



Hiking Japan: Its Coins And Stamps





Map of Japan showing Kii Peninsula and Kumano Kodo



★ : Area of activities



世界遺産



World Heritage

紀伊山地の霊場と参詣道

Sacred Sites and Pilgrimage
Routes in the Kii Mountain Range

熊野参詣道中辺路

Kumano Sankeimichi Nakahechi

世界遺産
紀伊山地の霊場と参詣道
熊野参詣道 中辺路

「紀伊山地の霊場と参詣道」は、2004年7月6日、第28回世界遺産委員会（第16回）で、ユネスコ世界遺産として登録された。この一帯には、古くから多くの神社や寺院があり、参詣道が整備されている。この中辺路は、熊野本宮大社（熊野本宮）と熊野速玉大社（熊野速玉）を結ぶ重要な参詣道であり、その歴史は古く、多くの参詣者が訪れている。この参詣道は、熊野本宮大社と熊野速玉大社を結ぶ重要な参詣道であり、その歴史は古く、多くの参詣者が訪れている。

Kumano Sankeimichi Nakahechi

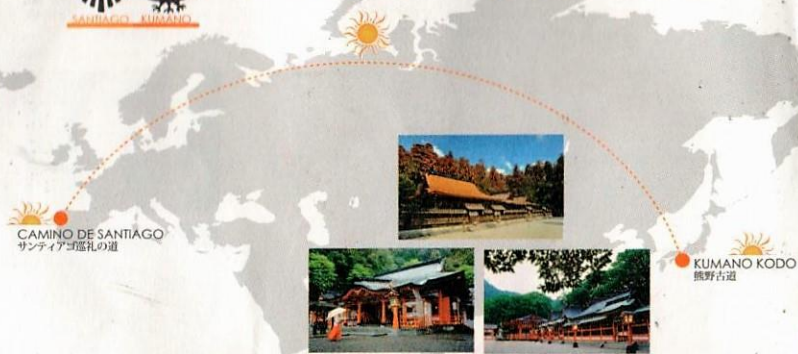
The Nakahechi route is one of the three main pilgrimage routes in the Kii Mountains. It connects the Kumano Hongu Taisha (Main Shrine) and Kumano Tsumasuta Taisha (Shrine of the Sacred Mirror) in Kumano, Wakayama Prefecture. The route is known for its scenic views and historical significance, attracting many pilgrims and tourists. The route is well-maintained and offers a variety of accommodations and services for visitors.



KUMANO KODO
熊野古道
CAMINO DE KUMANO

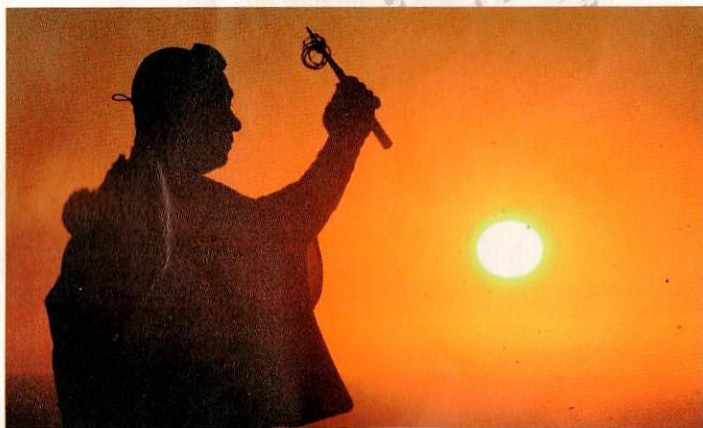


Credential 共通巡礼手帳 Credencial



CAMINO DE SANTIAGO
サンティアゴ巡礼の道

KUMANO KODO
熊野古道



World Heritage Pilgrimage Routes
世界遺産参詣道
Rutas de Peregrinación Patrimonio de la Humanidad

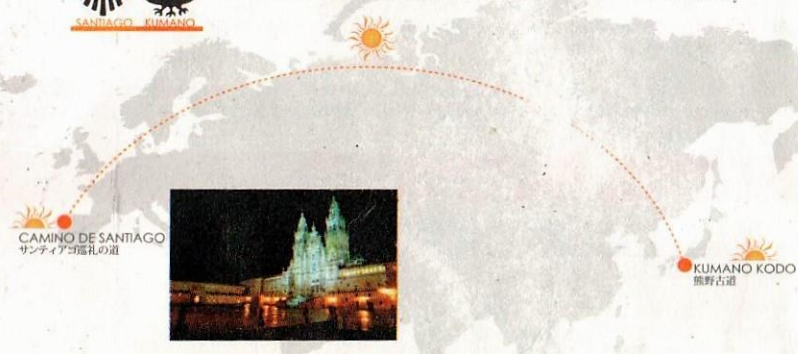
www.spiritual-pilgrimages.com



WAY OF ST. JAMES
サンティアゴ・デ・コンポステーラの道
CAMINO DE SANTIAGO



Credential 共通巡礼手帳 Credencial



CAMINO DE SANTIAGO
サンティアゴ巡礼の道

KUMANO KODO
熊野古道



World Heritage Pilgrimage Routes
世界遺産参詣道
Rutas de Peregrinación Patrimonio de la Humanidad

www.spiritual-pilgrimages.com





This was a National Geographic Society trip. They provided all the logistics (travel, housing, food), and guides. All excellent.

On the Trail





***Head Guide– Yuki-san**

***Excellent English**

***Knowledgeable**

***Always smiling and laughing**

***Energetic**

***Patient and helpful**

***Avid hiker**

***How old? She wouldn't say**

“Little Mother Yuki”

THE PERFECT GUIDE!





**Assistant Guide:
Hiroshi Sato san,
71 years old and spry
like a goat. Has done
the trail over 60 times.
Encyclopedic
knowledge of
Buddhist mythology
and genealogy.
Ever cheerful.**





Mamushi viper (picture from the web)

Road kill





“Mileposts” every 500 meters



Stamp box, a.k.a. viper box, contains stamp signifying “you were there”..

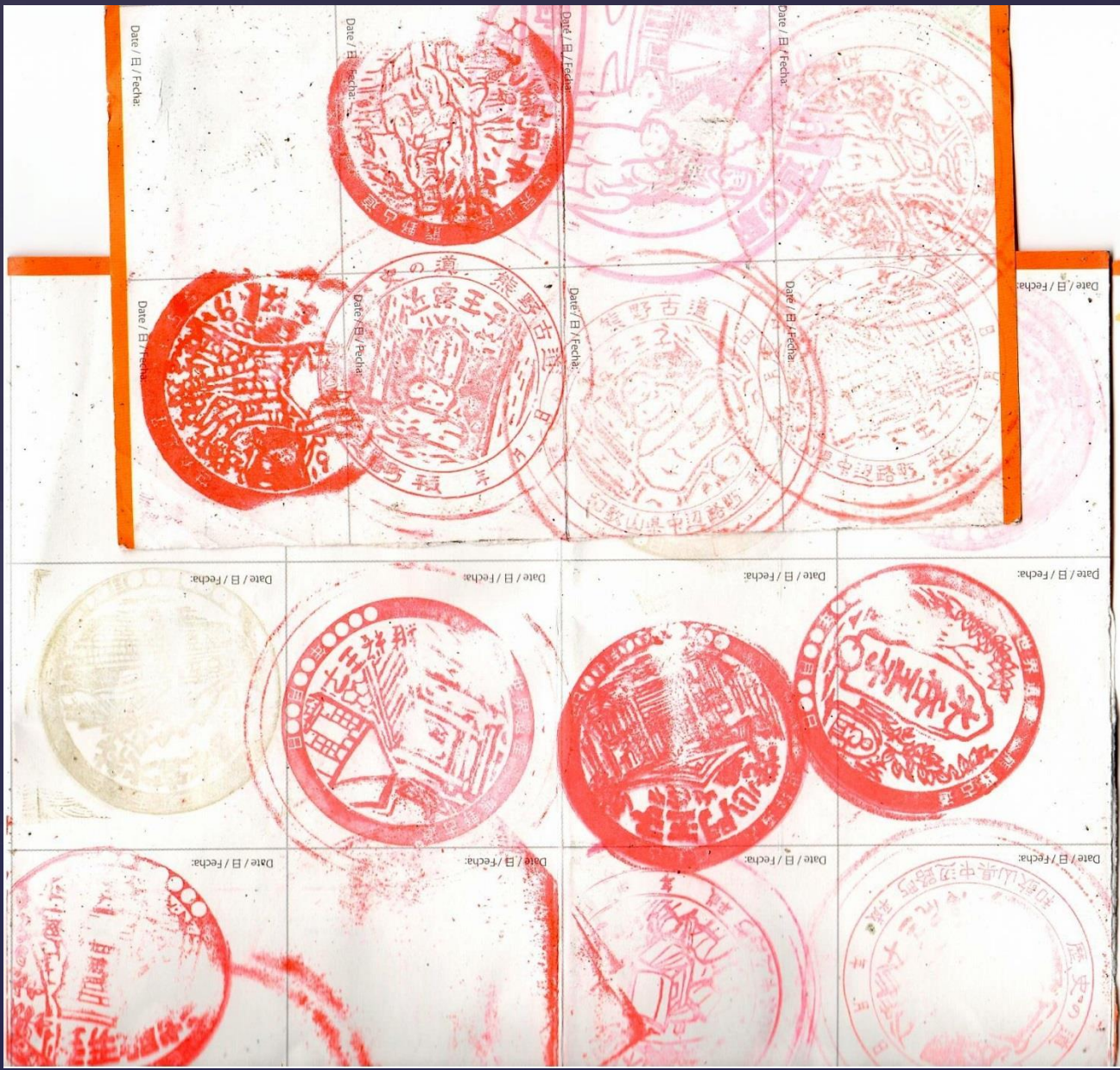




Susan R. hiked the Camino de Santiago



Stamps from the stamp boxes on the trail. Note the golden stamp from one of the major shrines.



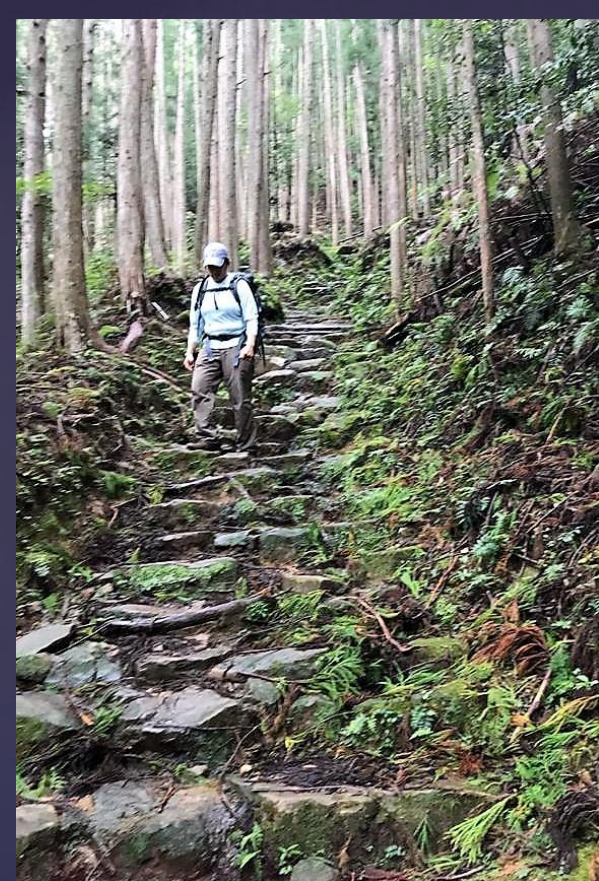




**Assistant Guide Hiroshi-san
explaining Buddhist mythology**









Ancient paving stones
on trail– very slippery
when wet















Cypress tree
stripped of bark
for temple
roof



The Mountain Monk

Guest Guide

Excellent English

Great joker

**Practitioner of ancient
syncretic Shinto-
Buddhism**





Mountain Monk
signals beginning
of hike by blowing
on his conch horn







Tea plantation





Tea house on the trail







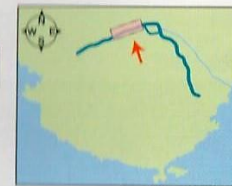
The three-legged raven: symbol of the Kumano Kodo





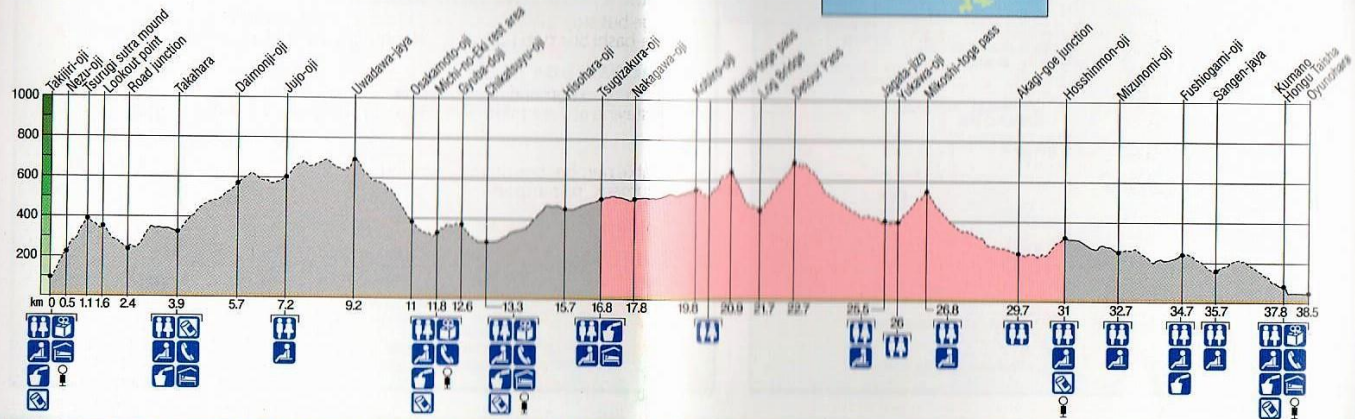
Tsugizakura-oji ~ Hosshinmon-oji

継桜王子 ~ 発心門王子



Distance (km) : ~14
 Time (hr) : 6~8
 Total Elevation Gain (m) : ~780
 Total Elevation Loss (m) : ~980

----- Unpaved trail
 ——— Paved road

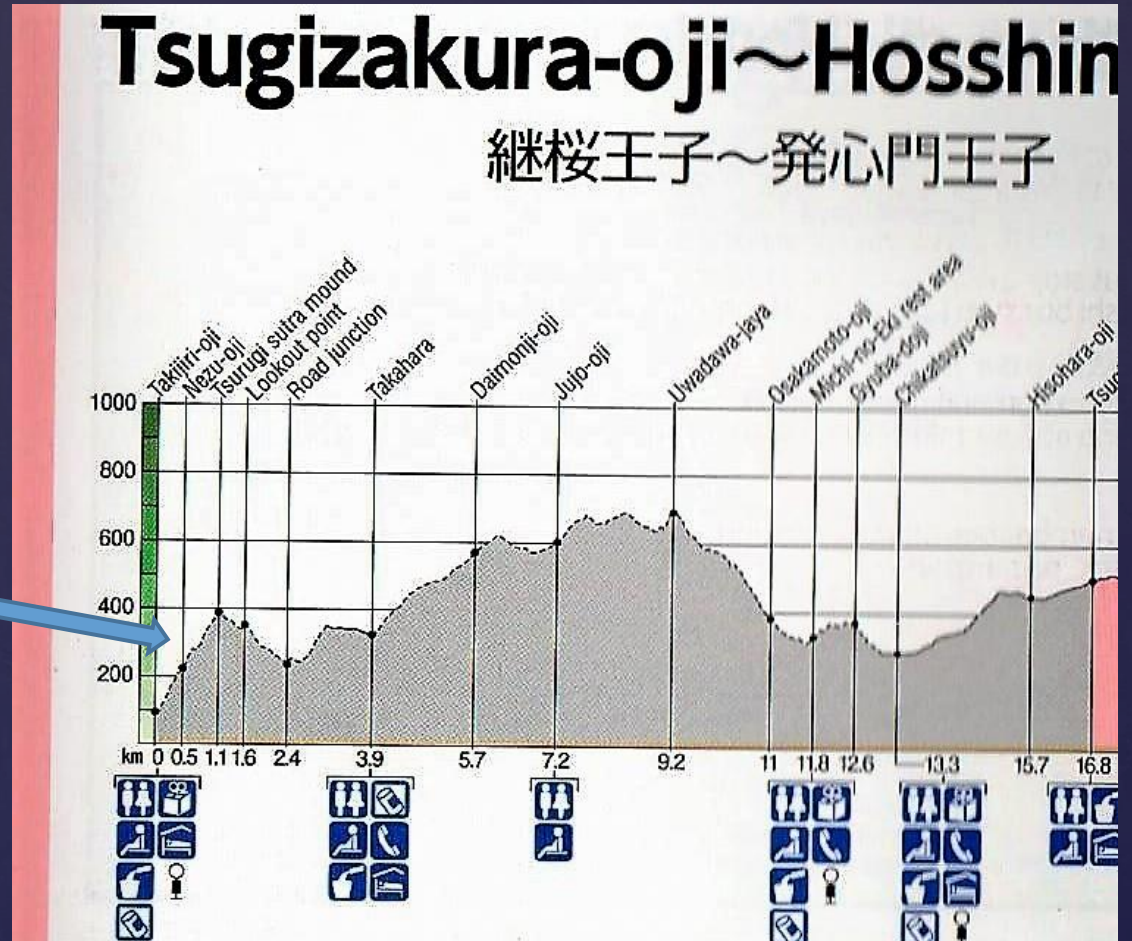


Map of
 Kumano
 Kodo
 segments





Note very steep 300 meter ascent





Boat trip







Shrines and Temples



Ancient royal
tomb







Largest Torii (gate)
in Japan





Coin offerings at oji (small trail-side shrine). Locals maintain the shrine, and donate the coins to charities





More “Oji” or little shrines



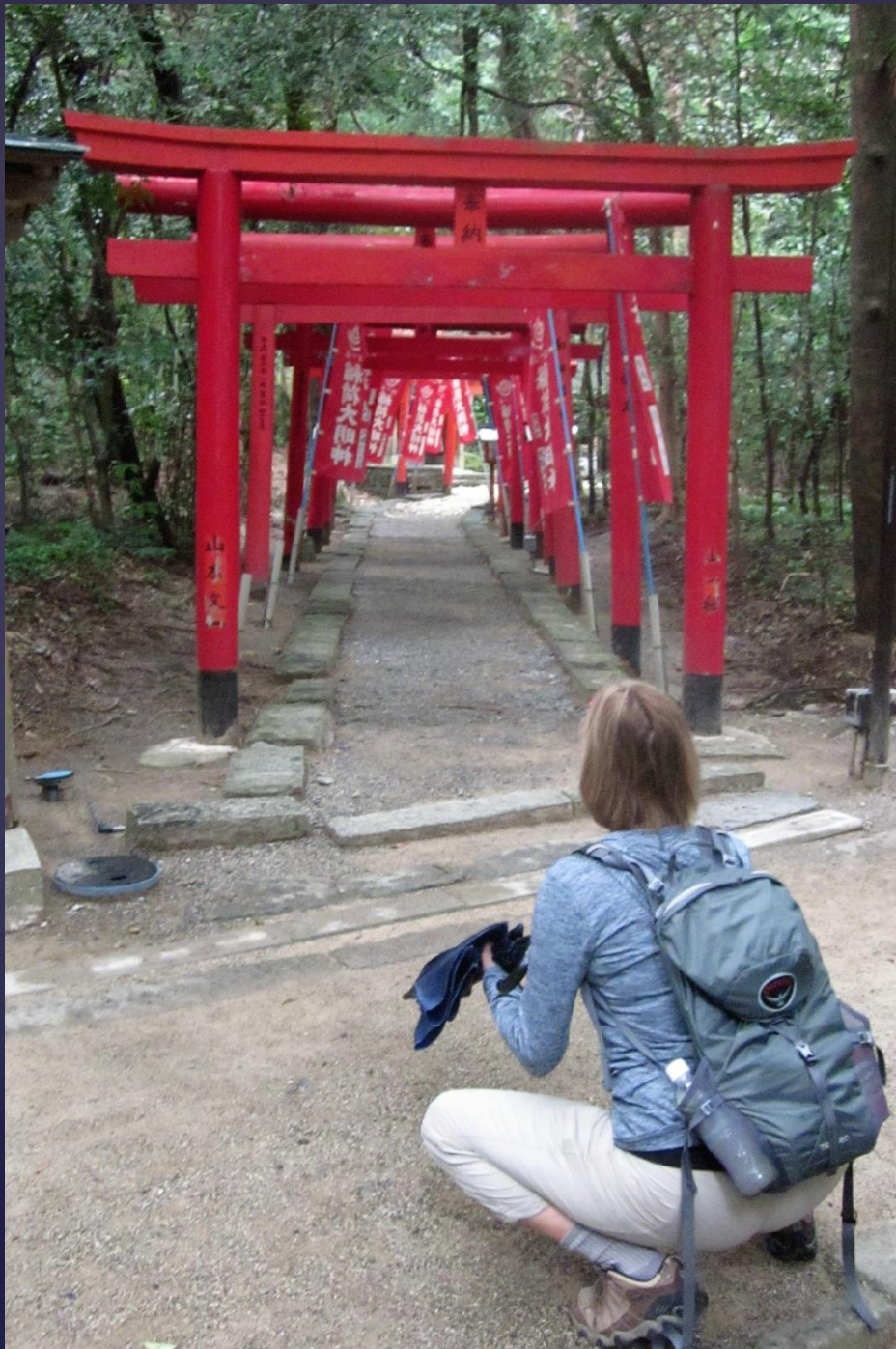


Famous Gyuba-doji statue of Boy-Emperor Kazan, who rode a cow and a horse on the first Emperor pilgrimage a thousand years ago. The Gyuba-doji has become a symbol of the Kumano Kodo.



Kumano Hayatama Taisha Grand Shrine





Susan R.– photo op





Kumano Hongu Taisha Grand Shrine



Susan S. making a burnt offering







**Earliest shrine of Shinto Buddhism
behind the beach**

First Deity
came to earth
at this cliff







1000 year old tree---



You can go inside
For a few yen





國指定天然記念物
世界平和を祈る
柳の大神木







The Nachi Waterfall is considered a Deity in its own right.





Torii at the bottom of the 400 steps...





And at the top





Housing and Food





Marriott Osaka





Window view Osaka hotel





**Chris in mountain ryokan
(traditional guest house)**

Welcome
to
Kirinosato
Takahara





**Morning window view from
mountain ryokan**







Turtle ferry and cliff-top hotel





Cliff-top hotel room





Window view from cliff-top hotel

natural cave converted
to a luxury hot springs
bath





Looking the other way







Life in Japan



Observation deck at our first hotel in Osaka.





**“Fireworks wall” at
top Of Marriott**





Riding the subway in Osaka

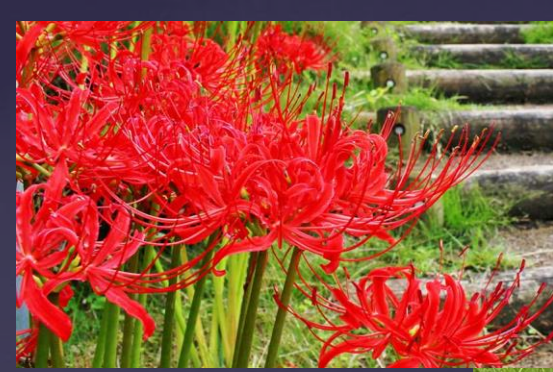


Street scenes — Osaka





**Fire
lilies
or red
spider
lilies**





Cartoon character scarecrow





**Tuna
fish market**





Auctioneer at work

Marlin





Zen Temple





Zen meditation temple

Zen Master





**Rice paddies
in Japan**

**Inca agricultural
terracing in Peru**





**Lunch stop at
fancy resort**





Volcanic dike extending into the sea. The large boulders in the foreground were knocked there by a tsunami.



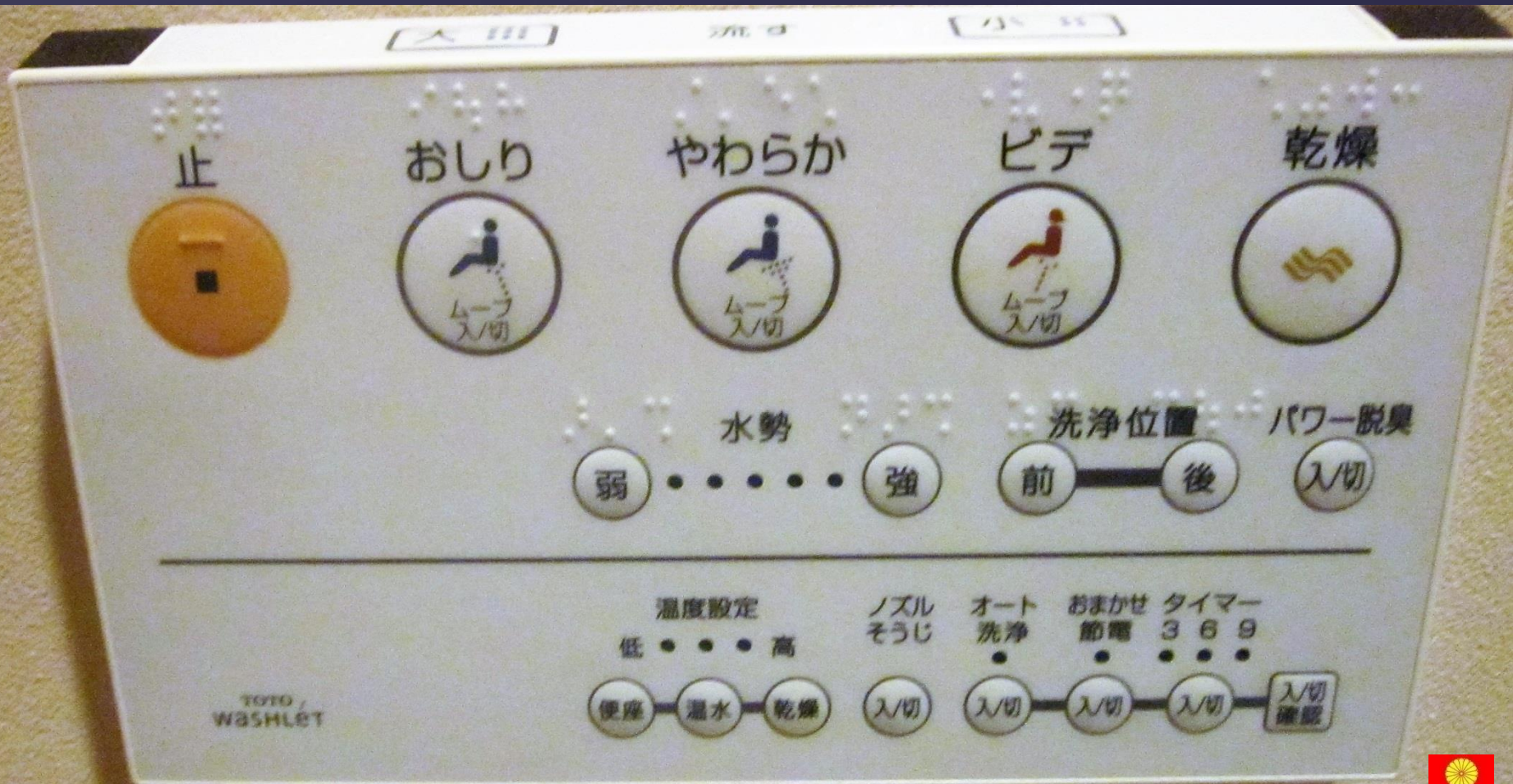


Kids on school outing. Japan has a very low birth rate. We saw lots of kids.





Electronic remote controls for the toilet; the Japanese are way ahead of us in toilet technology

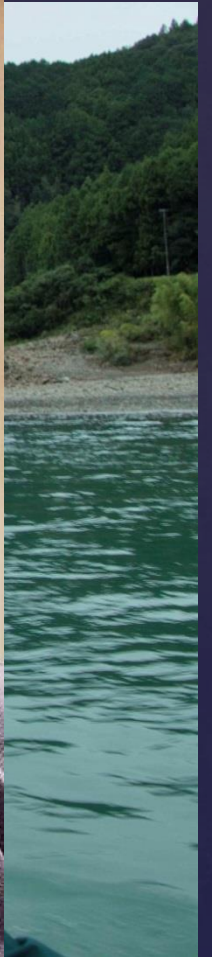




People



Yuki





The whole group- 11 Americans, in the Zen Temple with the Zen Master





**Marcy
Ann**

Nancy

Chris

**Kevin
Susan R.**

This guy is really
getting into it







**Yuki san
and
Hiroshi
san: best
guides
ever**







鹿野道
亮心門王子







The End (of the Travelogue)





Establishing the identity of Japanese coins and stamps



Three languages use characters instead of an alphabet:
Chinese, Japanese, and Korean.
To the untrained American eye they are hard to tell apart.





Chinese



過去，不乏商界人士或政客利用假期到歐美野雞學校「進修」學位，以致於有一位在學欄填寫某大學博士的立委候選人被他的對手挑戰說，只要他能提出初中以上任何學歷證便願意承認他的博士學位。

Chinese Hanji is made up mostly of dense, Square characters. Some punctuation is used.



Japanese has three sets of characters

Hiragana are curvy and Irregular (feminine)

Kanji are Chinese characters, dense and square

Katakana are straight or slightly curved and simple (masculine)

インプリメンテーション、
オントテキスト表示マル
チ言語コンピューティングに
おける業界の専門家が集まり



Korean



세계를 향한 대화, 유니코드로 하십시오. 제10회 유
국제 회의가 1997년 3월 10일부터 12일까지 독일의
에서 열립니다. 지금 등록하십시오. 이 회의에서는
전반의 전문가들이 함께 모여 다음과 같은 분야를 다
다. - 인터넷과 유니코드, 국제화와 지역화, 운영 체
응용 프로그램에서 유니코드의 구현, 글꼴, 문자 배

**Many circular and oval shapes and
straight lines. Full Western-style
punctuation.**



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Chinese, Korean, and Japanese: which one is which?

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“Japan”

日本
Ni Hon

In Japanese

(Land of the Rising Sun)



Chrysanthemum: Symbol of the Emperor





Definitives



Some of the National Parks Series





1872 #9



1948

印刷局製送

国立公園郵便

陸中海岸



RIKUCHU KAIGAN NATIONAL PARK

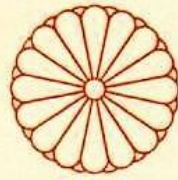
1955

大蔵省印刷局製送

612



皇太子殿下 御成婚記念



昭和三十四年

Japan 1959
668a 450

Souvenir Sheet on the occasion of
Prince Akihito's wedding in 1959



...Japanese coins



Some of my...



The Real End

