



At the farthest end, the town where your heart leaps for joy

# Travel Guide for Minamiosumi



Deeper and deeper, to Minamiosumi.

南大隅町  
MINAMIOSUMI

Deep!!  
The southernmost point of mainland Japan, bounded by the sea on three sides

## Cape Sata

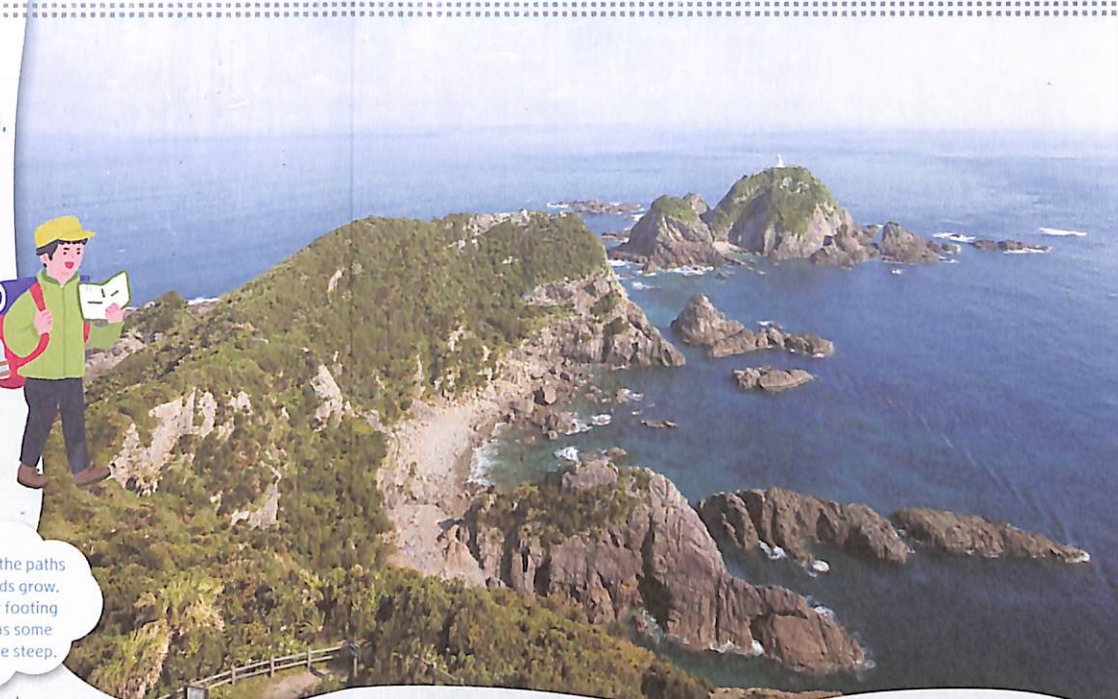
Filled with hibiscus and other sub-tropical plants, Cape Sata really feels like a tropical island grafted onto the mainland. Facing the Pacific Ocean, the East China Sea, and Kinko Bay, on a clear day you can see as far Tanegashima and Yakushima. The white lighthouse rising tall on Owa Island, 50m off the southern tip, is one of the oldest in Japan.

### Please Note

- Open from 8 a.m. to sunset. Closed for safety reasons during the night (after sunset).
- The park surfaces may be unstable and there may be trees roots blocking paths.
- The only toilets are in the carpark.

Stroll along the paths where cycads grow. Watch your footing however, as some areas can be steep.

The viewing area offers a majestic panorama right to the horizon. On a clear day, you can see as far as Mt. Kaihon as well as Yakushima, Tanegashima, and other southern islands.



### Misaki Shrine

Misaki Shrine sits in the midst of thickly-growing cycads, almost like a jungle. It is increasingly popular these days as a "power spot" for relationships.



### Biro Island

As the name suggests, Biro Island is covered in "biro" plants (Chinese fan palm). The area around it is also a sea park, where you can see colorful corals and tropical fish.

Deep!!  
Up close with the colorful underwater world

## Underwater Viewing Boat Sata-Day Go

The underwater viewing boat offers windows looking out underwater for half-hour cruises around Japan's first sea park, Cape Sata Sea Park (which covers Cape Sata, Biro Island, and other areas). The large windows on the bottom of the boat allows passengers to view the cobalt-blue underwater world from their seats.



### Sata-Day Go Sailing Times

9:00	12:50
9:50	13:40
10:40	14:30
11:30	15:20

\*Cruises may be cancelled due to bad weather.

### Cost

Adults: 2,000 yen  
Children: 1,000 yen

\*Discounts for groups of 15 or more.

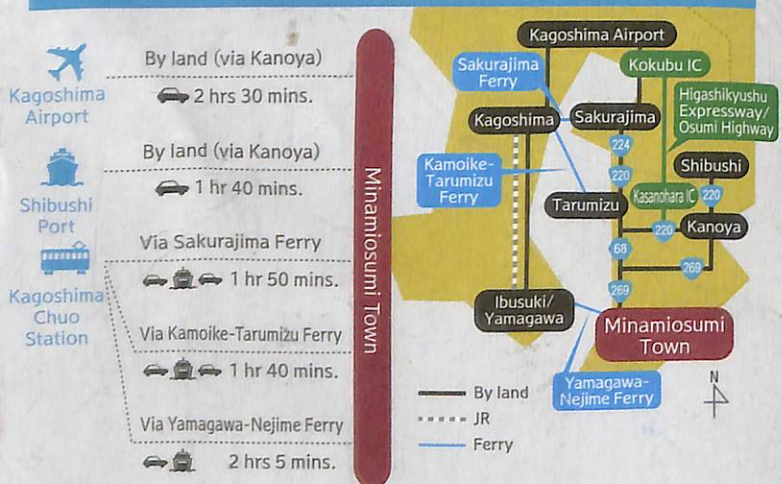


You can see the colorful staghorn coral reefs and tropical fish that live in the clear waters up close. And if you're lucky, you might encounter a sea turtle as well.



## Welcome to the Town of Minamiosumi

### Access Routes



### Inquiries

Minamiosumi Town Hall Planning and Tourism Section TEL.0994-24-3115  
Rental cars: Futagawa Kotsu TEL.0994-24-2763

### [Yamagawa Port - Nejime Port] Ferry Nankyu Timetable

Dep. Yamagawa		Dep. Nejime	
Summer (Mar to Oct)	Winter (Nov to Feb)	Summer (Mar to Oct)	Winter (Nov to Feb)
Weekdays	Weekend and public holidays	Weekdays	Weekend and public holidays
8:00	8:00	9:00	9:00
10:00	10:00	11:00	11:00
13:00	12:00	13:00	13:00
	14:00	15:00	15:00
16:00	16:00	17:00	17:00
	15:30		14:30
			16:30

Inquiries [Nejime Office]721-20 Nejime-kawaminami, Minamiosumi-cho, Kimotsuki-gun TEL.0994-24-2531  
[Yamagawa Office]38-1 Yamagawa-kinsei-cho, Ibusuki-shi TEL.0993-34-0012



## Ogawa Waterfall

Enjoy the grandeur of nature in the Ogawa Ravine while listening to the rippling clear stream in the background. Walking along the 1.2 km path will let you see the Ogawa Waterfall. The beautiful emerald-green pool beneath it seems mystical and strange, perfect for an unexplored, secluded area. This calming place will refresh you in body and soul.

### Please Note

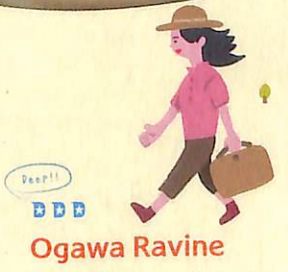
- Do not swim in the pool.
- Access to the walking path may be closed for safety reasons in bad weather or when the river is high.
- Access may also be closed due to sudden rains.
- Please keep out after dark for safety reasons.



The Waterfall Viewing Path is cool even in summer, offering arresting views of refreshing cool streams.

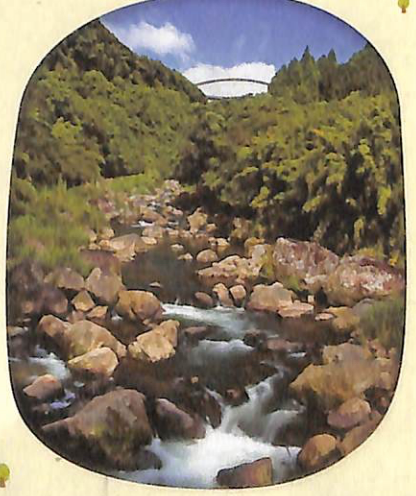


We suggest you wear loose clothing, as it's an hilly path about 1,200 m long.



### Ogawa Ravine

Enjoy this view of a ravine just a short distance from the carpark. Ogawa Waterfall is beyond the Takimi Bridge in front.



## How to Enjoy Your Stay in Minamiosumi



### 3 View Mt. Kaimon from Gold Beach.

It makes a great swimming area in summer, but the romantic sunsets are also not to be missed.

### 1 Relax in the sun while looking out over Kinko Bay.

Enjoy the wonderful scenery as you lie down on the Nishiharadai Ridge in spring. You can also take a nap like that if you wish.

### 4 Enjoy local Minamiosumi food.

Where's the best place to eat? Why not ask a local? You'll get a more accurate answer than any tourist pamphlet.

### 2 A relaxing stroll through the countryside.

Let the delicious air and nostalgic scenery refresh you. On fine days, why not rent a bike?

### 5 Collect the "Ends of the Earth" signboards around the Cape Sata area.

There isn't just one "southernmost Mainland Japan sign, so don't forget to take your commemorative photos at each "Southernmost XXX in Mainland Japan" sign.

## Advice for Your Trip to Minamiosumi



### 1 Get supplies at Nejime or Izashiki before you leave.

There are not that many convenience stores, shops, or service stations around, so you should stock up on drinks and fuel.

### 2 Watch for animals when driving.

Minamiosumi's rich natural environment means that wild animals are more likely to be on the roads. Keep an eye also on the shoulders as you drive to make sure that there aren't any animals lurking.

**1 Lodge where Saigo Takamori Stayed** **DD**  
 This is the house where Saigo Takamori stayed when he went hunting in Osumi. He was staying here when word reached him that the Southwest War had broken out. The museum exhibits a scroll by Saigo, some of his personal items, and don't miss the mark where his hunting rifle exploded on the wall.

**2 Great Camphor of Nanbansen Keiryu** **DD**  
 This great camphor tree, estimated to be over a thousand years old, stands near the Shioiri Bridge. Some 500 years ago, the area around the mouth of the Ogawa River was a trading port where European sailing ships (Nanbansen) would dock, and apparently they would use this tree to tie their mooring lines around when loading or taking on cargo.

**3 Suwa Shrine** **DDDD**  
 The two torii gateways side by side, as well as the structure and age of the Main Hall, are very unusual. When the torii were made of wood, the "Torii-pulling" ceremony would be held, in which great logs would be hauled down from the mountain whenever they were rebuilt.

**4 Original Scenery of Taro Yashima** **DDDD**  
 Comic and children's book artist Taro Yashima was born in Nejime. While he spent most of his tumultuous life in the United States, many of his works, such as *Crow Boy*, featured the beautiful landscapes of his home town.

**5 Kubo Field God** **DDDD**  
 The Kubota Field God statue on the side of the path leading to the Kawakita Onimaru Shrine was erected in 1731. It is the 19th-oldest in the prefecture, and the oldest field god form in the Osumi Peninsula.

**6 Gold Beach Ohama Swimming Area** **DD**  
 Ohama Beach has long been a popular place, as it is one of the few sand beaches in the area. The golden sand makes the sea look even bluer. The sun setting into the sea and the lovely silhouette of Mt. Kaimon on the far shore are also magnificent sights.

**7 Daiba Park (site of cannon emplacement in Anglo-Satsuma War)** **DD**  
 Daiba Park still retains the granite walls built in preparation for the Anglo-Satsuma War that followed the Namamugi Incident in which Englishmen were killed by Satsuma samurai. You can also see replicas of the cannons used at the time. There is also an impressive panoramic view of Kinko Bay from the park.

**8 Ohama Beach Park Bungalows** **DD**  
 Occupying part of the Kirishima-Kinkowan National Park are bungalows and sites for tents. In this park, families and friends can play, stay, and enjoy the magnificent panorama of Kinko Bay spread out before them.

**9 Tategami Park and Mt. Ontake** **DDDD**  
 Equipped with barbeque areas and offering wonderful panoramic views of Kinko Bay, Tategami Park makes it easy to enjoy the great outdoors. The unusually-shaped peak of Ontake, visible from the park, is home to a gigantic stone that is considered the home of a kami in Shinto belief, allowing us to sense the mystery of nature.

**10 Former Sata Herb Garden** **DDDD**  
 This was the medicinal herbs garden of Shimazu Tsunataka, 20th head of the Shimazu Clan and 3rd Lord of Satsuma. Medicinal plants were imported from Europe, and medical research attempted until the end of the shoguns' rule. The garden still contains rare southern plants such as longans, and remains much as it was in its day.

**11 Shimadomari Carved Cliff Buddha** **DDDDDD**  
 A seated image of the Bodhisattva Amida carved into the living rock of the mountain peak. Next to it are two five-ringed tower pagodas and a Buddha image believed to be Kannon. There are also stone tablets believed to be those of the Sata clan and two five-ringed towers dating from the middle of the Kamakura period. (Please note that the path to the cliff buddha is very rough and unfinished, so care is required when climbing.)

**12 Cape Sata Road Park / 31 Degrees North** **DDDD**  
 An exciting driving route (non-toll) that leads to Cape Sata, the southernmost point of mainland Japan. The park contains subtropical plants such as Chinese fan palms and cycads, giving it the feeling of a South Seas island. Along the way, the route crosses the 31st parallel, where there is a monument marking the line.

**13 Misaki Shrine and Misakiyama Hill** **DDDD**  
 Misaki Shrine has been a worship site for locals in the Osumi area for centuries. It enshrines the son of Izanagi-no-Mikoto, and is a "power spot" that is said to be good for relationships.

**14 Biro Island** **DDDD**  
 This small uninhabited island east-north-east from the Cape Sata lighthouse forms part of the cruising course of the Sata-Day Go. It is a mysterious island, completely covered in Chinese fan palms (biro), and home to a legend about a snake with large ears.

# Travel Guide for Minamiosumi

**History**

**Scenery**

**Fun**

**Food**

**Stay**

**Buy**

**Traffic lights**

**Service station**

**Toilets (park)**

**Rental car office**

**Expanded Map of Downtown Minamiosumi**

Signpost to Ogawa Waterfall

Turn right at the signpost to get to the Ogawa Waterfall pool.

Ogawa Waterfall parking About 1.2 km walk from here.

**Traffic lights**

**Service station**

**Toilets (park)**

**Sata-Day Land (Cottages)**

Izashiki Fishing Port

Sata Izashiki

Shimadomari Fishing Port

Fureai Park Sata (Lookout)

Sata Magome

Madomari Fishing Port

Hotel Satamisaki

Odomari Camping Ground

**Sata-Day Go**

"Arrival at Cape Sata" certificates are sold at the Sata-Day Go dock and in Hotel Satamisaki.

**Wind Farm**

Sata Hetsuka

Hetsuka Fishing Port

**Six Jizo of Hetsuka**

**N31**

Cape Sata

Cape Tachime

Hamajiri Camping Ground

Hamajiri Fishing Port

Hamajiri Fishing Port

**Accommodation Facilities in Minamiosumi**

Location	Facility Name	Contact
Sata	Showa Ryokan	0994-26-0069
	Minatohara Ryokan	0994-26-4207
	Minshuku Uchiyamaso	0994-27-3833
	Minshuku Nagisa	0994-27-3836
	Sata-Day Land Cottages	0994-26-0800
	Hotel Satamisaki	0994-27-3121
Nejime	Nejime Onsen Nappikan	0994-24-5300
	Business Hotel Orbis	0994-24-2115
	Kinko Bay South Road Youth Hostel	0994-24-5632
	Ohama Beach Park Bungalows	0994-24-5113
	Riders House Satogaeru	080-5790-4825

**15 Panorama Park Nishiharadai** **DDDD**  
 This viewing area, 439m above sea level, offers a panoramic view of Kinko Bay. There is car access to the entrance to the climbing route of Mt. Tsuji (773m), making it a perfect one-day climb. It is also famous around the country as a prime paragliding spot.

**16 Wind Farm Lookouts** **DDDD**  
 Be impressed by the twenty windmills, which generate a total of 26,000 kW (one of the largest in Western Japan). There are lookout points on both the Nejime side and the Sata side, with the Nejime side looking over to Kinko Bay and Mt. Kaimon, and the Sata side looking over to the Pacific Ocean, Tanegashima, and Yakushima.

**17 Sata-Day Land Cottages** **DD**  
 These cottages are unique for having no ceilings. In addition to the cottages, the extensive grounds offer go-karts, mini-golf, restaurants, and more, making it a place where both young and old can enjoy the great outdoors.

**18 View from Setoyama Hill** **DDDD**  
 Enjoy the beautiful scenery, made up of Mt. Kaimon, rice paddies, and rice terraces. Mt. Kaimon is particularly beautiful when the sun sets, so this place is popular with photographers. There are also about eighty carp streamers hung up along here in May.

**19 Scenery from Hetsuka Firing Range** **DDDD**  
 This spot offers incredible views of the vast Pacific ocean sweeping out to the distant horizon and the beautiful blue waters of the Hetsuka coastline. It is also popular with locals as one of the best places to see the sun rise out of the sea.

**20 Six Jizo of Hetsuka** **DDDD**  
 Belief in the Six Jizo started in the Warring States period, but in Kagoshima, this faith was embodied in numerous ways after the period. The Six Jizo of Hetsuka were set up in 1738 by the wife of Murayama Hachizaemon as a memorial for her husband.

**21 Nejime Dragon Boat Festival** **DDDD**  
 Dragon boats with crews of ten (eight rowers, one cox, and one drummer) compete along a 380 m section of the Nejime Ogawa river from Shioiri Bridge to Nejime Bridge. Don't miss this heated race, with more than a hundred crews competing.

**22 Misaki Festival** **DDDD**  
 One of the biggest events of the year, dating back 13 centuries. Starting in the early morning, each settlement takes it in turns to carry the mikoshi (sacred float) from Misaki Shrine. Religious rituals are performed as the mikoshi arrives at Chikatsunomiya Shrine in the evening. The following day is the main festival day, with the Uchiue Festival to pray for good harvests and a sacred dance is offered.

**23 Nejime Road Station (Michi-no-Eki)** **DD**  
 Known as the southernmost road station on the mainland. Here you can buy local specialties like Sata sherbet at the Products Hall. The restaurant serves seasonal set meals which you can eat while enjoying a magnificent panorama of Mt. Kaimon.

**24 Nantan Market** **DD**  
 Here you can buy Nangu potatoes, black pork, tankan citrus, and other fresh Minamiosumi produce, seafood, and processed foodstuffs. There is also a tourist information office here, so you can get the latest information on the various cities and towns in Osumi Peninsula.

**25 Nejime Onsen Nappikan** **DD**  
 A popular hot spring resort offering overnight accommodation, noted for its "beauty bath" and gourmet dishes made using local ingredients. It also features a "vital recirculating bath" one of the few in Japan, and an open-air bath where the natural hot water is always fresh from the source, making it especially popular with women.

**Souvenirs from Minamiosumi**

**Nejime Loquat Leaf Tea (Biwa-cha)**

Loquat leaf tea has been drunk in Japan for centuries, and is a local specialty of Nejime. Sun-dried leaves are tourmaline-roasted to draw out their effective ingredients, providing a mellow, easily drinkable tea you can enjoy every day.

**Cape Sata Organics**

Organic cosmetics that have been blessed with the natural bounty of Cape Sata. Great for daily use.

**Sata Sherbet**

A natural, refreshingly cooling sherbet made from Minamiosumi fruits.

**Tankan Soft Serve**

Local soft-serve ice cream made using local tankan citrus fruits. You can buy this at the Nantan Market.