

Kagoshima, Kyushu, Japan

Kagoshima sits at the feet of Sakurajima, one of Japan's most active volcanoes — a constant, smoke-puffing presence across the bay. Between a UNESCO garden, samurai streets, and a ferry to the caldera's edge, this southern Kyushu city punches well above its port-call weight.

 Pier (Marine Port Kagoshima)  Typical call: 8–10 hrs  Currency: Japanese Yen (JPY)  Language: Japanese

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____	Arrive: _____	All aboard: _____
Excursion: _____	Notes: _____	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Pier — Marine Port Kagoshima, modern 340m quay south of city center

Best For: Volcano day trip, traditional gardens, samurai history, Japanese street food

Walk to center: ~5 km — shuttle bus or tram recommended; City View tourist bus available

Don't Miss: Sakurajima ferry + lava trail footbath, Sengan-en garden, shirokuma shaved ice

 Getting around:  Taxi  ¥2,800–¥3,400 one-way ·  Rideshare  Uber ·  Hop-on hop-off  Hop-on hop-off

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Sakurajima Volcano Ferry & Lava Trail** — A 15-minute ferry across Kinko Bay lands you on one of Japan's most active volcanoes.
- **Sengan-en Garden & Shoko Shuseikan Museum** — A UNESCO World Heritage landscape garden built by the Shimazu clan in 1658, designed with Sakurajima as its 'borrowed scenery.' The adjacent Shoko...
- **Shiroyama Observatory & Castle Ruins** — The wooded hilltop above central Kagoshima offers the best panoramic view of the city and Sakurajima.
- **Tenmonkan Food & Shopping District** — Kagoshima's downtown covered arcade is the place to eat kurobuta (black Berkshire pork) tonkatsu, try shirokuma shaved ice — a local institution...
- **Chiran Samurai District & Peace Museum** — A beautifully preserved samurai residential street with zen garden-fronted stone walls, about 1 hour south by bus or taxi.

BEST WALKS

- **Waterfront to Tenmonkan Walk** 2 km · 25 min · flat · free — From the Dolphin Port waterfront area, walk north along the bayside promenade past Kagoshima Aquarium to the covered Tenmonkan shopping arcade.
- **Sengan-en Garden Self-Guided Loop** 1 km · 60–90 min · uneven gravel · admission required — Inside Sengan-en, the garden path winds past bamboo groves, stone bridges, shrines, and ponds — all framed by the living backdrop of Sakurajima.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

🌤️ CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)				🌅 DAYLIGHT & 💰 MONEY	
Mon	High	Low	Rain	Apr 5:49AM–6:46PM · Jun 5:12AM–7:24PM · Aug 5:43AM–7:01PM · Sep 6:01AM–6:23PM · Oct 6:20AM–5:45PM	
Apr	68°	54°	12d	 Currency: Japanese Yen (JPY)	
Jun	79°	68°	20d		
Aug	87°	77°	18d		
Sep	83°	72°	17d		
Oct	75°	63°	9d		

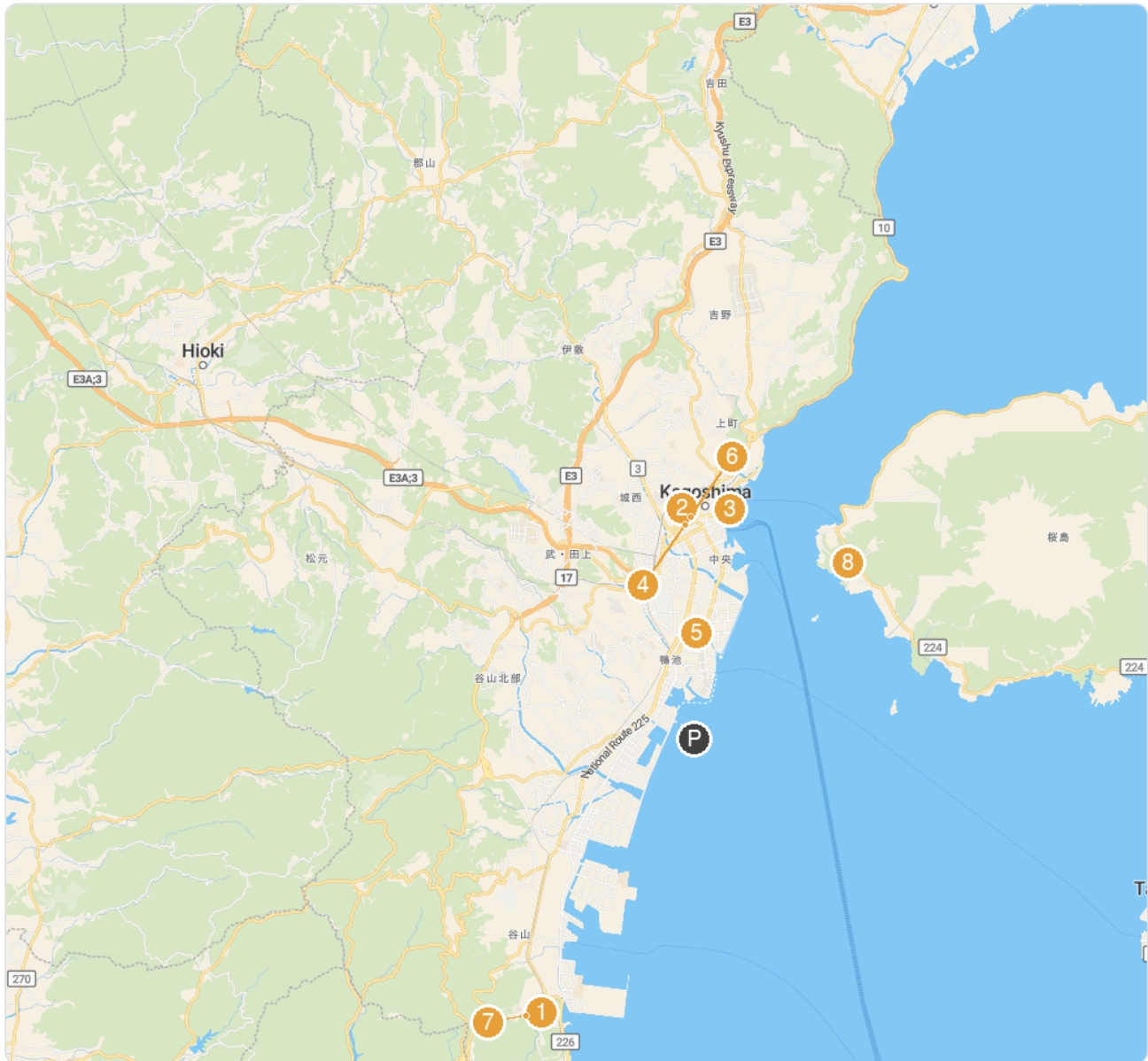
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Volcanic ash is real. Sakurajima erupts frequently — ash fall can reach the city on windy days. Carry an umbrella (shops sell ash-specific ones) and never rub ash in your eyes; rinse with water instead.
- Carry yen for small purchases. Japan remains cash-preferred for street food, temples, and local stalls. ATMs at 7-Eleven and post offices reliably accept foreign cards.
- Buy a Kagoshima City View day pass. The green tourist bus loops all major sights including Shiroyama, Sengan-en, and the Sakurajima Ferry Terminal for a flat day fee — far cheaper than taxis for multiple stops.
- The Sakurajima ferry runs every 10–15 minutes during the day for just ¥250 each way. You don't need to book — just show up, buy a ticket, and board. Last ferry back is not an issue on a port day.
- Eat kurobuta (black pork) here. Kagoshima's Berkshire pork is justifiably famous — tonkatsu or shabu-shabu at a local restaurant beats any ship buffet. Tenmonkan is the obvious spot.
- Summers are hot and humid. June–September port calls mean 30°C+ temperatures. Start early, stay hydrated, and plan indoor or shaded breaks (Sengan-en has café seating; Tenmonkan is covered).

Kagoshima, Kyushu, Japan — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



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| 1 Kinkowan Park | Waterfront park offering views of Sakurajima volcano. | 2 Shiroyama Park Observation Deck | Panoramic views of Kagoshima city, Sakurajima, and Kinko Bay. |
| 3 Kagoshima City Aquarium | Large aquarium showcasing marine life from Kagoshima Bay. | 4 St Francis Xavier Cathedral | Historic Catholic cathedral dedicated to St. Francis Xavier. |
| 5 Kagoshima Municipal Science Hall | Interactive science museum with a planetarium for all ages. | 6 Kagoshima Prefectural Museum | Museum displaying Kagoshima's natural history and cultural heritage. |
| 7 Hirakawa Zoo | Spacious zoo featuring animals from around the world. | 8 Karasujima Observation deck | Observation deck near a former island, close to Sakurajima. |
| P Cruise port / terminal | | | |