

## City Information

### ■ About Shiga

For centuries, Shiga Prefecture has benefitted from its position between Tokyo and Kyoto. Wealthy merchants and powerful leaders built stunning temples, shrines and castles, and celebrated their prosperity with festivals that continue today. Blessed with Lake Biwa and mountains that enjoy snow in winter, it's a great place to get away from the crowds and get outdoors in any season.

### ■ Weather and Clothing

Spring in Shiga is mild. Average May temperatures can range from a low of 15°C to 20°C but it might be low of 10°C at night therefore we recommend that each participant bring warm clothes, waterproof outerwear (jackets and pants, if desired) and walking shoes, suitable for a fieldtrip.

### ■ Currency

The currency is Japanese Yen (Yen, JPY), no supplementary unit. USD 1 = approx. 112JPY (Apr, 2019). Coins include 1 JPY, 5 JPY, 10 JPY, 50 JPY, 100 JPY, 500 JPY and bills include 1,000 JPY, 5,000 JPY, and 10,000 JPY. Exchange shall be done in banks, hotels and exchanges in major sightseeing spots. Convenience stores, post office, and ATM generally accept foreign credit cards. Credit cards are commonly used but not in small restaurants and shops so cash is necessary.

### ■ Health & Safety

No vaccinations are currently required to travel to Japan. While Japan is considered to be one of the safest and cleanest countries in the world, we suggest that you take the same precautions with your personal safety and possessions as you would in your own country

### ■ Electricity

The voltage in Japan is 100 volts, A.C. The electric plug is the 2 pins A type. Normally, a convertor or an adaptor is needed for the use of foreign electric devices in Japan. It's also advisable to confirm the usability when purchasing Japanese devises for usages overseas.

### ■ Eat & Drink

*Izakaya*; often described as a Japanese-style pub. Izakaya is part bar, part restaurant, and the place to go for a good-value meal in a casual atmosphere. While, there are no need of tipping or paying service fee in Japan, they may require "otōshidai" or "sekiryo", which is translated as table charge. The charge is per person and includes a small dish of food called otōshi. The price starts from 300 JPY to 500 JPY in average.

A type electric  
plug



Map of Shiga



Lake Biwa



Izakaya Food



## Access to the Venue

### Symposium Venue

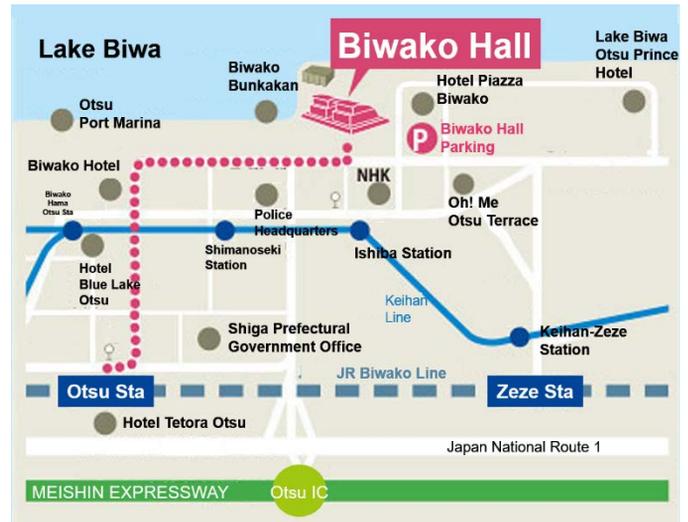
#### Biwako Hall

15-1 Uchidehama, Otsu-shi,  
Shiga 520-0806 Japan  
HP: <https://www.biwako-hall.or.jp/en/>



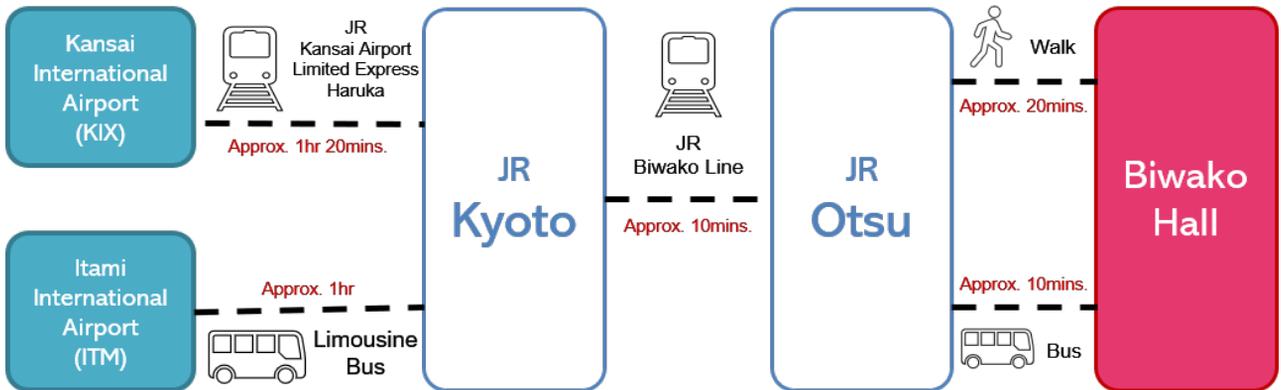
Biwako Hall

#### Area Map around Symposium Venue



### Transportation Map

#### Arriving by Plane



#### Arriving by Train

