

The city of Matsue is a very scenic, historical, and compact city on the lake Shinji, located near the coast of Sea of Japan, in the west of Japan, about 180 km north of Hiroshima, and about 300 km west northwest of Osaka. See map in <https://www.visit-matsue.com/discover> . Matsue is conveniently located near the two domestic airports (**Izumo** and **Yonago**), where you can take a limousine bus from/to JR Matsue Station (c.a. 30-50 min). This station is conveniently located in the south part of the central city, within a walking distance from/to the conference venue Kunibiki Messe <http://www.kunibikimesse.jp/14.html>, and most of the hotels.

Shown below are some routes to Matsue by air only (**By AIR**), and by train (**By Train**) after entering Japan. Also added is some info on Hiroshima.

By AIR,

The easiest way is #1, where you can just transfer at Haneda once. You have other options through Narita (#2), Kansai (#3), Fukuoka, Seoul and Hong Kong (#4).

1. If you reach **Haneda** (Tokyo International Airport):

From Haneda, there are about 5 flights daily to Izumo (c.a. 1h 20min), and same to Yonago (c.a. 1h 20min). The flights between Haneda-Izumo are serviced by JAL (One World), and those between Haneda-Yonago are serviced by ANA (Star Alliance). Haneda is now reached from many international locations.

http://www.haneda-airport.jp/inter/en/flight/city_list.html

If you would like to take trains from Haneda airport to Matsue see #5.

2. If you reach **Narita** International Airport:

This airport has the most international flights in Japan. So you may want to go through Narita. In this case, we recommend you to take a local transportation to Haneda airport, either by Limousine bus (c.a. 1h 30min, every 15 min or so),

https://www.limousinebus.co.jp/en/bus_services/inter_airport_route/

or train (c.a. 1h 30min, Access Express, one or two per hour)

http://www.keisei.co.jp/keisei/tetudou/skyliner/us/timetable/index.php#narita1_ae

From Haneda see #1 Above

If you would like to take trains from Narita airport to Matsue see #6.

3. If you reach **Kansai** International Airport (Osaka):

You can either move to Osaka International Airport (Itami airport) by bus. See

<http://www.okkbus.co.jp/en/index3.html>

Then take a flight from Itami airport to Izumo (5 flights daily).

If you would like to take trains from Kansai airport to Matsue see #7.

4. Other Routes: There are twice daily between **Fukuoka** and **Izumo**, and twice daily between **Nagoya (Komaki, not Chubu)** and **Izumo**. There are three flights per week between **Seoul** and **Yonago**, and twice a week between **Hong Kong** and **Yonago**.

By TRAIN

If you have ample time, and would like to enjoy scenery of Japanese countryside, train is a good option. If you would like to take this option, you may want to consider to use JR RAIL PASS:

<http://www.japanrailpass.net/en/index.html>

Below, “Shinkansen” is a fast train (bullet train) in Japan.

5. If you reach **Haneda** (Tokyo International Airport):
 - i) Take a Keisei Line train to **Shinagawa** (rapid/express trains recommended, this line is not JR line, so you cannot use JR Rail Pass).
 - ii) Take a Tokaido-Sanyo Shinkansen from Shinagawa to **Okayama** (c.a. 3h 40min by Nozomi, c.a. 4h 10min by Hikari. NB. With JR pass, you cannot take Nozomi/Mizuho, so take Hikari or other types of Shinkansen).
<http://english.jr-central.co.jp/info/timetable/>
 - iii) Take a Yakumo Express Train in JR Hakubi Line from Okayama to Matsue (c.a. 2h 40min.).
<https://jprail.com/trains/sort-by-type/limited-express/limited-express-yakumo.html>
6. If you reach **Narita**:
 - i) Take a JR Narita Express to **Tokyo** (c.a. 1h) see <http://www.jreast.co.jp/e/nex/>
 - ii) Take a Tokaido-Sanyo Shinkansen from Tokyo to **Okayama** (c.a. 3h 40min by Nozomi, c.a. 4h 10min by Hikari. NB. With JR pass, You cannot take Nozomi/Mizuho, so take Hikari or other types of Shinkansen).
<http://english.jr-central.co.jp/info/timetable/>
 - iii) Take a Yakumo Express Train in JR Hakubi Line from Okayama to Matsue (c.a. 2h 40min.).
<https://jprail.com/trains/sort-by-type/limited-express/limited-express-yakumo.html>

7. If you reach Kansai:

- i) Take a JR Haruka express to **Shin-Osaka** (c.a. 52 min.)
- ii) Take a JR Sanyo Shinkansen from Shin-Osaka to **Okayama** (c.a. 45min by Nozomi, 50min by Sakura. NB: with JR pass, you cannot take Nozomi/Mizuho, so take Hikari/Sakura or other types of Shinkansen.).
- iii) Take a Yakumo Express Train in JR Hakubi Line from Okayama to Matsue (c.a. 2h 40min.).

<https://jprail.com/trains/sort-by-type/limited-express/limited-express-yakumo.html>

Hiroshima

Hiroshima is about 180 km south from Matsue. It is unfortunately famous for A-Bomb city, whose Peace Memorial Park (including Peace Memorial Museum) is worth visiting <http://hpmmuseum.jp/?lang=eng>. For a plus side, the islands nearby are very scenic and worth visiting. For instance, Miyajima Island with a beautiful shrine (Itsukushima Jinja) on the Inland Sea is registered as the world heritage site. <http://visit-miyajima-japan.com/en/>
You can find some information at <http://visithiroshima.net/>

There are very frequent express bus connections between Matsue and Hiroshima (c.a. 3h). <http://www.h-buscenter.com/en/>

(Select “1. Outside Hiroshima Express Bus”, “2. Matsue”, “3. JR Matsue Station”, “4 Hiroshima Bus Center”).

To the Peace Memorial Park, Hiroshima Bus Center is within a walking distance.

If you would like to take trains, take a Yakumo express to Okayama first, then take Shinkansen to Hiroshima (total c.a. 3.5 h).