

# Charter Bus Fare and Fee System: A Guide for Travel Agents Using Charter Buses

Charter bus charges and fees include safety-related costs that ensure customers can ride buses with peace of mind. Accordingly, charter bus operators must submit documents to the Japanese government stating the minimum fares and fees required to operate their buses. It is illegal to operate buses for less than these minimum amounts.

In addition, the charging of excessive handling fees may be subject to legal sanctions.

Understanding and adhering to this system is essential in order to ensure that transactions between travel agents and charter bus operators are handled appropriately.

## Fares

Fares comprise time-based and distance-based fares.

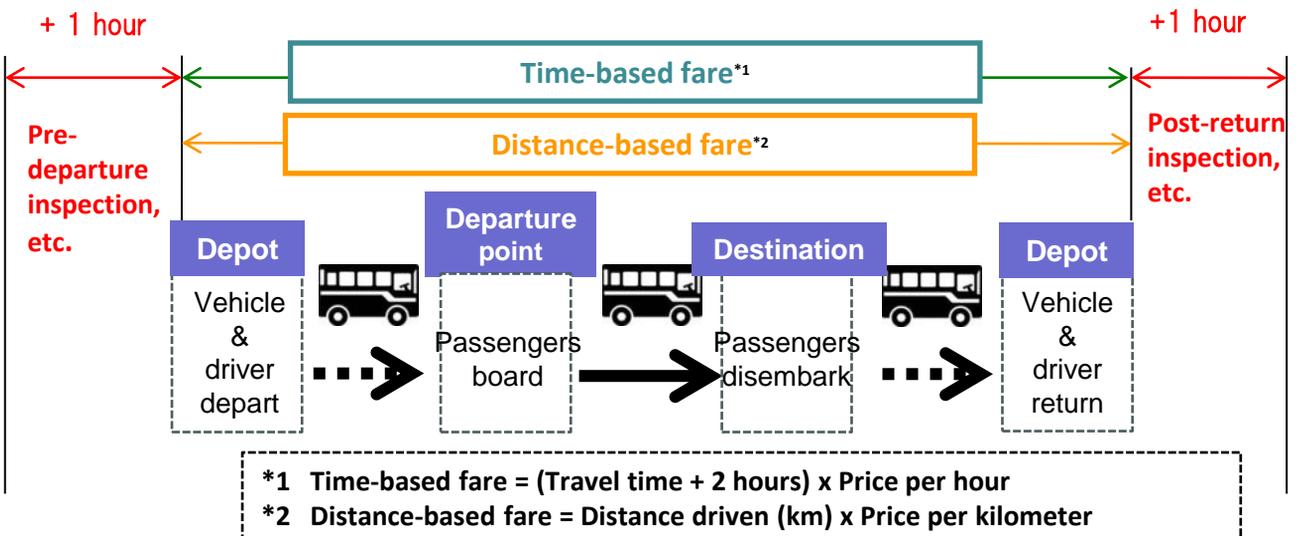
Time-based fares

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Distance-based fares

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Fares



## Fees

Costs associated with scheduling, etc., of charter buses must be paid.

### 1. Late night and early morning operation fees

These fees apply when roll call, inspections or travel time (including transporting the vehicle to/from its storage location) include times between 10:00 pm and 5:00 am. Between these times, a **20% premium** applies to hourly fares and hourly driver rotation fees.

### 2. Special vehicle premium

For vehicles to which one of the following applies, a **premium rate may be applied based on characteristics such as the equipment and purchase price.**

- (1) The vehicle has special equipment beyond that of a standard vehicle.
- (2) The unit price calculated by dividing the vehicle purchase price by the seating capacity is at least 70% higher than the same unit price for a standard vehicle.

### 3. Driver rotation fees

These fees apply when driver rotation is required by law, or when an agreement regarding replacement driver allocation is made with the party requesting transportation. In such cases, **the applicable amount is calculated based on the minimum replacement driver assignment fee submitted by the bus operator to the government, or a higher amount.** In addition, even if the replacement driver does not travel with the vehicle to the handover location, the fee that would have applied had they done so still applies.

### Actual cost expenses

Expenses other than fares and fees must also be paid.

In addition to fares and fees, other expenses incurred as a result of customer requests are paid on an actual cost basis.

Examples include guide fees, road tolls, parking fees and crew accommodation costs

# Reference: Published Prices by Region

Distance: Price per kilometer  
Time: Price per hour

	Hokkaido		Tohoku		Kanto		Hokuriku-shin'etsu		Chubu	
	Minimum price		Minimum price		Minimum price		Minimum price		Minimum price	
	Distance	Time	Distance	Time	Distance	Time	Distance	Time	Distance	Time
Large	<b>140</b>	<b>5,570</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>6,530</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>6,580</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>6,440</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>6,820</b>
Medium	<b>120</b>	<b>4,700</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>5,520</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>5,560</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>5,430</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>5,760</b>
Small	<b>100</b>	<b>4,030</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>4,740</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>4,770</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>4,670</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>4,940</b>
Small*	<b>100</b>	<b>4,110</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>4,830</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>4,870</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>4,760</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>5,040</b>
Commuter*	<b>90</b>	<b>3,660</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>4,300</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>4,330</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>4,240</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>4,490</b>

	Kinki		Chugoku		Shikoku		Kyushu		Okinawa	
	Minimum price		Minimum price		Minimum price		Minimum price		Minimum price	
	Distance	Time								
Large	<b>160</b>	<b>7,390</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>6,320</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>6,380</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>6,330</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>5,230</b>
Medium	<b>130</b>	<b>6,240</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>5,330</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>5,380</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>5,350</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>4,420</b>
Small	<b>110</b>	<b>5,360</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>4,580</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>4,620</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>4,590</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>3,790</b>
Small*	<b>110</b>	<b>5,460</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>4,670</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>4,720</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>4,690</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>3,870</b>
Commuter*	<b>100</b>	<b>4,860</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>4,160</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>4,200</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>4,170</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>3,440</b>

**\* Applicable from April 1, 2024. However, previous vehicle classifications may continue to apply at the request of bus operators. (Contact bus companies for details.)**

## Vehicle classifications

Large: Vehicles with a length of 9 m or more or with 50 passenger seats or more

Medium: Vehicles not covered by the definitions of large, small or commuter vehicles

Small: Vehicles with a length between 6 m and 8 m inclusive and with 33 passenger seats or fewer

(formerly vehicles with a length of 7 m or less and with 29 passenger seats or fewer)

Commuter: Vehicles with a length less than 6 m and with 14 passenger seats or fewer

# Regional Transport Bureau and Branch Office Contact Information

Transport Bureaus and Branch Offices	Phone
Road Transport Department, Hokkaido District Transport Bureau	011-290-741
Sapporo Transport Branch Office	011-731-7167
Hakodate Transport Branch Office	0138-49-8863
Asahikawa Transport Branch Office	0166-51-5272
Muroran Transport Branch Office	0143-44-3012
Kushiro Transport Branch Office	0154-51-2514
Obihiro Transport Branch Office	0155-33-3286
Kitami Transport Branch Office	0157-24-7631
Road Transport Department, Tohoku District Transport Bureau	022-791-7529
Aomori Transport Branch Office	017-739-1502
Iwate Transport Branch Office	019-638-2154
Miyagi Transport Branch Office	022-235-2517
Akita Transport Branch Office	018-863-5811
Yamagata Transport Branch Office	023-686-4711
Fukushima Transport Branch Office	024-546-0345
Road Transport Department, Kanto District Transport Bureau	045-211-7245
Ibaraki Transport Branch Office	029-247-5348
Tochigi Transport Branch Office	028-658-7011
Gunma Transport Branch Office	027-263-4440
Chiba Transport Branch Office	043-242-7336
Saitama Transport Branch Office	048-624-1835
Tokyo Transport Branch Office	03-3458-9231
Kanagawa Transport Branch Office	045-939-6800
Yamanashi Transport Branch Office	055-261-0880
Road Transport Department, Hokuriku-shin'etsu District Transport Bureau	025-285-9154
Niigata Transport Branch Office	025-285-3124
Nagano Transport Branch Office	026-243-4603
Toyama Transport Branch Office	076-423-0893
Ishikawa Transport Branch Office	076-208-6000
Road Transport Department, Chubu District Transport Bureau	052-952-8035
Aichi Transport Branch Office	052-351-5312
Shizuoka Transport Branch Office	054-261-2898
Gifu Transport Branch Office	058-279-3714
Mie Transport Branch Office	059-234-8411
Fukui Transport Branch Office	0776-34-1602

Transport Bureaus and Branch Offices	Phone
Road Transport Department, Kinki District Transport Bureau	06-6949-6445
Osaka Transport Branch Office	072-822-6733
Kyoto Transport Branch Office	075-681-9765
Nara Transport Branch Office	0743-59-2151
Shiga Transport Branch Office	077-585-7253
Wakayama Transport Branch Office	073-422-2138
Hyogo Land Transport Department, Kobe District Transport Bureau	078-453-1104
Road Transport Department, Chugoku Transport & Tourism Bureau	082-228-3436
Hiroshima Transport Branch Office	082-233-9167
Tottori Transport Branch Office	0857-22-4210
Shimane Transport Branch Office	0852-37-1311
Okayama Transport Branch Office	086-286-8122
Yamaguchi Transport Branch Office	083-922-5336
Road Transport Department, Shikoku District Transport Bureau	087-802-6771
Tokushima Transport Branch Office	088-641-4811
Kagawa Transport Branch Office	087-882-1357
Ehime Transport Branch Office	089-956-1563
Kochi Transport Branch Office	088-866-7311
Road Transport Department, Kyushu District Transport Bureau	092-472-2521
Fukuoka Transport Branch Office	092-673-1191
Saga Transport Branch Office	0952-30-7271
Nagasaki Transport Branch Office	095-839-4747
Kumamoto Transport Branch Office	096-369-3155
Oita Transport Branch Office	097-558-2107
Miyazaki Transport Branch Office	0985-51-3952
Kagoshima Transport Branch Office	099-261-9192
Transport Department, Okinawa General Bureau	098-866-1836