

# Keinawa Cycling Road Course Map

## Kizu River Zone

Yamashiro Area

Published by Kyoto Prefecture

# Keinawa Cycling Road

(Cycling route connecting Kyoto - Nara - Wakayama)

Keinawa Cycling Road is the inter-prefectural bicycle route which started development in 2016, coordinated between Kyoto City, Kyoto Pref., Nara Pref. and Wakayama Pref. It stretches about 180 km from Arashiyama in Kyoto City to Wakayama Port in Wakayama City by way of Nara Prefecture. The portion of Keinawa Cycling Road managed by Kyoto Prefecture was first developed over 30 years ago. Given its age, repair and renewal efforts have been made including shoulder enforcements, guardrails, and surface repairs. Such measures will be ongoing to continue improving the conditions for cycling on our roads.

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# Keinawa Cycling Road

## Signs and Guidance from Yawata to Kizu

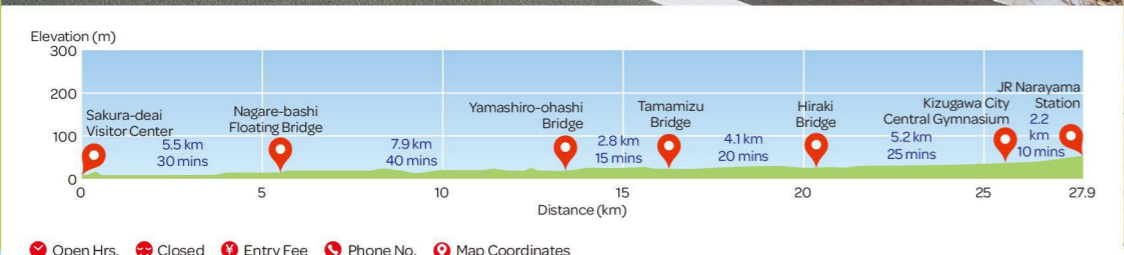
On the section of the Cycling Road managed by Kyoto Prefecture, implemented measures include rust-colored dashed pavement lines along the route, and pavement signs for easy guidance without the use of a map. Such signage is also displayed in English to better accommodate international visitors. Please follow these signs to enjoy a safe and comfortable ride.

# 1 Kizu River Cycling Road Zone – Towards Nara

Zone Distance **27.9 km** Approx. Duration **2 hr. 20 mins** Elevation Gain **138m** Activity Level **Entry**

\* Breaks not included in duration above.

This part of the Keinawa Cycling Road within Kyoto Prefecture extends about 45 km from Togetsu-kyo Bridge of Arashiyama to Izumi-obashi Bridge in Kizugawa City via Yawata City. The route, particularly along the Kizu River, is called the Kizu River Cycling Road Zone and extends for 27 km. This section starts at the merging point of three rivers, Kizu, Katsura and Uji, where the Sakura-deal Visitor Center is located, and ends at Izumi-obashi Bridge. It's good for beginner cyclists as the section is mostly flat and well paved, and is popular among cyclists, especially on the weekends. The route also passes many sightseeing spots, so it's a wonderful way to explore the charms of southern Kyoto Prefecture.



- Open Hrs. Closed Entry Fee Phone No. Map Coordinates

### 1 Sakura-deal Visitor Center (さくらであい館)

This center for cyclists and tourists is located at the merging point of three rivers, the Kizu, Uji, and Katsura Rivers. It also has a nice cherry blossom viewing spot, called Sewari Levee. From the 25-meter-high observation tower, you can look out over a long row of cherry blossom trees against the backdrop of Mt. Tenno, a famous historical battlefield. The observation tower admission is free (except during busy seasons) 9am - 5pm (Tower - 4:30pm) Dec 29 - Jan 3 075-633-5120 C4

### 2 Nagare-bashi Floating Bridge (上津屋橋)

This is among Japan's longest wooden bridges with a length of 365.5 meters. While officially called Kouyabashi, the bridge is also known as Nagare-bashi, or "Floating Bridge." When water exceeds a certain level, the bridge planks float and drift away to ease resistance against the current and avoid total collapse of the bridge. Constructed in a traditional style, it has appeared in many Edo period drama films and TV productions. On both sides of the river, there is a traditional tea plantation called Hamacha, where tencha (the original ingredients for matcha) have long been grown. Please be sure to walk your bicycles across the bridge. 9am - 5pm 075-983-0129 E5

### 3 Yawata Nagarebashi Community Plaza Shikisaikan (やわた流れ橋交流プラザ四季彩館)

On the west side of Nagare-bashi Floating Bridge, this multipurpose facility includes a farmers' market of local products, a restaurant, public bathhouse, and overnight accommodation. The lunch buffet at Yawata-ya Restaurant serves local dishes and desserts made with fresh ingredients and is highly recommended (an advance reservation may be necessary). 10am - 9pm Non (except in summer) 8 Year-end / New Year holidays 075-983-0129 E5

### 4 Kamikoma Tea Wholesale District (上柏茶問屋街)

After passing the Izumi-obashi Bridge, the end of the Kizu Cycling Road Zone, you will reach this historic district of traditional tea wholesalers where around 40 tea wholesaler buildings are still standing in this quaint townscape. The geographic advantages of the Kizu River water transport served the area because a major gathering point for tea leaves. You'll find historic sites along the Tea Wholesaler Street such as a monument for the local tea union and a museum run by the Fukui-en Japanese Tea Shop, where you can begin to learn about the history of Uji-cha. 8am - 4pm ¥500 (adult) 0774-86-2577 I10

# 2 Visiting Japan Heritage Sites of Uji

Zone Distance **12.4 km** Approx. Duration **1 hr. 10 mins** Elevation Gain **126m** Activity Level **Entry**

Uji is the center of Kyoto tea culture. On this 12 km cycling course along Uji River, you can visit some of Uji's various historic and iconic sites, such as Uji Bridge, Byodoin Temple, and Uji-jima Shrine, which has Japan's oldest existing main worship hall. The second half of the course takes a stone-paved path to Mimurotoji Temple, known for its hydrangea gardens, followed by the majestic Manpukoji Temple, inspired by the Ming Dynasty, where you can feel the depth of Kyoto culture and history. The short course distance allows plenty of relaxation and leisure as you explore, or you can simply drop by an Uji café.

- Byodoin Temple (平等院)**  
Built in Japan's medieval Heian period, this temple is said to represent the prosperity of the Fujiwara Clan, a powerful family from the late Heian period. The image of the famous Ho-ou-do (Phoenix Hall) is depicted on the back of the ¥10 coin, and the bronze phoenix also appears on the ¥10,000 bill. Gardens: 8:30am - 5:30pm (5:15pm last entry) Museum: 9am - 5pm (4:45pm last entry) No ¥600 (adult / Garden+Museum) 0774-21-2861 I4
- Uji Bridge (宇治橋)**  
Just outside Uji Station, the final stop for the Keihan Uji Line, the iconic Uji-bashi Bridge appears before you. This is said to be among Japan's 3 oldest bridges, along with the Seta-no-Karashashi Bridge and the Yamasaki-bashi Bridge. The "San-no-ma" area, which extends to the river's upstream area is known as the spot where historic feudal lord Hideyoshi Toyotomi ordered water to be drawn for his tea ceremony. At the annual Uji Tea Festival, this legend is reenacted in a performed ritual. I4

# 3 Kyotanabe Route Japan Heritage Site, Inooka Tea Plantation & Ikkyuji Temple

Zone Distance **16.3 km** Approx. Duration **1 hr. 40 mins** Elevation Gain **124m** Activity Level **Entry**

In Kyotanabe City along the west bank of the Kizu River, this 16 km route includes slight ups and downs heading through the cultural scenery of gyokuro tea plantations. From the city center start point around Shintanabe Station, first head to Ikkyuji Temple with its beautiful temple atmosphere, perfect for relaxing. Then ride on the forest road passing through the Doshisha University campus to reach the roadside rest, Fugenji Fureai no Eki, where you can try the local specialty of gyokuro tea. At Inooka, the highlight of the course and home of gyokuro, you can enjoy the magnificent and distinctive farm and village landscape.

- Ikkyuji Temple (願恩庵一休寺)**  
Ikkyu, a famous Zen Buddhist priest from medieval times, spent his later life at this Zen temple. Located only 1.5 km west of Shin-Tanabe Station, it's worth the visit to experience the serene atmosphere. At the temple restaurant you can try the azuki bean dessert soup called zenzai, a specialty since the dish's name is derived from a famous saying of Ikkyu's. It's also a good way to regain some energy before moving on! 9am to 5pm (Treasure Hall 9:30am to 4:30pm) ¥500 0774-62-0193 F8
- Inooka Tea Plantation (飯岡の茶畑)**  
From a boat-shaped bench on the Kizu River Cycling Road Zone, the view reveals a unique landscape of tea farms and houses standing on a dome-shaped hill surrounded by rice fields. Tea grown here at Inooka becomes gyokuro, a premium type of green tea. Here you should beware of the sudden ups and downs on the route. There are also historic sites such as kofun burial mounds and historical graves for you to enjoy along the way. H9

# 4 Japan Heritage Nagare-bashi Bridge, Iwashimizu-hachimangu Shrine & Ogura-ike Pond

Zone Distance **21.0 km** Approx. Duration **1 hr. 50 mins** Elevation Gain **86m** Activity Level **Entry**

This flat 21 km course covers sightseeing spots in the Yawata Area. Around Iwashimizu-hachimangu Shrine there are also unique sites such as Hiko-jinja (Flight Shrine) where a fighter aircraft engine is displayed, and Tanden-an (Graffiti Temple) where the temple walls are covered in graffiti. Follow the historic Higashikyoya-kaido Road south to reach the Shokado Garden Art Museum and enjoy the beautiful garden. After passing the Japanese Heritage sites of the Nagare-bashi floating bridge and Hamacha tea plantation, you will find a vast space that was once the Ogura-ike Pond. The area now serves as agricultural land, but there are still remnants of the historic fishing village. Quality cuisine can also be found along this course!

- Iwashimizu-hachimangu Shrine (石清水八幡宮)**  
This is one of the three major Hachiman Shrines, and one of only two designated Imperial Mausoleums, along with Ise Shrine. The main shrine building is a National Treasure, and is the largest and oldest example of Hachiman-zukuri architecture among the existing Hachiman Shrines. The shrine is definitely worth a visit and offers impressive sights. Notice the Hachiman symbol of a dove repeated throughout the shrine's decorations. Use the bicycle parking at Iwashimizu-hachimangu Station. Summer Season: 5:30am - 6:30pm, Winter Season: 6:30am - 6pm No ¥300 for cable car (1-way) B5
- Shokado Garden Art Museum (石清水八幡宮 美術館)**  
This garden and museum were constructed for Shokado, a hermitage tea house, originally located on the mountainside shrine, Iwashimizu-hachimangu, and was moved to this location in the late 19th century. Explore the changing seasonal expressions of this expansive garden with tea houses, flowers, and bamboo groves. Kyoto Kicho Shokado, the toyota restaurant and inventor of the Shokado boxed lunch, is also located here, offering a culinary delight for you to enjoy after your garden visit. 9am - 5pm Mon Garden: ¥100 (adult), Museum: ¥400 (adult) 075-981-0010 C6

# 5 Japan Heritage Kamikoma Tea Wholesale District, Yamashiro-kodo Old Trail & Kizu River Path

Zone Distance **29.8 km** Approx. Duration **2 hr. 30 mins** Elevation Gain **174m** Activity Level **Intermediate**

This 30 km course starts at Kizu Station, and the first half of this course partially follows the old historic trail, Yamashiro-kodo. For the second half, you will cycle a path along the west side of the river and end up at Sakura-deal Visitor Center. Enjoy the slight ups and downs and the winding trails of Yamashiro-kodo, breathing in the historic townscapes along the way. The course is not particularly busy, but please watch your speed and keep an eye out for local residents.

- Kamikoma Tea Wholesale District (上柏茶問屋街)**  
After passing the Izumi-obashi Bridge, the end of the Kizu Cycling Road Zone, you will reach this historic district of traditional tea wholesalers where around 40 tea wholesaler buildings are still standing in this quaint townscape. The geographic advantages of the Kizu River water transport served the area because a major gathering point for tea leaves. You'll find historic sites along the Tea Wholesaler Street such as a monument for the local tea union and a museum run by the Fukui-en Japanese Tea Shop, where you can begin to learn about the history of Uji-cha. 8am - 4pm ¥500 (adult) 0774-86-2577 I10
- Tama River (玉川)**  
This river connects to the Kizu River on the route, running perpendicular to it. Tama means "jewel" and this river was popularly referenced in Japanese waka poetry about Japan's "Jewel Rivers." The riverside features a lovely promenade and is a favorite cherry blossom viewing spot for many. For a further sidetrack, follow along the river towards the mountains and you'll reach the Ide Town Machizukuri Center Taubakazaka where you can enjoy a well-deserved rest. I10

# 6 Mountain Course: Japan Heritage Kamikoma Tea Wholesale District & Yamashiro-kodo

Zone Distance **34.4 km** Approx. Duration **3 hr. 30 mins** Elevation Gain **674m** Activity Level **Advanced**

This 34 km advanced mountain cycling course goes from Kamikoma area to the center of Uji City via a historic mountain road of the Minami-Yamashiro area. The viewpoint at the 300-meter-high summit of Mt. Mandoro gives a panoramic view of both Kyoto and Nara along with the magnificent flow of the Kizu River. This view is a welcome reward after the long climb up. The course is less busy with many ups and down, so it's perfect for athletic cyclists.

- Viewpoint of Mt. Mandoro (万打岳山展望台)**  
This 300-meter-high viewpoint on Mt. Mandoro gives a breathtaking overlook of the grand Kizu River area. The mountain is associated with an ancient ritual of praying for rain which is carried out by walking with flame torches, the name "Mandoro" essentially means "millions of lanterns." Parts of the road are narrow and slippery, so be especially cautious when going downhill. Gate Closed: Jul 20 to Aug 31 / 5pm - (Mon-Fri) / 10pm - (weekends & holidays) J9
- Joyo City Sports Park (Konosuyama Sports Park) Recreation Zone (Logos Land)**  
Logos Land is the world's first all-weather indoor camp-ground, featuring a café, restaurant, and shop. In the park, there's a children's playground which includes an air trampline, as well as ready-to-use BBQ facilities. Varies by season No Free 0774-58-0010 H5

# 7 Japan Heritage – Inooka Tea Plantation

## Tour of Japan Kyoto Course (2nd Stage)

Zone Distance **31.2 km** Approx. Duration **2 hr. 40 mins** Elevation Gain **404m** Activity Level **Advanced**

"Tour of Japan" is an international road bicycle stage race held in unique stages at 8 different areas of Japan. The Kyoto Stage is a 16.8 km course in Kyotanabe City and Seika Town. The race begins with an opening run starting at Fugenji Fureai no Eki roadside rest, followed by the stage course across a beautiful rural landscape. Here you can experience a professional racing course at your own pace. It's a great course with a series of sharp ups, downs, and winding curves.

- Fugenji Fureai no Eki Roadside Rest (菅原神あいの駅)**  
Located near the Kyotanabe Campus of Doshisha University, this facilities a farmers' market with fresh local vegetables and green tea. Its facilities are well-equipped for cyclists, such as the rest area where you can enjoy gyokuro tea and even a vending machine themed on Masahiko MiFune, the famous former professional road bike racer native to this area. 8am - 3pm / Mon / Fri 0774-62-4250 F10
- Keihanna Commemorative Park (けいはんな記念公園)**  
This vast park area was built to commemorate the Kansai Science City. With the terrace of satoyama rural nature, it features facilities like a large stepped field designed in the image of terraced rice paddies, and a popular children's playground. The park also has a traditional Japanese garden, Suikei-en, where you can walk around the 10-meter bridge for a dynamic view of giant rocks and a waterfall. 9am - 5pm Dec 29 - Jan 4 ¥200 for Suikei-en / Meiboku no Mori 0774-93-1200 G13

# 8 Keinawa Cycling Road Course Map Katsura River Zone

Kyoto City Area  
Published by: Kyoto City

# 9 Nara-Kyoto Cycling Map

Published by: Nara Prefecture / Kyoto Prefecture

# 10 Wakayama Cycling

Published by: Wakayama Prefecture

# 11 BIWAICHI Cycling Map of Lake Biwa

Published by: Shiga Prefecture

# Rules and Manners for Cyclists

## Five Rules for Bicycle Safty

- Cyclists should generally be on the road, not the sidewalk**  
Bicycles are classified as light vehicles
- Keep left**  
Cycle on the left, never on the right side of the road
- When cycling on sidewalks, give priority to pedestrians and cycle on the side nearest to the road**  
Slow down to a speed you can stop easily when cycling on the sidewalk! Get off your bicycle if you are in the way of pedestrians!
- Follow the traffic rules.**
- Children should wear a helmet**  
Parents and guardians should make sure children wear a helmet when cycling.

# Other Cycling Maps of the Greater Kansai Region

- Keinawa Cycling Road Course Map Katsura River Zone Kyoto City Area  
Published by: Kyoto City
- Nara-Kyoto Cycling Map  
Published by: Nara Prefecture / Kyoto Prefecture
- Wakayama Cycling  
Published by: Wakayama Prefecture
- BIWAICHI Cycling Map of Lake Biwa  
Published by: Shiga Prefecture

# Kizu River Zone Area Transit Map

Numbers show minutes between train stations.

- Designated cycling roads are used by both cyclists and pedestrians. Please enjoy your ride at a safe, moderate speed and always yield to pedestrians.
- Kyoto Prefecture requires cyclists to obtain bicycle insurance.

**Keinawa Cycling Road Course Map Kizu River Zone Yamashiro Area**  
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