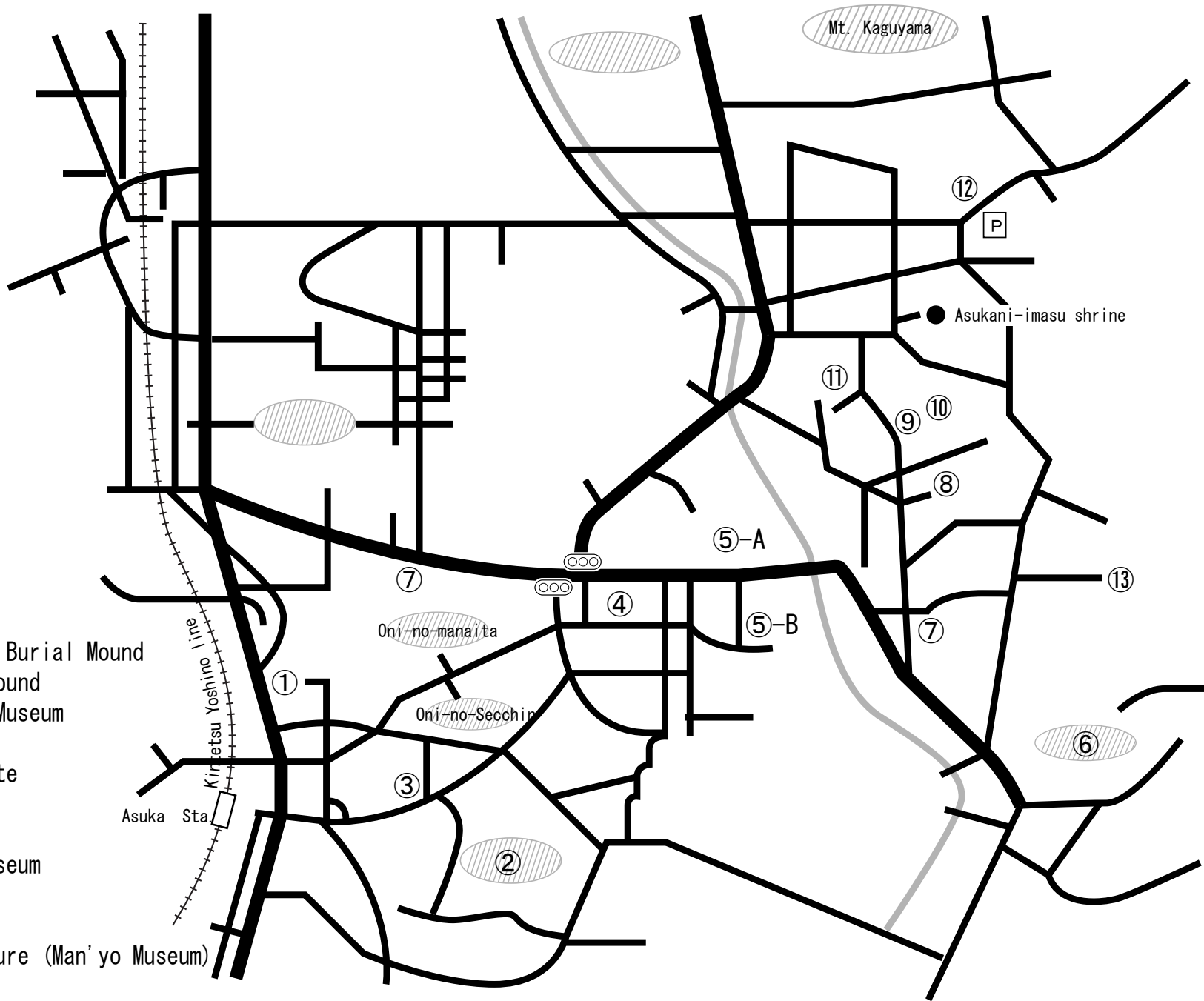


# Asuka Historical National Government Park



- ① Kibitsu-hime-ookimihaka Burial Mound
- ② Takamatsuzuka Burial Mound
- ③ Asuka Historical Park Museum
- ④ Kame-ishi
- ⑤-A Kawaradera Temple Site
- ⑤-B Tachibanadera Temple
- ⑥ Ishibutai Burial Mound
- ⑦ Asuka Indigo Dyeing Museum
- ⑧ Sakafune-ishi (Stone)
- ⑨ Asuka Folk Museum
- ⑩ Complex of Man'yo Culture (Man'yo Museum)
- ⑪ Asukadera Temple
- ⑫ Asuka Historical Museum
- ⑬ Okadera Temple

# Asuka Historical National Government Park – Rent-a-Cycle Course

Rent a bicycle from a bicycle rental shop in front of Kintetsu Asuka Station. Visit Asuka's unique, mysterious stone objects and enjoy the beautiful natural environment by bicycle. [Fee:900 yen for one day]

① Kibitsu-hime-ookimihaka Burial Mound [No Charge] (5 minutes from Kintetsu Asuka Station) There are four stone objects at this site: a man, a woman, a monkey and a priest. They were excavated from Emperor Kinmei's burial mound. ⇒ ② Takamatsuzuka Burial Mound and Wall Painting Museum [250 yen] (10 minutes from ①) Since its excavation in 1972, this 7<sup>th</sup> century tomb has become famous for its beautiful wall paintings. Currently it is only possible to view the outside of the mound as the internal environment is strictly controlled by state of the art technology. However, in 1977 a Wall Painting Museum was constructed that displays faithful reproductions of the originals. ⇒ ③ Asuka Historical Park Museum [No Charge] (3 minutes from ②) The topographical map of Asuka on display is informative and useful for visitors to get their bearings. Vending machines for drinks and restrooms are also available. ⇒ ④ Kame-ishi (Tortoise Stone) [No charge] (10 minutes from ③) The front of this stone seems to resemble the face of a laughing tortoise. One of a number of enigmatic stones unearthed around Asuka. ⇒ ⑤ Kawaradera Temple Site (5-A) and Tachibanadera Temple (5-B) [300 yen] (5 minutes from ④) Tachibanadera Temple contains the Nimenseki Stone—carved with two human faces expressing good and evil. One of the aforementioned enigmatic stones. The Kawaradera Temple Site serves as a good place for lunch. ⇒ ⑥ Ishibutai Burial Mound [250 yen] (12 minutes from ⑤) This burial mound has the largest side-entrance-style stone chamber in Japan. Who was laid in this chamber remains unknown. Don't miss the reproduction stone coffin nearby. Several Japanese-style restaurants are located nearby. ⇒ ⑦ Asuka Indigo Dyeing Museum [No charge] (5 minutes from ⑥) Ancient indigo-dyed works, Asuka earthen bells and photographs of scenery are exhibited in a traditional house near to the Asuka Village Tourists Information Center. Handmade soba noodles and teas are also available. If you wish to have a go at indigo-dyeing, it is possible but you will have to reserve in advance. Tie-dyeing of a handkerchief (50×50cm) costs 1,000 yen; Wax dyeing costs 1,500 yen; Bell-coloring costs 1,000 yen. Please allocate about one hour for the dyeing. ⇒ ⑧ Sakafune-ishi (Stone) [No Charge] (5 minutes from ⑦) This stone object lies amidst a bamboo thicket on a small hill. One of the mysterious stones of Asuka. ⇒ ⑨ Asuka Folk Museum [No Charge] (5 minutes from ⑧) Here are displayed traditional tools used in everyday life collected in and around the Asuka area. They are displayed in an 18<sup>th</sup> century house relocated to its present site. ⇒ ⑩ Complex of Man'yo Culture (Man'yo Museum) [600 yen] (Next to the ⑨) There are so many exhibits in this museum (including historical artifacts, reproductions of people's lives in history and Japanese-style paintings based on the themes of the Man'yo-shu, an anthology of poetry edited in the 8<sup>th</sup> century) that you could spend a good half-day here. It's certainly a good place to make use of when it rains! ⇒ ⑪ Asukadera Temple [300 yen] (3 minutes from ⑩) This temple was constructed as the first full-fledged Buddhist temple in Japan in the 6<sup>th</sup> century. Its sedentary statue of Buddha, called Asuka Daibutsu, dates back to the 6<sup>th</sup> century. ⇒ ⑫ Asuka Historical Museum [260 yen] (15 minutes from ⑪) In the garden of this museum are replicas of mysterious stone objects excavated from the Asuka Village area. Many 7<sup>th</sup> century artifacts and replicas are on display. You can go back to Kintetsu Asuka Station from here via the Kame-ishi (Tortoise Stone). Have a good day!

[Helpful Information]

<Asuka Historical National Government Park> This park was developed by the Ministry of Construction in order to preserve and make optimum use of the environment and cultural heritage of Asuka, the political and cultural center of ancient Japan. This is the first case of its kind in Japan. Total area: 46.1 hectares.

\* Try Kaki (persimmon) cake at the Cafe in the Complex of Man'yo Culture. (600 yen)

\* All numbers above correspond with those on the map.

\* 1 km (about 0.6 mile) = Approximately 15 minutes