

From Mt. Myojin to Kamenose

[Katsuragi Sutra Mound #28 (Kameno-o-shuku and Mt. Myojin)]

Visiting the last of the 28 sutra mounds
From Mt. Myojin, which commands a
spectacular view of the Kongo-Katsuragi area,
to the Kameishi rock in the Yamato-gawa River

The pilgrimage of the 28 sutra mounds starting in the Tomogashima Islands in the Kitan Strait comes to an end at the Kameishi, a turtle-shaped rock in the Yamato-gawa River. Both Kameishi, located in Kameno-o-shuku, and Mt. Myojin, on the southern bank of the Yamato-gawa River, are considered to be the 28th sutra mound.

From Sekiya Station, first, head west to visit Kannon-ji Temple, known for the Yayoke Migawari Kannon (literally, arrow-evading substitute Kannon). The temple houses a magnificent stone statue of En no Gyoja, and there is also Miwa-jinja Shrine, which used to be an ascetic training site, on the mountain behind. Leaving the temple, take the path between a group of houses westward and turn right at the end. Then go through a tunnel to find the trailhead for Mt. Myojin on the left. Climb up to the ridge and head north on the easy ridge path. Turn east when you reach Sekiya Jizo, one of the ascetic training sites. The path from here is also through the ridge, and has some scenic sites here and there. You will need to change direction once on the way, so be careful not to miss any signposts. Descend a little to get to the route for Mt. Myojin and proceed until you reach a resting place. Climb straight up from the side of the resting place to get to the summit of Mt. Myojin, where an observation deck has been built. Mizu-jinja Shrine sits right in the middle. One theory suggests that this is the site of the 28th sutra mound.

The eastern trail from the summit is paved. Take the Fujii Route when it starts at a fork. Descend all the way and then go right. Walk in front of Sairen-ji Temple to get to the main road. Keeping going in an easterly direction and cross the Taisho-bashi Bridge to get to the northern bank, and then head for Kamenose via Togehachiman-jinja Shrine. The trail curves to the left after you walk pass the Landslide Education Hall. Go off the road to visit Ryu-o-sha Shrine. Kameishi is located on a spot a little downstream of Shin-Kamenose-bashi Bridge.

Keeping Kameishi to one side, proceed along the road on the northern bank and head for Kawachikatakami Station.

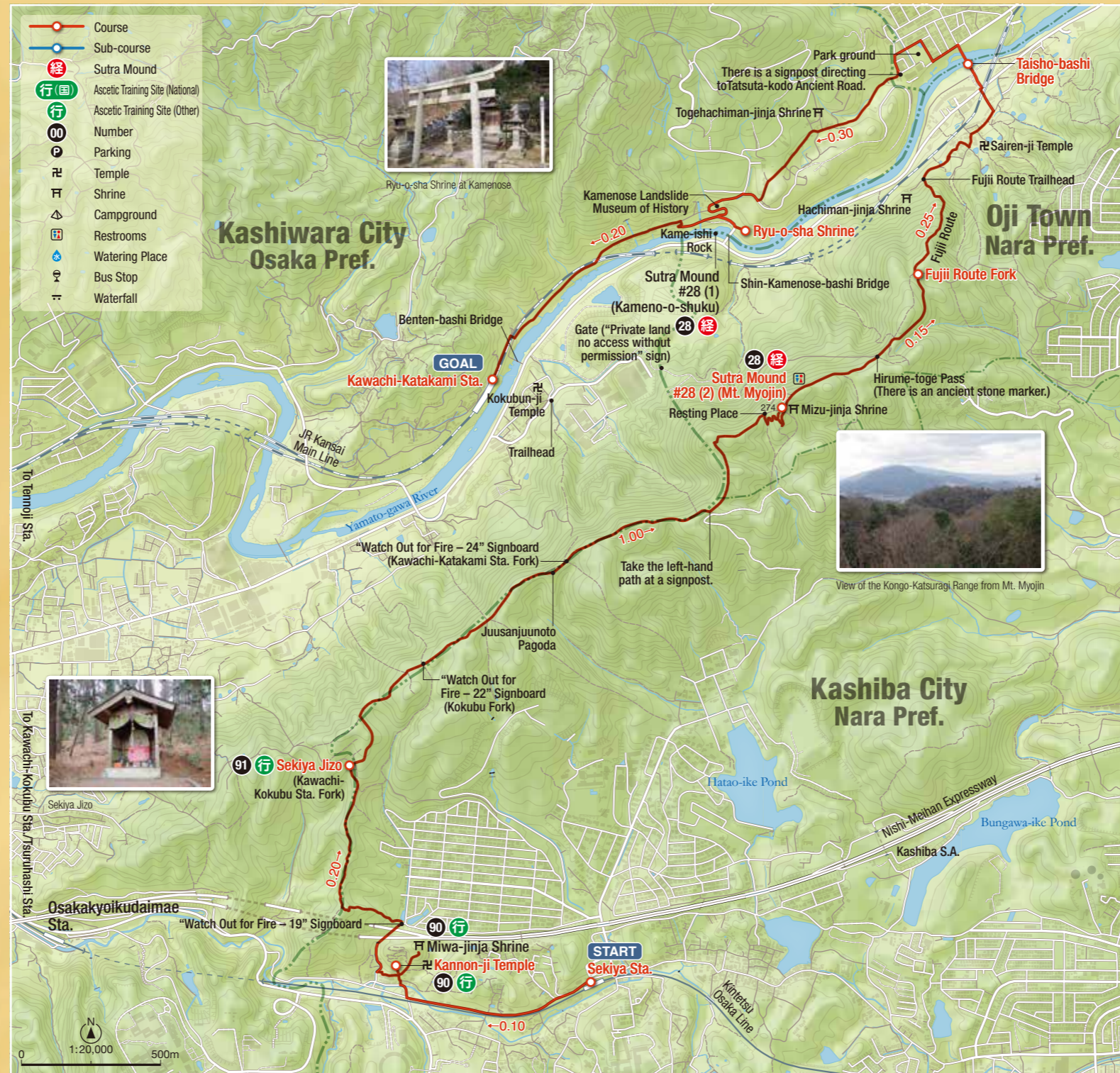
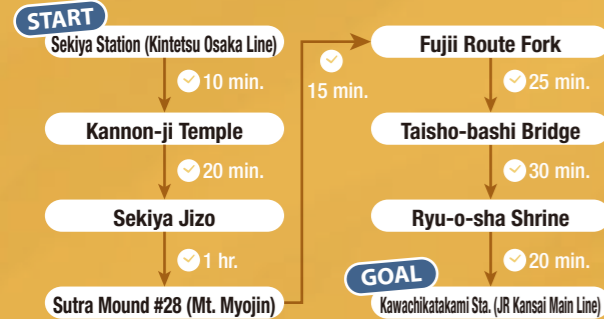
Walking Distance ◆ Approx. 10 km

Fitness Level ★★☆☆


Walking Time ◆ 3 hours

Skill Level ★★☆☆


Course Times




Course Information




Kannon-ji Temple holds a statue of En no Gyoja



Hikers can often be seen on the summit of Mt. Myojin



The trail on the ridge of Mt. Myojin offers great views at some spots



Kameishi in Yamato-gawa River is considered to be Sutra Mound #28

Access

◆ Outward Trip ◆

Sekiya Station (Kintetsu Osaka Line)

◆ Return Trip ◆

Kawachikatakami Sta. (JR Kansai Main Line)

Advice

Though the elevation is relatively low, this walk involves climbing, so proper hiking footwear is recommended. The trailhead for Mt. Myojin is marked with a signboard that reads "Watch Out for Fire - 19." Mt. Myojin is also a popular spot for viewing the first sunrise on New Year's Day.

*Walking distance is the horizontal distance. Course times are reference times for walking at a typical pace, not including rests.

*This course does not exactly follow the training paths used by mountain ascetics.