan



From the 12th century to the Meiji Restoration of 1868, Kagoshima was the chief stronghold of the mighty Shimazu clan. The city lies at the top of the Satsuma Peninsula, a mountainous, geothermal wonderland of hot springs and geysers. The area is also rich in modern Japanese history: Saigo Takamori and the Satsuma samurai were leaders of the Meiji Restoration that toppled the shogun and restored the Emperor to power in 1868. In 1877, dissatisfied with the direction of the new government, Saigo led the Satsuma Rebellion, which ended in his death and the final defeat of the samurai.

The symbol of Kagoshima is Sakura Jima - the volcanic island that sits just offshore. The volcano has erupted over 30 times in recorded history.

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Show Points of Interest

Points of Interest

1 Chiran

During Japan's Feudal Era, Chiran was a stronghold of the Shimazu samurai. Stroll down a street lined with well-preserved samurai houses and their gardens.

2 Ibusuki

The Satsuma Peninsula's foremost resort is famed for its unique sand bath. Geothermal springs heat the sand to approximately 180 degrees Fahrenheit.

3 Sakura Jima

Mt. Sakura Jima rises over 3,000 feet above the waters of Kagoshima Bay. The volcano has erupted over 30 times in recorded history and is still mildly active today.

4 Lake Ikeda

The largest lake on Kyushu is actually a caldera, a collapsed volcano. The lake serves as a stunning frame for Mt. Kaimon, a volcano that recalls Mt. Fuji in shape.

5 Chiran Peace Museum for Kamikaze Pilots

Chiran Air Base was home to Japan's Kamikaze squadrons. Tour the Tokko Heiwa Kaikan with its comprehensive collection of aircraft, models, mementoes and photographs of the Special Attack Corps.

6 Senganen (Iso Garden)

The superb 17th-century garden offers views of Sakura Jima. Many historic relics remain in the garden and villa. The garden overlooks magnificent Mt. Sakurajima and Kinko Bay. The Shoko Shuseikan Museum is also located in the Iso Garden.

7 Kirishima Onsen

One of the most unique onsen in Japan features a large, extravagantly landscaped pool in a covered hall. Smaller pools surround the main onsen, while a fountain sends a spray of water skyward.

8 Ishin Furusato-kan Museum

The museum chronicles "Meiji Ishin," the dramatic revolution that led to the end of the Samurai feudal regime and started the modern and industrialized era under imperial rule by Samurai themselves. A lot of historical articles are displayed to understand this history deeply.

Special Child Pricing Available!

Children age 12 and younger, savings up to 50%. For actual pricing information, click on tour title or Reserve button.

Sightseeing & City Tours



Guided in Japanese: Chiran Samurai Houses & Kamikaze Museum

KOJ-264 | Kagoshima, Japan

4
hours

from \$59.00

You will visit:



This half-day tour offers a fascinating look at Japan's history. Travel the Satsuma Peninsula and view the his samurai houses at Chiran, once the stronghold of the Shimazu clan. Also visit a museum dedicated to World II kamikaze pilots.



Guided in Japanese: Highlights of Kagoshima

KOJ-204 | Kagoshima, Japan | Group Size: 40

5
hours

from \$89.00

You will visit:

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M

This half-day itinerary takes you on an eye-opening tour through Japan's geographic and feudal history, with sweeping views of Sakurajima, one of Japan's most active volcanoes; a tranquil garden designed for a samurai lord, offering views of Kagoshima Bay (weather permitting); and a museum that chronicles over 700 years of Shimazu samurai rule.



Guided in Japanese: Kirishima Onsen

KOJ-234 | Kagoshima, Japan

6
hours

from \$89.00

You will visit:



Kirishima area is innermost depth of Japan. Japanese mythological legend was born here, remaining a lot of constructions, including Kirishima Shrine. Your heart will be healed by its Mountain View, sacred nature and springs as the gods are also satisfied.



Easy Kagoshima

KOJ-290 | Kagoshima, Japan

3
hours

from \$89.95

You will see:



A narrated, half-day drive takes you on an exploration of the scenic highlights of Kagoshima. Get a breathtaking view of Sakurajima, one of Japan's most active volcanoes, and sample sweet potato sake at Shochu Brewer. Ideal for passengers who prefer little or no walking.



Chiran Samurai Houses & Kamikaze Museum

KOJ-260 | Kagoshima, Japan

4
hours

from \$99.95

You will visit:

1 5

M

This half-day tour offers a fascinating look at Japan's history. Travel the Satsuma Peninsula and view the his samurai houses at Chiran, once the stronghold of the Shimazu clan. Also visit a museum dedicated to World II kamikaze pilots.



Guided in Japanese: Best of Kagoshima

KOJ-104 | Kagoshima, Japan | Group Size: 40

7.25
hours

from \$129.00

You will visit:



Visit a volcanic island in Kagoshima Bay and enjoy a lunch featuring local cuisine. Stroll through a classic 17 century garden and view 700 years of history at a museum devoted to Kagoshima's Shimazu clan. Tour a sh factory and learn the secrets of producing this traditional Japanese tipple.



Highlights of Kagoshima

KOJ-200 | Kagoshima, Japan

5
hours

from \$129.95

You will visit:

3 6

M

This half-day itinerary takes you on an eye-opening tour through Japan's geographic and feudal history, with sweeping views of Sakurajima, one of Japan's most active volcanoes; a tranquil garden designed for a samurai lord, offering views of Kagoshima Bay (weather permitting); and a museum that chronicles over 700 years of Shimazu samurai rule.



Premium

Guided in Japanese: Ibusuki Sand Bath & Satsuma Denshokan Museum

KOJ-154 | Kagoshima, Japan | Group Size: 40

7
hours

from \$149.00

You will visit:

2 4



Explore a museum devoted to the arts and culture of the Satsuma Peninsula. Stroll to a hot-springs resort for a unique Ibusuki sand bath - the bath consists of warm, black, volcanic sand.



Best of Kagoshima

KOJ-100 | Kagoshima, Japan | Group Size: 40

7
hours

from \$169.95

You will visit:

3 6

M

This half-day itinerary takes you on an eye-opening tour through Japan's geographic and feudal history, with sweeping views of Sakurajima, one of Japan's most active volcanoes; a tranquil garden designed for a samurai lord, offering views of Kagoshima Bay (weather permitting); and a museum that chronicles over 700 years of Shimazu samurai rule.



Chiran Samurai Houses, Lake Ikeda & Satsuma Peninsula

KOJ-105 | Kagoshima, Japan

6.5
hours

from \$179.95

You will visit:



You will see:



Step back in time on this full-day tour of Chiran, the one-time stronghold of the Shimazu samurai, and the Satsuma Peninsula, a natural wonderland dotted with hot springs. Visit Lake Ikeda and the remains of a collapsed volcano, view the historical samurai houses and enjoy lunch.



Ibusuki Sand Bath & Chiran Samurai Houses

KOJ-155 | Kagoshima, Japan

7
hours

from \$189.95

You will visit:



This full-day tour takes you south to the Satsuma Peninsula, a wonderland of hot springs. Your first stop is the resort area of Ibusuki, where you'll experience a therapeutic sand bath. Lunch at local restaurant is also on your itinerary, then visit a street lined with Samurai houses.

Special Interests



Guided in Japanese: Museum of the Meiji Restoration & Terukuni Shrine

KOJ-209 | Kagoshima, Japan | Group Size: 40

5
hours

from \$79.00

You will visit:

6 8

M

Stroll through a 17th century garden and survey 700 years of history at a museum devoted to Satsuma's Shimazu clan. Tour the Museum of the Meiji Restoration, where holograms bring history to life. Visit Terukuni Shrine, dedicated to Shimazu Nariakira.



Museum of the Meiji Restoration & Terukuni Shrine

KOJ-205 | Kagoshima, Japan | Group Size: 40

5
hours

from \$109.95

You will visit:

6 8

M

Stroll through a 17th century garden and survey 700 years of history at a museum devoted to Satsuma's Shimazu clan. Tour the Museum of the Meiji Restoration, where holograms bring history to life. Visit Terukuni Shrine, dedicated to Shimazu Nariakira.



New Tour

Local Connections: Ocha-no-sato Green Tea & Chin Jukan Pottery

KOJ-980 | Kagoshima, Japan

4.5
hours

from \$179.95

E

Join a local insider on a quest to explore Kagoshima's cultural legacies. Learn the 1,200-year-old history of green tea during a visit to a tea plantation and witness the traditional process of hand rolling tea from expert Hayao Futatsumata. Then, discover the artistry behind the 400-year-old Chin Jukan Pottery with pottery master Chii Jukan 15th.