

Oita Town Walk Program



2023 revised edition
Furusato Oita Let's Go!

ふるさと大分

Let's

ごー
郷!

Statue of Lord Otomo Sorin
(in Oita)
One of the feudal lords who
ruled Funai during the
Warring States period.
Famous as a Christian daimyo
(feudal lord)



With Local Guides
Oita Town Walk Route



Oita: Japan's best hot Springs

hot spot  Full of flavors



Oita Town Walk Route

You will surely fall in love with Oita even more, when you take a tour with a local guide.
Let's go to Oita, a nostalgic and heartwarming locality!

[Oita City]

- Town Walk Course ①
- Tour of Otomo Funai's historical sites ②
- Historical trail of Tsurusaki ③
- An attractive town that exudes an air of history and culture. ④
- Historic Walking Trail through the cobbled street of Imaichi on Higo Highway ⑤
- The Saganoseki Ryoma saw ⑥

[Beppu City]

- Tour of Beppu's Historical Sites ⑦
- "Kumahachi Tour" explore the alleys of Takegawara at dusk of Takegawara at dusk ⑧
- Explore the alleys of Takegawara area ⑨
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- A romantic journey through Asamigo ⑪
- Explore the town of Horita Onsen shrouded in steam ⑫
- An evening tour of Kannawa Onsen ⑬
- Take a leisurely stroll through a town with a lot of heart, Kamegawa. ⑭
- Outstanding view! Uchinari Rice Terraces Experience and Walking Tour ⑮
- Go on a historical romance trail of Kankaiji ⑯

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- Hachimenzan Peace Park Route ⑱
- Ao-no-Domon, Yabakei Bridge, Rakanji Bridge Course ⑲
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[Saiki City]

- A historical and literary exploration tour ㉓

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The published content is correct as of March 2024.



Oita: Japan's best hot Springs
hot spot  Full of flavors

Map of Hot Spring Prefecture, Oita.



Town Walk Course

The course takes visitors on a casual stroll, enjoying a close look at the ruins of Funai Castle, the Yuho Park with its sculptures and monuments, and the Red Brick Building in the city center.

⑤ Art Plaza
A complex for arts and culture designed by the world-renowned architect from Oita, Mr. Arata Isozaki

④ Funai Castle Ruins
The castle is one of the 100 great castles of Japan. The quadruple moat and many of the stone walls have remained as they were in the Edo period.

③ Yuho Park
You can trace the scent of the Namban culture of Otomo Sorin's times as you look at the monuments.

② Red Brick Building
The European-style building was designed by Kingo Tatsuno, the renowned architect of Tokyo Station. The Western-style building is by Kingo Tatsuno, the designer of Tokyo Station. The building houses a boutique selling Oita Prefecture products and a café.

① Start
Oita Station

⑥ Goal
Oita Station

Other locations on the map include: Nishi-Shinmachi Tenmansha Shrine, Oita City Hall, Shukusai Plaza, Compal Hall, Manju-ji Temple, Daichi-ji Temple, The site of Deus Cathedral (approximate location), NAMBAN BVNGO KORYUKAN, Horuto Hall OITA, and JR Oita Station.

Streets shown: Kyudai Main Line, Nippo Main Line.



Course	①JR Oita Station → ②Red Brick Building → ③Sculptures in the park → ④Funai Castle Ruins → ⑤Art Plaza (outside only) → ⑥JR Oita Station	Book	Oita Funai Volunteer Guides Oita City Tourism Division, 2-31, Niagemachi, Oita, Oita Prefecture TEL: 097-537-7043 (Japanese only) FAX: 097-537-5670 e-mail: kanko2@city.oita.oita.jp Website: http://www.city.oita.oita.jp/o157/bunkasports/guide/1499403760687.html
When?	As and when needed (Must be booked at least one week in advance)		
Times	Dep. 9:00AM - Arr. 3:00PM About 2 hours (depends on the course)	Fee	Free
Meet-up	Inside JR Oita Station Oita City Tourism Information Center		

The Ueno Historical Walk Course also takes you to historical sites associated with the Otomo family.


Guides

Volunteer Guides
Otomoshi Yugakukai

Tour of Otomo Funai's historical sites


The walking trail takes you on a tour of the historical sites associated with the Otomo family while unraveling the history of the Otomos that enjoyed the height of glory for nearly 400 years.

Statue of Lord Sorin Otomo




Lord Otomo was one of the military commanders of the Sengoku period who governed Funai. He is also famously known as the Christian Daimyo.

③Manju-ji Temple




The main temple main hall, priests' kitchen and living quarters, the Buddha hall, Zen meditation hall, sutra repository, and a temple dedicated to Kannon stand in a line on the expansive temple grounds.

④The site of Deus Cathedral




Otomo Sorin welcomed Francisco Xavier to Funai and permitted him to preach Christianity and build churches. The Deus Chapel (Funai Church) became the base for missionary work in Funai.

The site of Otomo manor (Uenoharu Yakata)



There were two Otomo family manors in Funai, one in Kentoku-machi, and the other in Ueno. The one in Ueno was called "Uenoharu Yakata," and it was built in a place that possessed a commanding view of the town of Funai.

①Namban BVNGO Koryukan



The museum showcases relics associated with the Otomo clan and the atmosphere of Namban culture promoted by Otomo Sorin. You can experience what it was like in those days through the large screen images and enjoy the site of the just-restored Otomo manor gardens.

Course	①Namban BVNGO Koryukan(Start・Goal) → ②Manju-ji Temple → ③Daichi-ji Temple → ④The site of Deus Cathedral → ⑤Wakamiya Hachiman Shrine → ① Namban BVNGO Koryukan	Book	Volunteer Guides Otomoshi Yugakukai Ninomiya Mobile: 090-4580-1594 (Japanese only)
When?	As needed (book two weeks in advance: Call first and send a letter)		
Times	About 2 hours in the morning		
Meet-up	Namban BVNGO Koryukan	Fee	500 yen per person

There is also a course called "Town Walk" which takes you on a tour of the site of Funai Castle and the sculptures in Yuho Park.

The course takes you through the historical sites of Tsurusaki which flourished as the enclave of Lord Kiyomasa of the Higo Domain, as you learn about the history and culture of the area.

Tsurusaki district
Tsurusaki was an important enclave of the Higo Domain (Kumamoto) and the sea gateway of Sankinkotai detail.

② Hoshinji Temple
The temple was built by Lord Kiyomasa Kato of the Higo Domain. The main temple houses the wooden tablets of the successive heads of the Kato clan, and the treasure house contains relics associated with Lord Kiyomasa.

⑤ The site of the pier used for the Sankinkotai detail
The place was used by the Lord of the Higo Domain as the pier for his Sankinkotai detail. It is now Shinbori Park, but there is a stone monument marking the location of the dock.

Tsurusaki Daijingu Shrine
The park hosts the splendid and elegant Homba Tsurusaki Dance Festival in August!

⑦ The site of the construction office, Yushukan.

⑧ Izumi Shrine

⑨ Ken hachimangu Shrine

⑩ Jingo-ji Temple

③ Ken hachimangu Shrine
The shrine was built after the discovery of the sacred sword of Usa Shrine, which had been missing for centuries.

① Mori Kuso Memorial Museum
Kuso Mori, the Emperor's teacher during the end of the Shogunate, opened Chiraikan, a school in his residence, Tenshodo, in Tsurusaki district. The museum showcases historical artifacts, documents, and relics.

Start Mori Kuso Memorial Museum
Goal Jingo-ji Temple

大御代は ゆたかなりけり旅杖
一夜の夢を 千代の鶴さき
文久四年鶴崎にて 勝 海舟

Course	①Mori Kuso Memorial Museum → ②Hoshinji Temple (built by Lord Kiyomasa) → ③ Statues and lodging place of Kaishu Katsu and Ryoma Sakamoto → ④The site of the Bungo-Tsurusaki teahouse → ⑤The site of the pier used for the Sankinkotai detail → ⑥Tsurusaki Daijingu Shrine → ⑦The site of the construction office, Yushukan → ⑧ Izumi Shrine → ⑨Ken hachimangu Shrine → ⑩Jingo-ji Temple → Part ways	Book	Tsurusaki Volunteer Guides Club Kuso Mori Museum, 381-1, Tsurusaki, Oita City, Oita Prefecture. TEL: 097-521-4893 (Japanese only) FAX: 097-521-4893 Website: http://www.city.oita.oita.jp/o157/bunkasports/guide/1499403760687.html
When?	As and when needed (Must be booked at least one week in advance)	Fee	Free (bookings for the folk entertainment are taken separately)
Times	9:30AM - 2:30PM The tour lasts 90 to 120 minutes		
Meet-up	Kuso Mori Museum 381-1, Tsurusaki, Oita City.		

Folk entertainment such as Tsurusaki Dance and Watari Byoshi are subject to availability.

Guides

Hetsugi Anzu-no-kai

An attractive town that exudes an air of history and culture.

With a focus on Hoashi Honke Sake Brewery, you will tour the historic streets that prospered from the late Edo period to before World War II.

The streets of Hetsugi



The town was considered a key junction of traffic along Ohno River on Hyuga Highway. It retains the historical ambience of the Edo era.

③ Hoashi Honke Sake Brewery



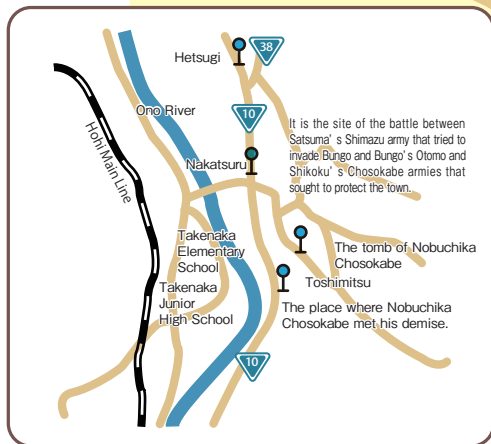
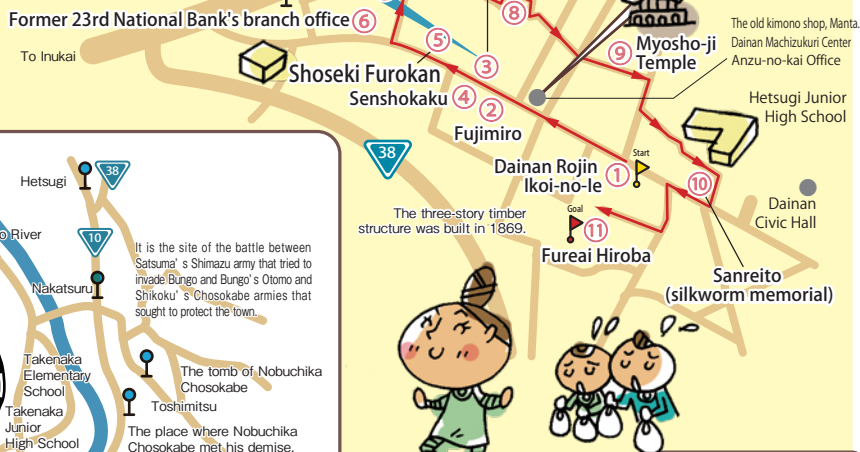
The brewery was built from the mid-Edo to Meiji period, and it produced sake until 1972. It is now Oita City's designated tangible cultural property which provides a clear view of the process of sake-making.



Dainan Machizukuri Center



The manor house of the former lord of the Kumamoto Domain in Tsurusaki was relocated in 1906 and used as a kimono shop. After a partial conversion, it was used as the local post office from 1932 to 1970.



Kyou Hoashi

Hoashi was a literati painter who studied under Japan's leading Nanga painter, Chikuden Tanomura, he contributed to the development of Nanga.

Course	①Dainan Rojin Ikoi-no-ke → Dainan Machizukuri Center → ② Fujimiro → ③Hoashi Honke Sake Brewery → ④Senshokaku → ⑤Shoseki Furokan → ⑥Former 23rd National Bank's branch office → ⑦Gobaen → ⑧Nishi Park → ⑨Myosho-ji Temple → ⑩ Sanreito (silkworm memorial) → ⑪Furai Hiroba → Part ways.	Book	Hetsugi Anzu no Kai Dainan Machizukuri Center Honmachi, Nakahetsugi, Oita City, Oita Prefecture. TEL·FAX: 097-560-2544 (Japanese only) Ohno(090-3322-4390) Website: http://www.city.oita.oita.jp/o157/bunkasports/guide/1499403760687.html
When?	As and when needed (Must be booked at least 7 to 10 days in advance)		
Times	Start between 10:00AM and 2:00PM. End between 12:00PM and 3:30PM.		
Meet-up	Dainan Rojin Ikoi-no-ke Honmachi, Nakahetsugi, Oita City.	Fee	200 yen per person, 1,000 yen per group of 10 and up to 20. ※An extra 1,000 yen charged for every 20 people

Historic Walking Trail through the cobbled street of Imaichi on Higo Highway

Imaichi was a post town of the Oka Domain, and the Higo Domain also used the cobbled street on their journey to perform their Sankinkotai detail (where feudal lords were required to spend alternate years residing in Edo.) Let's stroll through the historical highway, imagining what things were like back in the day.

② Imaichi Stone Pavement

The street was constructed during the Keicho (1596-1615) period, and 660 cobblestones line the 2.1 meter-wide center of the 8.5 meter-wide street.

To find the starting point of the cobbled street, look for the notice board for the site of Imaichi Post Station!

① Maruyama Shrine (Romon Gate)

It is believed the shrine was built in 1720 and the gate is carved with images of the twelve animals of the Chinese zodiac, the twenty-four T'zai exemplars, and the process of sake-making.

Seisyokoden (Hogo-ji Temple)

Seisyokoden (a hall dedicated to Lord Kiyomasa) in Hogo-ji Temple was built by the Hosokawa family. A festival in remembrance of Lord Kiyomasa is held extravagantly on 4th Saturday August each year.

The Goto family residence

The house is characterized by its thatched and yosemune-zukuri (hipped) roof, and it retains a lot of its original features, including the dirt floor and open hearth.

An entry in Kaishu Katsu's diary
民のかまど ゆたけきものを しらぬいの
つくして生うてう 野津原のさと
At Notsuharu, February, 1864.

Course	① Maruyama Shrine (Romon Gate) → ② Imaichi Stone Pavement (30-60min course) The tour can be catered to the customer and can also include Notsuharujuku, the Magaibutsu of Ota, Sankyo monument, and Nanase Dam, Goto residence.	Book	Notsuharu Volunteer Guides Council Notsuharu Branch Office, 800, Notsuharu, Oita City, Oita Prefecture. TEL: 097-588-1111 (Japanese only) FAX: 097-588-1613 (Japanese only)
When?	As and when needed (Must be booked at least two weeks in advance) *Excluding Sat, Sun, holidays, year-end, and New Year holidays.	Fee	Free
Times	9:00AM-3:00PM		
Meet-up	In front of the torii gate of Maruyama Shrine Further along 2563-1, Imaichi, Oita City.		

The weeping cherry blossoms are in full blooms from mid-March to early April along the cobbled street of Imaichi.

Guides

Saganoseki Volunteer
Guides AssociationThe Saganoseki
Ryoma saw

Explore the historical streets while learning about the time Kaishu Katsu and Ryoma Sakamoto visited Saganoseki in 1864.

Kurogahama and Shirogahama beaches
The beach with dark stones and another with contrasting white sands provide a rare sight.

Sekizaki Kaiseikan
Located at the easternmost tip of Kyushu, the astronomical observatory has one of the best facilities in Kyushu. It has a commanding view of the sea of Seto that nurtures Seki horse mackerel and mackerel and provides a 300-degree view of the sea which Ryoma had traveled.

Takashima
The black-tailed gulls' nesting site and fan palms are Oita Prefecture's designated protected species.

The place where Kaishu and Ryoma landed

1 Civic Center

2 The place where Kaishu and Ryoma landed

3 Seki Aji Seki Saba Street

4 Tokuo-ji Temple

5 The street has houses with trade names

6 The site where official notices were posted

7 The site of the Chaya (lodging house)

8 Gongen Street

9 Hayasuhime Shrine

197 Kanayama Intersection

Saganoseki Elementary School

Tokuo-ji Temple

Prefectural Fishermen's Association Saganoseki branch

Saganoseki fishing port

Ohta Cannery

635

635

217

635

9 Hayasuhime Shrine

The Chaya (lodging house) for Lord Hosokawa of Higo Domain stood on the site of the old Saganoseki civic hall.

The main gate was built by Lord Hosokawa of Higo Domain, and the main hall is the prefecture's designated tangible cultural property. The stone torii gate is a rare example of the style of the Edo period.

4 Tokuo-ji Temple

Legend has it that Kaishu Katsu and Ryoma Sakamoto had stayed in the temple at the end of the shogunate period. The Nihon Jinbutsushi (Record of Japanese Notables) contains a detailed account of the men's journey from Kobe to Saganoseki.

Course	①Civic Center → ②The place where Kaishu and Ryoma landed → ③Seki Aji Seki Saba Street → ④Tokuo-ji Temple → ⑤The street has houses with trade names → ⑥The site where official notices were posted → ⑦The site of the Chaya (lodging house) → ⑧Gongen Street → ⑨Hayasuhime Shrine → ①Civic Center	Book	Saganoseki Volunteer Guides Association NPO Saganoseki Machizukuri Council TEL: 097-575-2000 (Japanese only) FAX: 097-574-7261 (Japanese only) Website: http://www.city.oita.jp/o157/bunkasports/guide/1499403760687.html
When?	As and when needed (Must be booked at least one week in advance)		
Times	9:00AM-3:00PM, 1-1.5 hours (Depending on the course)	Fee	300 yen (contribution)
Meet-up	Saganoseki Civic Center parking area 1407-27, Saganoseki, Oita City.		

Tour of Beppu's Historical Sites

The Battle of Ishigakibaru fiercely fought between Kambei Kuroda and Yoshimune Ohtomo's army is regarded as "Kyushu's Battle of Sekigahara." See what remains of the dreams of the feudal powerful as you listen to the stories told by an expert local guide.

② Innobaba
(The site of Heidayu Tokieda's encampment)

The area in between Jissoji and Kakudono mountains used to be called Innobaba where Lord Buzen Usatokieda of the Kuroda clan had his encampment.

Mt Kakudono (Monument marking the site of an inn for Kuroda's officials)

There is a stone monument marking the site of the Kuroda Jyosui Inn within Daiichi Park on the south side of Mt Kakudono. Kuremonon Fukususa Inoue and Ichimon Nomura of the Kuroda army who went ahead of their troops took up their positions before the others arrived and sent the Ohtomo army flying.

① Mt Jisso-ji
(The site of Hosokawa's encampment)

The retainers of Tadaoki Hosokawa, who had defended Kitsuki Castle to his death, took up position midway up the south side of Mt Jissoji with Kuroda's army. Jissoji Temple used to be on the east side of the mountain, but it was razed to the ground in the war.

⑤ Yoshihiro Shrine

The shrine is dedicated to Muneyuki Yoshihiro, and his tomb is in the rear of the property. He was hailed as a trusty general by the Kuroda army, and there are tombs of other retainers and a stone monument erected by the Hosokawa clan beside his grave.

Course	① Mt Jisso-ji (the site of Hosokawa's encampment) → ② Innobaba (the site of Heidayu Tokieda's encampment) → ③ Inao Museum → ④ The Old Buzen Highway → ⑤ Yoshihiro Shrine	Book	Hirano Museum 11-7, Motomachi, Beppu, Oita Prefecture TEL·FAX: 0977-23-4748 (Japanese only) Website: http://www.hirano-museum.info/ ※ Guides are available in English, Chinese (Cantonese and Mandarin), and Korean by prior arrangement. ※ Additional fee applies
When?	3rd Saturday of the month (must be booked at least a week in advance)	Fee	700 yen (with tea and snack)
Times	Start 10:00AM, finish 12:00PM.		
Meet-up	Summit of Mt Jisso-ji		

Group tours can be arranged as required.

“Kumahachi Tour” explore the alleys of Takegawara at dusk

You will be taken on a fun guided tour of the sites associated with Aburaya Kumahachi, known as the father of Beppu tourism, by a guide impersonating the man himself or a guide who is a look-alike of Japan's first female bus guide.

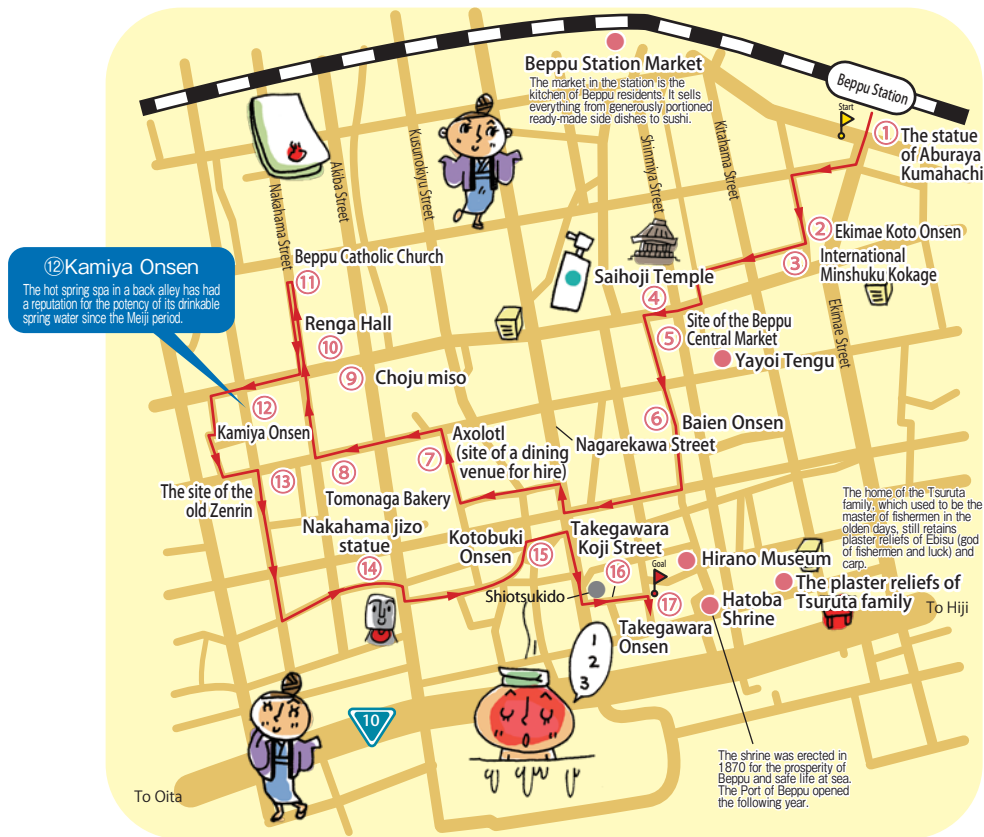


Course	①The statue of Aburaya Kumahachi → ②Beppu Station Market → ③Kamenoi Hotel → ④Furosen hot springs → ⑤The survey site of Tadataka Ino → ⑥Takegawara Onsen → ⑦Hirano Museum (watch a DVD about Kumahachi)	Book Hirano Museum 11-7, Moto-machi, Beppu City, Oita Prefecture. TEL/FAX: 0977-23-4748 (Japanese only) http://www.hirano-museum.info/ ※Guides are available in English, Chinese (Cantonese and Mandarin), and Korean by prior arrangement. ※Additional fee applies
When?	Every day (Must book at least a week in advance for two or more people.)	
Times	Start 4:00PM, finish 5:00PM.	
Meet-up	In front of the Aburaya Kumahachi statue, JR Beppu Station. Ekimae-cho, Beppu City.	
Fee	700 yen (includes Abuhachi rice crackers and Kumahachi pamphlet)	

Group tours (10 or more in a group) can also be arranged by request.

Explore the alleys of Takegawara area

Why not meander through the back alleys that retain the look of the good old days of the hot spring town, Beppu? The tour will visit many public baths and old establishments cherished by the locals. You will find the undiscovered charms of Beppu Onsen.



Course	①The statue of Aburaya Kumahachi → ②Ekimae Koto Onsen → ③International Minshuku Kokage → ④Saihoji Temple → ⑤Site of the Beppu Central Market → ⑥Baien Onsen → ⑦Axolotl (site of a dining venue for hire) → ⑧Tomonaga Bakery → ⑨Choju Miso → ⑩Renga Hall → ⑪Beppu Catholic Church → ⑫Kamiya Onsen → ⑬Former Zenrin office → ⑭Nakahama jizo → ⑮Kotobuki Onsen → ⑯Takegawara Koji Street → ⑰Takegawara Onsen *The course is for reference only	◎TEL (Weekdays) Beppu City Tourism Association TEL : 0977-24-2828 (Sat, Sun and holidays) Beppu Hatto Kataribe-no-kai TEL : 070-8474-1854 ◎Mail b.kataribe@gmail.com
When?	Every Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 1st, 2nd and 4th Saturday, and 3rd and 5th Sunday (Book two days in advance) (A different course is offered on the 3rd and 5th Saturday, and 1st, 2nd, and 4th Sunday)	
Times	Start 10:00AM, (Approx. 2 to 2 ½ hours)	
Meet-up	Beppu Station East Exit 12, Ekimae-cho, Beppu City.	Fee Adults 1,000 yen / elementary school children 500 yen / free for preschool children (Complimentary snack)

A group of 10 or more must book. There are no tours during the end of the year and New Year holidays, and from July 25 to August 15.

Guides

Yunomachi Mama-san
GuidesMeander through the alleys of
Takegawara at night

See the neon-lit streets of Beppu while listening to the guitars played by third-generation buskers Hacchan and Bunchan.

Umezono Onsen
The hot spring spa in the city is a well-kept secret. Built in 1872, it was called Shintakegaware Onsen in the olden days.

The winding street is less than 3 meters wide. There are many hidden gems here.

1 Takegawara Onsen
The spa was built in 1879, but the present building dates back to 1938. It got the name Takegawara (bamboo roofed) Onsen for it initially had a roof laid with bamboo.

Takegawara Koji Street
It is Japan's oldest timber arcade. The street is lined with retro-inspired cafés, massage parlors, bars, taverns, and sweet shops.

Hirano Museum
11-7, Moto-machi, Beppu City, Oita Prefecture.
TEL/FAX: 0977-23-4748 (Japanese only)
<http://www.hirano-museum.info/>
*Guides are available in English, Chinese (Cantonese and Mandarin), and Korean by prior arrangement. *Additional fee applies

Course
① Takegawara Onsen → ② Umezono Street → ③ Shinmiya Street → ④ Yasaka Renga Street → ⑤ Kitahama Street → ⑥ Hirano Museum (the tour includes Haiku-style commentaries.)

When?
2nd & 4th Friday of the month (must be booked at least a week on advance)

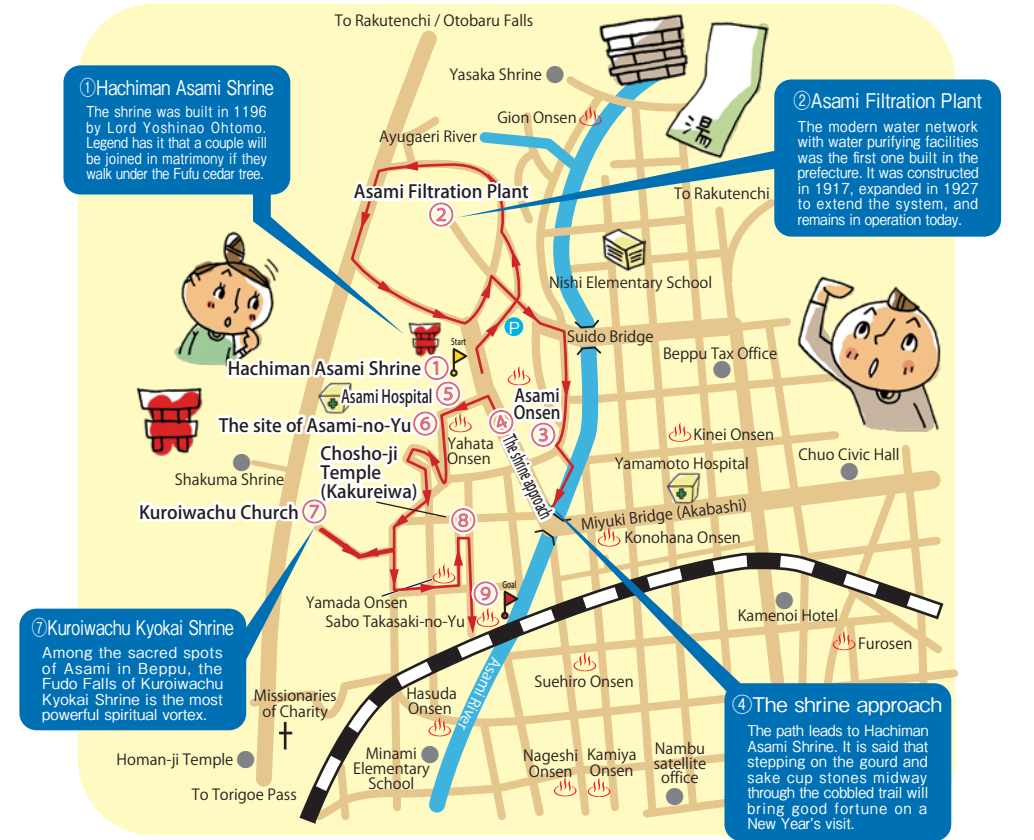
Times
Start 8:30PM, finish 9:45PM.

Meet-up
Municipal Takegawara Onsen Motomachi, Beppu City

Fee
1,000 yen (with a complimentary illustrated postcard)

A romantic journey through Asamigo

The origins of Beppu, history, famous water, and views. The Beppu City area was called Asamigo in the olden days. There is tranquility in the air and time flows quietly in the Asami region that has retained the prestigious place name.



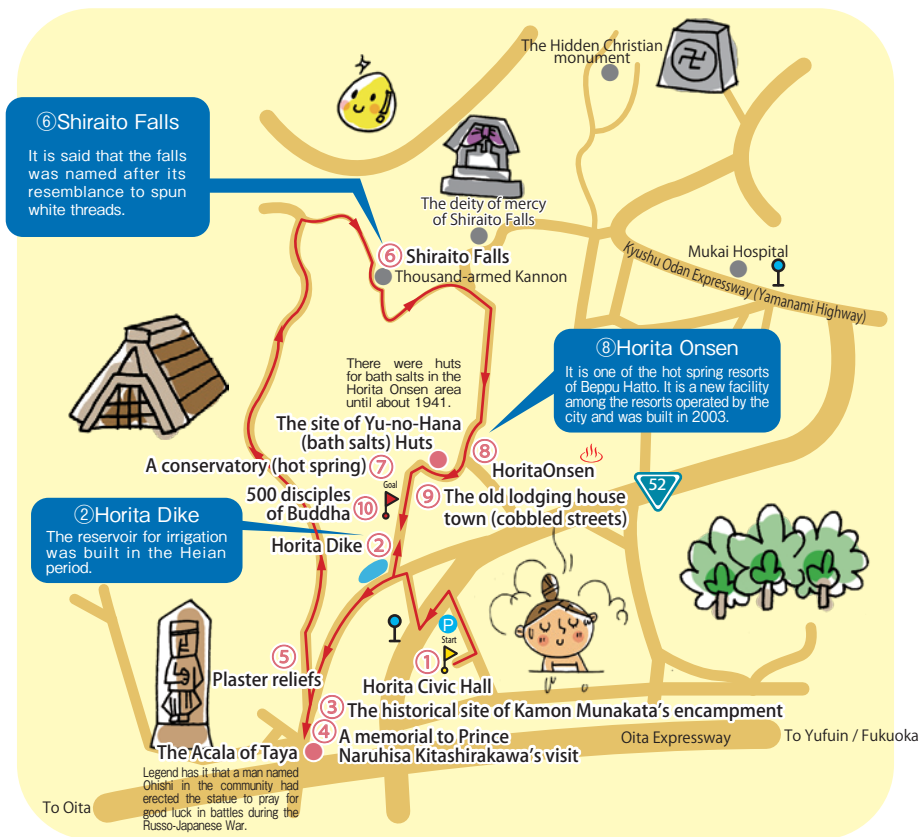
Course	①Hachiman Asami Shrine → ②Asami Filtration Plant → ③Asami Onsen → ④The shrine approach → ⑤Asami Hospital → ⑥The site of Asami-no-Yu → ⑦Kuroiwachu Church → ⑧Chosho-ji Temple → ⑨Part ways after tea and snack.	Book	Asami Chiiki Shinkokai 1-2-11, Asami, Beppu City, Oita Prefecture. (Inside Sabo Takasaki) TEL/FAX: 0977-23-0592 (Japanese only) Website: https://asamiwalk.exblog.jp/ ※ Guides are available in English, Chinese (Cantonese and Mandarin), and Korean by prior arrangement. ※Additional fee applies
When?	3rd Sunday of the month, and when requested for a group of 5 or more people.	Fee	700 yen, children 400 yen, including tea and snack. ※Please book as tea and snack must be arranged.
Times	Start 10:00AM (please arrive by 9:45AM) Finish 12:00PM (The tour is approximately 2 hours.)		
Meet-up	In front of the main hall of Hachiman Asami Shrine. 2-15-19, Asami, Beppu City.		

Guides

Beppu Hatto
Horita Onsen Club

Explore the town of Horita Onsen shrouded in steam

Horita Onsen resort opened in the Edo period to offer hot spring cures, and the area was a key junction of traffic that led to Yufuin, Hita, and Dazaifu. Let's explore the town shrouded in steam while imagining how it prospered from the Edo period to early Showa as you walk on the original cobbled stone streets.



Course	①Horita Civic Hall → ②Horita Dike → ③The historical site of Kamon Munakata's encampment → ④A memorial to Prince Naruhisa Kitashirakawa's visit → ⑤Plaster reliefs → ⑥Shiraito Falls → ⑦A Conservatory (hot spring) → ⑧Horita Onsen → ⑨The old lodging house town (cobbled streets) → ⑩500 disciples of Buddha	Book Beppu Hatto Horita Onsen Club 3-kumi, Beppu Horita, Oita Prefecture. TEL:090-2502-8055 (Shuto) ※Japanese only ※Guides are available in English, Chinese (Cantonese and Mandarin), and Korean by prior arrangement. ※Additional fee applies
When?	2nd Sunday of the month(Must book at least a week in advance)	
Times	Start 10:00AM, finish 12:00PM (including breaks)	
Meet-up	Horita Civic Hall 1-kumi, Horita, Beppu City.	
Fee	700 yen (including tea and snack)	

※There is also a special course for hardy walkers.

An evening tour of Kannawa Onsen

The tour takes you on a relaxing exploration of Kannawa, a town steeped in the culture of taking the water. It's best to find your favourite onsen and return to your lodgings after bathing.

Jigoku Mushi Cuisine



In the mid-Edo period, people used the steam rising from the ground to cook. That is still the case in Kannawa today. The steam cooks vegetables and seafood perfectly.



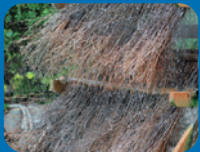
④Kannawa Mushiyu



From the Kamakura period, it almost completely retains the appearance of the time when Ippen Shonin constructed it. The medicinal properties of Japanese rush laid on the floor will refresh the body through the steam.

It provides the panorama of the streets of Kannawa and the steam.

②Bamboo cooling system



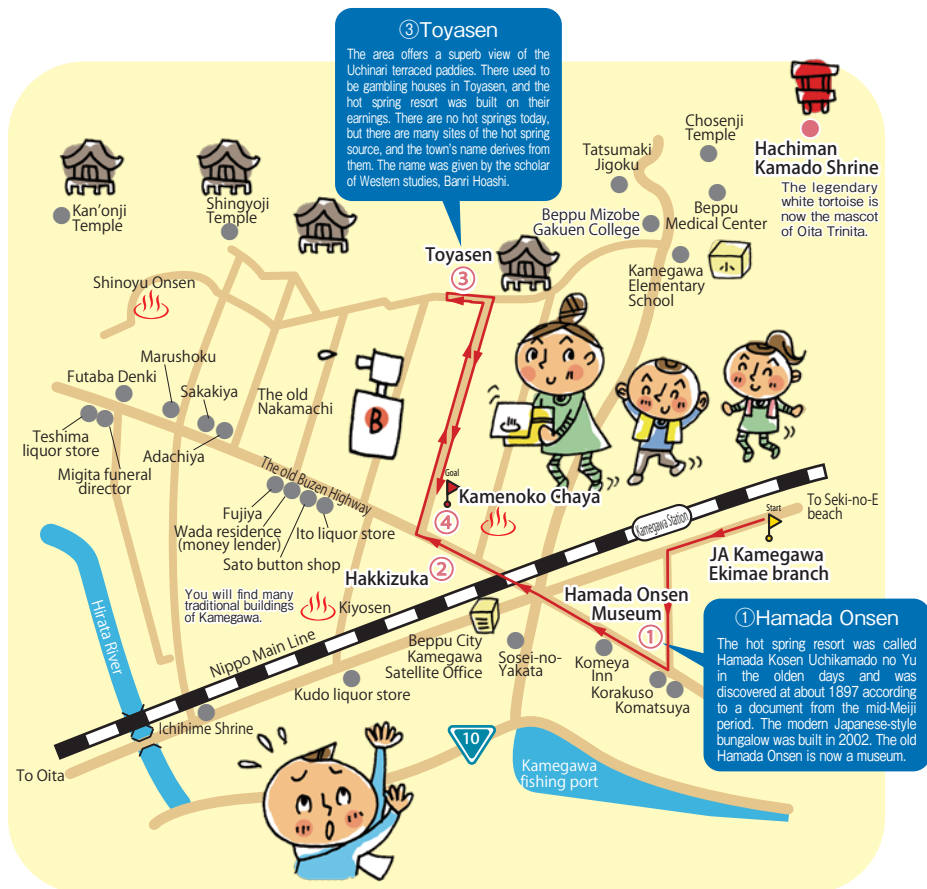
It used to take 10 hours to cool the nearly 100-degree C hot spring water from the source, but the system requires only a few minutes to reduce the temperature to 46-47 degrees C. The system is made of bamboo that is indigenous to the prefecture.

Course	①Jigokumushi Kobo Kannawa → ②Bamboo cooling system → ③Kannawa Ginza → ④Netsu-no-yu → ⑤Kannawa Mushiyu (steam bath) → ⑤Onsenyama Eifukuji Temple	Book Kanawa Yukemuri club TEL: 0977-77-2505 ※Japanese only (Inside the Kannawa Tourism Information Center) ※Guides are available in English, Chinese (Cantonese and Mandarin), and Korean by prior arrangement. ※Additional fee applies
When?	Every Saturday (reservation required up to three days in advance)	
Times	Start 4:00PM	
Meet-up	Jigokumushi Kobo Kannawa	
Fee	700 yen (Complimentary snacks)	

Guides

Kamegawa Onsen
Kame-kame ClubTake a leisurely stroll through a town
with a lot of heart, Kamegawa.

The area of Kamegawa which used to be directly governed by the Shogunate has an abundance of flowing hot springs and is visited by Onsen connoisseurs across Japan. Why not explore the area where historical buildings survive?

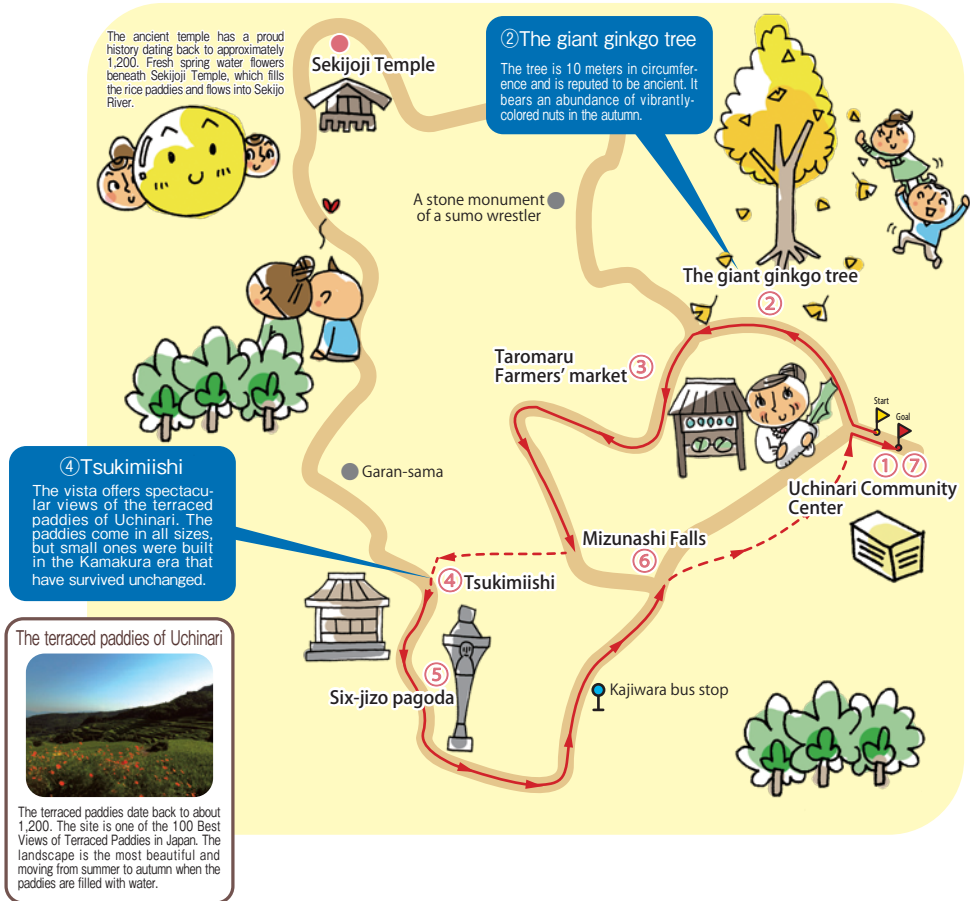


Course	① Hamada Onsen Museum → ② Hakkizuka → ③ Toyasen → ④ Kamenoko Chaya	Book Kamegawa Onsen Kame-kame Club TEL: 090-5742-7473 (Takahashi) ※ Japanese only ※ Guides are available in English, Chinese (Cantonese and Mandarin), and Korean by prior arrangement. ※ Additional fee applies
When?	1st Sunday of the month	
Times	Start 10:00AM, finish 12:00PM.	
Meet-up	JA Beppu Hiji Kamegawa Ekimae branch	
Fee	1,000 yen *Complimentary light meal	

※ A different course is offered every month.

Outstanding view! Uchinari Rice Terraces Experience and Walking Tour

Would you like to experience rural life surrounded by 1,300 terraced paddies? Provides rice planting experience in early summer (late June) and rice harvest in autumn (late October).



Course	①Uchinari Community Center → ②The giant ginkgo tree → ③Taromaru Farmers' market → ④Tsukimiishi → ⑤Six-jizo pagoda → ⑥ Mizunashi Falls → ⑦Uchinari Civic Hall	Book	Uchinari Tanada no Kai E-mail:uchinaritanada.beppu@gmail.com HP:http://uchinari.com/ ※Japanese only Additionally, experience in rice planting (late June) and rice harvesting (late October) is available. For more details, please see the website or contact us.
When?	By customer request (May not be provided due to guide availability)		
Times	By customer request		
Meet-up	Uchinari Community Center	Fee	Please contact us.

Guides

Kankaiji Historical Romance Club

Go on a historical romance trail of Kankaiji

Have a fun exploration of the famous historical sites in Kankaiji, including the location of the encampment of the Ohtomo troops during the Battle of Ishigakibaru, Kyushu's Battle of Sekigahara.



Course	①The site of Muneyuki Yoshihiro's encampment → ②A monument commemorating the Crown Prince's visit (Emperor Taisho) → ③Kankaiji Bridge → ④A monument commemorating the tree planting by the Emperor and Empress → ⑤Yakushido, Yakushiyu → ⑥Kankaiji Fukkosen → ⑦Seineizan kankai-zen-ji Temple, the legend of Princess Shikishi, the tomb of Yoshizane Nijo, Keiyoku monument → ⑧Konpiragu Shrine → ⑨Inn & Restaurant Matsubaya	Kankaiji Historical Romance Walk 3, Kankaiji, Beppu City, Oita Prefecture. TEL: 0977-22-4271 Book (Restaurant & Inn Matsubaya) *Japanese only *Guides are available in English, Chinese (Cantonese and Mandarin), and Korean by prior arrangement. *Additional fee applies	
When?	1st Sunday of the month		
Times	Start 12:00PM, finish 3:00PM.		
Meet-up	Around Family Mart in front of Kankaiji Post Office	Fee	Adults 700 yen (Complimentary tea and snack)

Group tours can be arranged by request.

Nakatsu Castle Town North Course

The course takes you on a tour of the highlights of the castle town, Nakatsu. It includes typical sights such as Nakatsu Castle, the old residence of Yukichi Fukuzawa, and Tera-machi.

⑦ Nakatsu Castle



Yoshitaka (Kambei) Kuroda was ordered by Hideyoshi Toyotomi to control Kyushu and received 123,000 Goku to build the castle in 1588. It is one of Japan's three famous castles on a lake.

⑥ The old residence of Yukichi Fukuzawa



The house is where Yukichi Fukuzawa had spent his boyhood until he moved to Nagasaki to study. The storehouse in the garden was remodeled by Yukichi, and he dedicated himself to his studies in the second-floor room.

⑧ Nakatsu City History Museum



The stonewalls of Nakatsu Castle can be viewed through the picture window. In addition to the rotating exhibit rooms for which there is a fee, the museum has free admission areas, including a cafe, a stonewall theater, and a play studio for hands-on learning.

Goganji Temple (Akakabedera)



The temple is also known as Akakabedera (temple with red walls). After the death of the Lord Kii Shigetusa Utsunomiya in Nakatsu Castle by the plot of Yoshitaka Kuroda who had approached on the pretense of reconciliation, all of Utsunomiya's men who had lain in wait for him at Goganji Temple were murdered. Legend has it that the walls were painted red as they could not get rid of the blood stains no matter how many times they had applied paint to cover them.



Course	①Nakatsu Station North Gate → ②Goganji Temple → ③Ennoji Temple → ④Enryuji Temple → ⑤Oe Medical History Museum → ⑥The old residence and museum of Yukichi Fukuzawa → ⑦Nakatsu Castle → ⑧Nakatsu City History Museum → ⑨Nakatsu Station North Gate	Book Tourism Information Center, Nakatsu Yabakei Tourism Association. 219-2, Shimata, Nakatsu City, Oita Prefecture. (JR Nakatsu Station South Gate) TEL: 0979-23-4511 (Japanese only) FAX: 0979-64-6611 (Japanese only) E-mail: info@nakatsuyaba.com FAX and emails in English are available if you are willing to wait some time for a response. Book at least a week in advance by phone or from the website.
When?	All year (excluding end of year and New Year holidays) *Must be booked at least a week in advance	
Times	Morning course from 10:00AM, afternoon from 1:00PM	Fee [Tour guide fee] 3,000 yen per guide There is no admission to establishments included in the tour.
Meet-up	JR Nakatsu Station South Gate Tourist Information Center 219-2, Shimata, Nakatsu City, Oita Prefecture.	

※ There is a combined ticket (700 yen) for the Former Residence of Yukichi Fukuzawa and Memorial Museum, the Nakatsu City Museum of History, and Nakatsu Castle. Discounts are available for the Oe Medical History Museum if you bring a combined ticket to all three museums.

Guides

Nakatsu Yabakei Sightseeing Guide (Sanko)

Hachimenzan Peace Park Route

The route takes visitors on a drive and walk to visit the reclining Buddha of Jingoji Temple and Yayama Gongen Ishibutai (a stage-like rock). You can also enjoy the open-air baths of Kanairo Onsen (hot spring spa). (Subject to change to the Cosmos Garden according to the season)

④ Yayama Gongen Ishibutai



The stage-like rock is the largest of its kind in Japan. Visitors can climb to the top to enjoy the view. Legend has it that Kagura (Shinto music and dance) was performed for the gods in ancient



③ Hachimenzan Peace Park



The park was created when a cenotaph was erected to commemorate the war dead of Japan and the U.S. and to pray for world peace. A memorial service and a peace ceremony are held every May 3.

② Jingoji's reclining Buddha



The image of Buddha after his death was carved on a huge rock at the foot of the mountain and completed in 1970. At 7.88 meters long and 1.4 meters high, it is one of the largest in west Japan.

Course	①Hachimenzan Peace Park parking lot→②Jingoji's reclining Buddha →③ Hachimenzan Peace Park →④Yayama Gongen Ishibutai→⑤ Kanairo Onsen (Subject to change to the Sanko Cosmos Garden according to season). *A guided tour (15 min) of the Hachimenzan Peace Park Museum is also available. Visit to Sanko Cosmos Park is only available during the season (mid-October to early November).	Book Tourism Information Center, Nakatsu Yabakei Tourism Association. 219-2, Shimata, Nakatsu City, Oita Prefecture. (JR Nakatsu Station South Gate) TEL: 0979-23-4511 (Japanese only) FAX: 0979-64-6611 (Japanese only) E-mail: info@nakatsuyaba.com FAX and emails in English are available if you are willing to wait some time for a response. Book at least a week in advance by phone or from the website. *Required time: 2 hours by car and on foot. *The location of Sanko Cosmos Garden changes from year to year.
When?	All year (Apply at least 1 week in advance)	
Times	As per customer request.	
Meet-up	JR Nakatsu Station South Gate 219-2, Shimata, Nakatsu City, Oita Prefecture.	
Fee	[Tour guide fee] 2,000 yen per guide	

Ao-no-Domon, Yabakei Bridge, Rakanji Bridge Course

Ao-no-Domon is a tunnel dug by a Buddhist monk named Zenkai over 30 years in the Edo period. Would you like to touch the chisel marks that remain? You can also enjoy the elegant Yabakei Bridge and Rakanji Bridge made of stone on foot.

④ Yabakei Bridge (Oranda Bridge)



Commonly called Oranda Bridge, it is Japan's only 8-arch stone bridge. It is the longest in Japan at 116 meters. The beautiful bridge is in sympathy with the surrounding landscape and exudes a unique mood.



⑤ Ao-no-Domon

Priest Zenkai spent 30 years to complete the tunnel using only a chisel and hammer. It is also mentioned in Kan Kikuchi's novel "Beyond Love and Hate."



② Rakanji Bridge



The stone bridge with a wide space between the columns has three graceful lotus arches. The construction was extremely difficult due to the flat arches and was completed in 1919 after two collapses. It is one of Japan's three longest bridges, the Yaba bridges.

Course	①Ao-no-Domon public parking area → ② Rakanji Bridge → ③Berm → ④Yabakei Bridge (Oranda Bridge) → ⑤Ao-no-Domon → ⑥Ao-no-Domon public parking area	Book Tourism Information Center, Nakatsu Yabakei Tourism Association. 219-2, Shimata, Nakatsu City, Oita Prefecture. (JR Nakatsu Station South Gate) TEL: 0979-23-4511 (Japanese only) FAX: 0979-64-6611 (Japanese only) E-mail: info@nakatsuyaba.com FAX and emails in English are available if you are willing to wait some time for a response. Book at least a week in advance by phone or from the website. ※Duration: 2 hours on foot
When?	All year (Apply at least 1 week in advance)	
Times	As per customer request.	
Meet-up	Ao-no-Domon public parking area Sogi, Yabakei-machi, Nakatsu City, Oita Prefecture.	
Fee	[Tour guide fee] 2,000 yen per guide	

Guides

Nakatsu Yabakei Sightseeing
Guide (Yabakei Gorge)Yabakei Dam - Keiseki-en
Garden - Shinyabakei Route

The recommended driving route includes the Keiseki-en Garden, which mirrors the nature of Yabakei Gorge, the nature of Shinyabakei Gorge, hot springs, and Yamakake soba noodles.

① Keiseki-en Garden

The Japanese garden is adjacent to Yabakei Dam. 120,000 stones from Yabakei Gorge and the dam's water recreate the gorge's river.

③ Hitome-Hakkei

The place was named Hitome-Hakkei (eight views at a glance) because it offers a panoramic view of eight crags. Utsukushidani Valley and Kinunkyo Gorge in the vicinity can be seen in all their seasonal glory.

④ Yabakei Dam

The artificial lake stores water from abundant river water from the mountains. Yabakei Aqua Park is Japan's only city-run water ski park. The scenery is spectacular, and water skiing and wakeboarding can be enjoyed in some of Japan's best water sports parks. International and national competitions are also held here.

Course	①Keiseki-en Garden→②Yabakei Aqua Park→③Hitome-Hakkei→④Yabakei Dam→⑤Keiseki-en Garden	Book	Tourism Information Center, Nakatsu Yabakei Tourism Association. 219-2, Shimata, Nakatsu City, Oita Prefecture. (JR Nakatsu Station South Gate) TEL: 0979-23-4511 (Japanese only) FAX: 0979-64-6611 (Japanese only) E-mail: info@nakatsuyaba.com FAX and emails in English are available if you are willing to wait some time for a response. Book at least a week in advance by phone or from the website. *Required time: 2 hours by car
When?	All year (Apply at least 1 week in advance)		
Times	As per customer request.		
Meet-up	Yabakei Dam Memorial Park - Keiseki-en Garden Oshima, Yabakei-machi, Nakatsu City, Oita Prefecture.	Fee	[Tour guide fee] 2,000 yen per guide (Separate charges apply)

Okuyabakei Nature Walk Route

The route includes the tomb of the first woman in Kyushu to donate her body for an autopsy and a series of canyons and pits created by the forces of nature. The Manyo-no-Kahi Monument Road en route is safe for children and the elderly to enjoy.

⑤ Sarutobi-Sentsubo Gorge



A series of potholes can be viewed at Sarutobi-Sentsubo Gorge. The potholes were formed when gravels accumulated in the hollows of rocks whirled around by the current and carved the rocks. Numerous potholes of all sizes spread out, and the area became a natural monument in 1935. The name Sarutobi derives from monkeys that used to jump between the rocks.

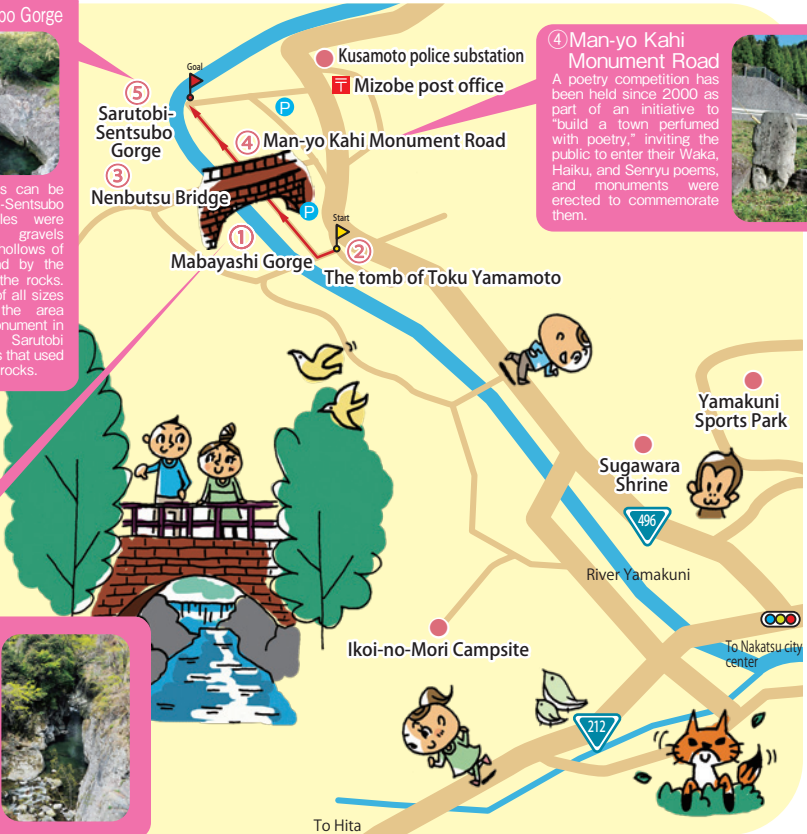
① Mabayashi Gorge

The valley stretches 1.5 km downstream from Sarutobi-Sentsubo Gorge. It was created by a series of giant potholes and is also called Yamakuni-no-Takachiho.



④ Man-yo Kahi Monument Road

A poetry competition has been held since 2000 as part of an initiative to "build a town perfumed with poetry," inviting the public to enter their Waka, Haiku, and Sennyu poems, and monuments were erected to commemorate them.



Course	①Mabayashi Gorge→②The tomb of Toku Yamamoto→③Nenbutsu Bridge→④Man-yo Kahi Monument Road→⑤Sarutobi-Sentsubo Gorge	Book	Tourism Information Center, Nakatsu Yabakei Tourism Association. 219-2, Shimata, Nakatsu City, Oita Prefecture. (JR Nakatsu Station South Gate) TEL: 0979-23-4511 (Japanese only) FAX: 0979-64-6611 (Japanese only) E-mail: info@nakatsuyaba.com FAX and emails in English are available if you are willing to wait some time for a response. Book at least a week in advance by phone or from the website. *Required time: 2 hours by car and on foot.
When?	All year (Apply at least 1 week in advance)		
Times	As per customer request.		
Meet-up	Mabayashi Gorge parking lot Kusamoto, Yamakuni-machi, Nakatsu City, Oita Prefecture.	Fee	[Tour guide fee] 2,000 yen per guide

Mameda Town Walking Tour

Hita's local conductor will respectfully provide an introduction to Mameda-machi that retains the ambiance of the era when the region was under the direct control of the Edo shogunate.

③Kuncho Shuzou (Brewery) Gallery

The sake storehouse built in the Edo period has a museum showcasing the sake-making method and a shop. The sake tasting corner is popular.

①Tenryo Hita Museum

The museum themed on the town culture of the period when the area was under the direct control of the Edo shogunate exhibits artifacts and documents from the era, including calligraphic works, paintings, and classic literature.

②Nihon Gankan

The medicine shop opened in 1855 and is defined by the three-story timber construction. Curious items are on exhibit, including medicines and household goods.

Hirose Museum

The museum was the birthplace of Tanso Hirose, one of the three eminent persons of Bungo and purveyor to the shogunate, and the museum building was converted from the Hirose family's storehouse. Visitors can learn about the history of one of the most influential families in Hita, who operated a money-changing business.

The head family of the Kusano family

The house itself is a listed Important Cultural Property, and the history and quantity of the Hina dolls will impress visitors. The house is open to the public during the Hina Festival, the Boys' Festival, Gion Festival, and Tenryo Festival.

The streets of Mameda were selected as a Preservation District for Groups of Historic Buildings in 2004, a valuable district that retains strong remnants of a town of ordinary folks and merchants of the late modern period.

Course	①Tenryo Hita Museum → ②Nihon Gankan-mae → ③Kuncho Shuzou (Brewery) Gallery-mae → ④Tenryo Hita Museum ※There will be no admission to the museums.	Book	Hita City Tourism Association 11-3, Moto-machi, Hita City, Oita Prefecture. TEL: 0973-22-2036 (Japanese only) FAX: 0973-22-2444 (Japanese only) Website: https://www.oidehita.com/ ※Make a booking at least three days in advance by contacting the Hita Tourism Association or book online at least three days in advance through Hita City Tourism Association's website. (oidehita.com)
When?	Throughout the year (except the end of the year/New Year holidays)	Fee	1,400 yen (per person) ※Booking is accepted for a party of two or more.
Times	Morning course starting time: 10:00AM / Afternoon course starting time: 1:30PM Morning course finishing time: 11:00AM / Afternoon course finishing time: 2:30PM		
Meet-up	In front of the Tenryo Hita Museum 11-7, Mameda-machi, Hita City, Oita Prefecture.		

We also have extended courses (90 mins/120 mins) that include admission to the museums.

A historical and literary exploration tour

Take a guided tour of the “historical and literary trail” chosen as one of the “100 famous Japanese roads” by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism.

Mt Shiroyama



A castle was built on the mountain in 1606 by Takamasa Mori, who had moved from Kuma Castle in Hita. It still retains the yagura turret in the Sanomaru (outer part of the castle) and stone walls at the top of the mountain. There is a hiking trail.

⑥Kunikida Doppo Museum



The home of Nagatoshi Sakamoto where Meiji's leading naturalist author Doppo Kunikida had rented a room while teaching in Saiki is now a museum.

⑧Yoken-ji Temple



The temple was built by Takamasa Mori in 1605 as the temple of the Mori family. The surviving main hall was constructed in 1934, and the priest's kitchen and living quarters in 1845.

④Kyushintei



The tea room is on the site of a rice storehouse of Saiki Castle. Its name means “to serve tea means to understand the heart of the customer before serving.”



Course	①Saiki City Historical Museum parking → ②Yaguramon Gate → ③Yakuimon Gate → ④Kyushintei → ⑤Yamagiwa Shiseki Hiroba (Yamanaka manor) → ⑥Kunikida Doppo Museum → ⑦Nagayamon Gate → ⑧Yoken-ji Temple (part ways) → ⑨Mori family tomb	Saiki City Tourism Association 1-1, Nakamura-Minami-machi, Saiki City, Oita Prefecture. TEL: 0972-23-1101 (Japanese only) 0972-28-5656 (Sat, Sun, and national holidays) *Japanese only FAX: 0972-23-1146 (Japanese only) e-mail: gxsta04@gmail.com Website: http://www.visit-saiki.jp Please book by phone at least one week in advance.
When?	As needed (book a week in advance)	
Times	As and when requested.	
Meet-up	Saiki City Historical Museum parking 1, Ohte-machi, Saiki City.	Fee
		A group of 8 or more, 2,000-3,000 yen (Free for a group of 7 or less, excluding admission to Kunikida Doppo Museum and Kyushintei.)

There is also a guided bus tour for the Tsurumi area, Kyushu OIle & Onyu Island tour, and Mt Shiroyama tour.

Guides

Usuki Machinami Guide Society, etc.

Usuki City Guides
(Nioza: Machihaccho)

Visitors can explore the temples, samurai residences, and the labyrinthine castle town centered around Usuki Castle, and walk through the remarkable streets while reflecting on the history.

③Yaeko Nogami Museum of Literature



Part of the birthplace of Yaeko Nogami, a female author from Usuki, is open to the public as a museum. About 200 of the author's personal effects, including handwritten letters and manuscripts, are on display.

Fundokin Shoyu Headquarters



Yasaka Shrine

Inaba Family Residence

Yaeko Nogami Museum of Literature

Kuge-no-Okura

Haccho Ojii Street

Former Shinkoji Temple

Ryugenji Temple
Three-tiered Pagoda⑤Ryugenji Temple
Three-tiered Pagoda

The pagoda is dedicated to Prince Shotoku and is also known as Taishito. It is known as one of the only two three-story timber constructions from the Edo period in Kyushu.

A sweeping view of the city!
Enjoy Buddhist cuisine.

Temples (several)

Nioza Historic Trail

Keashoji Temple

Ho'onji Temple

Renjoji Temple

Zenshoji Temple

Zenboji Temple

Walking trail

Korinji Temple

Tafukuji Temple

Gekkeiji Temple

Start

Goal



Usuki Castle Ruins

Famous for its cherry blossoms, the site hosts the Usuki Castle Ruins Cherry Blossom Festival in the spring.

①Kanko Koryu Plaza



The plaza is the first stop for visitors to Usuki. It offers panels and videos with information about Usuki and various pamphlets on sightseeing. It has a concierge on-site.

⑦Nioza Historic Trail



Nioza retains a lot of the atmosphere of bygone days, including temples, samurai residences, houses with Japanese roof tiles, and whitewashed walls. Legend has it that Kasuga no Tsubone had once lived in Nioza.

Course	<p>[Example]</p> <p>①Kanko Koryu Plaza → ②Inaba Family Residence → ③Yaeko Nogami Museum of Literature → ④Kuge-no-Okura → ⑤Ryugenji Temple Three-tiered Pagoda → ⑥Former Shinkoji Temple → ⑦Nioza Historic Trail → ⑧Temples → ⑨Haccho Ojii Street → ①Kanko Koryu Plaza</p>	<p>Book</p> <p>Usuki Machinami Guide Society TEL: 0972-63-7898 (Japanese only)</p> <p>Usuki Town Tourism Kenkyukai TEL: 090-7380-4337 (representative)</p> <p>※Japanese only</p>
When?	As per customer request.	
Times	As per customer request.	
Meet-up	To be discussed with the customer.	
Fee	2,000 yen per guide.	

Tour of the national treasures, the Stone Buddhas of Usuki.

The national treasure Usuki Stone Buddhas with a 1,200-year history is a secret spiritual vortex. Tour the four clusters of Stone Buddhas while feeling the history of Usuki.

Furuzono Stone Buddhas
Famous for the figure of Mahaavairocana, regarded as a masterpiece, the cluster forms the central part of Usuki's Stone Buddhas. The carvings have retained some color, and they exude a mysterious air.

Sannosan Stone Buddhas
The Buddhist images have rounder faces with more delicate features and have innocent, child-like features than those at other sites. The cluster is popularly known as "Kakure Jizo."

Hoki Second Cluster
Spectacular images of the Amida triad are carved onto the rock's surface. There is also a small Buddhist image called "Kuhon-no-Amida."

Hoki First Cluster
About 20 Buddhist images line up side by side, including a seated figure of Tathagata, a standing figure of the Bodhisattva, a seated figure of Bhaiṣajyaguru, a seated figure of Mahaavairocana and so on, and the cluster is also called the Dogasako Stone Buddhas.

Kesho Well
Legend has it that the water from the well transformed Princess Tamatsu into a beautiful woman.

A field of lotus
A carpet of lotus flowers adds color to the landscape in early summer.

Course: ①Kokuho Usuki Sekibutsu Office → ②Hoki Second Cluster → ③Hoki First Cluster → ④Sannosan Stone Buddhas → ⑤Furuzono Stone Buddhas → ⑥Kokuho Usuki Sekibutsu Office

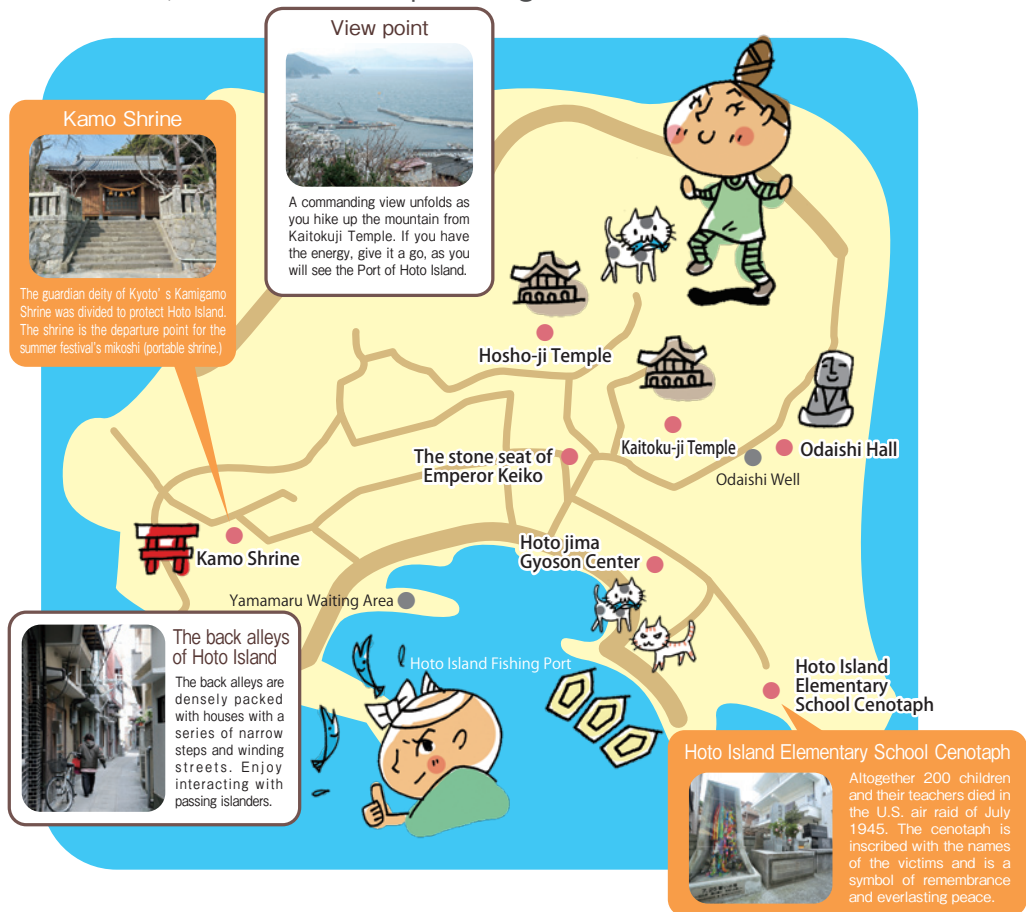
Course	①Kokuho Usuki Sekibutsu Office → ②Hoki Second Cluster → ③Hoki First Cluster → ④Sannosan Stone Buddhas → ⑤Furuzono Stone Buddhas → ⑥Kokuho Usuki Sekibutsu Office	Book	National Treasure Usuki Stone Buddha Volunteer Guides Usuki Stone Buddha Office TEL: 0972-65-3300 (Japanese only)
When?	As per customer request (must be booked at least three days in advance)		
Times	10:00AM to 3:00PM	Fee	Free
Meet-up	In front of the Stone Buddhas Tour ticket sales counter Kokuho Usuki Sekibutsu office, Fukata, Usuki City.		

Guides

Tsukumi City Trade, Industry, and Tourism & Settlement Promotion Division, Tsukumi City Tourism Association

A walking tour of Hoto Island

Hoto, an island of romance that gives off the scent of the Black Current. Let's explore Hoto Island with the vibrant cerulean waters of Bungo Channel, home to one of Japan's largest tuna fleet!



Course	Guide's Recommended Course	Book	Tsukumi City Trade, Industry, and Tourism & Settlement Promotion Division 20-15, Miyatomomachi, Tsukumi, Oita Prefecture TEL: 0972-82-9542 (Japanese only) FAX: 0972-82-9520 (Japanese only) Tsukumi City Tourism Association 1-30, Chuomachi, Tsukumi, Oita Prefecture TEL: 0972-82-9521 (Japanese only) FAX: 0972-82-7106 (Japanese only)	
When?	As needed *Subject to cancellation due to bad weather (Please apply by phone at least two weeks in advance.)			
Times	Varies by requests and courses			
Meet-up	In front of Yamamaru waiting area. Hoto Island, Tsukumi City.	Fee		Prices start at 2,000 yen per person *Excluding boat fare and lunch

Customers will need to pay the round trip fare to and from Hoto Island. Be sure to wear comfortable attire as the tour involves a lot of hills.

A path of discovering the castle town.

The ancient streets to meander, listening to the gentle sound of the flow of clear water.

③Hachimangawa Yokocho



Hachimangawa Yokocho is one of the few surviving alleys in the castle town. It is where the salt merchant's house stood in the Edo period.

⑪Hirose Shrine



Hirose Shrine is dedicated to Takeo Hirose who gained prominence for this humanity during the Russo-Japanese War.

⑩Christian Cave Chapel



The Cave Chapel is a historic site of the prefecture. The manned cave chapel is a very rare example.

⑨Buke Yashiki Street



The old houses lined side by side and the sound of the water flowing through the gullies on Buke Yashiki Street add ambiance to the castle town.

⑧The Hall of Taketa City Historical Culture "Yugakukan"

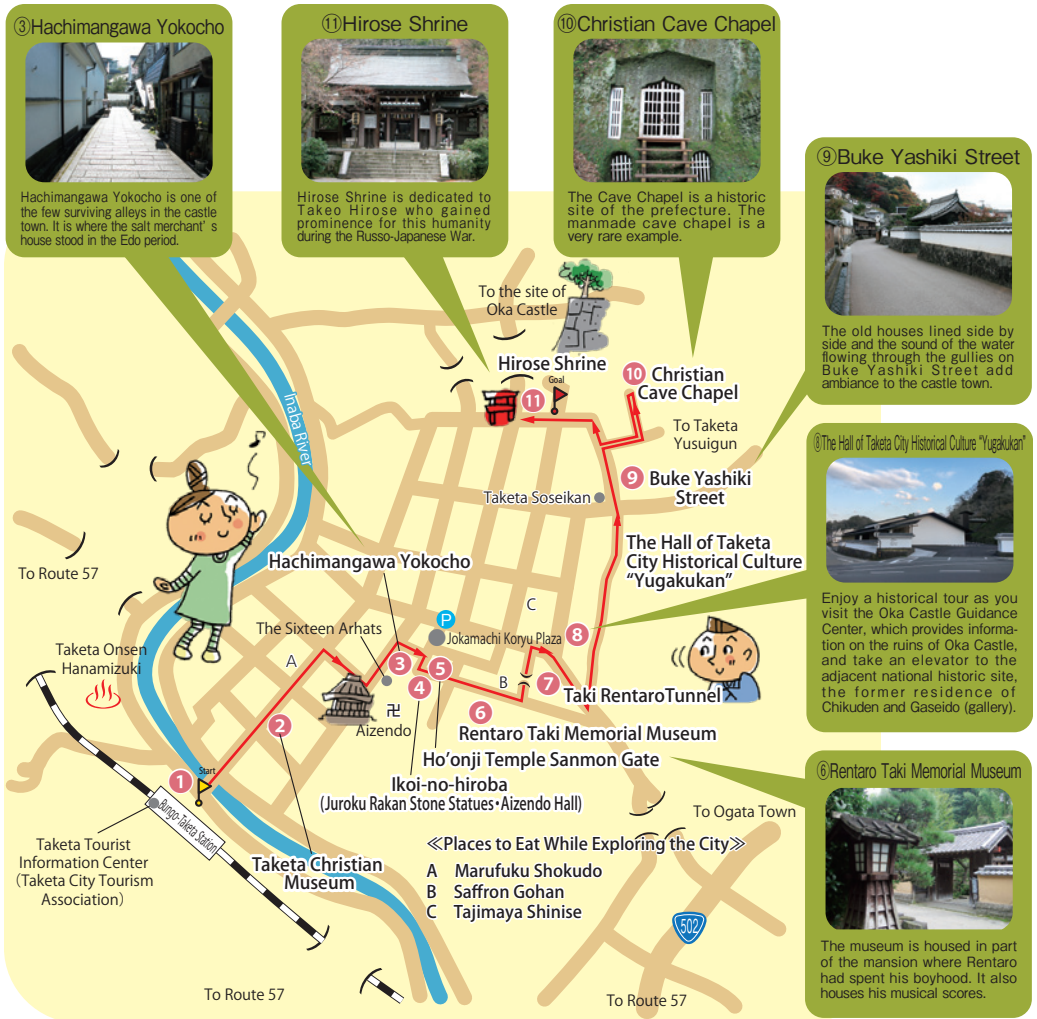


Enjoy a historical tour as you visit the Oka Castle Guidance Center, which provides information on the ruins of Oka Castle, and take an elevator to the adjacent national historic site, the former residence of Chikuden and Gaseido (gallery).

⑥Rentaro Taki Memorial Museum



The museum is housed in part of the mansion where Rentaro had spent his boyhood. It also houses his musical scores.



《Places to Eat While Exploring the City》

- A Marufuku Shokudo
- B Saffron Gohan
- C Tajimaya Shinise

Course	①Bungo-Taketa Station → ②Taketa Christian Museum → ③Hachimangawa Yokocho → ④Ikoi no hiroba (Juroku Rakan Stone Statues·Aizendo Hall) → ⑤Ho'onji Temple Sanmon Gate → ⑥Rentaro Taki Memorial Museum → ⑦Taki Rentaro Tunnel → ⑧The Hall of Taketa City Historical Culture "Yugakukan" → ⑨Buke Yashiki Street → ⑩Christian Cave Chapel → ⑪Hirose Shrine	Book Taketa City Tourism Association 2335-1, Aiai, Taketa City, Oita Prefecture. TEL: 0974-63-0585 (Japanese only) FAX: 0974-64-1127 (Japanese only)
When?	Throughout the year (except 12/29-1/3)	
Times	Starting at 10:00AM, finishing at 11:00AM.	
Meet-up	Bungo-Taketa Station	
Fee	3,000yen per guide.	

Guides

Showa-no-machi Guides
(Machizukuri K.K.)

Visit the dear old town of the Showa era

Let's experience the Showa era at Showa Romangura after exploring the town with a unique guide.

② Showa Town



Enjoy looking at the vintage Showa treasures each shop exhibits as you stroll through town. The bonnet bus operates on some days, so check in advance.



You will feel as if you've traveled back to Showa as you stroll through town seeing vintage treasures from the era, finding a restaurant that serves school lunches, and enjoying an old fashion popsicle or a croquette!

①③ Showa Romangura



Visitors can enjoy the toys, the mom-and-pop candy stores, and household goods of the mid-Showa era (the mid-1950s to early 1960s.) Many people take pictures at Showa no Yumenichi Elementary School.

④ Shunsai Minamigura



The restaurant is housed in a remodeled rice storage built in early Showa. You can enjoy authentic Japanese cuisine prepared with an abundance of the fruits of the sea and mountains of the Kunisaki Peninsula.

Course	(Example) ① Showa Romangura → ② Explore Showa Town → ③ Showa Romangura (Mom and Pop's Museum of Dreams) → ④ Shunsai Minamigura (lunch); part ways.	Book	Bungo-Takada City Kanko Machizukuri Co.Ltd. 989-1, Shin-machi, Bungo-Takada City, Oita Prefecture. TEL: 0978-23-1860 FAX: 0978-23-1870 e-mail: info@showanomachi.com Website: https://www.showanomachi.com/
When?	As and when needed		
Times	As and when needed		
Meet-up	Showa Romangura 989-1, Shin-machi, Bungo-Takada City.	Fee	2,000 yen per guide (Not including admission fees for Romangura or lunch.)

* From a group of 5 or more * Book at least ten days in advance (they may not be able to accommodate your request.)

Cultural exploration course of Rokugo-manzan
(Mountain of Six Sanctuaries)

A local guide will take you on a tour of the cultural properties in the Tashibu district tailored to your needs, such as the Kumano Magaibutsu, Fukiji Temple, and Maki Ohdo Temple. Get to know Rokugo-manzan with a thousand-year-old history through a tour only a local guide can provide.

Tashibunoshō



Ancient literature has taught us that the area has retained the rural landscape of the Heian period and it was considered a highly important private estate of Usa Shrine, the head shrine of all Hachiman shrines in Japan. It has been designated as Japan's important cultural landscape and is also recognized as an area of Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems.

Maki Ohdo Temple



The temple houses nine Buddhist images that are regarded as masterpieces of the Heian period, including the seated figure of Amitabha Tathagata and the four heavenly kings. All of them are designated as important cultural properties of Japan.

Fukiji Temple

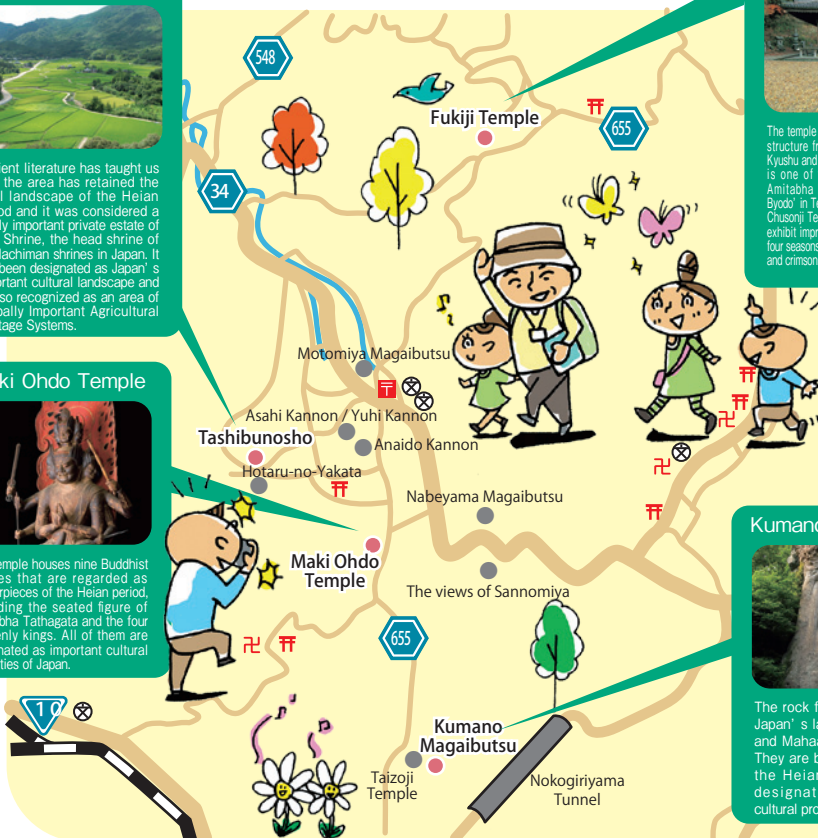


The temple is the oldest surviving timber structure from the late Heian period in Kyushu and is a listed national treasure. It is one of the three most important Amitabha halls of Japan next to Uji Byodo in Temple Ho'o Hall and Hiraizumi Chusonji Temple Korijiki Hall. The grounds exhibit impressive changing colors of the four seasons, such as fresh spring greenery and crimson foliage in the autumn.

Kumano Magaibutsu



The rock face is carved with Japan's largest Cetaka (8m) and Mahaavairocana (6.8m). They are believed to be from the Heian period and are designated as important cultural properties of Japan.



Course	Tashibu, including Kumano Magaibutsu, Fukiji Temple, and Maki Ohdo Temple.	Book	Bungo-Takada City Hall Commerce, Industry, and Tourism Section. 39-3, Korenaga-machi, Bungo-Takada City, Oita Prefecture. TEL: 0978-25-6219 (Japanese only) FAX: 0978-22-0955 (Japanese only) Call for a booking form by fax or post. Please book at least one week in advance. Website: https://www.showanomachi.com/
When?	As and when needed	Fee	Fukiji Temple, Maki Ohdo Temple, Tashibunoshō: 1,000 yen per place Kumano Magaibutsu: 2,000 yen, up to 4,000 yen.
Times	As and when needed		
Meet-up	Parking area at the starting point or tourist information center.		

Capacity: about 40 (Call for advice if the group has more than 40 people.)

Guides

Jokamachi Kitsuki Volunteer Guide no Kai (Kitsuki Castle Town Volunteer Guides Society)

Recommended City Walk – A Light 60-minute Route

The route takes you on an easy stroll through the streets of Japan’s only “sandwich-shaped castle town,” which still retains a strong Edo ambiance.

① Kitsuki Local Products Center

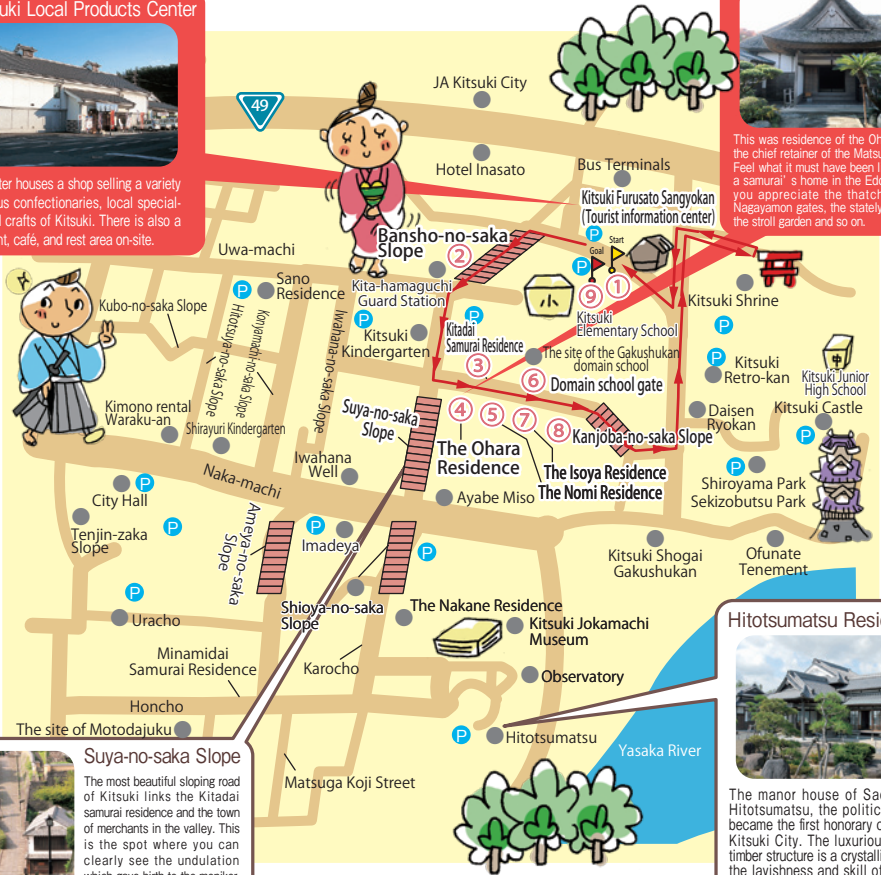


The center houses a shop selling a variety of famous confectionaries, local specialties, and crafts of Kitsuki. There is also a restaurant, café, and rest area on-site.

④ The Ohara Residence



This was residence of the Ohara family, the chief retainer of the Matsudaira clan. Feel what it must have been like to be in a samurai’s home in the Edo period as you appreciate the thatched roofs, Nagayamon gates, the stately threshold, the stroll garden and so on.



Suya-no-saka Slope
The most beautiful sloping road of Kitsuki links the Kitadai samurai residence and the town of merchants in the valley. This is the spot where you can clearly see the undulation which gave birth to the moniker, “The sandwich-shaped castle town.”



Hitotsumatsu Residence
The manor house of Sadayoshi Hitotsumatsu, the politician who became the first honorary citizen of Kitsuki City. The luxuriously built timber structure is a crystallization of the lavishness and skill of bygone days, and it affords the best views of Kitsuki Castle and Morie Bay.

Course	①Kitsuki Local Products Center → ②Bansho-no-saka Slope → ③Kitadai Samurai Residence → ④The Ohara Residence → ⑤The Nomi Residence → ⑥Samurai School’s Gate → ⑦The Isoya Residence → ⑧Kanjoba-no-saka Slope → ⑨Kitsuki Local Products Center	Book	Kitsuki Volunteer Guides Society TEL: 0978-63-0100
When?	As needed (book by 15:00 a day in advance)		
Times	Every day for one hour (9AM to 5 PM)		
Meet-up	Kitsuki Local Products Center (next to the Kitsuki Bus Terminal)	Fee	Basic fee: 1,000 yen per hour per person with a guide Extra fee: 1,000 yen for every hour per person with a guide

Explore the streets of temple town, Yokkaichi.

The walking trail is about 1km. You will walk through the historic city where religion, politics, and trade integrated as you see Kyushu's largest timber structure, Tozai Betsuin, the satellite office of Hita Magistrate, and Sakuragaoka Shrine where a market opened on the dates of four.

⑥ Jinya (regional government office) Gate



The Jinya Gate is the only surviving relic of the regional government office of Yokkaichi City. A small stone monument inscribed "The Site of Yokkaichi Jinya" stands next to it.

⑦ Sakuragaoka Shrine



The shrine dates back to 1558 when the land steward and governor of Chikugo, Hikaru Watanabe, transferred the Ebisu shrine from his old residence, Hizzen Kokukishigadake Castle. The shrine later relocated to Ichiya Manor and the market that was held before the gods gave birth to the name "Yokkaichi."

⑤ Yokomachi Street

Yokomachi Street is a 137-meter stretch of Edo-style cobble street from the junction of Honmachi and Ebisu streets.

④ Higashi Honganji Temple Yokkaichi Branch

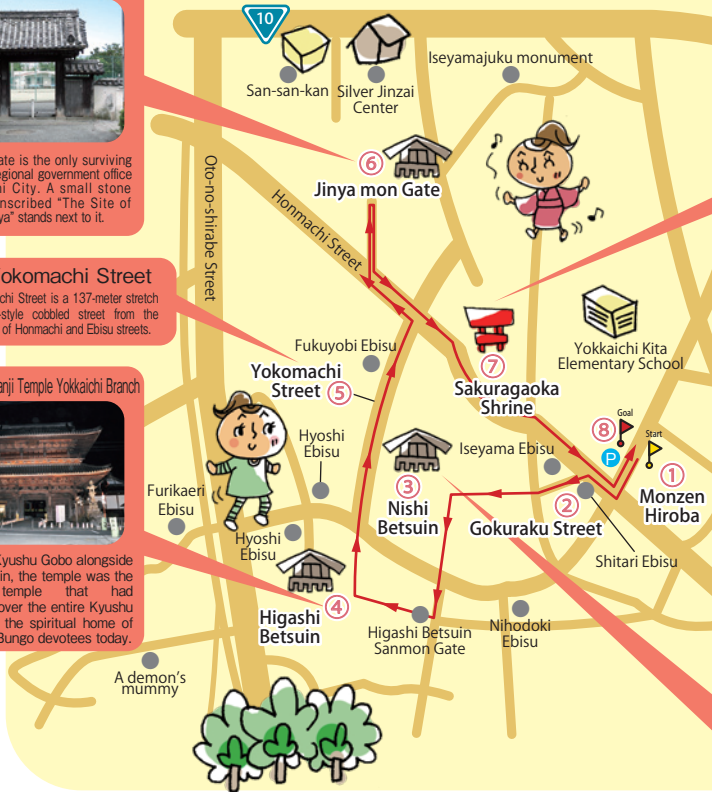


Called the Kyushu Gobo alongside Tozai Betsuin, the temple was the principal temple that had jurisdiction over the entire Kyushu region. It is the spiritual home of Buzen and Bungo devotees today.

③ Nishihongan-ji Temple Yokkaichi Branch



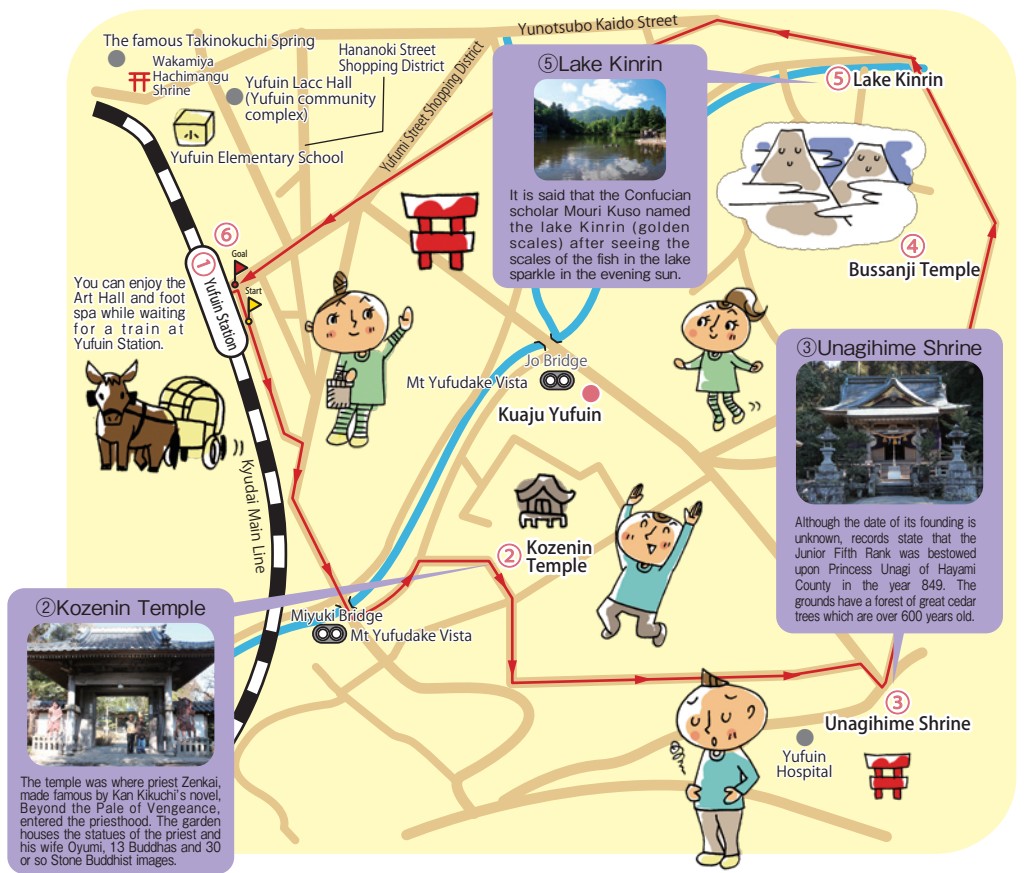
The branch temple is regarded as Kyushu's largest timber structure and houses one of the best monasteries of Japan. It was built in 1747.



Course	① Monzen Hiroba → ② Gokuraku Street → ③ Nishi Betsuin → ④ Higashi Betsuin → ⑤ Yokomachi Street → ⑥ Jinya mon Gate → ⑦ Sakuragaoka Shrine → ⑧ Monzen Hiroba	Book Yokkaichi Densho Club Sue: 090-3666-1578 (Japanese only)
When?	Any (Reservation 2 weeks in advance)	
Times	Any time on request	
Meet-up	Yokkaichi Monzen Hiroba Kawanoue, Yokkaichi, Usa City.	Fee 200 yen per person (including a booklet)

A walking tour of Lake Kirin and Unagi Hime Shrine, the origin of Yufuin.

Visit the temple of priest Zenkai who dug the Blue Tunnel in Yabakei Gorge and the shrine dedicated to the deity who founded Yufuin.



Course	①JR Yufuin Station → ②Kozenin Temple → ③Unagihime Shrine → ④Bussanji Temple → ⑤Lake Kirin → ⑥JR Yufuin Station	Book	Yufuin Guide Asagiri Association (Hajikata) 94-35, Kawaminami, Yufuin-cho, Yufu City, Oita Prefecture. Mobile: 090-1878-2980 (Japanese only) ※Tour guide booking form submission (by fax)
When?	As and when needed (Must be booked at least two days in advance.)		
Times	Starting at 10:00AM, finishing at 12:00PM.		
Meet-up	JR Yufuin Station 8-2, Kawakita, Yufuin-cho, Yufu City, Oita Prefecture.	Fee	1,000 yen for a group of up to 5 people, 2,000 yen for up to 10, and an additional 1,000 for every five people.

The tour will be conducted if there are more than two people in the group. ☆The guided tour operator can arrange for an interpreter. (Fees apply.)

Experience the mysterious beauty of Yufugawa Gorge and Hasama's history.

See the temples and shrines associated with the Hasama family and the remains of canals to be protected and passed down to future generations.



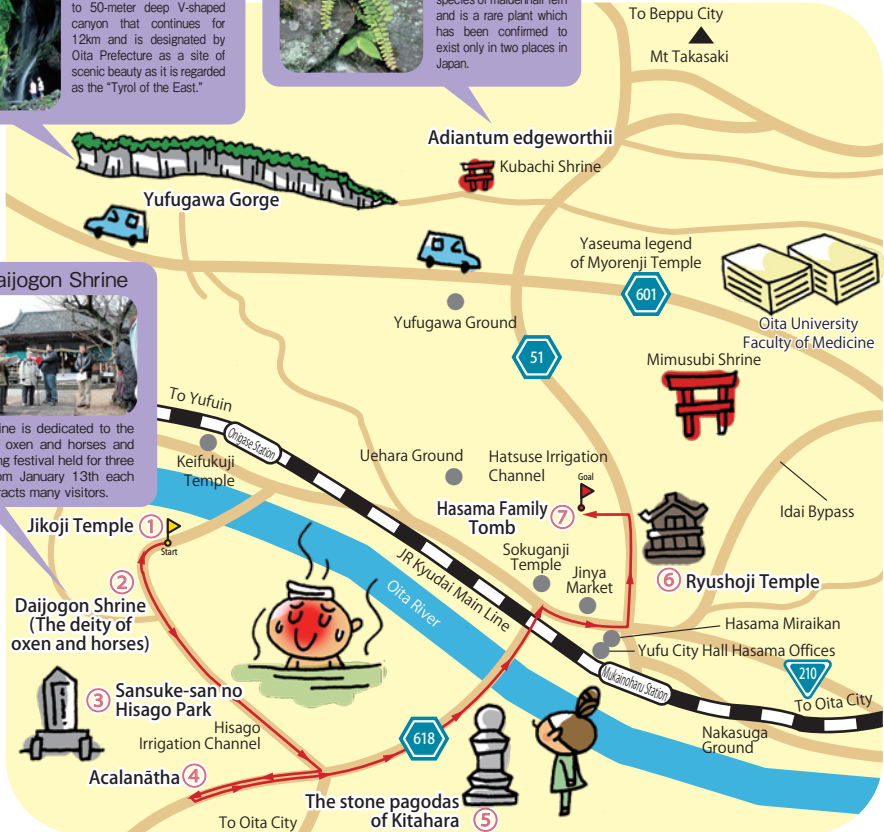
Yufugawa Gorge

The Yufugawa Gorge has a 20 to 50-meter deep V-shaped canyon that continues for 12km and is designated by Oita Prefecture as a site of scenic beauty as it is regarded as the "Tyrol of the East."



Adiantum edgeworthii

Adiantum edgeworthii is a species of maidenhair fern and is a rare plant which has been confirmed to exist only in two places in Japan.



② Daijogon Shrine



The shrine is dedicated to the deity of oxen and horses and the spring festival held for three days from January 13th each year attracts many visitors.

Course	①Jikoji Temple → ②Daijogon Shrine → ③ Sansuke-san no Hisago Park → ④Acalanātha → ⑤The Stone Pagodas of Kitahara → ⑥Ryushoji Temple → ⑦The Hasama Family Tomb	Book Hasama-machi Volunteer Guides Furusato Kenkyukai Mukainoharu, Hasama-machi, Yufu City, Oita Prefecture. Yoko Yoshida TEL: 097-583-4316 (Japanese only) Shuji Ninomiya TEL: 090-4580-1594 (Japanese only) E-mail: eno-nis@tic.bbq.jp
When?	March – November	
Times	As per customer request.	
Meet-up	In front of Yufu City Hall Hasama Office 128-1, Mukainoharu, Hasama-machi, Yufu City.	Fee 500 yen per person


Guides

Hiji-machiaruki
Guide no Kai

Take it slow - meander through the castle town by the sea -


Hiji is one of a few castle towns associated with the Toyotomi family. Enjoy visiting the town's cultural properties while appreciating the quaint old streets and the superb view of Beppu Bay.

④Chidokan
(an old domain school)



Toshinori Kinoshita, the 15th Lord of the Hiji Domain, opened the school in 1858. It is the only surviving example of its kind in the prefecture and is the prefecture's listed historical site.

①Ninomaru Yakata



The Ninomaru Yakata is a reproduction of the rear gate turret that had been built to protect the postern of the castle keep on the premises. It contains a souvenir shop selling a marble sole-shaped pastry, a local specialty, and a cafe area.

⑧The Great Camellia Sasanka

The tree is estimated to be over 400 years old. Since its color and shape differ from the wild variety, it proves that a cultivated variety of camellia sasanka had existed since ancient times, thus making this example extremely valuable.

③Kimon (demon's gate) turret

④Chidokan (the old domain school)

⑤The site of Hiji Castle



The castle was built in 1601 by Nobutoshi Kinoshita, the nephew of Hideyoshi Toyotomi's wife, Nene. It commands the view of Mt Takasaki and the azure Beppu Bay.

②The statue of Rentaro Taki

③Kimon (demon's gate) turret

④Chidokan (the old domain school)

⑤The site of Hiji Castle

⑥Shiroshita Park
(A view of Beppu Bay)

⑦A time bell from the Genroku era

⑧The Great Camellia Sasanka

⑨Tekizanso
(The villa of a goldmine tycoon)

⑩Kotee (plaster relief)

⑪Kusunoki Jizo

⑫Renge Temple

⑩Kotee (plaster relief)

⑪Kusunoki Jizo

⑫Renge Temple

⑬Wakamiya Hachiman Shrine


⑩Kotee (plaster relief)

⑪Kusunoki Jizo

⑫Renge Temple

⑬Wakamiya Hachiman Shrine

⑤The site of Hiji Castle



The castle was built in 1601 by Nobutoshi Kinoshita, the nephew of Hideyoshi Toyotomi's wife, Nene. It commands the view of Mt Takasaki and the azure Beppu Bay.

⑥Shiroshita Park
The park offers a panoramic view of Mt Takasaki and Beppu Bay. There is a trail along the coast where visitors can enjoy a relaxing walk.

⑦A time bell from the Genroku era
Legend has it that the bell was struck 12 times a day to announce the hours in the Edo period.

⑨Tekizanso



The villa was built in 1915 by a goldmine tycoon, Hiroe Narukiyo, and it is a typical example of Hiji's modern Japanese architecture. The marbled sole can be enjoyed here.

Course	①Ninomaru Yakata → ②The statue of Rentaro Taki → ③Kimon turret → ④Chidokan → ⑤The site of Hiji Castle → ⑥Shiroshita Park (a view of Beppu Bay) → ⑦A time bell from the Genroku era → ⑧The Great Camellia Sasanka → ⑨Tekizanso → ⑩Kotee (plaster reliefs) → ⑪Kusunoki Jizo → ⑫Renge Temple → ⑬Wakamiya Hachiman Shrine → ①Ninomaru Yakata	<p>Hiji-machi Tourism Association TEL: 0977-72-4255 FAX: 0977-72-9044 e-mail: kankou-kyoukai.hiji@fuga.ocn.ne.jp</p>
When?	Every day (except the end of the year/New Year holidays) Book at least a day in advance. The tour is for two or more people.	
Times	As and when needed between 9:00AM and 3:00PM. Duration: about 45 minutes ~	
Meet-up	Hiji Town Tourist Information Center Ninomaru Yakata, 2612-1, Hiji Town, Hayami District, Oita Prefecture.	
Fee	1,000 yen per person, 500 yen x the number of persons for a group of 2+, 300 yen x the number of persons for a group of 5+, 250 yen x the number of persons for a group of 10+.	

Take a slow stroll through Tadewara marshlands and a forest trail

Tadewara Marshland

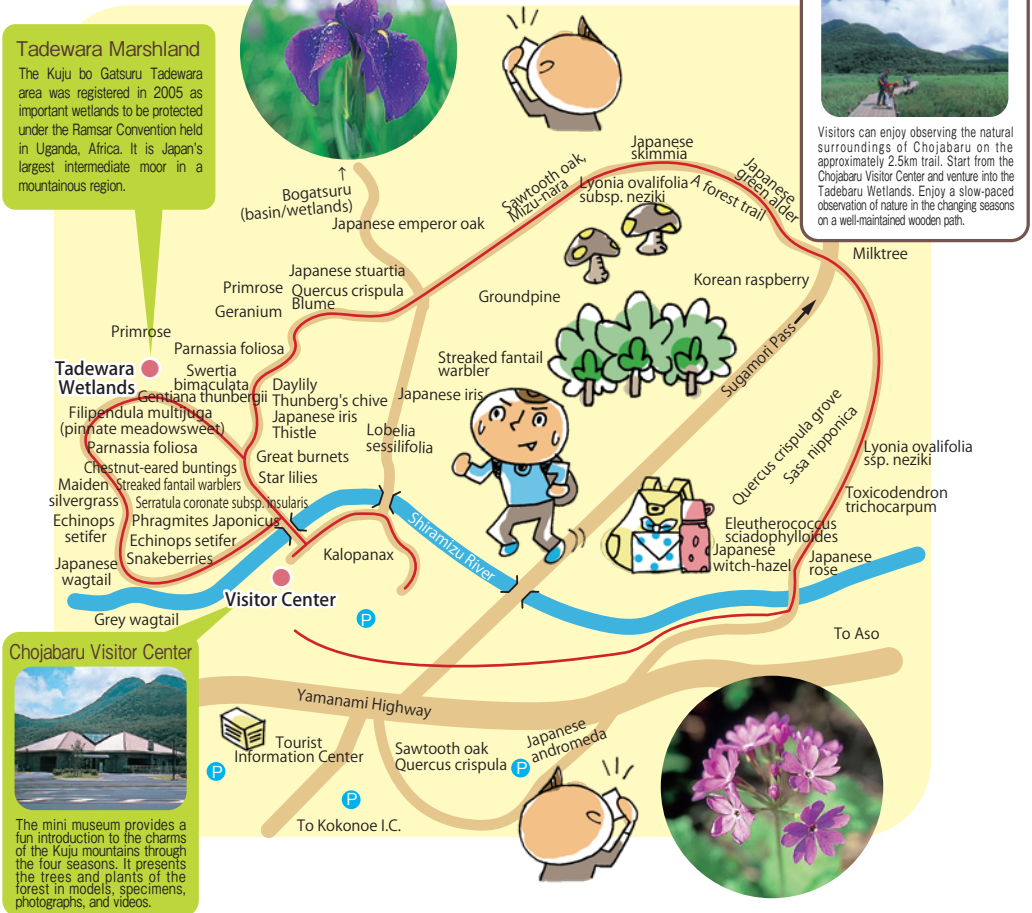
The Kuju bo Gatsuru Tadewara area was registered in 2005 as important wetlands to be protected under the Ramsar Convention held in Uganda, Africa. It is Japan's largest intermediate moor in a mountainous region.



Chojabaru Nature Study Trail



Visitors can enjoy observing the natural surroundings of Chojabaru on the approximately 2.5km trail. Start from the Chojabaru Visitor Center and venture into the Tadewara Wetlands. Enjoy a slow-paced observation of nature in the changing seasons on a well-maintained wooden path.



Chojabaru Visitor Center



The mini museum provides a fun introduction to the charms of the Kuju mountains through the four seasons. It presents the trees and plants of the forest in models, specimens, photographs, and videos.

Course	Tadewara Wetlands Trail, approx. 2.5 km	Book Chojabaru Visitor Center 255-33, Tano, Kokonoe Town, Kusu District, Oita Prefecture. TEL/FAX: 0973-79-2154 Website: https://kujufanclub.com ※On-the-day application is accepted. (Groups and foreign language guides require prior arrangement.) (Call the Chojabaru Visitor Center)
When?	Every Sunday and national holidays (1st & 3rd Sunday in Dec, 2nd & 4th Sunday in Jan and Feb, national holidays)	
Times	Start 10:00AM (Approx. 2 hrs.)	
Meet-up	Chojabaru Visitor Center	
Fee	Free	

Guides

Kuju Nature Guides Club

Guided walk in mountains

Enjoy the experience according to your wishes.

Mt Waita



The 1,499-meter high conical mountain is in the northwestern edge of the Kuju mountain range. It is also called "Kusu Fuji" and "Oguni Fuji" for its resemblance to Mt Fuji.

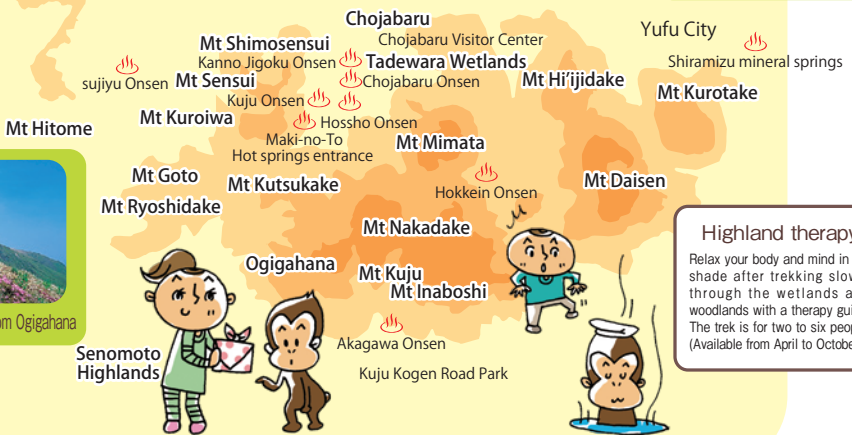
Mt Waita

Ukenokuchi Onsen
magoso OnsenYutsubo Onsen
Handa Highlands
Kokonoe Town

MakinoTo



The view of Mt Mimata from Chojabaru



Highland therapy

Relax your body and mind in the shade after trekking slowly through the wetlands and woodlands with a therapy guide. The trek is for two to six people. (Available from April to October.)

A trek on the ridgeline from Mt Kuroiwa to Sensui

(Makinto Pass - Mt Kuroiwa - Kamisensui - Shimosensui - Chojabaru)

The trek on the ridge line from Mt Kuroiwa to Sensui provides a 360-degree view of Mt Ryoshidake, Mt Waita, Mt Mimata, and Hossho.

Trekking at the foot of Mt Kuju Mimata

(Tadewara Marsh - Amagaik Pond - Bogatsuru - Kitaserri - Sugamori Pass - Chojabaru)

Trek the foot of Mt Kuju Mimata with a nature guide. Enjoy the walk while observing nature and learning about Kuju in general.

Course	Choose from a variety of courses	Book	Kuju Nature Guides Club TEL:090-9564-7140 (Keiji Masuda) ※Japanese only e-mail:experience@kuju-ngc.com https://kuju-ngc.com (for inquiry)
When?	As and when needed. (Must be booked at least two weeks in advance.)		
Times	As and when needed.		
Meet-up	Chojabaru or Makinoto Pass		

Heritage of Industrial Modernization Bungo Mori Roundhouse Park Course

The Kyudai Main Line connects Kurume and Oita. The roundhouse is the only surviving fan-shaped train depot in Kyushu. The park's popular attractions include a mini train ride and plastic sheet craft-making in the museum.

The map illustrates the Bungo Mori Roundhouse Park area. A large steam locomotive, SL29612, is shown at the top left. The Bungo Mori Roundhouse Museum is located near the Bungo Mori Station. The park features a Mini SL Course, a fan-shaped roundhouse, and a turntable. Callout ① shows the SL29612 (statically preserved). Callout ② shows traces of machine gun fire from August 4, 1945, where U.S. fighter jets attacked the engine room. Callout ③ shows the interior of the Bungo Mori Roundhouse Museum. Other landmarks include the Kusu Seisho Junior High School, Kusu Post Office, Merusan Hall, and the River Kusu.

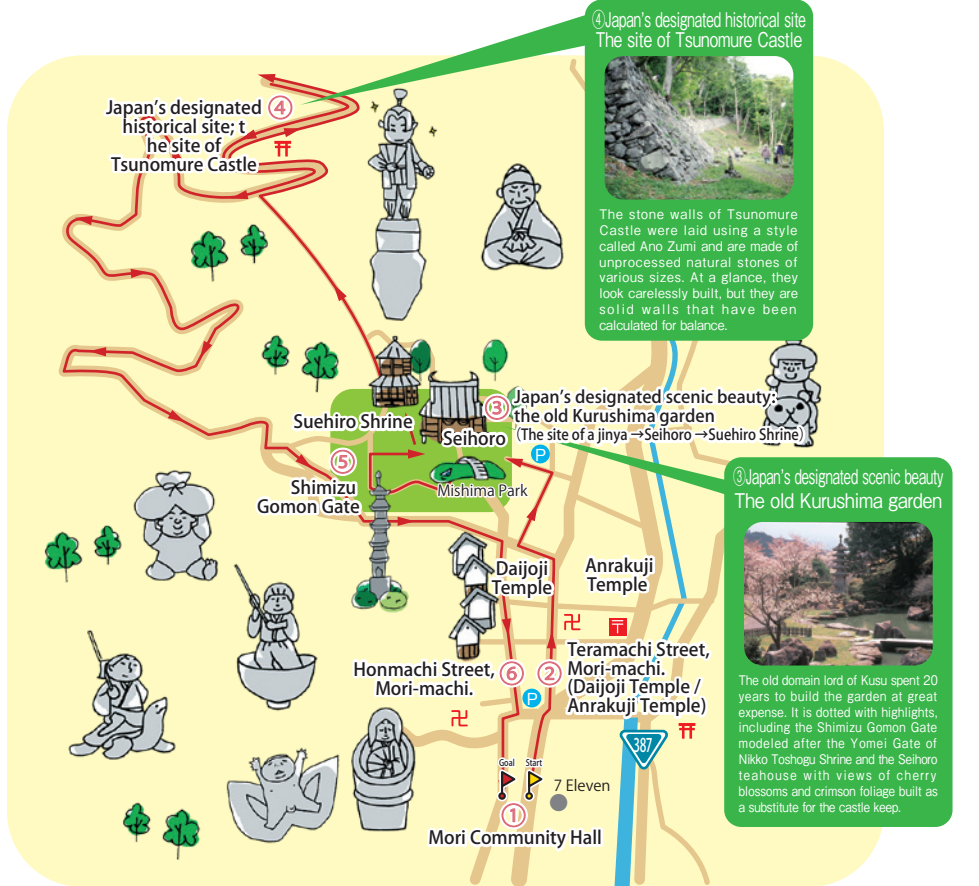
Course	① SL29612 → ② Traces of machine gun fire → ③ Bungo Mori Roundhouse Museum	Book	Town Guide 246-13, Hoashi, Kusu (Kusu Town Tourism Association) TEL: 0973-72-1313 FAX: 0973-72-1373 e-mail: info@kusumachi.jp Website: http://kusumachi.jp
When?	As and when needed		
Times	As and when needed		
Meet-up	Bungo Mori Roundhouse Park parking lot	Fee	2,000 yen per group

Guides

Kusu Town Tourism Association

A relaxing walking course in the government-designated scenic area

The course will satisfy the mind, body, and soul as it includes the site of Tsunomure Castle with high stone walls from the Shokuho period and the old Kurushima family garden built by a domain lord who was now permitted to own a castle.



Course	①Mori Community Hall → ②Teramachi Street, Mori-machi.(Daijōji Temple/ Anrakuji Temple) → ③Japan's designated scenic beauty: the old Kurushima garden (the site of a jinya) → Seihoro → Suehiro Shrine → ④Japan's designated historical site: the site of Tsunomure Castle → ⑤Shimizu Gomon Gate → ⑥ Honmachi Street, Mori-machi → ①Mori Community Hall (3-hour course)	Book Kusu Town Tourism Association 246-13, Hoashi, Kusu Town, Kusu District. TEL: 0973-72-1313 FAX: 0973-72-1373 e-mail: info@kusumachi.jp Website http://kusumachi.jp/
When?	As and when needed	
Times	As and when needed	
Meet-up	Mori Community Hall 32-2, Mori, Kusu Town, Kusu District.	Fee Free (3,000 yen per group if a tour guide is required.) Admission to Seihoro is 2,000 yen per group.



Oita Prefecture Furusato Guide Liaison Council Office



Tourism Oita
3F, OASIS Hiroba 21, 2-50, Takasago-machi, Oita City.
TEL 097-536-6250 / FAX 097-536-6251
<https://www.visit-oita.jp/furusatoguide/>

Tourism Oita

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