

## 熊本県 Kumamoto Pref. (肥後 Higo)



From mandarin orange field in Kawachi, Kumamoto City

In Kumamoto Prefecture, “NE to SW faces (clockwise 180-degees) of Mt.Unzen” can be viewed beyond Ariake Sea from across the prefecture, mainly from the central to western regions facing Ariake Sea. On days with clear air, the mountain is visible beyond Kumamoto Plain with Shirakawa River from Aso Region in the northeastern region. It is also visible beyond Yatsushiro Plain, Yatsushiro Sea, Amakusa Islands and Uto Peninsula from the southern region facing Yatsushiro Sea. On days with highly clear air, it is also visible from Shiraga-dake and Ichifusa-yama in the southeastern region.

Mt.Unzen is sung in songs of elementary schools or junior high schools in the widespread region facing Ariake Sea from Arao City to Uto City and Amakusa Islands, thus has been felt familiar in the region (also sung in “Hinokuni Ryojo” singing nostalgic landscapes across the prefecture). In Kumamoto City, the 1.2km approach way of Kengun Shrine (the oldest shrine in the city) is pointing to Mt.Unzen in a straight line, and the line is further constituting *the large triangle* formed by Mt.Aso, Mt. Unzen and ancient shrines and temples (please see the Aso Region pages). This indicates that Mt.Aso and Mt.Unzen were placed premium as the twin volcanos of Hinokuni, and used as the landmark for ancient nation-building.

Why don't you travel around Kumamoto Prefecture exploring faces of Mt.Unzen?

- Tourist information in Kumamoto Pref. is here.  
→Kumamoto Prefecture Tourism Federation  
<https://kumanago.jp/en/>