

Kumano, Mie, Japan

On the rugged Kii Peninsula, Kumano guards Japan's most sacred pilgrimage routes — ancient stone paths through cedar forests, volcanic sea cliffs, and shrines that predate their own buildings.

 Pier (Odomari / Shichirihama Port)

 Typical call: 8-10 hrs

 Currency: Japanese Yen (JPY)

 Language: Japanese

 UNESCO World Heritage site

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: Arrive: All aboard:

Excursion: Notes:

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Pier — ships dock at Odomari / Shichirihama port; shuttle buses provided to city center

Best For: Kumano Kodo hiking, UNESCO shrines, dramatic coastal geology

Walk to center: ~2.5 km (30-40 min) to Kumanoshi Station; Onigajo cliffs 15-20 min from pier

Don't Miss: Onigajo volcanic sea cliffs and the Matsumoto-toge Kumano Kodo trail section

Getting around:  Taxi  ¥400–¥750 flag-fall, ~¥3,700 for a 15–20 min ride ·  Rideshare  Uber

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Onigajo Sea Cliffs** — A 1.2 km walkway carved into dramatic eroded volcanic rock facing the Pacific — free, walkable from the pier in 15-20 minutes.
- Kumano Kodo: Matsumoto-toge Pass** — Walk a beautifully preserved section of the UNESCO-listed Kumano Kodo pilgrimage trail.
- Hana-no-Iwaya Shrine** — Japan's oldest Shinto shrine — not a wooden building but a 45-metre sacred rock face worshipped as the mother deity Izanami-no-Mikoto.
- Doro Gorge (Dorokyo) Boat Ride** — Ride flat-bottomed wooden boats through the Kumano River gorge past emerald water and sheer rock cliffs — one of Japan's most dramatic inland...
- Maruyama Senmaida Terraced Rice Fields** — Over 1,340 hand-sculpted terraced rice paddies climb a steep mountain hillside in a valley west of Kumano.

BEST WALKS

- Pier to Onigajo Sea Cliffs** 2 km · 20 min · flat coastal road — Follow the coastal road north-east from the Odomari pier to the Onigajo entrance.
- Matsumoto-toge Kumano Kodo Section** 3-4 km loop · 1.5-2 hrs · moderate ascent — Walk from near Odomari Station along the ancient stone-paved Matsumoto-toge pass.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 **CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)**

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		64°	50°	13d
Jun		75°	65°	17d
Aug		84°	75°	20d
Sep		79°	70°	20d
Oct		71°	60°	14d

 **DAYLIGHT &  MONEY**

Apr 5:25AM–6:26PM · Jun 4:44AM–7:07PM · Aug 5:17AM–6:42PM · Sep 5:38AM–6:02PM · Oct 6:00AM–5:21PM

 Currency: Japanese Yen (JPY)

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Wear proper footwear. Both Onigajo and the Kumano Kodo have uneven, sometimes slippery surfaces. Athletic shoes or light hiking boots are strongly recommended.
- Bring Japanese Yen. Kumano is rural — many restaurants, rural trailheads, and train stations are cash-only. 7-Eleven ATMs in the city centre accept international cards.
- Pack a rain layer. The Kii Peninsula is one of Japan's wettest regions. Brief heavy showers can arrive without warning even on otherwise fine days.
- Use the shuttle. The pier is ~2.5 km from Kumanoshi Station. Free/low-cost shuttle buses provided by the port or your cruise line save time and are more reliable than scarce local taxis.
- Try mehari-zushi. The local specialty — rice balls wrapped in pickled mustard greens — is sold at the Onigajo Centre and small eateries near the train station. Cheap, filling, and uniquely Kumano.
- Plan train travel carefully. JR trains along the Kisei Main Line run only 1-2 times per hour. If heading to Shingu or Nachikatsuura independently, build in plenty of return buffer before all-aboard.

Kumano, Mie, Japan — Port Map

cruiseports.org

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



P Cruise port / terminal