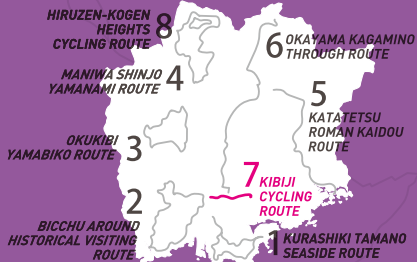


Kibiji Cycling Route



Along a gentle and largely flat road, this route links historical spots in the Kibi area, including Bicchu Kokubun-ji Temple, the Tsukuriyama-kofun burial mound, and Kibitsu-jinja Shrine. Enjoy this relaxing journey as you putter down the road surrounded with history and the beauty of the seasons.



Created October 2022

Level of Difficulty



Beginner

Route Length

25km

Difference of Elevation(Max)

26m

Check here for the latest info.



Official Website



Participating Stores



Bicycle Rental



Participating Stores



Bicycle Rental



Road Station





SPOTS OF KIBIJI CYCLING ROUTE

OKAYAMA START - 15km

① Kibitsuuhiko-jinja Shrine

This shrine worships Kibitsuuhiko-no-Mikoto, a legendary Japanese prince who was said to have been dispatched by the Imperial Court to subjugate Kibi Province. It is said the shrine was built on the site where Mikoto's house once stood.

② Narukama Shinji Ritual

According to the legend of Kibitsuuhiko-no-Mikoto, the head of the ogre Ura is buried beneath the kettle, and it is said that a person's fortune can be divined by the ogre's groans.

③ Kibitsu-jinja Shrine

The main shrine building here is designated a national treasure and is the only example of its kind anywhere in Japan that is built in a style known as hiyokuirimoya-zukuri. The shrine has a rich collection of legends associated with Prince Kibitsuuhiko-no-Mikoto and the ogre Ura. These include the rock where the prince loaded his arrow to shoot Ura and the clay oven where Ura's head was said to have been buried.

④ Bichu Takamatsu Castle Park

Bichu Takamatsu Castle was a strategic point on the old Matsuyama Highway that linked the domain of Bizen with Bichu Matsuyama. It is famous as the site of the Siege of Takamatsu of 1582.

⑤ Tsukuriyama-kofun Burial Mound

This keyhole-shaped burial mound is the largest in the country where visitors are able to climb to the top.

SOJA 15km - 20km

⑥ Komorizuka-kofun Burial Mound

This keyhole-shaped burial mound is thought to be the grave of the chief of Kibi and at the circular end is a horizontal hole-style burial chamber that has been made by piecing together enormous stones and has a total length of 19.4 m, making it one of Okayama Prefecture's three largest megalith burial mounds.

⑦ Kibiji Motenashi-no-Yakata

This facility looks out over the five-storied pagoda of Kokubun-ji Temple and has a hall and pavilion where visitors can eat, buy souvenirs, or view the gallery where exhibits change weekly.

⑧ Bichu Kokubun-ji Temple

This temple is one of several temples established by the order of Emperor Shomu in the Nara period (8th century). The towering five-storied pagoda in the temple precinct is the only one of its kind in Okayama Prefecture and is a symbol of Kibiji.

⑨ Tsukuriyama (作山)-kofun Burial Mound

This burial mound lies 1 km to the west of Bichu Kokubun-ji Temple and is the second-largest keyhole tomb in Okayama and the 10th-largest in Japan.

⑩ Kibiji Crane Village

Situated next to Sunroad Kibiji, this facility is dedicated to the protection and breeding of Japanese cranes, which are a nationally protected species. (Free entrance and viewing)

SOJA 20km - GOAL

⑪ People's Lodge Sunroad Kibiji

The hot spring here contains sulfur compounds and is famous for its beautifying properties, leaving skin smooth and supple. Day guests are also welcome. Why not stop by for a warming soak leaving your skin radiant?

⑫ Bichukoku Soja Shrine

Soja Shrine was built to eliminate the inconvenience of visiting multiple shrines. All 324 gods of the Bichu region are enshrined here in this one place.

⑬ Mt. Kino-jo (Kino-jo Castle)

This ancient mountain castle site at an altitude of approximately 400 m on the summit of Mt. Kino-jo includes approximately 2.8 km of stone walls and earthwork.

⑭ GOURMET | So-Jalpan

The Soja area is the top baking region in Okayama Prefecture. There are many specialties to try, including Soja dog, fruit choux buns, and ice cream with specialty bread!

⑮ Iyama Hofuku-ji Temple

A temple of the Tofuku-ji School of the Rinza sect of Buddhism, Iyama Hofuku-ji is also known for its links with the master painter Sesshu. Visitors can practice zazen for about one hour here. (Reservations required)