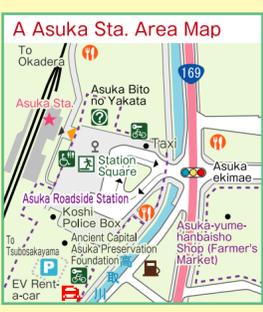
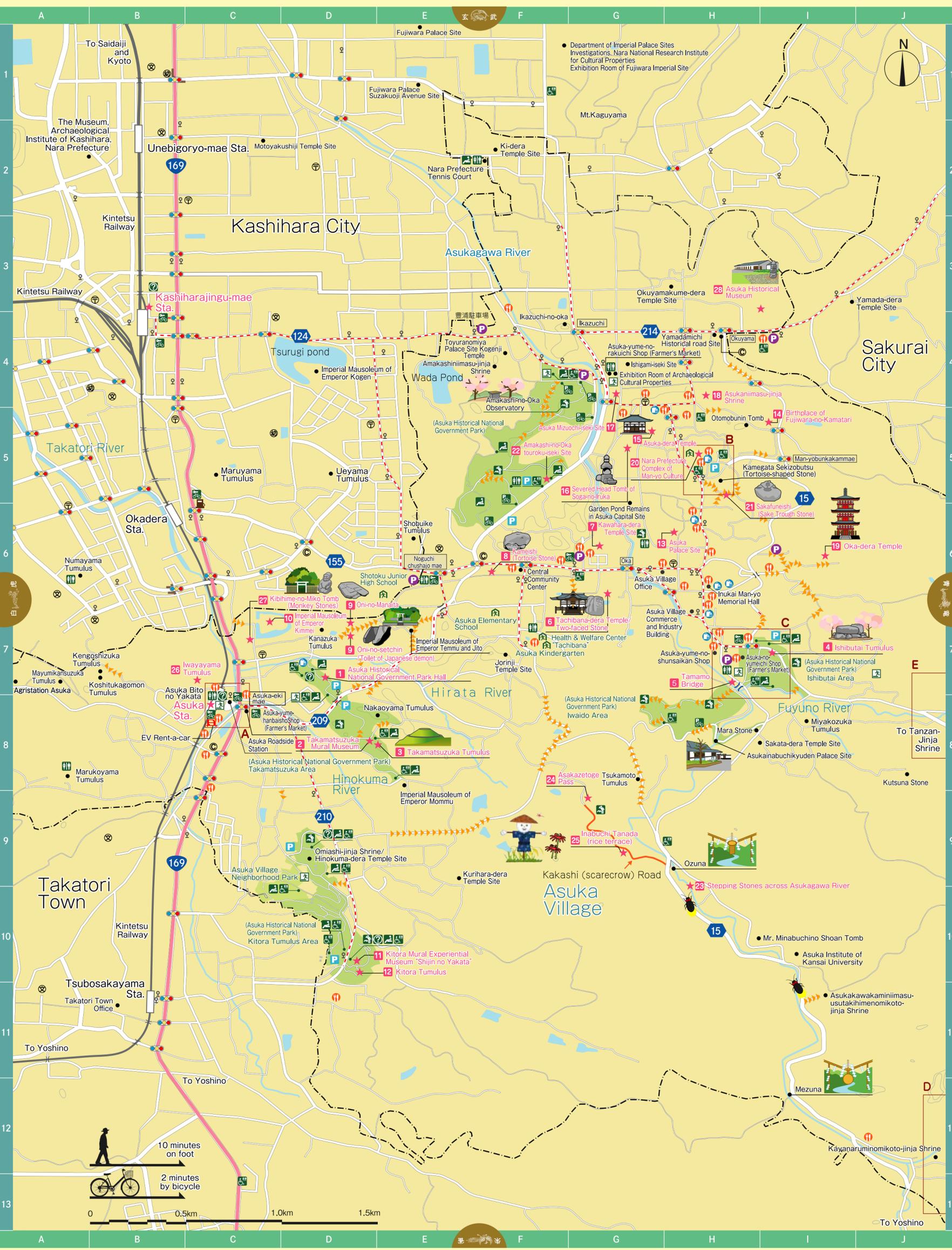


# Asuka Tourist Map



### Shopping

- Asuka Roadside Station** (8-C)  
〒634-0138 6-2, Koshi, Asuka Village  
TEL. 0744-54-3240
- Asuka-yume-hanbaisho Shop (Farmer's Market)** (8-C)  
〒634-0131 2-1, Misono, Asuka Village  
TEL. 0744-54-5670
- Asuka-no-yumeichi Shop (Farmer's Market)** (7-H)  
〒634-0112 154-3, Shimasho, Asuka Village  
TEL. 0744-54-9450
- Asuka-yume-no-shunsaikan Shop** (7-H)  
〒634-0112 51-1, Shimasho, Asuka Village  
TEL. 080-6207-2534
- Asuka-yume-no-rakuichi Shop (Farmer's Market)** (4-G)  
〒634-0103 225-2, Asuka, Asuka Village  
TEL. 0744-54-3311



Legend									
	National road		Signal		Information		Observatory		Free parking
	Prefectural road		Bus Stop		Rent-a-Cycle		Bicycle Parking Lot		Toll parking
	Bridge		Bus route		Restroom		Emergency shelter		Gas station
	Grade separation		Steep slope or Stairs (→Up direction)		Accessible Toilet		Shelter		Convenience store
					Rest Place		Restaurant		Souvenir shop

Make the most of your trip to Asuka with the help of a guide from one of the following:  
<http://www.atigajapan.com/>  
 • ASUKA Sightseeing Volunteer Guide

Look for the tourist information signs around Asuka!

Places to eat and rest in Asuka!

Scan the QR code for more details!



\*Information correct as of March 2021.

# Asuka Akakame Excursion Bus

## A convenient way to see the sights of Asuka!



How to read the course

- Nearest bus stop / station
- 1 Tourist spot number
- 7-D Back side MAP point

# walking or cycling in the heart of Asuka village



Your first time in Asuka!  
If you want to see famous sightseeing spots...

## A brief tour around Asuka on the Akakame Excursion Bus

- Bus stop "Asuka Station": Boarding (Boarding time: 2 minutes)
- Bus stop "Takamatsuzuka": Immediately after getting off
- 1 Asuka Historical National Government Park Hall (7-D)  
This museum is the starting point for exploring Asuka. It gives an overview of Asuka's history through videos and dioramas, covering key events such as the Taika Reforms and the Jinshin War. And it also hosts a range of events for people to learn about nature and culture.
- 2 Takamatsuzuka Tumulus/ Mural Museum (8-D)  
The Mural Museum provides visitors with information on everything they need to know about Takamatsuzuka Tumulus. The museum's accessible exhibits include replicas of the murals as they were at the time of discovery, partially-restored replicas of the tomb's chamber, a structural reproduction of the tomb's chamber, and other materials providing details on the tumulus' construction. The tumulus is a Special Historic Site and the mural is a National Treasure.
- Bus stop "Takamatsuzuka": Boarding (Boarding time: 14 minutes)
- Bus stop "Ishibutai": Get off
- 4 Ishibutai Tumulus (7-I)  
Ishibutai Tumulus, said to be the tomb of Soga no Umako, is one of the largest square tumuli in Japan. Comprising of 30 or so rocks with a total weight of around 2,300 tons, construction of this tomb would have required sophisticated engineering and conveyance technologies for that time.
- Bus stop "Ishibutai": Boarding (Boarding time: 6 minutes)
- Bus stop "Asuka Daibutsu": Immediately after getting off
- 15 Asuka-dera Temple (5-G)  
Asuka-dera Temple, considered to be the oldest full-fledged Buddhist temple in Japan, was built during the late 6th and early 7th centuries under the orders of Soga no Umako. The temple's principal image of a seated copper Shakyamuni (Gautama Buddha) is commonly known as the Asuka Daibutsu (Important Cultural Property).
- Bus stop "Asuka Daibutsu": Boarding
- Bus stop "Asuka Station" or "Kashiharajingu-mae Station East Exit": Get off

For those who don't have much time to spare. A whistle-stop tour of Asuka's highlights

## A leisurely walk around Asuka going by Akakame Excursion Bus and returning on foot

- Bus stop "Asuka Station": Boarding (Boarding time: 16 minutes)
- Bus stop "Ishibutai": Get off
- 250m / 4 minutes
- 4 Ishibutai Tumulus (7-I)  
Ishibutai Tumulus, said to be the tomb of Soga no Umako, is one of the largest square tumuli in Japan. Comprising of 30 or so rocks with a total weight of around 2,300 tons, construction of this tomb would have required sophisticated engineering and conveyance technologies for that time.
- 350m / 4 minutes
- 5 Tamamo Bridge over the Asuka River (7-H)  
Asuka has around 40 stone monuments inscribed with poems from the Manyoshu, an anthology of ancient Japanese poems. This bridge was named after one of these monuments. The poem expresses ancient people's feelings for their hometown and their loved ones through the Asuka River.
- 1km / 15 minutes
- 6 Tachibana-dera Temple (6-G)  
Tachibana-dera Temple, believed to be the birthplace of Prince Shotoku, is one of the seven temples built by Prince Shotoku. The temple has suffered many fires throughout its history, with the current temple buildings dating to the Edo period onward. Here, you will also find the mysterious Nimenseki (dual-faced stone), a stone monument depicting the duality of good and evil.
- 700m / 9 minutes
- 8 Kameishi (Tortoise Stone) (6-F)  
This mysterious stone has been carved to resemble a tortoise. Legend says that when the area around Nara Basin was a lake, a battle took place between the snakes in Taima on the opposite shore and the catfish in Kawahara. The snakes in Taima sucked up all the water, causing the Kawahara area to dry up and resulting in the death of all the turtles. The Kameishi is said to have been built for the repose of their souls, and that if the stone turns around to face west and stare at Taima, the whole of Yamato Province would turn into a sea of mud.
- 700m / 8 minutes
- 9 Oni-no-Setchin/Manaita (Demon's Toilet/Chopping Board) (7-D)  
These remains are actually of a cover stone (toilet) and floor (chopping board) of the stone chamber of a tumulus. However, their shape gave rise to a legend which tells of how a demon cooked passersby on the chopping board and relieved himself in the toilet.
- 700m / 10 minutes
- 10 Mausoleum of Emperor Kinmei (7-C)  
With a total length of approx. 138 m, this is the largest keyhole-shaped burial mound in Asuka. It is said to be the tomb of Emperor Kinmei, who died in the year 570, but a new theory has also been put forward in recent research suggesting that Maruyama Tumulus in Kashihara is in fact the mausoleum of Emperor Kinmei.
- 600m / 7 minutes
- Kintetsu "Asuka Station"

For history buffs and students. Learn many things you won't find in textbooks!

## A famous incident in Japanese history occurred right here! Scene of the Taika Reforms

- Kintetsu "Asuka Station"
- 2.8km / 36 minutes Walk while watching the Kameishi
- 13 Asuka Palace Site (6-H)  
This is the place where Soga no Iruka was assassinated by Prince Naka no Oe and others (known as the Ishi Incident), marking the start of the Taika Reforms. Ongoing excavations here have revealed the remains of a cobbled square and large well.
- 1.1km / 13 minutes
- 14 Birthplace of Fujiwara no Kamatari (5-I)  
The famous Japanese statesman Fujiwara no Kamatari was born in 614 in the Takaichi District of Yamato Province. Ohara Shrine is said to be his birthplace. Near the Nakanoto River, which flows behind the shrine, you will find a well where legend has it that Kamatari took his first bath as a baby.
- 700m / 8 minutes
- 15 Asuka-dera Temple (5-G)  
Asuka-dera Temple, considered to be the oldest full-fledged Buddhist temple in Japan, was built during the late 6th and early 7th centuries under the orders of Soga no Umako. The temple's principal image of a seated copper Shakyamuni (Gautama Buddha) is commonly known as the Asuka Daibutsu (Important Cultural Property).
- 500m / 1 minute
- 16 Tomb of Soga no Iruka's Head (5-G)  
A five-ringed pagoda located on the western side of Asuka-dera Temple's precincts. Legend has it that, having been assassinated by Prince Naka no Oe and others during the Taika Reforms, the head of Soga no Iruka flew over this spot. This pagoda was therefore built for the repose of his soul.
- 700m / 11 minutes
- 17 Asuka Mizuochi Site (4-G)  
This is where Prince Naka no Oe made Japan's first water clock. Using water from the Asuka River, this clock told the time by gauging the depth of water in a tank, with a bell ringing to inform people of the time.
- 800m / 15 minutes
- 22 Amakashi-no-Oka (5-F)  
This low hill with an elevation of 148 meters forms part of Asuka Historical National Government Park. The hill affords stunning panoramic views of the surrounding area, including the three mountains of Yamato (Mt. Unebi, Mt. Kasu and Mt. Miminashi), as well as Mt. Katsuragi, Mt. Kongo, Mt. Niijo and Mt. Shiji.
- 2.5km / 33 minutes
- Kintetsu "Kashiharajingu-mae Station" or "Okadera Station"

If you wish to explore the unsolved mysteries of ancient tomb murals

## Two of Japan's greatest richly colored murals from ancient times Takamatsuzuka and Kitora

- Kintetsu "Asuka Station"
- 1.3km / 17 minutes
- 2 Takamatsuzuka Tumulus/ Mural Museum (8-D)  
The Mural Museum provides visitors with information on everything they need to know about Takamatsuzuka Tumulus. The museum's accessible exhibits include replicas of the murals as they were at the time of discovery, partially-restored replicas of the murals, a structural reproduction of the tomb's chamber, and other materials providing details on the tumulus' construction. The tumulus is a Special Historic Site and the mural is a National Treasure.
- 1.7km / 24 minutes
- 11 Kitora Tumulus/Kitora Tumulus Mural Experiential Museum Shijin no Yakata (10-D)  
This round tumulus is known for its murals, including an astronomical chart on the wall of its horizontal stone chamber. Kitora Tumulus Mural Experiential Museum Shijin no Yakata allows visitors to experience the history and nature of Asuka, such as by holding magotama beadmaking workshops on weekends and national holidays. The mural has been designated as a National Treasure.
- 2km / 26 minutes
- Kintetsu "Asuka Station" or "Tsubosakayama Station"

If you wish to gain a deeper knowledge of Asuka!

## Asuka in-depth The more you know, the more you'll love it here

- Bus stop "Asuka Station": Boarding (Boarding time: 5 minutes)
- Bus stop "Kitora": Immediately after getting off
- 11 Kitora Tumulus/Kitora Tumulus Mural Experiential Museum Shijin no Yakata (10-D)  
This round tumulus is known for its murals, including an astronomical chart on the wall of its horizontal stone chamber. Kitora Tumulus Mural Experiential Museum Shijin no Yakata allows visitors to experience the history and nature of Asuka, such as by holding magotama beadmaking workshops on weekends and national holidays. The mural has been designated as a National Treasure.
- 2.5km / 40 minutes
- 9 Oni-no-Setchin/Manaita (Demon's Toilet/Chopping Board) (7-D)  
These remains are actually of a cover stone (toilet) and floor (chopping board) of the stone chamber of a tumulus. However, their shape gave rise to a legend which tells of how a demon cooked passersby on the chopping board and relieved himself in the toilet.
- 700m / 11 minutes
- 8 Kameishi (Tortoise Stone) (6-F)  
This mysterious stone has been carved to resemble a tortoise. Legend says that when the area around Nara Basin was a lake, a battle took place between the snakes in Taima on the opposite shore and the catfish in Kawahara. The snakes in Taima sucked up all the water, causing the Kawahara area to dry up and resulting in the death of all the turtles. The Kameishi is said to have been built for the repose of their souls, and that if the stone turns around to face west and stare at Taima, the whole of Yamato Province would turn into a sea of mud.
- 650m / 8 minutes
- 6 Kawahara-dera Temple/ Tachibana-dera Temple (6-G)  
Kawahara-dera Temple, one of the four great temples of Asuka, is said to have been built by Emperor Tenji, son of Empress Saimei, to pray for the repose of his mother's soul, but many mysteries remain surrounding this temple. Tachibana-dera Temple, believed to be the birthplace of Prince Shotoku.
- 1.5km / 30 minutes
- 19 Oka-dera Temple (6-I)  
Commonly known as Oka-dera Temple out of association with the place name, this temple's formal name is actually Ryusai-ji Temple. It is known as Japan's first sacred place that wards off evil. In spring, 3,000 madonnas come into bloom in the temple precincts.
- 1.2km / 15 minutes
- 21 Sakafuneishi (Sake Trough Stone) (5-H)  
A near-rectangular granite slab. The surface has been carved with round, rounded-square, and elliptical depressions, all of which are connected by straight drains. It is said to have been used for alcohol production, hence its namesake, but its actual use is still unknown.
- 270m / 4 minutes
- Kintetsu "Asuka Station" or "Kashiharajingu-mae Station"
- 2.9km / 38 minutes
- 22 Amakashi-no-Oka (5-F)  
This low hill with an elevation of 148 meters forms part of Asuka Historical National Government Park. The hill affords stunning panoramic views of the surrounding area, including the three mountains of Yamato (Mt. Unebi, Mt. Kasu and Mt. Miminashi), as well as Mt. Katsuragi, Mt. Kongo, Mt. Niijo and Mt. Shiji.
- 700m / 10 minutes
- 17 Asuka Mizuochi Site (4-G)  
This is where Prince Naka no Oe made Japan's first water clock. Using water from the Asuka River, this clock told the time by gauging the depth of water in a tank, with a bell ringing to inform people of the time.
- 1.2km / 15 minutes
- 28 Asuka Historical Museum (4-H)  
This museum is run by the Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties. The museum uses artifacts, replicas, etc. to provide visitors with the latest research findings in the Asuka/Fujiwara regions, especially discoveries made during excavations, and to provide detailed explanations of the history and culture of Asuka.
- 800m / 12 minutes
- 18 Asukanimyasu-jinja Shrine (4-H)  
This shrine is dedicated to four deities: Yae Kotoshiroushi no Kami, Omonoushi no Kami, Asuka no Kannabi mi Hime no Kami, and Takamimusubi no Kami. On the first Sunday of February every year, the Onda Festival is held here to pray for an abundant crop and the prosperity of one's descendants.
- 350m / 4 minutes
- 15 Asuka-dera Temple (5-G)  
Asuka-dera Temple, considered to be the oldest full-fledged Buddhist temple in Japan, was built during the late 6th and early 7th centuries under the orders of Soga no Umako. The temple's principal image of a seated copper Shakyamuni (Gautama Buddha) is commonly known as the Asuka Daibutsu (Important Cultural Property).
- 500m / 5 minutes
- 20 Nara Prefecture Complex of Man'yo Culture (5-H)  
An interactive museum themed on ancient Japanese culture, especially the Manyoshu poetry anthology. It also hosts a range of exhibitions, lectures and other events. Other facilities include a library, information room, garden, shop, and cafe.

For those who wish to relax in a tranquil and nostalgic setting

## Nostalgic Oku-Asuka Unspoiled landscapes of Japan

- Kintetsu "Asuka Station"
- 1.3km / 17 minutes
- 2 Takamatsuzuka Tumulus/ Mural Museum (8-D)  
The Mural Museum provides visitors with information on everything they need to know about Takamatsuzuka Tumulus. The museum's accessible exhibits include replicas of the murals as they were at the time of discovery, partially-restored replicas of the tomb's chamber, a structural reproduction of the tomb's chamber, and other materials providing details on the tumulus' construction. The tumulus is a Special Historic Site and the mural is a National Treasure.
- 2km / 50 minutes
- 24 Asakaze Pass (9-G)  
Asakaze Pass commands stunning views of the Asuka River and Inabuchi Tanada terraced rice fields. There are some steep slopes, but the view alone is worth it, looking down over not only Asuka but also Mt. Niijo, Mt. Katsuragi, Mt. Kongo, etc. It is also a great place to come to take photos of sunset.
- 550m / 6 minutes
- 25 Inabuchi Tanada Terraced Rice Fields (9-G)  
The Inabuchi Tanada terraced rice fields of Oku-Asuka, located along a picturesque stretch of gently-sloping countryside, were selected as one of Japan's top 100 terraced rice fields. It is a popular photo spot at the start of autumn, when the red spider lilies come into bloom.
- 400m / 5 minutes
- 23 Stepping Stones across the Asuka River (10-H)  
A series of stepping stones that have been laid across the Asuka River. It seems that these large rocks and stones were placed here in ancient times and used as a bridge.
- 1.8km / 20 minutes
- 4 Ishibutai Tumulus (7-I)  
Ishibutai Tumulus, said to be the tomb of Soga no Umako, is one of the largest square tumuli in Japan. Comprising of 30 or so rocks with a total weight of around 2,300 tons, construction of this tomb would have required sophisticated engineering and conveyance technologies for that time.
- 3.2km / 39 minutes
- Kintetsu "Asuka Station"

A quick stroll for those without much time

## A mini sightseeing trip only a stone's throw away from Asuka Station

- Kintetsu "Asuka Station"
- 160m / 2 minutes
- 26 Iwayayama Tumulus (7-C)  
This square tumulus dates to the end of the Kofun period (around the early 7th century). The tomb's stone chamber is not sealed off, meaning that it is possible to enter inside. The people buried here are believed to be Princess Kibi, Kosenokarano-sukune and Empress Saimei, but the details remain unclear.
- 600m / 6 minutes
- 27 Sarushi (Tomb of Princess Kibi) (7-C)  
Here, you will find four stone statues that look like monkeys, hence the name Sarushi (monkey stones). Measuring around 1 m in height, the period and reasons for production of these statues remain unclear. They were originally dug out of a rice paddy south of the Mausoleum of Emperor Kinmei, but were subsequently placed in front of the Tomb of Princess Kibi.
- 100m / 1 minute
- 10 Mausoleum of Emperor Kinmei (7-C)  
With a total length of approx. 138 m, this is the largest keyhole-shaped burial mound in Asuka. It is said to be the tomb of Emperor Kinmei, who died in the year 570, but a new theory has also been put forward in recent research suggesting that Maruyama Tumulus in Kashihara is in fact the mausoleum of Emperor Kinmei.
- 1.2km / 15 minutes
- 2 Takamatsuzuka Tumulus/ Mural Museum (8-D)  
The Mural Museum provides visitors with information on everything they need to know about Takamatsuzuka Tumulus. The museum's accessible exhibits include replicas of the murals as they were at the time of discovery, partially-restored replicas of the murals, a structural reproduction of the tomb's chamber, and other materials providing details on the tumulus' construction. The tumulus is a Special Historic Site and the mural is a National Treasure.
- 1.2km / 15 minutes
- Kintetsu "Asuka Station"
- Enjoy the beauty of flowers
- Vivid flowers herald the arrival of the seasons
- 1. Cherry Blossoms
- 2. Renge
- 3. 5 cluster amaryllis
- 4. Shakunage
- 5. Miscanthus

## Choose the most comfortable way of seeing the sights of Asuka for you!

### After all Kame bus

#### A great deal "Asuka Tour Bus 1-day/2day free ticket" is on sale!

- This is a great ticket that allows you to get on and off the bus, such as the tour bus (Akakame), Sakurai Asuka Line, and Kitora Line. -

(1day)  
Adult 650yen  
Child 330yen

(2day)  
Adult 1000yen  
Child 500yen

You can purchase this ticket at the following window

- Kintetsu Kashiharajingu-mae Station (East ticket gate)
- In front of Kintetsu Asuka Station (Asukabito no Yakata) TEL.0744-54-3240
- Ishibutai (Ishibutai parking lot/tollhouse) TEL.0744-54-9200
- Nara Kotsu Yagi Information Center (inside Yagi Station South Exit Kashihara Navi Plaza) TEL.0744-22-6680
- Kitora Tumulus Mural Experiential Museum "Shijin no Yakata" TEL.0744-54-5105
- Kashihara Tourist Information Center Jingu-mae TEL.0744-27-2070

### In a micro electric vehicle!

#### Car rental

MICHIMO

A two-seater electric vehicle that is environmentally friendly and can easily run on narrow roads.

[3-hour course]  
From 3,000 yen (excluding tax)

### On a bicycle with the wind in your hair!

#### Bicycle rental

There are rental spots in front of Kintetsu Asuka Station, Kintetsu Kashihara jingu-mae Station, and others. We also handle electric bicycles and children's bicycles.

### Your very own tailored tour!

#### taxi

Kashihara taxi  
☎ 0744-22-2828

Nara Kintetsu Taxi  
☎ 0120-123-558

Nakagawa taxi  
☎ 0744-22-2241

Sightseeing in Tsubosaka  
☎ 0120-52-2536

To find out more about Asuka, please visit the Exploring ASUKA website.