

# Quick facts of Tanegashima island(種子島)

## Location & How to get there

Created by Evolution Japan Tour on 16 January 2020

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### Location

It is one of the islands of Osumi islands(大隅諸島) belonging to Kagoshima prefecture(鹿児島県) in Kyushu island. World Heritage Site, Yakushima(屋久島) also belongs to Osumi islands and it is located close to Tanegashima. There are three municipalities on the island: Nishinoomote(西之表), Nakatane(中種子) and Minamitane(南種子). Nishinoomote is the most populous city and gateway to Tanegashima and Yakushima. Tanegashima airport is located at Nakatane and Space Center is located at Minamitane.

### How to get there

There are two ways to get to Tanegashima from the mainland, Kyushu island.

**By plane** – There are 3 daily flights from Kagoshima airport(鹿児島空港/KOJ) to Tanegashima airport(種子島空港/TNE) operated by Japan Air Commuter(JAC) . There are additional flights during high season. JAC is a subsidiary of Japan Airlines (JAL. One World member). There is also a direct flight from Osaka-Itami airport operated by J-Air (Also the subsidiary of JAL) during high season.

If you book a JAL flight to Kagoshima from Tokyo/Haneda or other airport, you can enjoy discount for air ticket between Kagoshima and Tanegashima. Therefore, you should book the flights together via JAL. Flight time between Kagoshima and Tanegashima is 35 minutes. Tokyo/Haneda – Kagoshima is 1.5-2 hours (it takes more time when flying from Tokyo).

Please note that Kagoshima airport is not located at Kagoshima city, the prefectural capital and most populoust city in Kagoshima prefecture. It takes approximately 40 minutes from Kagoshima Chuo station, the main station and Shinkansen station in Kagoshima by bus.

**By ship** – There are two types of ship connecting Kagoshima city and Tanegashima. The first one is the Hydrofoil (Jet foil. High speed boat. Passenger only) and second one is the ferry. Please note that these two ships do not leave from the same pier in Kagoshima!

**Hydrofoil(高速船)** – Departs from **Tane-Yaku Hydrofoil passenger terminal(種子屋久高速船旅客ターミナル-Tane Yaku Kosokusen Ryokyaku terminal)** located at Kagoshima Honko-Minamifutou(**Kagoshima Main Port-South Pier. 鹿児島本港南埠頭**). Address: 鹿児島市本港新町 5/Honkoshinmachi 5, Kagoshima city).

**6-7 daily connections between Kagoshima and Nishinoomote port(西之表港)** on Tanegashima between March and middle of September. One of the hydrofoil makes stops at Ibusuki(指宿,located on Kyushu island, famous hot spring destination) and Yakushima(屋久島).

**Journey time is 1 hour and 35 minutes(direct) and the fare is one way JPY 7800 / return JPY 14100.** There is a direct bus from Kagoshima airport to the Tane-Yaku Hydrofoil passenger terminal(The bus stop's name is **Kosokusen terminal**) . Fare is JPY1300 and journey is 54 minutes.

**Ferry(フェリー)** – If you are not in hurry and want to save money, there are two ferries connecting daily between Kagoshima city and Nishinoomote port in Tanegashima island.

**Cosmo Line - Princess Wakasa** from Kagoshima Minamifutou Passenger terminal (鹿児島本港南埠頭旅客ターミナル – Kagoshima Honko-Minamifutou ryokyaku terminal) . The standard-2nd class fare is JPY 4270(one way) and JPY 7730(return). Journey takes 3 hours and 30 minutes. The ferry departs Kagoshima at 08:40 and arrives at 12:10(Ferry from Tanegashima-Nishinoomote port sails at 14:00). From Kagoshima airport, take the bus bound for Kosokusen terminal(where hydrofoil departs) and walk 6 minutes to the pier.

**Hibiscus** from Kagoshima Taniyama port Nanatsujima pier (鹿児島谷山港七ツ島発着場. Address: 鹿児島市七ツ島 1-40-4/1-40-4 Nanatsujima, Kagoshima city) . The standard-2nd class fare is JPY 3700(one way) and JPY 6700(return). Journey takes 3 hours and 40 minutes. The ferry departs Kagoshima at 18:00 and arrives at 21:40(Ferry from Tanegashima-Nishinoomote port sails at 11:00). No direct bus from Kagoshima airport. This ferry continues to Yakushima after making port of call at Nishinoomote port. Taniyama port is located at the suburb of Kagoshima city and it takes approximately 30 minutes from Kagoshima Chuo station by taxi.