

September 13, 2023
Central Japan Railway Company
West Japan Railway Company

The Nozomi Shinkansen will be operated with all reserved seating during this winter's year-end and New Year's holidays

—The Nozomi Shinkansen will have more reserved seating during the three major peak periods to make it easier for passengers to make reservations—

The Tokaido and Sanyo Shinkansen will operate Nozomi Shinkansen with all reserved seating (no non-reserved seats) (*2) during the three major peak periods (*1), starting from the year-end and New Year periods of this year (December 28, 2023 to January 4, 2024).

During the three major peak periods of the Tokaido and Sanyo Shinkansen, reserved seats would fill up early depending on the day and time, and passengers could not be seated or boarded if they boarded from stations other than the first departure station. In addition, passengers who did not reserve a reserved seat sometimes had to wait in line for a long time at the platform, etc., waiting to board a non-reserved seat, or it took time to get on and off cars with non-reserved seat, causing train delays.

Therefore, we have decided to operate the Nozomi Shinkansen with all reserved seating during the three major peak periods.

This will increase the number of reserved seats offered on the Nozomi Shinkansen by approximately 20% per train, allowing more passengers to make reservations and be seated for their trip. Passengers will no longer have to wait for long periods of time, and boarding and disembarking will be smoother, leading to more punctual train operation.

In addition to operating the Nozomi Shinkansen 12 Train Timetable between Tokyo and Shin-Osaka, we will offer more trains and more seats than ever during the three major peak periods, by increasing the number of trains that directly connect the Tokaido and Sanyo Shinkansen lines. The EX Service (*3) will also allow passengers to make reservations for reserved seats one year in advance from October, 2023. This will make it even easier for passengers to reserve seats, so please make your reservations in advance and travel with peace of mind.

*1 The three major peak periods are Golden Week, Obon holidays, and year-end and New Year's holidays.

*2 Normally, Nozomi Shinkansen trains have non-reserved seats in Cars 1 to 3.

*3 EX Service refers to Express Reservation (annual membership fee ¥1,100 including tax) and Smart EX (no annual membership fee), online reservation and ticketless boarding services for the Tokaido, Sanyo, and Kyushu Shinkansen. For details, please refer to Smart EX website (<https://smart-ex.jp/en/index.php>).

1. Outline of implementation during the year-end and New Year period of this fiscal year (FY2023)

(1) Implementation period

Thursday, December 28, 2023 - Thursday, January 4, 2024

(2) Train sections and trains

All Nozomi Shinkansen trains operating on the Tokaido and Sanyo Shinkansen lines (between Tokyo and Hakata) during the above period

(3) Use of non-reserved seat limited express tickets, etc.

- During the period when all seating is reserved, passengers holding a ticket that allows them to travel only in non-reserved seats (non-reserved seat limited express tickets, etc.), including FREX/FREX Pal Shinkansen commuter passes, are not allowed to sit on the Nozomi Shinkansen.
- During the above period, non-reserved seats will be available on trains other than Nozomi Shinkansen, such as Hikari, Kodama, Mizuho, and Sakura Shinkansen, as usual.

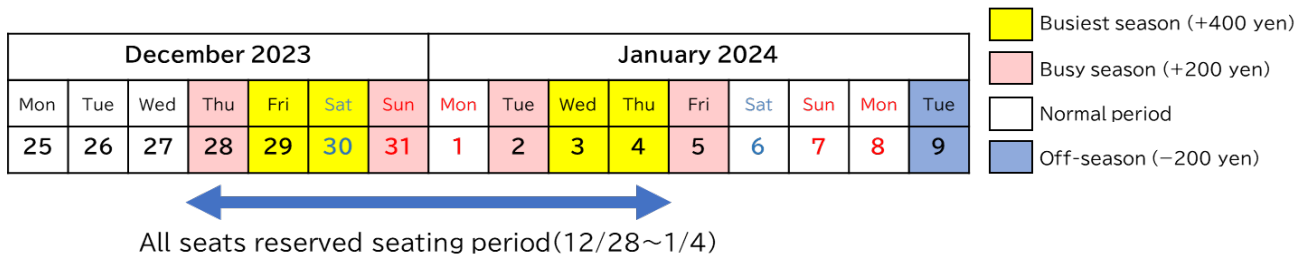
* Passengers with non-reserved seat limited express tickets, etc. may board the Nozomi Shinkansen only if they stand on the deck, etc. of an Ordinary Car. (If you are seated in a reserved seat of the Nozomi Shinkansen, you will be charged the specified reserved seat limited express fare.)

* When non-reserved seats on trains other than the Nozomi Shinkansen are crowded, passengers with non-reserved limited express tickets may be suggested to stand on the deck of Ordinary Cars of the Nozomi Shinkansen. In such cases, passengers may be asked to wait on the platform or be directed to a different car from the one they have lined up for, which may interrupt smooth boarding. We ask for your cooperation in following the guidance of our staff to ensure safe train operation.

* In the event of a major transportation disruption, etc., the Nozomi Shinkansen may operate with non-reserved seating for all seats.

(4) Other

- Many trains will operate mainly on peak days, but it is relatively easy to make reservations for trains on days and times before or after the peak, and seasonal limited express fares will be available at a discount, so please also consider rescheduling your travel dates with that in mind.



<Reference> Calendar of applicable dates for seasonal limited express fares during the year-end and New Year period

- The EX Service is recommended when making reservations for reserved seats. If you register your transportation IC card in advance, you can use the service smoothly without having to pick up your ticket at a ticket-vending machine, etc.

2. Future plans

- The three major peak periods after the year-end and New Year period of the current fiscal year shall be generally treated in the same manner as the year-end and New Year period of the current fiscal year.
- Specific dates and details will be determined on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration the fall of the days of the week each fiscal year, associated usage trends, and the results of the implementation of the service.
- From October 1, 2023 (Sun.), it will be possible to use the EX Service to make reservations for seats up to one year in advance. For example, as of October 1, 2023 (Sun.), you can reserve seats for the current year's year-end and New Year holidays, as well as for next year's Golden Week and Bon holidays. Please take advantage of the convenient EX Service.