

Kirishima-Kinkowan National Park Kirishima Geopark KIRISHIMA TREKKING MAP

February 2026



The Kirishima Mountains are an active volcanic area!
~ Check the most recent updates to the Volcanic Alert Level! ~

The volcanoes of the Kirishima Mountains have a long history of both small and large eruptions, even in recent years. If you are planning on hiking, be sure to check the latest volcano information provided by the Japan Meteorological Agency, including volcanic alert levels, Volcanic Information for Mountaineers page, and volcano observation data. Additionally, depending on volcanic activity, some areas may have entry restrictions or closed trails and roads. Be sure to confirm these conditions in advance as well.

Forecast and Warnings	Area	Level	Disaster response for hikers and mountain area residents
Eruption warnings	Residential areas and areas near the crater	5 Evacuate	—
Crater area warnings	From crater to areas near residential zones	4 Early evacuation for the elderly and others who need extra time	—
Eruption forecast	Near crater	3 Restrictions on mountain entry	Hiking prohibited, restrictions on entry into mountains and high-risk areas (exact area determined by conditions)
	Inside craters	2 Regulations in area around crater	Restricted entry around crater (exact area determined by conditions)
		1 Be aware of the fact the volcanoes are active	No specific restrictions (entry into crater may be restricted depending on conditions)

Check the activity level of the Kirishima Mountains!
Get the latest information before hiking



Volcanic Information for Mountaineers
Volcanic Observation Data

Ebinodake volcano (1293m)

Gazing south from the Ebinodake volcano, the Ebinodake volcano appears as a medium-tall sloping hill. From the Karakunidake trail, the 1km-wide Ebinodake volcanic crater is clearly visible. Hiking the Ebinodake trail takes about one hour to complete, looping around the edge of the crater. Midway, the viewpoint overlooks a 360° panoramic view extending across the Ebinodake Highlands to the north, all the way down south to Sakurajima on Kinkowan Bay. Thanks to Ebinodake's old age compared to the rest of the Kirishima Mountains, its forests are especially dense and lush. Its vivid spring-time greenery transforms into a spectacular red in the autumn.

Kurinodake volcano (1102m)

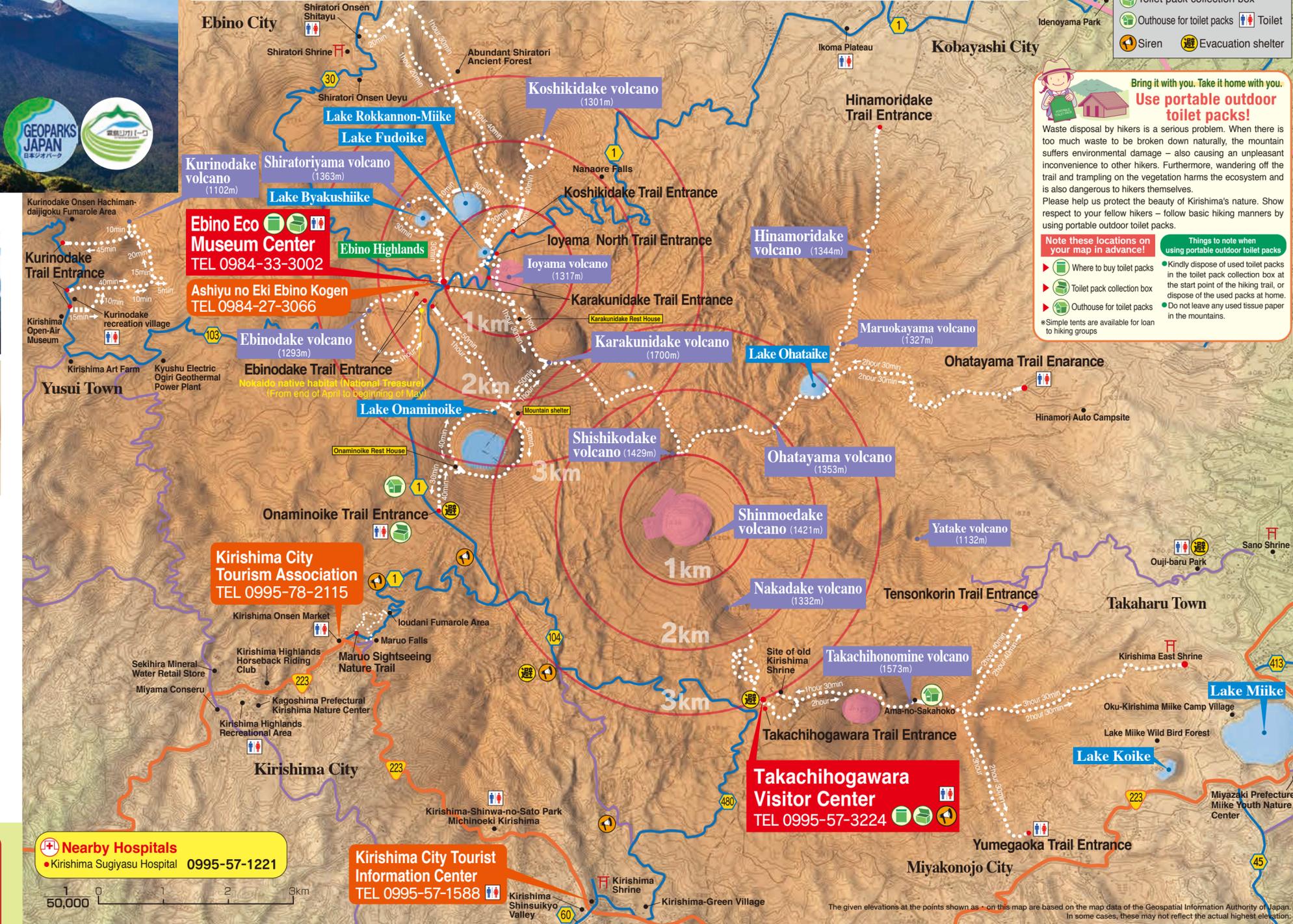
Among the volcanoes of the Kirishima Mountains, the Kurinodake volcano likely was one of the first to form. There are three different trailheads with unique routes to explore. Roughly 200m from the Kirishima Open Air Museum begins a stairway made from recycled railway sleepers – the longest of its kind in Japan – followed by the first trailhead. Past the oak and maple forests is the Kurinodake summit, with a huge panoramic vista extending from the Karakunidake volcano down to Sakurajima and Kinkowan Bay.



Information

Operates Daily **Kirishima Sightseeing Bus Route Map and Timetable**
Contact us: Kagoshima Kotsu (Kokubu Office) ☎ 0995-45-6733

Maruo ↔ Ebinodake (plateau) ↔ Takachihogawara	Time table (City HP)
Maruo (1)	8:30 10:30 12:30
Maruo onsen (hot spring)	8:31 10:31 12:31
Io dani (valley)	8:35 10:35 12:35
Kirishima Iwasaki Hotel	8:38 10:38 12:38
Shinyu onsen Iriguchi (hot spring entrance)	8:45 10:45 12:45
Shinyu tenboda (observation deck)	8:46 10:46 12:46
Onami no ike tozanguchi (pond trail entrance)	8:50 10:50 12:50
Shintoko tenboda (observation deck)	8:53 10:53 12:53
Tsutsujigaoka	8:55 10:55 12:55
Ebinodake (plateau) arr	8:56 10:56 12:56
Ebinodake (plateau) dpt	9:00 11:00 13:00
Tsutsujigaoka	9:01 11:01 13:01
Shintoko tenboda (observation deck)	9:03 11:03 13:03
Onami no ike tozanguchi (pond trail entrance)	9:06 11:06 13:06
Shinyu tenboda (observation deck)	9:10 11:10 13:10
Shinyu onsen Iriguchi (hot spring entrance)	9:11 11:11 13:11
Shinyu onsen (hot spring)	9:12 11:12 13:12
Shinyu jigyosyo (office)	9:13 11:13 13:13
Yunono onsen (hot spring)	9:17 11:17 13:17
Takachihogawara	9:29 11:29 13:29
Yunono onsen (hot spring)	13:41
Shinyu jigyosyo (office)	13:45
Shinyu onsen (hot spring)	13:46
Shinyu onsen Iriguchi (hot spring entrance)	13:47
Kirishima Iwasaki Hotel	13:54
Io dani (valley)	13:57
Maruo onsen (hot spring)	14:01
Maruo (2)	14:02



Nearby Hospitals
• Kirishima Sugiyasu Hospital 0995-57-1221

Kirishima City Tourist Information Center
TEL 0995-57-1588



For an Enjoyable Trekking Experience Things to bear in mind / Mannerisms

- Etiquette:**
- Take all trash with you - no littering.
 - To protect vegetation and to avoid getting lost, make sure not to stray off marked hiking trails. Always yield to hikers ascending up the trail.
 - Open fires are prohibited! Use fire equipment (e.g. fire pits and other braziers) responsibly!
 - Leave no trace - take care to leave nature the way you found it. It is illegal to forage, hunt, or otherwise harm plants or animals.
- Safety:**
- Check for updates on trail conditions, weather, volcanic activity, and so on before your hike.
 - Hiking is at your own risk. Before climbing, submit a mountain climbing registration form, and make sure to plan for flexibility.
 - Wear suitable hiking clothes and carry essential items (such as a map, hat, gloves, emergency whistle, food and drink, compass, phone, portable toilet bags, etc.) before trekking.
 - Also, depending on the weather, don't forget to bring protective gear for rain and cold!
- *Some areas do not have mobile phone signal reception

Enquiries (English language assistance is available) Contacts as of February 2026

Takachihogawara Visitor Center	0995-57-3224
Nature Parks Foundation Ebino Branch (Ebino Eco Museum Center)	0984-33-3002
Kirishima City Tourism Association	0995-78-2115
Kirishima City Tourist Information Center	0995-57-1588
Kirishima City Tourism PR Division	0995-45-5111
Kirishima Sanroku Yusui Town Tourism Association	0995-74-5690
Yusui Town Commerce and Tourism PR Division	0995-74-3111
Miyakonjo City Miyakonjo PR Division	0986-23-2615
Ebino City Tourism Association	0984-35-3838
Ebino City Tourism and Commerce Division	0984-35-1114
Kobayashi Machizukuri Co., Ltd. Tourist Information Center	0984-22-8684
Kobayashi City Commerce and Tourism Division	0984-23-1174
Takaharu Town Tourism Association	0984-42-4560
Takaharu Town Industrial Creation Division	0984-42-2128
Kirishima City Tour Guide Liaison Council	0995-78-2115

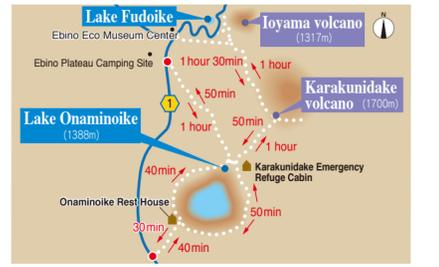
The Lakes Nature Trail Shiratoriyama volcano (1363m) Koshikidake volcano (1301m)

This two-hour course begins near the Ebino Eco Museum and continues clockwise past three volcanic crater lakes – Lake Byakushike, Lake Rakkannon-Miike, and Lake Fudoike. From the summit of the Shiratoriyama volcano, one can see Sakurajima to the south, as well as a direct view of Karakunidake. The area is especially diverse in plant life, abundant with greenery and Miyama-Kirishima azaleas in early summertime, in addition to sporting beautiful fall colors in the autumn. It takes roughly 60 minutes to hike up the Koshikidake volcano from the crossing north of Lake Fudoike. Inside the Koshikidake volcanic crater, a plain of susuki grass surrounds a low-rise wetland moor, unusual for southern Kyushu. One may even observe carnivorous sundew plants growing in the center. The trail grows steeper and narrower towards the summit – please be cautious and avoid straying from the trail.



Onami-no-Ike Lake Onaminoike (1388m) Karakunidake volcano (1700m)

The Karakunidake volcano has the tallest peak of the Kirishima Mountains. Among its many hiking trails, one in particular circles the beautiful scenery of Lake Onaminoike – one of the highest crater lakes in Japan. This trail offers one of the most multifaceted and diverse hiking routes in the area. From the Onaminoike trailhead, it takes approximately 40 minutes to reach the crater, where one is met with a striking view of Lake Onaminoike glimmering beneath the majesty of the Karakunidake volcano. Here, the lake marks the halfway point of the trail toward the Karakunidake peak. The trail splits into two paths of roughly equal length, so one may choose to go up one route and return along the other. Descending from the peak of the Lake Onaminoike crater, the path continues past a mountain shelter, then up a sharp incline before exiting through the trees, finally arriving at the summit of the Karakunidake volcano.



Takachihonome volcano (1573m)

The Takachihonome volcano is arguably the main peak of the Kirishima Mountains, owing to not only its stark appearance, but also its ancient history, serving as the sacred mountain in the legend of the Tenson Korin (Descent of the Heavenly Child) in Japanese mythology. The trail begins near the Takachihogawara Visitor Center, first passing through the torii (shrine gate) to the Furumiyama-ato – the ruins of the old Kirishima Jingu Shrine. To the right, the nature path continues onto the trail toward the crater of Ohachi (also known as Mihachi), then onward to Takachihonome. Emerging from the forest, the brown path of the slope becomes rather steep as it ascends up to Ohachi. The path here is known as Umanose. It is extremely narrow, so one should be especially cautious during strong winds or thick fog. From Umanose, the trail descends down to the Saddleback before continuing up toward the peak of the Takachihonome volcano. At the summit stands Ama-no-Sakahoko, the mythological heavenly spear from the Tenson Korin legend. The entire path from the trailhead to the Takachihonome summit has many dangerously steep slopes, so please be cautious as the trail may be slippery. Beware of falling rocks.

