

A night-time photograph of a city skyline, likely Osaka, featuring a prominent tower (the Tower of Pisa replica) and a large mountain (Mount Fuji) in the background. The city lights are illuminated against a dark blue sky.

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VACATIONS

Osaka Itami Airport Travel Instructions



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Introduction

For travellers new to Japan, travelling to and from the airports can feel overwhelming.

There are four main ways to travel to and from Osaka Itami Airport: Inspiring Vacations Airport Transfers, Taxi, Airport Limousine Bus, and Trains. Each has their own positives and negatives, as seen below:

Inspiring Vacations Private Airport Transfer

These are direct airport transfers that can be booked online through your Traveller Hub. This is the most expensive option, but also the simplest and most direct.

Taxi

Taxis are also an expensive option but also the simplest and most direct.

Airport Limousine Bus

This is a bus that offers a middle ground in terms of cost. It is simpler than navigating public transport, but slower, as buses stop at multiple locations and are affected by traffic. Additionally, the service frequency varies; wait times can be up to one hour.

Train

Trains are the cheapest, and often the fastest way to travel, but can seem the most daunting or confusing for first-time visitors.



Introduction

Airport Limousine Buses, which are large coach buses rather than actual limousines, provide direct service from the airports to various hubs across Osaka. They're a convenient choice for those deterred by the high cost of taxis or the complexities of Osaka's train network, as they often stop close to major hotels and eliminate the need for transfers.

Osaka's train network is intricate, with multiple operators and private companies managing overlapping lines. There can be confusion on how to navigate Osaka's train services, however, trains are highly efficient, with clear signage (usually in English), punctual services, and helpful locals. Tools like Google Maps simplify navigation, providing detailed routes, platform numbers, and schedules, allowing you to confidently navigate even the busiest stations.

In Osaka, most of our hotels are either near Shin-Osaka Station, or Osaka Station (also known as Osaka-Umeda). It is recommended prior to departure that you use Google to figure out which train station is closest to your arrival/departure hotel.

This guide will help you travel from Itami (Osaka International) Airport to Osaka's central areas, including Osaka-Umeda Station or Shin Osaka Station. Whether you prefer private transfers, public transport, limousine buses, or taxis, there are multiple options to suit your needs.

If you choose to use public transport, navigating Osaka's transport system may seem intimidating, but our instructions for each area will make your journey as straightforward as possible.



Itami (Osaka International) Airport (ITM)

Upon arriving at Itami Airport, you'll find clear signage directing you to taxi ranks, buses, and the Monorail connection, as well as an Information Counter where you can get assistance with ticketing or travel queries. Inspiring Vacations does not offer included transfers in Japan in order to make the tour a more affordable option for our customers, while still giving the option to include transfers if preferred.

Below, you'll find step-by-step instructions for using the airport bus, monorail, and taxis to travel from Itami Airport to central Osaka. If you're departing from your hotel to Itami Airport, simply reverse these processes for your journey.

Transfer Options - Pros and Cons

Private Transfer	Limousine Bus	Trains	Taxi
✓ Direct and private	✓ Convenient and comfortable	✓ Cheaper option	✓ Direct and private
✓ 24/7 availability	✓ Easy to use	✓ Quicker option	✓ 24/7 availability
✓ Door to door service	✓ Stops at major hotels/stations	✓ Scenic	✓ Door to door service
✓ Easy to use	× Longest travel time	× Complex	✓ Easy to use
× Most expensive option		× Luggage to be carried	× Most expensive option
× Travel time dependent on traffic		× Crowded in peak hour	× Travel time dependent on traffic
			× Language barriers

Option 1: Inspiring Vacations Private Airport Transfer

Inspiring Vacations Airport Transfers provide a private, direct, and highly convenient travel option between Itami Airport and destinations across Central Osaka. They are ideal for those prioritising comfort, privacy, or travelling during hours when other transport options are less available.

These transfers are operated by an external company, and can be booked directly through your Traveller Hub. For more information, see [this article](#).

Information

Cost:

- ¥1,700 - ¥2,700. Please note that these prices are approximate and may vary.

Payment Options:

- This is paid through your traveller hub or over the phone with Inspiring Vacations, along with your tour cost.

Onboard Amenities:

- Spacious seating with ample legroom.
- Ample luggage space for large bags or multiple suitcases.
- Air conditioning and polite, professional drivers ensure a comfortable experience.

How to Travel From Itami Airport to Central Osaka via Inspiring Vacations Airport Transfers

Step 1: Open Your Booking in Traveller Hub

- Sign into your Traveller Hub account on the Inspiring Vacations website, and open your booking.

Step 2: Add Your Transfer

- Scroll down through Traveller Hub to the 'Transfers' section.
- Click on 'Add Transfer'
- Input required details, such arrival date, arrival time, arrival airport etc. Note: You must search 'Osaka International Airport'.
- Choose your vehicle type.
- Input your passenger details

Once booked you will receive a confirmation email, this email will advise you to pay your Inspiring Vacations invoice. It will also include:

- Booking reference.
- General transfer details.
- Link to your booking directly with our third party supplier.

Approximately 24-48 hours after booking, you will receive a second email with your travel voucher, and details outlining who will pick you up and location.

Notes:

- You can not book your Transfer until your tour has been confirmed.
- You can cancel up to 24 hours prior to pick up.
- For any issues on arrival to the Airport, you will have emergency contact numbers in your final documents. As these transfers are not operated by Inspiring Vacations, if you encounter any issues either on tour or within 72 hours of pick up time we recommend contacting our third party supplier directly to resolve your issue.

Option 2: Airport Limousine Bus

Airport Limousine Buses provide a direct and stress-free connection between Itami International Airport and various destinations across Osaka, including major train stations, and some hotels. These buses are a popular choice for travellers seeking convenience and simplicity.

The downside of the Airport Limousine Bus service is that it can take much longer than Trains/Taxi's due to wait times, traffic, and stop schedules (buses do multiple drop offs to other destinations on the way to final stop).

At Itami International Arrivals terminal, there is a **'Ticket Booth for Airport Bus'** help desk, where you will be able to purchase tickets. You can advise the staff which hotel you are staying at and they will be able to assist you with the closest bus stop, or if you know your closest train station then you can advise them of this information.

Information

- **Cost:** ¥500 - ¥650. Please note that these prices are approximate and may vary.
- **Destinations Served:** The Itami Airport Limousine Bus serves various destinations across Osaka, including major stations like Shin-Osaka Station, and Osaka Station, as well as key hotels.
- **Hotels:** Many routes stop directly at major hotels or at nearby bus stops, often within walking distance of your accommodation.
- **Other Locations:** Some routes go to Umeda and Namba providing easy access to central areas in Osaka.

Timetable:

- Frequent services are available, with departures timed to match flight schedules.
- Travel times can vary depending on traffic conditions, with buses departing regularly from early morning to late evening.
- Check the Itami Airport Limousine Bus website or **'Ticket Booth for Airport Bus'** help desk for the most up-to-date departure times.

Tickets:

- Ticket purchase options include **'Ticket Booth for Airport Bus'** help desk at the airport, online booking, or ticket vending machines located in the airport terminals.
- Tickets can be purchased one-way or round-trip.

How to Travel From Itami International Airport to Central Osaka via Limousine Bus

Step 1: Check the Schedule and Buy Tickets

At the Airport:

- Follow the 'Group & Shuttle Bus' signs to the Bus terminal on the 1st Floor.
- Purchase tickets at the vending machines located outside, or visit the **'Ticket Booth for Airport Bus'** counter to purchase tickets.

OR

Online:

- Visit the official website to check the schedules, routes, and fares. You can find information on departure times, arrival times, and stops at your specific hotel.
- Purchase tickets online
- If travelling from your hotel to the airport, you can inquire at the front desk about Airport Limousine Bus services. They can provide specific information and assist with booking.
- Book online



Step 2: Board the Bus

- Boarding Gates: Follow the signs to the designated boarding gate for your hotel.
- Boarding Pass: Present your ticket to the staff at the boarding gate.

Step 3: Walk or Taxi from the Bus Stop to Your Hotel

- After travelling from the Airport to the bus stop closest to your hotel, disembark the bus and walk/taxi to your hotel

Option 3: Trains

NOTE: We strive to keep this information updated, but train schedules and details may change frequently.

Travelling from Itami Airport to Osaka via train is a fast and direct way to get to your hotel. In Osaka, most of our hotels are either near Shin-Osaka Station, or Osaka Station (also known as Osaka-Umeda). It is recommended prior to departure that you use Google to figure out which train station is closest to your arrival/departure hotel.

To travel from Itami Airport, you can take the **Osaka Monorail** to **Senri-Chuo Station**, a key transit hub in northern Osaka. At Senri-Chuo, you will transfer to the **Kita-Osaka Kyuko Line and Midosuji line**, which directly connects you to both Shin-Osaka and Osaka stations.

There can be confusion about the Kita-Osaka Kyuko Line and Midosuji lines; though these are two separate train companies, they share the same train line and the Kita-Osaka Kyuko Line seamlessly transitions into the Midosuji Line without requiring passengers to hop off and change train. In practice, they function as one continuous line, even though they're operated by different companies.

Osaka Monorail to Osaka (Umeda) Station and Shin-Osaka Station

- **Cost:** ¥600. Please note that these prices are approximate and may vary.
- **Destinations Served:** The Osaka Monorail connects Osaka Itami Airport to key locations, being the most convenient option for travelling to Shin-Osaka Station.
- **Timetable:** The Osaka Monorail operates daily from early morning until late night. Check the official website for the most accurate and up-to-date schedule.

How to Travel from Itami International Airport to Central Osaka Stations via the Osaka Monorail & Kita-Osaka Kyuko Railway

To get to **Shin-Osaka and Osaka (Umeda) stations** you will need to travel from Itami Airport to **Senri Chuo Station** using the **Osaka Monorail**. At Senri-Chuo, you will transfer to the **Kita-Osaka Kyuko Line** which directly connects you to both Shin-Osaka and Osaka (Umeda) stations.

Step 1: Exit the Airport:

- Once you've collected your luggage, head towards the domestic arrival exit.
- Follow the signs to the Monorail via the access bridge.



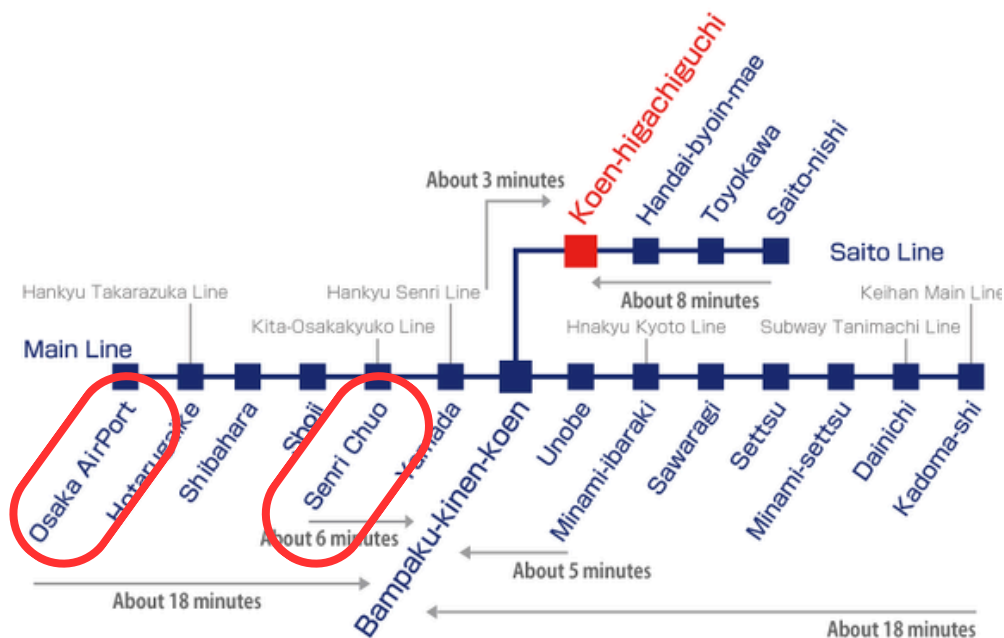
Step 2: Purchase a Ticket:

- **Locate the ticket machine:** Look for the purple or red ticket machines at the station.
- **Select English:** Press the "English" button on the machine.
- **Choose ticket type:** Select "Regular (One-Way)" or "Round-Trip" as needed.
- **Input fare:** Enter the fare for your desired destination. You can check the fare table above the machine.
- **Insert cash:** Put in the required amount of cash.
- **Collect ticket:** The machine will dispense your ticket.

Note: You cannot pay with credit cards at these ticket machines.

Step 3: Take the Osaka Monorail:

- **Board the Monorail:** Take the monorail travelling towards **Senri-Chuo Station**.
- **Get Off at Senri-Chuo Station:** This is where you'll transfer to the **Kita-Osaka Kyuko Railway** and the **Midsouji Railway**.



Step 4: Transfer to Kita-Osaka Kyuko Railway:

- **Change Line:** When you arrive at **Senri-Chuo Station** on the Osaka Monorail, exit the monorail platform. Inside Senri-Chuo Station, look for signs that indicate **Kita-Osaka Kyuko Line**. These will typically be in both Japanese and English.
- You will have to walk a few minutes out of the station to get to the **Kita-Osaka Kyuko Line**, however there will be clear signage directing you to the correct platform.



- **Purchase a Ticket:** You can purchase a ticket at the vending machine near the Kita-Osaka Kyuko platform.

If you're heading to Osaka Station:

- Get off at Umeda Station (about 17 minutes from Senri-Chuo).
- Umeda Station is directly connected to Osaka Station—just follow the signs.

If you're heading to Shin-Osaka Station:

- Get off at Shin-Osaka Station (about 13 minutes from Senri-Chuo).

Step 5: Transfer from Osaka Umeda or Shin-Osaka Stations to Your Hotel

- Either walk or taxi to your hotel.

Option 4: Taxi

Taxis provide a private, direct, and highly convenient travel option between Itami Airport and destinations across Central Osaka. They are ideal for those prioritising comfort, privacy, or travelling during hours when other transport options are less available.

Taxi ranks are located out the front of Itami Airport, and signs are easy to follow to find the taxi ranks.

Information

- **Cost:** ¥4,000 - ¥7,500. Please note that these prices are approximate and may vary.
- **Availability:** Taxis are available 24/7 from designated taxi stands at the Itami Airport terminals.
- **Surcharge:** Late-night surcharges (typically 20% higher) apply for trips between 10 PM and 5 AM. Additional toll fees (around ¥500–¥1,000) are added to the base fare for routes using expressways.
- **Payment Options:** Most taxis accept credit cards and cash.

How to Travel from Itami International Airport to Central Osaka Stations via Taxi

Step 1: Follow the Signs to the Taxi Rank

- Follow the signs to the Tank area outside of Itami Airport.
- Advise the Taxi driver of your hotel.