



Visit Kinosaki

2.5 Hours From Kyoto

The Official Tourism Site of Toyooka City

## KINOSAKI ONSEN | Experience a traditional Japanese onsen vacation with 1300 years of history

Kinosaki Onsen's first hot spring was discovered over 1300 years ago. Today, there are now 7 hot spring bathhouses located within the town. Each bathhouse has its own unique style, from a cave to bathing alongside a waterfall.

Yukata were basically made to help you enjoy the hot springs even more. They are easier to slip on and off, and they also absorb any excess water that your towel might have missed. Walk from onsen to onsen in your yukata; it's about a 5-minute walk between each one.

## We Are All One Ryokan Here



The people of Kinosaki Onsen see the town as one singular ryokan. With the station representing the entrance, the streets the corridors, the ryokans the rooms, the public bathhouses the baths, and the shops the inn's kiosk. This spirit of "coexistence and mutual prosperity" has been carefully passed on. Guests who check in are soon encouraged to go back out again and enjoy the hot spring town.

### — Spend Some Time in Your Room

The idea of "staying in your ryokan" may not be considered the standard way of spending your vacation here, but we believe it is important to find a relaxing balance between going out into town and enjoying the traditional ryokan. Guests will often choose to stroll through town and go onsen-hopping, both before and after enjoying a traditional kaiseki dinner and some quality time in their room.



# THE 7 MYSTIC ONSEN



There are several other hot spring towns in Japan, but very few have so many public bathhouses of varying style in such close proximity. All 7 of the onsen bathhouses can be walked to from one another. If you have the time, are up to the challenge, and want to feel the cleanest and most relaxed you have ever felt in your life, try Kinosaki's "Onsen Meguri". Meguri is a Japanese term meaning pilgrimage, in this case you walk around to and soak in all 7 onsen bathhouses.

## THE SEVEN PUBLIC BATHS

Don't take a long bath in just one *soto-yu*, instead enjoy a little soak in each of the 7 *soto-yu*.



Satono-Yu



Jizou-Yu



Ichino-Yu



Yanagi-Yu



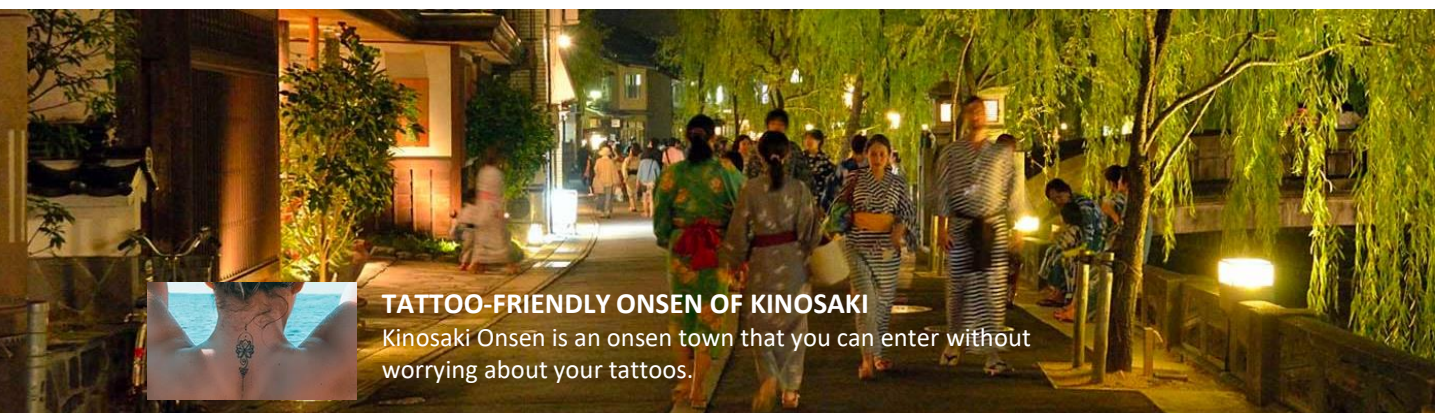
Kouno-Yu



Goshono-Yu



Mandara-Yu



## TATTOO-FRIENDLY ONSEN OF KINOSAKI

Kinosaki Onsen is an onsen town that you can enter without worrying about your tattoos.



# What's in Kinosaki Onsen?



## The Guardian of Kinosaki

The guardian of Kinosaki is Dochi-Shonin, a Buddhist monk that is credited with bringing forth the town's healing hot spring water. He traveled to the town looking for a way to save people suffering from illness when an oracle appeared and told him how. In the place where Mandara-Yu is now, legend says that he uttered a prayer, or *mandara*, for 1,000 days. On the 1,000th day, a spring came forth and from that day on has continued to flow. The spring continues to bless the town and those who bathe in its waters.

### ONSENJI TEMPLE

According to Kinosaki's history and tradition, visitors to Kinosaki would first make a short pilgrimage to Onsenji Temple's main hall located midway up Mt. Daishi. At the main hall they would pray to the hot spring's guardian for a blessing to be healed by the waters, before entering the sacred hot springs. They would then receive a *yu-shaku*, a hot spring ladle that would serve as an entry ticket to the hot springs. Without this ladle they would not be allowed to enter the waters. Today the ladle is not needed, but can still be purchased at Onsenji Temple.



## Mt. Daishi Hiking Course



This is a 45-minute hike up to the top of the ropeway through the lush mountain forest in the back of town. The entrance to Mt. Daishi's mountain trail is to the right or northeast of the ropeway station. The course's final destination is a Michelin Green Guide's one-star panoramic view.

There is also a cafe at the summit station where you can take a break. Please use the ropeway for your descent from the summit. You can also visit the Onsenji Temple at the midway station.



### Kinosaki Coffee – Miharashi Terrace Cafe

Miharashi Terrace Cafe is a cafe with a great view, located at the top of Kinosaki Ropeway. Enjoy a cup of Kinosaki special blend coffee while relaxing to a bird's eye view over the town and coastal area nearby.



☀ 10:00 am to 4:00 pm CLOSED: 2nd & 4th Thursdays

## Traditional Straw Craft

The famous local craft is called *Mugiwara Zaiku* (straw craft). It is said that it was introduced to the region around 300 years ago, when a craftsman from Tottori came to regain his health in Kinosaki Onsen. He started to stick colored straw to frames and flutes and sold them to make money for his lodgings.





## STAYING AT A JAPANESE RYOKAN



The traditional ryokan rooms are known for being beautifully simple and elegant. The floors are covered with woven straw mats and furnished with a low table and floor cushions for seating. In the room's alcove you will notice a scroll hanging above a vase of flowers or another small object. These all relate to the current season. You will also notice that some rooms do not have a clock, which is so guests won't worry too much about the time and instead focus on relaxing during their stay.



When you return from an afternoon stroll, your room will be set to serve you dinner—around six o'clock. Be sure to check with the ryokan to see what time they will be serving dinner. A room attendant will serve you dinner in your room. They will explain each dish as they bring them out, one after another.







# Ryokan | TRADITIONAL ONSEN VACATION HOTEL

The ryokan has a style and offers an experience unique to Japan. There are 74 various ryokan in Kinosaki to meet a wide variety of needs.

There are ryokan that serve you your meals in your room, ones that serve them in their dining hall, and others that offer simpler stays without meals. Some of the ryokan buildings are also designated as Cultural Properties of Japan.

## ★ Nishimuraya Honkan



〒 469 Yushima, Kinosaki-cho  
 Japanese-style room only  
 Most major credit cards

Number of guest rooms: 34



Traditional Japanese-style inn with over 150 years of history. Nishimuraya Honkan is a proud member of Relais & Châteaux, rated as the “Best Onsen Ryokan” in the Lonely Planet travel guide. Enjoy our traditional-style guest rooms, expansive Japanese garden, soothing onsen baths, and delicious kaiseki course dinners.

## ★ Nishimuraya Hotel Shogetsutei



〒 469 Yushima, Kinosaki-cho  
 Japanese-style room only  
 Most major credit cards

Number of guest rooms: 96



Nishimuraya Hotel Shogetsutei is a combination of a modern hotel & traditional ryokan. Non-smoking Japanese-style rooms, in-room kaiseki dinner, free shuttle service, complimentary Wi-Fi, private onsen spas & aroma treatment massages are just some features to make your stay a relaxing one. Renovated in 2017.

## Yamamotoya



〒 643 Yushima, Kinosaki-cho  
 Japanese-style room only  
 Visa, MasterCard

Number of guest rooms: 20



Centrally located in the hot spring town, perfect for touring the public hot springs. The weeping willows that line the Otani River allows guests in Kinosaki to fully experience the feel of a traditional Japanese town. While here, also enjoy trying our 4 different types of locally-brewed beers.

## Mikuniya



〒 221 Yushima, Kinosaki-cho  
 Japanese-style room only  
 Visa, MasterCard, AMEX, Diners Club, JCB

Number of guest rooms: 12



Mikuniya is a medium-sized Japanese inn compared to the other inns in Kinosaki. A 3-minute walk from the train station, this ryokan is a hidden retreat. We offer 3 free private baths, a beauty salon, and a delicious breakfast. Dinner is served in the guests' rooms, letting them enjoy the meal in private and at their own pace.

## Morizuya




〒 417 Yushima, Kinosaki-cho  
 Japanese-style room only  
 Cash only

Number of guest rooms: 12



Located in the middle of the bustling hot spring town, conveniently located for shopping and visiting the public baths. Within our inn is our famous cave bath and open-air bath. Also on display inside the inn is the owner's personal collection of model replica cars, Harley Davidson Motorcycles, warplanes, and more. The popular designs of the guest rooms are thanks to the inn's proprietress.

## Onishiya Suishoen

〒 1256 Momoshima, Kinosaki-cho  
 Japanese-style room,  
 Western-style room  
 Most major credit cards

Number of guest rooms: 34



Tatami mats (traditional Japanese straw mats) extend to the end of the corridor in the modern Japanese style building. A small trickling stream flows through the middle of the central garden with torches and a Noh (traditional Japanese dance-drama) stage sits where you can watch whimsical performances. Guests are treated to extraordinary scenes of elegance.

## LOCAL DINING

For those opting to get a ryokan without a meal, visiting Kinosaki on just a day trip or needing to find a place for lunch, here is a list of some English-friendly restaurants in Kinosaki.



### Sanpou

¥ ¥ ¥

〒 463-2 Yushima, Kinosaki-cho

🕒 Lunch (Sat & Sun only) 11:00-14:30 / Dinner 18:00-23:00

Closed: Wednesdays

Sanpou Dining is committed to putting the greatest efforts into sourcing fresh ingredients, straight from local producers in person. A Japanese *irori* cooking hearth is located in the center of the restaurant. Chefs cook the food with *sumibiyaki* charcoal in full view to allow the diners to experience & enjoy the cuisine with all of their senses.



### Ricca

¥ ¥ ¥

〒 1062-1 Yushima, Kinosaki-cho

🕒 Lunch 11:30-14:30 / Dinner 18:00-22:00

Closed: Wednesdays, for private parties, and when the hotel is closed.

Ricca is a modern, stylish restaurant that offers Japanese seasonal cuisine, including local specialties such as aged Tajima beef and winter snow crab. Course menu only. Choose between their lunch course menu or their dinner course menu.

### OFF. Kinosaki

¥ ¥

〒 536 Yushima, Kinosaki-cho

🕒 (Tuesday to Saturday) Lunch 11:00-16:00 / Dinner 18:00-22:00

(Sunday) 10:00-17:00 Closed: Mondays

A small shop hidden in the back of town along the river and Kiyamachi Street. The store's space and atmosphere create a place for you to come and take some time OFF to enjoy food, wine, coffee, and life. Local ingredients fill the menu and there is a wide selection of natural wines.



### Tajima Beef Irori Dining Mikuni

¥ ¥ ¥

〒 219 Yushima, Kinosaki-cho

🕒 Lunch 11:00-14:00 / Dinner 18:00-20:30 (L.O.)

Closed: every Wednesday unless it is a national holiday, in which case we will be closed the next day (Thursday). Irregular Holidays.

A quiet restaurant located above street level along the main street that runs out past Kinosaki Onsen Station. Irori Dining MIKUNI purchases half of a cow from Ueda Chikusan, a company, farm, and shop specializing in the raising of Wagyu (Japanese black cattle). The vegetables and rice featured on the menu are also seasonal and are locally grown.



### Gubigabu

¥ ¥

〒 646 Yushima, Kinosaki-cho

🕒 11:30~22:00 (L.O. 21:30)

Closed: Thursdays and every 3rd Wednesday

Come and *gubi-gubi* your drink and *gabu-gabu* your food all the while enjoying a lovely view out onto the willow tree lined Otani River. A great spot to try all four of the area's locally brewed beers on tap. Choose from a menu with a variety of items from pastas to Tajima brand name beefsteaks.



### CREEZAN

¥ ¥

〒 675-1 Yushima, Kinosaki-cho

🕒 10:00-23:00 (L.O. 22:30)

Closed: Irregular Holidays

CREEZAN's concept is a "journey" and the Kinosaki Onsen flagship welcomes travelers to come and rest at the bar. Fresh local ingredients make up our original menu. Some of our favorite items are the Tajima beef burger and Kinosaki blended coffee. Savor any one of our dishes while enjoying the view from our second floor cafe space that over looks the willow lined Otani River.



# TRANSPORTATION



## From Osaka |

It takes approximately 2 hours 40 minutes by Limited Express train KONOTORI.  
(A transfer in JR Fukuchiyama Station to Limited Express train KINOSAKI may be required depending on the time.)

## From Kyoto |

From JR Kyoto station. It takes approximately 2.5 hours by Limited Express train KINOSAKI or HASHIDATE.  
(A transfer at JR Fukuchiyama Station may be required depending on the time.)

## From Tokyo |

From Tokyo take the shinkansen HIKARI to JR Kyoto Station or JR Shin-Osaka station and then transfer to limited express train. It takes approximately 5 hours from JR Tokyo Station.

# INFORMATION

## Before you travel...



### Visit Kinosaki

The Official Tourism Site of Toyooka City

<https://visitkinosaki.com/>

Hotel reservations can be made in Visit Kinosaki. This site is useful for finding information on Kinosaki Onsen's history, activities, and dining.

Toyooka Tourism Innovation (TTI): Mira Pomerantz  
Please feel free to contact us for more information on Kinosaki Onsen.

## Check this out, too...



### EXPERIENCES & ACTIVITIES

<https://visitkinosaki.com/tour-packages/>

On this site, you make reservations for various experiences and activities in Kinosaki and other areas.  
Ex. Yukata Rental, Volcanic Rock Trekking, Rent-a-car, etc.



## When you arrive at Kinosaki Onsen Station...



### SOZORO

Kinosaki Onsen Tourist Information

<http://kinosaki-info.com/>

This new tourist information center is focused on sightseeing & activities. Staff can help arrange tours around the region.

TEL +81-796-32-0013  
96 Yushima, Kinosaki-cho, Toyooka-shi



**COMPANY NAME:** Toyooka Tourism Innovation (TTI)



Visit Kinosaki