

Where shall we go today?



Close to Cottage Davis and driving south (clockwise)



Botanical Gardens

The full hot-house experience. Just beyond Mugio



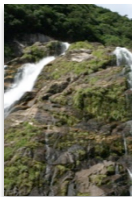
Ryujin no taki

Up the hill, hop out of the car and listen to the water. Often monkeys in the area too



Sarugawa Banyan tree/ river (north of Cottage Davis)

There's a short path down to the river by the side of the main road, but the river is a bit strong for children. Take them up the road which turns up the hill, and you'll come to a parking spot with a gentle stream and banyan tree. Saru is Japanese for monkey



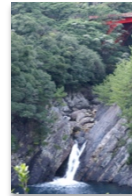
Ohko no Taki

Walk up to the falls, and then walk under the road down to the bay where the river runs into the sea – it is lovely, and you can bathe in the cold water of the river. There's also a pipe with beautiful clean drinking water in the car park on the main road



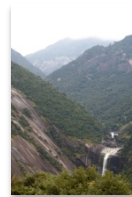
Lighthouse

Worth it to look along the cliffs to both sides and at the sea in front



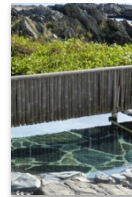
Toroki no taki (taki is Japanese for waterfall)

Park at Pontankan, which is a local visitor centre, cross the road, and the waterfalls, which cascade into the sea, can be seen from the end of the path



Senpiro no taki

The waterfalls are spectacular in full flood – the granite slabs and mountains behind are the full Yakushima experience. There's also a couple of viewing platforms looking down on the coast. You realize just how vertical the island is



Hirauchi seaside onsen/ Yudomari seaside onsen

You've got the choice of two seaside onsens quite close to each other. They are not extremely hot, but perfectly pleasant for a short dip and one of those unique Japanese experiences. Take a towel



West Forest Road

A beautiful drive and a better ride or even run. Monkeys and deer and verdant green. Drive carefully and enjoy something really special



Yogo Valley

A great pool to jump in during the summer. Be careful after heavy rain though



Where shall we go today?



Going north from Cottage Davis (anti clockwise)



Harutahama beach

You can walk around the natural rock pools which are full of wonderful things. And the swimming area is safe, and in season there are lifeguards and changing rooms. There's a bit too much concrete to call it the perfect beach, but you can still snorkel and normally see some spectacular tropical



Yakusugiland

This is a highlight. The road up winds and turns and offers great views. And then you put your boots on and disappear into a unique world of green and moss and water. There are guided trails for all levels of fitness and ambition. You have to visit here



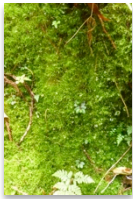
Kigen sugi

Up and beyond Yakusugiland and the highest paved road on the island. Completes your day in the peaks



Anbo bridge and gorge

The views from the red bridge upstream and downstream are terrific



Shiratani Unsuikyo

Like Yakusugiland, another beautiful place to wander and enjoy the purity of Yakushima's special environment. Recommended



Shitogo Banyan Garden

A pleasant little stroll and good photo opportunities of these trees



Isso beach

Great for snorkeling, with lots of fish. There's also a lot of scuba activity here too



Inakahama beach

This is the centre of the sea turtle viewing. A unique experience at night in season; and a nice beach during the day, although not ideal for swimming.

And eventually you'll end up at Nagata and the Yogo Valley

