

## Riding the Bus (バスの利用について)

今回はバスの利用についてご紹介します。

Hot days continue signaling that summer is coming soon.

I am sure many of you are busy making a variety of plans for summer vacation.

People say a car is essential for life in Miyazaki; however, for those without a vehicle, making smart use of buses will also expand your area of access.

Thus, this month, we will talk about how to make use of bus services.

### [Local Bus Service]

First, check the bus route map to find out which route is best to get from the closest bus stop to your desired destination. Route maps can be obtained at bus centers and can also be downloaded from the Miyazaki-Kotsu website.



Where to get on and off the bus, as well as payment procedures differ both by country and prefecture. When riding most local buses in Miyazaki, you board from the back and get off at the front. Make your payment when getting off the bus.

### (Paying by Cash)

Take a ticket when getting on the bus; the number of the stop where you boarded is printed on the ticket. When you hear the announcement for your destination, press the button to inform the driver that you will be getting off the bus. Fares will be displayed on the board at the front of the bus; your fare will be under the same number as the number on your ticket. Put the fare in the fare box beside the driver. ¥5,000 and ¥10,000 bills cannot be exchanged in the bus.

### (Payment by Bus Card)

Buying a bus card is quite convenient for people who use the bus frequently. Bus cards can be bought for ¥3000 – ¥500 is kept as a deposit, meaning ¥2,500 can be used towards bus fares.

When getting on and off the bus, scan your card on the card reader. Bus cards can be bought at the Miyazaki-Kotsu Bus Center or onboard the bus. When your balance gets low, you can recharge your card onboard the bus. The deposit of ¥500 is refunded after you finish using your bus card; however, refunds can only be claimed at Miyazaki-Kotsu branch offices and the bus center.

**Attention:** Exchange money and recharge bus cards when the bus is stopped. Please do not disturb the bus driver while the bus is in motion.

### [Highway Bus Service]

There is highway bus service to various places in *Kyusyu*, as well as *Kyoto(via Osaka)*, which has made traveling outside of Miyazaki very convenient. Round-trip bus service is available 28 times a day to Fukuoka, twice a day to Nagasaki, 14 times a day to Kumamoto, 7 times a day to Kagoshima, and once a day to Kyoto. All buses outside of those to and from Kagoshima require a reservation.

Reservations and Inquiries: Miyazaki-Kotsu

(Phone) 0985-51-5153 (Website) <http://www.miyakoh.co.jp/bus/rosen/busca/use.html>

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please contact the Miyazaki International Foundation: (Phone) 0985-32-8457, (Fax) 0985-32-8512 or (E-mail) [miyainfo@mif.or.jp](mailto:miyainfo@mif.or.jp).

Thank you