

南京町

Nankinmachi Guide Map

南京町案内図

Nankinmachi is a shopping district located between Motomachi-dori and Sakaemachi-dori in Chuo-ku, Kobe. Over 100 Chinese-style shops line the area south of JR-Hanshin Motomachi Station stretching about 270 m from east to west and 110 m from north to south.

One of the three biggest Chinatowns in Japan, Nankinmachi has been a popular tourist spot in Kobe for many years.

*"Nankinmachi" is a registered trademark of Nankinmachi Shopping District Promotion Association.



Access

● By train/subway

- JR Kobe Line** 5-minute walk from Motomachi Station
- Hanshin Railway** 5-minute walk from Motomachi Station
- Hankyu Railway** 10-minute walk from Kobe Sannomiya Station (or change to the above JR/Hanshin Line)
- Subway** Yamate Line: 7-minute walk from Kenchomae Station
Kaigan Line: 2-minute walk from Kyukyoryuchi-Daimarumae Station

* Please park buses in Kamomeria Parking Lot.

Kamomeria Parking Lot TEL.078-351-6310

● By Shinkansen (bullet train)

From Shin-Kobe Station

- Change to Subway Yamate Line and get off at Kenchomae Station. 7-minute walk
- 10 minutes by taxi

● By car

5 minutes via National Route 2 from the Kyobashi Exit on the Hanshin Expressway 3 Kobe Route



Nankinmachi Shopping District Promotion Association Membership Certificate

"Nankinmachi" is the name and registered trademark of the shopping district managed by Nankinmachi Shopping District Promotion Association. A membership certificate is displayed at shops belonging to the Association.

南京町商店街振興組合加盟店
南京町

1 Chinese Lion Statues

— 中国獅子像 —

Chinese people often decorate the entrance of a building with lion statues as a symbol of protection, so a pair of Chinese lion statues stand at the northern entrance instead of a gate. The male holds a ball and the female holds a cub.



2 Telephone Box

— 電話ボックス —

Public telephone that accepts 10 yen/100 yen coins and telephone cards, available to everyone. International calls possible.



3 Kobe Brick Project

— 神戸レンガプロジェクト —

It is embedded with bricks with messages of people wishing for reconstruction following the 1995 Great Hanshin Earthquake.



4 Azumaya

— あづまや —

A hexagonal gazebo, 6.8 m high and 3 m across. The two-layer roof, vermilion pillars and a dragon drawn on the ceiling give off an exotic feel.

5 Seianmon Gate

— 西安門 —

Built in 2005 as a symbol of reconstruction following the Great Hanshin Earthquake, this western gate is designed to be reminiscent of gates from the Northern Song Dynasty, China's most prosperous commercial era.



6 Shofuku Sekiban (lucky charm stone plate)

— 招福石板 —

Installed on the occasion of the burying of power lines in 2000, the plate has four auspicious drawings including a peach, a pomegranate, and a bat, which are considered symbols of flourishing posterity and long life.



7 Kaieimon Gate

— 海樂門 —

Built in 1982 as the first gate in Nankinmachi, this southern gate has a lavish two-layer roof with sculptures of dragons and phoenixes.



8 Garyoden

— 臥龍殿 —

Garyoden has a restroom for visitors on the first floor, meeting room on the second floor and the office on the third floor. This Chinese-style building is distinguished by the dragon statue at the entrance, sculptured pillars and two-layer tiled roof.



9 Choanmon Gate

— 長安門 —

Built in 1985, this eastern gate of Nankinmachi is made of the first white marble China permitted to be exported abroad. Illuminated in the evening, it provides a dreamy atmosphere.



■ Kobe City has implemented a Littering and Street Smoking Ban Ordinance. ■ Each street food stall collects food and drink waste from customers. ■ Please be careful of solicitation and flyer distribution on the street.

◆ Traditional Performing Arts



Dragon Dance - 龍舞 -

The dragon is a popular legendary animal, most worshipped as an auspicious beast and god in China. In Nankinmachi, it appears at events such as the Chinese New Year Festival. It is also displayed in front of Garyoden all year round.



Lion Dance - 獅子舞 -

The lion is a legendary sacred beast, said to protect the palace where the dragon lives. It is still believed to protect houses and buildings today, and a pair of lion statues are often placed on the right and left side of entrances as a symbol of exorcism and good luck. Having your head bitten by a lion is said to be beneficial for good health.

◆ Annual Events



Chinese New Year Festival

- 春節祭 -

Held on the occasion of Chinese New Year, this biggest festival in Nankinmachi is designated as a regional intangible folk cultural property of Kobe City.

Date: several days between mid-January and mid-February including the Chinese New Year



Dragon Boat Festival

- 端午節 -

Chimaki (rice dumplings) are eaten on the occasion of Dragon Boat Festival on May 5 of the Chinese calendar in China, so original Chimaki are sold during this period in Nankinmachi.

Date: several days around May 5 of the Chinese calendar, between mid-May and mid-June



Mid-Autumn Festival

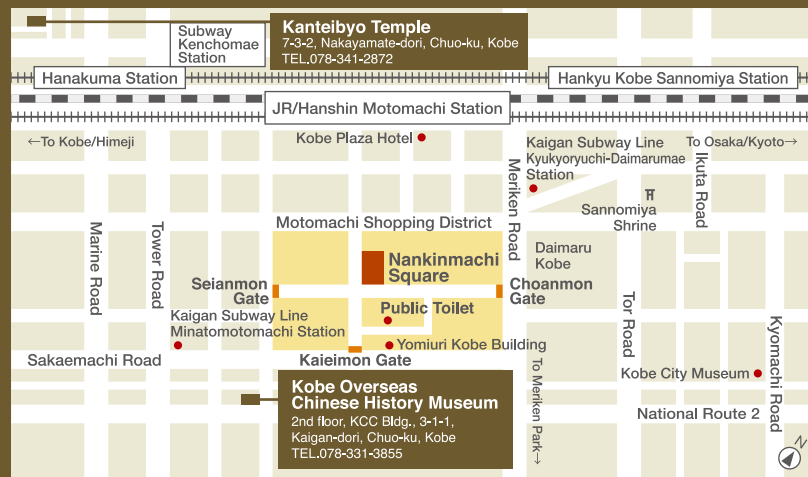
- 中秋節 -

Festival to celebrate a rich autumn harvest under the full moon on August 15 of the Chinese calendar. It is a custom to eat mooncakes, traditional sweets.

Date: several days between mid-September and mid-October including August 15 of the Chinese calendar

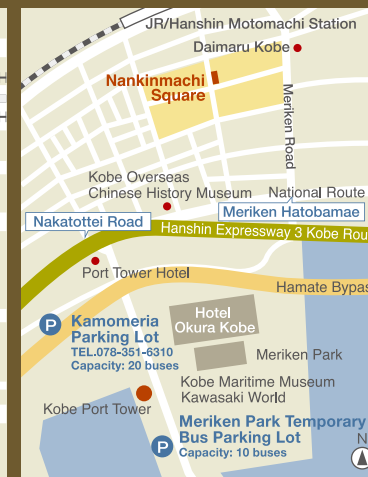
Surrounding Area Map

(5-minute walk from Motomachi Station/10-minute walk from Sannomiya Station/7-minute walk from Kenchomae Station)



*Parking lots around Nankinmachi are very crowded. Please use public transportation.

Bus Parking



Nankinmachi Shopping District Promotion Association Office <http://www.nankinmachi.or.jp>

3rd floor, Garyoden, 1-3-18, Sakaemachi-dori, Chuo-ku, Kobe TEL:078(332)2896 FAX:078(332)2897

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