

# Transportation



The Island nation of Japan is a far cry in size compared to America, being roughly the same size as California, however it is also more densely populated leading to many differences in transportation between the two countries. Japan has an average of 30 Billion passengers carried in their via domestic means of transportation. Japan's transit system is dominated by railways which make up for 25 out the 30 Billion passengers. Japan's four major islands - Honshu, Hokkaido, Kyushu and Shikoku - are covered by an extensive and reliable network of railways. Trains are a very convenient way for visitors to travel around Japan, especially in conjunction with the Japan Rail Pass.

About 70 percent of Japan's railway network is operated by the Japan Railways, while the rest is served by dozens of other private railway companies, especially in and around metropolitan areas.

Japan's high speed trains (bullet trains) are called shinkansen which run at speeds of up to 320 km/h, the shinkansen is known for punctuality with most trains departing on time down to the second. The shinkansen has had no fatal accidents in its history.