

TRAINS in JAPAN

The railway system in Japan has a high reputation for punctuality and safety. The train fare varies naturally depending on the distance you travel as well as the type of train you wish to catch: Limited Express, Express etc. and the type of reserved seat: Green Car (first class), Sleeper etc., for each of which an extra charge is required. Tickets for short distances are available from ticket machines that are installed at each train station, whereas tickets for long distances and reservations are dealt with at ticket offices at major stations.

To use the train, first purchase a ticket at a vending machine or ticket counter. Your ticket is punched by hand at the wicket or inserted in a punching machine. Please keep the ticket since it must be returned at your destination. If there is no fare chart in English, buy the cheapest ticket indicated on the vending machine and pay the difference due at the fare adjustment office at your destination station before you go through the exit wicket.

Most stations display station names in both Japanese and alphabet lettering on platform signboards. The name of the station is in large letters in the center of the sign; names of adjacent stations appear below or to either side. **Most, if not all, trains stop operating around midnight.**

A. Japan Railways (JR)

Japan's leading railway company, Japan Railways (JR), has an elaborate and well-established system of trains throughout the country. <http://www.jreast.co.jp/e/>; **NARITA Express:** <http://www.jreast.co.jp/e/nex/>

The Shinkansen (bullet train) is the world famous super express train. It is operated from Tokyo to major cities at intervals of approximately 10 minutes or less. The local JR train station in Yokosuka City is JR YOKOSUKA. **For seat reservation, train maps and time table, go to <http://jreast-shinkansen-reservation.eki-net.com/pc/english/common/menu/menu.aspx>.**

B. Other Railways

In addition to the JR Group, many other smaller railway companies operate train services on heavily travelled, mainly urban and suburban routes. These lines very often link the center of a city and the residential areas at its outskirts. These rail lines are usually only convenient for commuters, but on occasions may offer speedier, more economical and more convenient routes than JR from nearby urban centers to popular spots such as Nikko, Hakone and so forth. The local railway in Yokosuka is KEIKYU Line (Keihin Kyuko Line).

Tobu Line (Nikko): <http://www.tobu.co.jp/foreign/tobulineguide/>

Odakyu Line (Hakone): <http://www.odakyu.jp/english/sightsee/hakone/Etozan.html>

C. Subway

Subway lines are available in all major cities, and provide prompt, efficient transportation. In Tokyo, JR rates start from 130 Japanese yen, subway fares at 160 Japanese yen for **Tokyo Metro and Toei lines**, and both increase with the distance traveled. Almost all station has vending machines for tickets and automatic ticket-checking machines at their entrance/exit gates. **Tokyo Metro:** <http://www.tokyometro.jp/en/>; **Toei Subway Line:** <http://www.kotsu.metro.tokyo.jp/eng/index.html>

For additional information: <http://www.jnto.go.jp/eng/arrange/transportation/railway/trains.html>

Keikyu Line and Haneda Airport Express: <http://www.haneda-tokyo-access.com/en/transport/international.html>

For complete train route finder, timetable, and fare amount from starting point to end:

<http://www.hyperdia.com/en/> <http://www.jorudan.co.jp/english/norikae/e-norikayin.html>

PASMO/SUICA (Prepaid Train Cards)

PASMO/SUICA are prepaid rechargeable cards making it a convenient way to travel on virtually all trains, subways, and buses in the Greater Tokyo region. It eliminates the need to buy train tickets and figure out train fares. In addition, these cards can be used as electronic money when making purchases at certain convenient stores, kiosks, restaurants, and vending machines.



SUICA is the rechargeable prepaid IC card of JR East, valid on virtually all trains, subways and buses in the Greater Tokyo, Sendai and Niigata regions. In addition, Suica can be used on JR trains in the Osaka, Okayama and Hiroshima, Nagoya, Shizuoka and Sapporo regions. <http://www.jreast.co.jp/e/pass/suica.html>



PASMO is the rechargeable IC card of Tokyo's private railway and subway companies. It is valid on virtually all trains, including JR, subways and buses in the Greater Tokyo, Sendai and Niigata regions. <http://www.pasmo.co.jp/en/>

BASIC USE

How to use Suica/PASMO?

When passing the ticket gates, hold the card close to the card reader (rather than inserting it into the ticket slot). The applicable fare will be automatically deducted when you exit through the ticket gate at your destination station. A card cannot be shared by multiple travelers at the same time.

Where to get Suica/PASMO?

Suica/PASMO cards can be purchased at vending machines and ticket counters at JR railway stations (Suica) and other railway companies (PASMO) in the Greater Tokyo region. The initial cost consists of a refundable deposit of 500 Yen.

How to recharge Suica/PASMO?

Suica/PASMO cards can be recharged at vending machines in railway stations of Japan Railways and other railway companies in the Greater Tokyo region. The maximum amount to be charged onto a card is 20,000 Yen.

How to check the current balance?

The current credit balance is shown on a small display whenever you pass a ticket gate. Furthermore, it can be checked at vending machines together with a usage history. Cards become invalid if they are not used for ten years.

SURVIVAL TRAIN PHRASES

English

I'd like to buy a ticket for _____.

What time is the last train?

Does this train go to _____?

Japanese

_____ **made kippu wo kudasai.**
_____まで切符を下さい。

Saishu densha wa nanji desu ka?
最終電車は何時ですか？

Kono densha was _____ e ikimasu ka?
この電車は_____へ行きますか？



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Map is not to scale. All information is subject to change without notice. If you observe any information which needs updating, please call the Information and Referral Desk of the Fleet and Family Support Center, Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan at 243-6716 or 243-3372. Thank you.