

Need help or support?

Japan Visitor Hotline (JNTO)

▶ Tel 050-3816-2787

The Japan National Tourism Organization (JNTO) has established a multilingual call center that is open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to help ensure the safety and security of foreign tourists in times of emergency.

For Fires, Emergencies, First Aid :

Ambulance and fire department ▶ Tel 119

For Accidents : Police department ▶ Tel 110

Common terms used in disaster reports

- 災害 (Saigai) - Disaster
- 避難 (Hinan) - Evacuate / Evacuation
- 逃げて (Nigete) - Run away / Escape
- 高台 (Takadai) - High ground (Safe from tsunami)
- 地震 (Jishin) - Earthquake
- 津波 (Tsunami) - Tsunami
- 台風 (Taifu) - Typhoon
- 火災 (Kaji/Kasai) - Fire
- 大雨 (Ooame) - Heavy rain
- 浸水 (Shinsui) - Inundation
- 洪水 (Kouzui) - Flood
- 土砂災害 (Doshasaigai) - Landslide
- 高潮 (Takashio) High tide / Storm surge
- 暴風 (Boufuu) Strong winds / Storm

Free apps useful in the event of a disaster

※You are responsible for any communication costs incurred when using these apps.



Safety tips



This app gives its users information about Earthquake Early Warning (EEW), Tsunami Warning, weather warning, and other such information in Japan. It provides various useful features such as an evacuation flowchart showing actions to take in the event of a disaster situation and links to websites with useful information for foreign tourists.



NHK WORLD JAPAN



NHK WORLD-JAPAN provides the latest information on Japan to people around the world via TV, radio, and online media. News is transmitted in 19 languages, and emergency information on such things as earthquakes and tsunamis are notified to users' smartphones in multiple languages.

Emergency Contact

Name	Blood type

Address	

Phone	Passport number

Contact of family	
Contact①	Phone

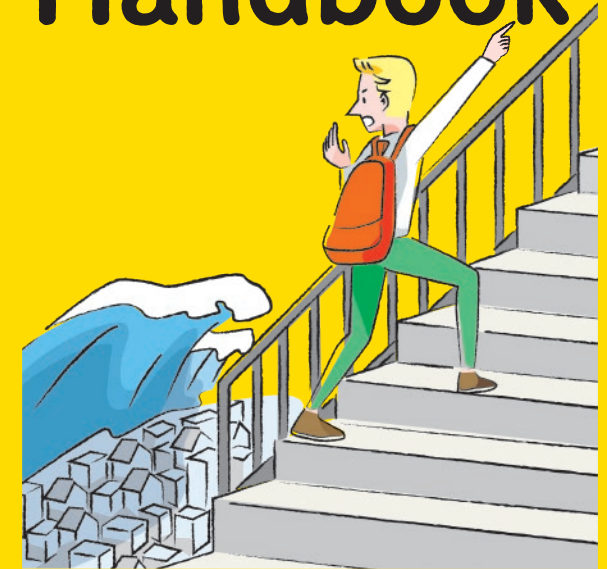
Address	

Contact②	Phone

Address	

To Help Foreign Tourists in the Event of Natural Disaster

Disaster Prevention Handbook



In Case of Earthquake

DROP ▶

COVER ▶

HOLD ON

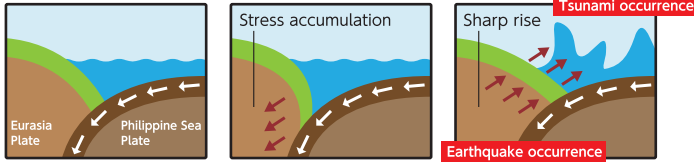


Earthquake / Tsunami

There are two types of earthquakes that are likely to cause damage in Wakayama Prefecture, mainly inland earthquakes, which are caused by the displacement of active fault lines, and Nankai Trough earthquakes, which occur off the Pacific seaboard.

It is estimated that a Nankai Trough earthquake will produce a particularly large tsunami.

What is a Nankai Trough earthquake?



The Nankai Trough is the name of the plate boundary where the Philippine Sea Plate (oceanic plate) on the Pacific Coast is subducting under the Eurasian Plate (land plate) at a pace of several centimeters per year. Additionally, stress gradually grows at the plate line where the two plates come in contact.

When the stress reaches an extreme level, the edge of the Eurasian plate rises sharply to return to its original position which causes a Nankai Trough earthquake. Furthermore, since the sharp rise occurs on the seabed, it causes the seawater to rise up, generating a tsunami.

Earthquake and tremor intensity

Seismic intensity is measured on a scale from 1 to 7 by the Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA).

Seismic intensity 4	Most people are startled and things like hanging light fixtures shake considerably.
Seismic intensity 5 -lower	Most people become scared and want to hold onto something.
Seismic intensity 5 -upper	People have difficulty walking without holding onto something; it becomes difficult to move around normally.
Seismic intensity 6 -lower	People have difficulty standing, unsecured furniture moves, and objects fall over.
Seismic intensity 6 -upper	It becomes impossible to stand up and move; wooden buildings that have low earthquake resistance are prone to collapse.
Seismic intensity 7	The shaking is so severe that it becomes impossible to move and reinforced concrete structures with weak earthquake resistance are prone to collapse.

Earthquake Early Warning (EEW) (緊急地震速報 / Kinkyuu Jishin Sokuhou)

~Don't panic and protect yourself!~

The Earthquake Early Warning (EEW) System is a disaster prevention system that broadcasts warnings seconds before an earthquake occurs. The warnings are broadcast to such devices as cell phones, TVs, and radios and include a distinct audible alarm.

Brace yourself for tremors and protect yourself.

Emergency exit



Indicates the direction toward stairs or an outside exit that you can use to evacuate.

Evacuation shelter



A place where you can temporarily evacuate. Places like parks and schools are designated as temporary evacuation areas.

Tsunami evacuation shelter



A place where you can evacuate during a tsunami. High ground and hills are designated as tsunami evacuation shelters.

If an earthquake occurs



Take cover under a desk or table. Shield your head with a cushion, bag, or some other protective covering.



Open the door. If a door is structurally damaged during an earthquake, you will not be able to evacuate.



Evacuate by following the instructions of announcements and of local officials.



Watch out for rockfalls and landslides near mountains and cliffs, and move away from any such areas.



Do not ride in elevators due to the possibility of aftershocks.



If you are riding in a car, train or bus, follow the evacuation instructions of officials or staff.

Quick evacuation from a potential tsunami risk

In coastal or riverside areas, evacuate to higher ground immediately if you experience a strong earthquake or a weak tremor that shakes for more than one minute. Stay away from the sea and rivers.



Types of Tsunami Warnings and other information ~Make sure you understand the criteria correctly~

The Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) will announce a warning about three minutes after an earthquake occurs to notify the public about whether there is a risk of a tsunami.

Major Tsunami Warning (大津波警報 / Ootsunami Keihou)

Very high tsunami of three meters or higher is expected.

Tsunami Warning (津波警報 / Tsunami Keihou)

High Tsunami over one meter and less than three meters is expected.

Tsunami Advisory (津波注意報 / Tsunami Chuuihou)

Tsunami over 20 centimeters and less than one meter is expected.

Typhoon / Heavy Rain

Localized torrential rains have been increasing in recent years. In Wakayama Prefecture, typhoons and heavy rains have caused large-scale storm and flood damage, including landslides and flooding.

Larger typhoons and torrential rains are expected in the future due to climate change and other factors.

Torrential rains leading to disasters

Cumulonimbus clouds form and grow continuously in the same location in succession, bringing several hundred millimeters of rainfall over a narrow span for more than several hours.



- When a typhoon is approaching or has made landfall in Japan
- When atmospheric instability continues
- When the sky darkens or thunderstorms and lightning occur

Protect yourself from heavy rain



It is dangerous to be near mountains or the sea, so be sure to stay away from them.



If you are outdoors, there is a risk of injury from falls or being struck by flying debris.



Check the latest information on TV and on the internet, and consider how to evacuate.

Criteria for Weather Warnings and other Advisories ~Check for the latest information~

The Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) announces disaster prevention weather information about such things as heavy rains (landslide, inundation), flooding, and storms.

[Definition of Warnings and other Advisories]

Emergency Warning (特別警報 / Tokubetsu Keihou)

A warning is issued when the forecasted weather conditions are particularly irregular and there is a significant risk of a serious disaster occurring.

Warning (警報 / Keihou)

A forecast that warns that a serious disaster is likely to occur.

Advisory (注意報 / Chuuihou)

A forecast that warns when there is a risk of a disaster occurring.

[Types of Weather Warnings]

Heavy Rain Warning (大雨 / Ooame)

Be cautious of landslides and flooding caused by heavy rainfall.

Flood Warning (洪水 / Kouzui)

Flooding can lead to rivers overflowing. Evacuate to higher ground away from rivers.

Storm Warning (暴風 / Boufuu)

The wind is very strong. Be cautious of flying debris and stay indoors if possible.

Storm Surge Warning (高潮 / Takashio)

The waves are getting higher. Please move away from the sea.