

PORTAL SITE

MANGA KINGDOM TOSA

Introduction: Kochi Prefecture is the birthplace of many famous manga artists, including Takashi Yanase, the creator of *Anpanman*, and Naoshi Komi, who created *Nisekoi*. A region with manga culture rooted deeply in it from the past, Kochi boasts many manga-related events and tourist sites. This website introduces events and places of interest in Manga Kingdom Tosa (the old name for Kochi).



**MANGA
KOSHIEIN**

**KOCHIMANGA
FESTIVAL
-MANSAI-**

**MANGAKA
DAIKAIGI**

**MANGA-RELATED
TOURIST SITES**

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MANGA KOSHIEIN

Started by manga-loving high school students, the Manga Koshien is a competition held to decide the best high school student manga team. Held every August since 1992, it is one of the most representative summer events in Kochi. It takes its name from the stadium where Japan's annual high school baseball tournament takes place and has become a household name amongst manga-drawing high school students all over the country. Since 2017, high school teams from South Korea, Singapore and Taiwan were invited to compete alongside their Japanese counterparts in the competition.





KOCHIMANGA FESTIVAL =MANSAI=

Mansai is a manga event held every autumn in Kochi that encourages visitors to "watch," "draw" and "play."

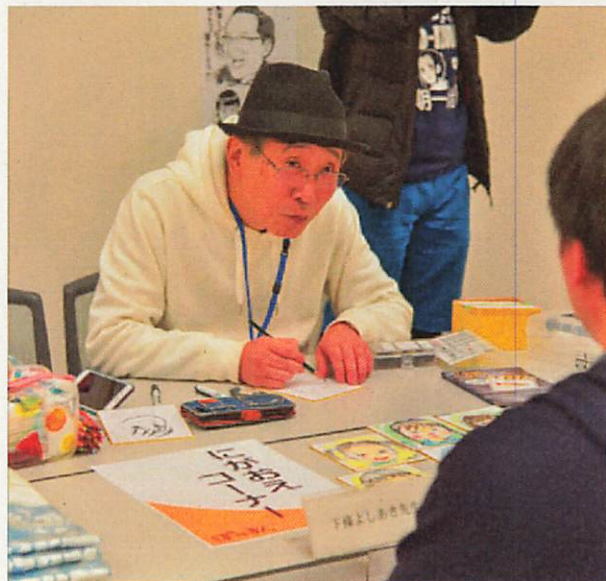
Popular voice actors and manga artists, such as Kochi-born Daisuke Ono, participate in this annual event as guests, and over 10,000 people attend it yearly.

With local manga- and anime-loving volunteers organizing the event, visitors can enjoy not only the star-studded guestlist, but also the passion and creativity the staff exhibit in putting on the event.

MANGAKA DAIKAIGI

This annual spring event in Manga Kingdom Tosa provides a great opportunity for visitors to meet legendary manga artists through lectures, autograph sessions and workshops.

A party called "Okyaku" is also held, with guest manga artists and visitors taking advantage of Kochi's renowned drinking culture to enjoy food, drink and manga together.



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MANGA KOSHIE



Official Name: National High School Manga Championship (Since 1992)

Manga Koshien is a competition where high school students compete for the position of Number 1 by creating one-page manga.

About 300 high school teams, comprising three to five students each, enter every year. Of these, 30 teams are selected to go on to the championship round in August. Competing teams battle it out with their ideas, techniques and teamwork, all within a limited amount of time.

Talented students participating in the main round may also be scouted by major manga publishers and perhaps even debut as professionals!

Preliminary
Round

Manga are submitted by high school students from all over Japan as well as and from three countries overseas.

Announcement of Submission Mid-April
Theme



Semifinals

Closing Date Early June
 Announcement of Results Late June
 Only 33 teams (30 from within Japan and one each from South Korea, Singapore and Taiwan) out of the 300 or so teams submitting manga will be selected to participate in the main round.

On the first day of the main round, all 33 teams will compete.
 One of five possible themes, which will have been previously announced, will be selected just before the competition begins.
 Teams have 5 hours and 30 minutes to complete their manga based on the selected theme. Only 15 teams out of the 33 will move onto the finals.



Consolation Match



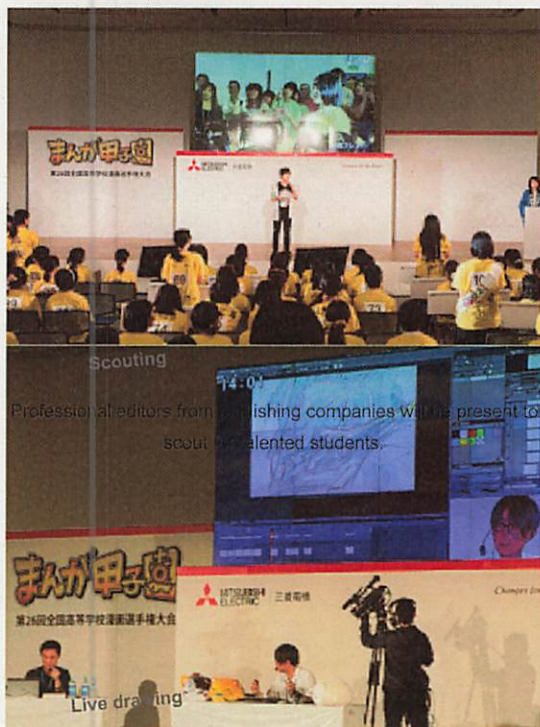
On the second day, the 18 teams eliminated in the first round will be given a second chance to compete for the championship.
 After the semifinals have ended on the first day, eliminated teams will have until midnight to submit a new work.
 Judges and the general public will consider their work, and five out of the 18 teams will be revived to compete in the finals.

Finals

A total of 20 teams, consisting of the 15 teams who made it through the semifinals and the 5 teams revived from the consolation match, will compete for the championship and the right to call themselves the No. 1 high school manga team!
 Teams will be given 5 hours and 30 minutes, during which they will be so focused on drawing, they might even forget about lunch.
 A gong will sound when time is up, and then the only thing the teams can do is pray!
 First, Second and Third place teams will be selected along with the winning teams of six other prizes.



Events



Live drawing exhibitions by guest manga artists. See for yourselves the speed and talent of famous artists.



A manga training session. Teachers show how to draw manga while talking humorously about their art.

On-site Editorial Departments

Professional editors will be present to evaluate work brought to the event, not just by participating schools and students, but anyone present. This is a rare opportunity for aspiring manga artists, for if you catch the editors' eyes, you may even get a chance to become a professional manga creator!



for the 26th Manga Koshien Promotional Corners



I-C Corner



Manga FeaLocal High School Student



Kuroshio Manga Grand Prize Award Ceremony



Exhibition of Preliminary Round Entries for the Manga Koshien



Japan Cartoonists Association Corner



Kaiyodo Hobby Museum Shimanto/Kappa Museum Display Corner



Facial Caricature Corner



National Manken Library



Manga Reading Corner



Graffiti Corner

for the 26th Manga Koshien Businesses and Groups Corner



Manga Kingdom Tottori



Mansai



Association for Municipality Promotion



Kinkodo Book Store



Wacom



Celsys, Inc.



Hobby Japan Co., Ltd.



Human Academy Co., Ltd.



Kawahara Design and Art College



Osaka Sogo College of Design



College of International Design and Beauty

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MANGAKA DAIKAIGI

全国漫画家大会議 in 漫画王国・土佐

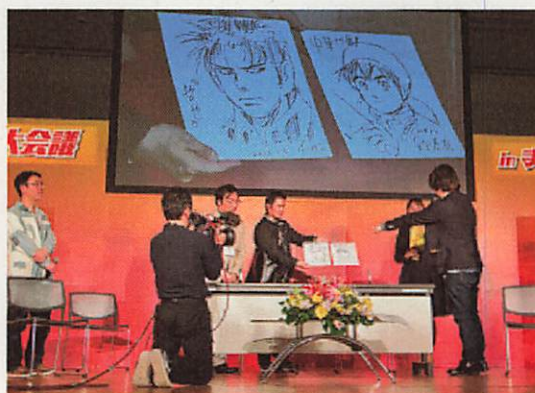
All-Japan Manga Artists Conference in Manga Kingdom-Tosa

This event offers an opportunity for manga artists to meet in Kochi Prefecture through the manga society network that Kochi, aka Manga Kingdom Tosa, has built. It has been held every year around March since 2015. More than 50 manga artists have attended the event, including the legendary cartoonists Tetsuya Chiba (*Ashita no Joe*), Takao Saito (*Golgo 13*), and Yoichi Takahashi (*Captain Tsubasa*).

It is an excellent opportunity to mingle with manga artists, listen to their stories and even drink together. It is made possible because of the culture of Manga Kingdom Tosa.

..... Talk Show by Manga Artist

A guest manga artist talks about behind-the-scenes stories about the creation process of their masterpieces and also gives their personal history, including how they became a cartoonist. The artist may call upon his editor to talk about their experiences together or invite entertainers who love manga to offer their perspectives.



..... Manga Class

Guest manga artists will teach visitors how to draw or tell about their methods for coming up with stories. The classes are given at various levels from beginner to advanced.



Children can enjoy drawing caricatures of their parents in the beginner class, and for those in the advanced class, the guest cartoonist will review the manga drawn by participants.

.....
**Autograph
Session**



An autograph session will be held, with the guest artists signing their works. Some artists may add an illustration to the signature.

.....
**Interaction Booth with
Manga Artists**

Artists are stationed at the booth throughout the entire conference. Visitors can see their work and talk with them or may pose for a facial caricature.



.....
Okyaku (Party)

In Kochi, parties are called "okyaku." Visitors can enjoy a party with guest manga artists and even join a small group for an afterparty to further deepen their interaction.



**Big Hall
Event**

This event is held in a large hall with a capacity of 1,000 people. It features a premium stage show that changes every year, and past shows include a talk given by Masako Nozawa, a famous voice actress who voiced Son Goku in "Dragon Ball," as well as a Hello Kitty musical.

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まんが王国・土佐推進協議会

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KOCHIMANGA FESTIVAL = MANSAI =

The official name for Mansai is the "Kochi Manga Festival." Its fans call it "Mansai" for short. Since 2003, the festival has been held at the beginning of November every year. Filled with fun events, its aim is for everyone to enjoy manga by encouraging them to "watch," "draw" and "play." It attracts about 10,000 people, the highest of all the manga-related events in Kochi. Mansai also offers anime events, reaching out to young fans from teenagers to adults in their 30s. Volunteers who love anime organize and operate the festival, supporting the events with their passion.

Stage Events



Individual talks and live shows of anisong (songs from anime) are held, with popular guests appearing every year, such as the well-known manga artist Suzue Miuchi, famous for his manga *Glass Mask*, and voice actors such as Daisuke Ono, who hails from Kochi, as well as Mayumi Tanaka. The event is held in a 150-seat venue, and people vie for standing room places because of its popularity. It is an extremely attractive event because you can see the faces of guests clearly even when standing at the back.

"Play with Manga". Corner

This area offers a hands-on opportunity to learn the fun of drawing manga. People of all ages can enjoy making key-holders, posters and calendars based on a manga of their own creation.



Event Booth and Manga

There are also attractions other than stage events. Award-winning pieces from the Manga Koushien and reproductions of popular manga works cover the walls, filling the festival space with manga. Supporting businesses have booths that allow visitors to draw manga with digital devices, read manga, purchase anime goods, try new games and more.



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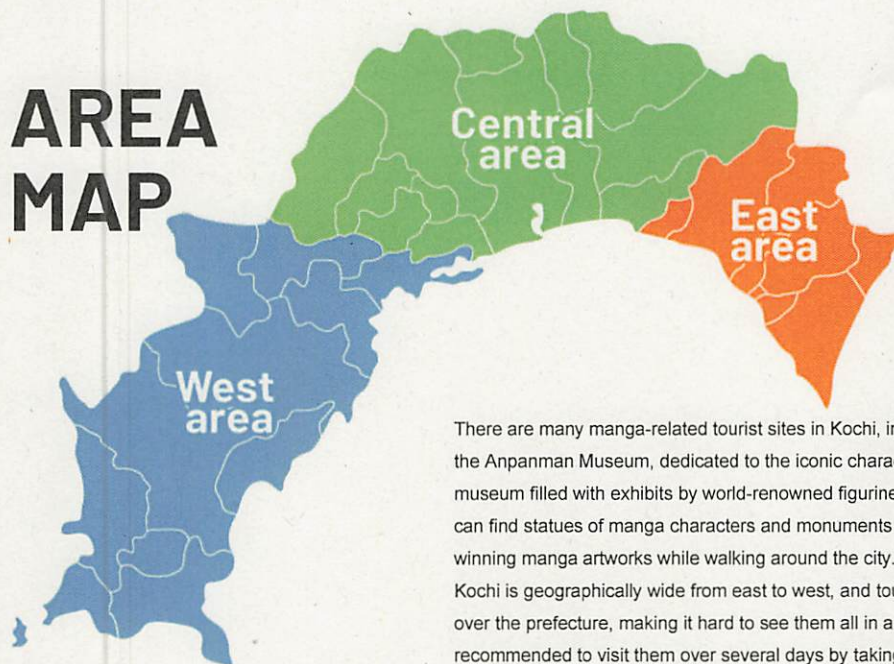
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AREA MAP



There are many manga-related tourist sites in Kochi, including but not limited to the Anpanman Museum, dedicated to the iconic character Anpanman, and a museum filled with exhibits by world-renowned figurine maker Kaiyodo. Visitors can find statues of manga characters and monuments to Manga Koshien award-winning manga artworks while walking around the city.

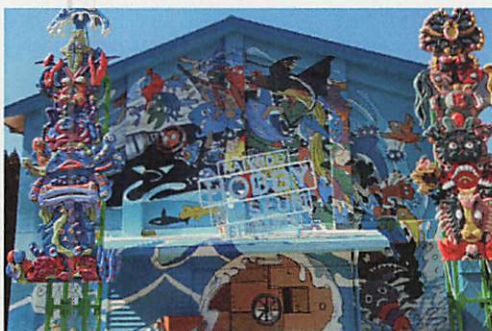
Kochi is geographically wide from east to west, and tourist sites are scattered all over the prefecture, making it hard to see them all in a short time. It is recommended to visit them over several days by taking Anpanman Trains, Anpanman Buses and Hobby Trains to get around.

Please enjoy the tourist sites of Kochi while basking in its unique manga culture.

West area!

Central area!

East area!



Kaiyodo Hobby Museum Shimanto

This museum was established in the gymnasium of an elementary school that had been closed. It is located in a rural area, making it hard to reach, but the museum has a lot to offer. It is filled with exhibits, including valuable collections made and accumulated by Kaiyodo, such as character figurines and old plastic models.

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Stone Statue of Yusuke Aoyagi

A statue of the late Yusuke Aoyagi sketching while looking at a blue sky and the sea can be seen on Furusato Beach in Nakatosha-cho, Kure, where his manga "Tosa no Ippon Zuri" takes place.

[Access Map](#)

Kaiyodo Kappa Museum

This first-in-the-world kappa museum is filled with 600 items featuring Japan's mythical river creature that were selected from the award-winning art pieces submitted for the "Shimanto River Kappa Figure Contest." The number of kappa creations made by chain saws continues to increase. The unique shape of the museum building, built using the trees and soil of Shimanto Town, is an attraction in its own right.

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Manga Shrine

The shrine is very impressive because of its colorful roofs. Many high school students who participate in Manga Koshien come here to pray for victory prior to the competition.

Address: Onomihashidani, Nakatosha-cho, Takaoka-gun, Kochi

[Access Map](#)



Railroad Hobby Train

This JR train, outwardly designed to resemble the first-generation 0 series of Shinkansen bullet trains, runs between Uwajima Station, Ehime Prefecture, and Kubokawa Station, Kochi Prefecture. Many models of previous-generation bullet trains are displayed in showcases on the train.

See the URL below for train schedules and other information.

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Kaiyodo Hobby Train

This train runs between Kubokawa Station, Kochi Prefecture, and Uwajima Station, Ehime Prefecture. The floor, curtains and seats of the train are all designed to invoke the world of dinosaurs. There is also a showcase on the train displaying many figurines.

See the URL below for train schedules and other information.

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