

The Fifth International Conference on Small Island Cultures
Sado Island, Japan
SICRI - Small Island Cultures Research Initiative

< March 26th, 2009 >



The Fifth International Conference and Rally on Small Island Cultures will be held on Sado Island (Niigata Prefecture, Japan) from Wednesday, June 24th, 2009 to Tuesday, June 30th, 2009. The 3-day conference, which will be scheduled from June 26th to June 28th, is organized by the Kagoshima University Preparatory Committee of the Sado SICRI and Sado Executive Committee of the Sado SICRI.

The conference registration fee is 10,000 yen (for three days) or 3,500 yen (per day).

General Information:

Sado Tourism Association English Website <http://www.visitsado.com/en/>

“Pure Japan” Sado island <http://www.visitsado.com/en/200902/index/index.shtml>

The Conference Venue and Accommodation:

The conference will be held at Sadoshima Kaihatsu Sogo Center (Sado Island Development Center) located next to Sado City Ryotsu Branch Office, a 5 min. walk from Ryotsu Port. Optional tours including two pre-conference and two post-conference excursions will also be conducted. (Each excursion will be operated with minimum passenger count of 8).

Accommodation :

The accommodations will be Hotel Urashima and Silver Village Hotel. To book your rooms, write an e-mail to Ms Yuka Inoue at sicri2009@gmail.com. For information about conditions and rates, see “Sado Accommodation Information”, which is provided with a separate sheet.

The booking deadline is May 20th, 2009. Ms. Inoue is in charge of arranging participants’ bookings.

Getting to Sado :

For participants from overseas to Niigata Airport, the easiest entry is to arrange flights via Incheon Airport in South Korea. Using flights via Nagoya Centrair Airport is the second recommendation. If you arrive at Niigata Airport nighttime and need to stay in Niigata, coming to Niigata Station makes you find reasonable hotels and inns much easier. Buses to Niigata Station leave every 30 minutes, but please be advised that the last bus leaves at 8:30pm. It takes 25 minutes to the station and the bus fare is 400 yen. Buses arrive at the Niigata Station South Exit, the other side of the Bandai Exit from which buses access to Sado Kisen Ferry Niigata Terminal leave. Use the overpass at the station when you go to the Bandai Exit from the south.

From Niigata Air Port, using taxi is one of easiest options to Sado Kisen Niigata Ferry Terminal. It takes about 30 minutes and the taxi fare is around 2,600 yen. When you get to the ferry terminal, buy your boarding ticket at the ticket window or ticket vending machine. Currently no air service is in operation between Sado Island and the mainland.

Narita airport is Japan's largest airport. However, getting to Sado Island from Narita may be a challenge if travelers are not very familiar with Japan's public transportation networks. Narita to Tokyo: 1.5 hours on train 3,190 yen, Tokyo to Niigata: 2 hours on Shinkansen (bullet train) 10,270 yen. When you get to Niigata Station, exit to "Bandai Exit" for buses and taxies accessing to Sado Kisen Niigata Ferry Terminal. It takes about 15 minutes to the terminal by taxi (around 1,200 yen) and 20 minutes by bus (200 yen). English speaking staff members at the Bandai Exit Tourist Information (hours: 9am to 6pm daily) will help you if English assistant is needed.

Niigata City website: travel from abroad: <http://www.nvcb.or.jp/en/kokugaiaccess.html>



Sado Kisen Ferry offers car ferry and jetfoil (hydrofoil) services.



Car Ferry Service:

It takes 2hrs and 30min from Niigata to Ryotsu on Sado Island. The one-way is 2,320 yen.

English ferry schedules are found at:

<http://www.mijintl.com/pdf/Sk2009all.pdf> No advance reservations are necessary.



Jetfoil (Hydrofoil) Service:

Using high-speed jetfoil is the best way to save your time for crossing Sado Strait. It takes just 60 minutes to get to Sado, and the fare is 6220 yen for one-way and 11,250 yen for a round. Timetable is also found at <http://www.mijintl.com/pdf/Sk2009all.pdf>. Seats are usually available except during busy holiday seasons.

When you reach Ryotsu Port, members the Sado Executive Committee with English signboards will welcome you. (Please let Ms. Inoue know in advance which ferry or jetfoil you will be on board: Ms Inoue: sicri2009@gmail.com.)

During the 3-day conference, a free bus service between Ryotsu (the venue) and Sawata (the accommodation location) will be offered (one round trip each day). Each travel time is around 40 minutes.

Photo Credit: Sado Tourism Association <http://www.visitsado.com/en/>

SICRI 5th executive committee on Sado Island :

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