

The background of the cover is a photograph of a park with many cherry blossom trees in full bloom. The sky is blue with some white clouds. In the upper right, a red lattice tower is visible. Several transparent spheres are floating in the air, each containing a different scene from Fukui City: a bridge at night, a traditional Japanese building, a modern building, a tree with yellow leaves, and a shrine. The title 'Fukui City Guidebook' is written in a white, cursive font with a black outline, centered in the middle of the image.

Fukui City Guidebook

Welcome to Fukui City

Home to bountiful nature and rich history

Fukui City is the capital of Fukui Prefecture with an estimated population of around 260,000 people. Fukui City overcame the destruction caused by a major air raid in 1945 and the 1948 Great Fukui Earthquake leading the phoenix into becoming its symbol.

Delicious rice and vegetables are cultivated here thanks to the fertile soil and the abundant water from the three rivers of Kuzuryu, Hino, and Asuwa. In addition, the western side of Fukui faces the Sea of Japan, where the famous Echizen crabs are caught during the winter.

The Ichijodani Asakura Clan Ruins, which have been in the spotlight in recent years, are the castle town ruins of the Asakura Family who ruled the Echizen Province (Present-day Fukui) for 103 years. 400 years after being burned down by Oda Nobunaga, the ruins of the town were discovered and excavated. Recently, the townscape has been rebuilt leading to tourists from all over the country to come visit.

Fukui City is where you can enjoy nature, history, and great food. We invite you to come on a leisurely visit.



Asakura Yumemaru

Fukui City's Mascot

Asakura Yumemaru, Yumemaru-kun, is the spirit that resides in what is known as "Japan's Pompeii", the famous Ichijodani Asakura Clan Ruins. Yumemaru-kun wants to show all of Japan the beauty of the Asakura Clan Ruins. Yumemaru-kun's trademark appearance features his Karamon Helmet, based on the Karamon Gate, which is the symbol of Asakura Clan Ruins.

Fukui City Tourist Information Center

Location: Fukui Station West Exit

Hours: 8:30 AM ~ 7:00 PM

Contact: 0776-20-5348

Offers various services including tourist information, ticket purchases, luggage transportation, and more. Also includes rental services for bikes (Fuku-chari), wheelchairs, and rainwear.



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Fukui City Map & Transportation Information



Community Bus "Smile"

Begins at Fukui Station West Gate. Has four routes that are each around 30 minutes long.

smile.ftmo.co.jp (JP Only)

¥100 Yen



Keifuku Bus

Begins at Fukui Station. Offers several routes through urban and suburban areas.

bus.keifuku.co.jp

¥Varies by stop

Sat., Holidays, and New Year (12/30~1/3):
Special unlimited ride day pass
"Holiday Free Ride Ticket" available
Adults: 1000 Yen - Children: 500 Yen



Fukui Railway

Runs from Fukui Station to Tawaramachi Station. Also runs to Sabae and Echizen City in the opposite direction. Runs on 30 minute intervals.

fukutetsu.jp (JP Only)

¥Varies by stop



Echizen Railway

Runs from Fukui Station to places such as Sakai City, Eiheiji Town, and Katsuyama City. Runs on 30 minute intervals.

echizen-tetudo.co.jp (JP only)

¥Varies by stop

Special Ticket Information

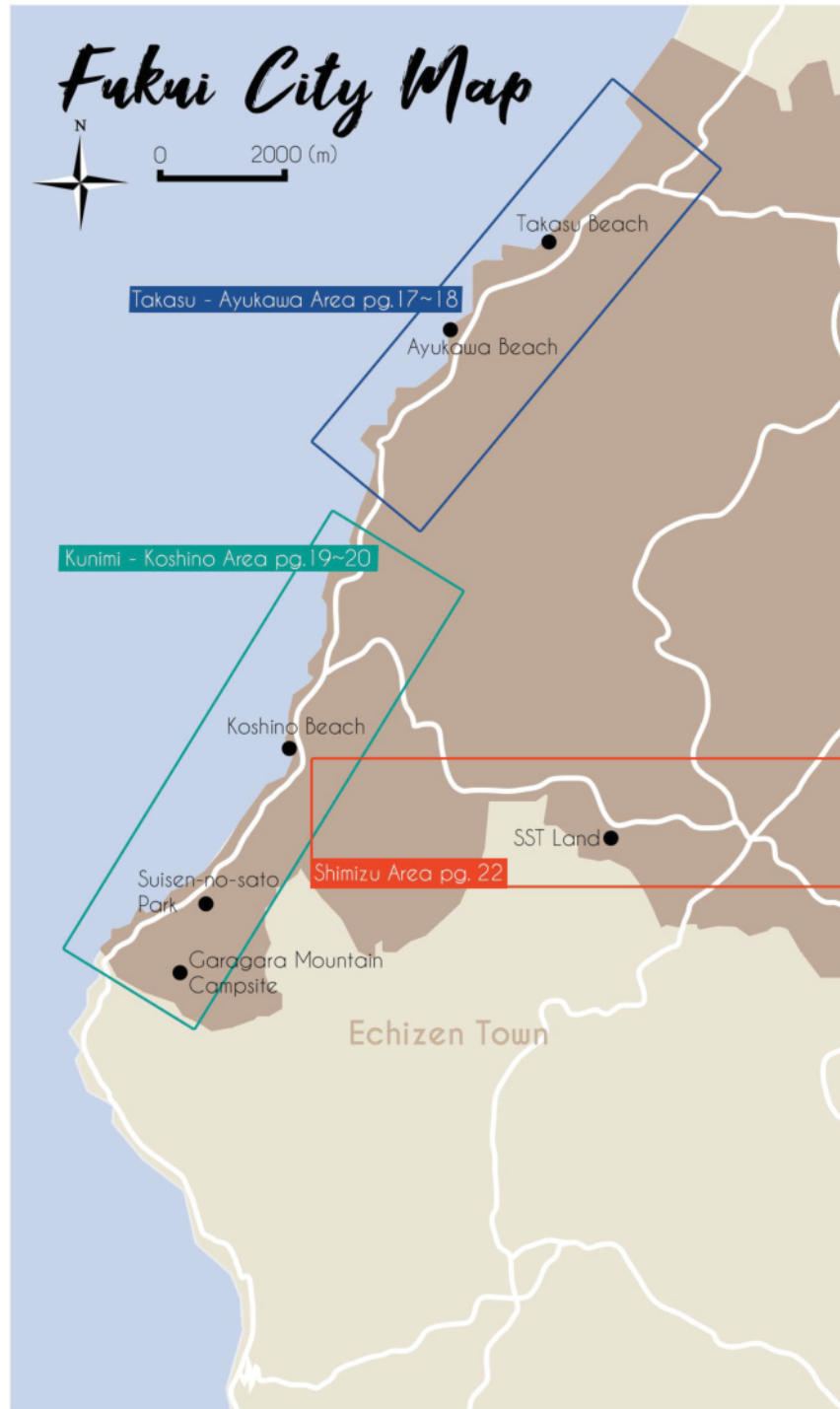
Fukui Railways - Echizen Railways Collaboration:
Sat., Sun., Holidays: 1 Day Unlimited Pass
Adults: 1400 Yen - Children 700 Yen

Fukui Railways : Sat., Sun., Holidays:
1 Day Unlimited Pass.

Adults: 560 Yen - Children 280 Yen

Echizen Railways: Sat., Sun., Holidays, New Years:
1 Day Unlimited Pass

Adults: 1000 Yen - Children 500 Yen



Rental Cycles "Fuku-chari"

Rent compact electric-powered bicycles perfect for short distance travel.

Rent and return at any of the 16 locations (Pg 14,16)

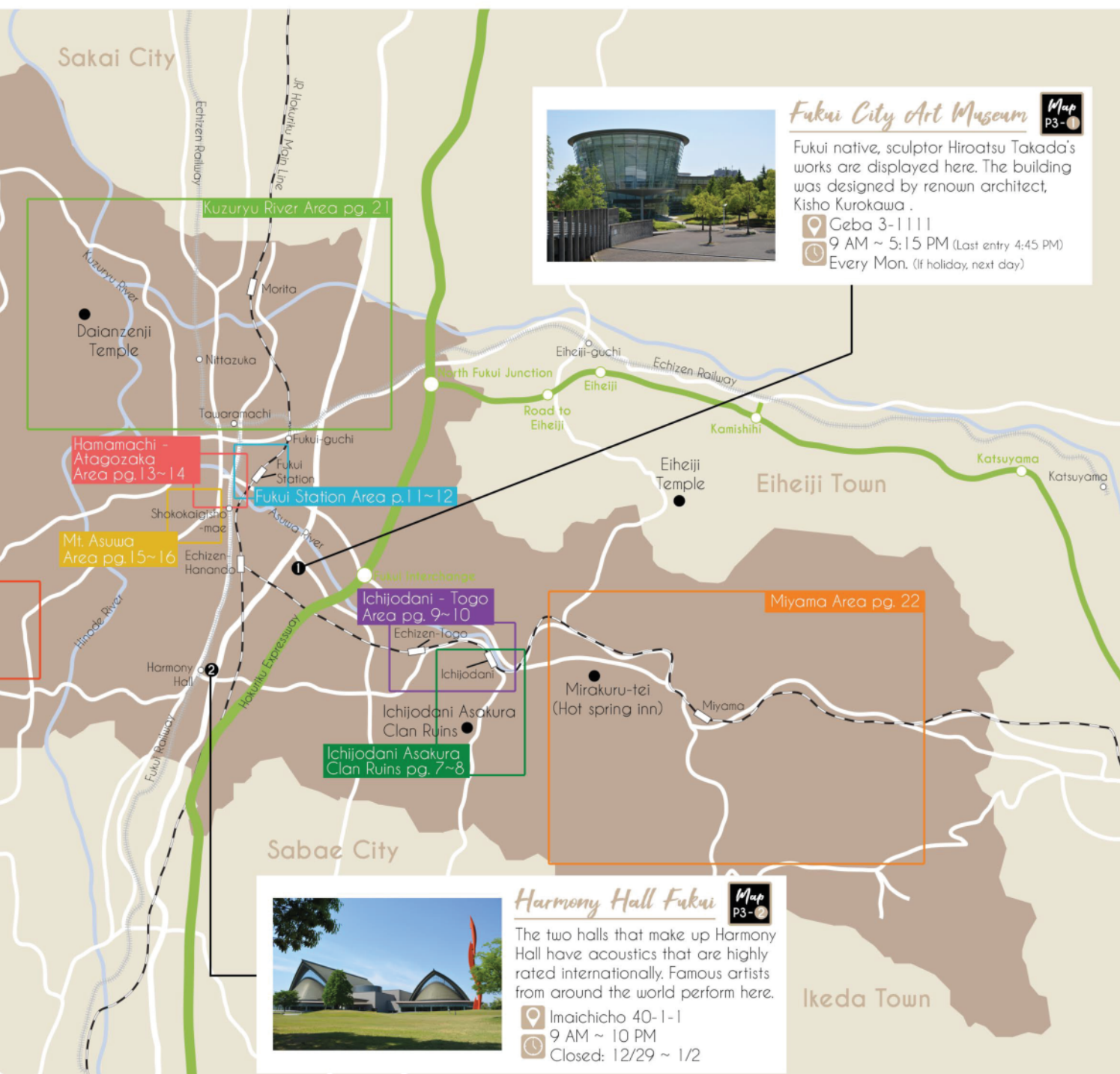
🕒 8:00 AM ~ 9:00 PM

¥ Within 4 hours 200 Yen
1 Day (Until 9:00) 500 Yen

? Bicycle Utilization Promotion
Division Fukui City Hall 6th Floor

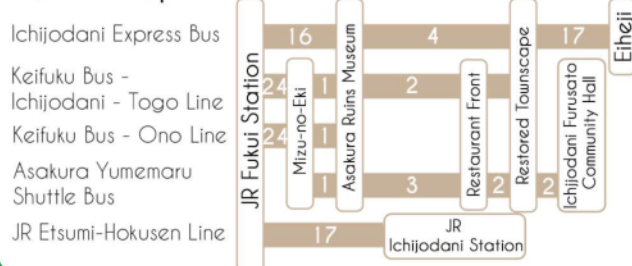


For any questions regarding transportation, feel free to call the Fukui City Tourist Information Center at: 0776-20-5348



Ichijodani Asakura Clan Ruins Access

Route Map *Numbers on map equates to number of minutes



Service Days - Fees

Ichijodani Express Bus	Runs Everyday	One way - 610 Yen (Fukui Station - Ruins Museum)
Keifuku Bus - Ichijodani - Togo Line	Runs Everyday	Special Free Ride Tickets To Asakura / Eihei: 1500 Yen (Sold at Fukui Station East Gate Ticket Center & West Gate Info Center)
Keifuku Bus - Ono Line	Runs on Sat., Sun., Holidays	
Asakura Yumemaru Shuttle Bus	Runs on Sat., Sun., Holidays	Free
JR Etsumi - Kita Line	Runs Everyday	One way- 240 Yen

Fukui City Event Schedule



Dec.

Bell of New Year's Eve (31st)

- ? Traditional ceremony of ringing the bell to bring in the New Year.
- 📍 Most Temples at Midnight

Station Area Illumination (Early Dec.)

- ? Beautiful illuminations are decorated around the station area.
- 📍 Around Fukui Station

Jan.

Hatsumode (1st ~ 3rd)

- ? Tradition of visiting shrines or temples for the new year.
- 📍 Shrines / Temples

Dondo Yaki (Depends on location)

- ? Tradition of burning new year ornaments
- 📍 Shrines

Koshino Daffodil Festival (Mid-Jan.)

- ? The daffodils fully bloom during this period
- 📍 Suisen-no-Sato Park (Suisen Dome)
Ikuracho 43-25



Feb.

Setsubun (3rd)

- ? The separation of the seasons. Beans are tossed during this holiday to ward off demons.
- 📍 Shrines and Temples



Mar.

Spring Newly-Brewed Sake Festival (Mid-Mar.)

- ? A festival to celebrate newly-brewed sake.
- 📍 Fukui Phoenix Plaza
Tawara 1-13-6

Yokokan Garden Illumination (Mid-Mar., Sat. Sun.)

- ? Enjoy the rare sight of Yokokan Garden illuminated at night.
- 📍 Yokokan Garden

Apr.

Fukui Cherry Blossom Festival (Mar. ~ Apr.)

- ? Enjoy the cherry blossom trees in full bloom. Many areas also will have light ups including Atagozaka.
- 📍 Asuwa River bank, Central Park, Atagozaka, etc.



Yokokan Spring Tea Ceremony

(Mid-Apr. ~ Early-May. : Sat., Sun., & holidays only)

- ? Enjoy some tea in the tranquil garden full of beautiful scenery.
- 📍 Yokokan Garden

May

Echizen Kyokusui no En (Early May)

- ? Tanka (short poem) writing and reading performances.
- 📍 Ichijodani Asakura Clan Ruins

Seasonal Flowers of Fukui

Daffodil

(Jan. ~ Feb.)
Echizen Coast



Plum Blossom

(Feb. ~ Mar.)
Yokokan Garden
- Saikoji Temple



Japanese Witch-Hazel

(Mar.)
Ichijodani



Sakura

(Apr.)
Asuwa River - Mt. Asuwa
Asuwa Shrine - Fukui Castle
Ruins - Ichijodani



Rapeseed

(Apr.)
Kamowatari Park





Jun.

Daianzenji Temple Iris Festival (Jun.)

- ? Enjoy the fully bloomed iris flowers at this peaceful temple.
- 📍 Daianzenji Temple
Tanotanicho 21-4

Jul.

Beach Opening (Early July)

- ? Enjoy the summer by spending it on one of Fukui's beautiful beaches.
- 📍 Takasu / Ayukawa / Koshino Beach

Ohori no Akari (Late July)

- ? Candles are floated in the moat of the former Fukui castle in remembrance for those who lost their lives there during World War 2.
- 📍 Fukui Prefectural Government

Aug.

Fukui Phoenix Festival (Early Aug.)

- ? Enjoy the Phoenix Fireworks Display, Yosakoi Icchorai Dance, and the Marching for Millions of People in this large festival.
- 💻 fukui-fes.com (JP only)

Togo Otsukune Festival (Early Aug.)

- ? A festival held to celebrate the harvest of rice.
- 📍 JR Echizen Togo Station

Sengoku Festival - Mantoya Lantern Festival (Late Aug.)

- ? Enjoy powerful displays of Sengoku Era (Warring states period) demonstrations during the Sengoku Festival or the beauty of the lanterns during the Mantoya Lantern Festival.
- 📍 Ichijodani Asakura Clan Ruins



Sept.

Yokokan Autumn Tea Ceremony

(Mid-Oct. ~ Early Nov. : Sat., Sun., & holidays)

- ? Enjoy tea surrounded by the beauty of Autumn.
- 📍 Yokokan Garden

Asakura Trail Run (Mid-Mar.)

- ? Run through the historical Ichijodani Asakura Clan Ruins area while enjoying the scenery.
- 📍 Ichijodani Asakura Clan Ruins

Oct.

Yokokan Autumn Illumination

(Late Sept. ~ Late Nov. : Sat., Sun.)

- ? The beauty of the Yokokan is highlighted during the night.
- 📍 Yokokan Garden

Miyanoshita Cosmos Festival

(Late Sept. ~ Oct.)

- ? Enjoy the full bloom of the pretty cosmos.
- 📍 Miyanoshita Cosmos Park
Egamicho

Soba Festival in Miyama

(Late Oct.)

- ? Enjoy delicious buckwheat noodles (soba) in beautiful Miyama.
- 📍 Miyama Kigokoro Bunka no Sato
Miyamacho 2-8

Nov.

Fishing Echizen Gani Crab Season

- ? Fukui's famous Echizen Gani Crabs become available until March. This luxurious cuisine is a must try.

**Beach
Morning Glory**
(May ~ Jun.)
Echizen Coast



Hydrangea
(Jun.)
Mt. Asuwa



**Japanese
Bush Clover**
(Sept.)
Zuigenji Temple



**Red Spider
Lily**
(Sept.)
Ichijodani



Cosmos
(Sept. ~ Oct.)
Miyanoshita
Cosmos Park



**Autumn
Leaves**
(Nov.)
Asuwa Shrine -
Yokokan Garden



Ichijodani Asakura Clan Ruins

The Asakura Clan ruled over the Echizen province for 103 years over 5 generations until Oda Nobunaga defeated the clan and razed their settlement. About 400 years later, the ruins of the castle town have been uncovered, leaving an impression on those who visit.



Karamon Gate



The symbol of the Asakura Clan Ruins, "Karamon", was said to be built as a gesture of respect to Asakura Yoshikage (the 5th head of the Asakura Clan) as the Shounji temple gate. The Karamon we know today was rebuilt in the Edo period. The Asakura clan's family crest, Mitsumori-mokko, has been carved onto the front of Karamon.

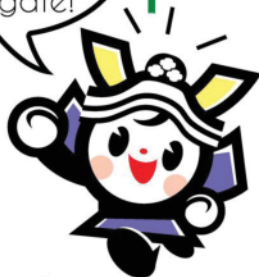


Asakura Yakata (Mansion) Ruins



This was the mansion of 5th head of the Asakura Clan, Asakura Yoshikage. The structure contained a tea room, a kitchen, Japan's oldest flower bed, etc. Looking at the sophisticatedly-arranged stone gardens on the eastern mountainside, it is easy to see that the area was heavily influenced by Kyoto.

My helmet is the same as this gate!



Ichijodani Asakura Clan Ruins were designated as a Japan Heritage site in 2019.



Restored Townscape



The buildings of the samurai family, surrounding villagers, and merchants have been restored using excavation details as a foundation. The townscape has been faithfully reconstructed by using uncovered artifacts and architectural remains as a reference. Living conditions of the era can be determined by analyzing the excavated items left behind.

📍 Kidonouchicho 28-37

🕒 9 AM ~ 5 PM
(Entrance until 4:30 PM)

¥ 220 Yen
Musuem + Townscape Package: 250 Yen

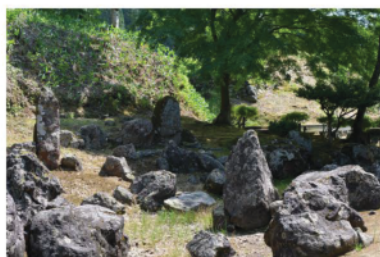


(Special Place
of
Scenic Beauty)

Nanyoji Garden Ruins



Nanyoji was a nunnery which was renovated by the 3rd head of the Asakura clan for his daughter. The garden was then used by the 5th head, Yoshikage to entertain the shogun, Ashikaga Yoshiaki.



(Special Place
of
Scenic Beauty)

Yudono Garden Ruins



The oldest garden in Ichijodani. From this area, one can view the Asakura Mansion ruins down below. This garden has limited information available about it so it is sometimes joked as being the "You-don't-know" Garden.

Discover the splendor of the castle town ruins from the Warring States Period

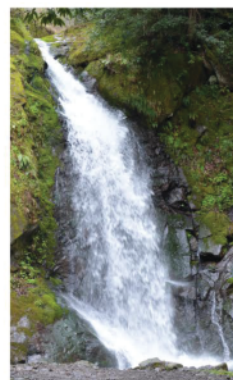
Special History, Exceptional Beauty, Extraordinary Cultural Value



Ichijo Waterfall

Map
P8-8

This waterfall has the approximate height of 17 meters. It is often said that the famous Sasaki Kojiro mastered his secret technique, "Tsubame Gaeshi" (Swallow counter), at this waterfall.



Sasaki Kojiro Statue

Map
P8-9

The statue of famous swordsman Sasaki Kojiro, who is said to have been born around the Ichijodani area. He was known as the rival to another famous swordsman, Miyamoto Musashi.



Nakano-goten Ruins

Map
P8-10

These palace ruins show the foundation and the pond that had once existed. These ruins are also surrounded by earthen walls, and the remains of the dried out moat are still visible. It was the residence of the 5th head, Yoshikage's mother.



Ichijodani Restaurant

Map
P8-7

Enjoy Japanese-style cuisine made from fresh ingredients gathered domestically. This fancy restaurant is the ideal place to eat while visiting the area. Enjoy the experience alone, with a friend, or in a group as any number of people can be accommodated.



Kidonouchicho 10-48
 11 AM ~ 5 PM
Closed Tues.
(If Tues. is a holiday, Wed. is closed)

Suwa Yakata Garden Ruins

Map
P8-6

This is the garden of Koshosho's (Yoshikage's wife) residence. It contains the most iconic artifact, a 4-meter-tall stone monument. Hand carved on this rock is the Buddhist names of the 3rd and 4th heads of the Asakura clan. The tree turns into a vibrant yellow color during the fall.



(Special Place
of
Scenic Beauty)

Ichijodani / Togo Area

One can experience history through the ruins and the museum that exist here around the Asakura Clan Ruins area. The western side, where the Asakura branch castle once stood, is the Togo area, in which the atmosphere of the old castle town still resides.

Excavated Residential Area

This area stretches from north to south along the main street of the town. The eastern mountainside has many temple remains, and many important artifacts have been discovered there. The area contains the remains of buildings for dyers, sword sharpeners, a doctor, and others.



Ichijodani Asakura Family Site Museum

This museum is where artifacts from Asakura Clan Ruins are collected, organized, and displayed. Come view the history of the Asakura Clan Ruins through what remained.

-  Abakacho 4-10
-  9 AM ~ 5 PM (Entrance until 4:30 PM)
- Closed 12/29 ~ 1/2
-  100 Yen
- Museum + Townscape Package 250 Yen



Nishiyama Koshoji Temple Ruins

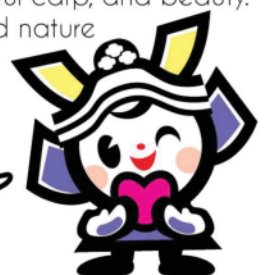
Ichijodani's largest temple remains are located near the JR Ichijodani Station. 40 stone Buddhas and many more smaller Buddhas and pagodas are left from when the temple was still in use. The temple was moved to central Fukui City where it is revered for its "Fukui Daibutsu", a large Buddha statue.



Dodengawa River

Long ago, this river was used for irrigation purposes. Since the 1990's, it has been admired by visitors and locals for its seasonal flowers, colorful carp, and beauty. The harmony between the town and nature has remained unchanged throughout the years.

The carp here are lovely!



Experience the history of the Asakura Clan and the Sengoku Era



Ichijodani Asakura Mizu-no-Eki

Map
PIO-5

Renewed in the April of 2015, this roadside station sells fresh vegetable and special products. The restaurant serves Fukui's local delicacies.

📍 Abakanakajimacho 1-1-1
🕒 9 AM ~ 6 PM Closed Wed.



Togo Castle Ruins

Map
PIO-8

Built during the Muromachi Era (1394 ~ 1428), the Togo Castle was the most prosperous castle at the time. During spring, cherry blossoms make the area a sight to see.



Imamura Residence & Sake Brewery's White Wall

Map
PIO-6

The residence was built during the Meiji Period by a wealthy farmer. The white wall was built during the Edo period and is a pretty backdrop to the field in front.

📍 Yasuharacho



Eishoji Temple

Map
PIO-9

This temple is said to be named after the wife of Asakura Takakage (1st head of the Asakura clan), Katsuramuro Eisho.

📍 Togonikacho 26-11



Hokoji's Weeping Cherry Blossom

Map
PIO-7

The temple is located at the base of Makiyama mountain. The further up you progress up the stairs, the more of the weeping cherry blossom you will see.

📍 Tochiizumicho 31-26-1



Reisenji Temple

Map
PIO-10

The head of the Togo castle, Hasegawa Hidekazu, moved a training gym to this place. There is a tombstone here in his honor.

📍 Togonikacho 27-4

Fukui Station Area

Come enjoy tranquil residential and shopping areas while also being close to places of historical importance such as the feudal lord Matsudaira's secondary residence, Yokokan Garden, and the Sengoku Period military commander, Shibata Katsuie's Kitanosho Castle ruins.



Place of Scenic Beauty

Yokokan Garden



This garden was once the Fukui feudal lord Matsudaira's secondary residence. Nationally designated as a place of scenic beauty as it represents the gardens of the Edo period. The garden is made up of an elegant villa and a large pond. The graceful scenery changes each season, each with its own appeal.

📍 Hoei 3-11

🕒 Mar. 1 ~ Nov. 5: 9 AM ~ 7 PM
(Entrance until 6:30 PM)

Nov. 6 ~ Last day of Feb.: 9 AM ~ 5 PM
(Entrance until 4:30 PM)

Closed 12/28 ~ 1/4

¥ Adults 220 Yen



Fukui City History Museum



Located next to Yokokan Garden, this museum displays many cultural items from the Echizen Matsudaira Clan. The museum also offers English voice explanation stations and an English phone app that explains the various displays throughout the museum. One can learn about various aspects of Fukui's history.



Henshin Echizen-ya

Located inside the museum, one can experience wearing the traditional kimono or armor set for free.

🕒 Sat. & Sun.: 1 PM ~ 3:30 PM

📍 Hoei 3-12-1

🕒 Mar. 1 ~ Nov. 5: 9 AM ~ 7 PM
(Entrance until 6:30 PM)

Nov. 6 ~ Last day of Feb.: 9 AM ~ 5 PM
(Entrance until 4:30 PM)

Closed 12/28 ~ 1/4

¥ Adults 220 Yen



Yamazatoguchi Gate



Tokugawa Ieyasu's second son, Yuki Hideyasu, became the first feudal lord of Fukui domain and constructed the Fukui Castle. In current days only the stone foundations and an inner moat remain. Yamazatoguchi Gate was reconstructed in March of 2018, making it a place worth visiting.

📍 Ote 3-17-1



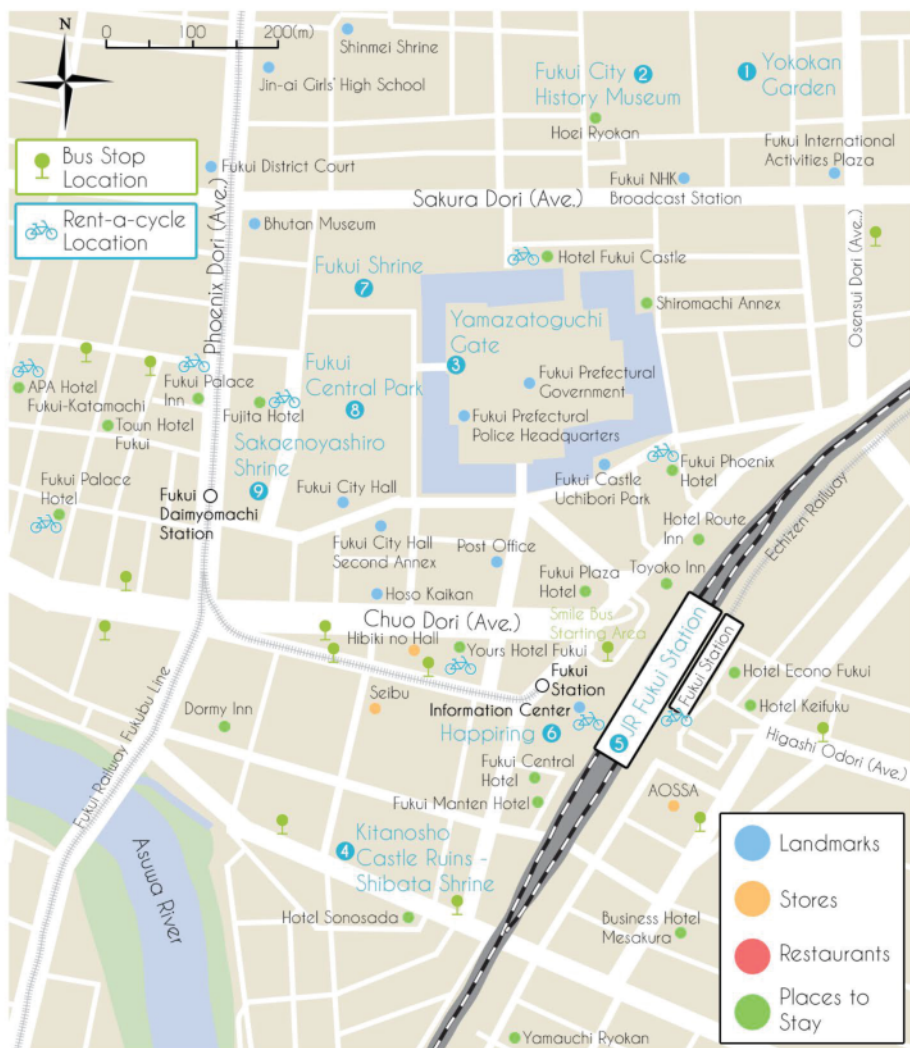
Kitanosho Castle Ruins / Shibata Park



Shibata Katsuie constructed the Kitanosho castle after suppressing the Ikko-Ikki uprising (against samurai rule in the 15th to 16th century). Shibata Katsuie along with his wife, Oichi-no-kata, committed suicide after being defeated by Toyotomi Hideyoshi. Shibata Shrine is dedicated to Shibata Katsuie and Oichi-no-kata.

📍 Chuo 1-21-17

The entrance into the historical capital city of Fukui



Fukui Shrine

Map
P12-7

A shrine dedicated to the feudal lord, Matsudaira Shungaku. The shrine was destroyed during World War 2, but like the city, it revived like a phoenix.

📍 Ote 3-16-1



Fukui Central Park

Map
P12-8

This park was renovated in 2018. It is often the site of main events and where people come to relax. The park contains a beautiful rest area.

📍 Ote 3-11



Sakaenoyashiro Shrine

Map
P12-9

This old shrine is dedicated to the famed Matsudaira family members of Hideyasu and Shungaku. It is also dedicated to Tokugawa Iyasu.

📍 Ote 3-12-3



Fuku-Buku Kan

This store inside Happiring displays and sells products made in Fukui. Items include agricultural goods, sake, food products, and traditional handicrafts.

🕒 10 AM ~ 10 PM



JR Fukui Station / Prism Fukui

Map
P12-5

This is the entrance to Fukui Prefecture's capital city. The Echizen Railway, which has trains bound for Katsuyama, Eiheji area, Mikuni, and the Awara area, can be taken here. There is a section called Prism Fukui in the station, that contains restaurants, shops, and souvenirs.

📍 Chuo 1-1-1

🕒 8:30 AM ~ 7 PM (Souvenir shop)

10 AM ~ 8 PM (Grocery shop)

6 AM ~ 11 PM (All others)



Happiring

Map
P12-6

This building houses Happitertace, where events are held almost every week, and Fukubuku-kan, which serves culinary dishes from all over Fukui. Seiren Planet's dome theater, which accurately portrays the night sky, is also a part of Happiring.

📍 Chuo 1-2-1

🕒 7:30 AM ~ 11 PM



Hamamachi / Atagozaka Area

This beautiful area contains many historical locations that remain since the end of the Edo period and the beginning of the Meiji period. For example, the Western style house of William Elliot Griffis was rebuilt and opened as the Griffis Museum. During the spring, the cherry blossoms along the river are a sight to behold.



Asuwa River Cherry Blossom Row - Cherry Blossom Lane



Approximately 2.2km of cherry blossom trees line the left bank of the river. The area made it onto the list of Japan's 100 Best Cherry Blossom spots. The right bank belongs to Hamamachi area where the view is equally amazing. The evening light up is a spectacular sight.

Chuo 3



Fukui City Griffis Museum



This museum tells the story of the first student Fukui sent abroad, Taro Kusakabe, and William E. Griffis who had a close relationship with Taro, and was hired as a lecturer by Fukui Domain. Using the Western-style house he originally lived in as a foundation, this museum was built. It contains furniture and antiques from the era to help capture the atmosphere in which Griffis lived.

- Chuo 3-5-4
- 10 AM ~ 7 PM (Entrance until 6:30 PM)
Closed: 12/28 ~ 1/4
- Free



Around the Asuwa River Area

Griffis & Kusakabe



A statue commemorating William Elliot Griffis and Kusakabe Taro. The actions of these two led Fukui City and New Brunswick to become sister cities.



Yuri Kimimasa



At the end of the Edo Period, Yuri Kimimasa became the financial advisor of the Meiji Government Revolution, and he also assisted in the drafting of the Charter Oath in Five Articles.



Ryotei Restaurants

A ryotei is an old Japanese styled restaurant. The Hamamachi area has many of these ryoteis. These ryoteis are pricy, but offer authentic Japanese dining experience with delicious food and great service in a Japanese style interior.



Ryoteis have a very nice atmosphere!

Historical sites alongside a cherry tree lined river



Atagozaka



Along this path lies many beautiful restaurants, tea houses, and stylish houses. The nighttime view of the staircase is especially gorgeous when it is lit up during the Cherry Blossom Festival that is held every year in Spring. The staircase leads to Mt. Asuwa which provides a beautiful view of the city.

📍 Asuwa 1

Around the Atagozaka Area

* The museum and halls do not have English signs, however, the Tea Ceremony Museum & Literature Hall have English pamphlets available.



Atagozaka Tea Ceremony Museum



Documents related to the Asakura Clan's tea culture are the focus of this museum which are said to be the origin of Fukui's tea ceremony.

📍 Asuwa 1-8-5 ¥100 Yen
🕒 9 AM ~ 5:15 PM (Entrance until 4:45)
Closed: 12/28 ~ 1/4



Sanai Park



This park contains the statue and grave of Matsudaira Shungaku's most trusted ally, Hashimoto Sanai. He was executed during the Ansei Purge.

📍 Sanaicho 7



Tachibana Akemi Memorial Literature Hall



A famous poet named Tachibana Akemi from the end of the Edo period has his works on display here. The light poles displays his famous 52 poems.

📍 Asuwa 1-6-34 ¥100 Yen
🕒 9 AM ~ 5:15 PM (Entrance until 4:45)
Closed: 12/28 ~ 1/4



Anyoji Temple



This temple was constructed by Asakura Takakage. It was rebuilt by Shibata Katsue after the fall of the Asakura clan.

📍 Asuwa 1-10-9



Waterworks Memorial Hall



This hall is the home to the still usable "Old Asuwa Water Pump". Different technologies involving water are displayed.

📍 Asuwa 1-7-35 ¥ Free
🕒 9 AM ~ 4:30 PM
Closed: Mon. 12/29 ~ 1/3



Saikoji Temple

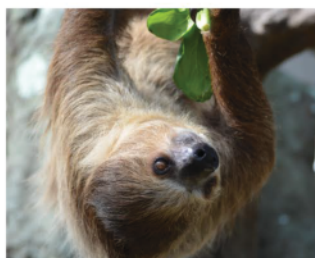


Oda Nobunaga's general Shibata Katsue and his wife, Oichi rest here in this family burial ground.

📍 Sanaicho 8-21

Mt. Asuwa Area

From the town areas at the foot of the mountain to the 116-meter-tall Asuwa mountain, there are many ways to experience the Mt. Asuwa area. The mountain is beautifully colored all-year round thanks to the many flowers that bloom there. Enjoy a hike through the area filled with historical spots, scenic views, and tea houses.



Asuwa Shrine



This shrine is dedicated to Emperor Keitai. The shrine has a history dating back over a thousand years. Within the grounds stands a 12 meter tall cherry blossom tree about 370 years old. The splendid tree withstood fires, wars, and snow damage and is still enjoyable to those who lay eyes upon it.

📍 Asuwa 1-8-25



Fujishima Shrine



The original shrine was built upon where Nitta Yoshisada was said to have died in battle as his kabuto (helmet) was excavated there. The current shrine was rebuilt in 1901. It is located in a spot different from its original location.

📍 Keya 3-8-21



Asuwayama Park (Hydrangea Road)



The road to the summit is lined with Fukui City's symbol flower, the hydrangea. In June, the flowers blossom into a beautiful view. On the summit of the mountain stands a statue of the Emperor Keitei, the 26th emperor of Japan who was from Fukui. The mountain itself is a good place to view cherry blossoms during the spring.

Asuwayama Amusement Park



This small amusement park features a play area and a mini zoo. The mini zoo was renewed and reopened in August of 2018. The zoo features a center called Happy Jungle, which houses capybaras, a sloth, various birds, monkeys, and other animals. Happy Jungle allows guests to interact with the animals up close. One can even feed the capybaras for a small fee!

📍 Yamaokucho 58-97

🕒 9 AM ~ 4:30 PM (Entrance until 4 PM)

Closed: Mon. (If holiday, next day), 12/29 ~ Feb.

(Happy Jungle 12/19 ~ 1/3)

¥ Free

Museum of Natural History



This museum displays various aspects of Fukui's nature, such as wildlife. There is also a terrace that provides a fantastic view of Fukui City. The museum also contains an astronomical observatory. The museum currently stands where Hideyasu was said to have set up his military camp for the invasion of Kitanosho Castle.

📍 Asuwa Kamicho 147

🕒 9 AM ~ 5:15 PM

Closed: Mon. (If holiday, next day), New Years

¥ Adults 100 Yen, Kids and Seniors free



Keya Kurotatsu Shrine



Was established as the guardian of Kuzuryu River. 1 of 4 Daimyojin Shrines that oversees the four cardinal directions in Japan. The shrine is a power spot that is known for ridding negative emotions with its strong spiritual force.

📍 Keya 3-8-1





Osagoe Minkaen



5 Japanese traditional houses and a few store-houses from the Edo period were taken from within Fukui and restored here.

- 📍 Tsukimi 5-4-48
- 🕒 9 AM ~ 5:15 PM
(Entrance until 4:45 PM)
Mon. (If holiday, next day)
- 💰 100 Yen

Tangando



The vacation villa of the Edo-period doctor, Yamamoto Zuian. The area is where Shakudani stone was mined. The garden features natural rocks.

- 📍 Kamogawara 1-5-12

Zuigenji Temple



The temple was moved to its current location during the Edo Period. The Hondo and Shoin halls are both designated as prefectural cultural assets. In August, Japanese bush clovers bloom here.

- 📍 Asuwa 5-10-17

Peace Pagoda



This pagoda is also known as Bussharito. It was built in 1959 by the Nipponzan Myohoji Buddhist Order with the goal of promoting peace.

- 📍 Oyamadanicho 33-4-1

Takasu / Ayukawa Area



This area features fantastic swimming and camping areas. One can enjoy the scenery of the waves pounding against the rocks near the shore, and the beautiful sunset. Up the enjoyment of the area by visiting the shrines and Buddha statues that are affectionately taken care of by the people in the area.



Gamejima Park

This island has the unusual shape of a turtle swimming in the water. There is a myth that the thousand armed Kannon Bodhisattva of Itosaki temple rode upon the turtle that turned into the island. There is a trail nearby to explore the area.



Ayukawa Beach

This small beach can be enjoyed by both children and adults. Its main feature is a rocky area that is maintained allowing for rock fishing. Camping can also be done in the nearby Ayukawa Park.



Itosaki Temple

This temple is dedicated to Kannon. Once every 2 years, the "Itosaki no Hotokemai" (one of Japan's intangible cultural assets) is held.

17  Itosakicho 22-5



Hokojima Park

This island is composed of beautiful andesite stone pillars. One can enter the island by crossing the small bridge connected to the island after parking in a lot located along route 305. The trail here is maintained allowing for exploration of the island.



Koi Koi "Takasu"

Located on the summit of a large boulder, this area is where couples write their names on a "Key of Love" and leave here it as an oath of love. Located nearby is the Amatsu-hime no Mikoshi Shrine which watches over the "Key of Love".



Watariglass Studio

This glassmaking studio overlooks the Sea of Japan. One can experience glassblowing here.

 Ayukawacho 17-14
 9 AM ~ 5 PM Closed: Wed.



Takasu Beach

This beach is one of many beaches along Fukui's Echizen Coast. During the summer season, the beach becomes lively. There are many inns and ryokans (Japanese style inn) nearby allowing easy access and enjoyment of this beach.



Ayukawa Park

This campsite is located along route 305 and has a fantastic view. Ayukawa Park is located close to beaches, and contains a kitchen, toilets, and hot showers. Close to many fishing areas.

 Ayukawacho 132-4



Sunset Spots

Check out these spots for their beautiful sunset views. Enjoy a romantic time in these areas. The sunset reflecting off of the sea is always a sight to behold.



Atolla (Jellyfish Store) Map P18-10

This store is popular for their wide variety of jellyfish. They also have fireflies of the sea. The store has even been featured on a TV program.

Ayukawacho 167-3-6



Suibun Shrine Map P18-11

This shrine has water that is acknowledged as "Fukui's Delicious Water". One can try the clean water here. Every year on June 24th a sumo competition is held here.

Nagahashicho



Takasu Circuit Map P18-12

This circuit has an overall length of 1500 m and a 400 m straight course. One can experience the course in a racing car or in one's own car.

Nishifutatsuyacho 2-1-35

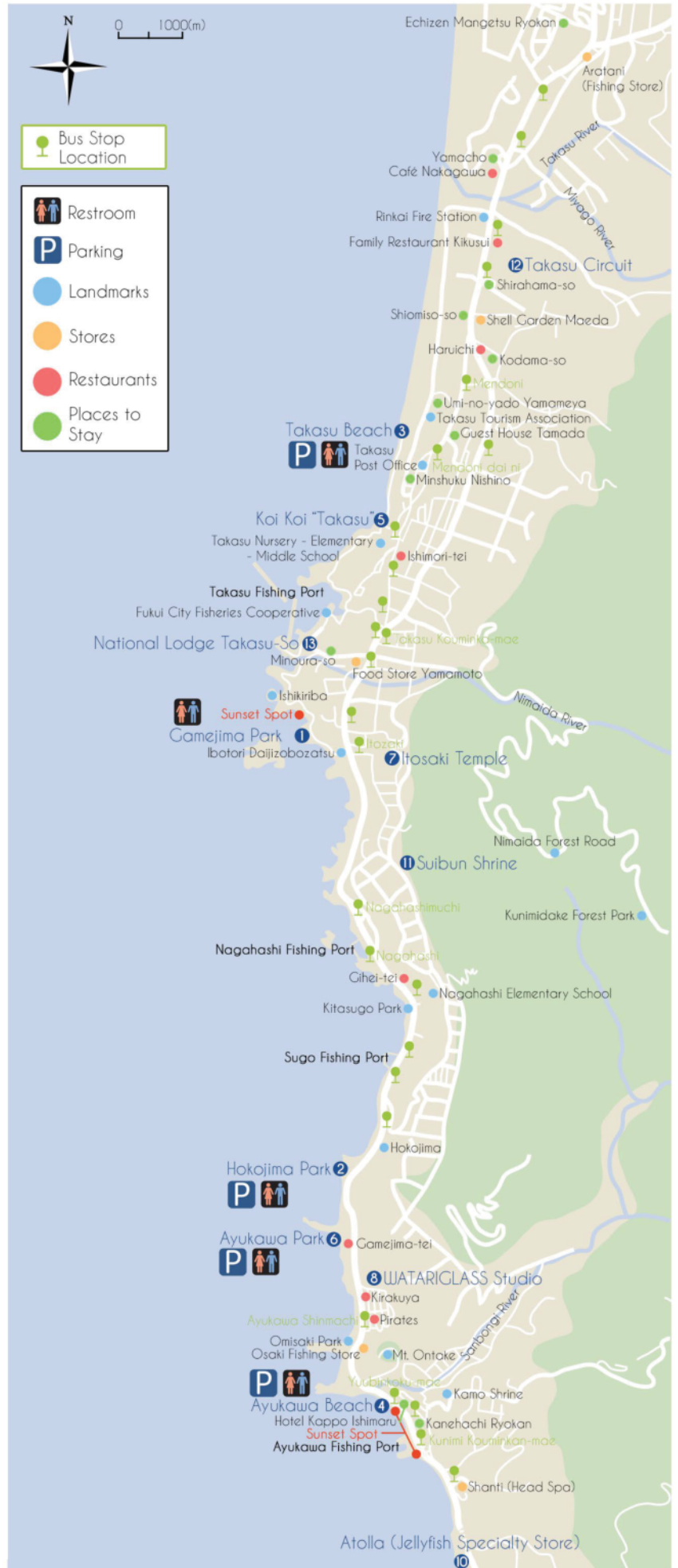
8 AM ~ 5 PM Closed: New Years



National Lodge Takasu-So Map P18-13

Enjoy natural hot springs and fresh seafood. Right next to the magnificent Sea of Japan.

Minocho 3-11-1



Kunimi / Koshino Area

Enjoy the sea alongside seasoned fishermen through the fishing industry experience! Also witness the livelihood of the fishermen and the people living near the seaside by staying at a ryokan. Stroll through the streets lined with seafood stores for fresh sea food and dried products.



Pine Tree of Notoke Map P20-1

The black pine tree that grows on the northern most point of Onyuchō is designated as an important scenic tree. With its 16-meter-long branches, it stretches over route 305 giving it a special scenic quality.



Benkei-no-Sentaku Iwa Map P20-4

Due to being pursued by Minamoto no Yoritomo, Benkei and Yoritomo's younger brother Yoshitsune were fleeing north. It is said Benkei used these rocks to wash his clothes.



Suisen-no-Sato Hot Spring Naminohana Map P20-7

This bath features a view of the azure sea and the beautiful setting sun. In this bath, one can gaze upon the fishing boat lights out at sea. The hot spring is also said to be good for recovery from exhaustion.

- Gamouchō 1-94
- 10 AM ~ 10 PM (Entrance until ~ 9:30 PM)
- Closed: 3rd Tue. every month



God's Footprint Map P20-2

A large boulder in the shape of a foot and has a height of 5m and a width of 2m. It is said that the footprint was left when a god saved a village from a drought by scooping up sea water for its people.



Koshino Beach Map P20-5

This beach is popular as a family trip destination because of its crystal clear water and calm waves. There are also many popular fishing spots around the area.



Hounji Temple Map P20-3

The linden tree that grows within the grounds is said to be 300 years old.

- Omicho 39-9



Kazuga Shrine Map P20-6

Located in the slightly elevated area next to Koshino Elementary School, this place offers a nice view of the Sea of Japan.

- Gumizakicho 2-53



Garagarayama Camp Site Map P20-8

This camping site with a view of the Echizen Coast was renewed and reopened in April of 2017. One can enjoy trailer camping, BBQ, or even tennis here while enjoying the scenic view. The site also features a kitchen area, showers, and a bathroom.


- Akasakacho 66-84

Net Fishing Experience (Gumizaki Fisheries Cooperative)

Board a boat and catch the bountiful fish of the Sea of Japan among the seasoned fishermen. Experiencing the seasonal blessings of the sea up close is the experience's charm!

*The fish captured in this experience belongs to the fishermen

 Gumizakicho 14-32

 April ~ November : Weekdays 4 AM~, 1 PM~ / Sat. 4 AM~


 0776-89-2316 (JP Only)

Koshino Furusato Museum

A cultural facility that displays the livelihood of the Koshino region. In the section that a fisherman's house is displayed, one can try on a kimono.



 Ikuracho 50-1-2

 300 Yen (Package ticket with Suisen Dome)

 9 AM ~ 5 PM Closed: 12/29 ~ 1/1

Suisen Dome

This facility is the first in Japan to succeed in having daffodils blossom all-year round. In the summer, an estimated 500 daffodils are in bloom while winter has around 2000. The dome is where one can enjoy the lovely sights and smells of the daffodil.



 Ikuracho 43-25

 300 Yen (Package ticket with Furusato Museum)

 9 AM ~ 4:30 PM Closed: 12/29 ~ 1/1

Daffodil Field in Ikura

The mountainside of the Echizen Coast is lined with daffodils. There is a myth that the daffodil flower had originated from the Koshino area and is therefore known as the "Hometown of the Daffodils". These flowers that face the raging waves is a must see.



Kuzuryu River Area

Kuzuryu River is often called "Kzuregawa" (which roughly means crumbling river) due to its repeated flooding. The floodings have made the soil around the river fertile. The surrounding area is dotted with places related to water. Seasonal events around the area are also very popular.

Miyanoshita Cosmos Park



In a massive area around the size of 4 Tokyo Domes, around a hundred million cosmos flowers bloom here. The flowers bloom around September to October. It is a rare sight to see. A cosmos festival is held during the blooming season.



📍 Egamicho ~ Yoshida District

Daianzenji Temple



This is the family temple of Fukui Domain's feudal lord, Matsudaira, which now stands where Denkokuji Temple used to be. The temple is also known as the "Iris Temple" and the Iris Festival is held there every June. The temple's buildings are designated as Important Cultural Asset.



📍 Tanotanicho 21-4
🕒 9 AM ~ 5 PM

Morita Water Tower (My Aqua)



The water tower is known for having a unique shape which was made to look akin to a grain of rice. The tower contains a display room that teaches children the importance of the environment and water through play equipment and video.



📍 Higashimorita 1-2415
🕒 9 AM ~ 4:30 PM

Closed: Mon. (If holiday, next day), 12/29 ~ 1/3

Kurotatsu Shrine

Designated as the guardian of the Kuzuryu River. This shrine was built also for the protection of the nation.

📍 Funabashicho 29-1



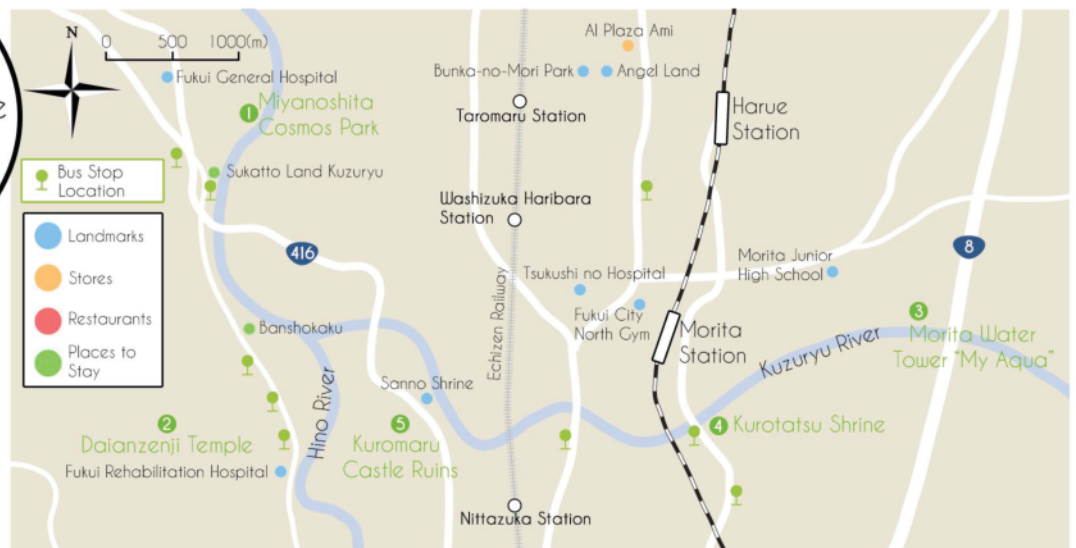
Kuromaru Castle Ruins

Kuromaru Castle was located where Kuzuryu and Hino river met. This site was the origin of the Asakura Clan's influence.

📍 Kuromarucho



Fun Fact:
"My" in My Aqua also stems from the fact that rice in Japanese can be read as "mai". This gives My Aqua a double meaning!



Miyama Area

Located not too far off from Fukui City's center is Miyama, a calming place surrounded by nature. Enjoy relaxing in a hot spring or try your hand at making soba noodles. The area is a fantastic place to escape one's busy everyday life to relax and enjoy the beauty of nature.

Gottsuosan-Tei



Enjoy Miyama's own special soba or try your hand at making your own soba noodles.

📍 Usogaguchicho 24-7

🕒 9 AM ~ 5:15 PM (Last order 4:45 PM)
Closed: Wed., Jan., ~ Mar., New Years



Ijira-Kan



A hot spring located within the quiet mountain area. It is said this hot spring has the effect of preventing strokes.

📍 Nakatecho 29-3



Seitokuji Temple



This old temple belonging to the Takada sect resides in the Echizen region. Statues of historical figures and folding screens that are kept here are prefectural cultural assets.



Shimizu Area

This area filled with nature is around a 30-minute drive from Fukui City's center. Bushugaike Pond, which changes its appearance every season, and Saiunji Temple, which is beautiful during spring with its cherry blossom trees, are recommended places to visit.



SST Land



A place to enjoy camping and BBQ.

📍 Sasadanicho 115
🕒 8:30 AM ~ 7 PM
Closed: Tues. & 12/1 ~ 3/31

Saiunji Temple



The weeping cherry blossom tree in the temple ground is recognized as a natural monument.

📍 Bushucho 5-2



Bushugaike Pond



Surrounded by a forest of Japanese beech trees, the pond changes its appearance seasonally. The beauty of the area gives off a mysterious aura.

📍 Futatsuyacho

Fukui Prefecture

Explore outside of Fukui City for more Fukui has to offer! Fukui Prefecture is home to many more interesting cities filled with spectacular sites. Find your Zen at Eiheji Temple or go visit the Fukui Prefectural Dinosaur Museum, which is one of the largest in the world.

Fukui Prefectural Dinosaur Museum



This is Japan's largest dinosaur museum. Many fossils have been excavated in Katsuyama making it the ideal location for the museum. The museum contains over 40 dinosaur skeletons and many different displays.



- 📍 Katsuyama City
Muroko-cho
Terao 51-11
- 🕒 9 AM ~ 5 PM
(Entry until 4:30 PM)
Closed: 2nd & 4th
Wed., New Years
- ¥ Elementary: 260 Yen
High School: 420 Yen
Adults: 730 Yen

Eiheiji Temple



One of Japan's largest Zen Buddhist training grounds. Originally founded in 1244 by Dogen Zenji who brought Soto Zen to Japan. The temple site consists of over 70 buildings interconnected to each other. The temple is one of two head temples of Soto Zen Buddhism.



- 📍 Eiheiji Town
Shihi 5-15
- 🕒 May ~ Oct.:
8 AM ~ 5:30 PM
Nov. ~ Apr.:
8:30 AM ~ 5 PM
- ¥ Adults: 500 Yen
Elementary and
Middle School: 200 Yen

Tojinbo Cliffs



These andesite cliffs stretch one kilometer along the Sea of Japan. The cliffs stand 20 meters above the waters that carved them out. These cliffs has a unique, large-scale geological formation that can only be found in three locations around the world.



- 📍 Sakai City
Mikuni-cho Anto

Awara Onsen



This is a hot spring town with over 130 years of history. Awara Onsen has many different inns each with their own unique onsen water properties. Hot springs in this area are known to give positive health effects. A free footbathing facility is available as well.



- 📍 Awara City
- Footbath:
- 📍 Onsen 3-413
- 🕒 7 AM ~ 11 PM

Maruoka Castle



The castle was originally built in 1576. It is one of only twelve castle towers which have remained until today. The castle is also known as mist castle as it was told that the castle would be hidden by mist when enemies approached it.

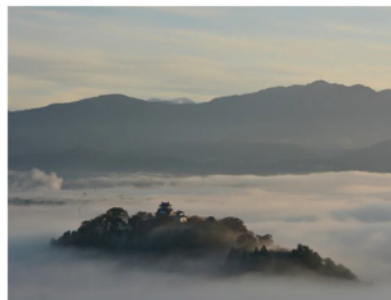


- 📍 Sakai City
Maruoka-cho
Kasumi-cho 1-59
- 🕒 8:30 AM ~ 5 PM
(Entry until 4:30)
- ¥ Adults: 450 Yen
Elementary School
Students: 150 Yen

Echizen Ono Castle



The castle was originally made in 1580 and then reconstructed in 1968. It is often known as the castle in the sky because of its occasional appearance of looking like it is floating when clouds hang low. The best time to view this rare sight would be during November.



- 📍 Ono City
Shiromachi 3-109
- 🕒 April ~ Sept.:
9 AM ~ 5 PM
(Entry until 4:30)
Oct. ~ Nov.:
6 AM ~ 4 PM
(Entry until 3:30)
Closed: 12/1 ~ 3/31
- ¥ Adults: 200 Yen
Children: Free

Sotomo (Coastline)

Sotomo is a six kilometer scenic coastline with many cliffs, caves, and rock formations. This beautiful coastline has two tunnels known as Omon and Komon which boats can pass through. The coastline was listed on American news network CNN's "Japan's Most Beautiful Places".

 Obama City



Nishiyama Park



This park located in Sabae City is known for its pretty view during the spring as around 50,000 azaleas bloom. The park also features a lawn zone, a zoo, a playground, and a garden. The zoo is home to the popular lesser panda, or red panda.

 Sabae City
Sakuramachi 3-8-9



Kehi Jingu Shrine

This shrine was said to be originally built in 702 and is the most iconic shrine in the Hokuriku region. The shrine is home to one of the three largest Torii gates in Japan. The Torii was originally built in 1645 and survived WWII. It is designated as a national important cultural property.

 Tsuruga City
Akebono-cho 11-68
 6 AM ~ 5 PM



Mikatagoko

Meaning the five lakes of Mikata, it refers to the lakes Mikata, Suigetsu, Suga, Kugushi, and Hiruga. Each lake has different water compositions and depths giving each a different appearance. From the top of a nearby mountain, a breathtaking sight can be seen.

 Wakasa Town



Fukui City Local Specialties



Echizen Gani Crab

If talking about winter in Fukui, it has to be this! Every year on November 6th, it's open season for Echizen Gani Crab. The yellow tags on the crabs are proof of an authentic Echizen Gani crab, which is the only kind in Japan presented to the royal family. One taste of the plump juicy meat and the rich miso of the crab will captivate the eater. Feel free to try these delicious crabs in restaurants along the coastline.



Echizen Uni (Sea Urchin)

One of Japan's top three delicacies. The sea urchins of Fukui were even recorded in a book listing local delicacies from the Edo Period. The Bafun Uni caught on the Echizen Coast in Fukui is used for production. It takes over 100 sea urchins to yield only 100 grams of product. Its fresh and delicious flavor is perfect when used as a dish paired with sake or steamed rice.

Fukui's Local Sake

The fields in Fukui are blessed with fresh groundwater that originates from Kuzuryu River. The natural water from springs are also a blessing. This water leads to the delicious rice which gives the sake brewed from it wonderful natural flavors. In Fukui City alone, there are over 10 sake breweries each producing sake with their own flavor and aroma to be enjoyed.



Hana Rakkyo (Pickled Shallots)

While shallots for rakkyo are usually harvested after one cycle of hibernation, the shallots from Sanrihama are the only ones in Japan which are allowed two cycles giving it the nickname "sannengo" which literally means three year child. These shallots have tighter fibers making them smaller and crunchier than normal, which makes them popular even for picky eaters. The scenery of the shallot fields, which become enveloped in a shade of purple from it's flowers, is also worth seeing.



Fukui's delicious foods from its plentiful bounty



Sauce Katsu-Don Pork Cutlet Bowl

If you order a pork cutlet bowl in Fukui, there is a high chance that the egg version of the bowl will not be given. What will come out is a thin crispy pork cutlet that is glazed in a sweet and tangy sauce on top of warm rice known as the sauce katsu-don. The sauce's aroma will surely work up one's appetite. The bowl is Fukui's soul food.



Echizen Oroshi Soba Noodles

Fukui's fertile soil and bountiful clean spring water leads to a perfect environment for the growth of high quality-soba (buckwheat). Topped with oroshi (grated daikon radish), green onions, and dried bonito flakes, the Echizen Oroshi Soba is a dish with the taste of home that the citizens of Fukui love. There are also many places that offer soba-making experiences which are worth trying.



Mizuyokan (Red-bean Jelly)

In Japan, mizuyokan is a sweet eaten in summer, but in Fukui, it is eaten during winter. Its simple and delicate taste is known within Fukui Prefecture as the "soul of the hometown". "Eating Mizuyokan while inside a kotatsu table" is a standard of Fukui. For those curious about the origins of why those in Fukui eat mizuyokan in the winter, please ask a store employee.



Locally Grown Vegetables

There are many famous traditional vegetables around Japan, but the one that is well known in Fukui is the Kochi red turnip. The vegetable has been grown in the Miyama region for over 850 years using a unique technique where they burn the fields before planting. The turnip has a unique color and shape. It is also known for its sweet, spicy, and bitter flavor.



Habutae Mochi (Rice Cakes)

From around the Meiji Era, Fukui became an area known for its production of habutae, a silk fabric. The air of luxury the silk gave was the inspiration for the thin, silk-like sweet, Habutae Mochi. Its sweetness and silky texture has not changed. Since the mochi lasts for a long time, it is a very popular souvenir item from Fukui.



Koshi-no-Ruby Tomatoes

This cherry tomato is well known for its sweet and moderately sour taste. The tomato is much sweeter than a regular tomato due to its higher sugar content. Koshi-no-Ruby is also highly nutritious, which makes it popular among those who seek to eat healthily. It is said that one of the health benefits is that it helps against aging effects.



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