

Tokyo Day Trip - Kanagawa Travel Info -

Yokohama, Hakone and Kamakura, you might hear about those cities and town when you think of the travel for Japan, specially look into Tokyo. These cities and town are very popular sightseeing areas in Kanagawa prefecture and located in the south of Tokyo. There are many well-known sightseeing spots in Yokohama, Hakone and Kamakura. However, there are also many unknown sightseeing spots in these areas.

We will introduce several unknown sightseeing spots we highly recommend.

(1) Yokohama

As the gateway to Japan with its opening up in the late-nineteenth century, Yokohama adopted a diversity of Western culture. The interchange between Eastern and Western cultures and people together with the trends of the times that have continued since the closing days of the Tokugawa Shogunate and the Meiji period in the late-nineteenth century have blended into the present day to create a uniquely exotic atmosphere. The city is full of highlights, including the Red Brick Warehouse which is the symbol of Yokohama and the Minato Mirai area with its Landmark Tower, Yamashita Park where you can fully enjoy the atmosphere of a port city, the Yamate area which retains a large number of Western buildings as a residential area for foreigners, and the Bashamichi area where retro buildings remain.

●Yokohama 3 Towers

These are the Yokohama Port Opening Memorial hall with stained glass of National important cultural property, the Islamic Mosque style blue dome of Yokohama Customs, and the Five-Stories Pagoda image of Kanagawa Prefectural Government Offices. Yokohama 3 towers, Osanbashi and Yokohama Red Brick Warehouse are also popular spots for beautiful night-time views. (Photo is Yokohama Customs)

URL : http://trip.pref.kanagawa.jp/about_area01.html



Yokohama 3 Towers/

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(2) Kamakura

As the birthplace of Japan's the Kamakura Shogunate, first samurai government, Kamakura is a samurai city with a historical ambience on a par with Nara and Kyoto. You can enjoy many historic temples and shrines, expansive views, and beautiful Japanese gardens, including Tsurugaoka Hachimangu founded by Minamoto Yoritomo, the first shogun, Kotokuin Temple, renowned for the Kamakura Daibutsu (Great Buddha of Kamakura), the Kamakura Gozan temples (Kenchoji Temple, Engakuji Temple, Jufukuji Temple, Jochiji Temple, and Jomyoji Temple) in which the samurai spirituality of simplicity and austerity lives on, the hydrangeas of Meigetsuin Shrine and Hasedera Temple, and the bamboo forest of Hokouji Temple.

●Kamakura Museum of Literature

The former Kamakura villa of Marquis Maeda, completed in 1936. You can see many valuable articles here of Yasunari Kawabata and other related authors, set in rooms that remind us of a time gone by with their marble stoves, stained glass, and more. The garden boasts 250 rose plants that burst into full bloom in spring and autumn.

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Rose garden /

©Kamakura Museum of Literature

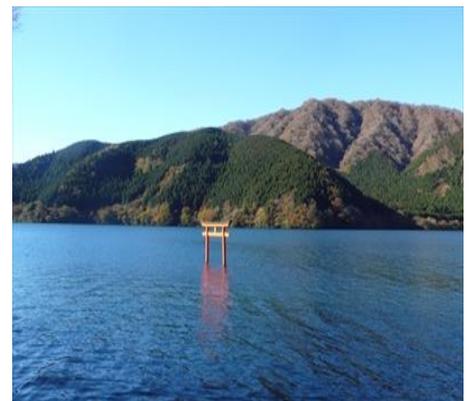
(3) Hakone

The Hakone area, which is surrounded by nature that includes Ashinoko Lake and Mt. Komagatake is one of Japan's premier hot spring resorts. There are 20 hot springs around the Hakone area and you can experience ryokan inns, which are a concentration of Japanese culture. There are also plenty of destinations where you can feel the power of nature and the earth and outdoor areas, such as Owakudani which is famous for black eggs, Sengokuhara Plateau where marsh plants grow in clumps. Mt. Fuji, which can be viewed close up, presents a variety of appearances from season to season. Enjoy the magnificent and beautiful Mt. Fuji to your heart's content.

●Hakone Kuzuryu Shrine

The main building of Hakone Kuzuryu Shrine lies outside the borders of Hakone Shrine and enshrines the Kuzuryu Okami deity of lake Ashi. The main building stands in a quiet forest on the banks of lake Ashi marked by a small red tori-i gate in the lake, and a new building is located on the Hakone Shrine premises. The dragon deity worshiped here is known for good luck with money, sales prosperity, and luck in marriage.

URL : http://trip.pref.kanagawa.jp/course_detail.html?id=479



Tori-i gate / ©Hakone Kuzuryu Shrine

In addition, there are many unknown sightseeing spots in Kanagawa prefecture. For more detailed information, check our website as listed below. The information is updated regularly, it help you when you need more tourist information about Kanagawa prefecture.

Tokyo Day Trip –Kanakagawa Travel Info : <http://trip.pref.kanagawa.jp/index.html>