

One of the largest dams in Japan

# Manno Lake



There are approximately 14,600 registered dams in Kagawa Prefecture. Since Kagawa is characterized by low annual rainfall, it has relied on agricultural dams to supply up to 52% of the required water, and since Kagawa's rivers are short and steep, agricultural dams have generally been constructed in downstream regions. Manno Lake in Manno Town is one of the largest in Japan.



**Manno Town, Kagawa prefecture**

# Have you ever seen “Platinum Blue”?

Sanuki Mannou  
National Park

Kanno ancient burial mounds

Remains of Kanno No.1 kiln

Kagawa Manno Lake  
Forest Park

Yosuibaki  
(discharge channel)

Gomadan-iwa  
(memorial stone)

Manno Lake  
Intake Tower

Statue of young Kukai

Embankment

Karin-tei (restaurant)

Karin Kaikan  
(Karin Meeting Hall)

Kanno  
Shrine

Onbashira

Kanno-ji Temple

Manno Lake-himon  
(water gate)

Hotarumi Park  
(Firefly Viewing Park)

Miniature Hachijūhakkasho  
(88 temples of holy spots in Shikoku)

Tour of  
Manno Lake

Recommended route



Gomadan-iwa

The high priest Kukai lit a holy fire here to offer prayers for safe construction.



Miniature Shikoku Hachijūhakkasho  
Pilgrimage Route  
(88 temples in Shikoku)

We offer a miniature “Shikoku Pilgrimage” (eighty-eight temples on the island of Shikoku) for visitors who want a little respite for the soul. The pilgrimage takes only one hour. Each point features sand taken from the actual corresponding sacred sites as well as a principal image of the Buddha at the corresponding Fudasho (temple offering amulets).



Karin Kaikan (Karin Meeting Hall)

You can see many Manno Lake historical materials and use the area for resting as well. To hear more about Manno Lake’s history, etc., please make an appointment with a tour guide.

**TEL.0877-75-0200**

A hands-on noodle-making workshop is also offered. A noodle artisan who works at the noodle shop “Karin-tei” below teaches the workshop. (Advance reservations required)



Karin-tei



Karin-tei homemade noodles



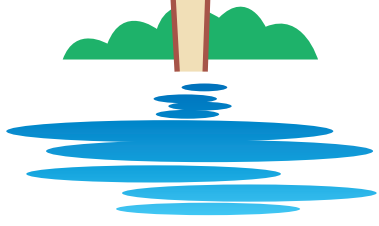
Park your car at **Karin Kaikan**, where you can see Manno Lake historical documents etc. on display, and continue from there. After passing through the **Kanno Shrine** gate, you may want to take some pictures of **Gomadan-iwa** (memorial stone) and **the intake tower**.

Then, from the back of **Kanno-ji Temple**, visit **the Miniature Shikoku Hachijūhakkasho** and experience the “Henro” (pilgrimage).

After that, walk to **Hotarumi Park**, see **Himon** (water gate), and take a break. Complete your Manno Lake tour with a visit to **Karin-tei** at the top of the slope to savor some homemade Udon noodles.



## The largest water reservoir in Japan



Manno Lake, which is shaped like a giant spread human palm, is a man-made dam. With a reservoir capacity of 15,400,000 m<sup>3</sup>, it is one of the largest in Japan, with an area of approximately 6,160 Olympic pools. Its perimeter is approximately 20 km, its water depth is approximately 22 m, and it irrigates a total area of 3,000 ha. Manno Lake is based on a system originally designed by Kukai (Kobo-daishi) about 1,200 years ago, featuring an arch-shaped bank to disperse pressure as well as a Yosuibaki (discharge channel) for releasing excessive water downstream in order to keep the water level constant.

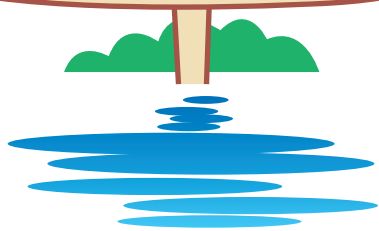


The phantasmal waterfall appears only when Manno Lake is full and excessive water is flowing through the Yosuibaki (discharge tunnel) into the Kanakuragawa River.



Kanno-ji Temple is the 17th special Fudasho constructed by Kukai, and a statue of him is built on the temple grounds.

## History of Manno Lake



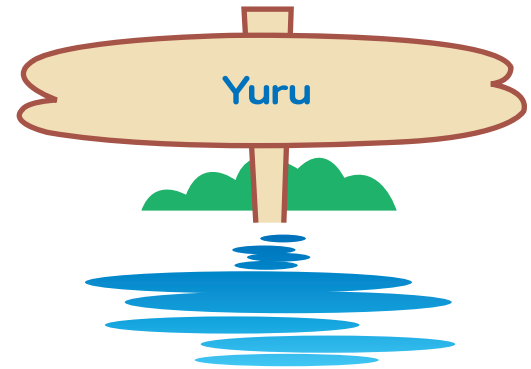
701-704 (Taiho era)	Constructed by the Sanuki governor, <b>Michimorino-ason</b> .
821 (Kounin era 12)	Reconstructed by <b>Kukai</b> under the orders of the <b>Emperor Saga</b> .
1184 (Genryaku era 1)	The banks were damaged by flooding and would not be reconstructed for about another 450 years. As a result, people ended up living in the waterless pond, and the area came to be called "Ikeuchi-mura (village inside the pond).
1628 - 1631 (Kanei era 5 - 8)	Reconstructed by <b>Nishijima Hachibei</b> .
1849 - 1853 (Kaei era 2 - 6)	Since wooden sluiceways were used at the time, people had to replace outlet conduits and downpipes frequently. To eliminate that problem, <b>Hasegawa Kiheiji</b> replaced wooden conduits with stone-built conduits.
1854 (Ansei era 1)	A big earthquake damaged the bank.
1869 - 1870 (Meiji era 2 - 3)	<b>Hasegawa Sataro</b> and <b>Izumi Torataro</b> , assisted by <b>Matsuzaki Shibuemon</b> , repaired the bank. (Reservoir capacity : 5,846,000 m <sup>3</sup> )
1905 - 1906 (Meiji era 38 - 39)	The 1st augment construction (0.87 m) Repair of Yosuibake (Reservoir capacity : 6,678,000 m <sup>3</sup> )
1914 (Taisho era 3)	The round intake tower built with brick was constructed.
1927 - 1930 (Showa 2 - 5)	The 2nd elevation construction project (1.5 m) The tunnel from Saitagawa River (400 m) was constructed. (Reservoir capacity : 7,800,000 m <sup>3</sup> )
1940 - 1959 (Showa 15 - 34)	With completion of 3rd elevation construction project (6.0 m) as well as the aqueduct construction works from Dokigawa River (4,668 m), the reservoir capacity increased to the current capacity, 15,400,000 m <sup>3</sup> .

Old red brick intake tower

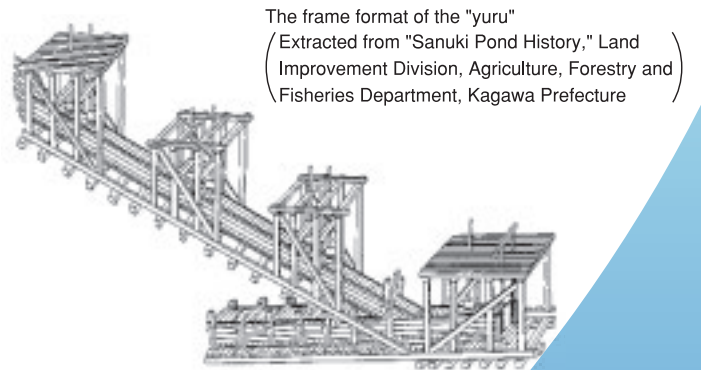


The bustle of yuru-nuki

## Yuru



The "yuru" displayed in the Karin Kaikan was used from the Meiji era to the Taisho era 3 (1914). "Yuru" means a stopper in a dam. In the middle of June each year, people opened the water gates for irrigation during the planting of rice seedlings. This event was called "yuru-nuki." In the past, people used wooden "yuru" - these were pulled out manually. However, since the wooden "yuru" decayed after 30 to 50 years, the intake tower was built.



The frame format of the "yuru"  
(Extracted from "Sanuki Pond History," Land Improvement Division, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Department, Kagawa Prefecture)

This is an old blueprint of the "yuru." In this system, water from the top is drained because cold water is not good for rice plants.

The "yuru" displayed in Karin Kaikan



## Access

### Car

〈From Okayama, Ehime, and Kochi〉

About 30 minutes from **Zentsuji IC** of Takamatsu Expressway

〈From Tokushima〉

About 55 minutes from Mima IC of Tokushima Expressway

### Railway

〈JR〉

About 15 minutes by taxi from **Kotohira Station**

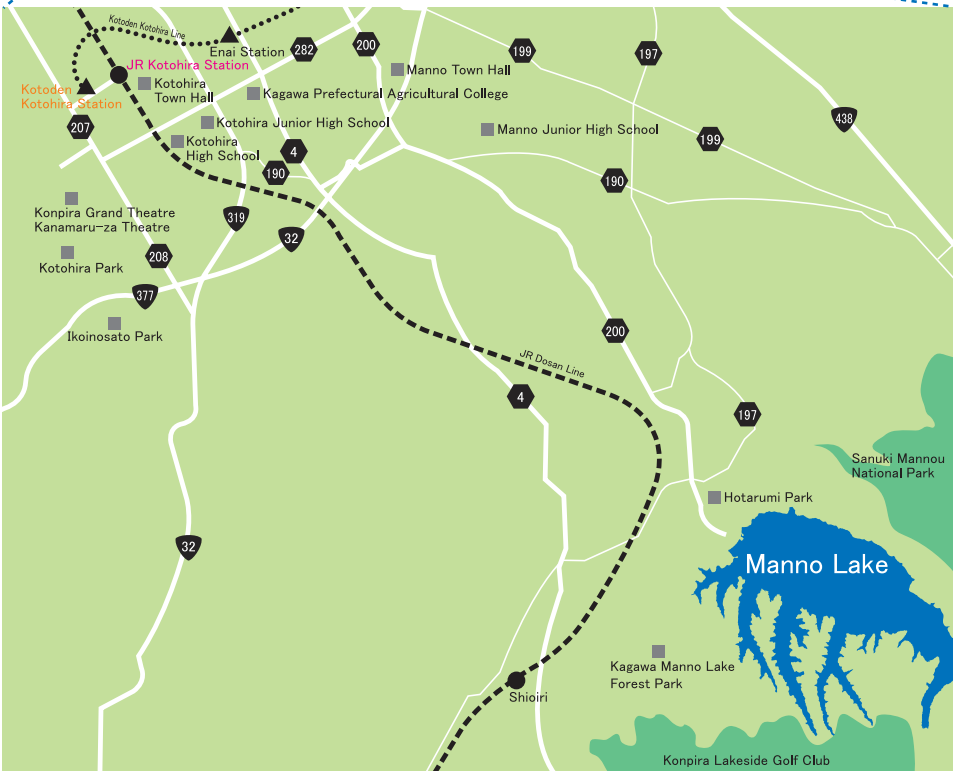
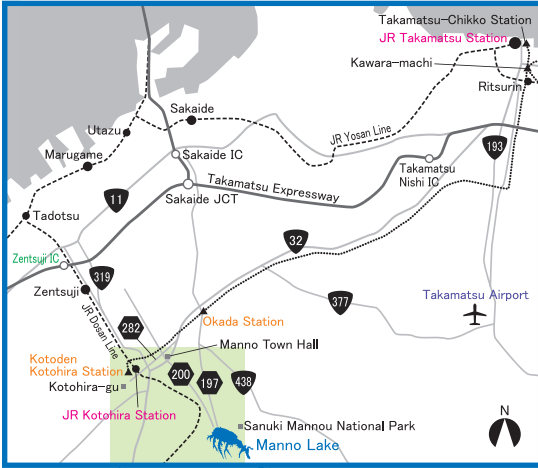
〈Kotoden〉

About 20 minutes by taxi from **Kotoden Kotohira Station**

About 15 minutes by taxi from **Okada Station**

### Airplane

〈**Takamatsu Airport**〉About 55 minutes by taxi



Enquiries : (Japanese only)

▪Karin Kaikan (Karin Meeting Hall) (closed on Wednesdays)

TEL.0877-75-0200 FAX.0877-73-2555

▪Industrial Economic Affairs Division of Manno Town

TEL.0877-73-0105 FAX.0877-73-0127

Manno Lake HP : [http://www.town.manno.lg.jp/manno\\_pond/pond\\_top.html](http://www.town.manno.lg.jp/manno_pond/pond_top.html)

