

We went to visit Zach in Umaji. It's in Kōchi Prefecture in southeastern Shikoku. Here's his house.



Here's where we stayed (Umaji Onsen, or コミュニティーセンター).



We saw temples (Rokuon-Ji, aka Kinkaku-Ji),



Castles (Himeji-Jo),



and gardens (at Koko-en next to Himeji-Jo).



We also saw some Buddhas (at Tōdai-Ji in Nara),



learned all about Sakamoto Ryōma (important figure in Meiji restoration who came from Kōchi, near Umaji),



and we were interviewed by the locals (at a bus stop in Kyōto).



We also hiked in the cedar forest



ate lots of strange food, and sampled many different kinds of sake.



Final sight seeing count [according to Zach]:

Buddhist Temples: 7

Shinto Shrines: 1

Castles: 4

Gardens (including those at temples/castles/shrines): 3

Other stuff: 1 cave, 1 wax figure museum, 1 Sunday Market Street, numerous viewing platforms, stuff...

[Zach's pictures are at http://photos.yahoo.com/bc/za_piper]