Kurokawa Onsen lies nestled in a secluded and peaceful valley. During your visit, if time allows why not take the opportunity to explore a little outside of the town itself and discover some breathtaking views and the nearby landscape of the Aso-Kuju National Park? From the Hirano Dai viewpoint on a clear day you can make out the form of the spectacular Sleeping Buddha in the distance, on a hot summer’s day you can cool off in the shady woods at Seiryu no Mori, in autumn you can enjoy the changing colors all around and at any time of year you can wander around the intriguingly-named Suzuki Jigoku (Sparrow Hell).

Of course it goes without saying that a hike followed by a rotenburo(outdoor bath) and refreshments is the perfect combination and a wonderful way to spend half a day or so in Kurokawa...

Hiking Routes

There are three hiking routes around Kurokawa Onsen, each usted as loops and meet at the Visitor Center in a 360/360 plan. You can rent an Audio Guide device from the Visitor Center for the duration of your stay for just 500 yen. The English commentary provides descriptions of points along the route and practical advice for the hiking routes.

Route 1: Monzurakutonei (1km, 40min)
- Start: Visitor Center
- End: Visitor Center
- Distance: 1km
- Duration: 40min

Route 2: Wadatsukushi (1.5km, 60min)
- Start: Visitor Center
- End: Visitor Center
- Distance: 1.5km
- Duration: 60min

Route 3: Wadatsukushi (2.5km, 90min)
- Start: Visitor Center
- End: Visitor Center
- Distance: 2.5km
- Duration: 90min

After approximately an hour’s hiking from the Visitor Center, routes 2 and 3 merge and continue westwards towards the main points of interest, in particular the Hōnôdai viewpoint.

Route 3: Hōnôdai viewpoint, which is a very flat spot suitable for wheelchairs and strollers, both directly on the Aso Kujû National Park route. From here we recommend that you hike the national trail through and link to the Monzurakutonei hike. From the Hōnôdai viewpoint and back (time estimate 45 min to 1hr) you can see the most beautiful section of the route. Do you wish instead to continue along the road which winds down Monzurakutonei along the Monzurakutonei route.

If you are present for the week, we suggest that you visit the Kurokawa Onsen in Oita City, where the Kurokawa Onsen is located. From there you can explore the area and enjoy a little bit of sunshine on the way. The area provides the perfect setting for a day trip.

All images may take some time to load or take a load with the website or app. Please enjoy the scenery and the beautiful landscape around the Kurokawa Onsen.