

K O B E

Kobe City PR Digest October 2025

The Forests and Mountains of Kobe



If you have any questions about ward office procedures, financial support for raising children, etc.

Call the Kobe International Community Center (KICC)!

☎ 078-742-8721 (11 languages)



↑ Scan here to visit the website!



Edited & Translated by:
Kobe City Community Engagement Division, Kobe City International Division

Immerse yourself in nature by exploring Kobe's forests!

Take advantage of the season by heading to a nearby mountain and refreshing your spirit in the forest. From hiking among trees and colorful wildflowers to biking through crisp, fresh air, here are some activities to feel the joy of nature.

Enjoy a relaxing stroll through nature!



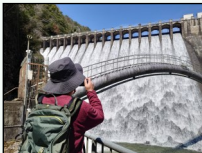
Kobe's Sun and Greenery Trail (太陽と緑の道)

First established in 1972, this nature trail was reorganized into 15 scenic courses totaling about 165 km for its 50th anniversary.



Some routes pass through rural mountain villages (satoyama), offering peaceful walks and chances to discover hidden temples and shrines surrounded by nature.

Hidden Gem: Course No. 4, "Sengari Oiwadake"



This 10.8 km intermediate-level trail starts and ends at JR Dojo Station. Highlights include the dramatic water release from Sengari Dam—a spectacular

sight on a lesser-known route.



Feel the thrill of speeding through the forest!

Ride Through the Forest: Mountain Biking in Kobe



A 425-meter forest course built in Kobe's mountains for beginners is now open to riders! Hiking and biking share the trail—a growing trend in mountain cities. "Public Days" are planned for community trail and forest upkeep.

Location: Kobe Municipal Arboretum

Hours: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Admission: Free (No RSVP needed)

Contact: 078-595-6463



Discover Kobe's Timber



Kobe is launching the "Forest Future City: Kobe" project to protect forests for future generations. Kobe City, businesses, universities, NPOs, and citizens are working together to promote locally sourced timber in the following ways:

Kobe Forest Culture Festival



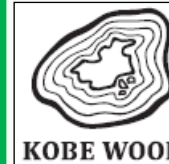
Around 30 groups active in the Rokko Mountains will gather for this event. Enjoy hands-on activities like woodworking using forest resources, log-cutting, and more!

Date: Sunday, October 26
10:00 AM~3:00 PM (Cancelled in case of rain)

Location: Futatabi Park



Kobe-Grown Timber: KOBE WOOD

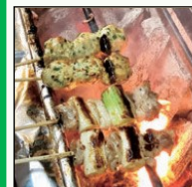


A new brand has been developed to label Kobe-grown timber, with a unique logo designed after the city's geography, and traceable information on the type of wood and sourcing location. Furniture and products are now in development!



Local Charcoal for Local Use:

"KOBE Binchotan"



A project is now underway to produce *binchotan* (white charcoal) using oak trees harvested during forest maintenance. At the end of last year, about 500 kg of prototype white charcoal was distributed to local restaurants for feedback. In the near future, you might be able to enjoy gourmet dishes cooked with KOBE Binchotan!

もっと知ろう KOBE

One Night Sky, Two Worlds Minato Hanabi 2025: 5 Days of Color in Kobe!



Experience a calm start with fireworks, then thrill to a high-energy show synced to music—all set against the stunning nightscape of Kobe Port.

Date: Monday, October 20 - Friday, October 24

Time: 6:30PM~6:45PM (Held in light rain; canceled in severe weather)

Location: Meriken Park **Admission:** Free

Additional Attractions:

Light Show “Luminous Glow” (Until 7:45 PM)
Live Music: 4:30 PM-6:00 PM



Visitor Perks:

Receive a limited-edition sticker (first-come, first-served) at the event and show it at select partner stores for discounts and special offers!

Kobe Higashinada Sweets Tour



Explore sweet shops in Higashinada Ward, collect digital stamps with purchases, and enter a raffle to win prizes!



Date: Saturday, October 4 - Sunday, November 9, 2025

Location: 51 participating shops in Higashinada Ward

Nada Sake Brewery Mystery Adventure



An interactive event set in “Nada Gogo,” Japan’s top sake-producing region. Solve puzzles across four areas while discovering the rich culture of sake, local cuisine, and regional charm.

Date: Until Sunday, March 1, 2026

Location: 15 sake breweries and related sites in Nada Gogo



Sports & English Activities Start at Kodomotto Square!



Kobe City is working to create a safe and welcoming space for children while their parents or guardians are at work. Now launching sports and English-speaking programs at 24 facilities across the city—free of charge!

Sports Activities



Children in after-school care can try various sports such as ball games, kabaddi, mōlkky, and frisbee. Professional athletes and university coaches will lead the sessions.

English-Speaking & Cross-Cultural Programs



Children can play games and enjoy activities with foreign nationals, engaging with them in English and learning about different cultures. This is a fun opportunity to experience English after school!

Changing Kobe: A New Tarumi Library



Renovation is underway around Tarumi Station. On Tuesday, September 30, the Tarumi Library reopened at the east-side station plaza. The new facility is more than three times larger than the old library, and now includes a storytelling area, seminar rooms, and a rooftop plaza! With a collection of 120,000 books, the new Tarumi library offers opportunities to discover unexpected reads.



Suma Ward Staff Picks: Suma Beach Area

Café Cosmos at Sumaura Sanjo Park



Ride the ropeway and car-later to this retro café with a rotating floor, offering stunning views of the Seto Inland Sea, Akashi Kaikyo Bridge, and Kobe!

BOKETTO Beach Market



A seaside event beloved by Suma Ward locals, featuring delicious food, crafts, and books, and more. Be sure to bring your own dishes and bags!



Shitamachi Art Festival

Held every other year since 2015, this contemporary art celebration marks its 10th anniversary with the theme “City Where Rainbows Rise.” Around 30 locations will be transformed with art installations and performances. Enjoy playful and educational programs as the familiar streets become artistic spaces!

Date: Saturday, Oct. 18 ~ Monday, Nov. 3

Location: South Shin-Nagata area

※Times, fees, and registration vary by program

