

Title		Learn all about an international port city! A comprehensive tour of Kobe's most popular spots		Region: Kobe City, Hyogo Prefecture				
Overview	<p>Kobe, a city that has developed by taking in diverse cultures from other countries, has a lot to offer!</p> <p>Kobe is one of Japan's most fashionable areas and known for having an unusual mix of cultures. This walking tour will take you to some of the must-visit places in Kobe alongside a private guide who will help you to better understand Kobe's cultural background. Kobe's diverse culture is rooted in its history as a cosmopolitan city that has always adopted and developed new things. Kobe has prospered since the Middle Ages as a key point for domestic shipping, but its role as a residential area was limited and, consequently, there was no indigenous culture to speak of. The opening of the country to the outside world in 1853 led to the establishment of foreign settlements and the influx of Western culture. Due to the lack of its own indigenous culture, it absorbed and mixed the foreign cultures that came in with the opening of the country, and nurtured its own unique culture as Haikara culture (the name given to dressing in fashionable Western clothing). Today, the city thrives as one of the leading international cities in Japan, thanks to its abundant flow of international cultural exchange. Kitano-cho, the area you will visit on this tour, was home to many foreigners after the opening of the country, and is now, with its Western-style architecture, a popular place to walk around in the city. Also, in the Port Island area, Kobe's landmark towers and buildings have been built at the harbour, and you can enjoy the cutting-edge scenery of a mix of foreign and Japanese cultures. In addition, there are many other places in Kobe that you should not miss. Let's visit together the many spots that one person alone cannot visit in one day, and enjoy Kobe sightseeing fully!</p>		<p>Languages Available</p> <p>■ Japanese ■ English ■ Chinese □ Other</p>					
			<p>Language completion tools</p> <p>■ Yes / □ No</p>					
			<p>Interpreter available</p> <p>■ Yes / □ No</p>					
			<p>Guide information</p> <p>1 multilingual tour guide staff (Japanese, English, Chinese), who has passed an independent assessment</p>					
Unique Selling Points	<p>I. Experience the harbour views at Kobe Port Tower and Meriken Park, and see the city of Kobe from the sea with a cruise ship ride.</p> <p>Kobe is popular for its sophisticated seascape around the port. The tour will take you to popular spots such as Kobe Port Tower, a symbolic sightseeing tower, Meriken Park, a harbour park built on a reclaimed wharf, and a cruise ship experience. With this guided tour, you will be able to fully experience Kobe's port area.</p>		Language Support	Participant Requirements		None		
Unique Selling Points	<p>II. "Nankinmachi", a Chinatown reminiscent of an authentic Chinese market, offers "Japanese-Chinese" cuisine symbolising the fusion of Japanese and Chinese cultures.</p> <p>Nankinmachi, Kobe's Chinatown is one of the three major Chinatowns in Japan, along with Yokohama and Nagasaki, and is a popular gourmet spot for tourists. Nankinmachi offers a wide variety of Japanese-style Chinese cuisine, perfect to enjoy casually. During the tour, our guide will also explain various points about the history of Nankinmachi, such as why Chinese culture developed in Kobe.</p>			Cancellation Policy		Free cancellation up to 48 hours before		
Unique Selling Points	<p>III. In the Kitano area, which still retains its Western atmosphere, you will be impressed by the beautiful buildings that incorporate Western-style architectural techniques from different countries.</p> <p>The Kitano-cho area, where many foreigners lived when the port of Kobe opened in the 19th century, is a perfect spot to stroll through streets populated by Western-style buildings. Among them is the "Moegi no Yakata," a building with distinctive yellow-green walls and lavish decorations throughout, a place where you can fully see and feel the development of Kobe as a cosmopolitan city where diverse cultures have blended together.</p>			Precautionary considerations				
Itinerary	<p>Meet-up and tour explanation at Ticket office at JR Sannomiya station</p> <p>1-Ikuta Shrine 20min. 2-Moegi no Yakata 20min. 3-Weathercock House 20min. 4-Kobe Nunobiki Herb Garden 90min 5-Nankinmachi 40min. 6-Port Tower 10min. 7-Kobe Maritime Museum (Kawasaki World) 30 mins 8-Meriken Park 15 mins 9-Kobe Bay Cruise (Ocean Prince/Royal Princess) 50 mins</p> <p>[Itinerary outline]</p> <p>*Ikuta Shrine: This is a magnificent shrine in the city that is visited by everyone who comes to Kobe. It is also the origin of Kobe's name, and is dedicated to the god of marriage, with hundreds of couples getting married here every year. Be sure to try the water fortune-telling service, which can tell your fortune about your relationships.</p> <p>*Moegi no Yakata: Let's take a stroll through Kitano-cho, an area of beautiful Western-style buildings where foreigners lived when the port of Kobe was opened in the 19th century. In particular, the "Moegi no Yakata" is a colonial-style building with distinctive yellow-green walls and lavish interior decoration. This house is located on a hill, so you can also enjoy the beautiful cityscape of Kobe from the skylight on the second floor.</p> <p>*Weathercock House: The Weathercock House is one of the most iconic buildings in Kobe, along with the Kobe Port Tower and the Kobe Maritime Museum. It was built in the German classical style, and its beautiful brickwork attracts visitors from all over. Inside the museum, there are permanent exhibits that show how people lived in back those days, and is a perfect place to spend a relaxed afternoon.</p> <p>*Kobe Nunobiki Herb Garden: 10 minutes by ropeway to the top of a 400-meter-high mountain, this is one of the largest herb gardens in Japan, with architecture reminiscent of medieval European castles. More than 75,000 plants, of over 200 different kinds of herbs, are planted here, and visitors can enjoy them in every all year round. You can also try dishes made with these herbs, and take a foot bath with herbal waters.</p> <p>*Nankinmachi: One of the three major Chinatowns in Japan, along with Yokohama and Nagasaki, Nankinmachi is an area with gorgeous traditional Chinese-style streets. There is a wide variety of Japanese-style Chinese food available, so feel free to enjoy casual Chinese-style dishes. This is also a great place to learn about how Chinese people and culture are integrated into Japanese society today.</p> <p>*Port Tower: Widely known as the symbol of the Port of Kobe, this bright red tower offers a 360° view of the city of Kobe, from the port all the way to Mount Rokko. The shape of the tower is inspired by traditional Japanese instruments and the shape of Dutch towers, reflecting Kobe's deep-rooted spirit of mixing various cultures to create its own unique culture.</p> <p>*Kobe Maritime Museum (Kawasaki World): This museum has a unique appearance, reminiscent of waves and sails of a sailing ship. The museum features a permanent exhibition on the history of the port of Kobe as an international port city, and is an essential place if you want to learn more about Kobe. The technology that has supported Japan's maritime industry can be seen up close and is a sight to behold. You can also experience riding a variety of vehicles, as well as a real cockpit experience, at the Kawasaki World.</p> <p>*Meriken Park: This park was created by reclaiming a former wharf, and offers the true atmosphere of a port town. It is a place where you can relax and enjoy the scenery of the ships passing by, contemplate the old city monuments, or simply take a break at a cafe.</p> <p>*Kobe Bay Cruise (Ocean Prince/Royal Princess): Board a cruise ship and enjoy the views of Kobe Harborland and Port Island from the ship. This 45-minute cruise around the harbour is a romantic experience.</p>			Other Plan Information		<p>In case of bad weather, emergency, delay or no show</p> <p>*If you do not arrive at the departure point within 60 minutes of the agreed time, it will be treated as a no-show.</p>		
Reservation Information	<p>■ Operation hours</p> <p>All year round (except New Year holidays), from Monday to Sunday</p>		<p>■ Number of tours</p> <p>Dependent on number of requests</p>		Inventory Management		□ Yes / ■ No	
	<p>■ Duration/start time</p> <p>Duration: 7 hours Start time: 9am</p>		<p>■ Number of people</p> <p>1 to 6 people</p>		Contact Information		otomo corporation / 03-6876-6003 3F Mitomi Building, 3-13-3 Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-0033, Japan	
					Support hours		10:00~19:00	
					Inquiry email address		notice_partner-reservation@otomo-travel.com	
Meeting point and access	<p>■ Access via public transport</p> <p>JR Sannomiya Station Midori-no-Madoguchi (Ticket office)</p> <p>Accessible from JR Hamakazu, Super Hakuto, Tokaido and Sanyo Shinkansen lines.</p>			Package Information		Price (Tax included)		Contact us for pricing
	<p>■ Address of meeting place</p> <p>JR Sannomiya Station 1-1, Nunobiki-cho 4-chome, Chuo-ku, Kobe-shi, Hyogo</p>					Options/Price		
						What's Included		Guide fee, guide expenses, insurance
						What's Not Included		Transportation, entrance fees, meals, souvenirs and experiences (Recommended minimum cash amount: 4,800 yen/person)