

Kumano Kodo gear list

April is often considered the best time to visit Japan because the cherry blossoms are in full bloom in most regions of the country and the weather is pleasantly mild. . Expect a few degrees cooler than towns during the hike since the trail often runs at an elevation of 1000 meters in mountainous area.

Kii Peninsula is one of **the wettest places** in Japan and has high rainfall levels and the weather can change dramatically in one day. It is important to be prepared for the worst conditions at all times.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Gear & Clothes List	Notes
	Hiking Boots	These should be 'broken-in' and have <i>Good ankle support and tread</i> . Your boots will make or break your holiday so some time spent getting used to them is time well spent
	Running shoes or other light weight footwear	Backup in case you get blisters and also for use around town
	Backpack	30L-40L Pack. Large enough to carry extra clothing + rain jacket & pants, sweater, gloves, hat, lunch and snack food, water bottle and camera plus accessories
	Pack Cover	Keep your backpack dry when it rains
	Socks	Several changes. We suggest a wool blend for comfort.
	Walking Poles	Highly Recommended
	Gaiters	Optional in Japan, help to keep feet dry when wet and muddy
	Pants	Comfortable and quick drying, not cotton
	Base Layer	Light weight polypro top or wool, not cotton
	Long Sleeve	Medium or expedition weight polypropylene top or wool, not cotton
	Outer Jacket	Fleece jacket or sweater, down sweater
	Rain Jacket with hood and Rain Pants	Sufficient to withstand a day of rain
	Extra top base layers	Unlike dry climate in North America, Japan is very humid. In rain with rain jacket on and with its high humidity in Japan, you sweat a lot and you can get wet from sweating. Main reason for this is because even when it's raining, it is still very warm in April. Thus it is good idea to have extra top base layers in your pack in case when wet from sweating.
	Dry bag	Optional. To keep your item(s) dry. Ziplock bags work just fine.
	Head Gear	Wool or fleece hat, sunhat
	Gloves	Light gloves
	Sunglasses	Sunglasses
	Sunscreen	Sun block, Lip balm
	Water Bottle	Minimum 1 liter
	Headlight	Optional for the hike in case of any delay on the trail
	Folding umbrella	Optional for Japan
	Small blister & Personal first aid kit	Bring enough tape and blister treatment pads for personal use as well as double the amount of prescription medication so your guide can store an extra set with the group First Aid Kit in case something happens to your personal supply
	Your own medication	Personal use only
	Thermos	Optional for the hike
	Camera	Battery, Charger, Memory Card
	Snacks	Bring your favorite trail snacks for the hike e.g. cliff bars, protein bars etc

Late March and April climate in Kumano Kodo

Besides November, April is often considered the best time to visit Japan because the cherry blossoms are in full bloom in most regions of the country and the weather is pleasantly mild. However, Kumano area, also known as Kii Peninsula is one of the wettest areas of mainland Japan and you should be prepared for some rain year round and bring adequate rain gear.

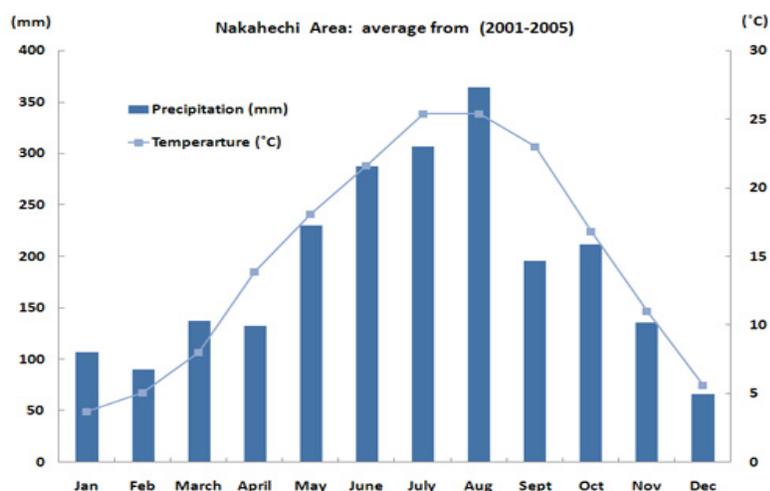
Also, the humidity is considerably high in Japan. You will find the humidity in Japan to be quite noticeable. When we hike in a rainy day, mild temperature (15°C to 20°C) with high humidity, you may have a sweaty and uncomfortable experience. To avoid it, right layering and wearing appropriate rain gear are essential to hiking in Japan. It is as well good idea to have some extra base layers in your day pack in a rainy day, in case you are wet from sweating. Please see our gear list.

Please see our 2017's April trip report on facebook. These photos are a great source to give you some idea to the size of packs, what to wear, the weather types you need to be prepared for.

<https://www.facebook.com/greathikesjapan/posts/1950552515230910>

April	High (°C)	Low (°C)	Average (°C)	average precipitation(mm)
Wakayama	19.6 °C	10.4 °C	14.9 °C	100.3mm
Koyasan	14.9 °C	3.6 °C	9.3 °C	137.2mm
Kumano Hongu	18.8 °C	6.8 °C	12.3 °C	160.4mm
Nachi Katsuura	19.5 °C	11.3 °C	15.4 °C	285.4mm
Osaka	19.9 °C	10.7 °C	15.1 °C	103.8mm

Nakahechi



	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Precipitation (mm)	106.6	90	137.4	132.6	229.8	287.2	306.6	364	196	211.8	135.6	66
Temperature (°C)	3.7	5.1	8	13.9	18.1	21.6	25.4	25.4	23	16.8	11	5.6