

Endless Fun in Yokohama and Surrounding Areas!

Yokohama is a lively international port town. Kicking off the modernization of Japan in the 19th century, its unique blend of cultures helps set it apart from Tokyo. While there are plenty of famous tourist attractions to visit, beyond that you'll find some real excitement waiting for you. Go and enjoy everything Yokohama and its surrounding areas have to offer!



Fun for Adults

For Japanese people, Yokohama is also famous for its places to enjoy romantic dates. Minato Mirai is a popular area known for its dazzling night views and bar hopping in its high-spirited Noge drinking district. The fun doesn't stop there though. You can enjoy beautiful sunsets on the Enoshima coast, shopping, art museums, join interesting workshops and discover tucked away spots for cherry blossom viewing in spring—you'll never run out of things to do.

1 Map: B-3 • Noge District

An entertainment area that comes to life every evening with hundreds of close-sized bars, clubs, restaurants and izakayas, serving Japanese-style and international snacks and food. The quaint and welcoming alleys are embellished with gates and lanterns that lend an old-Japan vibe to the neighborhood.



2 Map: A-4 • Enoshima Sea Candle (Lighthouse Observation Tower)

A lighthouse located on a small tidal island of Enoshima. The tower offers spectacular sunset views from the observation decks overlooking the sea, Mt. Fuji and Miura peninsula. Enoshima Sea Candle is illuminated with colorful lights at night.



3 Map: B-4 • Dobuta Street, Doru-Machi Yokosuka

This is a shopping street with a unique Japan-meets-vintage-America vibe acquired from American-style diners and military shops that line the street. It's also home to the Yokosuka navy curry and *sakajan* bomber jackets embroidered with Japanese illustrations. Shops displaying the "Doru-Machi Yokosuka" take US Dollars. There are over 90 shops where you can make purchases using US Dollars.



4 Map: B-1 • Taro Okamoto Museum of Art

The museum was opened to celebrate the art of Taro Okamoto and his parents. Once inside, I walked around the museum's inviting walkways and art space for mood lit art installations, all of which showcased the awe-inspiring artwork to full effect. The displays showed Taro and his family as vibrant and colorful creators, unrestricted in style; a mix of canvas, paintings, structures, monuments, and objects which made the flexibility of his art really appealing and interesting to see.



5 Map: B-2 • Kirin Brewery Company Yokohama Factory

Kirin Brewery Corporation is one of the leading beer companies in Japan. The Yokohama Plant is the oldest Kirin Brewery plant in Japan. The 80-minute brewery tour, which is free-of-charge, is led by a tour guide. You can learn about their methods and the secrets that make the beer so delicious. You also can enjoy free beer tasting at the end of the tour. Please note you need to make an appointment for this on Kirin's website before going.



6 Map: B-3 • Reopen in Spring 2020 Mitsui Outlet Park Yokohama Bayside

The Mitsui Outlet Park Yokohama Bayside complex located along the Yokohama Bayside Marina is undergoing a huge makeover. It will expand twice its original size, increasing the number of famous domestic and international brand shops where you can buy goods at outlet prices.



7 Map: B-3 • Open in September 2019 BRANCH Yokohama Nambu Market

The Yokohama Nambu Market is being renovated into a massive wholesale food market and commercial complex where you can shop, eat, and "experience" food. Enjoy a new food experience.



8 Map: A-3 • Hikiji Riverside by Sakuragaoka

In Spring, the Hikiji Riverside area is known for its splendid cherry blossoms along its riverside walkway throughout the residential area. You can enjoy a beautiful day filled with sakura, smiles and sunshine, as it looks impressive with the sheer amount of established trees preparing to bloom along the route.



★ Experience

9 Map: A-4 • Kamakura Sightseeing in Kimono

Before coming to Japan, I knew there were shops where you could rent kimonos to wear, but I was surprised at how easy it was. When I went sightseeing in Kamakura, I casually dropped by a shop and rented a kimono. The shop had many kimonos to choose from. I found one I liked, borrowed some accessories and also had my hair styled to match my new attire. The staff gracefully placed kanzashi (a traditional Japanese ornamental hairpin) in my hair, giving it a touch of elegance befitting of the kimono I was wearing. I thought to myself how very skillful the Japanese are. Once my outfit was complete, I left my other clothes with the shop and walked through the old town of Kamakura. As I made my way from place to place, I took many pictures. The shop staff had fitted me comfortably, so I was able to enjoy a very pleasant day exploring the town in my kimono.



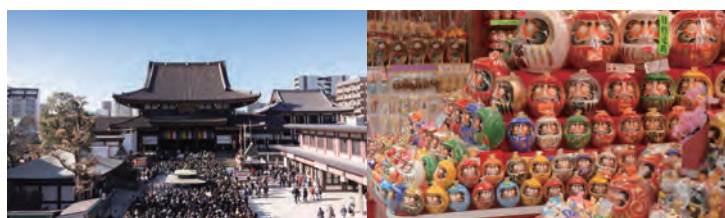
Connecting with Japanese History and Culture

There are many places in the city of Yokohama and surrounding areas where you can connect with Japanese history and culture. The best place to start is probably Kamakura, which has a famous statue of Buddha and some old temples. As you explore the area, you can feel the remnants of samurai culture. Kamakura has plenty to see and do for those who would like to experience "authentic Japanese" culture. However, further inland are open-air museums surrounded by the tranquility of Japanese nature, where you can learn about the traditional ways of Japanese living. Finally, there's Kawasaki. With its large temple, this bustling town makes for an enjoyable visit.

10 Map: C-2 • Kawasaki Daishi Heikenji Temple

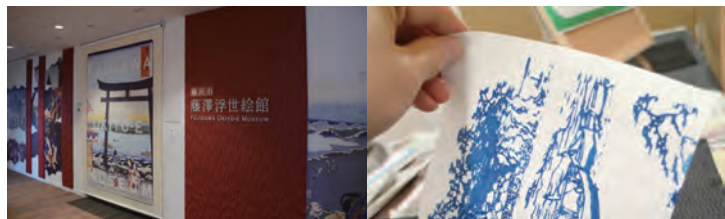
Founded in 1128 AD, the grand main hall at this Buddhist Temple complex is surrounded by various unique prayer facilities such as Dai-Sanmon (Main Gate), and Hakkajo Gojunoto (Octagonal Five-Storeyed Pagoda) and an Indian-style Jodo-sha Katsuanzen Kitoden (Prayer Hall for Safe Driving) dedicated to all those praying for travel safety. It is one of the most popular temples for the Japanese tradition of hatsumode (the first visit to a place of worship in the new year to ward off evil).

Kawasaki Daishi Nakamise-dori: A shopping street extending from the main hall of the Kawasaki Daishi Temple is lined with shops of traditional items such as Tontoko rock candy, bright red Daruma dolls that are said to bring luck, and Kuzumochi, a traditional Japanese jelly.



11 Map: A-4 • Fujisawa Ukiyo-e Museum

The museum houses an impressive collection of Ukiyo-e, a traditional Japanese pictorial art form of woodblock prints and paintings. The artwork on display depicts the life and history of Fujisawa and Enoshima. This museum offers you Ukiyo-e woodblock printing experience. You can try to create your Ukiyo-e using a block plate similar to those used by the artists (Weekend only).



★ Experience

12 Map: A-4 • Finding Tranquility through Zen and the Samurai Spirit — SAMURAI Project in Kamakura

In Kamakura, the birthplace of Japanese Zen Buddhism, I had a chance to learn about real samurai culture and wield a special Japanese sword. There I discovered that a true samurai is very different than what you see in movies and video games. My experience began at Kigen-in Temple. At this quiet and serene temple, which isn't open to regular tourists, I relaxed my spirit and mind through zazen meditation. This is the same kind of meditation that Apple's Steve Jobs was so fascinated by. After a calming session of meditation, I dressed in a kimono and tried my hand at a martial arts technique all samurai learned, iai. Iai is the art of drawing your sword, cutting down an opponent and sheathing the blade again, all in one fluid motion. With authentic Japanese sword in hand, I practiced slicing through stalks of straw. The sensation was incredible. With instructions and explanations available in English, you can learn not only how to use a Japanese sword, but also the deep connection between Zen meditation and the ways of the samurai warrior. This was an unforgettable experience.



13 Map: B-4 • Shomyoji Temple

Built in the 13th century, the Jodo-style garden of the temple depicts a Buddhist paradise. A vermillion arched and flat bridge crosses over a serene lake and leads to the main prayer hall, symbolizing that the bridge is the connection to the world where Buddha is standing. The entrance of the temple is lined with cherry blossom trees that bloom in spring.



14 Map: B-1 • [Nihon Minkaen] Japan Open-Air Folk House Museum

Contained within the boundaries of the parkland, this impressive array of traditional Japanese folk houses laid out in natural surroundings is a sight to see. Enjoy being in a landscape of greenery which gave the Open-Air museum an authentic and realistic feel to compliment the different folk houses. There are 25 traditional folk houses in total set amongst the foliage with walkways leading to the well-spaced structures. This museum area offers various events and workshops throughout the year.



15 Map: A-4 • Hasedera Temple

This temple is holding one of the largest wooden Buddhist statues and magnificent idols in Japan. The temple complex is resplendent with flora that bloom in different seasons, and an observation platform boasts panoramic views over Yuihama beach and Sagami bay. Shakyo — the Japanese practice of copying Buddhist scriptures — can be practiced in the temple.



16 Map: A-1 • Buaiso Residence

Although I couldn't read the Japanese text, I was charmed by the personality of this quaint residence once owned by the late Jiro Shirasu, who was a Japanese businessman and served in Japan's first democratically-elected Central Liaison Office after the Second World War. Its atmosphere and surroundings shone through and the charm wasn't lost in translation. This thatched roof residence featured the museum born from his home, a restaurant, "Play Fast" Bar and Gallery, as well as a semi-outdoor cafe area. Truly a place to relax and enjoy the day with other people! The museum showed how Jiro lived by bringing together the impact of experiences as a student in Cambridge, England and his Japanese heritage, and successfully merging them together as you can see throughout the museum.



17 Map: B-3 • Gumyoji Temple and Shopping Street

Gumyoji town gets its name from this temple, which is believed to be one of the oldest temples in Yokohama. The gates and guards of the temple are said to be the oldest in Kanagawa prefecture. **Gumyoji Shopping Street:** The covered shopping arcade is representative of the Shotengai culture in Japan with local and affordable shops and cafes that are popular with older generation. Gumyoji Temple is at one end of the street, and the Ooka River that runs through the middle is a popular spot in cherry blossom season.



Fun for the Family

The Yokohama area isn't just fun to visit; it's also a popular place to live. It's especially great for families because of its many family-friendly locations. One is Yokosuka, which has a strong relationship with the nearby U.S. Navy base. You can take the family to explore an uninhabited island, and while you enjoy the view of the sea we recommend picking fresh fruit ripened by the warm weather. Be sure not to miss out on the Machida area as well. It has a park with a petting zoo and will soon be home to a new amusement park.

18 Map: B-4 • Mikasa Park

Mikasa Park is filled with musical water fountains, dynamic wall fountains and an 18-meter (60 ft) tall monument. It's also home to the historical memorial battleship the *Mikasa*, which you can tour the interior.



19 Map: C-4 • Sarushima (Monkey Island)

A ten minute ferry ride from Mikasa Park takes you to Sarushima "Monkey" Island, an uninhabited island that was once used as a fortress. Remains of brick forts and gun batteries can still be seen there.



20 Map: B-4 • Yokosuka Navy Curry

The city of Yokosuka has long relationship with the Japanese Navy, and it's also the birthplace of "Navy Curry." This meal would pave the way for curry and rice to become a national household dish. With a number of restaurants in the city serving Navy Curry, be sure to get a spoonful of this hearty meal.



21 Map: B-4 • A Cruise of Yokosuka Naval Port

Yokosuka port was established over 150 years ago as a shipyard when Japan opened to foreign trade, and it was later developed as a naval military port. Shipyards and drying docks can be seen from the boardwalk overlooking the bay. Along the boardwalk, is a beautiful park with seasonal flowers and a small museum exhibiting shipbuilding items including a steam hammer, both dedicated to Verry for his contribution to the Yokosuka arsenal. The Yokosuka naval port cruise gives an up-close demonstration of the US navy and Japanese maritime self-defense fleets.



22 Map: A-4 • Enoshima Tour

From the coast of Katase Beach to Enoshima makes a pleasant trek along beaches and a bridge with views of Mt. Fuji all the way to Benzaiten Nakamise shopping street, which leads to Enoshima-jinja Shrine. A further hike up a steep staircase or ride on the escalator will take you to the Enoshima Sea Candle (Lighthouse Observation Tower).



23 Map: A-4 • Enoshima Iwaya Cave

The cave has been formed by tidal erosion over a long period of time and can be reached by hiking along a rocky beach away from Enoshima Sea Candle. The cave is surrounded by many legends of Enoshima, and it's said that it leads directly from the Enoshima to Mt. Fuji.



Active Outings

If you're a fan of sports, then you're probably the kind of person who likes doing rather than watching. The Port of Yokohama's beautiful bay area is a great place to go jogging and cycling. Why not try some marine activities? Travel a little farther out and you can visit Zushi; Japan's marine sports mecca. If you're into hiking, then drop by Kamakura. It was originally a samurai city and is guarded by the high-rising Kamakura Alps, which have some old scenic hiking trails.

32 Map: B-4 • Umi no Koen (Marine Park)

This beautiful man-made beach is the only place where you can dip into the ocean waters in the city of Yokohama. There are facilities for doing marine sports like windsurfing and stand-up paddle surfing. In early spring, people come for clam digging, and in summer, BBQs are popular.



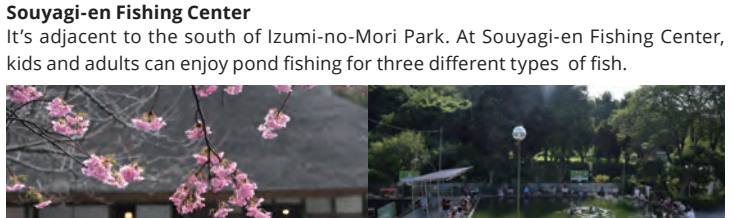
33 Map: A-4 • Riviera Zushi Marina

A plush resort complex with restaurants, cafes, resort apartments and Yacht club. A meal with a short cruise to Enoshima can be reserved in advance. On a clear day, Mt. Fuji and Enoshima Sea Candle can be viewed from the palm lined harbor front.



34 Map: A-2 • Izumi-no-Mori Park

Finding peaceful parks may sometimes be difficult in the surrounding Tokyo, but this tranquil atmosphere could be the perfect place for a couple's afternoon, or a family adventure throughout the forested area and beyond. **Yamato City Historical Folk House Museum** Found within the outskirts of the park is another chance to visit a Folk House. This small site features two houses for you to explore and absorb the history. Built in the Mid-Edo period and originally located within Shimo Tsuruma, Yamato City, they are a good indication of the lifestyle and peaceful living during this time and worth a brief viewing for the cultural aspects. **Souyagi-en Fishing Center** It's adjacent to the south of Izumi-no-Mori Park. At Souyagi-en Fishing Center, kids and adults can enjoy pond fishing for three different types of fish.



35 Map: B-5 • Fruit Picking at Tsukihama Tourist Farm

Located on hilly terrain along the Miura Peninsula, at Tsukihama Tourist Farm you can enjoy views of the sea as you pick fruit. In spring you can pick strawberries and in fall you can pick mandarin orange and dig up sweet potatoes. While taking in the beauty of the archetypal Japanese landscape fill up on delicious Japanese fruit.



24 Map: B-4 • Yokohama Hakkeijima Sea Paradise

This is one of the most visited amusement spots in Yokohama area. Its main attractions are the amusement park Pleasure Land and the Aqua Resorts section that boasts an aquarium, performances, and more. Admission ticket is required for both.



25 Map: B-3 • CUPNOODLES MUSEUM YOKOHAMA

Learn about the invention and history behind the internationally beloved instant ramen. At the museum, you can even make your own original CUPNOODLES.



26 Map: A-1 • Machida Squirrel Garden

This well-sized open-air enclosure filled with the cutest squirrels that will feed from your gloved hand left me overwhelmed by the adorable animals and their interactions, which were thoroughly entertaining to watch (whether sleeping in bird boxes or running around the structures) while traveling along the walkways.



27 Map: A-1 • Machida Yakushi-ike Park Four Season Forest

Currently work is being done to areas of the park to expand facilities and attractions surrounding Yakushi-ike Pond. In April 2020 a new entrance called the "Welcome Gate" will open leading to a west garden. You can walk round the various Japanese designed landscaped areas throughout the park and enjoy the main feature of the park — the impressive Yakushi-ike Pond and bridge sitting center stage.



28 Map: A-2 • Open in Autumn 2019 Minami-machida Grandberry Park and Snoopy Museum

Minami-machida Grandberry Park is scheduled to open fall 2019 with about 230 stores and greenery plaza covering a 22-hectare (55 ac) area. The Snoopy Museum is located between the shopping mall to the park. You can enjoy a collection of originally comic strips and related items.



29 Map: A-4 • Komachi Dori

A vibrant shopping street beginning at the large red Torii gate across from Kamakura Station. It's lined with historic buildings, souvenir shops and eateries, many serving local Kamakura cuisine.



30 Map: A-4 • Wakamiyaaoji Street

The main avenue leading to the Tsurugaoka Hachimangu Shrine with shops and restaurants on both sides. A beautiful sakura tunnel forms along the street in cherry blossom season.



★ Experience

31 Map: A-4 • Enjoy Sushi Making with a Real Sushi Chef. —Satsumaya Honten Sushi Restaurant

We are sushi lovers so we were really happy to participate in a sushi-making lesson organized by a real sushi restaurant! At the Fujisawa-shuku rest area along the Coastal Tokaido Route, an old sushi restaurant, Satsumaya can be found where it offers sushi-making lessons ranging from the basics to advanced techniques taught by their chef. As we have never prepared fish, anxiety kicks in. But the chef of Satsumaya taught us how to slice and dice, passing down all those secrets to make various sushi dishes to us and lastly, enjoying the sushi that we had made.



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36 Map: B-4 • Zushi Beach

A beach facing Sagami bay with many restaurants and bars. Several schools in the area provide all year stand-up padding (SUP) and windsurfing lessons. Inquire in advance for lessons in English.

Feather Factory Zushi SUP has been growing in popularity in Japan recently, so if you're thinking of SUP'ing in Japan, please come to Zushi coast. This calm and beautiful sea is the right place for first time SUP'ers. Feather Factory Zushi opened last year, and during the summer, you may have lessons from an English-speaking instructor. **Marine Blue** Marine Blue has over 30 years of experience in opening a shop in Zushi. At this school, they provide not only SUP but also windsurfing lessons. Depending on the season or weather, Mt. Fuji can be seen on the board!



37 Map: A-4 • Kamakura Cycle Rental Shop

There are some cycle rental shops, and Kamakura Rent-a-Cycle Shop "Kurarin" in Kamakura is one of them. Rent a cycle from Kamakura Station for a couple of hours or the whole day, and ride to various sites like temples, beaches and Kita-kamakura area, located within a 15-minute ride from Kamakura Station. You can also enjoy cafe-hopping along the shore. You can choose from among standard bicycles, multi-speed bicycles, and electric bicycles. The reasonable rental fees are also a plus.



★ Experience

38 Map: A-4 • Hiking Along the Kamakura Alps —The Tenen Hiking Trail

Like Kyoto, Kamakura's large collection of old temples has made it a popular place for sightseeing. When I heard of hiking courses along the Kamakura Alps, I decided to pay it a visit. South of Kamakura is the sea, and surrounding it from the north, east and west are sprawling mountains. The northern mountains are called the "Kamakura Alps." The Tenen Hiking Trail begins at Kenhoji Temple, a famous place in Kamakura known for its very large old Buddhist temple. The course takes you through the temple grounds and up a long staircase. When you reach the top, you come face-to-face with an other-worldly Karasu Tengu (Japanese goblin) statues. This isn't your average hiking course, it's one paved with Japanese history and culture. The entire course spans about 5.5 km (3.4 mi) across a low altitude. While appreciating the surrounding nature, you can walk the course in about 3 hours. On clear days, they say you can see Mt. Fuji far off in the distance. **Tenen Hiking Trail:** Kenhoji Temple in Kita-kamakura to Zuisenji Temple in the east of the city, leading mostly along the ridge of the hills.

