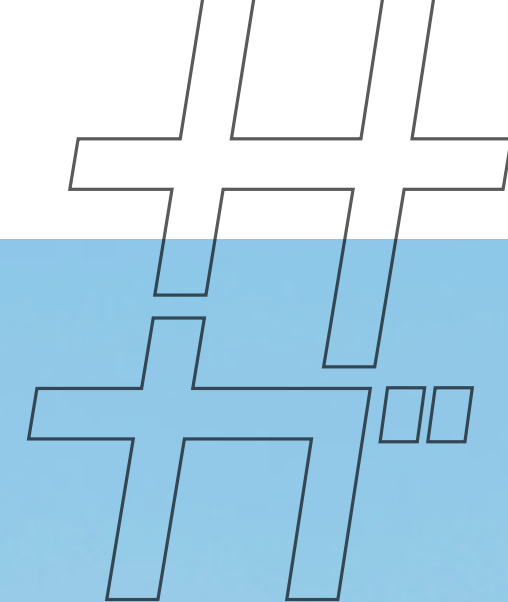




Tour and Tell Saga Heritage

In Saga Prefecture beautiful sceneries and structures representative of the region are recognized as Saga Heritage Sites.

Let's tour these sites, proudly tell their stories,
and show the world how the beautifully preserved heritage sites are reflected in your viewfinder.



Tour and Tell Saga Heritage

There is familiar scenery all around us,
beauty going unnoticed in the everyday bustle.

In these lie stories and history to be told,
landscapes to be protected.

These are the “Saga Heritage Sites”
we want to preserve for the 22nd century.



Saga's a Great Spot,
to Stroll or to Trot



Saga Heritage MAP

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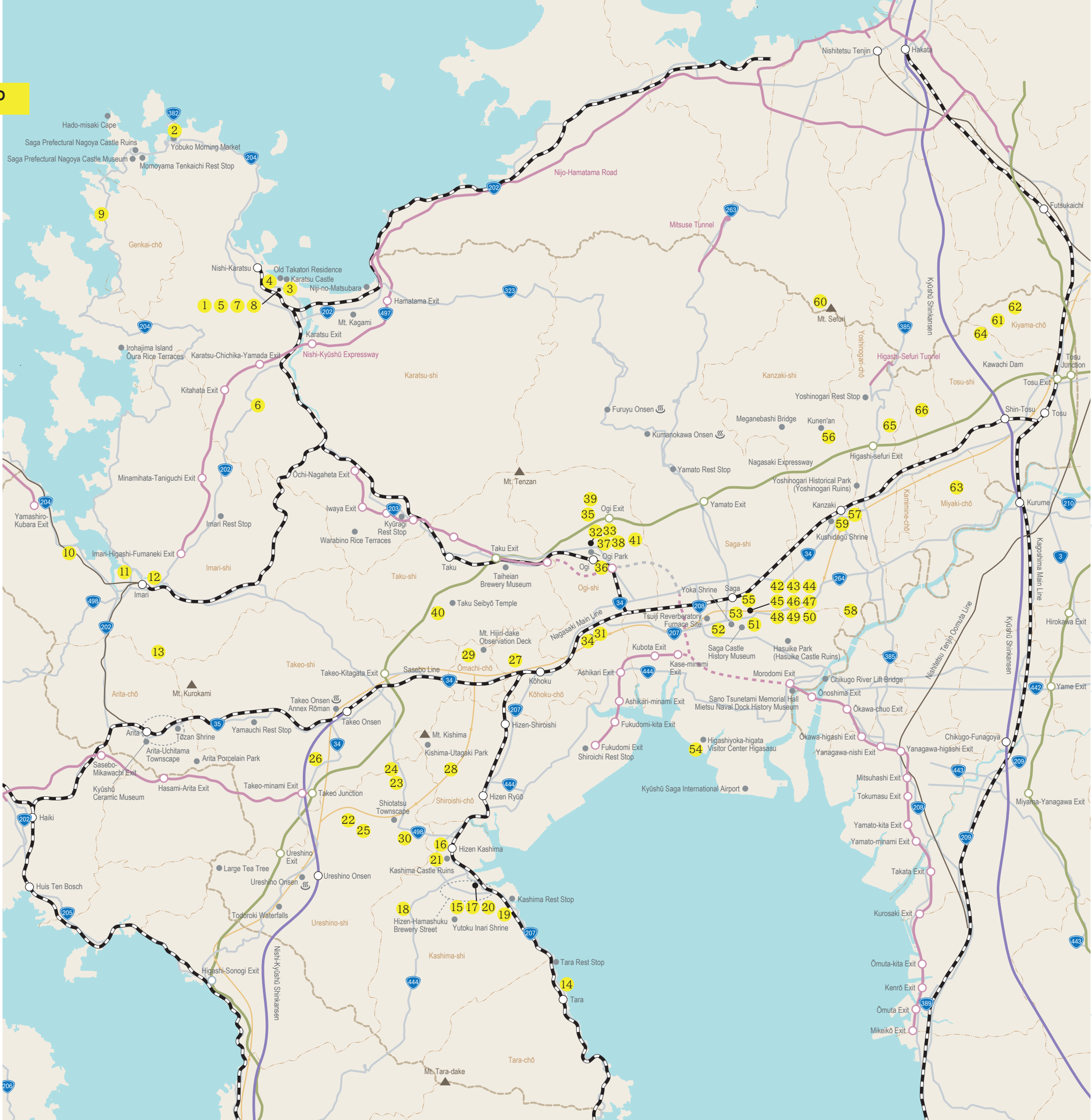
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Tour and Tell Saga Heritage

Karatsu-shi Area



1 Old Karatsu Bank Head Office

Karatsu-shi Honmachi 1513-15 700 m from JR Karatsu station Free entrance 9:00-18:00
Closed December 29th-31st ☎0955-70-1717 (Former Karatsu Bank) Parking available



3 Ryokan Wataya

Karatsu-shi Daimyoukoji 5-10 1 km from JR Karatsu station
☎0955-72-4181(Wataya) Parking available



Nostalgic Tatsuno-style
Architecture Contemporary
to the Tokyo Station Building

Built when the coal industry was prospering in Karatsu in 1912, this building, intended as head office for Karatsu Bank, functioned as such until 1997. The building was designed by Minoru Tanaka, beloved student of the Karatsu-born architect Kingo Tatsuno, known for his design of Tokyo Station. The edifice is characterized by strong remaining “Tatsuno-style” elements, such as arch windows, red brick tiles and granite balconies. Today, the building is familiar to the locals as a “Kingo Tatsuno Memorial Hall”.



The Atmospheric Villa of
a Coal Mine Proprietor from Imari

A mansion, originally built in 1905 as a holiday house by the coal mine owner Masahei Tashiro from Imari. In 1933 a traditional Japanese inn – a ryokan – opened business in the mansion. The villa consists of a main building as well as a western-style wing. The 3-floor tall main building is mainly constructed in the Japanese residential architectural style Shoin-zukuri, with a Japanese-style Genkan-entryway and a western-style parlor. The western-style wing has a profound atmosphere, with added sash windows, as well as ornaments and furniture of plaster craftsmanship.



4 Old Fujita Pawn Shop and Residence

Karatsu-shi Bōzumachi 552-5 900 m from JR Karatsu station ※Only possible to view the exterior



Check the Discernible Features of a Former Pawn Shop

A combined pawn shop and residence built in 1925. The stout and solid exterior of the pawn shop shows traces of the consideration given to fire and crime prevention. During the Taishō period (1912-1926) the same neighborhood housed a movie theatre and the Karatsu Chikamatsu-theatre, and some decades later a shopping district grew in the vicinity. Now the former Fujita residence hosts local events.



5 Takeya

Karatsu-shi Nakamachi 1884-2 650 m from JR Karatsu station
Closed: Wednesdays, 3rd Thursday of every month, 1st-3rd January
☎0955-73-3244 (Takeya)



From a Sword Polishing Shop to an Eatery, and Finally an Eel restaurant

The trade name Takeya has remained unchanged ever since the Edo period (1603-1868). Originally the business was sword sharpening and lacquer shop (scabbard work and the like), but due to the Sword Abolishment Edict (1867) it changed into an eatery. From around 1877 Takeya has been an eel (unagi) specialty restaurant. The building was in 1923 rebuilt as a three-floor high wooden structure and has since then gone through extensions and structural alteration all while continuing business. In 1998 Takeya became the first entry from Karatsu on the National list of Tangible Cultural Properties.



7 Nakamachi Casa (Former Murakami Dental Clinic and Residence)

Karatsu-shi Nakamachi 1868 450 m from JR Karatsu station
[1st Floor: Café]



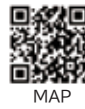
Former Dental Clinic in Moss Green Western Style

Originally built in 1933 as a dental clinic and residence. The first floor was used as residence, designed in Japanese style, while the second floor, which was in used as a clinic, follows a more western design. The stairs between the 1st and 2nd floors were divided between patient and family use. Long known among locals as a symbol of the Nakamachi street, the building now houses a café restaurant on the 1st floor and a community space on the 2nd floor.



6 Sōdensha (Old Ide Residence)

Karatsu-shi Kitahata Tokusue 1030-3 5 km from JR Yamamoto station
Closed: Mondays and Tuesdays.
☎0955-64-3540 (Utsuwa Gallery Karatsu Sōdensha)



A Machi-ya — Symbol of the Tokusue-district Prosperity

This Machi-ya townhouse residence, located in the place of origin for Karatsu-yaki pottery ware, was built in the late Meiji period (1868-1912). The first person to live in this residence is said to have been the founding village headman of Kitahata village, Toyosuke Ide. His grandson Toshiro Ide, a known screenwriter, also resided here. The devotedly designed tatami room of the residence is made of good materials and remains in good shape along with the building structure.



2 Old Nakao Residence

Karatsu-shi Yobukochō 3750-3 16 km from JR Karatsu station
Entrance fee 200¥ Opening hours: 8:45-17:00 (Entrance until 16:30)
Closed: Wednesdays, 29th December-3rd January
☎0955-82-0309 (Whaling Group Owner, Nakao Residence)



Port Town that Prospered with Whale Trade – what Remains of Yobuko

“The Nakao family wealth is unattainable, but at least I would like to be as rich as a feudal lord” was a saying repeated back in the day. Running whale trade over 8 generations, the Nakao family affected the Karatsu Province economy to a great degree. In the book “Ogawajima geigei kassen,” published in 1840, the residence is illustrated from a bird’s eye view. A nationally valuable structure of townhouse Machi-ya architecture that allows us to revive the image of what once was the center of a whale trade estate.



8 CALALI (Former Fujio Residence and Pharmaceutical Wholesale Store)

Karatsu-shi Egawamachi 627 900 m from JR Karatsu station



Old Pharmacy with a Sukiya-style atmosphere

Built in the first years of the Meiji Period (1868-1912), this building housed a Pharmaceutical Wholesale store operated by Heibō Fujio, a man known as the greatest merchant in Egawamachi. The building is located by the parade route for the Karatsu Kunchi Festival Hikiyama floats, towards the street one can observe the typical architecture of a merchant’s residence, and to the south there are rooms such as a moon-viewing room, with an atmospheric sukiya-zukuri flavor to them. Presently the building is used as a café, b&b, and event venue. Conveying the aesthetic sense contained in Japanese building, CALALI brings people together regardless of age or nationality.

SAGATOCO

Old Fujita Residence	900m	JR Karatsu station	450m	Nakamachi Casa
CALALI	900m		650m	Takeya
Ryokan Wataya	1km		700m	Former Karatsu Bank Head Office

Tour and Tell Saga Heritage

Genkai-chō and Imari-shi Area



9 Hamanoura Rice Terraces

Higashimatsuura-gun Genkai-chō Hamanoura 8 km from JR Karatsu station
 ☎0955-52-2112 (Genkai Town) Parking available ※Can be viewed all at once from the viewing platform

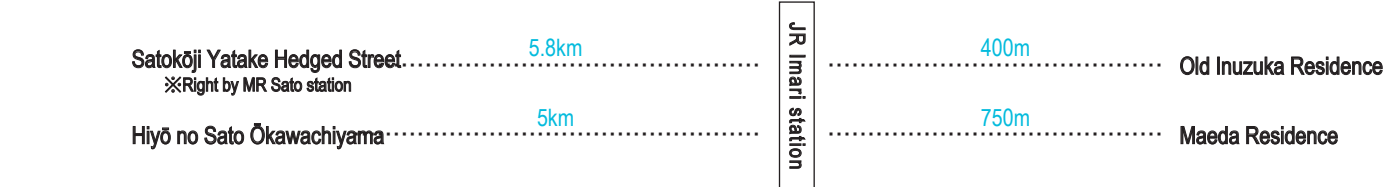


10 Satokōji Yatake Hedged Street

Imari-shi Higashi-Yamashirochō Sato
 Right by the MR (Matsuura Railway) Sato station



SAGATOCO



See the Beautiful Rice Terraces Under the Setting Sun

These 283 rice terraces stretching out like stairs over then coast make for a picturesque view. Even stone walls stacked from unmanufactured natural fieldstones remain in parts of the area. The scenery varies by the season, offering different kinds of beauty. Especially the setting sun over the Genkai sea reflected in the water-filled paddy fields in the spring paints the whole view vermillion and is guaranteed to take your breath away. If you come by route 204 you can also drop by the ruins of the Hizen Nagoya Castle, that the lord and grand chancellor Hideyoshi Toyotomi had built during the Imjin War.



Highly Valued Hedge, Protected and Maintained by Locals

The Sato district is a region with a long history related to the Matsuura Party of feudal Japan. Legend says that in preparation for battle, the hedge was planted by the residing samurai retainers to make bamboo arrow shafts. And so even today the grounds owners continue to preserve the arrow bamboo (yatake) hedge. There is also a giant camphor tree on the grounds of the local tutelary Aohata shrine, which the five districts in Higashi-Yamashirochō take yearly turns in dedicating traditional Fūryū dance performances to.



11 Old Inuzuka Residence

Imari-shi Imarichō Kō 555-1
 400 m from JR Imari station Free entrance 10:00 - 17:00
 Closed: Mondays, 29th December-3rd January
 ☎0955-22-7934 (Imari City Ceramic Merchant's House Museum)



Ceramic Merchant's Family in Imari Harbour (Marukoma)

Ever since the Edo period (1603-1868) Imari harbor has flourished shipping ceramic ware such as Arita ware from the areas where they were produced. The Inuzuka family started dealing in ceramics around 1764 and their residence was built circa 1825. It is built in a traditional narrow style with narrow frontage known as the "eel's bed." Now the former residence is a ceramic merchant's house museum where you can sense the life of days past.



Area Topics

Renovation Changing Downtown Imari

Imari town Ichibankan



Imari town Ichibankan
 Saga Prefecture,
 Imari-shi Imarichō Kō 358-1
 10:00 - 18:00
 Closed: Tuesdays
 ☎0955-25-9802

In the Imari central area vacant houses and shops stood out among the townscape. With an urban development association in the lead this issue is now being tackled through renovations. Vacant houses are taken into use and renamed as "n-bankan" (n:th hall), to bring forth new activity and bustle around town. The area can be taken in by taking a stroll through it, while also enjoying the sceneries around Imari River.



12 Maeda Residence

Imari-shi Tachibanachō 4028 750 m from JR Imari station
 Open: 1st and 3rd Thursdays, 2nd and 4th Saturdays every month 13:00 -17:00
 ※At other times possible to view the exterior



See the Development of the "Kudo-zukuri" Minka-building Style in Saga

The Maeda family were village officials in Imari for generations during the Edo period (1603-1868). The estate was around 3, 100m² with a main building, three warehouses and more. The main building was a wooden single-storied house and is estimated to have been built circa 1784. The estate shows the most developed form of the "kudo building style," which is the Minka (traditional Japanese private houses) architecture seen on the largest scale within Saga Prefecture.



13 Hiyō no Sato Ōkawachiyama

Imari-shi Ōkawachichō Ōkawachiyama 5 km from JR Imari station
 ☎0955-23-7293 (Imari Nabeshima Ceramic Center) Parking available



Scenery like a Landscape Painting, Home of the Nabeshima Imperial Kiln

In the 1660's the Saga Province let install an imperial kiln in Ōkawachiyama and started producing high quality porcelain ware called "Nabeshima ware." Nabeshima ware was not made to be sold, but rather as offerings to the Shogun clan. Because of this, the design and production methods were kept top secret, and the coming and going of people was strictly controlled. Now you can enjoy the gentle atmosphere in this village with 30 potteries: "Hiyō no Sato" or "Village of Secret Kilns."



Tour and Tell Saga Heritage

Tara-chō and Kashima-shi Area



14 Pathway to the Okinokami, Ōuo shrine and floating Torii gates

Fujitsu-gun Tara-chō Tara 1874-9, 1897 1 km from JR Tara station Parking available



MAP



Mystical View Brought by the Tide at Dawn

On the map Ōuo Shrine is constructed on a straight line between the Tara-dake Peak and Okinoshima island. The two most important industries in Tara-chō are agriculture and fishing – the mountains and the sea. The mutual connection between these through the shrine conveys a certain natural philosophy. During the low tide it's possible to pass through the fully revealed vermillion Torii-gates. You'll never tire of the view, as it changes depending on the light and tide, and is completely different for example under the morning sun than in the moonlight.



19 Nakamura Yoemon Yashiki

Kashima-shi Ōaza Otonari Kō 817 500 m from JR Hizen-Nanaura station
☎0954-62-8325(Preservation Society/Nanaura Community Center)
※Only possible to view the exterior



MAP

The Mansion of the Meritorious 4th Generation Nanaura Village Headman

The 10th generation Yozaemon contributed to the growth of Nanaura village as the 4th village headman over 40 years. The building was rebuilt in 1910 with an unchanged structure. Many parts, such as the main entrance and main hall remain as they were. The banquet hall looks out towards a beautiful garden and Mt. Kyōgatake. Under the name of the meritorious Yozaemon a preservation society was established and has ever since been organizing various events such as concerts, seminars, and a "Village head festival."

SAGATOCO

JR Hizen-Hama station
600m Mitsutake Brewery
550m Nakashima Brewery
1km Eikeizan Taichiji Temple

JR Hizen-Kashima station
JR Hizen-Nanaura station
JR Tara station



18 Baba Brewery

Kashima-shi Mishimakawachi Otsu 1365 6 km from JR Hizen-Kashima station
☎0954-63-3888(Baba Shuzōjō)
※Visiting possible during the Kashima Sakagura Tourism season



MAP

A Sake Brewery on the Bank of the Nakagawa

Established in 1795, the representative brand of this brewery is called "Nogomi." Situated on the bank of the Nakagawa River, flowing from Mt. Kyōgatake, its special charm lies in the valley view, straight out of a nostalgic Japanese postcard. The current first warehouse is thought to have been built in the early 20th century, and several distillery buildings have since been added to match the manufacturing process.



15 Nakashima Brewery

Kashima-shi Hamamachi Otsu 2714 550 m from JR Hizen-Hama station
☎0954-62-2605(Nakashima Shuzōjō)

The Oldest Sake Brewery in Hamamachi

Located at the mouth of the Hama River and by the Tarakaidō, a side road to the great Nagasaki Kaidō Road, Hamashuku in the Edo period (1603-1868) flourished as a post station town. The Nakashima Brewery was established in 1650, and the brand is called "Gunon." This is still the place to buy Gunon, though the brewery itself has moved elsewhere. The entrance to the main building still has an iron ring to fasten horses to, showing the traces of the town's post station era.



MAP



MAP

17 Mitsutake Brewery

Kashima-shi Hamamachi Otsu 2421-1
600 m from JR Hizen-Hama station
☎0954-62-3033(Mitsutake Shuzōjō)

The Sake Brand "Mitsutake," the Shōchū "Makai e no Izanai"

The street extending on the left side of the Hama River is nicknamed "Brewery Street" and was ever since the Edo period (1603-1868) lined with Sake shops, breweries, oil shops, soy sauce shops, fish markets and more. Mitsutake Brewery was also established in the Edo period and is best known for the sake brands "Mitsutake," "Kinpa" as well as the Shōchū "Makai e no Izanai" or "Invitation to Hell." Apart from the main building completed in 1881 there is also a rice granary, a preparatory storehouse and some other buildings standing.



16 Yano Brewery

Kashima-shi Takatsuhara 3903-1
500 m from JR Hizen-Kashima station
☎0954-63-2008(Yano Shuzō) Parking available



MAP

Instruments Reverberate from Tatsumi no Kura

The sake brewery was established in 1796, and the main building was built during the years from 1904. The group of buildings for brewing and selling the sake is registered on the National list of Tangible Cultural Properties. Formerly the rice mill of the brewery, "Tatsumi no Kura," is now used as a gallery for exhibitions and concerts. The brewery's most famous sake brand is "Take no Sono."

Area Topics

Encounter Saga Heritage sites on a Sake Brewery Tour

A walk through the Hizen-Hamashuku Brewery Street



Thatched roofs and whitewashed walls, traditional samurai family mansions – all of these can still be seen in the Hizen-Hamashuku townscape. Around this street the popular event "Kashima Sakagura Tourism" is held each year. Tour all the sake breweries and visit Saga Heritage sites, meet brewery workers, and enjoy sake. Have a unique Saga Heritage experience in Hizen-Hamashuku.

DATA
Hizen-Hamashuku Brewery Street Walk (Machinami Guide)
Capacity: Smaller groups and individuals are also welcome!
10:00 – 15:00
Closed: Tuesdays ※Negotiable
☎0954-69-8004
NPO Hizen Hamashuku Mizu to Machinami no Kai

Tara-chō and Kashima-shi Area



20 Eikeizan Taichiji Temple

Kashima-shi Hamamachi Kō 4242
1 km from JR Hizen-Hama station ☎0954-62-3922(Taichiji)



MAP



The Bodaiji of the Kashima Province Feudal Lords

The temple was moved to its current location by the first Kashima feudal lord Tadashige Nabeshima in 1622 and was the family temple – bodaiji – of the Nabeshima family. The graves facing the main temple from the left side have all the Kashima feudal lords enshrined beginning from Tadashige. The scenery is soothing, with Mt. Matsuoka spreading out behind and the Tataragawa River flowing in front.

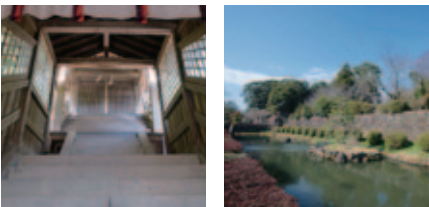


21 Matsukage Shrine, where Kashima Castle once stood

Kashima-shi Ōaza Takatsuhara 460 (In Asahigaoka Park)
1.6 km from JR Hizen-Kashima station ☎0954-62-2151(Yūtoku Inari Jinja) Parking available



MAP



Land Permeated with a Wish for Peace — Both in Wartime and Now

The story of this shrine begins in 1633 when the first Kashima Province lord Tadashige Nabeshima was enshrined. The area became a garden for the masses with newly planted cherry trees in 1863 by the decision of the 13th lord Naoyoshi Nabeshima. Later the area has become known as Asahigaoka park and is famous for its cherry blossoms. Yearly, the park becomes crowded with people arriving for the Cherry Blossom Festival, derived from the cherry blossom viewing banquets Naoyoshi Nabeshima held.

Let's walk, Saga Prefecture.

Health app for Saga residents

By living your life at a walking speed, you'll be able to discover and notice new appeal around you, and meet other people to share these discoveries with. Through walking, both the town and people grow healthy!

Let's walk, Saga Heritage sites.

SAGA TOCO

2019-12-03

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Let's use SAGATOCO to enjoy the Saga attractions, healthy and convenient!

Saga's a Great Spot, to Stroll or to Trot

Saga Prefecture official Walking app
SAGATOCO



To make the everyday walks fun!
Collect points!
Stamp rallies and other events
Use the points you collect at participating stores!



Find information about events and other activities from the website.

歩こう佐賀県 検索

Saga Prefecture is actively promoting ways to incorporate walking, cycling, public transit, and all other non-car transportation methods into the residents' lifestyles.

Tour and Tell Saga Heritage

Ureshino-shi, Shiroishi-chō, Takeo-shi, Kōhoku-machi, Ōmachi-chō Area



22 Old Mino Classroom

Ureshino-shi Shiotachō Gochōda Otsu 4499
5.7 km from Ureshino Onsen station ☎0954-66-9130 (Ureshino City)
※Contact to view the inside



House of Learning Built by Mino Carpenters

By wish of the Mino district residents this separate classroom for the Gochōda Jinjō Higher Elementary School was built in 1928. The materials were acquired by selling governmentally owned forest, and the school was built entirely by 31 local carpenters. The old village name Gochōda remains written on the roof ornament. The school is surrounded by nature, with a mountain, large ginkgo trees, and the Kumano Gongen shrine around it. It's a popular photoshoot spot for amateur cameramen.



25 Ikeda Residence

Ureshino-shi Shiotachō Gochōda Otsu 4345 6.1 km from Ureshino Onsen station
☎0954-66-2940 (Ikeda) ※Contact to view the inside



Great Contributions to Education and Politics

The residents of this household were important personages in the local educational and political sector for generations. The main building, which was built at the end of the Edo period (1603-1868) and restored in the early 1920's, has a hipped roof with clay pantiles. A dirt floor connects the two-floored Zazō tatami-room storehouse built in 1919. With a receiving space, floor entrance and hanging cabinet of fine quality, the Zazō has a peculiar structure and charm to it.



26 Kugimachi Residence

Takeo-shi Higashikawa Noborimachi Nagano 6793
4.8km from JR Takeo Onsen station



Unchanged Comfort of a Rural Samurai Home

Made in the traditional kudo-style and with a thatched roof, this house is said to have been built mid-19th century. Its current form does not differ from the old construction drawings from 1859. The house has a formal structure, with a high traditional Saobuchi ceiling, and the tatami room completed with special grey plaster. Several garden trees and stone pieces are placed around the building.

SAGATOÇO

Ureshino Onsen station

5.7km Old Mino Classroom
6.1km Ikeda Residence

JR Takeo Onsen station

6.4km Shida Tōjiki Corporation
6.6km Shida Ware Factory Museum
4.8km Kugimachi Residence



23 Shida Ware Factory Museum

Ureshino-shi Shiotachō Kuma Otsu 073 6.6 km from JR Takeo Onsen station Entrance fee 300¥
9:00 — 17:00 Closed: Wednesdays, 29th December-3rd January ☎0954-66-4640



All Steps of the Porcelain Manufacturing Process Preserved

In the Shida area porcelain was produced for commoners, and this is where the most prolific manufacturer Shida Tōjiki Corporation factories used to be. The factories were operating between 1914 to 1984 and remain to this day so vividly preserved that only the actual workers are missing. Spread out over a large area, there are 23 wooden buildings to see.



24 Shida Tōjiki Corporation

Ureshino-shi Shiotachō Kuma Otsu 3242-3 6.4 km from JR Takeo Onsen station 9:00 — 18:00
Closed: 29th December-3rd January, 13th-16th August ☎0954-66-2202 Parking available



Village history Told by a Hundred-year-old Structure

From the mid-18th century the area has manufactured an abundance of the porcelain "Shida ware." The corporation moved into the old Takeo Police station in 1918. There are several storehouses with gabled roofs lined up along the road. These were originally built to contain now also work as ceramic ware and traditional Japanese goods shops.

Tour and Tell Saga Heritage

Ureshino-shi, Shiroishi-chō, Takeo-shi, Kōhoku-machi, Ōmachi-chō Area



30 Setō brewery

Ureshino-shi Shiotachō Ōaza Gochōda 3117 4 km from JR Hizen-Kashima station



MAP



Aftertaste of Romance from over 230 Years of Sake Brewing

Established in 1789. The brand sake "Azumachō" was by former prime minister Takashi Hara described as "Suitable for the kings of the Orient." With this honor the sake was also served to Douglas MacArthur, the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers (SCAP) after WWII and became designated goods for SCAP. With large sake storehouses, retreats and more, the group of buildings tells the history of brewing high-quality sake in the region.



28 Nuinoike

Kishima-gun Shiroishi-chō Yusaki 2463-1 5 km from JR Ryūō station
☎0952-84-7122 (Shiraishichō) Parking available



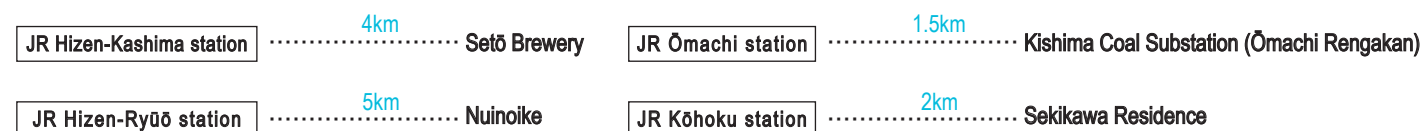
MAP



Miraculously Revived Spring, Treasure of the Town

Dried out in 1955 due to excess pumping, this pond had become a place of legend. In 2001, however, water returned to the spring. From this occasion the townspeople formed a Nuinoike Spring Association, and to this day work for the conservation of the spring. In the middle of the pond there is a dawn redwood tree, and the view of the tree reflected in the water is beautiful. With the seasons, time of day, and colors changing it's a popular photo spot all year around!

SAGATOQO



29 Former Kishima Coal Substation (Ōmachi Rengakan)

Kishima-gun Ōmachi-chō Fukumo 2673-7 1.5 km from JR Ōmachi station
☎090-3677-6821 (Kishima Coal Substation Utilization Committee・Ōnishi)



MAP



Red Brick Substation a Symbol of the Coal Town

Ōmachi-chō experienced its golden age as a coal mining town in past centuries, and in 1929 the substation was built for coal processing and providing electricity to the town residents. The red brick building catches the eye, and the spoil tip in the background brings back images of the golden coal mining era. The building now hosts many events.



27 Sekikawa Residence

Kishima-gun Kōhoku-machi Kamioda 1387-2 2 km from JR Kōhoku station
Parking available (Batōkannondō and Ōkusu parking lot) ※Only possible to view exterior



MAP



Remains of a Bank and Residence Built in Odashuku

In the Edo period (1603-1868) the townsmen culture flourished along the Nagasaki Kaidō Road and Odashuku. Where rice storehouses once stood there were inns and homes, and this is where the Sekikawa Residence was built, likely mid-Meiji period (1868-1912). It was used as a bank office and residence, and even today a signpost for Nagasaki Kaidō from 1858 can be found within the estate.

Tour and Tell Saga Heritage

Ogi-shi, Taku-shi Area



36 JR Karatsu Line Ogi Station Main Building

Ogi-shi Mikazukichō Kume 2076-1
☎0952-37-6121(Ogi City) Parking available for cars and bicycles



MAP



32 Muraoka Sōhonpo Flagship Store, Muraoka Sōhonpo Yōkan Museum

Ogi-shi Ogimachi 861 1.8 km from JR Ogi station Free Entrance Main store: 9:00 — 18:00
Museum: 9:00 — 17:00 Every day ☎0120-35-8057(Muraoka Sōhonpo) Parking available



MAP

SAGATOQO

Fukagawa Residence1.7km
Tenzan Brewery3.5km
Eriyama Rice Terraces5.6km

JR Ogi station

750m Ogi Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church
1.8km Muraoka Sōhonpo and Yōkan Museum
1.5km Koyanagi Brewery

JR Ushizu station

450m Ushizu Red brick hall
450m Ushizu Hall



Reconstructed in 2014,
Back to its Original Form

The JR Karatsu Line was originally constructed for the transportation of goods to Karatsu Harbor, which increased with the development of the coal fields. The Ogi station was built in 1903 when also other lines were running. The station building is a single-storied wooden house with a hipped roof and clay pantiles. The movie “Tora-san, My Uncle” was filmed here. It functions as a daily place of public transit for the citizens, but it also gathers more people as a sightseeing spot and event location.

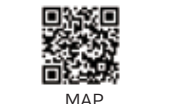
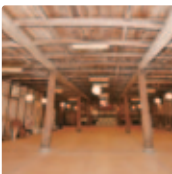


Learn the History of
the Japanese Sweet Yōkan

The Nagasaki Kaidō Road is sometimes called the Sugar Road due to its role in spreading sugar culture. In Ogi the local specialty became yōkan. Yōkan is good, preserved food and was because of this an ideal ration ordered for the army during wartime. The demand for yōkan grew dramatically during WWII and the sugar storehouse built in 1941 is now a yōkan museum. A wooden building with a hipped roof in Japanese style, with red bricks and tiles at the front in a more western design. The building structure is also excellent for fireproofing and preventing moisture damage.



MAP



MAP

37 Ogi Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church

Ogi-shi Ogimachi 170-8 750 m from JR Ogi station
☎0952-72-3221(Ogi Lutheran Nursery)
※Contact to view the inside

Where Ogi People Encountered
Western Culture

Built in 1938 to for Christian missionary work, the Ogi Evangelical Lutheran Church is a small wooden church in gable style. On the eastern side the chapel connects to a parsonage in a unified structure. All the windows are gridded and made from water caltrop, with yellow patterned glass. The semicircular underground room under the altar, functioning as a columbarium, is quite unique.



MAP

38 Fukagawa Residence

Ogi-shi Ogimachi 877-2
1.7 km from JR Ogi station

An Old Brewery Shop on the Pathway
to Suga Shrine

A townhouse standing by the road between the old castle town and the village Suga shrine. Originally the building contained a shop for selling brewery products, which was placed in one corner of the main building. The older main building and godown are connected by a corridor, and from the outside the half-timbered walls, white-plastered door pockets on both sides and floors make an impressive sight.



MAP

35 Tenzan Brewery

Ogi-shi Ogimachi Iwakura 1520 3.5 km from JR Ogi station
☎0952-73-3141(Tenzan Shuzō) Parking available

White-walled Brewery Glistening
on the Giongawa Riverside

Since 1861 the water of the Giongawa River has spun a waterwheel. It powered the manufacturing of rice, flour, and noodles, and from 1875 also the brewing of alcohol. Don't miss all the archaeological features left from the waterwheel rice polishing era. With the Tenzan Mountains in the background the white-plastered walls of the brewery buildings form a distinctive scenery. The brewery is still famous as the source for the refined sake “Tenzan,” and a part of the storehouse is used for social events.

Tour and Tell Saga Heritage

Ogi-shi, Taku-shi Area



31 Ushizu Red Brick Hall

Ogi-shi Ushizuchō Ushizu 586-1 450 m from JR Ushizu station
☎0952-66-0221(Ushizu hall custodian room) Parking available
※Open only for special events ※Reservation required for use of facilities

A Striking Red Brick Warehouse in the Merchant's Town Ushizu

Back in the Edo period (1603-1868) Ushizu was both a post town for the great Nagasaki Kaidō Road, and one of the three port towns towards the Ariake Sea. The town won fame as a "Merchant's Capital Ushizu." The red brick hall was built in the late Meiji period (1868-1912) and was a warehouse for the predecessor to the Tamaya Department Store, Tanakamaru Store. Since being donated to Ushizu Town in 1994 the hall is being used to host various events.



MAP



34 Ushizu hall

Ogi-shi Ushizuchō Ushizu 586-1 450 m from JR Ushizu station
☎0952-66-0221(Ushizu hall custodian room)
※Reservation required for use of facilities

Estate of the Kyushu Financier Zenzō Tanakamaru

A Japanese-style house adjacent to the red brick hall. Built as a residence for the well-known "Financier of Kyushu" and founder of the Tamaya Department Store, Zenzō Tanakamaru. The inner part of the house is wooden and built in the teahouse inspired architectural style Sukiya-zukuri. The residence is separated into a northern and southern building that are connected by a tatami corridor. In the southern building hall, there is also a functioning tearoom.



MAP



41 Kōeigiku Brewery

Ogi-shi Mikazukichō Orishima 2602-3 3.7 km from JR Ogi station



MAP



A Dramatic Revived Sake Brewery with a Brick Chimney

The brewery consists of a group of buildings built in the latter half of the 19th century. For 150 years it continued functioning despite changes in ownership, but in 2007 production came to an end. 13 years later the brand was revived owing to sympathizers, and now the sake "Kōeigiku" is being manufactured again. The rural scenery towards the south is a beautiful representation of the Saga landscapes.



39 Eriyama Rice Terraces

Ogi-shi Ogimachi Iwakura 5.6 km from JR Ogi station ☎0952-37-6125(Ogi City)



MAP



40 Taku-shi Seikei Park Kan' ōtei

Taku-shi Takumachi 1975 3.9 km from JR Taku station
☎0952-74-3591 (Designated manager: Nishikyūshū Kensetsu Corporation)
Parking available ※Reservation required for use of facilities



MAP



Red Spider Lilies Dye the Rice Field Ridges Red

Halfway up the southern side of the Tenzan Mountains, the Eriyama District is said to have housed a village from back around the early 16th century. First cultivating the land from grassland, the 600 rice terraces have ever since been cared for generation after generation. The red spider lilies are at their most beautiful around the time when the ears of the rice plants hang heavy in mid-late September, and a festival for viewing them is organized yearly. The rice terraces are included in the list of the "100 Terraced Rice Fields of Japan."



Cultural Center Bequeathed by Local Coal Mine Lord

With a donation by the Taku-born coal mine founder Koreyoshi Takatori in 1922, the hall was built along with a library and the park to function as a public hall for the village. The name of the hall comes from the line "Kan' ōtaishun" which can be seen as written by Takatori in the display alcove. The line means that the Japanese bush warbler cries with all its heart in winter, until finally it changes its tone into a beautiful voice to welcome the spring. In these words, the wish for the residents of Taku to learn in this hall, so that they may enter the world as fully-fledged people is contained.

Tour and Tell Saga Heritage

Saga-shi Area

Saga City Cultural Museum Area 2 km from JR Saga station

The Saga City Cultural Museum consists of 7 buildings all situated along the Nagasaki Kaidō Road: Former Koga Bank, Old Koga Residence, Old Ushijima Residence, Old Sansho Bank, Old Fukuda Residence, Old Morinaga Residence and Old Hisatomi Residence. Saga City is responsible for the maintenance and preservation of the buildings.

Opening hours: 9:00 — 17:00 Closed: Mondays (Tuesdays, when Monday is a holiday), the day following a national holiday (unless the following day is a Saturday or Sunday), Dec 29th-Jan 1st.



42 Saga City Cultural Museum Former Koga Bank

Saga-shi Yanagimachi 2-9 Free entrance (exempting the exhibition)【1st Floor Café Restaurant】
☎0952-22-6849(Saga City Cultural Museum) Parking available



MAP

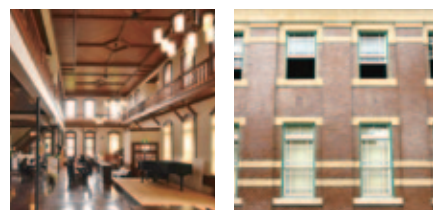


43 Saga City Cultural Museum Old Hisatomi Residence

Saga-shi Yanagimachi 4-16【1st floor: Café, Photo Studio, 2nd floor: Rental Kimono, Workshop Studios】
☎0952-22-6849(Saga City Cultural Museum)



MAP



Valuable Cultural Heritage: Full-scale Western Architecture

Originally established by Zenpei Koga in 1885, the existing building was rebuilt in 1906. The bank grew to be one of the top 5 banks in Kyushu. In 1916 Umanosuke Funaki, a pioneer of western architecture in Saga, became involved with the construction of a large addition to the building, but due to economic recession the bank itself dissolved in 1933. After this the building was reconstructed and came to be used as the Saga Chamber of Commerce, but now it has been restored to the way it was in its prime. A decorative mantelpiece from the Meiji period remains preserved on the inside.



Former Footwear Shop, even the Original Signboard Remains

In 1921 Kameichi Hisatomi let build the house as a footwear wholesale "Hisatomi Shop." The original wood-carved sign reading "Footwear Wholesaler" can still be found in the East Wing. From the outside the top ridge of the roof shows of the wide gable wall, leaving quite an impression. Passing through the path between the main building and western storehouse to the Urajukkengawa River will make you feel like you've time-slipped into the olden days.



44 Saga City Cultural Museum Old Koga Residence

Saga-shi Yanagimachi 3-15
☎0952-22-6849(Saga City Cultural Museum)



MAP

Sense of Unity between a Bank and Residence

The Koga residence was built in 1884 to be the home for Zenpei Koga – the founder and first president of Koga Bank. It stands right to the east of the bank building. The main hall is said to have been built before the opening of the bank. Most materials are still the originals, and in the 15 Japanese-style rooms there are splendid transoms and fusuma-e paintings preserved. The residence is surrounded by a canal and gate, connecting it to the bank naturally.



45 Saga City Cultural Museum Former Sansho Bank

Saga-shi Yanagimachi 3-12
☎0952-22-6849(Saga City Cultural Museum)



MAP

A Bank in Traditional Townhouse Fashion

Built in 1882, the building follows a very traditional architecture style, with spatial design features suitable for its use as a bank. From minute design features in the second-floor tatami room to bolder design on the outside, the building truly is a breath from the early Meiji period. It has since its bank days also been used as a clinic and private residence.



48 Saga City Cultural Museum Old Fukuda Residence

Saga-shi Matsubara 4-3-15 ☎0952-22-6849(Saga City Cultural Museum)



MAP

The home of a Prolific Saga-born Businessman

The residence was built in 1918 and belonged to Keishirō Fukuda, an enterprising businessman from Saga, who during the early 20th century founded and ran many companies, such as Saga Cement and Saga Railroad Company. With a characteristic attention to detail in the receiving space, the whole building with its facilities and furnishings allows a glimpse at Japanese architecture of the time. The building is now also the base for the Saga Nishiki Promotion Council and is used for demonstrations and workshops for the "Saga Nishiki" weaving traditional craft.



46 Saga City Cultural Museum Old Ushijima Residence

Saga-shi Yanagimachi 4-9
☎0952-22-6849(Saga City Cultural Museum)



MAP

Machi-ya Architecture by Saga Castle

Originally built in Asahichō of Saga City, the building is said to have held a wholesale business run by town manager Iisuke Takayanagi for a while. In 1996 it was moved to its current location. The building is thought to be early 18th century architecture, renovated to resemble its current form during the later Meiji period (1868-1912). It's an important structure to understand machi-ya-architecture, as it's considered to be the oldest remaining building in this style in the old town by Saga Castle.



47 Saga City Cultural Museum Old Morinaga Residence

Saga-shi Yanagimachi 4-7 【Northern storehouse】Japanese Black Tea Shop
【Residence】Nabeshima-style Rug Weaving Show
【Southern storehouse】Saga-made Handicraft Exhibition
☎0952-22-6849(Saga City Cultural Museum)



MAP

Leading Tobacco Producer "Morinaga Tobacco Factory"

At the end of the 18th century, the Morinaga Family Tobacco was the province purveyor of tobacco in Saga. The "Fuji no Kemuri," which was sold during the Meiji Period (1868-1912) and had a great aroma, became famous nationally. Even Shigenobu Ōkuma, the 2nd Prime Minister of the empire, is said to have favored this tobacco. The Morinaga family sold not only tobacco, but later also clothes, and the old wooden signboard for the Morinaga Clothing store still hangs on the premises. In addition to the residence, there are also a northern and southern storehouse, constructed in dozō-tsukuri style.

Area Topics

Take a Tea Break During Your Tour of the Saga City Cultural Museum

Learn of Baisao, father of Sencha, at Hizen Tsūsentei



Saga-shi Matsubara 4-6-18
Closed: Mondays
☎0952-65-2152
Parking available for 23 cars

Saga has a long history intertwined with the cultivation of tea, as well as regions such as Kanzaki-shi Higashi-sefuri. Saga-shi is the birthplace of the venerable old man Kōyūgai Baisao – the man who introduced and popularized Sencha as a part of daily life in Japan. At Hizen Tsūsentei you will find an exhibition with materials on tea culture in Saga, as well as the father of Sencha, Baisao. If you get tired of walking around the city, sit down for a serving of sencha here! Hizen Tsūsentei (Tea house, Sweets, Local Products)

SAGATOCO

JR Saga station

2km

Saga City Cultural Museum

(Former Koga Bank • Old Hisatomi Residence • Old Koga Residence • Former Sansho Bank • Old Ushijima Residence • Old Morinaga Residence)

2.5km

Saga City Cultural Museum

(Old Fukuda Residence)

Tour and Tell Saga Heritage

Saga-shi Area



MAP

49 Old Baba Residence

Saga-shi Yanagimachi 1-12
2 km from JR Saga station
※Only possible to view the exterior

Home of the Province Doctor in Saga

It is told that around 1868 the doctor/herbalist and ancestor of the Baba Family, Kōdō Takamune, lived and started his business here. Before that, in records from 1854, it is listed as the residence of Genkyō Koga, of the Okabemokunosuke Samurai Group. The building was most likely built in the 18th-19th centuries, and the wooden gate in front of it is estimated to be from around the same time.



MAP

51 Old Momosaki Residence

Saga-shi Mizugae 3-10-20 2.7 km from JR Saga station
※Only possible to view the exterior

Valuable House with Appearance of Samurai Lands of the Past

The residence, built in the early Meiji Period (1868-1912) consists of two buildings, the wooden main building, with a hipped roof and clay pantiles, and a two-floor wing built in 1931. The residence was inherited by Kinichi Momosaki, who had both poets and doctors of the imperial court among his ancestors and followed both the paths of poetry and medicine during his lifetime. Now the residence retains many typical features of the architectural styles of its time and is a wonderful place to experience the vestiges of the past.



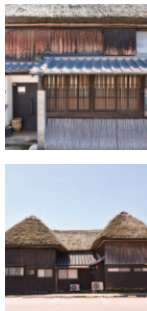
MAP

50 Nonaka Usaen

Saga-shi Zaimoku 1-3-17 3 km from JR Saga station
☎0952-23-2065(Nonaka Usaen) Parking available

Well-established Shop in Chinese Herbal Medicine

Established in 1626 as a business in plant-based drugs, the shop was built in 1796 after receiving permission to manufacture the medicine "Usaien." Though the main building has been rebuilt, the store viewed from the corridor as well as the tatami room "Reizenrō" are still in their original condition. It is said that the Reizenrō was used by province officials for medicine inspections.



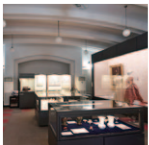
MAP

52 Residence of Ryōichi Yamaguchi

Saga-shi Yokamachi 1368 2.4 km from JR Saga station

Hub of the Saga Art World

The studio and classroom of Ryōichi Yamaguchi (1880 — 1967), founder of the Saga Art Association. A generation of artists was raised here and made the space into a hub of the art world in Saga. The main building was originally located in Suko in Shiroishi-chō but is said to have been reconstructed in its current location by Ryōichi's grandfather Baidō in 1830-1843 when he received rank as an imperial doctor.



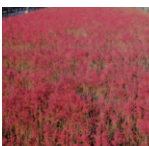
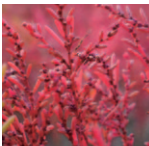
MAP

53 Chōkokan Museum

Saga-shi Matsubara 2-5-22 1.8 km from JR Saga station
Entrance fee: ¥300 (Free for middle schoolers and younger)
Closed: The Exhibition room is open only during ongoing exhibitions (check from website) ※Exterior can be viewed any time
☎0952-23-4200 (Nabeshima Hōkōkai) Parking available

Western Architecture in Early Showa Saga

Established in 1927 by Naomitsu Nabeshima, 12th generation marquis, as the first museum in Saga Prefecture. At the time it was called a "Bronze Statue Park" and housed bronze statues of for example the 10th generation province lord Naomasa Nabeshima. The building itself is valuable since it's one of the first in the prefecture built in reinforced concrete. Now the building is a historical museum called "Chōkokan."



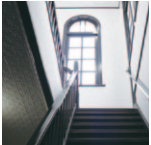
MAP

54 Higashiyoka-higata Shichimensō Tidal Flat

Saga-shi Higashiyokachō Tanaka, Shimokoga 12 km from JR Saga station
☎0952-45-1022 (Saga City Higashiyoka Branch) Parking available

Crimson Carpet of the Late Fall Tideland

The Shichimensō (Suaeda japonica) is an extremely rare plant, which inhabits the Higashiyoka-higata and only few other places. When late fall comes, the color of the grass turns red and dyes the whole tideland crimson, earning the nickname "autumn leaves of the sea." Spread out over a 1.6 km stretch, the Shichimensō and migratory birds are a treasure of Saga that can only be admired during the specific season. With Unzen to the South, and the open fields of Saga as well the Tenzan and Sefuri Mountain ranges to the north, you can make a full turn and enjoy the panoramic scenery.



MAP

55 Togami Electric Manufacturing, Main Building

Saga-shi Ōtakara-kitamachi 1-1 900 m from JR Saga station

Cultural property tells the story of industrial development in Saga

Togami Electric Manufacturing Co Ltd was established in 1925 by Nobufumi Togami. This building was completed the same year in August, at the time a two-floor structure. Later, in 1938 the building was structurally reconstructed to its current form – wooden and three floors high. It's a valuable structure, with much devoted to both the design and architectural style; and has been maintained with care ever since it first was built. The main building is to this day used for company operations, as well as to host local events such as the TOGAMI Fureai Festival, which brings locals and employees together.

Area Topics

Information Base for the World-Class Tidal Flat

Higashiyoka-higata Visitor Center "Higasasu"



The Higashiyoka-higata tidal flat is designated as a protected wetland under the Ramsar Convention. It is also visited by many migratory birds like plovers and sandpipers, and inhabited by unique indigenous creatures such as mudskippers, odontamblyopus lacepedii and fiddler crabs. From the observatory floor you can enjoy a panoramic view of the tidelands and rural country around.

DATA

Saga-shi Higashiyokachō Tanaka 2757-4
Western side of Higata Yoka Park
Free Entrance, 9:00 — 17:00
Closed: Mondays (the following weekday if Monday is a holiday),
New Year's Holidays (Dec 29th- Jan 3rd)
☎0952-37-0515

SAGATOCO

Old Baba Residence	2km		
Residence of Ryōichi Yamaguchi	2.4km		
Old Momosaki Residence	2.7km		
Nonaka Usaen	3km		
		JR Saga station	
	900m		Togami Electric Manufacturing, Main Building
	1.8km		Chōkokan Museum
	12km		Higashiyoka-higata Shichimensō Tidal Flat

Tour and Tell Saga Heritage

Kanzaki-shi Area



56 Niō Gate of the Niiyama Shrine

Kanzaki-shi Kanzakimachi Ikuwa 1692-2 5.2 km from JR Kanzaki station
☎0952-53-0340(Niiyama Shrine) Parking Available



MAP

Old Mountain Gate Worshipping the Two Kings

The Niiyama district this shrine is located in is also famous for its cherry and maple blossoms. The shrine deities are the gods of the mountain and agriculture, and among the locals they are also known as the mountain kings. The Niō gate by the entrance was built in the Edo Period (1603-1868) and it is a single-tiered gate with eight secondary pillars supporting the for main pillars. The Niō sculpture is among the oldest in Kyushu, with the open-mouthed form towards the right and the closed-mouthed form to the left as seen from the gate.



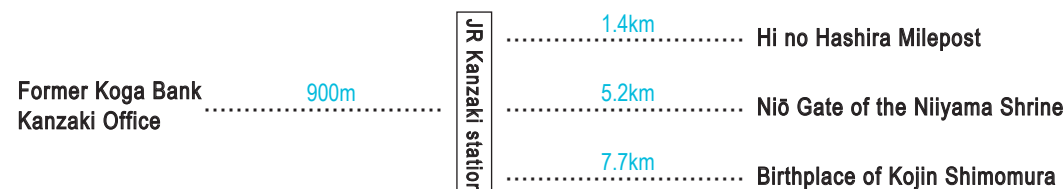
59 Former Koga Bank Kanzaki Office

Kanzaki-shi Kanzakimachi Kanzaki 3-438 900 m from JR Kanzaki station
☎0952-37-3593(Kanzaki City) Parking available



MAP

SAGATOQO



57 Hi no Hashira Milepost

Kanzaki-shi Kanzakimachi Tamichigari 1080
1.4 km from JR Kanzaki station Parking available



MAP

The Only Remaining Milepost from the Nagasaki Kaidō

In the Edo period (1603-1868), there were mileposts set every ri (approx. 4 km) on the left of the road to Edo (Tokyo) from the ridge of the three provinces Chikuzen, Chikugo and Hizen. The Hi no Hashira or "Pillar of Fire" is one of them, and is as the name suggests a brilliant red. The name was originally given because of the red tree Torii Gate of Kushidagū Shrine that once stood at the same location. The Ibo Jizō statue on the top is said to prefer roasted beans and stand on lifted earth to try and beat the height of Mt. Sefuri.



Taishō Period Bank on the Nagasaki Kaidō

Handiwork of the Saga Western-style architect Umanosuke Funaki, this bank was built in 1914. The building has a thatched hip-roof, a semicircle dormer window, and ornaments at both ends of the roof. After the Koga Bank dissolved in 1933 the building was used as a maternity hospital and dental clinic. The exterior is clearly in a western style, but also utilizes conventional techniques such as using traditional wagoya-framing to hold up the roof.



60 Sefuri Shrine Kamimiya Benzaiten Treasure Hall and Related Heritage Sites

Kanzaki-shi Sefurimachi Haramaki 1359-5 23 km from JR Kanzaki station Parking available



MAP



Worship for Plentiful Grain, Riches, and Good Fortune

Conflicts among farmers on the border between the Saga and Fukuoka provinces starting during 1681 — 1684 developed into a legal dispute between the two provinces. In 1693 when the Saga side came out victorious the province lord at the time, Tsunashige Nabeshima, decided that the provincial border should be left for future generations and let build a treasure hall. The strong hopes for it are clear in the placing of the treasure hall on the summit of Mt. Sefuri.



58 Birthplace of Kojin Shimomura

Kanzaki-shi Chiyodachō Sakimura 895-1 7.7 km from JR Kanzaki station
Free Entrance 10:00 — 17:00 (December to February until 16:30)
Closed: Mondays, December 29th-January 3rd ☎0952-44-5167(Shimomura Kojin Seika) Parking available



MAP



Imbued with the Spirit of Kojin Shimomura

Born in Chiyoda, this is the childhood home of the educator and author Kojin Shimomura. It's said that his accountant grandfather inherited the building within the Hasuike Nabeshima residence and had it relocated. The rooms and garden of the house are described in Shimomura's work "Jirō Monogatari," and the movie made based on the book was also filmed here. The building is also valuable on its own as an early-Meiji period (1868-1912) construction, a tangible breath from the past.

Tour and Tell Saga Heritage

Tosu-shi, Miyaki-chō, Yoshinogari-chō, Kiyama-chō Area



61 Tsutsujidera Daikōzenji Temple

Miyaki-gun Kiyama-chō Sonobe 3628 4.5 km from JR Kiyama station
☎0942-92-2627(Daikōzenji) Parking available (Fees apply depending on the time)



MAP



62 Araho Shrine

Miyaki-gun Kiyama-chō Miyaura 2050
3.1 km from JR Kiyama station



MAP

SAGATOQO



Ten Thousand Azaleas at One Glance!
The Place to Be for
Photography Enthusiasts

The temple is said to have its beginnings in the Nara period (710 — 794) when the high priest Gyōki engraved the Ekādāsamukha bodhisattva here. Through the passing of seasons, the temple is painted in different colors by summer green and autumn red maples, and from late April to May the azaleas blossom, giving the temple the nickname “Tsutsujidera” or “Azalea temple.” Climb the stone steps into a calm atmosphere, and you’ll find the Niō-gate made from materials hundreds of years old, and the main temple with its thatched roof.



Historical Shrine found in Records
from Classical Japan

The shrine is located at the southern foot of Mt. Kizan, the mountain which houses the National Historic Site of the Kii Castle ruins. The Shrine is mentioned in records all the way from the Heian Period (794 — 1185) and has high historical value. The worship hall built in 1855, the nagare-zukuri (streamlined roof style) sanctuary built in 1858 and confinement hall from 1884 remain. Events such as a “Natsugoshimatsuri” summer festival and “Miyukimatsuri” festival with folk performances devoted to the gods, are held here throughout the year.



63 Amabuki Brewery

Miyaki-gun Miyaki-chō Higashio 2894 3.6 km from JR Nakabaru station
☎0942-89-2001(Amabuki Shuzō) Parking available



MAP



65 Chinju no Mori Shimoishinari Tenmangū

Kanzaki-gun Yoshinogari-chō Ishinari 2351-1
4.4 km from JR Yoshinogarikōen station



MAP



Sake Brewery Blessed
by the Sefuri Mountains

Established in the Genroku years (1688 — 1704) of the Edo period, this brewery is famous for the sake brand “Amabuki.” The main building was built in the early Meiji period (1868 — 1912) and has since been repaired while loyally preserving the original. The building is among other things used to organize events. Moving deeper on the grounds you’ll find a preparatory storehouse from the later Meiji period and an underground storeroom that is said to be the first civilian storehouse in the prefecture made in concrete.



Tenmangū Shrine Built
on the Northeastern
“Demon’s Gate” of a Mansion

Legend says that when Sugawara no Hiroharu, descendant of Sugawara no Michizane, moved his territory here in 1572 he let build a shrine on the Demon’s Gate — gate traditionally built in the direction where misfortune is believed to come from - of the mansion, and enshrined Michizane there. A Hizen Torii-gate and an idol from the Muromachi period (1336 — 1573) can still be found here. You can feel the presence of history surrounded by a 550-year-old camphor tree, a 450-year-old ginkgo tree and the “Maekawa” zanja-irrigation system.

JR Kiyama station

3.1km Araho Shrine
4.5km Tsutsujidera Daikōzenji Temple

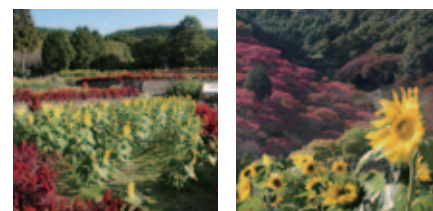
JR Nakabaru Station 3km Sunflowers and Wax Trees of Yamada
3.6km Amabuki Brewery
JR Tosu station 8.4km Old Tree Grove, Kawauchi Ōyamazumi Shrine
JR Yoshinogarikōen station 4.4km Chinju no Mori Shimoishinari Tenmangū

Tosu-shi, Miyaki-chō, Yoshinogari-chō, Kiyama-chō Area



66 Sunflowers and Wax Trees of Yamada

Miyaki-gun Miyaki-chō Ōaza Minobaru Next to Yamada Mizube Park, 3 km from JR Nakabaru station
☎0942-96-4208(Miyakichō Tourism Association) Parking available



Splendid Contrast between Yellow Sunflowers and Red Autumn Leaves of Wax Trees

Located between mountains, in the southeastern Sefuri mountains area, Yamada district has protected and nurtured undeveloped woodland. The clear water of the Shōzugawa River runs through here, and water-filled paddy fields are all around. With the small streams, fall-blooming sunflowers, and wax trees you can see spreading out from the sunflower garden, this is a woodland landscape representative of the area.



64 Old Tree Grove, Kawauchi Ōyamazumi Shrine

Tosu-shi Kawachimachi, Taniguchi 8.4 km from JR Tosu station ☎0942-85-3605 (Tosu City)



Local Deity Shrine by the Salt-Trading Route, Protected Through the Generations

This shrine has for a long time been protected by residents in both the Motomura and Taniguchi districts. Once it was remote land belonging to the Tsushima province. The area was part of a trading route known as the "Salt-buying ridge." On the shrine grounds, around the main shrine which was built in the later Edo period (1603—1868), several giant trees can be found. Gingko, yew plum pine, and maple among others, nine of the trees on the grounds are listed among the "Famous and Ancient Trees of Saga." To match the autumn foliage there are illuminations every year during the fall season.

"Saga Heritage Sites"

are "beautiful sceneries" and "locally symbolic buildings" that have been recognized by the prefectural governor. To become a Saga Heritage site the autonomous entity makes an application which is evaluated by a commission of inquiry.

Q:What, concretely, can be recognized as a Saga Heritage Site?

Saga Heritage Sites are all "Built structures" or "Districts."

Previously Designated Cultural Properties and Historic Sites on a national or prefectural level are not eligible, but for example a beautiful landscape with a designated site at its center can be recognized as Saga Heritage.

Districts

A group of areas, where nature and human creation coexist in harmony, where history or natural features convey the unique charm of Saga.
(Natural landscapes; historical landscapes; agricultural, mountain and fishing village landscapes; industrial landscapes; panoramic landscapes)



Built Structures

Buildings and structures which, as symbolic of the area, have high cultural value, or are essential in the landscape.
(Architectural structure, public works structure, manufactured articles)



Q:How does applying for "Saga Heritage Site" status work?

As a rule, if you're considering applying, you should first consult with the city/town. After this the city/town can conduct the application. For details, please reach out to the prefectural landscape contact or the city/town you're in.

Q:What is considered in the evaluation?

- ①If the site has value as a Saga Heritage Site
- ②If there is a story/legend of some kind associated with the site
- ③If efforts have been made to preserve/make practical use of the site.

Evaluation is conducted by licensed persons in the relevant field (landscape, architecture, cultural property, regional development) who visit and inspect the site in person.