

Hakone Travel Guide



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Access

There are so many ways to get to Hakone. The two most popular routes are discussed here. One route is getting there quickly by car and the other is taking you sweet time by train, bus, and ropeway!

Hakone is about 2 hours away from central Tokyo by car. Be aware that on national holidays the time it takes to get to Hakone can considerably increase. No one would be surprised if it took you 4 hours! By car, you predominately go along the Tomei Expressway and exit at the Gotenba exit and head south towards Ashinoko Lake. There is an alternative, more scenic, route that takes you along the coast. To take the scenic route, drive first down to Enoshima then take the Tokaido Kokudou Route 1.

From Shinjuku, it takes approximately 2 hours

Hot Springs & Spas

Himeshara Hot Springs

Yu No Sato Okada - <http://www.yunosato-y.jp/english/index.html>

Another hot spring. Boasts 5 different sources of hot springs at the foot of the Yusakayama mountain.

Hakone Kowakien Yunessun - <http://www.yunessun.com/english/yunessun.html>
Boasts 25 different kinds of spa related services and recreational activities. Some of the favorites are: Rodeo Mountain, Japanese Sake Spa, Green Tea Spa, Coffee Spa and Wine Spa! Bathing suit required!

Mori no Yu - http://www.yunessun.com/english/mori_no_yu.html
This is actually apart of the Yunessun complex. Enjoy a nice 'naked' experience without a website (just quoting the website!).

Kappa-Tengoku

Hmmm, how would one translate this? Water-sprite Heaven? Anyway, it is quite famous among Japanese for its reasonable price and easy location. It comes with 3 outdoor baths (2 men and 1 woman's), 1 private indoor bath and a foot bath! The indoor private bath is only Yen 1,000 for 45 mins. You must be a guest at their lodge to use it and can only reserve it upon check in.

Tenzan Toji-kyo

<http://www.hiraganatimes.com/hp/travel/hotspot/tenzan-e.html>

The facility has 5 baths for men and 6 for women. There are also shops and restaurants. Very old and authentic type flavor; very nice!

Probably one of the more famous Japanese hot springs.
Hakone Lake Hotel Shakunage Hot Springs

