

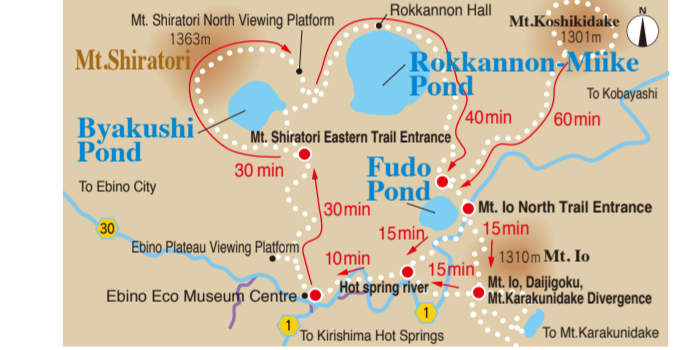
# KIRISHIMA TREKKING MAP

Kirishima has been certified as a "Japan Geopark"

## Lake Tour and Nature Trail

Shiratoriyama  
**Mt. Shiratori (1363m)**  
Koshikidake  
**Mt. Koshikidake (1301m)**

This two-hour course begins near the Ebino Eco Museum. Going clockwise, one can enjoy the view of three crater lakes - Byakushi Pond (Byakushi-Ike), Rokkannon-Miike Pond (Rokkannon-Miike), and Fudo Pond (Fudo-Ike). A steep gradient leads to the summit of Mt. Shiratori, where one can find a shallow crater with a diameter of about 600m, and also enjoy the view of Mt. Sakurajima (to the south) and Mt. Karakunidake. With a large variety of flora, this place is clothed in Kyushu Azalea and verdure in early summer, and filled with beautiful autumn leaves in fall. From the forked road located to the north of Fudo Pond, it takes about 60 minutes one-way to hike up Mt. Koshikidake. In the crater of Mt. Koshikidake lies a plain filled with Susuki grass. The centre portion is a low-rise wetland moor (relatively rare in southern Kyushu) where one can find the carnivores Sundew plant. There is a steep gradient slightly before the summit and the trail will become narrower so take note not to lose your way.



## Kirinodake

### Mt. Kurinodake (1094m)

Mt. Kurinodake is one of the oldest volcanoes in Kirishima. One of three hiking trail entrances is located about 200m from the Kirishima Open Air Museum. Hiking through oak and maple virgin forests, one can enjoy the panoramic view of Mt. Karakunidake, and Mt. Sakurajima floating on Kinko Bay.

## Information



丸尾	えびの高原	高千穂河原
丸尾 8:30	えびの高原 10:30	高千穂河原 15:30
丸尾 8:31	えびの高原 10:31	高千穂河原 15:31
丸尾 8:35	えびの高原 10:35	高千穂河原 15:35
丸尾 8:38	えびの高原 10:38	高千穂河原 15:38
丸尾 8:45	えびの高原 10:45	高千穂河原 15:45
丸尾 8:46	えびの高原 10:46	高千穂河原 15:46
丸尾 8:50	えびの高原 10:50	高千穂河原 15:50
丸尾 8:53	えびの高原 10:53	高千穂河原 15:53
丸尾 8:55	えびの高原 10:55	高千穂河原 15:55
丸尾 8:56	えびの高原 10:56	高千穂河原 15:56
丸尾 9:00	えびの高原 11:00	高千穂河原 16:00
丸尾 9:01	えびの高原 11:01	高千穂河原 16:01
丸尾 9:03	えびの高原 11:03	高千穂河原 16:03
丸尾 9:06	えびの高原 11:06	高千穂河原 16:06
丸尾 9:10	えびの高原 11:10	高千穂河原 16:10
丸尾 9:11	えびの高原 11:11	高千穂河原 16:11
丸尾 9:12	えびの高原 11:12	高千穂河原 16:12
丸尾 9:13	えびの高原 11:13	高千穂河原 16:13
丸尾 9:17	えびの高原 11:17	高千穂河原 16:17
丸尾 9:29	えびの高原 11:29	高千穂河原 16:29
丸尾 13:41	えびの高原 13:41	高千穂河原 16:26
丸尾 13:46	えびの高原 13:46	
丸尾 13:47	えびの高原 13:47	
丸尾 13:57	えびの高原 13:57	
丸尾 14:01	えびの高原 14:01	
丸尾 14:02	えびの高原 14:02	

2013.05.01~

### For an Enjoyable Trekking Experience

~Things to bear in mind / Mannerisms~

- Remember to check the conditions of the intended hiking trail and plan with ample allowance.
- Use the washroom at the start point. While hiking, use portable toilets when necessary.
- Be sure to bring your rubbish back with you. Do not leave anything in the mountains.
- Smoking is strictly prohibited during hiking.
- Give way to the ascending hikers.
- For safety reasons, do not wander astray from the trails or descend into the valleys or craters.
- To minimise erosion of the trails, cap the tip of your hiking sticks.
- Do not pluck flowers, catch animals or feed the dears. Leave nature as it is.

~Trekking Outfit and Gear~

- Wear light, non-restricting outfit and carry items such as food ration, whistle, torchlight, topographic maps, compass, mobile phone, radio, outdoor toilet packs, etc., in your backpack.
- The weather on the mountains may change quickly and unexpectedly, and it can get quite cold in the morning and at night, so be sure to prepare rain gear (waterproof wear) and warm clothing.
- Some areas do not have mobile phone signal reception

### Things to note for the hikers

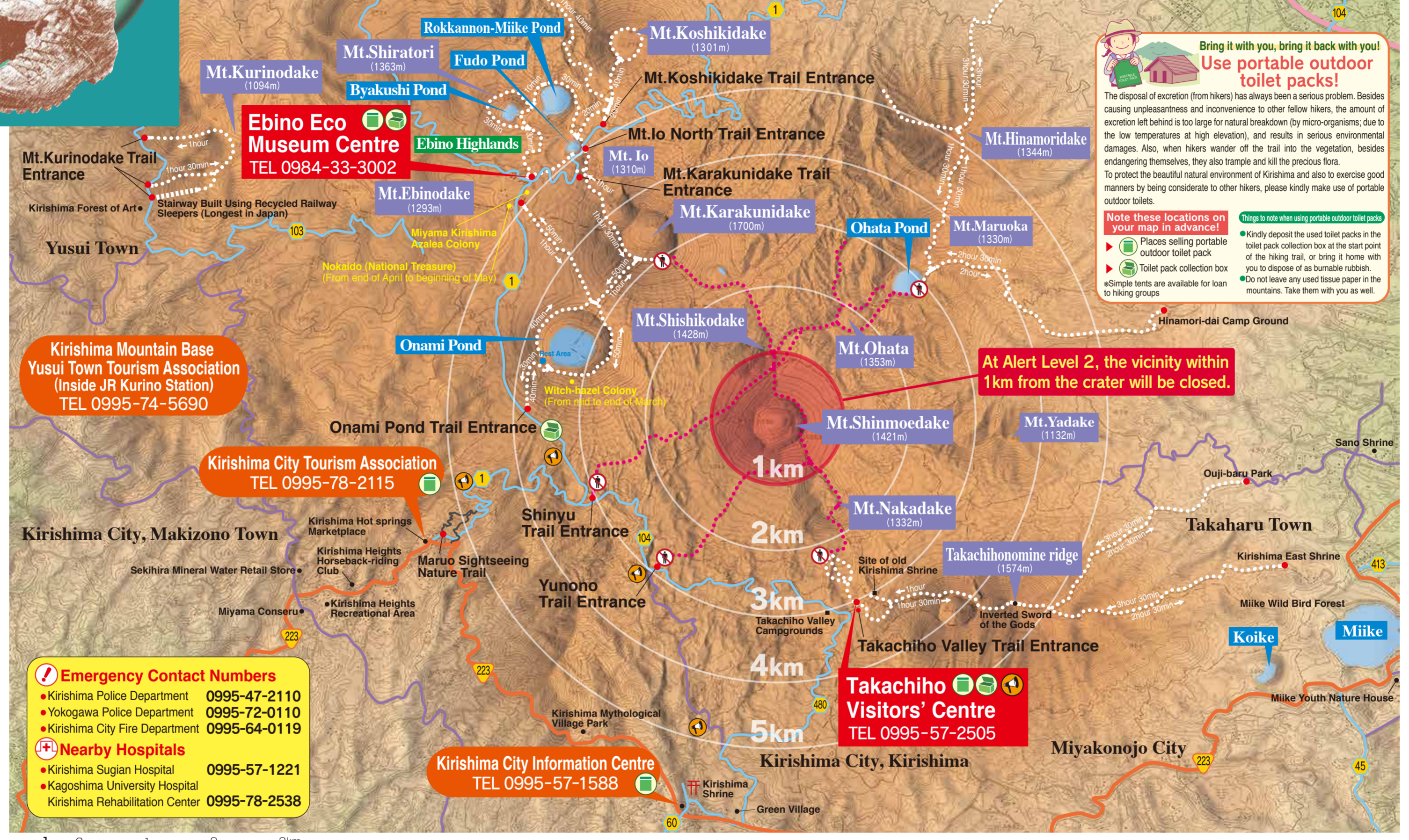
Kirishima is an active volcano. Do not enter areas which are out-of-bounds. Even for areas which are not designated as out-of-bounds, there can be impending dangers in these areas as well so kindly read the following notice and be clear about them before climbing.

**Notice!**

- In principle, every individual is responsible for himself/herself when hiking.
- Please bring along radio, mobile phones, compass, etc., to constantly check for updates on wind directions, weather, etc.
- Abandon hike and commence descend quickly but calmly, when abnormalities such as earthquakes, earth rumblings, etc., are felt.
- Please ensure you read the information and notices below (at the bottom of this brochure).

**Out of Bounds**

Due to the recent activities of Mt. Shinmoedake, the hiking trails leading to Mt. Nakadake (Nakadake) and Mt. Shinmoedake (Shinmoedake), as well as all hiking trails within 2km of Mt. Shinmoedake, are closed. Be sure not to use these trails.



(This map was created using data from the "50m-10m Mesh Unit Map" from the Geospatial Information Authority of Japan.)

### Kirishima is an Active Volcano!

~Enjoy Great Nature while Ensuring your Safety~

A major eruption happened at Kakuto Caldera (on Kyushu Island) about 340,000 years ago. There are about 20 volcanoes located on the southern rim of the Kakuto Caldera, between Miyazaki prefecture and Kagoshima prefecture, and they are collectively called "Kirishima". Having been dormant for the past 300 years, Mt. Shinmoedake recently erupted violently on 26 January 2011 and has been active again since then. To enjoy a safe hike, be sure to check the activities of Mt. Shinmoedake, prevailing wind direction, etc. in advance.

### Checking the Eruption Alert Level of Shinmoe Peak!

Divided into five levels, the "Eruption Alert Scale (Funka Keikai Reberu)" demarcates areas which are considered "dangerous" during an eruption and indicates the necessary procedures to be taken. Depending on the alert level, the necessary action and procedure will be decided by the relevant municipalities the Japan Meteorological Agency. Be sure to check the alert level before commencing the hike, and never enter areas which are out-of-bounds.

Forecast Warning	Applicable Area	Alert Level	Action by Climber
Eruption Alarm	Residential area, especially areas near the crater	5: Evacuate	Evacuate from residential areas identified as dangerous
Crater Vicinity Alarm	From crater to residential area	4: Prepare to Evacuate	Prepare to evacuate from residential areas identified as dangerous
Eruption Forecast	Around the crater	3: Do not enter mountain	Mountain to be closed. Hiking / Trekking forbidden
	Within the crater	2: Do not enter crater	Crater vicinity closed
		1: Normal	Depending on circumstances, the crater may be closed

### Siren

~Sounding of the siren alarm during an emergency~

In hope to reduce or even prevent damages and injuries from any possible disasters, five sirens are being set up in Kirishima city around the vicinity of Mt. Shinmoedake to give early warning to residents, tourists, accommodation facilities, etc., within 5km range of the crater of Mt. Shinmoedake. In times of emergency such as during a volcanic eruption, where cinders, pyroclastic flow and volcanic mudflow would endanger the lives of residents, the siren would be sounded to alert residents in the area to evacuate to safety.

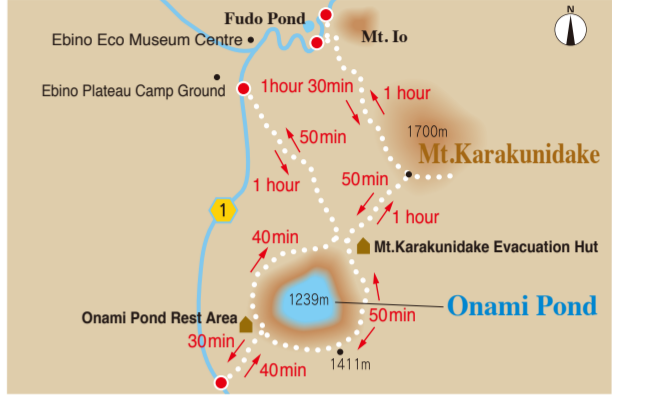
**\*If you feel any danger, use your own discretion and leave the mountain (i.e. abandon hike) even if you do not hear any siren.**

**\*The siren has an audible range of about 2.5km radius.**

## Onami Pond (1411m)

### Mt. Karakunidake (1700m)

There are many trails for Mt. Karakunidake - the highest peak on Kirishima, but the most interesting one circles Onami Pond - the beautiful crater-lake with the highest elevation in Japan. From the starting point, it takes about 40 minutes to get to the Onami-no-Ike rest station. From the nearby rocky formation, one can enjoy the picturesque view of Onami Pond below, with the majestic Mt. Karakunidake sitting atop. The circular trail leading to Mt. Karakunidake splits east-west from the rest station. As both the split routes are roughly equidistant, one may choose to climb Mt. Karakunidake via one of the split routes and descend via the other. Descending from the crater of Onami Pond, one will come across an emergency evacuation hut. Going past the hut leads straight to the summit of Mt. Karakunidake.



## Takachihonome ridge (1574m)

Regardless of history or the majesty of its appearance, Takachihonome ridge, rumoured to be the place where the heavenly deities descended into the mortal world in the mythical legend "Tenson Korin" (Descent of the Heavenly Child), is undoubtedly the main peak of Kirishima. From the start point located near Takachiho Visitors' Centre, the trail extends under a Torii gate (typical Japanese shrine gate), past the Furumiya-Ato (relics of the original Kirishima Shrine) and the volcano Ohachi (or Mihachi), leading to Takachihonome ridge. Emerging from the forested area, the trail leads up a steep gradient. This gradient is formed by the compacting of volcanic ash from the eruption of Mt. Shinmoedake (in January 2011), which covered the original, brownish earth beneath it. Ascending the slope, the trail circles round the left of the crater of Ohachi Peak, which is nicknamed Uma-no-Se (Horseback). The trail on Horseback is narrow and in times of strong winds or fog, one has to be extremely careful here. From Horseback, the trail descends into the saddleback before leading up to the summit of Takachihonome ridge, where one can find the artifact "The Heavenly Halberd" from the Tenson Korin mythology. Kindly take note that the hiking trail from the peak to Takaharu town is out-of-bounds so do not use that trail. There are many steep slopes from the start point to the summit of Takachihonome ridge. Be extra careful not to tumble and fall as the trail can be slippery. Keep a lookout for falling rocks too.



## Mt. Nakadake (1332m)

### Mt. Shinmoedake (1421m)

Having been dormant for the around the past 300 years (the last eruption was in 1716-1717), Mt. Shinmoedake recently erupted violently on 26 January 2011, sending a billowing smoke plume of about 2000m into the air. The eruption lasted for 25 hours into the next day (27 January).

Although there were no human sufferings, on 1 February, volcanic bombs of up to 80cm in diameter fell on two places located more than 3km away from the volcano, causing depressions of 8m wide and 2m deep. Hotels and residences near the volcano suffered from damages such as broken glass windows from the shock waves of the eruption.

Due to the westerlies, Mt. Nakadake, Mt. Shinmoedake, Miyakonojo city and Takaharu town of Miyazaki prefecture, etc. were deeply covered in volcanic ash and pumice. The crater lake of Mt. Shinmoedake, once filled with cobalt blue waters, is now a lava lake. The growth of the Kyushu Azalea and Mitsuba-Tsutsuji flowers, which once filled the hillsides of Mt. Nakadake, is now endangered because of the eruption. Due to the volcanic activities, we might be able to witness vegetation succession cycles. Currently, due to volcanic activities, Mt. Shinmoedake (Shinmoedake), Mt. Nakadake (Nakadake), Mt. Shishikodake (Shishikodake), and Mt. Ohata (Ohatayama) are out-of-bounds. Hopefully someday when the situation settles down, the peaks will be open to public again.

- Enquiries (English language assistance is available)
- Takachiho Visitors' Centre 0995-57-2505
  - Ebino Eco Museum Centre 0984-33-3002
  - Kirishima City Tourism Association 0995-78-2115
  - Kirishima City Information Centre 0995-57-1588
  - Kirishima City Tourism Division 0995-45-5111
- Enquiries (Enlistment of Hiking Guides)
- Kirishima City Furusato Guide Club 0995-57-1588