

A Sandbar that Appears and Disappears

Between March and October, an 800 meter sandbar appears in Kinkowan Bay between Ibusuki City and the island of Chiringashima. It forms each year at the boundary where sand driven by winds from the south meets waves coming from the north. When the wind direction changes between November and February, the sandbar disappears. Even between March and October its appearance is fleeting, rising above the bay for no more than five hours at a time, and sometimes as little as one hour.

The pleasing fragrance of the sea breeze off Chiringashima Island and the sandbar was chosen by the Ministry of the Environment as one of Japan's 100 Most Fragrant Landscapes.

Safely Enjoying the Sandbar

The sandbar disappears under the sea during high tide and in certain weather conditions. As it takes approximately 20 minutes to cross, please be sure to carefully time your crossing and return to Tara Misaki Point with time to spare.

The sea around Chiringashima Island is home to strong currents. Swimming, as well as crossing the sandbar outside of designated times, is strictly prohibited.

Additionally, please be advised that blue-ringed octopuses have been seen in this area. These creatures can be recognized by their distinctive blue and black rings. They are highly poisonous so exercise appropriate caution at all times.

Please note that there are no toilets or drinking water on Chiringashima Island.

Today, the sandbar will disappear at approximately _____.

Please return from the island no later than _____.

For low-tide times, please visit _____ or call the Ibusuki City
Tourism Division at 0993-22-2111.