

# Optional tours in the Seto Inland Sea



## **Interact with the islanders and spend some time on the island, enriching your soul. A 3-day, 2-night trip around the islands of the Yumeshima Kaido and Ikuchijima**

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Kamijima Town, located almost in the middle of Hiroshima and Ehime, on the east side of the Shimanami Kaido, is a town of 25 islands floating in the Seto Inland Sea. Because it can only be reached by boat, island time flows at a leisurely pace, and the islanders are simple and warm. Attracted by this atmosphere, some people have immigrated from Japan and abroad.

Iwaki Bridge opened in March 2022, connecting the 25 islands of Yuge, Sashima, Ikina, and Iwaki with a large white bridge. Take a ride on a cute moped, electric scooter, or yacht to see the spectacular views of the unique and magnificent Seto Inland Sea's many islands and the rich lifestyle of the islanders. Don't miss out on the super fresh seafood, as well as the many delicious local ingredients such as lemons and lemon pork.

In the evening of the second day, we head to Ikuchijima, one of the islands on the Shimanami Kaido. We stay at a new style Japanese inn created by the founder of Amanpuri, located very close to Setoda Port, and the next day we take a charter cruise to a deserted island to enjoy a picnic lunch.



Yuge Island as seen from Mount Sekizen on Iwaki Island. You can also see the bridge of the Yumeshima Kaido.

# 2 nights 3 days model plan

## Day 1: Yuge Island, Sashima Island, Ikina Island, and Iwaki Island

The trip starts on Yuge Island. At Umi no Ekisha Furatto, a five-minute walk from Yuge Port, we join the Kamijima Adventures moped tour around the island. We tour the four islands while listening to Matt's entertaining guide, take in the 360-degree views from Mount Sekizen on Iwaki Island, and drink lemon squash at Nouseon808, a cafe run by a farmer.

We also recommend renting an electric kick-pedal/E-Bike at the Setouchi Exchange Center, just a short walk from Yuge Port, and touring Yuge Island. You can also visit Kitchen 313 Kamiyuge, a bagel shop in an old house, and Yuge Shrine, located on a scenic beach.

For accommodation, try INLAND SEA RESORT FESPA, a hotel with an attractive ocean view and a large public bath, Yuge no Yado (Yuge Island), where you can stay in an old house and enjoy a full course of home-style seafood cuisine, or Live Fish Minshuku Yoshimasa (Iwaki Island), where you can savor the cuisine of a renowned chef. These are some great places to relax and enjoy the delicious island cuisine.



Tour the islands of Yumeshima Kaido on the popular electric scooter

## Day 2: Yuge Island - Sashima Island - Ikuchi Island

The next day, you can learn about Japanese history and traditional culture. If you are a history buff, head to "Yuge no Sho." You can experience the traditional salt-making of Yuge Island, which once flourished as a salt-making island. If you are an art lover, we recommend "Sobeigama Tobo Dodo." You can make cups, plates, and other items from the clay of Bizen ware, a famous ceramic product in the Setouchi region.

In the afternoon, we took a leisurely cruise around the Seto Inland Sea on a catamaran operated by Sam of "Island Travel Yacht." We enjoyed the comfort of a boat propelled by the wind and the opportunity to land on a private beach that was deserted.

We stayed at the popular Japanese inn "Azumi Setoda" which was built by the founder of the island on Ikuchijima Island. If you want to stay casually, we recommend "Yubune", a sister inn with a public bath. Dinner is not included, so we recommend trying the famous octopus dishes at "Chidori Restaurant", which is about a 7-minute walk away.



Take a leisurely cruise around the islands on a catamaran to a deserted island

## Day 3: Ikuchijima

Ikuchijima is the birthplace of the great Japanese painter, Hirayama Ikuo. After breakfast, visit Kojoji Temple, which was the motif of his paintings, and look down on the national treasure, the three-story pagoda, and the Setoda seascape. On the way back, enjoy conversation with the easygoing locals at Shiomachi Shopping Street, and have fun looking for souvenirs such as alcohol and sweets made with the famous Setoda lemon.

After your walk, set sail on a chartered cruise ship for a deserted island cruise and picnic lunch. On this day, you will sail under the Tataru Bridge to Tshajima Island, splashing white water. You can relax on the sandy beach overlooking the beautiful Seto Inland Sea islands, eating a colorful lunch full of local vegetables and sipping alcohol.



The three-story pagoda at Kojoji Temple, a national treasure, was also inspired by the painter Ikuo Hirayama.

# How to get to Yuge Island, Sashima Island, Ikina Island, and Iwaki Island

## By plane

### From Hiroshima:

Take the Airport Limousine Bus from Mihara Pier (30 minutes) to Habu Shosen Ferry, which takes about 35 minutes to Innoshima Habu Port. From there it is a direct 4-minute ride to Tateishi Port (Ikina Island). To go to other locations, change boats at Innoshima Habu Port. The Choko Ferry takes about 15 minutes to Choko Port (Iwagi Island). The Geiyo Kisen Ferry takes about 5 minutes to Ikina Port (Ikina Island), about 5 minutes to Yuge Port (Yuge Island), about 6 minutes to Sajima Port (Sajima), and about 7 minutes to Iwagi Port (Iwagi Island).

### From Shikoku:

There are two routes from Matsuyama Airport to Imabari Pier. From JR Matsuyama Station, take the limousine bus for about 15 minutes, then the express train for about 40 minutes to Imabari Station. Then change to a local bus and you'll reach Imabari Pier in about 5 minutes. The other is from Matsuyama City Station, which is about a limousine bus ride away, and then a local bus ride away in about 80 minutes to Imabari Pier.

From Imabari Pier, it takes about 50 minutes by Geiyo Kisen to Iwaki Port (Iwaki Island), about 7 minutes to Sashima Port (Sashima), about 6 minutes to Yuge Port (Yuge Island), and about 5 minutes to Ikina Port (Ikina Island).

## By Shinkansen

### From Fukuyama Station:

The Chugoku Bus (Citrus Liner) takes about 70 minutes to transfer to a boat at Habu Port. Habu Shosen takes about 4 minutes to Tateishi Port (Ikina Island). Choko Ferry takes about 15 minutes to Choko Port (Iwagi Island). Geiyo Kisen takes about 5 minutes to Ikina Port (Ikina Island), about 5 minutes to Yuge Port (Yuge Island), about 6 minutes to Sajima Port (Sajima), and about 7 minutes to Iwagi Port (Iwagi Island). Also, if you take the Ikina Ferry at Nagasaki Pier, which is about a 5-minute walk from Habu Port, you can get to Tateishi Port (Ikina Island) in about 3 minutes.

### From Mihara Station:

From Mihara Port, which is about a 5-minute walk away, take the Habu Shosen ferry for about 40 minutes to Tateishi Port (Ikina Island).



To Yuge Island, Sashima Island, Ikina Island, and Iwaki Island

## By car

### **From Hiroshima on the Nishiseto Expressway:**

Innoshima Kita IC: From Nagasaki Pier, it takes about 18 minutes, and then a 3-minute Ikina Ferry to Tateishi Port (Ikina Island); from Ikarowatari Port, it takes about 20 minutes, and then a 7-minute Ikarowatari Ferry to Kami-Yuge Port (Yuge Island); from Innoshima Habu Port, it takes about 15 minutes, and then a 15-minute Nagae Ferry to Nagae Port (Iwaki Island).

Ikuchijima Kita IC: From Suoe Port, it's about a 5-minute ride by Sanko Kisen Ferry to Koso Port (Iwaki Island), which takes about 7 minutes.

### **From Shikoku, take the Nishiseto Expressway:**

Innoshima Minami IC: From Nagasaki Pier, it takes about 12 minutes, and then a 3-minute Ikina Ferry to Tateishi Port (Ikina Island); from Ikarowatari Port, it takes about 20 minutes, and then a 7-minute Ikarowatari Ferry to Kami-Yuge Port (Yuge Island); from Innoshima Habu Port, it takes about 10 minutes, and then a 15-minute Chojo Ferry to Chojo Port (Iwaki Island).

Ikuchijima Kita IC: From Suoe Port, it's about 10 minutes by ferry to Koso Port (Iwaki Island), which is about 7 minutes away.



Yumeshima Kaido Islands and Sunset

**We can arrange this optional tour  
Contact us for more information**