

Access to Awa City

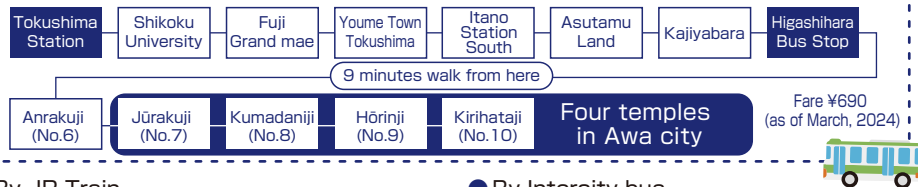


# Enjoy the Shikoku pilgrimage route in Awa city

~Experience the history, culture and nature of this area~

## ◆ Ways to get to the four Shikoku pilgrimage temples in Awa city. - -

Local Bus [Kajiyabara line] (About 1 hour to Anrakuji(No.6) from Tokushima Station)



### ● By JR Train

From Tokushima Sta. .... To Kamojima Sta. About 30 min  
 From Awa Ikeda Sta. .... To Kamojima Sta. About 1h  
 From Takamatsu Sta. .... Awa Ikeda Sta. ... To Kamojima Sta. About 2h 30 min

### ● By Intercity bus

From Osaka ..... Donari IC About 2h 45min  
 From Kobe ..... Donari IC About 2h  
 From Matsuyama ..... Donari IC About 2h 30min

### ● By car

From Kobe ..... Tokushima ..... To Jürakuji About 1h 40 min  
 From Okayama- Higashikagawa city .. To Jürakuji About 1h 55 min

### ● By car (from closest airport)

From Tokushima Awaodori Airport ... To Jürakuji About 45min  
 From Takamatsu Airport ... To Jürakuji About 1h 10 min  
 From Kōchi Ryōma Airport ..... To Jürakuji About 1h 50 min

### ● From Ryōzenji to Jürakuji — about 20km

|         |                 |       |                   |       |                 |       |                   |       |               |       |                 |       |                 |       |                 |
|---------|-----------------|-------|-------------------|-------|-----------------|-------|-------------------|-------|---------------|-------|-----------------|-------|-----------------|-------|-----------------|
| On foot | Ryōzenji (No.1) | 18    | Gokurakuji (No.2) | 40    | Konsenji (No.3) | 90    | Dainichiji (No.4) | 25    | Jizōji (No.5) | 75    | Anrakuji (No.6) | 15    | Jürakuji (No.7) | ..... | About 5h 30 min |
| By car  |                 | 5     |                   | 10    |                 | 15    |                   | 10    |               | 15    |                 | 5     |                 |       | About 2h        |
|         |                 | (min) |                   | (min) |                 | (min) |                   | (min) |               | (min) |                 | (min) |                 |       |                 |

Contact Information (Assistance available in Japanese)

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**Awa City Tourism Association**





## Visiting the temples in Awa City



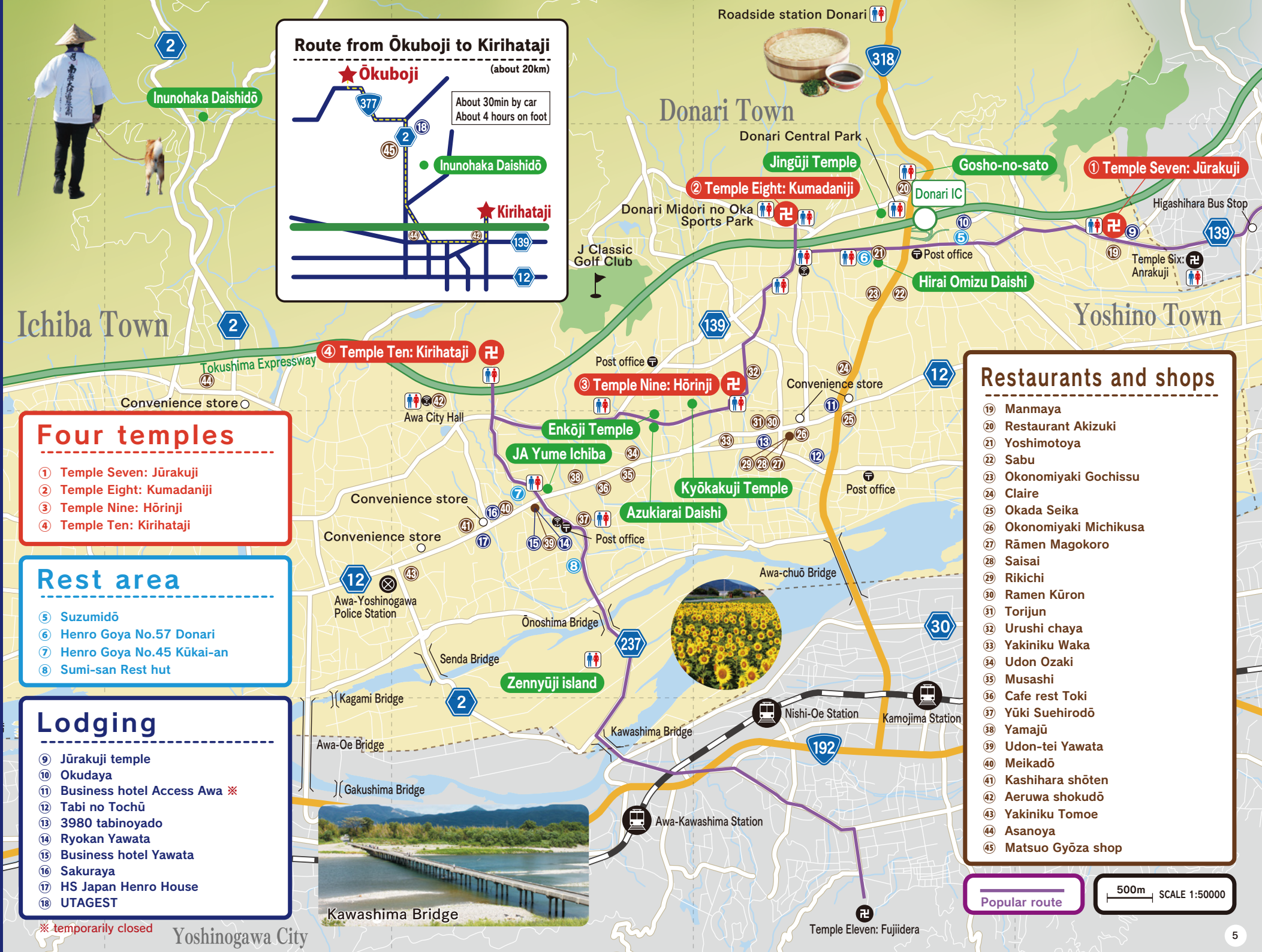
In Awa city, you can visit four of the eighty-eight temples along the Shikoku pilgrimage route. That are in close proximity. The roads that link them are relatively flat and easy to walk, so this area is an excellent place to `warm up` for the rest of the journey. An attractive feature of the route through Awa city is that there are many opportunities to communicate and interact with the local people.

## What is the Shikoku Henro?

This is a 1,200-kilometer pilgrimage route around the island of Shikoku that consists of eighty-eight Buddhist temples as well as numerous other religious and historical sites. It is believed to have been founded by the well-known Buddhist priest Kūkai (774-835, posthumously known as Kōbō Daishi). This pilgrimage is open to all, regardless of social status or background. Some make this journey in memory of someone who has passed away, some for self-reflection, and some for the fulfillment of a prayer etc. It does not matter what order you visit the temples, nor how you make the journey. You can visit all of the sites in one go or in segments. You can start at any temple along the route, but many people start at Temple 1 Ryozenji in Tokushima prefecture.







### Route from Ōkuboji to Kirihataji

(about 20km)

★ **Ōkuboji**

★ **Kirihataji**

About 30min by car  
About 4 hours on foot

Inunohaka Daishidō

### Four temples

- 1 Temple Seven: Jūrokuji
- 2 Temple Eight: Kumadaniji
- 3 Temple Nine: Hōrinji
- 4 Temple Ten: Kirihataji

### Rest area

- 5 Suzumidō
- 6 Henro Goya No.57 Donari
- 7 Henro Goya No.45 Kūkai-an
- 8 Sumi-san Rest hut

### Lodging

- 9 Jūrokuji temple
- 10 Okudaya
- 11 Business hotel Access Awa ※
- 12 Tabi no Tochū
- 13 3980 tabinoyado
- 14 Ryokan Yawata
- 15 Business hotel Yawata
- 16 Sakuraya
- 17 HS Japan Henro House
- 18 UTAGEST

※ temporarily closed

### Restaurants and shops

- 19 Manmaya
- 20 Restaurant Akizuki
- 21 Yoshimotoya
- 22 Sabu
- 23 Okonomiyaki Gochissu
- 24 Claire
- 25 Okada Seika
- 26 Okonomiyaki Michikusa
- 27 Rāmen Magokoro
- 28 Saisai
- 29 Rikichi
- 30 Ramen Kūron
- 31 Torijun
- 32 Urushi chaya
- 33 Yakiniku Waka
- 34 Udon Ozaki
- 35 Musashi
- 36 Cafe rest Toki
- 37 Yūki Suehiro-dō
- 38 Yamajū
- 39 Udon-tei Yawata
- 40 Meikadō
- 41 Kashiwara shōten
- 42 Aeruwa shokudō
- 43 Yakiniku Tomoe
- 44 Asanoya
- 45 Matsuo Gyōza shop

Popular route

500m SCALE 1:50000





The stairs of Aizen Hall, where Aizen Myōō is enshrined, are for different wishes. Go on the left if you want to have a relationship with someone, go to the right if you want to end a relationship. Don't make a mistake!



## Temple 7: 【Jūrakuji】

Kōbō Daishi founded this temple and gave it this name because he wanted to take away the ten forms of suffering and to provide ten forms of enjoyment (jūraku) to all people. People come here to pray they can find a partner to marry or to cure eye problems or for the souls of babies and children.



## Temple 9: 【Hōrinji】

This temple is surrounded by rice fields and is the only temple along the Shikoku pilgrimage with the main statue in a reclining position, called Nehan-zō. In the main hall, there are many straw sandals that have been made by people who pray for strong, healthy legs and/or feet.



At the temple office you can buy small ashi-koshi onegai waraji (straw sandals wishing [for good] feet and back).



## Temple 8: 【Kumadaniji】

The main gate, built in 1687, is the largest among the eighty-eight temples, and the two-storied Tahoto (treasure tower), built in 1774, is the oldest in Shikoku. This temple is also well-known for its flowers, such as ajisai (hydrangeas) and hachisuka sakura (cherry blossom).



A Kuma-mamori (bear amulet) named after the temple is believed to protect you from disasters.



Important National Cultural Property

This unusually shaped pagoda, located about 60 steps above the temple grounds, was built in 1607 for Sumiyoshi Shrine in Osaka, but was moved here in 1873.



## Temple 10: 【Kirihataji】

In this area, Kōbō Daishi met a woman who was weaving, and she provided him with a piece of the finest cloth for his worn robe. For her generous deed, she obtained enlightenment and turned in a statue of Kannon, which can be seen on the temple grounds after climbing up 333 steps from the main gate.



## Other places of interest

### Inunohaka Daishidō [Ichiba-cho Inunohaka Ōkita, Awa city]

There is a story about Kūkai and the village Inunohaka, which is located between Kiriataji and Temple 88, Ōkuboji. It is believed that when he was walking up a mountain with his dog a wild boar attacked them. The dog defended Kūkai but fell into a waterfall by accident and died. Kūkai felt pity for the dog and built a grave at the site, which he called "Inu no haka" (dog's grave). Later, the local people created a small building and placed a statue of Kūkai and a dog here. As well, for a long time people from several nearby homes have been taking turns daily to offer tea and flowers at this place.



### Hirai Omizu Daishi [37 Yoshida Hirai Donari-cho, Awa city]

Between Jūrakuji and Kumadaniji there is a well related to an old tale. A long time ago, a shabby-looking monk went to a house and asked the owner for some water, but since there was no water available new water had to be drawn from a well. While the monk waited, he realized just how inconvenient life was in this area without water. He led the family from the house to the dry riverbank and they dug a hole. He said, "There is water here", and after a short time water gurgled up from that spot. People thought this miracle was an act of grace from Kōbō Daishi and built a well and small hut here. As a result, this spot has been known as Hirai Omizu Daishi (Daishi who dug up water) and people continue to give thanks to him.



### Zennyūji Island [Ichiba-cho, Awa city / Yoshinogawa city]

The route from Temple 10, Kiriataji to Temple 11, Fujiidera passes through this island, which is the largest river island in Japan. The land is fertile, so various crops such as Chinese cabbage, cabbage, radish, pumpkin and eggplant are grown here. Canola flowers, sunflowers, spider lilies and cosmos also bloom on this island. The different vegetable fields and flower gardens each have their own color so the island looks like a large patchwork when viewed from a distance. The Kawashima bridge, which is a low water bridge (sensui-kyo), allows people to see the Yoshinogawa river up close.

### Azukiarai Daishi [53 Mizutakanaya Donari-cho, Awa city]

In front of Enkōji temple, partway between Hōrinji and Kiriataji, there is a small hut, which marks the spot of a spring. It is believed that a long time ago, a monk washed some red beans that he had received with the water here. Then he cooked the beans with rice for dinner. The next morning the monk continued on his journey, but later, a villager came here and was surprised to see that the water was shining red, the same color as the beans. He and others said, "Something amazing has happened. The monk must have been Kōbō Daishi!" From then on, the villagers called this spring "Azukiarai Daishi izumi" (the spring where Daishi washed azuki beans) and have maintained it ever since.



## Other interesting temples not part of the Shikoku pilgrimage in the area





## Rest Stops



### Suzumidō

[No toilet]

[24-2 Yoshida Suzumido, Donari-cho, Awa city]

Open: 7:00AM / Closed: 6:00PM

Vending machines and benches are located inside.



Shikoku eighty-eight pilgrimage Henrogoya project



### Henro Goya No.57 Donari

[11-4 Shibouno1, Yoshida, Donari-cho, Awa city]

This hut, with two structures built in the shape of Shikoku, was built on the land where the house of former Prime Minister Takeo MIKI (1937-1988) once stood. There is also a large toilet here, and Wi-fi is available.



Shikoku eighty-eight pilgrimage Henrogoya project



### Henro Goya No.45 Kūkai-an

[Shinnoike, Ōnojima, Ichiba-cho, Awa city]

This two-story hut has benches on both floors. There is no toilet or Wi-fi.



### Sumi-san Rest hut

[Ōnojima, Ichiba-cho, Awa city (Along route 237)]

The rest area has been kindly set up for the benefit of the pilgrims. Vending machines are located outside and toilets are available.



## Pilgrimage Stores



### Sumotoriya Asano Sōhonten

[173 Kirihatakannon, Ichiba-cho, Awa city] ☎ 0883-36-3032 Open 7:00AM / Closed 6:00PM



Feel free to leave your knapsack here while you visit Kirihataji. Assistance available in English.



### Sumi-Kōeidō

[215 Kirihatakannon, Ichiba-cho, Awa city]

☎ 0883-36-3054

Open 8:00AM

Closed 6:00PM



### Kanayama Shōkai

[209 Kirihatakannon, Ichiba-cho, Awa city]

☎ 0883-36-3066

Open 7:00AM

Closed 7:00PM



## Post Offices with international ATM service



Goshō Post office  
[6-7 Kawakubo, Yoshida, Donari-cho, Awa city]

Donari Post office  
[1264-5 Narito, Donari-cho, Awa city]

Yawata Post office  
[29-1 Machiyashiki, Yawata, Ichiba-cho, Awa city]

Open 9:00AM / Closed 5:00PM

Easy to withdraw Japanese yen with foreign bank cards.





**Hot spring** **Gosho no Sato** [1 Nashinokibara, Yoshida, Donari-cho, Awa city]



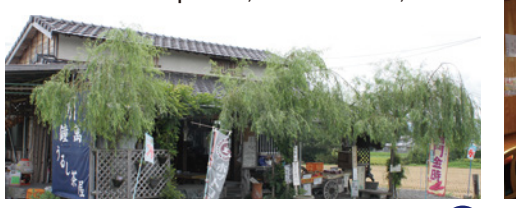
Enjoy various baths here at this large facility.

**Store** **Yūki Suehiredō** [39 Machiyashiki, Yawata, Ichiba-cho Awa city] 8:30~18:00 (Closed on Wednesday)



Come early to get a delicious, warm, red bean paste bun. Limited quantities available.

**Restaurant** **Urushi Chaya** in front of the main gate [32]



Roasted sweet potato, steamed bun, coffee

**Restaurant** **Yoshimotoya** [1-4 Yoshida Shiba-no-ichi, Donari-cho, Awa City] [21]



**Store** **Udon, Ryokan, Business Hotel Yawata** [14, 15, 14, 15] [8-1 Shinnoike, Ōnojima, Ichiba-cho Awa city] [39]



**Store** **JA Yume Ichiba** [77-1 Nogami, Onojima, Ichiba-cho Awa city]



This is a market that sells fresh produce made by people in the area.

**Restaurant** **Manmaya** [81 Takao Hokyoden, Donari-cho, Awa City] [19]

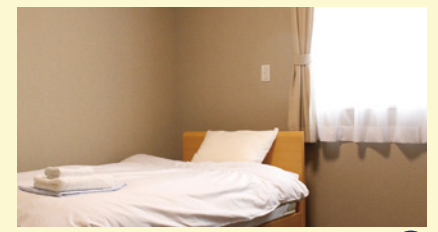


**Restaurant** **Aerawa shokudō** [190, Kirihata Furuta, Ichiba-cho, Awa City] [42]



**Lodging** **Ryokan, Business Hotel Yawata** [14, 15] [8-1 Shinnoike, Ōnojima, Ichiba-cho Awa city]

The inn is popular with pilgrims because it also has a restaurant.



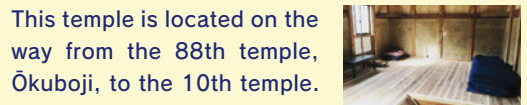
**Lodging** **Tabi no Tochū** [12] [113-6 Hara, Kakiyama, Yoshino-cho Awa city]

The inn is barrier-free and accessible to disabled people.



**Lodging** **Pilgrim lodge UTAGEST** [18] [Higaidani, Ichiba-cho Awa city]

This temple is located on the way from the 88th temple, Ōkuboji, to the 10th temple.



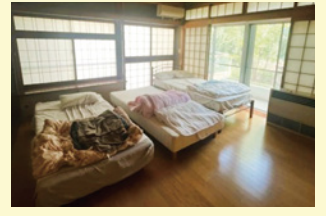
**Lodging** **Jūrokuji temple** [9] [58 Hokyoden, Takao, Donari-cho Awa city]



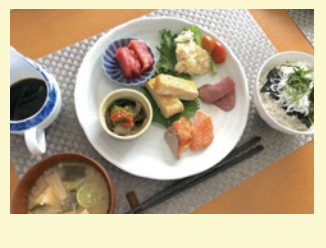
**Lodging** **Okudaya** [10] [31-1 Miyanoshta, miyagawauchi, Donari-cho Awa city]



**Lodging** **3980 tabinoyado** [13] [261 Hara, Kakiyama, Yoshino-cho Awa city]



**Lodging** **Sakuraya** [16] [123-1, Yamanoue, Ichiba-cho Awa city]



**Lodging** **HS Japan Henro House** [17] [212-4 Onishi, Yamanoue, Ichiba-cho Awa city]



**Lodging** **Access Awa** [11] [51-4 Samukata, Donari, Donari-cho Awa city] temporarily closed





## Awa Open Garden



The private Gardens are open for a limited time.

### Field flowers

- March: Canola flower
- April: Cherry blossoms
- August: Sunflower
- September: Spider lilies
- October: Cosmos

## Four Seasons in Awa City



## Chu-nichi at Kirihataji

Date/Vernal Equinox Day,  
Autumnal Equinox Day



Many people visit this temple on these days to remember their ancestors.



## Recommended places to visit by car

**Strawberry** · **Grapes** · **Tarai Udon**

There are many Tarai Udon restaurants along Route 318 between Jūrokuji and Kumadaniji, and strawberry shops (in the spring) and grape shops (in the summer) run by the local farmers.



## Kūkai Walking Tour

Date/The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of May



For information in Japanese, call the Awa city office.  
Tel.0883-36-8722

