

## Mito Facts, Climate, Transportation & Tourist Attractions

**Mito** (水戸市 *Mito-shi*?) is the capital city of Ibaraki Prefecture, Japan, and has a central location, moderately offset towards the coast in that prefecture.

As of 2010, the city has an estimated population of 268,750 and a total area is 217.45 km<sup>2</sup>, giving a population density of 1,212.91 persons per km<sup>2</sup>.

Mito is the site of the Japanese garden Kairaku-en, located near Lake Senba and counted as one of the Three Great Gardens of Japan. Constructed by Tokugawa Nariaki in 1842, the park is known nationwide for its *ume* trees. Many people come to the park in spring to view the blossoms, particularly during the Ume Festival. In summer, Mito also holds the Mito Koumon Festival.

Mito was the seat of the so-called [Mito School](#), a congregation of nativist scholars of [Confucian](#) persuasion led by [Aizawa Seishisai](#), who during the 18th and 19th centuries advocated Western learning as a means not only to further Japanese technological development and international strength, but as means to prove Japanese uniqueness and superiority among nations. The [Kōdōkan](#) was the largest of the [han schools](#).

Climate data for Mito, Ibaraki													
Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
<b>Average high °C (°F)</b>	8.8 (47.8)	8.9 (48)	11.7 (53.1)	17.1 (62.8)	21.3 (70.3)	23.7 (74.7)	27.3 (81.1)	29.6 (85.3)	25.4 (77.7)	20.3 (68.5)	15.9 (60.6)	11.3 (52.3)	18.44 (65.18)
<b>Daily mean °C (°F)</b>	2.4 (36.3)	3.0 (37.4)	6.0 (42.8)	11.6 (52.9)	16.3 (61.3)	19.5 (67.1)	23.1 (73.6)	25.0 (77)	21.1 (70)	15.3 (59.5)	10.0 (50)	4.8 (40.6)	13.18 (55.71)
<b>Average low °C (°F)</b>	-3.0 (26.6)	-2.1 (28.2)	0.7 (33.3)	6.3 (43.3)	11.5 (52.7)	16.1 (61)	19.9 (67.8)	21.5 (70.7)	17.7 (63.9)	11.0 (51.8)	4.9 (40.8)	-0.6 (30.9)	8.66 (47.58)
<b>Precipitationmm (inches)</b>	44.3 (1.744)	60.9 (2.398)	94.7 (3.728)	117.6 (4.63)	139.1 (5.476)	174.6 (6.874)	117.2 (4.614)	134.9 (5.311)	162.5 (6.398)	144.6 (5.693)	77.5 (3.051)	39.9 (1.571)	1,307.8 (51.488)
<b>Snowfall cm (inches)</b>	5 (2)	9 (3.5)	3 (1.2)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (0.4)	18 (7.1)
<b>% humidity</b>	65	66	67	72	76	82	85	83	83	80	76	71	75.5
<b>Mean monthlysunshine hours</b>	180.5	155.5	172.5	160.2	181.7	121.5	129.9	171.8	112.6	132.9	141.8	169.5	1,830.4
<i>Source: NOAA (1961-1990)</i> <sup>[2]</sup>													

## Mito Facts, Climate, Transportation & Tourist Attractions (Continued)

### Transportation

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Mito is located on the [Joban Line \(Mito Station\)](#) and [Joban Expressway](#), which connects it to [Tokyo](#) and [Tsukuba](#) to the south and [Hitachi](#) and [Iwaki](#) to the north. The [Suigun Line](#) runs north to [Koriyama](#), and the [Mito Line](#) runs west to [Oyama](#). The [Kashima Rinkai Railway Ōarai Kashima Line](#) runs east then south to [Kashima-Jingū Station](#).

The closest major airport is [Narita International Airport](#). [Ibaraki Airport](#) in nearby [Omitama](#) opened in March 2010. At present, it offers only limited service with one flight a day to Kobe, Korea (Seoul), and three flights a week to China (Shanghai). The airport hopes to attract services by budget air carriers and has structured services and fees accordingly.

### Tourist attractions

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- [Art Tower Mito](#)
- [Ibaraki Museum of Modern Art](#)
- [Ibaraki Prefectural Museum of History](#)
- [Kairaku-en](#)
- [Kōdōkan School](#)
- [Lake Senba](#)
- [Mito Castle](#)
- [Mito Municipal Botanical Park](#)
- [The Tokugawa Museum](#)
- [Tokiwa Jinja](#)