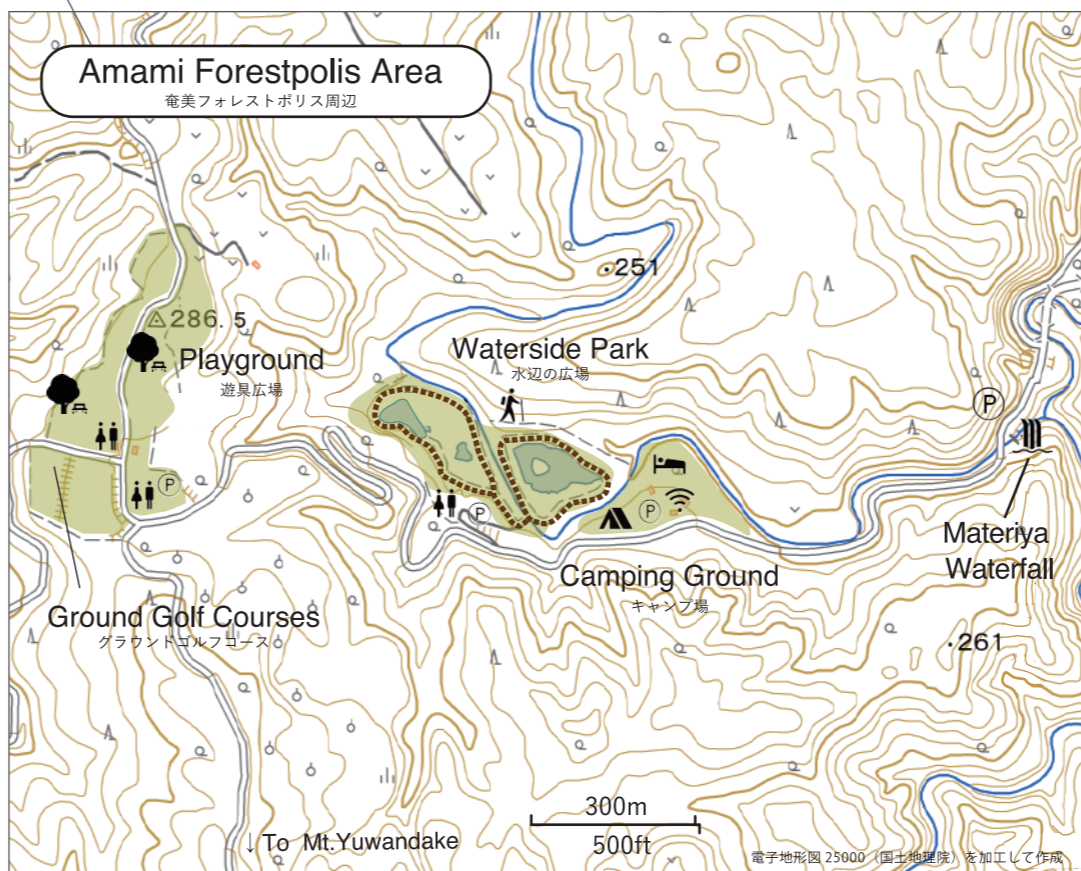
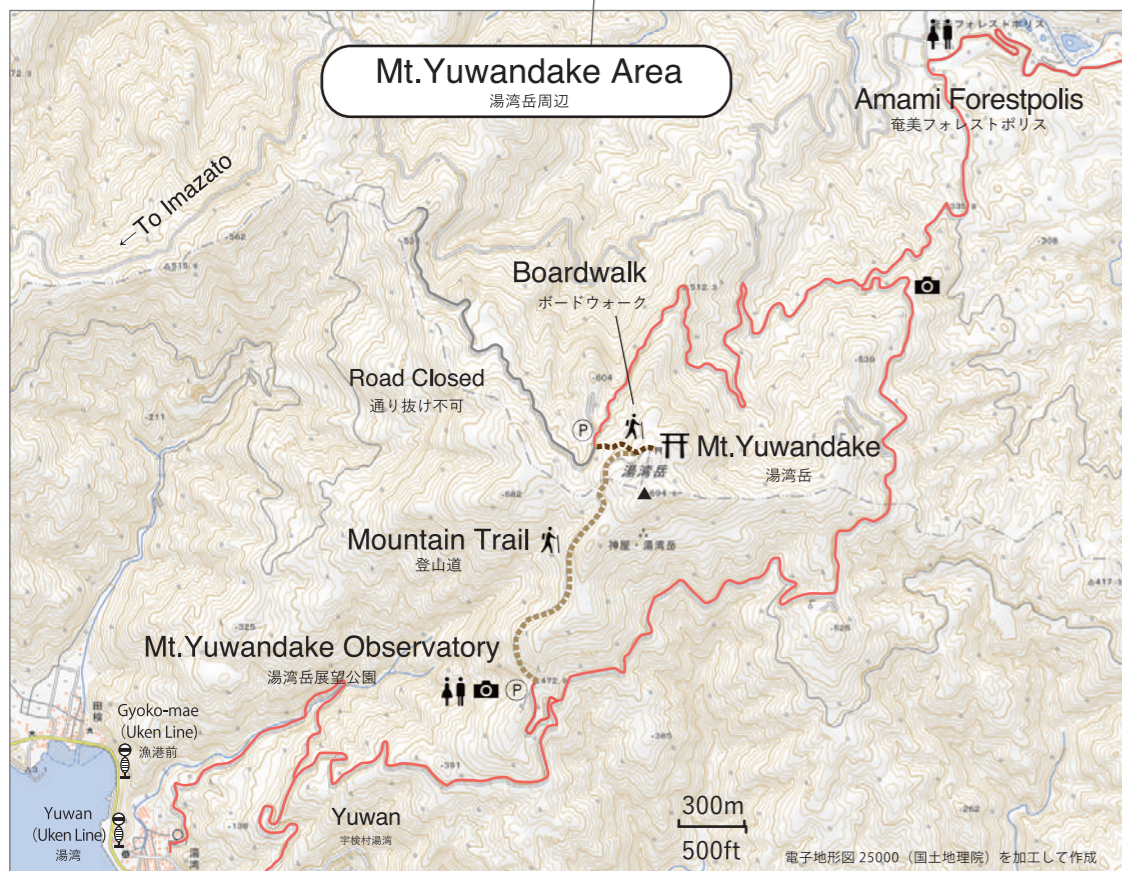


World Natural Heritage Site Mt. Yuwandake and Yamato Village Travel Guide

- Restrooms トイレ
- Free Wi-Fi フリーWi-Fi
- Restaurants 食堂
- Scenic Spots 景勝地
- Trekking Routes トレッキング
- Camping Ground キャンプ場
- Lodging 宿泊
- Parks 公園
- Shrines 神社
- Parking 駐車場
- Public Showers 公共シャワー
- Water Fountains / Refill Stations 給水所
- Stores 商店
- Bus Stops for Yamato Line 大和村直行バス停留所
- Amami Rabbit Crossing アマミノクロウサギ飛び出し注意



1 Cape Miyakozaki

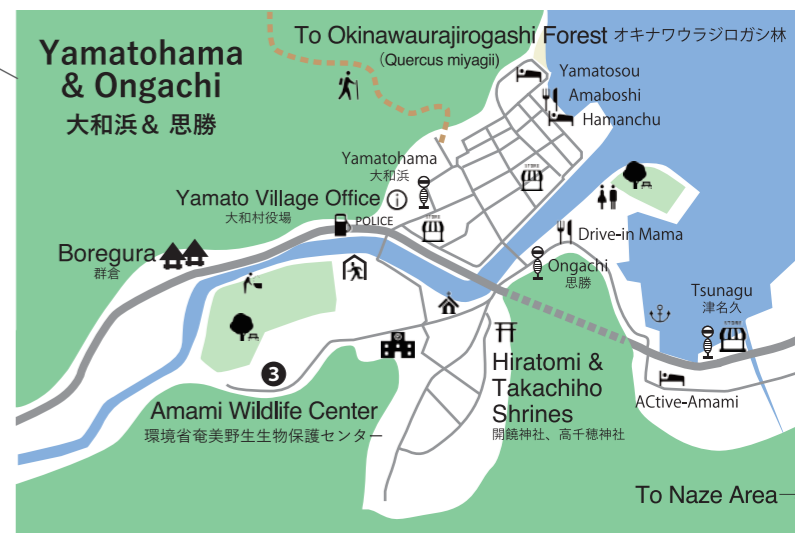


Here you can walk to the tip of the cape that is covered with short Ryukyu bamboo. It takes about 20 minutes on foot each way. This spot has a spectacular view of the vast deep blue sea. There is a compost toilet on site.

2 Marugoto Yamatoson Website



A website that introduces accommodations, foods, beverages, and activities in Yamato Village. You can make reservations for activities. Many of the marine activities are located in Kuninao. An English interpreter can be arranged with prior notice.



3 Amami Wildlife Center



A facility where you can learn about the rare plants, animals, and the ecosystems of the Amami Islands. You can view exhibits and models as well as watch videos about Amami's nature. Opening hours 9:30 am-4:30 pm. Closed Mondays, New Year holidays. Free admission Tel 0997-55-8620

4 Yamato Mahorobakan Souvenir Shop



Lunch boxes, souvenirs, and locally grown fruits and vegetables are sold here. Soft serve ice cream with the flavors of the specialty fruits of the area, Sumomo plum and Tankan orange, are very popular. Business hours 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Tel 0997-57-2980. On Wednesdays, soft served ice cream is available only in the afternoon.

5 Amami Forestpolis



A forest park maintained at the foot of Mt. Yuwandake. There are rivers and waterfalls where you can observe nature as well as enjoy parks with playground equipment. There are campsites and cottages where you can stay. Closed Mondays Tel 0997-58-3166



Aerial view of the lush forest



Materiya Waterfall



Amami rabbit



Amami thrush
(Photo provided by Amami Wildlife Center)



Oton frog



Habu



Ceylon blue glassy tiger



Amami seishika



View from the mountain road

A Biodiverse Forest

The four regions of Amami Oshima, Tokunoshima Island, northern Okinawa Island, and Iriomote Island were registered as UNESCO World Natural Heritage Sites in July 2021 because of their biodiversity.

These islands are part of the Ryukyu Islands located at the southern end of the Japanese archipelago. These islands were separated from the Eurasian continent millions of years ago due to crustal movements so the habitat has a high proportion of endemic plants and animals that are very rarely affected by outside forces. Currently, the Amami rabbit that inhabits Amami Oshima and Tokunoshima Island are one genus and one species, with no related species. Additionally, since Amami Oshima has a mix of both northern and southern habitats, a wide variety of organisms coexist, and although the area is less than 0.2 % of Japan, around 13 % of all the species found in Japan can be seen. The climate is a warm and humid subtropical climate, with annual rainfall of nearly 3,000 mm. There is an average annual temperature of over 20 degrees Celsius, and the area is covered with evergreen broad-leaved trees, mainly beech trees such as oak.

Mt. Yuwandake

Mt. Yuwandake is the highest mountain in the Amami Islands, at an altitude of 694 meters. It is designated as the most strictly regulated special protection area in Amami Guntō National Park. It is a sacred place where it is said that two gods, Shinireku and Amamiko, descended on the top of this mountain and created Amami Oshima. It has been worshiped by the people surrounding it for a long time, with a shrine built near the top of the mountain. There is a boardwalk on the Yamato village side, where you can reach the shrine in 15 minutes on foot from the parking lot entrance. If you want to climb the mountain, it takes about 60 minutes along the unpaved mountain trail on the Uken village side. The entrances to the mountain trails for Yamato Village and Uken Village are very far apart, so it is best to go back using the same path. In addition, there are no toilets around the peak of Mt. Yuwandake, with the nearest toilet located in Amami Forestpolis.

Habu, the Protectors of the Forest

Eight species of snakes inhabit Amami Oshima, four of which are venomous. Among them, the habu has a particularly short temper, and is quite large growing up to 2 meters in size. It is nocturnal and is good at climbing trees. Even a small habu just after birth is still extremely venomous and its bites can be fatal. Since Amami Oshima has no carnivorous animals or large birds of prey, the habu stands at the top of the ecosystem. People do not enter the mountain unnecessarily and the forest remains undeveloped because the habu has been feared for a long time as a "monster" or a "messenger of the mountain gods." In Amami, people live close to nature, so you may encounter a habu in the village.

To prevent habu bites

- Keep away from the grass even in the daytime.
- When walking in a grassy area, hit the ground in front of you with a stick to check if there is a habu.
- Always use a flashlight during dark hours because the habu is nocturnal.
- Be especially careful around May-October when the temperature is between 18-27 degrees Celsius.
- If you find one, keep it at least 1.5 m away and escape. Inform nearby people in the village. If bitten, call an ambulance (119) immediately. As a first aid, use a poison remover to suck out the venom, or tie a towel or piece of clothing between the snake bite area and your heart.

For inquiries contact Yamato Village Office, Planning and Tourism Division
TEL 0997-57-2117 / Email kikaku@vill.yamato.lg.jp
Police 110 / Ambulance 119 / Fire Department 119 / Maritime Rescue 118
Check the QR code for a list of emergency shelters in Yamato Village



Rules for Enjoying and Protecting Nature

1. Do not leave, remove, or harm the plants or animals

Please do not disturb the plants or animals. Observe the nature.

* It is prohibited to collect and capture animals and plants specified by law or ordinance.

* All animals and plants (including fallen leaves, stones, etc.) are prohibited from being collected or removed from the Special Protection Area including near the top of Mt. Yuwandake.

2. Don't leave the designated paths

Walking off paths and boardwalks increases the risk of getting lost or encountering a habu. It can also trample rare plants and threaten the habitat of living creatures.

3. Take your trash home

Littering negatively affects the creatures and the land. Sea turtles may accidentally swallow garbage.

4. Drive with caution

Creatures such as the Amami rabbit may appear on the road especially at night. When driving at night, use extreme caution and keep your speed down.

5. Don't let your pets escape

Dogs and cats are capable hunters. It's easy to catch Amami's endemic creatures. Be sure to keep your pet on a leash so they don't run away.

6. Beware of dangerous creatures

Be careful of dangerous plants and animals and do not touch them.

Habu, Hime-habu, Wasps, Horse-flies, Gnats, Ticks, Caterpillars, Centipedes, Japanese wax trees, etc.

Clothing

Be aware of your choice of clothing so that you can enjoy Amami safely throughout the four seasons. In mountainous areas, we recommend wearing long sleeved shirts, pants, towels around the neck, hats, gloves, and other non-slip items, such as boots or sneakers.

• If your skin is exposed, you may be bitten by insects or injured by branches or rocks.

• Amami's sunlight is strong and may cause burns, take sufficient measures such as wearing a hat and using sun block to prevent burns and sun damage.

• Because the weather changes quickly there is a good chance of sudden rain, prepare rain gear.

How to Use the Bus

Let the bus driver know your destination when boarding and pay the fare when getting off. There is no money exchanger in the car, so it's a good idea to prepare the bus fare in advance to avoid trouble. There is a convenient transfer from the airport bus line in front of the West Court Hotel. Buses do not pass through Mt. Yuwandake or Amami Forestpolis. It takes about 2 hours (8.7 km) on foot from the Odana bus stop to Amami Forestpolis. We recommend visiting with a rental car or a guide.



Check the QR code for more information

Bus fares	From Naze Area	Kuninao - Yamatohama ¥ 700	Odana - Oganeku ¥ 1000	Toen - Imazato ¥ 1200	Within Yamato Village ¥ 100
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Naze Area → Yamato Village

Bus Stop	Weekday 平日					Weekend 週末・祝日		
	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3
名瀬→大和村								
県病院前 Kenbyoin-mae	7:50	11:00	14:05	17:05	19:10	8:30	13:03	17:30
奄美小前 Amamisho-mae	7:51	11:01	14:06	17:06	19:11	8:31	13:04	17:31
大島高校前 Oshimakoko-mae	7:52	11:02	14:07	17:07	19:12	8:32	13:05	17:32
名瀬郵便局前 Naze yubinkyoku-mae	7:57	11:07	14:12	17:12	19:17	8:37	13:10	17:37
ウェストコート前 West Court-mae	8:00	11:10	14:15	17:15	19:20	8:40	13:13	17:40
中央病院前 Chuobyoim-mae	8:05	11:15	14:20	17:20	19:25	8:45	13:18	17:45
前ニタイヨー前 Asani Taiyo-mae	-	11:19	14:24	17:24	19:29	-	13:22	17:49
小宿トンネル前 Koshuku Tunnel-mae	8:10	11:20	14:25	17:25	19:30	8:50	13:23	17:50
知名瀬 Chinase	8:18	11:28	14:33	17:33	19:38	8:58	13:31	17:58
榑瀬部 Nesebu	8:20	11:30	14:35	17:35	19:40	9:00	13:33	18:00
四座 Kuninao	8:25	11:35	14:40	17:40	19:45	9:05	13:38	18:05
湯湾差 Yuwangama	8:27	11:37	14:42	17:42	19:47	9:07	13:40	18:07
津名久 Tsunagu	8:30	11:40	14:45	17:45	19:50	9:10	13:43	18:10
思勝 Ongachi	8:31	11:41	14:46	17:46	19:51	9:11	13:44	18:11
大和浜 Yamatohama	8:32	11:42	14:47	17:47	19:52	9:12	13:45	18:12
大瀬 Odana	8:38	11:48	14:53	17:53	19:58	9:18	13:51	18:18
大島久 Oganeku	8:39	11:49	14:54	17:54	19:59	9:19	13:52	18:19
戸門 Toen	8:49	11:59	15:04	18:04	20:09	9:29	14:02	18:29
大和の園 Yamato-no-sono	8:51	12:01	15:06	18:06	20:11	9:31	14:04	18:31
名瀬 Naon	8:54	12:04	15:09	18:09	20:14	9:34	14:07	18:34
志戸助 Shidokan	8:58	12:08	15:13	18:13	20:18	9:38	14:11	18:38
今里 Imazato	9:00	12:10	15:15	18:15	20:20	9:40	14:13	18:40

Yamato Village → Naze Area

Bus Stop	Weekday 平日					Weekend 週末・祝日		
	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3
大和村→名瀬								
今里 Imazato	5:55	6:36	9:50	13:30	15:50	6:40	10:25	15:00
志戸助 Shidokan	5:57	6:38	9:52	13:32	15:52	6:42	10:27	15:02
名瀬 Naon	6:01	6:42	9:56	13:36	15:56	6:46	10:31	15:06
大和の園 Yamato-no-sono	6:04	6:45	9:59	13:39	15:59	6:49	10:34	15:09
戸門 Toen	6:06	6:47	10:01	13:41	16:01	6:51	10:36	15:11
大島久 Oganeku	6:16	6:57	10:11	13:51	16:11	7:01	10:46	15:21
大瀬 Odana	6:17	6:58	10:12	13:52	16:12	7:02	10:47	15:22
大和浜 Yamatohama	6:23	7:04	10:18	13:58	16:18	7:08	10:53	15:28
思勝 Ongachi	6:24	7:05	10:19	13:59	16:19	7:09	10:54	15:29
津名久 Tsunagu	6:25	7:06	10:20	14:00	16:20	7:10	10:55	15:30
湯湾差 Yuwangama	6:28	7:09	10:23	14:03	16:23	7:13	10:58	15:33
知名瀬 Chinase	6:30	7:11	10:25	14:05	16:25	7:15	11:00	15:35
榑瀬部 Nesebu	6:35	7:16	10:30	14:10	16:30	7:20	11:05	15:40
小宿トンネル前 Koshuku Tunnel-mae	6:37	7:18	10:32	14:12	16:32	7:22	11:07	15:42
前ニタイヨー前 Asani Taiyo-mae	-	-	10:41	14:21	16:41	-	11:16	15:51
中央病院前 Chuobyoim-mae	6:50	7:31	10:45	14:25	16:45	7:35	11:20	15:55
ウェストコート前 West Court-mae	6:55	7:36	10:50	14:30	16:50	7:40	11:25	16:00
名瀬郵便局前 Naze yubinkyoku-mae	6:58	7:39	10:53	14:33	16:53	7:43	11:28	16:03
大島高校前 Oshimakoko-mae	7:03	7:44	10:58	14:38	16:58	7:48	11:33	16:08
奄美小前 Amamisho-mae	7:04	7:45	10:59	14:39	16:59	7:49	11:34	16:09
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