



The sound and beautiful city, Tenri,  
Where the story of Japan has begun.

It was in the 3rd century; myths were giving way to history.

In this place, people of ancient times formed the Yamato Dynasty.

Over time it grew extensively and the country of Japan was born.

Today, the overconcentrated Japanese society, obsessed with convenience and efficiency, has debilitated the capacity of the people and the communities to get connected.

In Tenri, however, the bonds connecting communities, families, and beliefs are still alive.

Just as our ancestors started creating the nation from this land, we are taking on the challenge of creating “The sound and beautiful city, Tenri,” and aspiring to set off new waves for the rebirth of Japan.

To enjoy its music, sports, arts and culture, cuisine, beliefs, nature, and especially its people, you should visit and experience the charms of Tenri.

## About Yamanobe Road



A road running north and south along the eastern edge of the Nara Basin, connecting Mt. Miwa in Sakurai City and Mt. Kasuga in Nara City. It is said to be “the oldest road in Japan” based on the Chronicles of Japan. It is about 16 km long from Omiwa-jinja Shrine in Sakurai City to Isonokami-jingu Shrine in Tenri City. The road is known as a particularly beautiful hiking course.

Mountains rise gently in the east, with the entire Nara Basin visible to the west. When hiking along a path cutting through rice fields and orchards, visitors will come across a

number of shrines and ancient burial mounds. The sceneries along the path are mentioned in many waka (Japanese poems), and much of the landscape that inspired the old poems still remains to this day.

Pause for a moment and let your mind drift, and you will hear the ancestors breathing. Mother Nature changes its bountiful appearance as time slowly passes and the next season takes its turn, while the people, who live along its path adding pages to the local history, await you with open arms.

## About Kofun



A Kofun burial mound refers to a tomb with a mound of soil over it, used as burial place for a deceased person of high rank or power in East Asia. In Japan, a Kofun burial mound generally refers to a tomb built from the mid-3rd century to the 7th century. Here in Tenri, visitors can spot numerous keyhole-shaped burial mounds. There are over 1,600 tumuli in the Tenri city—from those along the Yamanobe Road in Todaijiyama, Somanouchi, Oyamoto and Yanagimoto tumuli cluster.

(Structure)

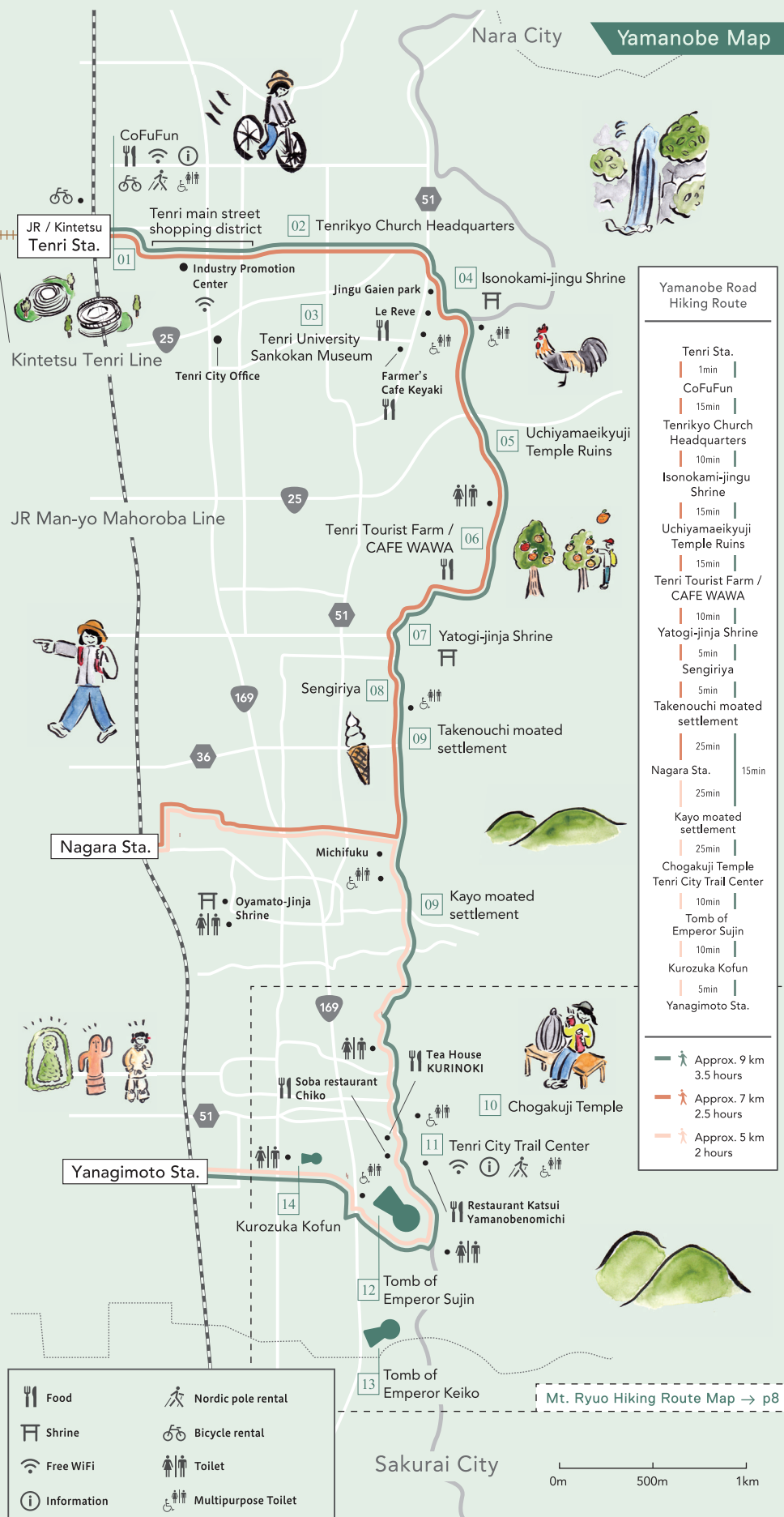
The circular part of the Kofun is viewed as the rear. The dead is buried near the summit. Stones are spread over the steeply-inclined hill

section. The entire tomb may be surrounded by a moat. Stones and clay were used to tightly seal the coffins. Copper mirrors have been found in many of the Kofun mounds, placed around the coffin are also cases where many copper mirrors surround the coffin to ward off evil. It is said that subordinates who served the king were buried alive with the deceased royal. However, Emperor Suinin, who is said to have taken pity on the subordinates in the court, abolished this practice requiring human sacrifice of the king’s subordinates in the 4th century. “Haniwa” clay dolls shaped like people and animals came to be buried instead.





LET'S GO WALKING



**01 | CoFuFun**  
Place to mingle, have fun, and create new values  
CoFuFun is a square where people gather to have fun and create new values. Around 1,600 Kofun, which blend beautifully into the landscape and people's lives, are found in Tenri. The railway station square accommodates an open-air performance stage, a huge slide and a trampoline for kids, as well as a café and information office, all with designs inspired by the shape of the Kofun. CoFuFun is a plaza favored by the citizens and visitors for holding various events, tourism, craft making, farm information and for simply relaxing. The facilities were designed by Mr. Oki Sato, CEO and Chief Designer of the design office "nendo" whose works garner high praise within and outside of Japan.



**Cofufun Shop**  
Many kinds of local produce as well as products from Tenri and other places in Nara are on sale at the Cofufun Shop. You may want to purchase something for yourself to remember the enjoyable journey or to share the souvenirs with your friends and families.  
[Open] 9:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.  
[Closed] Sundays [Phone] +81-743-62-1206

803 Kawaharajo-cho, Tenri

**How to enjoy CoFuFun**

**Park Side Kitchen**  
This café-restaurant serves Japanese dishes and bun meals made with local ingredients and based on the concept of "Neo Washoku (Japanese cuisine)."  
[Open] 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. [Closed] Not specified [Phone] +81-743-69-5770

**Information**  
The Information Desk is available to help you with recommendations for your visit to Yamanobe Road, the tumuli cluster and other historical sites, as well as Mt. Ryuo and other natural landscapes. Poles used for Nordic walking can be borrowed free of charge and can be returned to the Tenri City Trail Center, located 8 km away along Yamanobe Road.  
[Open] 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. [Closed] Not specified [Phone] +81-743-61-5544

**Bicycle Color**  
American sports bicycles from the TREK company can be rented, purchased or even repaired at the base just in front of the Tenri railway station and will help you start your bike tour from the city or beyond to Nara, Sakurai, Asuka and further afield to Yoshino or Mie.  
[Open] (weekdays) 11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. (weekends) 10:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. [Closed] Wednesdays and Thursdays (if a holiday, closed on the following day) [Phone] +81-743-61-5805



**02 | Tenrikyo Church Headquarters**  
A magnificent shrine open to everyone  
Tenrikyo is a faith that encourages the pursuit of and belief in a Joyous Life in which everyone helps each other and lives in a friendly environment. The shrines and worship halls are open to the public and can be visited every day. The architecture comprises somewhat different designs from the Shinto shrines or Buddhist temples. It provides an interesting experience to visit and feel the special culture first hand.



**03 | Tenri University Sankokan Museum**  
Ethnographical objects from around the world  
The museum has a collection of nearly 300,000 ethnographical objects and archaeological artifacts from around the world and conducts research and public exhibitions. Some 3,000 items of the total collection are on display in permanent and featured exhibitions, and lectures and workshops are held in the museum.  
250 Morimedo-cho, Tenri  
[Open] 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (admission by 4:00 p.m.) [Closed] Tuesdays, 4/28, 8/13-17, 12/27-1/4 [Admission] Adults: 400 yen, Group (20 or more persons): 300 yen, Students (elementary school & junior high school): 200 yen [Phone] +81-743-63-8414

1-1 Mishima-cho, Tenri





#### 04 Isonokami-jingu Shrine

Isonokami-jingu Shrine is one of the oldest shrines in Japan where you can't help but wonder that you are in an unearthly world

This is one of the oldest shrines in Japan. The grounds are home to beautiful free-roaming, chickens that are believed to be messengers of the deities. The shrine venerates the legendary sword "Futsunomitama no Tsurugi"-said to have been used by an emperor to unify Japan. For many years, it did not have an inner shrine. An excavation that was carried out in 1874, uncovered an actual sword. The shrine where the sword currently rests is now treated as the inner shrine.

📍 384 Furu-cho, Tenri

#### 08 Sengiriya

A place to take a short break and feel the rural hospitality

This unattended shop sits quietly along the Yamanobe Road where visitors can pick up fresh local vegetables and fruits, and even quench their thirst with an ice cream or a beer, and drop coins or notes into the box. You can just sit and relax on the freely available chairs to re-energize before heading to the next destination.



📍 236 Otagi-cho, Tenri



[Admission]  
Adults: 400 yen,  
College / Sr. high students: 350 yen,  
Jr. high students: 300 yen,  
Elementary school students: 250 yen,  
Preschoolers: free.

\* Discount for group of 30 persons or more (Discount of 50 yen / person).

#### 12 Tomb of Emperor Sujin (Andon-yama Tumulus)

The tomb grounds of the founder of Yamato Dynasty nurtures thick forests

The burial mound of the 10th Emperor Sujin was constructed in the first half of the 4th century, and it is also known as Andon-yama Tumulus. The neighboring site, Kushiyama Tumulus, has a rarely-seen "candy-wrap" shape, but the identity of the person buried there is unknown.



📍 508 Yanagimoto-cho, Tenri  
Overall length 242m, Maximum height 31m,  
Front side width 100m, Rear circle diameter 158m



#### Worship Hall

National treasure relocated in 1081. It has been said that Emperor Shirakawa (reign 1073-1087) donated a building that was located in the imperial palace in Kyoto as Isonokami Jingu Shrine. It is the oldest existing worship hall of its type.

#### Worship Hall of Izumotakeo-Jinja Shrine

National treasure established in 1137. This worship hall was relocated from Uchiyamaeiyuji Temple in 1914. It is precious as a relic of the now-lost Uchiyamaeiyuji Temple, and is designated as a national treasure.

#### Shichishito (Seven-Branded Sword)

National treasure created in 369. Not shown to the public. Total length 74.8 cm. One of a few legendary swords that actually exists. It is mentioned in Nihon Shoki (The Chronicles of Japan) from the 8th century, and is assumed to have been a gift from Paekche (an ancient Korean Kingdom). It is believed to have been used as a symbolic, ceremonial item and not as a weapon.

#### 09 Takenouchi / Kayo moated settlements

Wisdom of people to survive civil wars

During the tumultuous and violent medieval ages, people in Takenouchi and Kayo built moats around their settlements to protect themselves and their properties from intruders. The moated settlements we see today in the towns of Takenouchi and Kayo have their origins in the Muromachi Period (1336-1573) and still remind us of the ingenuity shown by the settlers.



📍 236 Otagi-cho, Tenri

#### 10 Chogakuji Temple

An old temple dedicated by Kukai, also famous as one of the best 100 spots in Japan for autumn leaves

Chogakuji Temple was dedicated in 824 by Monk Kukai, who is also known posthumously as Kōbō-Daishi. The temple is well-known for its flower gardens and cultural features. Passing through the Daimon gate and walking down the pebbled path, you reach the bell tower gate, the oldest in the country. The principal image of the temple Amida Triad is also the oldest in Japan among crystal-eyed Buddhist statues. The 12,000 tsubo (40,000 m<sup>2</sup>) precinct is quiet and filled with the fragrances of seasonal flowers. Many worshippers visit the temple seeking a taste of ancient times and peace of mind.

📍 508 Yanagimoto-cho, Tenri  
[Open] 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

#### 13 Tomb of Emperor Keiko (Shibutani-Mukaiyama Tumulus)

The tomb grounds of Yamato Takeru's father dominate majestically

This burial mound of the 12th Emperor Keiko was built late in the 4th century, and it is also known as Shibutani-Mukaiyama Tumulus. It is the largest among the tumuli that were built in that period.



📍 Shibutani-cho, Tenri  
Overall length 300m, Maximum height 25m,  
Front side width 170m, Rear circle diameter 168m



#### 05 Uchiyamaeiyuji Temple Ruins

Little remains reveals the glorious past of the principal temple

Founded in the 12th century, this temple received special treatment. In the latter half of the 19th century the temple was abandoned due to the Haibutsu Kishaku movement ("abolish Buddhism and destroy Shakyamuni", the Meiji Restoration period). Now it is just a field, with only a lake and stone monument indicating what it used to be. Will be struck by the Buddhist teaching that "All worldly things are transitory" from what remains of the temple.

📍 Somanouchi-cho, Tenri



#### 06 Tenri Tourist Farm/CAFE WAWA

A farm shop and a café to enjoy nature's seasonal gifts

At this "pick-your-own" farm, you can enjoy citrus unshiu, kumquats, blueberries and other fresh seasonal fruits. The adjacent cafe offers pizzas and set menu lunches, prepared with vegetables harvested at the farm as well as home-made fruit sweets and fresh juice. You may also want to buy any of the fancy daily articles on the shop shelves.

📍 183 Sonohara-cho, Tenri  
[Open] 10:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.  
(CAFE WAWA: till 4:00 p.m.)  
[Closed] Mondays [Phone] +81-743-66-1663



#### 07 Yatogi-jinja Shrine

Thatched-roof shrine, air of mystery

Yatogi-jinja Shrine is closely related to the Kasugataisha Shrine in Kyoto, honoring the same four deities. The worshipping hall is adorned with a thatched roof, which is rare in the area. Together with the trees that surround it, the architecture imparts a pristine air to the precinct.

📍 765 Otagi-cho, Tenri



#### 11 Tenri City Trail Center

A multi-purpose, interactive facility for people interested in travel, food, history, and lifestyle

The trail center is more than just a stop-over spot for Yamanobe Road hikers and Mt. Ryuo climbers. It sends out sightseeing and event information, exhibits cultural artifacts and sells local produce and products. Poles for Nordic walking can be borrowed free of charge (to be returned at the CoFuFun in front of the Tenri railway station, 8 km away) or poles borrowed there can be returned here. The trail center houses a popular restaurant, "Yoshoku Katsui Yamanobe Road," that serves western-style dishes prepared with locally-grown vegetables and fruits, the natural and rich bounty from the local area.

📍 577 Yanagimoto-cho, Tenri  
[Open] 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.  
[Closed] First Monday of the month [Phone] +81-743-67-3810



#### "Tenri City Kurozuka Kofun Museum"

A museum built next to Kurozuka Kofun. The exhibits include: a full-size reproduction of the vertical stone chamber, unearthed triangular-rimmed mirrors decorated with gods and animals, and iron sword replicas.

📍 1118-2 Yanagimoto-cho, Tenri  
[Open] 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.  
[Closed] Mondays, Festive days, New Year season [Admission] Free

#### 14 Kurozuka Kofun

A keyhole-shaped tumulus that stimulates the imagination about the Yamatai Kingdom

Extending 130 m, this tumulus was built between the late 3rd and 4th centuries. Although the remains have not been identified, the large number of untouched burial items unearthed include 33 triangular-rimmed mirrors decorated with gods and animals, the largest number found at a tumulus in Japan. Popularly known as "Queen Himiko's mirror," these mirrors suggest that Kurozuka Kofun was built for a very influential person of the time.

📍 1118-2 Yanagimoto-cho, Tenri

#### "Triangular-rimmed mirrors decorated with gods and animals"

This type of bronze mirror is thus called because images of gods and animals are designed in the back and the rim consists of mountain-like sharp triangular shapes. The mirrors are, on average, 22 cm in diameter and weigh as much as 1 kg. On the back are inscribed auspicious phrases and sentences in Chinese as well as images of immortality and holy beasts. It is believed that philosophies of immortality and spiritual supremacy had been well accepted by the ancient tribal leaders.



\*Replica





Selected accommodation in Tenri City



## Megumi Meguru Tenri

For a beautiful harmony of mind and body.  
By Tenri City, Nara, Japan



### Nara Plaza Hotel

Adjacent to the amusement resort complex, "Nara Kenko Land," with its hot spring bath, spa and restaurant. All rooms are furnished with Simmons beds. A pleasant and comfortable stay for business guests as well as families.

600-1 Kabata-cho, Tenri  
TEL. +81-743-64-1126  
<https://naraplazahotel.net/>



### Mori no Guest House

Established in August 2018. Experience-oriented guesthouse focused on the theme of interaction between forest, town and people. You can try your hand at craft work using the forest materials and tools available in the Fab Space, or you might want to try some locally harvested agricultural produce in the Café Space. The hot water used in the guesthouse comes from the in-house boiler that burns timber from forest thinning. There's much more on offer here than just a good night's sleep.

73-6 Kawaharajo-cho, Tenri  
TEL. +81-90-7347-4010  
<https://mori-guesthouse.jp>



### Business Inn Yamabe

Comfortable atmosphere and good food for business guests. Wide menu choices are available for dinner ranging from the set menu of the day to Tetchiri Nabe (pufferfish hot pot). Free laundry, coffee, and Wi-Fi are available. Kofun enthusiasts might love to sleep in the specially decorated Kitora Room.

543 Tabe-cho, Tenri  
TEL. +81-743-63-4730  
<https://yamabe-hotel.sakura.ne.jp/>



### Grandvrio Hotel Nara -Wakura-

Established in October 2018. Japanese-modern design resort hotel with a natural hot spring public bath in a simulated maple forest setting. Please enjoy an authentic Washoku plate or Kaiseki course dinner featuring locally-produced, seasonal ingredients in an environment of total serenity.

40-1 Nikaido Kaminoshio-cho, Tenri  
TEL. +81-50-5847-7447  
<https://grandvrio-hotelresort.com/nara/>



### Hotel Iko

Only a seven-minute walk away from Tenri Station. Best suited for business guests. Refurbished in 2008, the rooms are clean and guarantee a pleasant stay. Free breakfast and free Internet are available in every room.

297 Kawaharajo-cho, Tenri  
TEL. +81-743-62-0030  
<https://hotel-ikoi.com>



### Business Hotel Kirakuso

Reasonably-priced business hotel with a Japanese-style restaurant. A ten-minute walk from Tenri Station with a convenience store and supermarket nearby. Recommended for sightseeing in Tenri. Free parking.

366-2 Kawaharajo-cho, Tenri  
TEL. +81-743-62-1668  
<https://kirakuso.sakura.ne.jp>



## INFORMATION

### Megumi Meguru Tenri

Tenri is a city with many charming features, including the everyday lives of people from centuries ago, the eye-catching magnificent landscape, Japan's oldest road (Yamanobe Road), and communities cherishing bonding and unity, and we would like to share with others those wholesome and beautiful gifts (*megumi* in Japanese) that have been nurtured over the years. Tenri is a city filled with tremendous potential in terms of history, culture, beliefs, cuisine, and manufacturing.

Megumi Meguru Tenri 🔍



### YAMATO

More than ten centuries ago, this was the capital of Japan. Several generations of kings of the "Yamato Dynasty" ruled here and expanded their influence outwards. Eventually, Yamato became a word meaning "the whole of Japan." The foundation of Japan was built here. This ancient capital-older than Kyoto or Nara-did not develop in the way other ancient capitals did, leaving it largely untouched. Feel the mystery of the history of Japan in this quiet, little-traversed area of Japan.

YAMATO 🔍



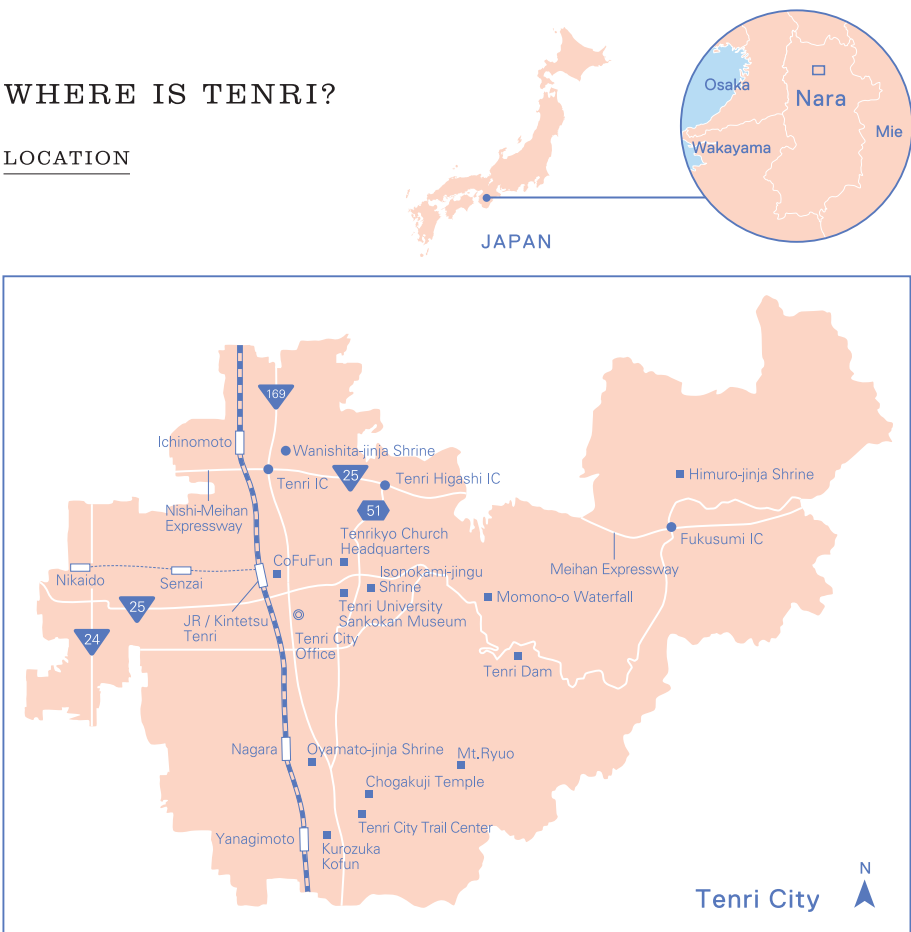
“Megumi Meguru Tenri” is available  
on the SNS at any time



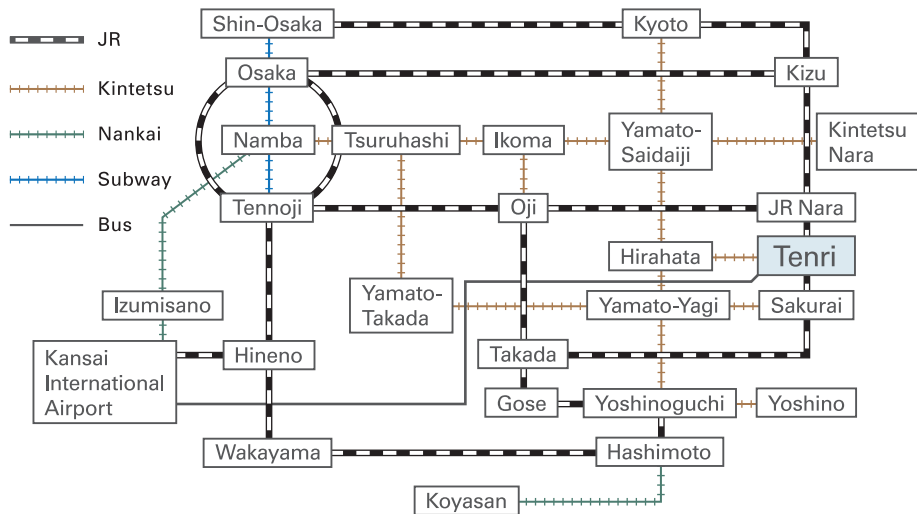


# WHERE IS TENRI?

## LOCATION



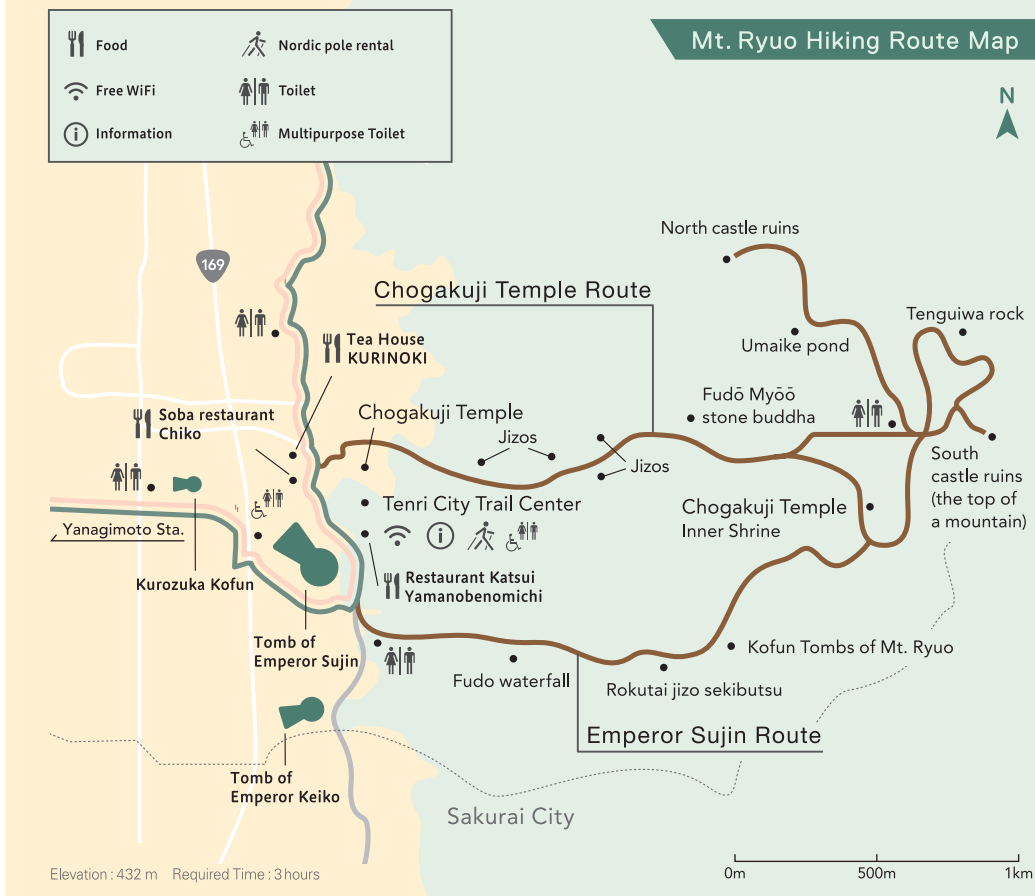
## ACCESS



By Train or Bus (excl. transfer time) \*Times are approximate

JR Osaka Sta. >	Rapid - 42 min.	JR Nara Sta. >	Local - 13 min.	JR Tenri Sta.		
Kintetsu Namba Sta. >	Express - 29 min.	Yamato-Saidaiji Sta. >	Express - 16 min.	Kintetsu Tenri Sta.		
JR Kyoto Sta. >	Rapid - 41 min.	JR Nara Sta. >	Local - 13 min.	JR Tenri Sta.		
Kintetsu Kyoto Sta. >	Express - 35 min.	Yamato-Saidaiji Sta. >	Express - 16 min.	Kintetsu Tenri Sta.		
Kansai International Airport >	airport shuttle bus - 65 min.	Ichinomoto Sta. >	Local - 13 min.	JR Tenri Sta.		
Kansai International Airport >	limited express - 34 min.	Tennoji Sta. >	Rapid - 34 min.	JR Nara Sta. >	Local - 13 min.	JR Tenri Sta.
Koyasan(Gokurakubashi Sta.) >	limited express - 35 min.	Hashimoto Sta. >	Local - 57 min.	Takada Sta. >	Local - 33 min.	JR Tenri Sta.

# Mt. Ryuo Hiking Route Map



## About Mt. Ryuo

Mt. Ryuo stands out in the mountain range that borders Yamato Highland and Nara Basin. The mountain is thus named because two dragon deities (ryuo in Japanese) are enshrined there; one by the villagers of Yanagimoto and the other by those of Fujii and Ta. There used to be a mountain castle on each of the two mountain peaks, south and north. The south and the north castles belonged to one family and they formed the so-called "separate but one defense formation." The Mt. Ryuo Castle was a most important castle of Yamato in the medieval period. Along the climbing routes to the top are found numerous tumuli called the Mt. Ryuo Tumuli Cluster. The panoramic view of Nara Basin from the mountain tops (especially from the south peak), is simply breathtaking.





## RECOMMENDATION SPOT

### Oyamato-jinja Shrine



The deity that the battleship Yamato enshrined aboard

Oyamato-jinja Shrine rests in the vast 43 hectare forest. The complex consists of three shrine buildings, the center of which enshrines the deity, Yamato-no-Okunitama-no-Okami (the god who governs the land of Japan). During the Pacific War, the shrine was a guardian shrine for the battleship Yamato and many people came to pray. Still today, the shrine incorporates a library room housing items and documents about the ship.

📍 306 Niizumi-cho, Tenri

### Momono-o Waterfall



A place for spiritual exercise dating back to ancient times and also a place for mental healing

The waterfall is 23 meters high, but cool and beautiful. It is enveloped by fresh green leaves in spring and by red and yellow leaves in the fall. Statues of Acala, with two boy servants, are carved out on the rocks to the left of the plunge basin. They are masterpieces of the mid-Kamakura Period. On the 3rd Sunday of July each year, a ritual about the "Opening of the Waterfall" is celebrated to pray for the safe return home of the visitors.

📍 483 Takimoto-cho, Tenri

### Nara Kenko Land

Popular spa resort open around the clock

A popular spa resort which is open around the clock. This resort complex has everything from open-air baths and large indoor baths filled with natural hot spring water, bedrock baths, inflated bouncers and other fun equipment, and indoor leisure pools (seasonal) to restaurants and other leisure activities where three-generation families can have fun and relax. A free shuttle bus service is available from the JR / Kintetsu Tenri Station. Nara Plaza Hotel is also next door.



📍 600-1 Kabatacho, Tenri

[Open] 24 hours a day [Closed] None [Admission] Seniors (Ages 60 and up): 1,000 yen, Adults: 1,500 yen, Students (Jr, high school, Sr, high school, Jr, college, college): 1,000 yen, Children (Ages 3 and up and elementary school students): 800 yen. [Optional (excl. tax)] Indoor leisure pool (seasonal): 500 yen, bedrock bath: 300 yen, Night charge (staying between 2 and 5 am): 1,500 yen. [Phone] +81-743-64-1126

### Nara Prefecture Complex for Historical and Artistic Culture

A base for arts and culture originating from the ancient capital Nara

Based on the four keywords: grow, learn, unwind, and gather, the integrated complex, due for completion in 2021, seeks to maximize the beneficial use of the historical and cultural assets of which Nara Prefecture is proud. The proposed activities and facilities include: repairing cultural properties, training young experts in cultural property conservation and repair, the seminar house, the exhibition / sale of traditional artifacts, the farm shops, restaurant, and accommodation.

### JR Yanagimoto Sta.

The totally refurbished gateway to the Yamanobe Road

Originally built in 1898, this unmanned railway station has been known for its small castle-like wooden architecture. Tenri City refurbished it in 2018 and turned it into a place for people to get together to buy and sell local produce, relax in the café and hold events in the gallery space.

📍 Yanagimoto-cho, Tenri

### Stage Show & Workshop



📍 803 Kawaragi-cho Tenri

[Date and Time] Thursdays 7:00 p.m. - (Note: Reservations required, Reservations can be made up to the day before the tour) [Estimated Time] 1 hour [Location] Tenri Station Square CoFuFun Park Side Kitchen at Info & Lounge Cofun (803, Kawaharajocho, Tenri-shi) [Fee] 7,800 JPY (Note: Minimum of 5 reservations needed for program) [Dinner Package] +3,000 JPY for Yamato Dinner at Park Side Kitchen with reservation of 10 participants or more. [Reservations] Official Website: <https://gagaku-experience.jp/> Airbnb: <https://www.airbnb.jp/experiences/440622> [Contact] TEL: +81-52-569-4874 E-mail: [mail@and-next.jp](mailto:mail@and-next.jp)



### Megumi Meguru Tenri

#### “GAGAKU” EXPERIENCE

Experience the world's oldest orchestral music with over 1200 years of history

Gagaku is Japan's unique ancient music. This old Japanese court music was created by combining ancient music and dance traditions from all over the Asian continent. As Japan's traditional music form, it has also gained recognition abroad, and the Imperial Household Agency Music Department's gagaku performances are registered as UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage. At GAGAKU EXPERIENCE, you will be treated to the ultimate sight and sound experience with a lively 40-minute performance complete with English explanations of the musical program. You will also get to wear the performing costumes and play the instruments yourself during this popular program.

This place has been “A Home”,  
Long before a country was born,  
Where history and Nature's gifts  
Have constantly come and gone.  
The sound and beautiful city, Tenri.