KAGAWA PREFECTURE

Main City: Takamatsu
Population: 986,000 people, ranking 39/47 prefecture (2013) [1]
Area: 1,876 km² [2]

Geographical / Landscape description
Kagawa comprises the northeast corner of the Shikoku region. It is also the smallest prefecture by area in Japan. Kagawa is a relatively narrow prefecture located between the mountains of Shikoku and the sea. [2]

Climate
The prefecture is blessed with a mild climate and bright sunshine all year long. Due to this, the area’s salt production is the most important in Japan, so much so that the prefecture has been nicknamed “Salt Kingdom Kagawa”. As a side effect, the infrequency of rain causes regular water shortage during the summer period. [2]

Time zone
GMT +7 in summer (+8 in winter)

International dialling code: 0081

Recent history, culture
Kagawa Prefecture is home of one of the most successful projects related to the promotion of art and culture. Founded in 1989 on the small island of Naoshima, this project aimed to establish various contemporary art museums and events in a single location. Today, the project has spread to other nearby islands too, giving the area a high concentration of art centres and a famed international art festival called Setouchi Triennale that lasts for more than 100 days. [3]

Economic overview
Kagawa Prefecture has been developed historically as a centre of economy, culture, and industry in Shikoku as the gateway to the main island. In the economic and industrial fields, the prefecture focuses on improving the infrastructure to ease access to the Kinki economic bloc, which is one of the largest in Japan, and to the Chubu and Tokyo economic blocs to contribute to the development of industry in the prefecture. [4]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Economic Indicators</th>
<th>Kagawa Prefecture</th>
<th>All Japan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population (2013) [1]</td>
<td>986,000</td>
<td>127,350,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment rate (2012) [5]</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
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<td>GPD (2010) [6]</td>
<td>0.7% of Japan’s</td>
<td>495 trillion Yen</td>
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Latest update: August 2013
Infrastructure

**Road/railways**

 Crossing the Seto Inland Sea, the Seto Ohashi Bridge links Kagawa Prefecture with Okayama Prefecture in Honshu, it is the world's longest two-tiered highway and railway bridge. [7]

**Shipping**

 Takamatsu Port has regular routes to China and Korea. [8]

**Civil Aviation**

 Takamatsu Airport with domestic flights to Tokyo and Okinawa and international flights to Korea, China and Taiwan. [9]

**Living Environment**

 With its many touristic spots, a commitment to promoting art and culture and its quiet location, Kagawa prefecture is a great place to live.

Major types of economic activities

**Agriculture, natural resources**

 "Salt Kingdom Kagawa" produces most of the salt used in Japan; it is also the largest producer of red carrots and olives. [2][10]

**Manufacturing**

 In 2011, the manufacturing industry's shipment value was principally composed of petroleum and coal (24.9%), nonferrous metals (14.9%) and food and related products (10.9%). [11]

**R&D, Innovation, Scientific research**

 The Kagawa Intelligent Park groups together six public R&D and science-related centres while around the area other private entities have established themselves. Kagawa Intelligent Park aims to provide a strategic location for research, development, and the creation of new industries through industrial, academic, and governmental cooperation. [12]

Opportunities for EU Investors / Exporters / Importers

**Promising sectors for cooperation**

 Long-established industries: agriculture, fisheries, aquaculture, livestock breeding, primary metal, transportation machinery, food-related industries, petroleum and coal products, metal products.

 Growing industries: nanotechnology, biotechnology. [4][10]

**Financial/logistic support**

 * Subsidy system for plants, experimental research establishments and information processing facilities
 * Financing system for plants and distribution facilities
 * Prefectural tax incentive measures
 * Kagawa Intelligent Park: research institutions providing support to companies

Setting up a business in Kagawa

Industry Promotion Office Commerce, Industry and Labor Department, Kagawa Prefectural Government
4-1-10 Bancho, Takamatsu 760-8570
TEL: +81(0)87-832-3354 FAX: +81(0)87-806-0210
E-mail: kigyoritti@pref.kagawa.lg.jp

Other contacts:
Kagawa Prefecture
http://www.pref.kagawa.jp/foreigner.shtml
Kagawa Intelligent Park (links to 6 R&D centres)
Kagawa Prefecture Tourism Association
http://www.my-kagawa.jp/eg/

Sources and footnotes

Autumnal view of Kankakei in Shodoshima
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