

# Traveling Outside and Inside Japan

## IMPORTANT when leaving Japan for travels

⇒ CHECK off the leaflet saying that you will re-enter the country, otherwise you will NOT be allowed to come back.

⇒ You need to do this EVERYTIME you leave.

## When to travel?

⇒ Travelling outside Japan is more worth it during long holidays such as:

### 1. Christmas/New Year

◇ During this time, there is not much to do in Japan as many Japanese people take holidays around that time too, so it's great to go back home or to do a long trip around Asia/Europe

◇ This year, the last day of the semester is on Dec 25th and the first day is on Jan 7th

◇ City JETs are also allowed to take up to 2 vacation days (Nenkyu) per month, so you can take off from Dec 20th to Jan 8th

◇ Of course, this involve taking about 8-9 vacation days, so be careful and keep count of them.

### 2. Golden Week

◇ There are 3 public holidays in a week, so many people take the whole week off. It's great for a week in Korea.

◇ This year, city JETs could take off from April 26th to May 5th

⇒ Take advantage of long weekends to travel around Japan such as:

### 1. End of October – Beginning of November

◇ Since city JETs can take 2 vacation days per month, taking the last 2 days of October and the first 2 days of November makes a good 6-day roadtrip.

◇ Good places to go are Saga (balloon festival), Nagasaki, Beppu/Oita (onsens) and Shikoku

### 2. 3-day weekends

◇ There are many 3-day weekends all year-round, so take advantage of them to explore Japan

◇ Places to visit: Iki Beach Party, Ashikita Beach Party, Fukuoka, Sapporo Snow Festival

## Public Holidays 2018-2019

09/17 Respect for the Aged Day

09/24 Autumnal Equinox Day

10/08 Health-Sports Day

11/03 Culture Day

11/23 Labour Thanksgiving Day

12/24 The Emperor's Birthday

01/01 New Year's Day

01/14 Coming-of-age Day

02/11 National Foundation Day

03/20 Vernal Equinox Day

04/29 Showa Day

05/03 Constitution Memorial Day

05/06 Children's Day

07/15 Marine Day

## How to Travel?

⇒ Many buses depart from the Transportation Center (kotsu center) to places such as:

- ◇ Amakusa
- ◇ Nagasaki
- ◇ Kagoshima

⇒ Shinkansen (fast trains) from Kumamoto Station

◇ Reserve online about 21 days before for cheaper prices

◇ Website: [www.jr-odekake.net](http://www.jr-odekake.net)

◇ Payment can be made by credit card online or by cash at a convenience store such as a 7/11, Lawson or Family Mart

⇒ Airplanes from Kumamoto Airport (mainly domestic flights) or Fukuoka Airport (many international flights)

◇ Kumamoto Airport is about 1 h from kotsu center

◇ Fukuoka Airport is about 45 min by Shinkansen from Kumamoto Station or 2 h by bus from kotsu center

◇ Cheap airlines: Solaseed Air, Peach Aviation and Jetstar Japan

◇ Payment can be made by credit card online or by cash at a convenience store such as a 7/11, Lawson or Family Mart



Bus schedules available at the Transportation Center

## Useful Kanji

⇒ 航空券 (kokuken): air ticket

⇒ 往復 (ofuku): roundtrip

⇒ 片道 (katamichi): one way

⇒ 出発地 (shuppatsuchi): departure point

⇒ 到着地 (tochakuchi): arrival point

⇒ 行き (iki): departure date

⇒ 帰り (kaeri): return date

⇒ 大人 (otona): adult

## NOTES