

10 Rental car driving support

In the event of an accident, first, inform the car rental company of the location, whether the car can still be driven by you, or whether assistance is needed. If it is difficult to identify the location, inform them where you traveled from and where you were going.

※この欄はレンタカー事業者の方がご記入ください。*This column will be filled by the rental car operator.

■緊急時連絡先 Emergency contact

レンタカー会社 Car rental company
()
電話番号 Tel.
()

※対応言語 Language
☐ 日本語 Japanese ☐ 英語 English ☐ 中国語 Chinese ☐ 韓国語 Korean
☐ タイ語 Thai ☐ その他 ()
Other

■返車場所 Return location

レンタカー会社 ()
Car rental company
店舗名 ()
Shop name
返車日時 ()
Return date and time

[カーナビ入力ヒント] Car navigation system input suggestions
電話番号 ()
Tel.
マップコード* ()
Map code

※航空便 Flight
(日付け date) ・便名 flight number

■使用するレンタカーの油種

Fuel type for rental car to be used

 レギュラー Regular gasoline ☐
 ハイオク High-octane gasoline ☐
 軽油 Diesel fuel ☐

※油種に○を付けてください
Circle the applicable fuel type.

■たばこ Smoking preference

禁煙 ☐ 喫煙 ☐
Non-smoking Smoking

※どちらかに○を付けてください
Circle one only.

■返車場所の最寄りのガソリンスタンド Gas station nearest to return location

店舗名 Shop name () [カーナビ入力ヒント] Car navigation system input suggestions
電話番号 ()
Tel.
マップコード* ()
Map code

*マップコードとは、位置情報をコードにしたものです。カーナビに入力をすれば、正しく案内されます。
The map code is coded location information. If you enter it into the car navigation system, you will be guided correctly.

In the case of an accident > Police Tel. **110**
In the case of a fire > Fire Tel. **119**
In the case of injury > Ambulance Tel. **119**

In the case of an accident on an expressway > **Emergency telephones**

*Please stay on the line while an interpreter is called to speak with you.

For other cases, such as car trouble > Roadside assistance (JAF; fee required) **#8139**
(dead battery, keys locked in car, flat tire, etc.) *However, you may be able to receive membership services for members of associations that provide roadside assistance in your country.

In case of trouble > JNTO Japan Visitor Hotline **050-3816-2787** (24hours a day)
(English/Chinese/Korean)

Central Japan Rent-a-car Drive Guide

Watch these videos before departing in a rental car!



Video: Traffic rules guide

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y9TN0LBM0T0>

All Japan Rent-a-car Association



Video: Traffic rules in Japan

<https://english.jaf.or.jp/safe-driving/drive-safe-to-enjoy-your-stay-in-japan>

JAF (Japan Automobile Federation)



Travel in economically with a CEP

When traveling around Central Japan in a rental car, the Central Nippon Expressway Pass (CEP), which allows unlimited trips on expressways at a fixed rate, is convenient.

For detailed information, please check the CEP website.

<https://hayatabi.c-nexco.co.jp/cep/en/>



Make a travel plan

Japan Travel is an app that allows you to search for optimal routes, calculate tolls, access other useful information.



■ iOS

■ Android



国土交通省 中部運輸局 観光部観光企画課

Sightseeing Planning Section, Sightseeing Department,
Chubu District Transport Bureau,
Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism



01 Before renting a car

- Before leaving your country, check if you can drive in Japan with a driver's license issued in your country or region.
- Familiarize yourself with the traffic rules in Japan before renting a car.

<https://rental-car-tips.jp/en/>



- If you are a member of an association that provides roadside assistance, you may be able to receive equivalent services from a Japanese roadside assistance service (JAF).

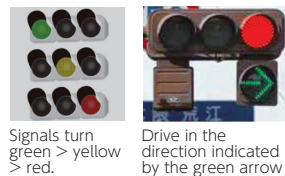
02 Get familiar with the basic traffic rules in Japan

The following introduces some easy-to-make mistakes under Japan's traffic rules.

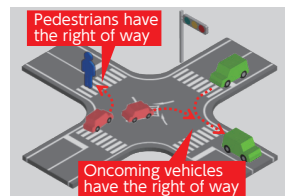
To avoid accidents and other issues, keep in mind that the traffic rules are different from those in your country or region.

- Vehicles are driven on the left-hand side of the road.
(Be especially careful when turning right or left.)

- Stop if the traffic lights ahead of you are red.
Stop also if they are yellow.
Wait until they turn green.
If there is a green arrow, you may only drive in the direction indicated by the arrow.



- If turning to the right, oncoming vehicles have the right of way, even if the traffic lights ahead of you are green.
Stop and put your turn signal on while waiting.
Pedestrians have the right of way.



- Bicycles are also ridden on roads.
Be careful not to hit them.

- Always stop momentarily at places with a 止まれ (Stop) sign and at railroad crossings, even if the gate is up.



Prohibitions, cautions, and obligations

The following introduces traffic rules in Japan for which violations lead to serious accidents or occur easily.

- Observe the speed limit. Note that the speed limit varies depending on the road and zone.



- Use of smartphones or car navigation systems is prohibited while driving.
- Driving after drinking alcohol (drunk driving, driving under the influence of alcohol) is prohibited.



- Park in designated parking lots or coin parking lots.
(Do not park in private parking lots, in front of private homes, in the parking lots of convenience stores, etc., or on the road.)



- If you experience trouble that may endanger your life (engine stall, car stuck/unable to move, etc.) at a railway crossing, press the railway crossing emergency button.



- Passengers in the back seats should also fasten their seatbelts (child car seats are required for children under 6 years of age).
- In zones with orange lines, crossing over the lines is prohibited (passing is also prohibited).
- Driving in flip-flops is prohibited.

Manners and customs in Japan

- Do not use the horn excessively.
- Do not accelerate or decelerate suddenly, as this can lead to trouble, such as collisions with other vehicles.
- Drivers may indicate their gratitude for giving them the right of way by turning on their hazard lights.
- Note that flashing your headlights can mean that you are giving way to the oncoming car, but it can also mean that you will go first.

Types of traffic rule violations and fines

- Driving after drinking alcohol (drunk driving) ... Imprisonment for up to five years or fine of up to one million yen (driving under the influence of alcohol) ... Imprisonment for up to three years or fine of up to 500,000 yen

- Speeding ... 9,000 - 35,000 yen (For a typical car; varies according to road and amount over the speed limit)
- Momentary stop violation ... 7,000 yen
- Prohibited parking ... 10,000 yen and up
- Use of a smartphone while driving ... 6,000 yen
- Seatbelt ... Instruct passengers to fasten their seatbelts.

*If you committed a traffic rule violation at the time of an accident, contact the car rental company first.
Note that you may be subject to a high penalty if you return to your country without following the prescribed procedures.

03 Driving on expressways

How to use ETC lanes

- Tolls are collected for use of expressways. You can pay by cash or credit card, but ETC (electronic toll collection) is convenient.
- ETC is a service that enables you to pay tolls at toll gates without stopping. You can rent an ETC card at the car rental company.
- Be sure to insert the card into the ETC card reader in the car before attempting to pass through the ETC lane.



- When using ETC, pass through the gates marked "ETC."
- Backing up from gates is strictly prohibited, even if you entered a gate by mistake or hit a gate bar.

Cautions regarding driving on expressways

- Do not stop or drive in the wrong direction, even if you have taken the wrong route at an interchange or junction. Exit the expressway at the nearest interchange and then head back in the right direction.
- Observe the speed limit.
- Keep a safe distance between yourself and the car ahead of you.
- Since driving for long periods of time is fatiguing, take frequent rest breaks. (Use service areas and parking areas.)

- Traffic jams occur on expressways in Japan. When driving, watch the traffic ahead of you carefully, as accidents sometimes occur in which cars collide into vehicles at end of a traffic jam.



- Passengers in the back seats should also fasten their seatbelts to reduce the extent of personal injuries in the case of a collision.

If an accident occurs...

- First, stop the car in a safe place. Do not forget to turn on the hazard lights.
- After parking the car on the left roadside shoulder, evacuate to behind the guardrail to ensure your safety.
- Then contact the rental car company and/or appropriate authorities immediately.

→ See the When an Accident/Trouble Occurs page.



https://www.c-nexco.co.jp/en/safety/emergency_phone/



When you lift the receiver, a connection is made to a traffic control center, and the location is identified (available 24 hours).

- Roadside emergency telephones are installed at 1 km intervals and at rest areas along expressways (at 200 m intervals in tunnels).

Once you are identified as a visitor from abroad, an online interpreter will be called to speak with you. Please stay on the line while the interpreter is called.

Rest areas Use of service areas and parking areas

There are service areas and parking areas along expressways with restrooms and places to have a meal. Some information centers provide information in foreign languages.

- ① Parking lot
- ② Gas station
- ③ Restaurant
- ④ Information center



Cautions

- Parking lots have spaces with wheelchair marks. These spaces are for people with disabilities, so people without disabilities should not use them.
- Motorcoaches and large trucks also park in the parking lots. Be careful when walking through them.
- When returning to the expressway, be careful not to head in the wrong direction when you return to the expressway.

04 How to drive on general roads

General road signs

| | | |
|--|---------------------------------|--|
| | | <p>Always stop momentarily.</p> <p>You can only drive in the direction indicated by the arrow. Be careful not to drive in the wrong direction.</p> |
| <p>Do not enter.</p> | <p>Vehicles must not enter.</p> | <p>No parking</p> |
| <p>Road numbers are indicated on general road signs. Check these numbers to know where you are on a map. Green signs indicate expressways.</p> | | |

Rest areas Michi-no-Eki rest areas are convenient.

This is the Michi-no-Eki logo.



Along general roads in Japan, there are rest areas called "Michi-no-Eki." They have restrooms, restaurants, and souvenir shops, and some of them provide information in foreign languages. Please feel free to drop into them for sightseeing and road information or when problems occur.

[You can search for Michi-no-Eki here.] <https://www.michi-no-eki.jp/stations/english>



05 Information on traffic, weather, and natural disasters

Traffic information / Weather information

Check traffic and construction information at the car rental company, hotel, tourist information center, etc., before you start driving. There are also information boards in foreign languages in service areas and parking areas, so please use them.

Traffic information



<https://www.c-i-highway.jp/pcsite/mapen/>



<https://construction.c-nexco.co.jp/en>

Check weather information on the following website



<https://www.jnto.go.jp/weather/eng/index.php>

Snow/ice (mainly from December to March)

- When driving a car in winter, reserve snow tires (studless tires) in advance.
- Snow and ice on roads may cause skid-related accidents. Drive carefully at low speeds. In particular, be careful on bridges, etc., as their surfaces freeze easily in winter.
- When driving in places where snowfall is expected, it is a good idea to check the route at the car rental company, hotel, tourist information center, etc. Note that some roads are closed or require chains on tires in winter. When planning to drive in a zone where chains are required, check if you have chains in advance.
- Car navigation systems may show the shortest route; however, try to stick to large, safe roads that have been cleared of snow if possible.
- When it will snow, prepare for it by raising the wipers.

Check the precautions for driving on snowy roads



<https://rental-car-tips.jp/en/winter/>

Typhoons and heavy rainfall (mainly from July to September)

- When a typhoon is approaching, check the weather and refrain from driving, depending on the path of the typhoon. Consult the car rental company, hotel, or tourist information center.
- Roads may be closed during heavy rainfall. In that case, a significant detour may be necessary to reach your destination.
- It is good idea to check the weather and route to be taken at the car rental company, hotel, inn, etc., before departure.

Height of summer (mainly from July to September)

The temperatures in cars can exceed 70° C in summer in Japan. Smartphones or PCs may break if left in a car. Also, do not leave spray cans in the car, as there is a risk that they may explode.



06 When an accident/trouble occurs

Accidents involving property damage, other vehicles, or injury or death

If an accident occurs involving your car and another car, your car and a person, or your car colliding with an object, contact the car rental company first, regardless of how serious the trouble is.
→ See the Rental Car Driving Support page.

Check your insurance coverage

We recommended that you obtain insurance before you rent a car to ensure compensation is paid smoothly if an accident occurs in Japan.

Gather information with the Safety tips app

Japan has a free app that you can use to gather weather and disaster information. Download it before your travel.

For Android



■ Android

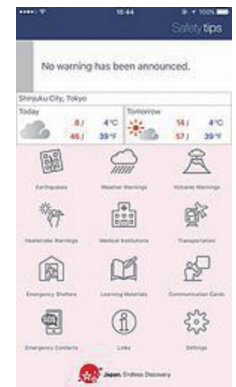
<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=jp.co.rcsc.safetyTips.android>

For iPhone



■ iPhone

<https://itunes.apple.com/jp/app/safety-tips/id858357174?mt=8>



VoiceTra Conversations supported by translation apps

When it is difficult to communicate with others, a speech translation app is an effective means of communicating. We recommended installing one before your travel. It is free. It can be also used when traveling.

For Android



■ Android

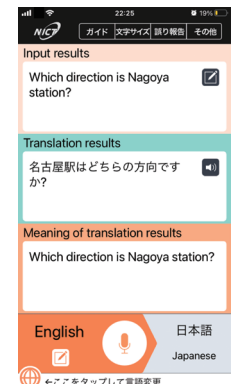
<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=jp.gn.vocetra&hl=en>

For iPhone



■ iPhone

<https://apps.apple.com/app/id581137577>



Provided by the National Institute of Information and Communications Technology (NICT)

07 How to use gas stations

In principle, rental cars should be returned with a full tank of gas. Fill the tank at a gas station near the car return location.



There are two types of gas stations: full-service and self-service stations.

At self-service gas stations, you fill the tank yourself.

At full-service gas stations, it is okay to just convey the fuel type and amount to the staff.

| Full-service stations | Self-service stations |
|--|--|
| Advantage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You do not need to get out of the car. (It is okay to just convey the fuel type, amount, and payment method to the staff.) | Advantage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The cost is relatively low. |
| Disadvantage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The cost is relatively high. There is a language barrier (however, communication is possible with a point-and-speak phrase table) | Disadvantage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In many cases, foreign languages are not supported. The process is difficult for first-time users |

The fuel type varies depending on the car.

In general, rental cars use regular gasoline. There are three types of fuel at self-service gas stations, so be careful not to fill up with the wrong fuel. Note that the engine may fail if the tank is filled with the wrong fuel. Ask the staff at the car rental company in advance.



At self-service gas stations, use the appropriate nozzle based on the fuel type.



Be careful not to run out of gas on expressways. Some service areas and parking areas have gas stations.



What to do at full-service gas stations

Provide the information for ① to ③ in the table below to have the car refueled.

① Fuel type

Most rental cars take regular gasoline; however, ask the staff at the car rental company before using it.

Regular gasoline

High-octane gasoline

Diesel fuel

② Amount

Basically, rental cars should be returned with a full tank of gas.

Fill

Other than fill

| (Cost) | (Amount) |
|-----------|-----------|
| 5,000 yen | 30 liters |
| 3,000 yen | 20 liters |
| 1,000 yen | 10 liters |

③ Payment method

Hand your credit card to the staff.

Cash

Credit card

Communication with the staff

To fill up with regular gasoline

“Regular, fill up” > “REGYURAA, MANTAN”

*Hand your credit card to the staff before fueling or pay with cash after fueling.

What to do at self-service gas stations

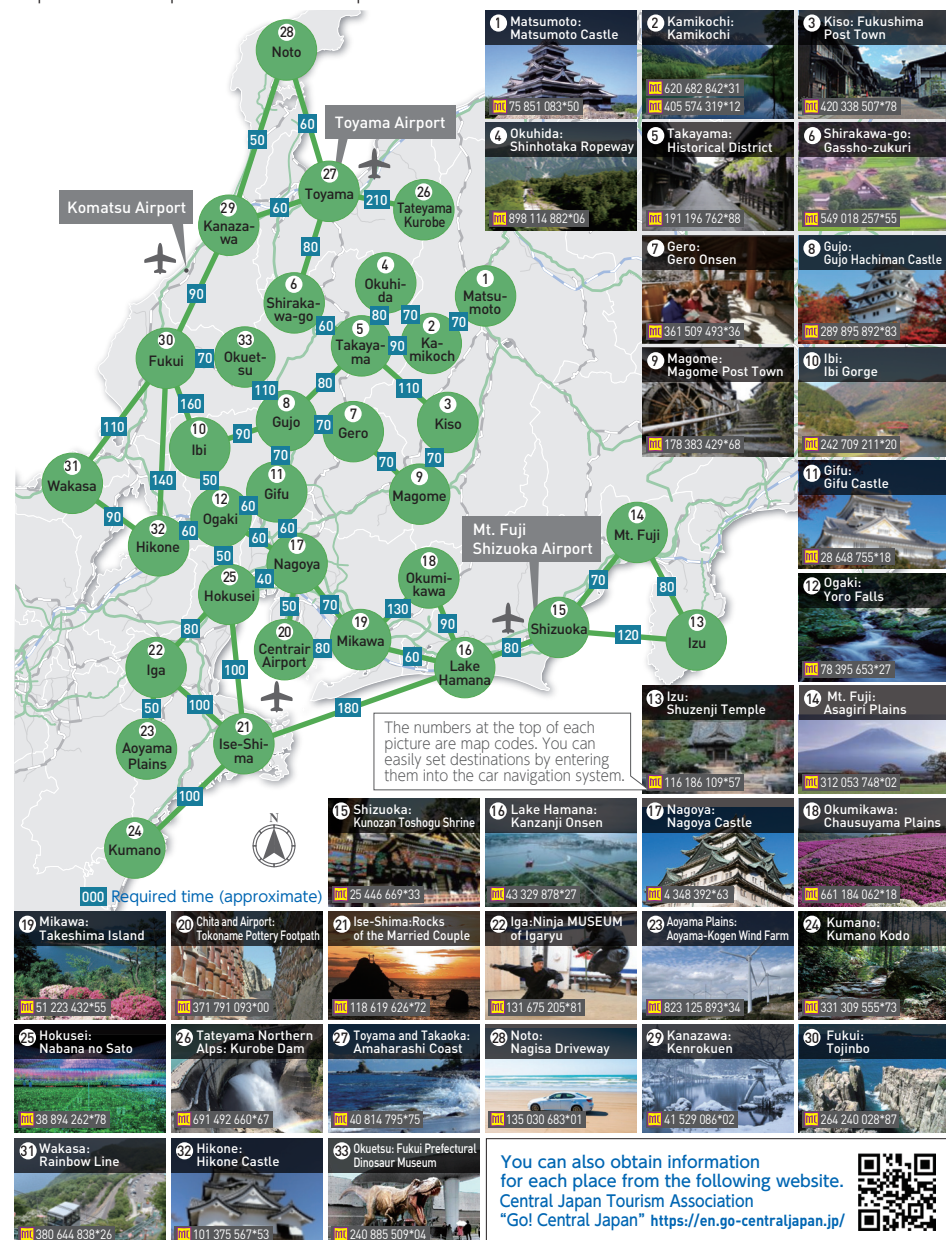
Use the touch panel according to the instructions provided.

Most of the instructions are in Japanese. If you have any questions about the process, call the staff and show them the fuel type, amount, and payment method with the point-and-speak phrase table above.

| | |
|--|---|
| セルフ self-service <p>This logo indicates a self-service station. (The color varies depending on the gas station.)</p> | <p>Use the touch panel. Note that such panels are often in Japanese only.</p> |
|--|---|

08 Chubu area Model courses

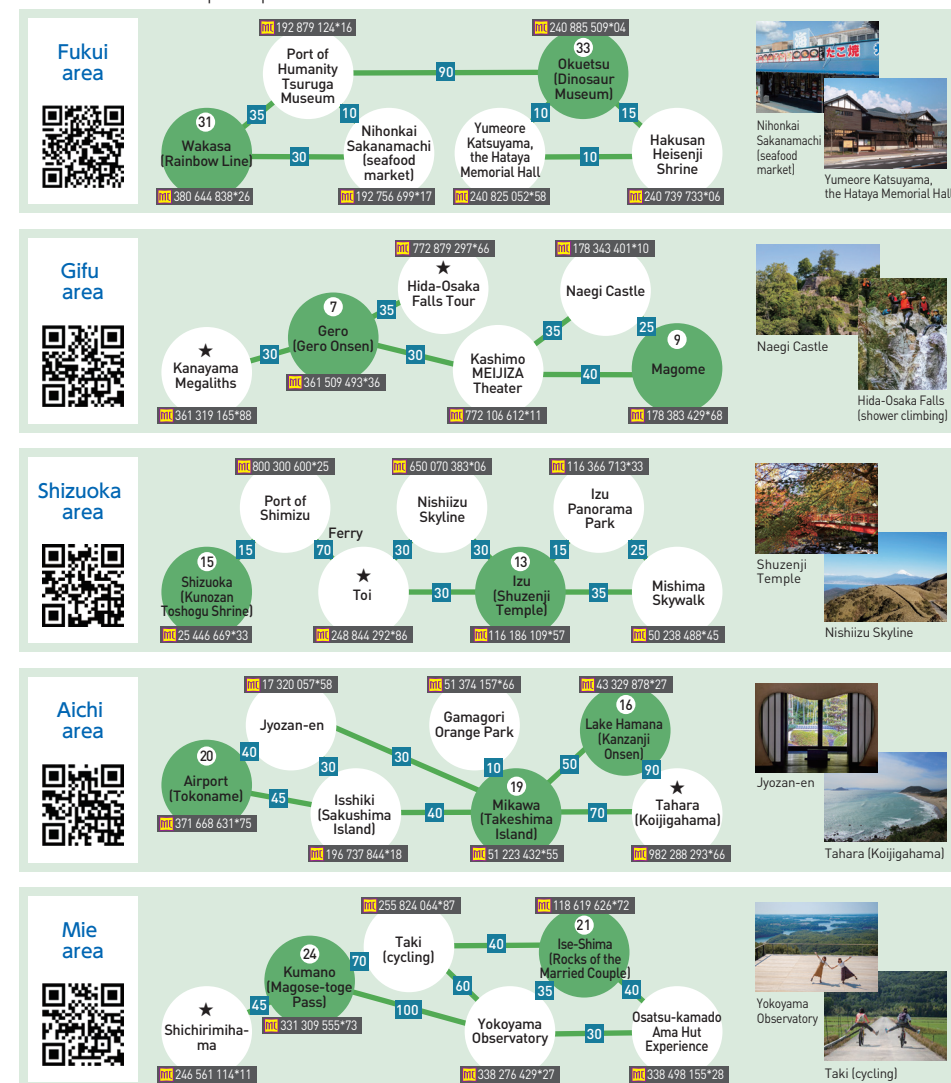
There are a variety of tourist attractions in the Chubu area. Enjoy your trip by seeing sightseeing spots and the landscape as you make your way to each of your destinations, an experience unique to rental car trips.



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09 Chubu area Recommended spots (slightly farther away)

Trips with rental cars are attractive, as you can go slightly beyond the course you decided in advance and drop in here and there without worrying about time. Here, we introduce some recommended drop-in spots.



MAPCODE are registered trademarks of DENSO Corporation. 000 Required time (approximate)

Scenic Byway Japan



The places above marked with a star (★) are spots on certified Scenic Byway Japan routes where you can enjoy nature, landscape, or seasonal scenery in Japan.

https://www.mlit.go.jp/road/sisaku/fukeikaidou/contents/eng/index_e.html

