



Kobe INK物語



The colors of Kobe Ink originate from the vibrant views found around the beautiful City of Kobe, capturing its regional characteristics, aspects, and environments. Use Kobe Ink to evoke happy feelings and the magical qualities of Kobe when writing letters to friends.

<p>No.1 Rokko Green</p> 	<p>Lush green mountains come to mind when you hear the word Kobe. Rokko Green ink portrays Mount Rokko's verdant natural color, and conjures feelings of relaxing in a forest.</p>	<p>No.11 Ikuta Orange</p> 	<p>Ikuta Shrine has a long history, and its famous large orange Torii gate is a stately symbol. The shrine's Torii is gateway that leads to an inner sanctuary, and Ikuta Orange is an ink that will leave you with a mystical impression.</p>	<p>No.21 Taisanji Yellow</p> 	<p>Taisanji is a historic Buddhist Temple surrounded by a quiet rural atmosphere of rolling hills of grain. You can experience this golden sea of grain in the Taisanji Yellow ink.</p>	<p>No.31 Coast Stone Grey</p> 	<p>The coastal promenade is a traditional seaport city. Many massive, sophisticated old buildings made of stone can be found in this area. Coast Stone Grey ink permeates with a strength and stoicism found in the old stone.</p>	<p>No.41 Suma Rikyu Rose</p> 	<p>Suma Imperial Villa Park is the home of one of the greatest rose gardens in Kobe. The garden roses bloom in mid-May, and this Suma Imperial Villa Rose ink exemplifies their grace and royal pomp.</p>	<p>No.51 Kanocho Midnight</p> 	<p>Kano Town is a busy business district. When walking through the area before dawn, the mysterious sky feels like you can float up into it. Kano Town Midnight ink is the black found in this darkest hour.</p>
<p>No.2 Wharf Blue</p> 	<p>Kobe is a beautiful port city, and our Wharf Blue ink is reminiscent of the vivid colors you see on the horizon where the bountiful sea meets the endless sky.</p>	<p>No.12 Okamoto Pink</p> 	<p>Okamoto is an interesting mix of the old and new. The area contains a Japanese plum wood park renowned for its beauty, but also is the home to many unique modern stores. Okamoto Pink ink is a mixture of these contrasting facets of old and new.</p>	<p>No.22 Shinkaichi Gold</p> 	<p>Shinkaichi is the lively downtown district of Kobe sometimes referred to as the "West Side Asakusa." This memorable town reveals the underground culture of Kobe. Shinkaichi Gold is the ink of these streetlights and the glittering souls of those walking beneath them.</p>	<p>No.32 Tamon Purple Gray</p> 	<p>Tamon Street is a popular entertainment district for Kobe locals. This street is called "Tamonza," the childhood nickname of the legendary samurai Lord Kusunoki. Tamonza's Japanese sitting cushion was a quiet yet regal purple, much like the color of this ink.</p>	<p>No.42 Rokko Island Sky</p> 	<p>Rokko Island is a city brimming with oceanic culture; foreign, new wave, and subculture influences converge together here. Kobe's fashion and lifestyle capital "Kobe Fashion Mart" was built on this island. The sky surrounding Rokko Island is crisp and clear, just like the clean blue tone of this ink.</p>	<p>No.52 Shioya Vintage Sepia</p> 	<p>An assortment of foreign traders have lived in Shioya over the years, and the various old villas in the area are a testament to its international feel. Even now, those villas are filled with vintage furniture from those days. This sepia ink is inspired by the stylish old furniture.</p>
<p>No.3 Old City Sepia</p> 	<p>The old city area has a rich history of expatriate houses, architecture, and open trade. Despite the passing of time, this history continues to flourish, and Old City Sepia ink will allow you to experience its nostalgia and tranquility.</p>	<p>No.13 Nunobiki Emerald</p> 	<p>Nunobiki waterfall is one of the famous "Big 3" Japanese waterfalls. This waterfall is well known for its endless supply of pure, fresh water. Nunobiki Emerald ink is an imposing and bright color, much like the waterfall itself.</p>	<p>No.23 Nagata Blue</p> 	<p>Nagata is the town where Kobe's shoes and boots enthusiasts gather. Statues of the characters created by Kobe's great manga artist Mitsuteru Yokoyama can also be found throughout the town. Nagata Blue is the color of his famous robot manga Tetsujin 28's mighty iron body.</p>	<p>No.33 Rikyu Moon Yellow</p> 	<p>Suma Park was home to an Imperial villa. In the park, you can enjoy the beautiful scenery of each season. Admiral Narihira, one of the Rokkasen (Six Immortal Poets), enjoyed viewing the moon in this park. This Moon Yellow ink imagines how the poet might have observed the captivating moonlight.</p>	<p>No.43 Science City Fresh Green</p> 	<p>Science City is located about 30 minutes from the city center by subway. The city is populated with universities and bustling with young students, yet a rich natural environment permeates throughout the academic atmosphere. This green ink signifies the freshness of a young leaf.</p>	<p>No.53 Kitano Pearl Silver</p> 	<p>To some, Kitano Town is known as a pearl craft city. The international trade at Kobe port was supported by this pearl export industry. The silver color used in this ink is like a shining black pearl with a hint of tender blue.</p>
<p>No.4 Kitano Town Villa Red</p> 	<p>The Weathercock Palace, a famous landmark made of bright red bricks, symbolizes Kitano Town. Kitano Town Villa Red ink was imagined from these bricks, and invokes an image of the cosmopolitan area.</p>	<p>No.14 Maya Lapis Lazuli</p> 	<p>Mount Maya's high vantage point provides an amazing night view of stars that glitter like diamonds and gems. Maya Lapis Lazuli ink will fill your pen with the same shining beauty as the Mount Maya night sky.</p>	<p>No.24 Nakayamate Black</p> 	<p>Nakayamate Avenue is lined with an assortment of houses, schools, public facilities, cafes, and restaurants. This wide avenue runs east to west and leads to the city center. Nakayamate Black captures this urban atmosphere with ink that mimics the hues of roasted coffee.</p>	<p>No.34 Sorakuen Tea Green</p> 	<p>Sorakuen is a traditional Japanese garden found on the west side of Kitano. The garden was named after the Book of Changes, an old book written about Taoism. This ink seeks to express how the garden landscape harmonizes with the nearby tea houses.</p>	<p>No.44 Sumaura Seaside Blue</p> 	<p>Suma Creek is a popular bathing beach in summertime. Although people enjoy the beach ambience today, this creek was the sight of a historic battle described in the famous literary work, "The Tale of Heike." Suma seaside ink matches the color of the creek, which is blue with a touch of green.</p>	<p>No.54 Mount Goshiki Ocher</p> 	<p>Goshiki Tomb is a place where you can come into contact with ancient artifacts. Although these artifacts are shrouded in mystery, you can feel the ancient people's wishes when you are near them. Mount Goshiki Ocher is the warm and mild color of these wondrous artifacts.</p>
<p>No.5 Tor Black</p> 	<p>Tor road is the historic street lined with boutique stores that links Kitano to the old city. Tor Black ink represents nightfall in the shining street lights.</p>	<p>No.15 Maiko Green</p> 	<p>Maiko Park offers a beautiful view of Awaji Island. This park houses a precious old pine forest filled with the same lush Maiko Green found in this ink.</p>	<p>No.25 Tarumi Apricot</p> 	<p>From Tarumi hill, you can get a full panoramic view spanning from the Akashi Strait Bridge to Awaji Island. It is the perfect place to watch a beautiful sunset. This apricot ink represents the flaming sun and feelings of sweet nostalgia.</p>	<p>No.35 Mount Suwa Leaf Green</p> 	<p>Mount Suwa stands near Kobe City, and is home to a lush natural forest park. Venus Bridge is a highlight of the park. After strolling through the park and over the bridge, you can take in the cityscape below. This Green ink gives a soothing impression of fresh leaves, grass, and forest.</p>	<p>No.45 Hachibuse Silhouette Green</p> 	<p>Mount Hachibuse is situated behind Suma Creek, and stood as a solemn observer of the of the battle fought at Suma so long ago. This place, where General Yoshitsune famously won a crucial victory, is now a great hiking trail. This elegant green ink signifies the lush nature found in the area.</p>	<p>No.55 Nankin Town Fortune Red</p> 	<p>Nankin Town is Kobe's famous Chinatown. This area is rooted in ethnic Asian culture. Chinese people hope for happy omens in the New Year festival. This Fortune Red ink is reminiscent of the festival's thematic color.</p>
<p>No.6 Kobe Bordeaux</p> 	<p>Westside Kobe is covered in low hills that grow the lush grapes used to make Kobe wine. Kobe Bordeaux ink allows you to drink in the rich color of the delicious, world-class Kobe Bordeaux.</p>	<p>No.16 Nada Brown</p> 	<p>With a brewing tradition originating from ancient times, the Nada region is well-known for brewing some of the best sake in all of Japan. Nada Brown ink matches the color of the cedar branch balls that hang in front of Nada sake brewers.</p>	<p>No.26 Wadamisaki Blue</p> 	<p>Many factories from various companies are found in the Wadamisaki area. The JR Wadamisaki train line only runs during commuting hours to transport its workers. Wadamisaki Blue ink takes on the color of this rare and unique train.</p>	<p>No.36 Sakaemachi Indigo</p> 	<p>Walking through Sakae Town streets, you will run into clusters of good old specialty shops while also taking in the sights of the new and unique cultural epicenter of Kobe. Sakae Town Indigo ink fuses future with the past in its bluish hue.</p>	<p>No.46 Nagisa Museum Gray</p> 	<p>Tadao Ando is one of the most famous Japanese architects. He designed the ocean-facing Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art in 2002. This gray ink draws inspiration from the museum's concrete walls.</p>	<p>No.56 Rokko Shichidanka</p> 	<p>In the Rokko Forest Botanical Garden, you can see precious and unique hydrangeas. This type of hydrangea was named Shichidanka, and was discovered about 100 years ago in the area. Please enjoy the hydrangea's pastel blue color when writing with this ink.</p>
<p>No.7 Strait Blue</p> 	<p>The Akashi Strait Bridge is one of the longest suspension bridges in the world, and serves as the entrance to Shikoku island. This ink symbolizes the prime location overlooking a beautiful deep sea vista, which is also famous for good fishing.</p>	<p>No.17 Shioya Blue</p> 	<p>In Shioya, many foreign nationals built cottages that overlook the glittering Seto Inland Sea. The essence of this endless blue sea is captured in the ink of Shioya Blue.</p>	<p>No.27 Konan Maroon</p> 	<p>Konan area is a lively university town, bustling with youth and activity. The Hankyu railway is a famous train line that runs through this area. Konan Maroon ink represents the characteristic color of this dignified and graceful train.</p>	<p>No.37 Minatojima Island Blue</p> 	<p>Kobe Airport is the found in the southernmost part of Port Island called Minatojima. The calm sea reflects the deep blue firmament and shimmering sunlight above. The deep sea looking out into the boundless sky is embodied in this blue ink.</p>	<p>No.47 Aotani Cascade Green</p> 	<p>Aotani town is a quiet residential area and school zone that lies at the foot of Mount Maya. Small waterfalls wind their way around the pretty mountain trail. Cascade Green blends a natural green with the azure hue of the waterfalls.</p>	<p>No.57 Kobe Hydrangea</p> 	<p>The hydrangea is Kobe's symbolic flower. There are many types and colors of hydrangeas, which reach full bloom during the rainy season in Japan. The beautiful pink and purple colors found in these hydrangeas are gifts from nature, and serve as the inspiration for this ink.</p>
<p>No.8 Arima Amber</p> 	<p>Arima hot spring is a historical area listed in Japan's oldest history book: The Chronicles of Japan. The feudal Lord Hideyoshi, one of Japan's "Great Unifiers," loved this well-known golden hot spring. Arima Amber ink portrays the classic majesty of this famous landmark.</p>	<p>No.18 Sannomiya Pansy</p> 	<p>In the Spring, you can stroll directly down to Kobe Sannomiya's city center on Flower Road, and experience the beautiful eruption of flowers around you. Sannomiya Pansy ink is the color of the pansies you can see there.</p>	<p>No.28 Suzuran Green</p> 	<p>Suzurandai is a traditional summer resort. Many people stay here for a cool vacation and a relaxing time in the summer heat. This green ink symbolizes the lily of the valley leaf, from which this town derives its name.</p>	<p>No.38 Kitanozaka Night Blue</p> 	<p>Kitano Hill has gentle slopes and an exotic townscape. In the nighttime, many glamorous shops are illuminated under the watchful moon. This Night Blue ink invokes a phantasm mood and a wistful feeling of mellow nightlife.</p>	<p>No.48 Suido Avenue Marche Blue</p> 	<p>About 600 unique stores can be found on Suido Avenue. The memories of the good old days continue to nostalgically drift along this shopping street. Marche Blue summons feelings of energy and excitement that are infused in the area.</p>	<p>No.58 Hyogo Canal Blue</p> 	<p>Hyogo canal is a crucial waterway crisscrossed with old bridges that winds through Kobe. One of these is Owada Bridge, which is made of stone, and has a beautiful arch. Canal Blue ink is the color of water ripples seen from Owada Bridge.</p>
<p>No.9 Suma Purple</p> 	<p>Throughout history, many Japanese poets and writers visited Suma. Suma appears in the famous "Tale of Genji" as an area where villas were built for aristocrats. Suma Purple ink signifies this aristocratic nobility with its deep hue.</p>	<p>No.19 Minatogawa Lime</p> 	<p>Kusunoki Masashige was a legendary samurai in Japan. The people in Minatogawa refer to him as Lord Kusunoki, and built him a shrine in tribute. This lime green ink is a tribute to his fame and bravery. It is a tribute to his fame and bravery.</p>	<p>No.29 Suma Beach Blue</p> 	<p>Suma beach lies beneath the towering mountaintop of Mount Hachibuse and is known as the most popular place to watch the sunrise in Kobe. Suma Beach Blue ink represents the sky, sea, and city in the precious moments just before the sun rises over the horizon.</p>	<p>No.39 Kobe Brick Warehouse Red</p> 	<p>Brick warehouses were built over 100 years ago in Kobe Port to store trade cargo. These cargo spaces greatly contributed to the development of the port and city economy. Even today, these brilliant red bricks are reflected in the water. Brick Warehouse Red ink emanates the pride and glory of these historic buildings.</p>	<p>No.49 Kitano Olive Green</p> 	<p>A long time ago, Kitano town was home to the oldest Japanese olive farm. Nowadays, this tradition is being revitalized in the area, and memories of the olives that grew here in past nourish the next generation of olive trees. This olive green represents rebirth in a brand new, born-again color.</p>	<p>No.59 Hirano Gion Romance Gray</p> 	<p>Hirano Gion Shrine offers an amazing panoramic view of the city. The Heike samurai leader Kiyomori made plans for international trade at this shrine. On rainy days, these stones glisten with romanticism. The gray used in this ink is inspired by the color of the shrine's stone stairs.</p>
<p>No.10 Mikage Gray</p> 	<p>Mikage is a rich neighborhood at the foot of Mt.Rokko that is home to a number of historical sites. Mikage Gray ink draws its essence from the cool, relaxed tones of this area.</p>	<p>No.20 Motomachi Rouge</p> 	<p>There are many new and old stores that line Motomachi shopping street. When walking there, you can see the famous landmark Port Tower, standing tall above the city. Motomachi Rouge ink originates from this big tower's red color.</p>	<p>No.30 Oji Cherry</p> 	<p>Oji Park is a place for rest and relaxation for Kobe residents. Inside the park is a zoo where you can discover many rare animals. In the spring, this area is illuminated by the beauty of vibrant cherry blossoms. This ink captures the color of the gentle cherries.</p>	<p>No.40 Sumiyoshi Brown</p> 	<p>The Sumiyoshi area contains the home of one of Japan's great treasures. Literary giant Junichiro Tanizaki lived in Sumiyoshi and wrote his representative work "The Makioka Sisters" here. The brown pigment found in this ink is the color of the writer's favorite tea.</p>	<p>No.50 Kyomachi Legend Blue</p> 	<p>Kobe City Museum is located on Kyo Town Street, and is renowned for housing many works of European and Asian art. Various foreign consulates are located on this street, giving the area a stately, dignified air. This blue ink glitters with echoes of legendary history and elegant culture.</p>	<p>No.60 Kobe Kitano Town Villa Mint</p> 	<p>Due to the strategic location of its important port, Kobe has a long history of internationalization and trade. This international trade brought many people from different countries who built their villas in the city. The pigment used in this ink represents the famous mint green color of the Kitano Town Villa walls.</p>



Kobe INK物語 Color Map

No.61 Yuki Goshō Cherry Blossom

The Heike samurai leader Lord Kiyomori's villa was located in Yukimi Goshō Town. Every Spring, cherry blossoms bloom along the area's riverbanks. The color used in this ink signifies the brief period of time when the blossoms transform from bud to bloom.

No.72 Sengari Water Blue

Sengari Dam and Dam Lake was built over 100 years ago in Dojo Town. This town is found in the northern limits of Kobe City, and is brimming with lush nature. The rich history of this dam and the plentiful nature surrounding it are the secrets to Kobe's pure water. This Water Blue ink is the color of water flowing from Sengari Dam.

No.83 Koikawa Ipe Yellow

The migratory influx of Japanese individuals to Brazil commenced in 1908, facilitated by immigration vessels departing from Kobe port. In commemoration of this historical epoch, the Brazilian national tree "Yellow Ipe", has been diligently planted along both sides of Koikawa Road, adorning the landscape with its resplendent blossoms during the spring season.

No.62 Nunobiki Lavender

In Summer at the Nunobiki Herb Garden, you can see splendid, sprawling lavender fields. The fragrance of lavender comes floating down in the mountain breeze. The spicy and sour color of this lavender ink will allow you to experience this sublime feeling.

No.73 Hyogo Harbor History Blue

Hyogo Harbor is an important marine transportation hub which with a rich history dating from the Heian period over 1200 years ago. In the early-modern times, this area flourished as a port for cargo vessels called Kitamae-bune. This deep blue ink serves as a noble reminder of Kobe's long history.

No.84 Yamamoto Street Exotic Green

Yamamoto Street in Kitano, Kobe, has been a place where foreigners and locals live together since Kobe opened the port to overseas countries, which has also created a unique architectural landscape that combines the western style with traditional Japanese style. In 1980, Yamamoto Street was designated as a preservation district for groups of traditional buildings. It is this green color of the architectural landscape that can be found in the Yamamoto Street Exotic Green ink.

No.63 East Park Torch Orange

East Park was one of the first European-styled parks in Japan. This park is home to the Great Hanshin Earthquake victim's memorial monument. Its orange color signifies the "Torch of Hope" that is displayed in requiem.

No.74 Myodani Cosmos Red

Cosmos Hill is a 4,000 square meter hill that extends from the southern slope of Kobe Universiade Memorial Stadium in Myodani City. The cosmos on the hill are in full bloom between late September and late October. Among the many colors of cosmos, this ink expresses the complexion of the most vibrant crimson flower.

No.64 Sumiyoshiyamate Jade Green

Hakutsuru Fine Art Museum houses a myriad of artwork with priceless historical value. The building itself is an exquisite display of the harmonization of Japanese and European styles. This jade ink matches the color of this art museum's iron doors and roofing tiles.

No.75 Higashi Kawasaki Harbor Mint

The former Kobe Port Signal Station is one of Kobe's most photogenic attractions, and is favored by both locals and travelers. This ink takes on the same mint color as the former Kobe Port Signal Station.

No.65 Shinko Jet Black

Cruise ships and ocean liners that transverse the globe frequently enter Kobe Port terminal, which has one of Japan's largest boarding bridges. Shinko Jet Black is inspired by the color of hulls on these magnificent ships.

No.76 Mount Futatabi Park Green

Futatabi Mountain gets its namesake from the two visits to the mountain by the legendary Buddhist monk Kukai. This green color is inspired by the park located on top of Futatabi Mountain, which is known as a beautiful site for people to hike around.

No.66 Seishin Cobalt Blue Sky

Seishin is a commuter town on the west end of Kobe where rich wine grapes are cultivated. This cobalt blue conveys the resplendent skies that shine down on the beautiful vineyards.

No.77 Rokko Himalayan Blue

The blue poppy, known as the queen of Himalayan flowers, blooms every summer at the Rokko Alpine Botanical Garden. The stunning natural color of its petals were the inspiration for this ink.

No.67 Ogo Farm Green

Ogo is located on the north side of Mount Rokko. The vast farm areas found here are brimming with vegetables and fresh produce. This green ink symbolizes the freshness and vigor bestowed by nature on the vegetables and fruit.

No.78 Rokko Alps Pink

Komakusa (*Dicentra peregrina*) was originally grown in the Northern Alps, mainly at high altitudes and in colder regions. In early summer, people can find Komakusa in the Rokko Alpine Botanical Garden. This Rokko Alps pink ink hints at the purity and nobility of the Komakusa.

No.68 Maiko-west Pearl Blue

The Akashi Strait Bridge is sometimes referred to as the "Pearl Bridge." From afar, the bridge looks like a bird is spreading out its massive wings. Pearl Blue can be seen in all its glory from Maiko-west. Maiko-west Pearl Blue ink embodies the image of the spectacular sight of one of the world's longest suspension bridges.

No.79 Tamon Kakitsubata

One of the finest places to see flowers in Kobe is Tamon-ji Temple in Tarumi, a temple founded by Master Jiraku in the Heian period. Master Jiraku is said to have brought over 3,000 Kakitsubata (rabbit-ear iris) back with him when he returned from a journey to China, and planted them here. This mild purple ink has the same color as the Kakitsubata in the temple.

No.69 Kikusui Biotope

Kikusui park has become a precious biotope as an ideal place for fireflies to breed. This place of rest and relaxation is popular among the people in Hyogo Prefecture. In this park, biotope plants reflect onto the bubbling brook, casting a beautiful yellow green that is the inspiration for this ink.

No.80 Rokko Alpine Kurinso

Kurinso (Japanese Primrose) flowers are spaced at intervals along upright stems, rising above basal rosettes of lettuce-like, bright green leaves. The beautiful flowers bring to mind the image of a Buddhist stupa. In mid-May, Kurinso flowers reach full bloom around the city, providing a gorgeous summer landscape that is favored by the locals. You can enjoy the exquisite pink of these Kurinso when writing with Rokko Primula Pink ink.

No.70 Rokko Forest Blue

In Hase pond, you can see Mt. Rokko's reflection on the surface of the water as it changes with each passing season. On an early Summer day, this serene view is reminiscent of Claude Monet's Water Lilies. Rokko Forest Blue ink is a mixture of the deep blue water and the warm forest color found here.

No.81 Fukae Urban Blue

In the Edo period, Fukae was one of the main transport arteries between Saikoku street and Arima Hot-spring. Fukae has also long been a center for training Japanese seafarers. The striking color of Fukae Urban Blue ink was inspired by Fukae's important history and modernity.

No.71 Ikuta River's Cherry Blossom

Ikuta River lies to the south of JR Shin-Kobe station, the gateway to Kobe. Upstream of the Ikuta River is the Nunobiki Waterfall. The winding riverside is famous for its glorious cherry blossoms in Spring. You will feel the cherry blossoms blowing gently in the warm Summer breeze when writing with this ink.

No.82 Maya Kaigan Apple Green

The architect Tadao Ando designed the Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art, for which he also built a statue: The Green Apple. Samuel Ullman said that youth "is the freshness of the deep springs of life." The youth that is symbolized by this green apple springs forth in this green ink, and invigorates the paper it is written on.

This grid displays 100 numbered ink bottles, each with a corresponding color swatch. The bottles are arranged in 10 rows and 10 columns. The colors range from various shades of blue and green to red, orange, yellow, and black. The numbers correspond to the color map entries on the left page.

