

How to get to JR Zeze Station (near the conference venue)

This page explains the way of getting to JR Zeze Station from JR Kyoto, Osaka and Shin-Osaka Stations. The train information in this page shows the usual case but there are a few exceptions (some countermeasures are also explained). To avoid mistakes, please check your route in the following web site or other route search services.

www.westjr.co.jp/global/en/timetable/#timetable

We also explain some notes of caution after the normal explanations in this web page.

The types of trains, platform numbers, travel times and fares from Kyoto, Osaka and Shin-Osaka Stations are listed in the following tables.

Instructions on how to purchase tickets of JR trains is found in the following web site.

www.westjr.co.jp/global/en/howto/ticket_02.html

[Caution] JR-WEST calls Tokaido Main Line by different names. The sections between Maibara-Kyoto, Kyoto-Osaka, and Osaka-Kobe are called Biwako, Kyoto, and Kobe Lines, respectively¹. However, some route search services call these sections by Tokaido Main Line.

[Caution] The JR Kyoto line branches off after Kyoto Station: One branch goes to the east of the lake (Biwako line) and the other goes to the west of the lake (Kosei line). Biwako and Kosei lines are explained later.

From JR Kyoto Station

From JR Kyoto Station, Local trains departing from Platform 2 (except on Saturday and Sunday early mornings) go to JR Zeze Station in Biwako Line. Check the type of your train is not “LocalKosei-Line” but “Local” from direction boards (a photo of a direction board is shown below) and/or announcements on platforms.

Zeze Station is the third stop from Kyoto Station (Kyoto → Yamashina → Otsu → Zeze) by Local trains.

Route 1/1	Type of trains	Platform	Travel time	Fare
Kyoto → Zeze	Local (Biwako Line)	2	11 min.	240 yen

¹ Biwako and Kobe Lines include other JR lines than Tokaido Main Line.



From JR Osaka and Shin-Osaka Stations

From JR Osaka and Shin-Osaka Stations, you can take a Special Rapid or Rapid train to go to JR Zeze Station. Special Rapid trains are faster than Rapid trains, but they do not stop at Zeze Station and you should transfer to a Local train at JR Kyoto (or Otsu) Station.

Not all Special Rapid and Rapid trains go to Biwako Line including Zeze and Otsu Stations. Rapid trains bound for Kusatsu, Yasu, Maibara, Nagahama, Omi-Shiotsu (*via Maibara*), Tsuruga (*via Maibara*) stop at Zeze Station. Special Rapid trains of the same destinations stop at Otsu Station. All Special Rapid and Rapid trains stop at Kyoto Station.

To go to Zeze Station, JR-WEST recommends that we should take a Rapid train bound for Yasu, Maibara or Nagahama.

Osaka Station

Route 1/2	Type of trains	Platform	Travel time	Fare
Osaka → Zeze	Rapid	8	54 min.	970 yen
Route 2/2	Type of trains	Platform	Travel time	Fare
Osaka → Kyoto	Special Rapid	8	47 min.	970 yen
Kyoto → Zeze	Local (Biwako Line)	2		

Shin-Osaka Station

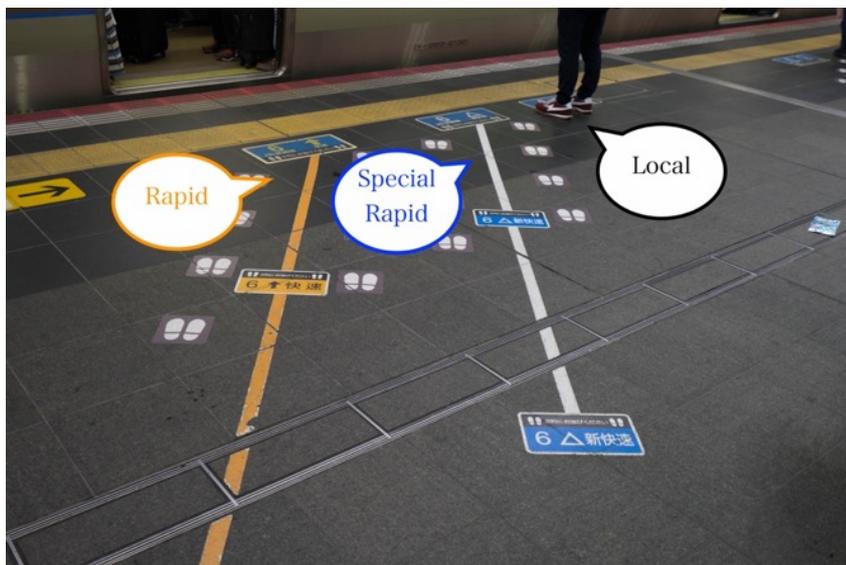
Route 1/2	Type of trains	Platform	Travel time	Fare
Shin-Osaka → Zeze	Rapid	13	49 min.	970 yen

Route 2/2	Type of trains	Platform	Travel time	Fare
Shin-Osaka → Kyoto	Special Rapid	13	42 min.	970 yen
Kyoto → Zeze	Local (Biwako Line)	2		

Special Rapid, Rapid, Local?

There are three different types of (non-express) trains in Lines of JR-WEST: Special Rapid, Rapid and Local. Special rapid trains are faster than rapid and local trains, and rapid trains are faster than local trains. Local trains stop at every station. Special rapid trains do not stop at JR Zeze Station.

You can see 3 different boarding marks on platforms in Kyoto, Osaka and other JR stations. (See the picture below.) The white triangle \triangle is the mark for special rapid trains, the yellow arrow \uparrow is for rapid trains (some local trains going to Zeze Station stop at yellow arrows in Kyoto Station, check announcements or direction boards below), and the white circle \circ is for local trains.



On platforms of JR stations, you can see direction boards like the picture below. Types of trains (S.Rapid, Rapid and Local) and boarding positions (\triangle 1 – 12, etc.) are shown followed by departure times and destinations. The first and last arrows explain which platform the train arrives (13 or 14).



Biwako Line and Kosei Line

The conference venue is situated to the east of Kyoto. Two JR lines lie to the east of Kyoto: Biwako² Line and Kosei³ Line. (refer to the map below.) To go to JR Zeze Station, we should take trains in Biwako Line.



Some Special Rapid and Rapid trains, departing from Osaka and Shin-Osaka Stations which we did not list in the above explanations go to Kosei Line.

When you arrive at stations in Kosei Line such as Otsukyo (not Otsu), Karasaki, Hieizan-Sakamoto, Kataka Stations, etc., return to Kyoto Station and take a local train departing from Platform 2.

² “Biwako” means Biwa Lake.

³ “Kosei” means the west of a lake.

General Information about JR

Purchasing Tickets: www.westjr.co.jp/global/en/howto/ticket_02.html

Route search: www.westjr.co.jp/global/en/timetable/#timetable

Route Maps: www.westjr.co.jp/global/en/timetable/#routemaps

Station Maps: www.westjr.co.jp/global/en/timetable/#stationmaps