

K O B E

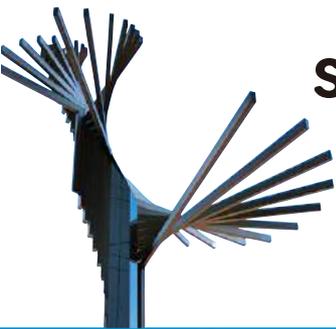


MUSEUM

R O A D



Enjoy outdoor art as you stroll around to visit three unique art museums





Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art

The Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art (nicknamed “Geijutsu no Yakata”) is a symbol of Kobe’s recovery from the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake of 1995 in the cultural domain. It opened in 2002 in HAT Kobe, a new seafront district in eastern Kobe. The museum is located in a beautiful environment with the Rokko maintain range to the north and the Seto Inland Sea and Kobe port to the south. The total land area is 27,500 m², nearly seven acres, one of the largest museum properties in western Japan. The museum has three main exhibition spaces—both permanent and temporary exhibition galleries and a rental space. The temporary exhibition gallery features five special exhibitions a year—from Eastern to Western of all ages—while the permanent gallery renews its exhibition three times a year. Other facilities include an art information center, auditorium, and lecture room. The outdoor space is designed for enjoying sculptures, the museum architecture, and views.

The Museum’s Collection

The museum owns approximately 9,000 works. It is a wide-ranging collection with a core robustness in modern and contemporary sculpture and prints, and other contemporary art, enhanced by photography, video, design, and other newer fields of art. In particular, there is the Yamamura Collection, an extensive collection featuring works of the Gutai Bijutsu Kyokai (Gutai Art Association), the most important post-WWII artistic group in Japan, active in the Kansai area. A commemorative gallery exhibits the collections of contemporary Western-style painters KOISO Ryohei and KANAYAMA Heizo.

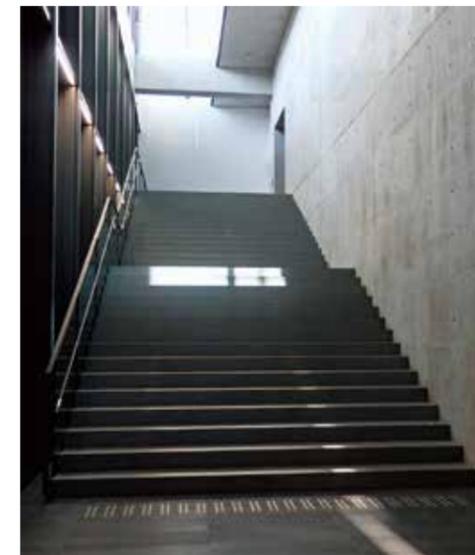
Auguste Rodin 《Orpheus》 1892(cast in 1971)



SHIRAGA Kazuo 《Tenkusei Kyusenpo》 1962



KANAYAMA Heizo 《The Mogami River in Oishida》 1948



Entrance hall staircase (west side)



3F exhibition room, south side



Spiral staircase

About the Architecture

The artwork on exhibit is not the only attraction of the museum. The building itself, a venue for a mix of different types of art, was designed by the world-renowned architect ANDO Tadao. An elegant and simple layout allows one to experience the complexity of contrastive spaces. The large space of the entrance hall produces a relaxed ambience by limiting the sunlight. In contrast, the glass window-lined hallway surrounding the exhibition rooms lets in plenty of sunshine, so each spot in the interior displays its own expressions of light and shadow. Additionally, the atrium staircase and large outdoor staircase, plaza area, and other spaces provide visual enjoyment for the visitor to observe or stroll through.



YANOBE Kenji
《Sun Sister》
(nicknamed “Nagisa”)
2015

Outdoor sculptures



Henry Moore
《Goslar Warrior》 1973–1974
(MAP 23)

George Rickey
《Two Lines Up – Thirty Feet》 1988
(MAP 22)



SHINGU Susumu
《Faraway Rhythm》 1979
(MAP 24)

Yokoo Tadanori Museum of Contemporary Art



The Yokoo Tadanori Museum of Contemporary Art was opened in November 2012 in the refurbished west wing of the Oji Branch of the Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art (the former Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Modern Art, designed by leading Japanese architect MURANO Togo). The museum's primary objectives are to maintain the collection of works that were donated to or entrusted to the museum's care by YOKOO Tadanori, an internationally recognized artist born in Nishiwaki, Hyogo, to make them widely accessible to the general public. The museum holds a diverse range of exhibitions that call attention to Yokoo's unique works, appealing to both Japanese and international visitors.



YOKOO Tadanori



Open Studio(The entrance hall)

The World's Largest Yokoo Collection

The museum houses a collection of about 3,000 works donated to or entrusted to the museum's care by Mr. Yokoo. It also features an Archive Room whose staff conducts surveys and research. The archive room contains a vast amount of reference material related to the artist. This treasure trove of information offers a peek behind

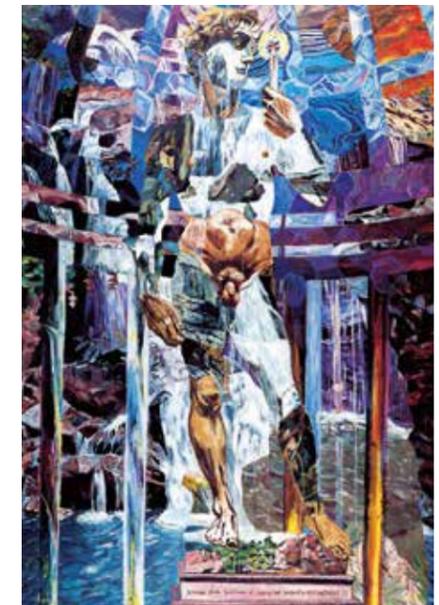
the scenes of Yokoo's creations and documents his extensive associations with many notable figures. The archives constitute an invaluable resource for postwar cultural history. Some of the material is available for viewing with advanced reservations.



YOKOO Tadanori 《Landscape with Madonna》 1968-2002



YOKOO Tadanori 《A Dark Night's Flashing: Ncity-1》 2000



YOKOO Tadanori
《Relation of Cause
and Effect between
Michelangelo and Hokusai》
1990



"Eyeball Corridor" and Archive Room

After Seeing an Exhibition

Museum Shop

Illustrated books, picture postcards, and many other gifts items are available to celebrate your visit to the museum. It is also the only place at which you can find a comprehensive selection of apparel, stationery, and many other Yokoo-designed goods for purchase.



Panda Cafe

A glass-enclosed space produces an open café atmosphere. Enjoy your lunch or a drink using Yokoo-designed plates and coffee cups. Items you especially like can be purchased at the Museum Shop.



Lounge

Enjoy a wonderful view of the Rokko mountain range from this area at which you can browse illustrated books and other printed matter. After enjoying the vivid colors skillfully used in Yokoo's works, rest your eyes upon a healing view of Mt. Rokko.



BB Plaza Museum of Art



Building facade

The Museum's Collection

The museum houses distinctive works of art primarily by leading Japanese painters HIGASHIYAMA Kaii, TAKAYAMA Tatsuo, and KAYAMA Matazo, as well as Japanese painters who studied in Paris, including UMEHARA Ryuzaburo, YASUI Sotaro, and KOISO Ryohei. Also on display are paintings and prints by Renoir and Fauvism-era artists Marquet and Vlaminck, and École de Paris artists Utrillo, Laurencin, Chagal, and others. The museum also houses sculptures by Rodin and Bourdelle. In recent years, new works have been added from Kobe-based artists, including AMITANI Yoshiro and

NISHIMURA Isao, as well as Gutai group artists UEMAE Chiyu and HORIO Sadaharu, and IZUMI Shigeru of the Demokrato Artists Association. The collection introduces approximately one thousand works, on a broad range of themes, and special exhibitions are held by the museum about four times a year. Workshops are held for children, exhibition room concerts enable visitors to enjoy the paintings and music together, and other events are held to bring the local community closer to art.



"IZUMI Shigeru Exhibition" held 2015/7/7 - 8/16

The BB Plaza Museum of Art was opened on July 7, 2009 as part of a centennial commemoration of the founding of Shimabun Corporation. The museum aims to bring art into more people's lives and give them a chance to gain a deeper understanding of each piece. It has therefore adopted an open style that promotes art and culture to the local community. After seeing the museum, visitors can relax in the restaurant or café with a view of sculptures.

Entrance



YASUI Sotaro 《Black-Haired Woman》1924



Pierre-Albert Marquet
《Notre-Dame Cathedral in Cloudy Weather》1924



Pierre-Auguste Renoir
《Jeune Femme à la Rose》1915



AMITANI Yoshiro
《Girl in Blue Jacket with Folded Hands》1973



HORIO Sadaharu 《Koron Koron》2014



NISHIMURA Isao 《Rhine House》1999



Auguste Rodin
《Nereides》before 1888



Émile-Antoine Bourdelle
《Les Trois Polognes》1928

Other Places to Visit in the Neighboring Area



Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art Oji Branch, Haradanomori Gallery

A rental gallery at the renovated former Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Modern Art (designed by Murano Togo). The area was once known as "Harada Forest" (Harada no Mori), an area in which pioneering artists sparked a new Japanese art movement in the early twentieth century.

Outdoor sculptures

(Located on the grounds of Haradanomori Gallery)



MOGAMI Hisayuki 《Easy to go but terrible to comeback》 1976 (MAP 4)



WATANABE Toyoshige 《Swing 86-02 (towered the sky)》 1986 (MAP 5)

YANAGIHARA Yoshitsugu
5 works 《Guidepost-dove》 1979-1987
(MAP 6)



Kobe City Museum of Literature

The former chapel of Kwansai Gakuin University, the museum is now the oldest wooden church structure in the city of Kobe, with a brick facade. The works of 33 authors with roots in Kobe are on permanent display, and writing rooms used by the poet Iku Takenaka and essayist Itsuko Okabe have been recreated.



Kobe Oji Zoo

A zoo that houses animals from around the world, including panda and koalas, Indian elephants, and jaguars. There are 800 animals and 130 species being cared for at the zoo. The giant pandas and koalas are popular among visitors of all generations. It is the only zoo in Japan where both can be seen.



The Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake Memorial Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institution

This museum conveys the experience and lessons learned from the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake to younger generations of visitors. Videos recreate the earthquake and dioramas and other materials from victims are on display. The museum is also a place to learn about seismic retrofitting and other technical topics related to earthquakes. A device can be rented at no charge to listen to the film in a foreign language.



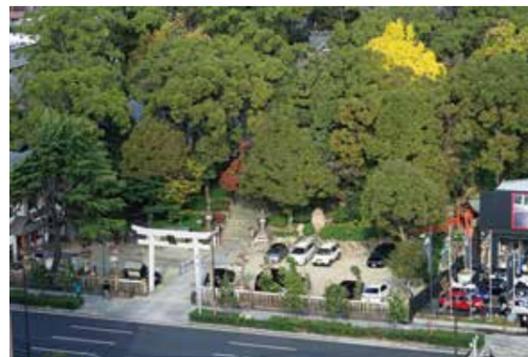
Hyogo International Association

The Hyogo International Plaza has an International Resource Center that contains books written in Japanese and other languages. The association also runs International Galleries and offers various events to encourage multicultural coexistence in society and Japanese language education.



JICA Kansai International Center (JICA Kansai)

JICA, the Japan International Cooperation Agency, is the government body that implements Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA). It offers assistance to developing countries in many ways to help solve big issues. The Kansai International Center holds exhibitions and events to give people a better understanding of international cooperation. Also, the cafeteria on the first floor serves a different type of ethnic food each month.



Minume Shrine

Upon climbing the stone steps overshadowed by trees, the visitor enters a serene space that feels miles away from the city. This is one of the oldest shrines in Kobe, built about 1,800 years ago. The coastline in front of the shrine was known for its white sand and pine trees since ancient times, and was a popular leisure spot. The land was reclaimed about 100 years ago and today the area has been transformed into HAT Kobe.



Nangu Usa Hachiman Shrine (Wakinohama Shrine)

The shrine is said to have been built in 1336. A story is told that the loyal 14th-century samurai Kusunoki Masashige prayed before battle to Hachiman (the god of war) in Wakinohama before knowingly marching his army into a doomed battle in Minatogawa, Hyogo to faithfully obey his Emperor's command. The Hachiman shrine was ceremonially transferred to this site, and is revered to this day as the protector of the entire Wakinohama area.



Former Kobe Rinko Line Promenade

A section of railway line that branched off the former Japan Railways Tokaido Main Line from the Higashinada signal station to Kobeko Station was abandoned in 2003 due to a reduced demand for rail freight. The main section of this former line, extending west from the area south of JR Nada Station, was converted into a promenade and serves as a one-kilometer-long linear park, including a long elevated section of the disused track.



Nada Artists' Studios Under Elevated Tracks

Underneath the elevated tracks of the Hankyu Railway line that runs from Oji Koen to Kasuganomichi Station, many artists' studios and galleries have popped up in recent years. The spaces have high ceilings and are stylishly decorated, unimaginable from the outside. Some are open to the public and are well worth heading over to see.

Sightseeing in the City of Kobe

Many wonderful tourist spots are situated not far from Kobe Museum Road. It's a great idea to combine art museum visits with these other sights.



Kobe Meriken Park (Port of Kobe)

A waterfront park that is walking distance from the center of Kobe. In 1987, a section of the bay was reclaimed between the former Meriken Hatoba ("American Landing Pier") and the pier where Kobe Port Tower stands. In this new park area the Kobe Maritime Museum was built, along with a hotel and a big art object—Fish Dance—designed by the architect Frank Gehry. Today the park presents one of the landmark scenes of the Port of Kobe.



Arima Onsen Hot Springs

Loved by the 16th century lord Toyotomi Hideyoshi, Arima Onsen is a well-known oasis of the Kansai region and one of Japan's three oldest and most famous hot springs. The brown "golden" water is known for its skin-beautifying properties, and is therefore popular with women. There is also a transparent "silver" hot spring that offers other healing properties.



Mount Rokko

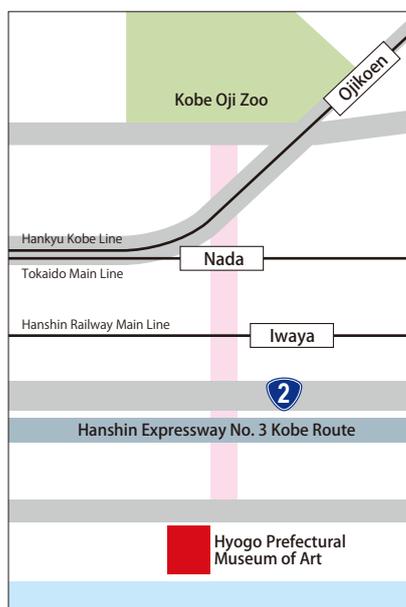
Mt. Rokko was developed by the British as a resort area in the Meiji Era (1868–1912). The top can be reached in just 30 minutes from central Kobe, offering panoramic views of Kobe and Osaka Bay. There is also a botanical garden, sightseeing pasture, hotel, and other tourist facilities. The Rokko Shidare Observatory is a popular artistic structure designed by the architect Hiroshi Sambuichi.



Kitano

The Kitano area is a popular sightseeing spot in Kobe with luxurious Western-style houses opened as museums; the houses once belonged to foreigners who settled in Kobe after the opening of the Port of Kobe in 1868. The neighborhood is close to the Shin-Kobe Station for the Shinkansen bullet train, set in the foothills of Mt. Rokko. The area is also home to legendary bars and jazz clubs, cafés, restaurants serving ethnic cuisine, boutiques, and shops selling imported goods. It is a fun place for couples and others to spend time in Kobe.

Access Map



Hyogo Tourism Guide

<http://www.hyogo-tourism.jp/english/>



<http://www.hyogo-tourism.jp/simplified/index.php>

Feel KOBE+

<http://plus.feel-kobe.jp/>



Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art

<http://www.artm.pref.hyogo.jp/eng/i/index.html>



<http://www.artm.pref.hyogo.jp/chn/index.html>

Yokoo Tadanori Museum of Contemporary Art

http://www.ytmoca.jp/english/en_guidance.html



BB Plaza Museum of Art

<http://bbpmuseum.jp/english>



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