

## Detailed Residency Locations | Artist-in-Residence Candidates

### **Kitahiroshima Town AIR Base** ([MAP](#))

*Kitahiroshima Town — A cultural core of the Chugoku Mountains where mythology, agriculture, and performing arts continue to live on —*

Kitahiroshima Town is located in the central Chugoku Mountain region and has long developed as a key passage connecting the San-in and San-yo areas.

Here, agricultural culture, belief systems, and performing arts are deeply intertwined, naturally embedded in everyday life.

Kagura, in particular, is one of the most actively preserved traditions in Japan. While originally a sacred offering, it remains a living, everyday cultural practice.

Every June, the Mibu no Hana Taue rice-planting ritual—praying for a rich harvest—is held and has been designated a UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage. It is a symbolic event where rural landscapes and human activity merge into a single scene.

Terraced rice fields and satoyama landscapes spread throughout the town. Morning mist drapes the mountains, and at night, a sky filled with stars appears due to minimal artificial light.

This visually quiet and poetic environment provides a spacious mental margin ideal for deep reflection and artistic creation.

### **Akiota Town AIR Base** ([MAP](#))

*Akiota Town — A place of pristine rivers and gorges, home to some of Japan's most remarkable natural scenery —*

Akiota Town lies in the headwaters of the Ota River and is one of Hiroshima Prefecture's most nature-dense regions.

Deep mountains and clear streams define the landscape, offering dramatically different expressions across the seasons.

Sandankyo Gorge, a nationally designated Special Place of Scenic Beauty, features towering cliffs, crystal-clear waters, and near-primeval forests.

The area reflects a long coexistence between human life and the natural environment.

The Kake district developed historically as a post town and commercial hub since the Edo period.

Remnants of this past remain visible in its streets and architecture.

Rather than being overly touristic, history exists here as a continuation of everyday life.

Distinct seasonal changes—spring greenery, summer river mist, autumn foliage, and winter snow—create a strong physical sense of time.

With repeated stays, the town gradually shifts in perception from “a place to visit” to “a place to live.”

Below are the candidate residency bases. Depending on applications and coordination, some locations may not be used.

### Base A: Koishihara Farm Residence (Kitahiroshima Town)

Capacity: Approximately 2 individuals (or one group of 2–4)

Private Rooms: Three tatami rooms separated by fusuma or shoji (no locks)

Shared Spaces: Living room, dining kitchen, toilet, bath, small atelier

This renovated traditional farmhouse is located about 3 km from the town center, surrounded by rice fields and mountains.

Artificial noise is minimal, allowing residents to strongly feel seasonal changes while living and working.

The house follows traditional Japanese wooden architecture centered around tatami rooms. Floor-based living naturally restores bodily awareness and supports a quiet, steady creative rhythm.

Within a 10-minute bicycle ride are supermarkets, convenience stores, restaurants, and express bus stops (to Hiroshima City, Shimane, and Osaka), balancing rural life with daily convenience.

Suitable for:

- Artists seeking quiet immersion in nature
- Those engaged in long, introspective creative processes
- Artists interested in traditional Japanese living environments

Notes:

- Small-scale creation is possible on-site
- Large-scale painting (e.g., oil painting) should be done outdoors or in the garage



## Base B: Kake Shopping Street – Traditional Japanese House

Capacity: 3–4 individuals (or up to 3 groups, 3–6 people)

Private Rooms: Five tatami rooms and one Western-style room (no locks)

Shared Spaces: Living room, dining kitchen, toilet, bath

Located at the edge of Kake's shopping street, this traditional Japanese house centers around tatami rooms softly divided by fusuma.

A garage space on the ground floor allows for simple creative work.

Unused nearby ateliers and galleries may also be shared, encouraging exchange with local artists.

Supermarkets and convenience stores are within several hundred meters.

An express bus stop to Hiroshima City and Kyushu is about a 10-minute drive away.

Suitable for:

- Artists who value tatami-based living
- Those seeking close connection with the local community
- Artists balancing creation and interaction

Notes:

- Bathroom is compact
- Oil painting is possible in the garage or nearby shared atelier spaces



### Base C: Kake Shopping Street – Japanese-Western Style Residence

Capacity: 3–4 individuals

Private Rooms: One tatami room and three Western-style rooms (no locks)

Shared Spaces: Living room, dining kitchen, toilet, bath

This relatively newer house combines Japanese and Western elements.

It is clean, comfortable, and prioritizes everyday living rather than traditional atmosphere.

While oil painting space is limited indoors, nearby unused ateliers or galleries may be utilized.

The same access to shops and transportation as Base B applies.

Suitable for:

- Artists prioritizing comfort and daily functionality
- Those less concerned with traditional architectural atmosphere

Notes:

- Limited on-site space for large-scale painting
- External atelier use recommended

