

FEATURES



A breathtaking view of Mount Fuji seen from Mishima Skywalk.

Enjoying the Spectacular Panorama from Mishima Skywalk

Mishima Skywalk is Japan's longest pedestrian-only suspension bridge where visitors can also enjoy two other records with a view of Japan's tallest mountain, Mount Fuji, and its deepest bay, Suruga Bay.

(Text: Morohashi Kumiko)

Mishima Skywalk, located in Mishima City, Shizuoka Prefecture, is Japan's longest pedestrian-only suspension bridge spanning 400 meters in length. Its official name is Hakone Western Foothills/Mishima Suspension Bridge, but it is affectionately referred to as the "Skywalk" due to the sensation of walking in the sky it provides. From the suspension bridge, which stands at a height of 70 meters above ground, visitors can simultaneously enjoy Japan's tallest mountain, Mount Fuji (3776 meters tall), and Japan's deepest bay, Suruga Bay (maximum depth of approximately 2500 meters).

Mishima Skywalk is constructed and managed by a local private company, Fujiko Co., Ltd., which operates in the tourism and amusement facility business.

According to Noda Eri, a public relations staff member, "The area surrounding Mishima Skywalk in Sasahara Shinden, Mishima City, was underdeveloped, known only to a few, mainly mountain climbers. To allow more people to enjoy this scenery and to contribute to the local community, approximately ¥4 billion was invested in the construction of the suspension bridge."

The bridge includes various innovations so that as many people as possible will be able to enjoy the beautiful scenery safely. "Given its height of around 70 meters, safety considerations are vital," explains Noda. "The main towers and cables are designed to safely accommodate a load of 200kg per square meter. As a precautionary measure, seismic dampers have



The amazing view of Japan's deepest bay, Suruga Bay, from the Skywalk.



Spaced suspension cables (vertical cables) are an innovation enabling an excellent view.



Photos: Mishima Skywalk


Springtime view from the Skywalk. With seasonal landscapes and Mount Fuji as highlights, every visit promises a unique experience.

been installed to absorb energy in the event of a major earthquake. Furthermore, with a walkway width of 1.6 meters, ample space has been provided to allow wheelchair users to pass each other with no difficulty.”

After nearly a decade of planning, the suspension bridge finally opened in December 2015, boasting an exceptional view that captivates all who visit.

“To make it easier to see the incredible scenery from the Skywalk, a high-transparency mesh structure was used for the railing¹. In addition, the main cables were raised higher and the spacing between suspension cables (vertical cables) was widened further than a typical pedestrian bridge,” comments Noda. “Throughout the seasons, the suspension bridge provides ever-changing views, from Mount Fuji and Suruga Bay to the expansive sky and the beautiful colors of the sunset. From spring to summer, the surrounding trees display a captivating vibrant fresh green. During the rainy season, around June, visitors

can enjoy the hydrangeas spread across the walking paths beyond the suspension bridge. Among the 205 varieties and 13,000 hydrangea plants, there are original varieties exclusive to the location, offering a truly impressive sight. No matter the season, visitors can savor an extraordinary experience amid the abundant nature of Mishima.”

The popularity extends not only to the suspension bridge itself but also to the activities offered beyond. “The ‘Long Zip Slide,’ where participants slide down towards Mount Fuji and Japan’s longest suspension bridge in one go, is particularly well-liked. You can slide down with your family or friends while enjoying the breathtaking scenery,” says Noda. Since its opening, this popular attraction has welcomed over seven million visitors, and we encourage everyone to enjoy it to the fullest. 

1. The barrier installed on both sides of the bridge to prevent falls, typically having a height that makes it difficult for people to cross over easily.



Photos: Mishima Skywalk

Above left: Visitors can fully enjoy the abundant natural scenery from the suspension bridge, regardless of when they visit.

Below left: Scenic walkways during the rainy season around June with some 13,000 hydrangea plants.

Right: Experience the breathtaking Long Zip Slide, gliding 560 meters round trip in a flash.