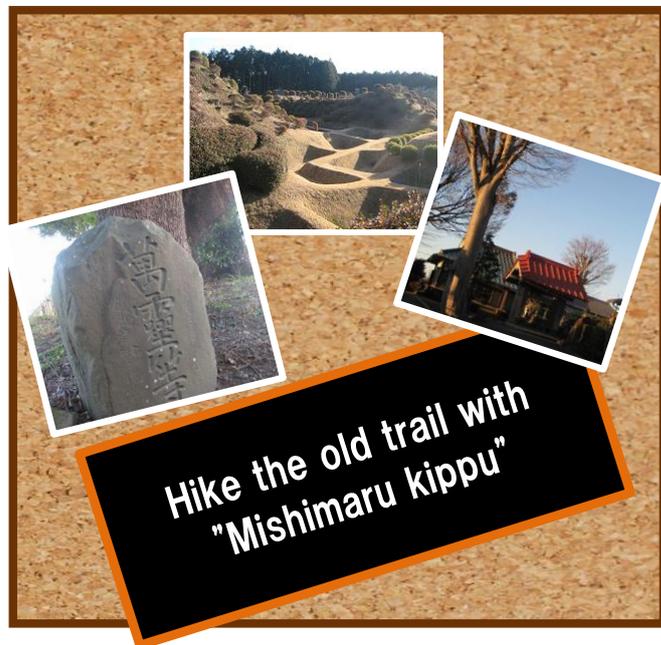




Walk the old Tokaido from Hakone to Mishima with Mishimaru Kippu (Mishima Free Bus Pass)



Hike the old trail with
"Mishimaru kippu"

What is Tokaido (東海道)?

The Tokaido (東海道, East sea road) is one of the top 5 major roads in the Edo period (1603-1867). The meaning of "Tokaido" derives from its direction (heading east from Kyoto, the starting point of this road) and location (along the sea coast).

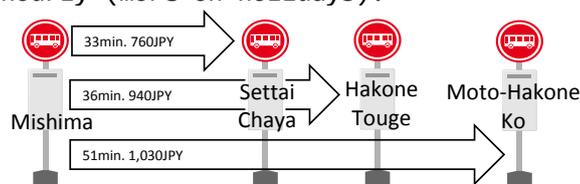
This historical name is inherited to the "Tokaido Shinkansen" as we call National Route 1 "Tokaido" simply nowadays. Most part of the old Tokaido has been paved and transformed to main roads or highways but some of it still remains as modest paths for locals or hiking trails. Its part from Hakone to Mishima is one of the best preserved ones in the east portion of this road.

Albeit the main gate of Hakone is believed as Odawara, this Hakone-Mishima line has other charms in its own.

"Tokai Bus" operates a local bus along this line.

If you like to hike this part, taking a bus from Mishima to Hakone at first is recommended because 14km of this trail is mostly downhill if you start walking from the Hakone area. From Mishima Bus Terminal (MBT) No.5 just beside the south gate of JR Mishima station, please take the bus for "Moto-hakone ko" (元箱根港), that leaves hourly (more on holidays).

If you intend to enjoy not only the trail but Hakone main area (around lake Ashi) as well, please get off the bus at the last stop. When you are only interested in the trail, "Hakone-touge" (箱根峠) or "Settai-chaya" (接待茶屋) is the most appropriate stop to get off.

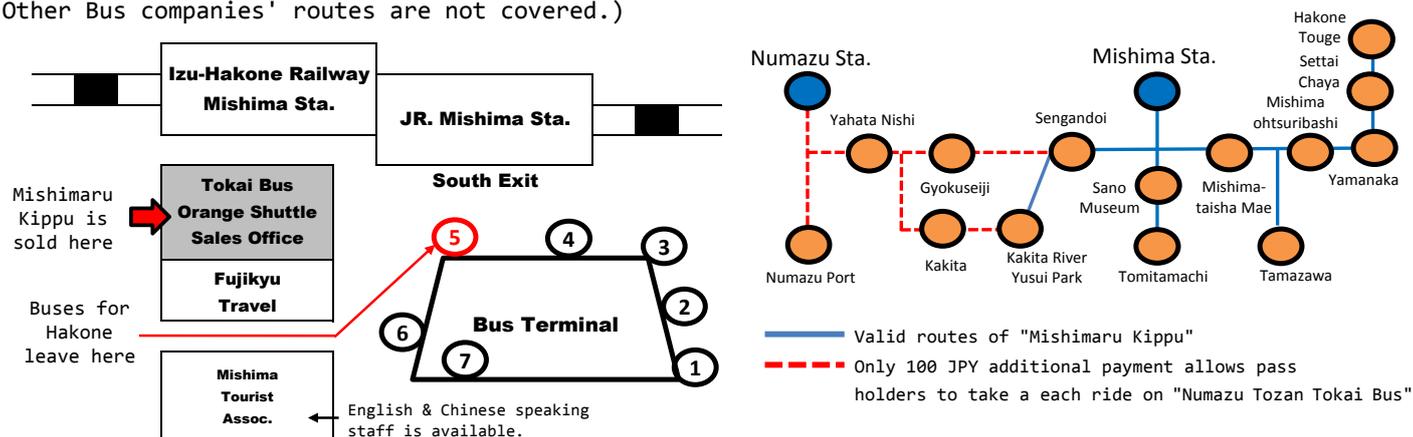


"Mishimaru Kippu" (みしまるきっぷ / Mishima Free bus Pass)

If you feel anxiety about getting on a local bus, the "Mishimaru Kippu (Free Bus Pass)" becomes the solution. You can get on and off the local bus freely with this pass around Mishima area for a reasonable fee (Adult 900 JPY, Child 450 JPY). This pass is valid on the day of issue only.

Please note that only "Tokai Bus Orange Shuttle(東海バスオレンジシャトル)" can be taken with this pass.

(Other Bus companies' routes are not covered.)



Holders of this pass can get discounts at some sightseeing spots and over 30 food shops in Mishima city!

Casual map of the old Tokaido from Hakone to Mishima

- ① The entrance of the old Tokaido Hiking trail
- ② Stone-paved old style path
- ③ A tombstone Sake bottle inscribed on
- ④ Ruins of Yamanaka Castle(山中城)
- ⑤ Sokan Temple(宗閑寺)
- ⑥ Mishima Grand Suspension Bridge (Skywalk)
- ⑦ Steep slope around Sasahara town
- ⑧ Sofuku Temple(宗福寺)
- ⑨ Nishikida Ichirizuka (錦田一里塚, Japanese milestone)
- ⑩ Mishima Shrine(Taisha, 三島大社)
- ⑪ Mishima Station

Approx. distance and walking time

- ①⇒④ 4.0km , 45min.
- ④⇒⑦ 2.1km , 25min.
- ⑦⇒⑧ 2.5km , 35min.
- ⑧⇒⑩ 3.8km , 45min.
- ⑩⇒⑪ 1.0km , 15min.



Brief information of each spot

- ① A short walk from "Hakone-touge" busstop takes you to the entrance of the trail.
- ② There are several stone-paved paths on the trail.
- ③ A "Sake" bottle inscribed on the gravestone was for a palanquin bearer named Kyusuke who lived in the Edo period and loved drinking.
- ④ Built by the Hojo (北条) clan that ruled this area during the 16th century as the guard from western invaders to protect their main base, Odawara castle. It was destroyed by the Toyotomi (豊臣) clan (the 1st monarch all over Japan) in 1590 and it has never been rebuilt. But its fosses and redoubts are well preserved now.
- ⑤ Though having over 500 years of history as a Buddhism temple, some gravestones of Kakure (hidden) Christians can be found. The Edo shogunate banned heathenry for over 200 years from the beginning of the 17th century. Not only the Christian but its harborer was sentenced to death. These gravestones that have the cross ingeniously carved in tell us the role this temple played during that time.
- ⑥ The nation's longest suspended pedestrian bridge offers you tremendous views of the countryside around.
- ⑦ After crossing Sasahara(笹原), a residential area begins to happen. From the backyard of Shoun-temple (松雲寺) or Sofuku-temple(宗福寺/⑧), you can see Mt.Fuji when weather permitting.
- ⑨ Milestones were placed every 4km (it was called "Ichi-ri-zuka", Ichi means "1") along the main road traditionally in Japan. Zuka or Tsuka means a kind of small hill that made it easy to distinguish the road by banking or tree-planting. Ichirizuka at Nishikida, there still are milestones on both side of the road and huge zelkova trees.
- ⑩ Mishima Shrine(Taisha) is one of the largest shirines in Japan. Details are available at the following URL by Mishima Tourist Association.



How to use "Tokai bus"(local lines)

Using local buses in Japan may be intimidating to foreign tourists but worth a try. To spend some time with local people in the same vehicle and exchange a few words may spice up your trip.



- ① Enter and exit the bus through the front door.
- ② Pick up a number-printed ticket from the vending machine next to the driver even if you board from the first stop or are a freepass holder.
- ③ The fare of Tokai Bus is not flat. Check it on the display above the windshield.
- ④ The coin changer does not accept high value banknote. To bring small change with you in advance is recommended.
- ⑤ Press the button after the announcement of the stop to signal the driver that you wish to get off at the next.
- ⑥ Drop the fee with number-printed ticket into the clear receptacle. If you have a freepass and the stop is in the valid area, please show the pass to the driver.