

Kobe / Osaka, Kansai, Japan

Two great cities, one legendary region. Whether your ship ties up in Kobe's Harborland or Osaka's Tempozan Bay, the temples of Kyoto, deer parks of Nara, and Himeji Castle are all just a train ride away — and you haven't eaten Japan until you've had Kobe beef or Dotonbori street food.

Docked (pier berthing) Typical call: 8–10 hrs Currency: Japanese Yen (¥) Language: Japanese (English in tourist areas)

MY DAY IN PORT

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

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Kobe: Shinko Pier No. 4 or Naka Pier (city-center, walk/Port Liner). Osaka: Tempozan Cruise Terminal (Bay Area, 8 km from Namba).

Best For: Kyoto day trips, Kobe beef, sake breweries, Osaka street food, Himeji Castle, Nara deer park

Walk to Center: Kobe Naka Pier → Meriken Park: 2 min; Sannomiya: 20 min walk or short bus ride. Shinko Pier → Sannomiya: 5-min Port Liner. Osaka terminal → Osakako Metro: 5-min walk.

Don't Miss: A sit-down Kobe beef lunch in the Kita-no district or a bowl of takoyaki in Dotonbori

Getting around: **Taxi** ¥1,500–¥1,900 (Kobe center) / ¥8,500–¥10,000 (Osaka Namba) · **Rideshare** Uber · **Hop-on hop-off**

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Kyoto Temples & Fushimi Inari** — Japan's cultural capital is ~25–30 minutes by train from Osaka and ~50 minutes from Kobe.
- **Himeji Castle** — 45 minutes from Kobe, Himeji is Japan's finest surviving feudal castle — a UNESCO World Heritage Site nicknamed the White Heron for its dazzling...
- **Nara Deer Park & Todai-ji Temple** — Nara Park is home to 1,200 free-roaming sacred deer that bow for rice crackers sold at the gate.
- **Kobe Beef Lunch in Kitano** — Kobe is the birthplace of the world's most marbled beef.
- **Osaka Castle & Dotonbori** — Osaka Castle anchors a hilltop park with a modern museum inside.

BEST WALKS

- **Kobe Waterfront Loop** 2.5 km · 45 min · Easy — From Naka Pier, stroll through Meriken Park past the Kobe Earthquake Memorial site and the striking latticed Kobe Port Tower (with observation deck).
- **Kitano Ijinkan (Foreign Settlement)** 1.5 km uphill · 30 min · Moderate — From Sannomiya, walk up through Kitano-cho to the well-preserved Meiji-era Western residences (ijinkan) once occupied by foreign merchants and consuls.
- **Osaka: Tempozan Waterfront** 1 km · 20 min · Easy — If docked at Tempozan, the Osaka Aquarium Kaiyukan (one of Asia's largest, featuring a whale shark) is a 5-minute walk from the terminal.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)				DAYLIGHT & MONEY	
Mon	High	Low	Rain	Apr 5:28AM–6:31PM · Jun 4:45AM–7:13PM · Aug 5:19AM–6:47PM · Sep 5:42AM–6:06PM · Oct 6:04AM–5:24PM	
Apr	64°	50°	10d	Currency: Japanese Yen (¥)	
Jun	77°	67°	14d		
Aug	87°	77°	16d		
Sep	81°	71°	14d		
Oct	71°	60°	10d		

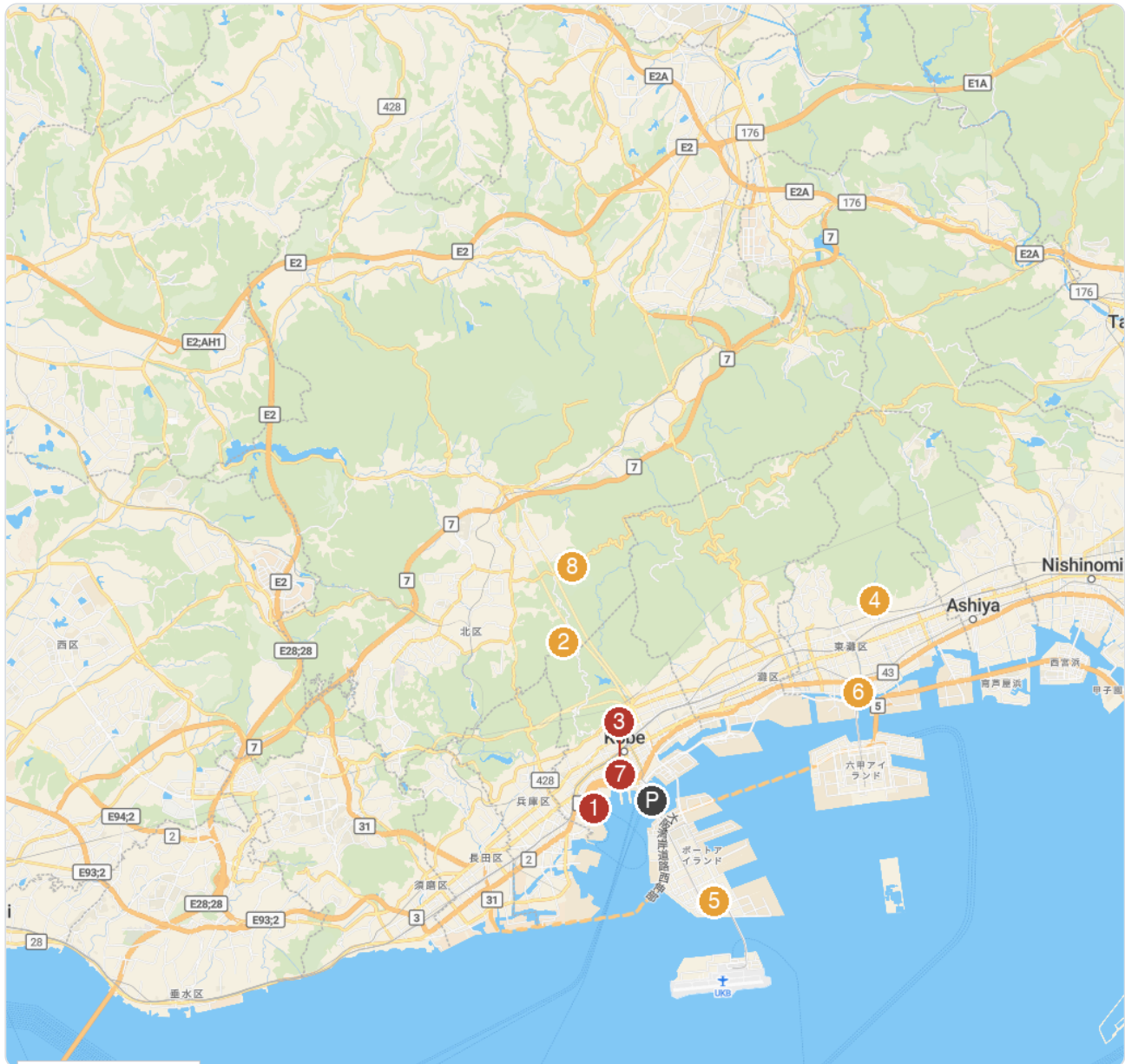
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Carry yen cash. Japan is still largely cash-based outside tourist hotspots. ATMs at 7-Eleven and Japan Post accept foreign cards. Currency exchange is also available at the port terminals.
- Get an IC card (Suica or Icard) for seamless hopping between trains and metro lines across Kobe, Osaka, and Kyoto. Load ¥5,000 and go — no need to buy individual tickets.
- Kyoto day-trippers: leave early. Top sites (Fushimi Inari, Kinkaku-ji) get crowded by 10am. Aim to be on a train by 8:30am. Check ship departure time carefully — last trains back run until about 11pm.
- Verify your Kobe beef. Only beef from certified Tajima cattle raised in Hyogo Prefecture qualifies as true Kobe beef. Look for the 'Kobe Beef' certification mark on the menu — plenty of places near the port fake the label.
- Pack a small umbrella. Kansai gets sudden rain showers, especially in spring (April–May) and during tsuyu (rainy season, June–July). A compact folding umbrella fits any day bag.
- Pocket Wi-Fi or eSIM.

Kobe / Osaka, Kansai, 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 Kōbe Anpanman Children's Museum & Mall | Anpanman-themed museum and mall for children. | 2 Futatabi Park | Scenic park with a lake, trails, and temple. |
| 3 Kobe Naval Drills Office Trace Monument | Monument marking a historic naval office site. | 4 Okamoto Park (Plum Garden) | Beautiful park famous for plum blossoms. |
| 5 Kobe Animal Kingdom | Interactive zoo and botanical garden. | 6 Kiku-Masamune Sake Brewery Museum | Museum showcasing traditional sake brewing. |
| 7 Kobe City Museum | Museum covering Kobe's history and art. | 8 Kobe Municipal Arboretum | Large arboretum with diverse tree collections. |
| P Cruise port / terminal | | | |