



Japanese Railway Scenery 20

Local EMU train running near Nunohara Station on JR West Hakubi Line. The 138.4-km line was opened in 1928 as a shortcut between the San'yo (on Inland-Sea) and San'in (on Sea of Japan) districts. When the San'yo Shinkansen was opened in 1972 between Shin Osaka and Okayama, the Hakubi Line was DC-electrified and partly double-tracked to form the quickest link between the San'in and Kansai (Osaka, Kyoto and Kobe) districts. JR West runs 15 daily limited express services between Okayama and Yonago/Matsue/Izumo Shi in each direction, using Series 381 tilting EMUs to negotiate the steeply graded and winding route across the Chugoku mountains. *(Photo: M. Mashima Photo Office)*

EAST JAPAN RAILWAY
CULTURE FOUNDATION



¥ 1,000