

Out & About
in Aso

Aso Region, Kumamoto Prefecture

Aso City - Minamioguni - Oguni - Ubuyama - Takamori - Nishihara - Minamiaso

ASO REGION ROADMAP

North Aso

Minamioguni, Oguni, Ubuyama



1 Kurokawa Onsen
6594-3 Manganji, Oguni, Aso

An onsen village that turned 30 inns and the entire landscape into one big "ryokan." Get an Onsen-Hopping Pass to bathe in three different hot springs. The illuminated decorations of Yuakari are on display from mid-December to March.



2 Nabegataki Park
Kurobuchi, Oguni, Aso

A beautiful, mystical waterfall with a wide curtain of picturesque water. A popular spot that also served as a location for a famous tea commercial. You can even go behind the waterfall and see the falls up close.



3 Kitazato Shibasaburo Memorial Museum
3199 Kitazato, Oguni, Aso

Learn about Dr. Kitazato Shibasaburo, a bacteriologist from Oguni known as the "Father of Modern Japanese Medicine." Visit parts of his home and guest house, and see the Kitazato Library donated by Dr. Kitazato.



4 Ubuyama Place
2100-3 Yamaga, Ubuyama, Aso

Features a pizzeria, dairy and cheese factory, and park golf course. The pizza baked in one of Japan's largest wood-fired ovens imported from Italy and the milk gelato are especially popular.



5 Senomoto Resthouse
5621-7 Manganji, Minamioguni, Aso

A drive-in spot located halfway along the Yamanami Highway that connects Kumamoto and Oita. Features a restaurant with a great view, a cafe, a shop, and more.



6 Oshitoishi Hill
511 Nakahara, Minamioguni, Aso

A spiritual spot featuring numerous ancient, artificially arranged stones, said to have been a place of prayer for prehistoric people. It is also used for movie shoots and is a great spot to experience the mystery of the ancients.



7 Oguni Yu Station Roadside Station
1754-17 Miyahara, Oguni, Aso

A symbol of Oguni, this building features a futuristic mirrored glass facade and is the first in Japan to be constructed using wooden structural trusses. Local specialties are available for purchase inside.



8 Ikeyama Spring
14-1 Tajiri, Ubuyama, Aso

Named one of Japan's top 100 springs. The spring has a water collection area where you can bottle your own water. In autumn, the spring reflects the beautiful hues of the fall leaves.

Photogenic. Anytime, anywhere.

The Aso region is packed with delicious local food and beautiful landscapes that change with the seasons. Remember to take photos of all you eat!



A Coffee at Kusasenri



C Baumkuchen at Senomoto Resthouse



E Cooking steamed veggies in Waita



G Pizza at Ubuyama Place



B Eating around in Monzenmachi



D Eating around in Kurokawa



F Pudding at Tsuetate Onsen



H Picnic at Higotai Park



I Dengaku at Takamori Dengaku no Sato



K Cheesecake at Moe no Sato



M Soft-serve at Shin-Aso Ohashi Bridge



N Gelato at Asobo no Sato Kugino



J Cafe time at Takamori Station



L Sweet potato sweets in Nishihara



N Gelato at Asobo no Sato Kugino

When you come to Aso, you've got to try the Akaushi wagyu beef!

Detailed information about restaurants specializing in Akaushi beef is available here:



Central Aso

Aso City



9 Aso Nakadake Crater
Kurokawa, Aso City

See a huge volcanic crater 600m in diameter, 130m deep, and 4km in circumference up close! Entry may be restricted when volcanic activity is high.



11 Aso Volcano Museum
1930-1 Akamizu, Aso City

Learn about the formation of the active Aso Volcano (which has one of the largest calderas in the world), and see how locals coexist with the volcano. Also has info on trekking, sightseeing, and more.



13 Aso Roadside Station
1440-1 Kurokawa, Aso City

Plenty of freshly picked fruits & veggies, dairy products, and other local specialties. A statue of Usopp from the One Piece Kumamoto Reconstruction Project stands in the roundabout at Aso Station next door.



15 Aso Shrine
3083-1 Miyaji, Ichinomiya, Aso City

The head Aso Shrine, with a history of over 2000 years and about 500 branches nationwide. The tower gate is one of Kyushu's largest and is one of the top three tower gates in Japan.



10 Kusasenri
Kusasenrigahama, Aso City

The remnants of an ancient crater north of Eboshidake, one of the Five Peaks of Aso. Kusasenri is a beautiful place with a vast green meadow. Horses graze in the meadow and it is a great place to go for a walk.



12 Daikanbo
Yamada, Aso City

Get a great view of the Aso Caldera. Viewed from Daikanbo, the Five Peaks of Aso supposedly look like a reclining Buddha. If you're lucky, you can see the ungai ("sea of clouds") in fall through winter.



14 Tagoyama Observatory (Sorafune Pier)
Nishikoazono, Aso City

A grand panorama of the Aso Five Peaks, with the Uchinomaki Onsen town and the city of Aso spread out in front of you. If you're lucky, you can see a sea of clouds in the early mornings in fall and winter.



16 Monzenmachi Shopping Street
Miyaji, Ichinomiya, Aso City

Shopping street that acts as the approach to Aso Shrine. Home to many restaurants and souvenir shops and is popular with tourists. A popular activity is tasting the water at each of the different mizuki spring water fountains.

South Aso

Takamori, Nishihara, Minamiaso



17 Kamishikimi Kumanoza Shrine
2619 Kamishikimi, Takamori, Aso

A mystical, ancient shrine with countless stone lanterns lining the approach to the main hall. The shrine was the setting for an anime movie, and has become a topic on social media as a "door to another world."



19 Moe no Sato
2115-3 Komori, Nishihara, Aso

Filled with fresh, local produce like sweet potatoes and other tasty goods. Lots of people come to see the cosmos flowers in the autumn. The Nami statue from the One Piece Kumamoto Reconstruction Project is located here.



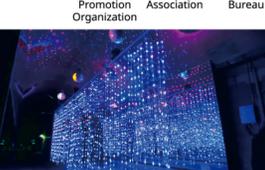
21 Shirakawa Spring
2040 Shirakawa, Minamiaso, Aso

Kumamoto's most famous spring, selected as one of Japan's top 100. Pumps out 60 tons of water every minute and marks the head of the Shirakawa River that runs through Kumamoto City.



23 Yo Myuru Overlook
4368-1 Kawayo, Minamiaso, Aso

An overlook at Shin-Aso Ohashi Bridge, opened in March 2021. It's name means "good view" in Kumamoto dialect. The views here speak for themselves!



18 Takamori Yusui Tunnel Park
1034-2 Takamori, Takamori, Aso

A park with a spring-fed waterway running through a tunnel. Be sure to check out the Water Pearl, where water drops seem to move in impossible ways!



20 Rakunoh Mother's Aso Milk Bokujo
3944-1 Kawahara, Nishihara, Aso

Farming theme park where you can learn about raising cows and how dairy products are made. With a petting zoo and handicraft workshops, Milk Bokujo is fun for all ages.



22 Asobo no Sato Kugino Roadside Station
2801 Haisaishi, Minamiaso, Aso

Popular with families, this spot features a farmers' market, restaurant, park golf course, soba dojo, and a dog run.



24 Kioku - Kumamoto Earthquake Museum
5343-1 Kawayo, Minamiaso, Aso

A museum to pass on memories of the 2016 Kumamoto Earthquakes to future generations. Learn about earthquakes through disaster relics and videos that look back at the disaster. A Robin statue from the One Piece Kumamoto Reconstruction Project is installed on the grounds.

How many do you know? Aso's Best Onsen

Lots of hot springs with unique qualities! Take a long bath to warm heart and body.



Aso has even more onsen! Scan here for more detailed onsen information.



25 Uchinomaki Onsen
Uchinomaki & Ozato, Aso City

One of Aso's top onsen areas, Uchinomaki is centrally located and features over 20 hotels and ryokan. Frequenting by literary greats like Natsume Soseki, the town also offers a popular Machiyo hot spring tour.



26 Minamioguni Onsen Village
Manganji, Oguni, Aso

Go onsen-hopping at Kurokawa Onsen, see the fireflies in summer at Tanoharu Onsen, visit historic Manganji Onsen, and enjoy the natural charm of Ota, Shirakawa and Ogi Onsens.



27 Tsuetate Onsen
Shimojo, Oguni, Aso

A hot spring area with a unique atmosphere, where steam rises over the town's central river. Long renowned for the quality of its springs, Tsuetate waters are famous for their curative properties. A Koi Streamer Festival is held here from April to early May.



28 Waita Onsen Village
Nishihara, Oguni, Aso

Located at the foot of Mt. Waita, this spot features multiple onsen, each with unique landscapes and spring qualities, all sourced from abundant geothermal energy. Dishes steamed with onsen steam are popular.



29 Jigoku/Tarutama Onsen
Kawayo, Minamiaso, Aso

A hidden hot spring located on the southwestern slope of Eboshidake, one of the five peaks of Aso. From late October to mid-November, the trees turn into beautiful colors that light up the landscape.

