KWANSEI GAKUIN UNIVERSITY

Contemporary Japan Program
現代日本プログラム

Self-Arranged Accommodation Guide

For exchange students finding their own housing in Japan

1 Choose a practical location

Most exchange-student classes take place at Nishinomiya Uegahara Campus (NUC). We strongly recommend accommodation in Hyogo Prefecture, ideally within 45 minutes of campus.

NUC: 1-155 Uegahara Ichiban-cho, Nishinomiya, Hyogo | View map

Check the full journey to campus, including walking, transfers and buses. KGU reviews each student's commuting route and issues a certificate for student-discounted commuter passes only for eligible sections on the Hankyu and/or Hanshin Lines. KGU cannot issue a student commuter certificate for other lines, including JR, Osaka Metro and Kobe Municipal Subway. Consider commuting costs before choosing accommodation.

2 Understand your responsibilities

If you arrange your own accommodation, you are responsible for the rental contract, payments and daily commute. KGU cannot act as your rental guarantor. The university may have limited ability to help with problems caused by long commuting distances.

3 Check address registration before booking

Mid- to long-term residents must normally report their address to the local city office within 14 days of moving into said residence in Japan. Before booking, ask the housing provider whether you can register that address. Be especially careful with short-stay rentals and Airbnb.

Immigration Services Agency: guidance for new arrivals

4 Look beyond the advertised rent

Ask about all costs: maintenance fees, utilities, insurance, security deposits, key money (a non-refundable payment), agency and guarantor-company fees, cleaning fees and early move-out charges. Furnishings and bedding vary by property.

Before you book: quick checklist

☐ Can I stay for my full exchange period?	☐ Can I register this address with the city office?
☐ What is the total monthly, move-in and move-out cost?	☐ Which furnishings, bedding and utilities are included?
☐ Do I need a guarantor or guarantor company?	☐ What are the cancellation and early move-out rules?
☐ What is the full commuting time and cost to NUC?	☐ Can I understand the contract before signing?

Important: The following providers and properties are listed for reference only. KGU does not endorse, contract with or guarantee them. Verify availability and all terms directly with the provider.

Accommodation options: share houses

The descriptions below were provided by housing operators. Student feedback is from Fall 2022. Facilities, prices, availability and contract terms may change, so check directly with each provider before booking.

Reminder: Listing does not imply a formal partnership or endorsement by KGU. Students remain responsible for making their own arrangements.

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Social Residence Academia Osaka Amagasaki
ソーシャルレジデンスアカデミア大阪尼崎

Hanshin Line — Mukogawa Station

Description provided by the owner

One of the largest share houses in the Kansai region. With the concept of "Everyone is a teacher, everyone is a student. A community where everyone shares their knowledge," this interactive share house offers well-equipped facilities. It is also used as a venue for joint events, such as Christmas parties, proposing a new way of living. You can use the spacious lounge, co-working space with monitors, theater room, and gym without any additional charges.

Feedback from Fall 2022 exchange students

Location: A little far from the university (45 minute commute) / Close to a train station / Close to Osaka / Supermarket is very close / People are very nice / Lots of events organized

Overall: Fully equipped with personal fridge in private room / Rental bedding available / Quiet area / Great opportunity to connect with people from outside the university.

Property information and application (provider website)

Confirmed KGU exchange-student offer: 5% off monthly rent + ¥20,000 cashback at move-in. Apply through the KGU-specific page to receive the offer.

GRAN KOBE
グラン神戸

Hanshin Line — Uozaki Station

Description provided by the owner

Welcome to a shared house where you can receive fresh hydroponic vegetables! Residents can freely take vegetables from the dedicated refrigerator in the lounge. Just a one-minute walk away, the clear stream of Sumiyoshi River allows you to refresh by listening to the murmuring water, go for a run, or exercise along the walking path, enabling a natural and healthy lifestyle. The property, which opened in 2024, features extensive common areas such as a theater, gym, study room, and spacious kitchen, along with 42 fully furnished rooms equipped with appliances and internet. Uozaki Kitamachi is a quiet and peaceful residential area. Would you like to create a shared house together while engaging with the international community?

Property information and application (provider website)

Confirmed KGU exchange-student offer: 5% off monthly rent + ¥20,000 cashback at move-in. Apply through the KGU-specific page to receive the offer.

GRAN TAKARAZUKA
グラン宝塚

Hankyu Line — Hibarigaoka-Hanayashiki Station

Description provided by the owner

A kitchen, shower, and toilet are available for every four rooms. For those looking for a share house with fewer people rather than a large crowd, we recommend Gran Takarazuka! Located in one of the most prestigious residential areas in Kansai, it is just a five-minute walk from the nearest station. The back of the property is surrounded by nature, making it a quiet environment where you can hear birds chirping and the sound of a flowing river. It takes 25 minutes by train to Osaka Umeda Station. For daily shopping, it's one station by train or a 15-minute walk to Kawanishi-Noseguchi Station, where you can find supermarkets, gyms, and restaurants. Note: This is a non-smoking house, so contracts cannot be made with smokers.

Property information and application (provider website)

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PREMIERE ASHIYA
プレミア芦屋

Hanshin Line — Uchide Station

Description provided by the owner
A premium residence designed for high-quality living opened in Daito-cho, Ashiya, in September 2025. With Uchide Station providing access to Kobe Sannomiya and Umeda in about 30 minutes, and Shin-Osaka or Shin-Kobe in approximately 35 minutes, it's perfectly situated for business trips and travel. The upper floors offer private rooms with excellent sunlight and views. We also feature spacious 1 to 2LDK units (approx. 42 ㎡), catering to various lifestyles—from singles and couples to those seeking extra space. The first floor hosts a lounge, bar counter, and shared kitchen, creating a sophisticated social space for residents. Experience a new way of living that balances study and private life. Start your refined new chapter in elegant Ashiya.

Property information and application (provider website)
Confirmed KGU exchange-student offer: 5% off monthly rent + ¥20,000 cashback at move-in. Apply through the KGU-specific page to receive the offer.

Diversity Koyoen
ダイバーシティ甲陽園

Hankyu Line — Koyoen Station

Feedback from Fall 2022 exchange students
Rent: Monthly rent is a little bit expensive (around 70,000 JPY)
Location: 30 minutes' walk from the university and close to a train station.
Overall: Great opportunity to connect with people from outside the university.

Property information and application (provider website)

Other share-house search websites
Search: Hitsuji Fudosan (Japanese only) · Guest House Bank · Sharehouse.in · Shares

Apartment rentals
You may need a guarantor or guarantor company. Many apartments are unfurnished. Check the minimum lease period, move-in costs, and what furniture or appliances (if any) are included.
Search: UniLife · GaijinPot Apartments · Best Estate

Homestay
Private homestays are separate from KGU-provided housing. Ask the provider about fees, meals, house rules and commuting. Homestay in Japan

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