

Ise trip with a wheelchair friend

14/05/14 :

- Departure for Ise :

Tsuruhashi Station is not very welcoming I think but is accessible. You need to transfer from JR station to Kintetsu Line Station ; I think the signs are not easy to found.

We took a first train wich is not accessible. We stayed between 2 wagons then we had a connexion at Yamato Yagi Station and we took an accessible train. I wan't seat next to my wheelchair friend and the toilets are at 2m.

- Trains timetable :

Departure from Tsuruhashi station : 9h36

Arrival at Yamato Yagi Station : 10h05

Departure from Yamato Yago station : 10H15

Arrival at Ise shi station : 11h14



- Gekku shrine

There is a information spot in the station where you can take some flyers about Ise and its region.

It is very easy to reach the shrine from the station, a sign indicates the direction to take, the main street leading to the shrine is fully paved and measures about 500 meters.

The sanctuary is accessible to wheelchairs, disabled people can borrow specials chairs (with big wheels) and seek help from a member of the staff. It is however not easy to circulate in non-automatic Wheelchair because the ground of the sanctuary is dotted with small pebbles, it is better to be helped. Even for automated wheelchair it can be quite unpleasant because of the shaking but still doable.

Some places of sanctuary are inaccessible because there are steps, for example the path to Takanomiya temple.

- Visiting time : 1 hour
- To reach the Naiku shrine : bus 22 ?



- Naiku shrine

It is easy to get to the sanctuary via the bus, it is direct and is located in front of the sanctuary Gekku. However, the bus driver told us we have to book in advance a wheelchair space but we could not take the bus.

After 20 minutes of bus, we arrived at Naiku shrine, it has the same characteristics as Gekku. The ground is strewn with pebbles and some parts of the sanctuary are not accessible such as Gôshoden and Aramatsurinomiya temple.

- Visiting time : 1h30



- Oharaimachi et Okageyokochô streets

These two areas are fully accessible, the streets are flat and paved, however some stores or restaurants are not accessible due to steps in the entrance.

- Visiting time : 1h

- To reach Toba station took the Bus at the platform number 1 (there are 3 different platforms)



- Transfer from Toba station to *Senpokaku* hotel

We made a brief stop at tourist information point dedicated to barrier free tourism, this center is located in Toba Station. Then we boarded on the hotel's shuttle specially designed to carry wheelchairs. We checked in at 16h30.

The hotel is fully accessible, there are slopes and accessible toilets located on the ground floor. The room is also fully accessible, however the table is not accessible to all. You must transfer yourself from the chair to the table. It is possible to ask a chair to rest on. The staff is very professional and the service is attentive.

Regarding the shuttle's booking, it can be done at any time, just report it to the staff.

<http://www.senpokaku.com/english/index.htm>



15/05/14 :

- Mikimoto pearl Island

The place is fully accessible but at the entrance you must pass two escalators, the staff is available to assist wheelchairs to climb. The divers show is accessible, there are 2 slopes to access the pontoon and a special location is intended for wheelchairs to enjoy the show. The museum has a lift and accessible toilets, the museum shop and restaurant as well.

We got there at 10h30 and we left at 12h30 after lunch.

- Visiting time : 1h30



- Toba aquarium

The aquarium is fully accessible, slopes, lifts and accessible toilets are available. It's really easy to get around, the only problem is that the toilets are just one place.

We got there at 13h and left at the closing time 17h

- Visiting time : 4 hours if you want to see all the shows

