

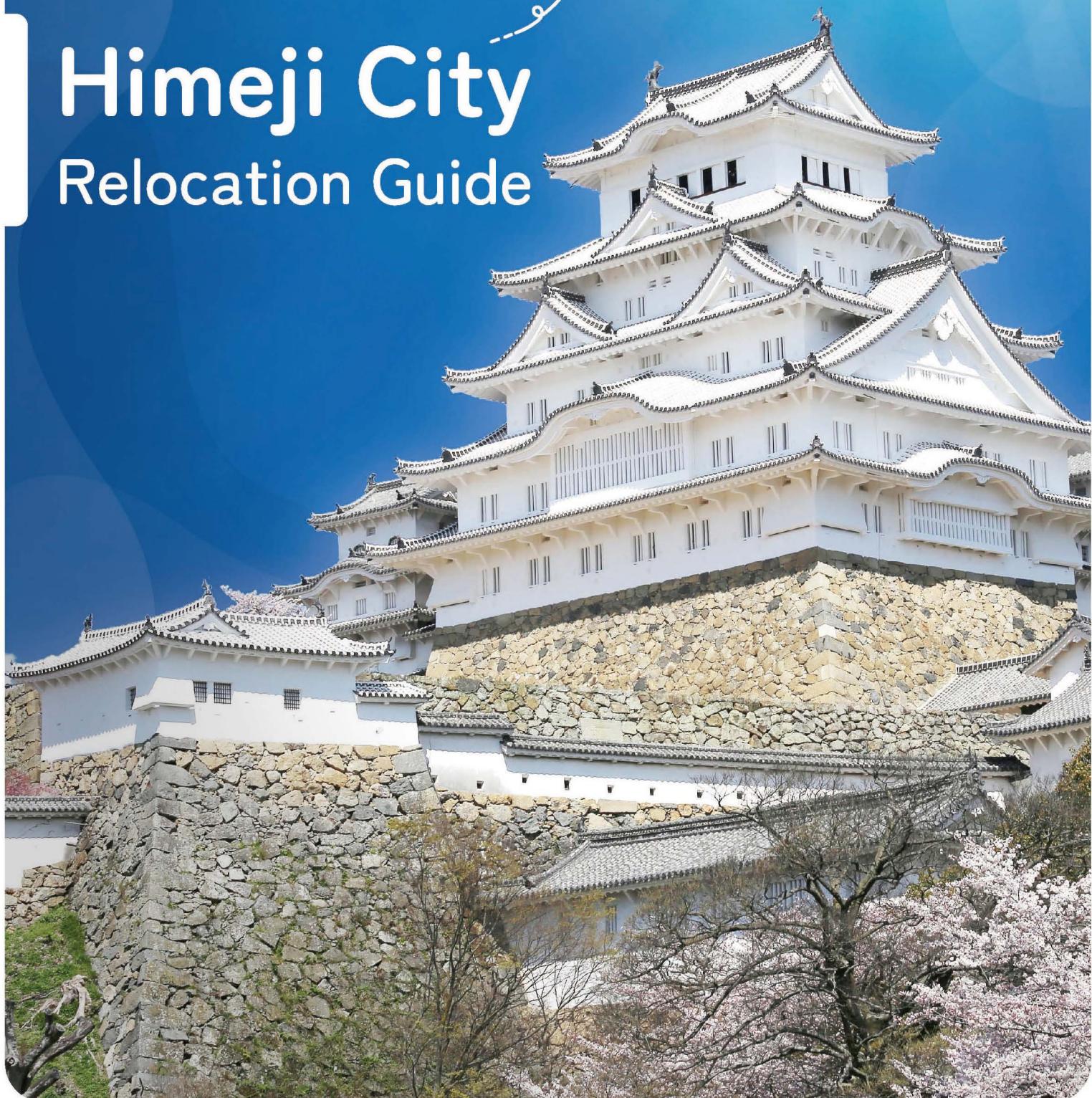


住むほどに
好きが深まる
姫のまち

Himeji's brand message and logo, chosen by a public vote in 2025

A city where everything
comes together—just right!

Himeji City Relocation Guide





住むほどに 好きが深まる 姫のまち

How
people outside
the city rate Himeji

A great place to live.
Attractive and charming.



How
residents
rate the city

Home to stay,
a city to recommend



Since July 2024, a series of meetings have been held to develop a brand message highlighting Himeji's charm.



1. Reasons to live in Himeji

Safety and security

Supportive childcare

Seamless support from pregnancy to childbirth and parenting.



Local parenting support app "Himeko Notebook"

Track physical changes during pregnancy and your baby's growth with charts. Record memorable moments to share with family.



Newborn home visit program

Public health nurses visit families with infants up to 4 months of age, to check weight, answer childcare questions, and share useful parenting information.



Free medical care for children

When children aged 0-18 visit a healthcare provider, all out-of-pocket costs are fully covered, with no income limits.



Educational counseling and support by specialists

Counselors and social workers are placed in schools, and specialists offer consultations to support children and parents.



Nobinobi Plaza Mirai
(children's play space)



Center of regional healthcare

The prefecture's largest hospital, specializing in advanced care, supports regional healthcare.

Hyogo Prefectural Harima-Himeji General Medical Center, with 33 departments and 736 beds, is the largest hospital in the Harima region (as of March 2025). Dedicated to providing safe, trusted, high-quality healthcare, the center delivers advanced treatment, emergency care, training for healthcare professionals, and clinical research.



2. Why you will love Himeji even more

Challenge and fulfillment

Fun that never gets old

Beyond Himeji Castle, a World Heritage site, there are plenty of places to explore.

Central Himeji hosts **627 events a year** (FY2023). At Himeji Station North Exit Plaza and Otemae Park, live music performances and fairs take place not just on weekends but on weekdays too. An hour's drive takes you to the mountains or the sea—perfect for leisure and fun.



A world of play and adventure!



Travel back to the late Edo period and experience the daimyo procession—a historical parade of feudal lords.



At Himeji Central Park, enjoy a safari park together with rides and attractions.



Take the aerial ropeway up to Engyoji Temple on Mt. Shosha, known as the "Mt. Hiei of the West."



Just 30 minutes from Himeji Port, the Ieshima Islands are perfect for seaside fun.

Experiences that broaden your horizons

The largest cultural convention center in the region, hosting major performances and events.

The region's first and largest cultural convention center, Arcrea Himeji, features a 2,010-seat grand hall. It hosts world-class performances and international conferences, offering truly enriching experiences.



Performances

November 5, 2021

Wiener Philharmoniker (Vienna Philharmonic)

November 18, 2023

Berliner Philharmoniker (Berlin Philharmonic)

International conferences

October 25-29, 2021

72nd Session of the World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Committee for the Western Pacific

June 16-21, 2024

World Bank Understanding Risk Global Forum (UR2024)

Creating opportunities to take on challenges

Fostering global talent

Himeji works with local universities and companies to give high school and international students valuable learning experiences, helping them grow into global talent who will shape the community's sustainable future.



3. Why Himeji is the Princess City

A city that embraces diversity

Promoting women's participation



A place where everyone can shine

Supporting innovations in children's education



Initiatives to welcome and support foreign professionals



Opportunities for lifelong learning

What's Himeji like?



Keywords representing Himeji, from a community workshop in 2024



Enjoy walking down lively Otemae Street



Winter illuminations light up the city



A view from a farm road in Tamada, Yumesaki Town



Hayashida village official old Miki family housing



Enjoy shopping to the fullest



Himeji's signature flavor: ginger soy sauce



**Designated as an Important Cultural
Property of Japan**



Big shopping malls to explore



Relax with the scent of the sea



Secluded inlets form perfect natural harbors



Spectacular factory night views



Family fun with clam digging

Begin a new chapter in **Himeji**

Loving it more every day.



Located in southwestern Hyogo, in the approximate center of the Harima Plain, Himeji is one of the region's core cities. Home to the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Himeji Castle, the city preserves the charm of its historic castle town. Surrounded by seas, mountains, and rivers, and rich in diverse agricultural and marine products, Himeji has grown into the region's leading hub for commerce, industry, and manufacturing.

With urban conveniences and rural charm, Himeji is packed with countless attractions. The more you live here, the more you will come to appreciate its variety—and the more you will fall in love with this city.

So many great places to explore!

Himeji Station & Castle Area

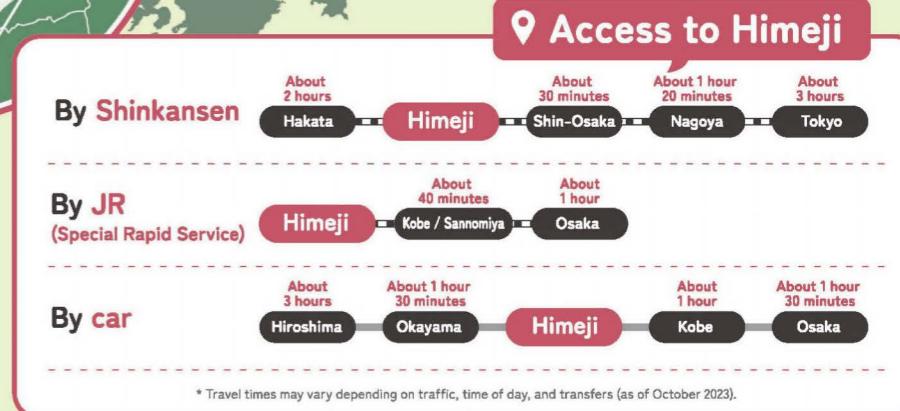
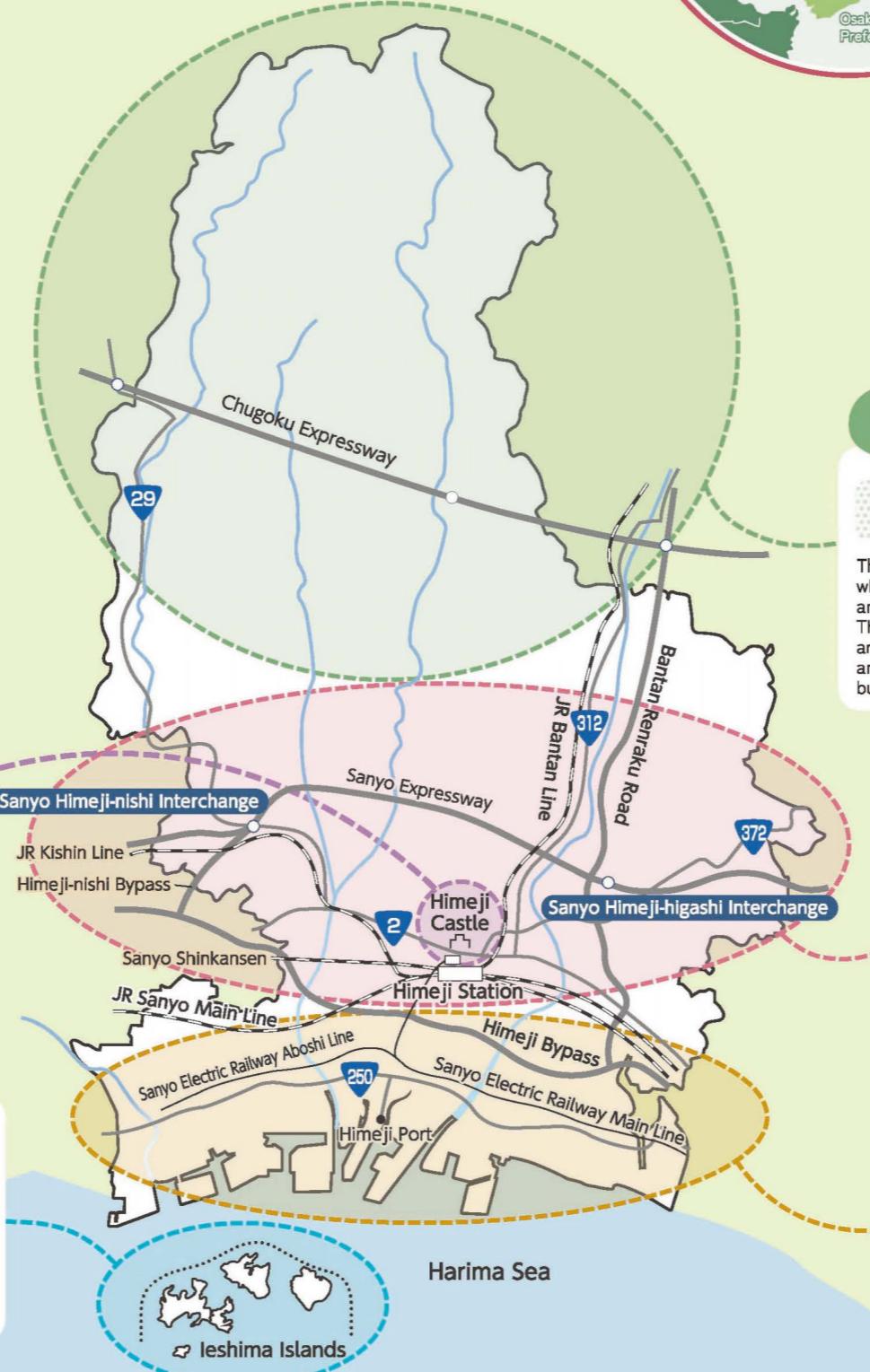
The area around Himeji Station and Himeji Castle is a bustling hub of commerce, filled with large shopping malls, department stores, and lively shopping streets. With inbound tourism recovering after the pandemic, Himeji Castle and other sightseeing spots are once again attracting growing numbers of visitors.



Relax and unwind

Ieshima Islands Area

Located offshore in the Harima Sea, the Ieshima Islands consist of over 40 islands of various sizes and have long thrived as a fishing hub. Now part of the Setonaikai National Park, their tranquil beauty has been celebrated in poetry since the era of the Manyoshu, Japan's oldest anthology.



Peace and tranquility

Northern Area

The northern area stretches along the Chugoku Mountains, where peaks such as Mt. Masui, Mt. Hiromine, Mt. Shosha, and Mt. Seppiko create a landscape alive with nature. The great rivers Ichikawa and Ibogawa run through the area, their pure waters nourishing fertile farmland. The area is also renowned as a producer of yuzu citrus and buckwheat.



An area with great convenience and comfort!

Central Area

The central area offers excellent transportation access. Working with neighboring cities—Takasago, Kakogawa, and Kasai to the east, and Tatsuno to the west—it has long supported the growth of the Harima region. The area, with the city's most expansive parks, theme parks, and lush natural surroundings, is especially popular among families with children.



A vibrant area full of life and fun

Southern Area

The southern area, known as the Harima Coastal Industrial Zone, is a thriving hub of industry. It played a leading role in Japan's period of rapid economic growth and continues to support Himeji through manufacturing today. Every autumn, local shrines come alive with the Banshu Autumn Festival, featuring processions of floats.





Key facts and figures

HIMEJI INSIGHTS

Population



519,390

(As of October 1, 2024)

The second largest population in Hyogo Prefecture



534.56 km²

The fourth largest city in Hyogo Prefecture by area

Area

Himeji is in the Seto Inland Sea climate zone, with mild weather and little rainfall. The city enjoys distinct seasonal changes, and is blessed with a pleasant climate. Snow rarely accumulates.



Annual rainfall
Compared with Tokyo

Himeji 1254.7mm Tokyo 1598.2mm



Hours of sunshine
Compared with Tokyo

Himeji 2034.4 hours Tokyo 1926.7 hours

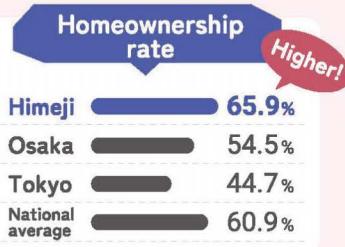
* Average over 30 years through 2020

Climate



Housing More space, more comfort, more room to grow

Compared with Tokyo and Osaka, Himeji stands out with a higher homeownership rate and lower rents. This means a greater chance of owning your own home. Life planning is easier here as well.



* Source: 2023 Housing and Land Survey



Economy

According to Toyo Keizai's City Data Pack 2023 Edition, which ranks 815 cities across Japan plus Tokyo's 23 special wards, Himeji scored particularly high in economic indicators, highlighting the city's thriving industries. The city's job openings-to-applicants ratio is also higher than the national average.



From Himeji to the world! //
Leading companies based in Himeji with the top global share

Superabsorbent polymers for baby diapers (Nippon Shokubai Co., Ltd.)

Hammer felt for pianos (F&A Nonwovens Corporation)

Electric power steering systems (Mitsubishi Electric Corporation)

Cellulose acetate for LCD optical films (Daicel Corporation)

Coin and banknote recyclers for tellers (Glory Ltd.)

Projection exposure equipment for high-resolution printed circuit boards (Ushio Inc.)

Epoxy resin for semiconductor encapsulation (Nippon Kayaku Co., Ltd.)

(As of FY2024)



Shopping

The database of the Himeji Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Himeji Research Institute of Economy shows that Himeji has 107 supermarkets and 181 convenience stores spread across the city. Shopping here is easy and convenient.

2021 Economic Census for Business Activity (ranking among 62 core cities)



* As of February 2024

Public facilities

Hospitals **34**

* As of March 31, 2023

Clinics **427**

* As of February 29, 2024

Elementary schools **69**

* As of March 31, 2023
* Includes schools that cover grades 1-9

High schools **22**

* As of May 1, 2023

Municipal park area **9.17m² per resident**

* As of April 2023



Himeji City Relocation
and Settlement Portal



Visit Himeji official Travel Guide