

There are several ways to reach Kobe Portopia, the meeting place.
One easiest and shortest way, I believe, to Kobe from abroad or USA is,

1. to fly to (Osaka) Kansai International Airport, KIX
2. at KIX, take an airport bus to San-no-miya, Kobe
(every 20 min, 65-min ride, ¥1800)
3. and at San-no-miya, take a taxi to your hotel of Portopia
or take a complimentary hotel bus for Portopia hotel, 20 min ride.
I recommend a taxi for going. (taxi fare around ¥2000)
(A scheduled hotel bus goes around from the hotel to San-no-miya,
to Shin-Kobe, to the hotel. every 20 min. no charge)

The time and the fare shown above and below are approximate, the actual values depending on the condition.

In the case you come to Kobe via Narita-Tokyo Int'l airport, NRT,
for some reason, using JR(Japan Railways) Shinkansen.

1. Take JR Narita express to JR Tokyo station from NRT.
(every 30 min, 1 hour ride, ¥3,140(=¥1,280+ ¥1,860/expr))
2. At Tokyo station you need to change train, taking the bullet train
'Tokaido-Sanyo Shinkansen' for Shin-Kobe station.

It takes about 3 hours from Tokyo to Shin-Kobe, actual time depending
on train types.(Nozomi, Hikari and Kodama), lots of trains.

Fare, ¥15,650(=¥9,030+¥6,620/Nozomi express \$B!K (Bdepends also on trains and
days.

Please choose your train according to your convenience, using the
'Tokaido-Sanyo
Shinkansen' timetables.

3. From Shin-Kobe to the hotel, you can use a taxi or the hotel bus, 20 min
ride.

SHINKANSEN 'BULLET TRAINS' timetables are obtained at,

http://www.japanrail.com/2_rail/index.html

where please use the 'TOKAIDO-SANYO SHINKANSEN' timetable (pdf.)

Please take your time to make sure you will be catching the right train at the
right platform as the Japanese train and station systems in the metropolitan
area are sometimes a little complicated and confusing even to a Japanese.

I recommend, if possible, you will stay one night in Narita or in downtown
Tokyo and next day you will be heading for your final destination, Kobe, since
many of the international flights from the US arrive at NRT in the late
afternoon

or in the evening.

(Another way is to fly from Tokyo to Osaka airport. You can fly from Narita or
Haneda Tokyo airport to Kansai or Itami Osaka airport. You can choose one of
the combinations. High-way express buses are also available from Tokyo to
Kobe

for people who... There are still other ways you may explore.)

As usual, some flight and train schedules may be subject to change.
Please double check with your travel agent.

You may get some useful information for your trip easier,
at the web-sites,

NRT: http://www.narita-airport.or.jp/airport_e/index.html

KIX: <http://www.kansai-airport.or.jp/english/index.htm>

Japan Railways Group-NY Office :

http://www.japanrail.com/8_office/index.html

Kobe: <http://www.city.kobe.jp/index-e.html>

<http://www.city.kobe.jp/cityoffice/17/010/index-e.html>

ICCK: <http://www.kcva.or.jp/kcc/icck/e-index.html>

Portopia hotel: <http://www.portopia.co.jp/english/index.html>

I hope this helps.

We look forward to having you in Kobe Portopia(Island).

Best regards,

Sadao Takenaka, TTC