



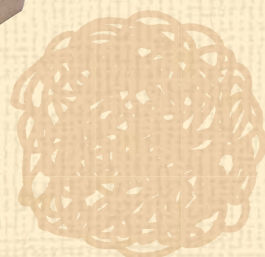
Discover Japan's oldest public road and enjoy its history, cuisine, experiences, and more...

# Takenouchi Kaido/ Yokooji

♥♥ Guide to Attractions 



Discover  
a thrilling  
history!



Delectable  
sweets!



● What are the Takenouchi Kaido / Yokooji?

● Learn about Japan Heritage.

● Recommended sightseeing routes for cyclists that are sure to please.

● Admire nature's beauty throughout the year.

● Enjoy local delicacies and popular sweets.



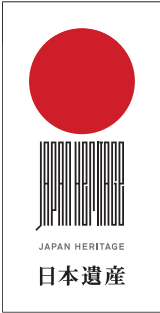


For 1400 years, the Takenouchi Kaido / Yokooji have continued to thrive even as their roles have changed over time.

What is “Japan Heritage”?

“Japan Heritage” refers to cultural assets certified by the Agency for Cultural Affairs that represent the country’s cultural inheritance. Through their historical charm and local characteristics, these assets tell stories about the culture and traditions of Japan. The various regions are focused on comprehensively developing and using these various tangible and intangible cultural assets—indispensable to the telling of our stories—to promote them advantageously throughout Japan and around the world. In so doing, Japan’s regions are being revitalized.

The Takenouchi Kaido / Yokooji were certified as the 44th asset of Japan Heritage in 2017, as “Takenouchi Kaido / Yokooji—the oldest public roads in Japan—reflecting the long history of more than 1,400 years.”



Tachibana-dera Temple, birthplace of Prince Shotoku



Imai-cho, once an autonomous city, developed as the largest commercial center in central and southern Yamato (present-day central Nara Prefecture).



Ono no Imoko mausoleum, tomb of Japan's first official envoy to the Sui Dynasty of China

What is Takenouchi Kaido / Yokooji?

A paragraph appearing in the “Chronicles of Japan” written in November 613 describes the Takenouchi Kaido as “a highway leading to the capital from Naniwa.” Thus the highway—linking Naniwazu (the port serving as the gateway of continental diplomacy) and the capital Yamato Asuka—was built more than 1400 years ago.

The Official Story (Outline)

On the days of the spring and autumn equinoxes, the sun rises from Mt. Miwa, passes above Mt. Nijo, and sets in Osaka Bay. For this reason, the straight road from Nara in the east to Osaka in the west is known as the ‘Road of the Sun’. The ‘Road of the Sun’, which is over 20 meters wide, was built by Empress Suiko in 613 AD. In ancient times, missionaries from China arrived in Asuka City through Naniwa (present-day Osaka) along this road and introduced technology and Buddhist culture. During the Middle Ages, the road connected many important trading towns, and in modern times it has flourished as a way station for people traveling on pilgrimages to the Grand Shrine of Ise in Mie Prefecture. The Takenouchi Kaido / Yokooji historic road offers travellers, depending on the location, a fascinating variety of scenes and experiences. Visitors to the heritage sites along this road will be able to encounter and appreciate the historical changes in the area over the past fourteen centuries.

Visit the website of Takenouchi Kaido / Yokooji

The website displays a wide range of event information, project details, sightseeing spots, and other attractions. You can also download the entire map as a PDF file to use together with the “Guide to Attractions.”



Scan this code with your smartphone.

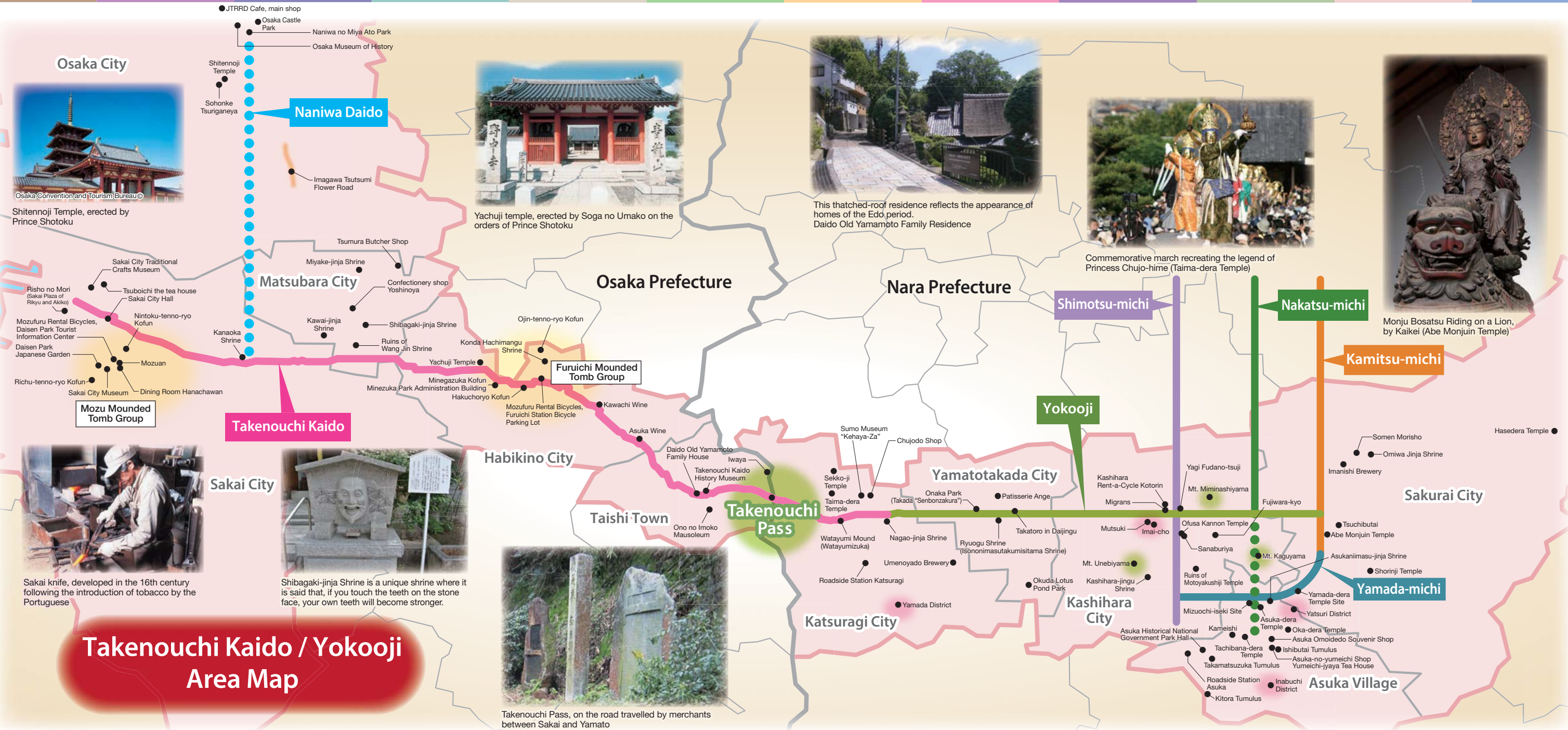


Type this website in your computer.

Takenouchi Kaido / Yokooji

Search

http://www.saikonokandou.com/





Experience the romance of history

2 days, 1 night

## Takenouchi Kaido / Yokooji Package



Day 1

### Sakai Kanaoka Shrine

Here is enshrined Kosen Kanaoka, an artist considered the father of the traditional Japanese painting style known as *yamato-e*. He was active in the position known as *edokoro-choja* (court painter) during the Heian period. A sacred tree on the site, estimated to be 900 years old, has been chosen as the City of Sakai's official tree and has been designated for preservation.  
■ 2866 Kanaoka-cho, Kita-ku, Sakai, Osaka



### Matsubara Shibagaki-jinja Shrine

The ancient shrine marks the ruins of the Taiji-Shibagakinomiya Palace of Emperor Hanzei. According to legend, the emperor had beautiful teeth, and thus was considered the god of teeth. A shrine to teeth is located in the precincts, where a stone face with polished teeth can be seen.  
■ 7-12-22 Ueda, Matsubara, Osaka

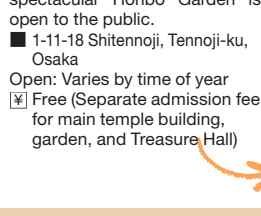


### Sakai Risho no Mori (Sakai Plaza of Rikyu and Akiko)

In this museum, one can experience the charm of Sakai by reflecting on the lives of Sakai's own distinguished historical figures, Sen no Rikyu and Yosano Akiko. Partake of tea and sweets while seated in a conventional chair, or experience the traditional formal manners of the tea ceremony in the tearoom facing the site of the Sen no Rikyu residence. (reservations required.)  
■ 2-1-1 Shukun-cho Nishi, Sakai-ku, Sakai, Osaka  
Open: 9:00-18:00 [X] General admission 300 yen  
Closed: 3rd Tuesdays of the month (open on national holidays, closed next day) and New Year's holiday

### Osaka City Shitennoji Temple

This temple, representative of the Asuka period, was built by Prince Shotoku. Designated as a National Historic Site, the temple houses many important cultural properties such as the *hojo* of the *honbo* (priests' main living quarters) and Rokujido Hall. The spectacular Honbo Garden is open to the public.  
■ 1-11-18 Shitennoji, Tennoji-ku, Osaka  
Open: Varies by time of year  
[X] Free (Separate admission fee for main temple building, garden, and Treasure Hall)



Day 2

### Takenouchi Kaido History Museum

Taima-dera Temple and Watayumi Mound

Ryuugu Shrine (Isononimatsutakumistama Shrine)

Abe Monjuin Temple

Day 1

### Shitennoji Temple

Risho no Mori (Sakai Plaza of Rikyu and Akiko)

Kanaoka Shrine

Shibagaki-jinja Shrine

Day 2

### Katsuragi Taima-dera Temple

This ancient temple was built in 612. The principal image is believed to be the Taima Mandala by Princess Chujo-hime who is said to have woven Buddhists' Western Paradise with lotus thread in one night. Every April 14, visitors crowd the temple for *nerikuyo eshiki*, a marching ceremony to honor the dead.  
■ 1263 Taima, Katsuragi, Nara  
Open: 9:00-17:00  
[X] Main Hall, Kondo Hall, Lecture Hall  
General admission 500 yen

### Katsuragi Watayumi Mound (Watayumizuka)

When haiku poet Matsuo Basho visited the hometown of his pupil Naemura Chiri, Basho composed a haiku. A stone tablet inscribed with his haiku was put on display. A former brewery on this site has been turned into a resting room for visitors. A collection of haiku can be seen here.  
■ 604 Takenouchi, Katsuragi, Nara

### Sakurai Abe Monjuin Temple

This is one of the oldest temples in Japan, constructed at the time of the Taika Reform. The principal image, the largest Bodhisattva Manjushri in Japan, has been designated a national treasure.  
■ 645 Abe, Sakurai, Nara  
Open: 9:00-17:00  
[X] Main Hall: General admission 700 yen

### Yamatotakada Ryuugu Shrine (Isononimatsutakumistama Shrine)

This place is assumed to be the ruins of the Katashiono Ukiananomiya Palace of Emperor Annei. Legend holds that a dragon lies on Yokooji, with Omiwa Jinja Shrine as its head, this shrine as its body, and Nagao-jinja Shrine as its tail.  
■ 15-33 Katashio-cho, Yamatotakada, Nara



Experience history close enough to touch.

Numerous Attractions

So much to see and do!

Discover the best of Takenouchi Kaido / Yokooji!

## Good fortune Japan's best spots

### Japan's only continental-style cave temple



### Taishi Iwaya

This continental-style cave temple comprises large and small caves constructed during the Nara period. No records of this temple exist in the literature, and details of the ruins of this temple remain a mystery.

■ Yamada, Taishi-cho, Minamikawachi-gun, Osaka (near Manyo Forest on Mount Nijo)

### The first intersection on Japan's national highway

### Kashihara Yagi Fudanotsuji

This is the intersection of Yokooji and Shimotsu-michi. It is a key intersection on Japan's ancient transportation routes. In early-modern times, this area became quite crowded with pilgrims to Ise Grand Shrine and Mount Omine.  
■ 2-1-1 Kita-Yagi-cho, Kashihara, Nara

### Japan's oldest statue of Buddha

### Asuka Asuka-dera Temple



Japan's oldest authentic temple is believed to have been built in 588 by Soga no Umako when Busshari (Buddha's ashes) were conveyed from Baekje, the ancient Korean kingdom. The seated statue of Shaka Nyorai (Asuka Daibutsu) by the sculptor Tori Bussai is now considered Japan's oldest representation of Buddha.

Engineers from Baekje were involved in the construction of the towers, building tiles, and Buddhist halls, and their apprentices eventually took part in the construction of temples across Japan.

■ 682 Asuka, Asuka-mura, Takaichi-gun, Nara  
Open: 9:00-17:15 (April-September) / 9:00-16:45 (October-March)  
[X] General admission 350 yen



Principal Images: Sacred seated figure of Shaka Nyorai

Unwind with sake or a glass of wine.

## Relax

## Breweries with a mellow atmosphere

### Brewery Tour: Experience Japanese sake brewing

### Katsuragi Umenoyado Brewery

Since 1893, this popular sake brewery has been preparing umami from the waters flowing under Mount Katsuragi.

Touring this brewery and viewing the sake brewing process is a truly novel experience.

■ 20 Higashimuro, Katsuragi, Nara  
Open: Tours (reservations required)

10:00-11:30 / 13:30-16:00 Duration: 30 to 60 minutes  
Closed: Saturdays, Sundays and national holidays (July & August only), Unscheduled days (Brewery visits are subject to availability between December and February.)  
TEL 0745-69-2121



### Vineyard Tour



### Sake-tasting experience

### Sakurai Imanishi Brewery

Enjoy a tasting of five carefully selected sake samples from this brewery, renowned for its choice products such as Mimurosuji. Lectures are presented to highlight the sake brewing process and how to read a label. (reservations required by phone at least 1 day in advance) Time required: About 30 minutes; 500 yen

Another attraction is the Guided Holy Land Sake Cup Tour. By walking to Omiwa Shrine or another site together with *Kurodo* (skilled sake brewers) and Miwa parishioners, one can experience the unique relationship between sake and the gods in this holy land. (reservations required 3 days in advance)  
Time required: 2-2 1/2 hours, 3,000 yen

■ 510 Miwa, Sakurai, Nara

Open: Weekdays between February and October (May close on an irregular schedule.)  
10:00-16:00  
Closed: Sundays  
TEL 0744-42-6022



### Habikino Asuka Wine

This eco-friendly wine is made from repurposed agricultural products, such as organic compost from squeezed grapes. View the winemaking process in the factory.

■ 1104 Asuka, Habikino, Osaka

Open: 9:00-17:00  
Closed: Saturdays, Sundays and national holidays (May be open on some dates.)  
Tours (Reservations required. Some dates not available. Please contact us.)  
TEL 072-956-2020

Try traditional crafts or a traditional makeover.

## Fun for the Whole Family Experience these unique attractions

### Recreate ancient objects

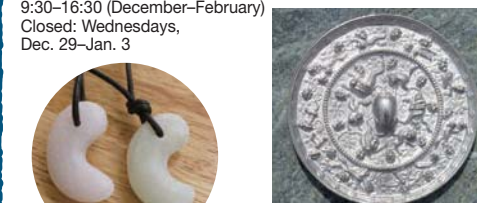
### Asuka Kitora Mural Experiential Museum (Asuka Historical National Government Park Hall)

### Workshop programs

"Making Magatama Beads," "Making a mirror with marine animals and vine patterns," "Making Fuhonsen Coins"

This rare tumulus, or burial ground, features a continental mural depicting four gods in a stone room.

At this attraction, you can learn about ancient times while immersing yourself in a variety of unique experiences.  
■ 67 Abeyama, Asuka-mura, Takaichi-gun, Nara  
Open: 9:30-17:00 (March-November)  
9:30-16:30 (December-February)  
Closed: Wednesdays, Dec. 29-Jan. 3



### Sumo wrestling experience at the sport's birthplace

### Katsuragi Sumo Museum "Kehaya-Za"

The Sumo Museum commemorates Taima no Kehaya, the founder of the sport of Sumo. Everyone can try his or her hand at sumo wrestling by donning a loincloth or costume on a dohyo that is the same size as its official counterpart. A variety of artifacts are on display on the second floor.

■ 83-1 Taima, Katsuragi, Nara

Open: 10:00-17:00  
[X] General admission for adults, 300 yen; Children. 150 yen  
Closed: Tuesdays and Wednesdays  
TEL 0745-48-4611



### Ancient costume experience

### Asuka Asuka General Information Center "Asukabito-no-yakata"

Why not take a stroll in Asuka dressed in traditional garments?

■ 6-3 Koshi, Asuka-mura, Takaichi-Gun, Nara  
[X] Rentals, 3,000 yen and up  
TEL 0744-54-3240





## Cycle Through History

### Yamato Sanzan

Mt. Miminashiyama Mt. Unebiyama Mt. Kaguyama

#### Mt. Miminashiyama

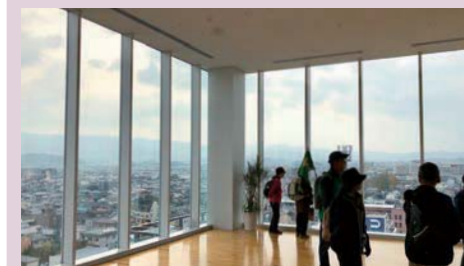
Peaking at 139.6 m, this is the northernmost of Yamato Sanzan. Some believe it is actually a tumulus constructed in ancient times, formed as a dome-shaped mound on a square base. Mt. Miminashiyama Park, toward the south, is well maintained.

#### Mt. Unebiyama

Rising 198.8 m, this is the highest of Yamato Sanzan. Mt. Unebiyama, signifying "rolling fire," was so named because of its many winding ridges.

#### Mt. Kaguyama

Described as Amano Kaguyama in *Manyōshū* (the oldest anthology of tanka poetry), this mountain rises to a height of 152.4 m. The most sacred of Yamato Sanzan, it is said to feature a power spot at the Shrine of the Three Pillars.



#### Kashihara City Hall Annex (10F, Migrants)

Take the central elevator at Kashihara City Hall to access the free observation deck.  
■ 1-1-60 Naizen-cho, Kashihara, Nara  
Open: 9:00-21:30  
Closed: Open year-round



#### Fujiwara-kyo

Fujiwara Kyo was the site of the central facilities of the country such as Daigokuden (main administrative building) and Chodoin (government office). For 16 years it was the first emulsion of the Tang capital until the transfer of the capital to Heian.  
■ Daigo-cho, Kashihara, Nara

### Yamato Sanzan and Fujiwara Kyo Tour

Distance: 10.8 km Time required: about 1 hour

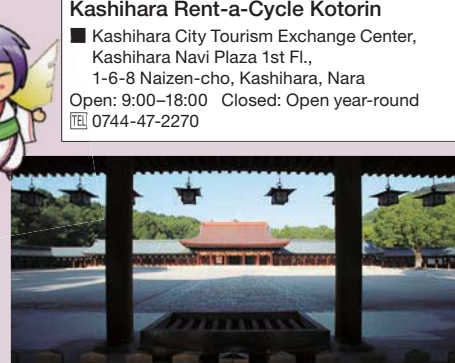
Yamato-Yagi Station ▼ 0.3 km	Ruins of Motoyakushiji Temple ▼ 1.7 km
Kashihara City Hall Annex (10F, Migrants) ▼ 1.5 km	Kashihara-jingu Shrine ▼ 0.9 km
Mt. Miminashiyama ▼ 1.5 km	The Museum, Archaeological Institute of Kashihara ▼ 0.6 km
Fujiwara-kyo ▼ 1.6 km	Emperor Jimmu Mausoleum Tumulus ▼ 1.6 km
	Imai-cho ▼ 1.1 km
	Yamato-Yagi Station

### Get cycling information here.

#### Rental Bicycles

##### Kashihara Rent-a-Cycle Kotorin

■ Kashihara City Tourism Exchange Center, Kashihara Navi Plaza 1st Fl., 1-6-8 Naizen-cho, Kashihara, Nara  
Open: 9:00-18:00 Closed: Open year-round  
TEL 0744-47-2270



#### Kashihara-jingu Shrine

In 1890, Kanpei-taisha (a large-scale state shrine) was built by Emperor Meiji to enshrine the Emperor Jimmu, considered Japan's first emperor, and his empress.  
■ 934 Kume-cho, Kashihara, Nara

## Asuka Pilgrimage

A rental bicycle is the best way to explore the kofuns (tumuli, or ancient burial mounds), ruins, and stone artifacts of Asuka Village.

#### Ishibutai Tumulus

This seventh-century kofun, or tumulus, was formed by stacking about 30 megalithic stones to form a stone chamber. The fill has been lost and the exposed upper surface is flat, so it referred to as a "stone stage." One theory holds that this is the burial mound of Soga no Umako.  
■ 254 Shimasho, Asuka-mura, Takaichi-gun, Nara

#### Tachibana-dera Temple

This is one of the seven great temples erected by Prince Shotoku. His seated statue is enshrined as a principal image of the main hall, which is called Taishiden (a temple dedicated to the Imperial Prince Shotoku).  
■ 532 Tachibana, Asuka-mura, Takaichi-gun, Nara



#### Oka-dera Temple

Officially named Ryugai-ji, this temple is widely known as the first sacred place in Japan that wards off evil. Its principal image is one of the three large Buddhas forming Japan's largest clay statue, Nyoirin Kanzeon Bosatsu, which stands 4.6 m tall.  
■ 806 Oka, Asuka-mura, Takaichi-gun, Nara

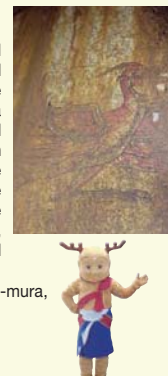


#### Kameishi (Tortoise Stone)

Legend holds that a snake and catfish battled over the lake that once filled the entire Nara basin. The snake prevailed, later drawing up all the water from the lake. After all the lake turtles had died from lack of water, villagers are said to have taken pity on the creatures and created this turtle stone, or *kameishi*, for the repose of their spirits.  
■ 108 Kawahara, Asuka-mura, Takaichi-gun, Nara

#### Kitora Tumulus

This two-level burial mound has attracted interest for its stone chamber containing a continental-style colored tomb mural. It depicts an astronomical chart; the twelve signs of the Chinese zodiac; and the four gods Genbu, Seiryu, Byakko, and Suzaku.  
■ 67 Abeyama, Asuka-mura, Takaichi-gun, Nara



### Asuka Circle Tour

Distance: 14.1 km Time required: about 1 hr 20 min

Asuka Station ▼ 0.6 km	Oka-dera Temple ▼ 0.9 km
Saruishi (Monkey Stones) ▼ 1.5 km	Ishibutai Tumulus ▼ 1.1 km
Kameishi (Tortoise Stone) ▼ 2.0 km	Tachibana-dera Temple ▼ 3.3 km
Asuka-dera Temple ▼ 0.5 km	Kitora Tumulus ▼ 1.6 km
Man-yobunkakan (Nara Prefecture Complex of Man-yo Culture) ▼ 1.3 km	Takamatsuzuka Tumulus ▼ 1.3 km
	Asuka Station

### Get cycling information here.

#### Rental Bicycles

Please visit the tourist portal on the web, "Exploring Asuka."  
[https://asukamura.com/?page\\_id=72](https://asukamura.com/?page_id=72)

#### Takamatsuzuka Tumulus

This two-level round burial mound from the Fujiwara Kyo period marks the final stage of the Kofun period. It suddenly came into the spotlight when a richly colored mural painting of a group of women was discovered in 1972.  
■ 439 Hirata, Asuka-mura, Takaichi-gun, Nara

## Tour the Ancient Burial Mounds

### Sakai, Osaka

### Mozu Mounded Tomb Group

#### Sakai City Museum



Enjoy the impressive computer-generated images of the Mozu and Furuichi Mounded Tomb Groups on the theater's giant 200-inch screen.

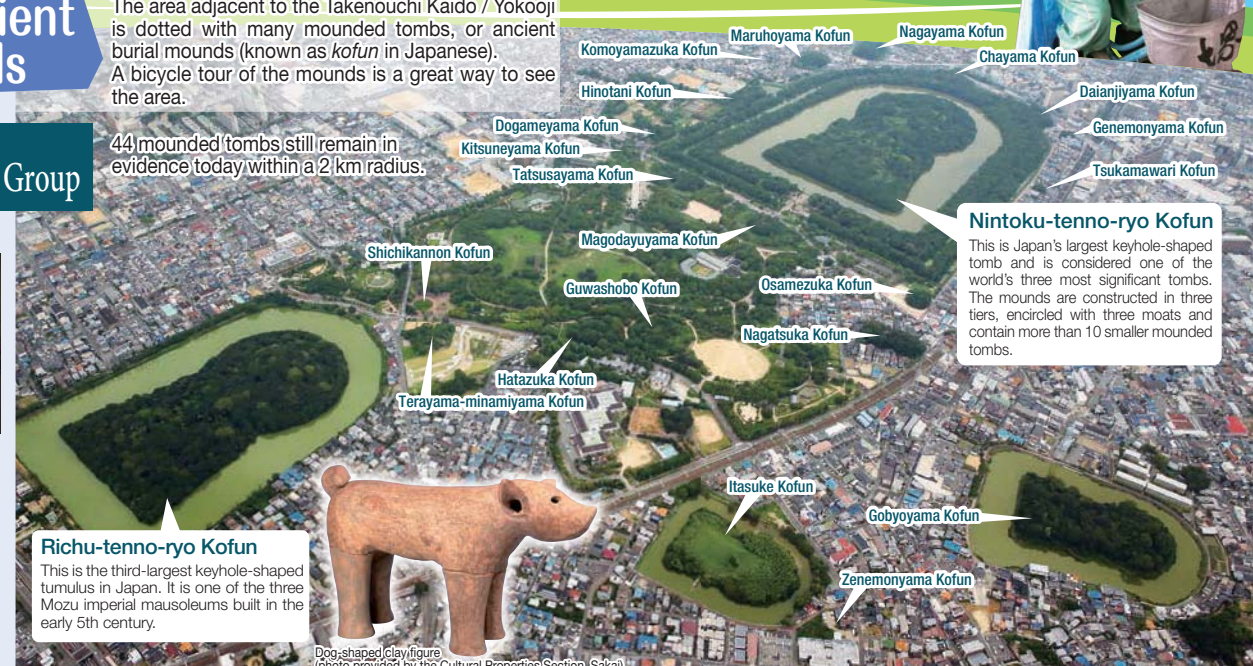
■ Daisen Park, 2 Mozusekiun-cho, Sakai-ku, Sakai, Osaka  
Open: 9:30-17:15

Adults: 200 yen; high school & university students: 100 yen; elementary & middle school students: 50 yen

Closed: Mondays (open on national holidays) and New Year's holiday

The area adjacent to the Takenouchi Kaido / Yokooji is dotted with many mounded tombs, or ancient burial mounds (known as *kofun* in Japanese). A bicycle tour of the mounds is a great way to see the area.

44 mounded tombs still remain in evidence today within a 2 km radius.



#### Richu-tenno-ryo Kofun

This is the third-largest keyhole-shaped tumulus in Japan. It is one of the three Mozu imperial mausoleums built in the early 5th century.



### Mozu Mounded Tomb Group Tour

Distance: 16.3 km Time required: about 1 hr 20 min

Daisen Park Tourist Information Center ▼ 1.8 km	Observation Lobby, 21st floor of Sakai City Hall ▼ 1.1 km	Richu-tenno-ryo Kofun ▼ 1.0 km	Nisanzai Kofun ▼ 1.8 km
Nagayama Kofun ▼ 1.5 km	Maruho-yama Kofun ▼ 1.1 km	Itasuke Kofun ▼ 0.7 km	Jonoyama Kofun ▼ 0.5 km
Hochigai Shrine ▼ 0.5 km	Nintoku-tenno-ryo Kofun ▼ 0.2 km	Gobyoyama Kofun ▼ 0.9 km	Gobyoomotezuka Kofun ▼ 1.7 km
Hanzei-tenno-ryo Kofun ▼ 0.5 km	Sakai City Museum (Mozu Kofun-gun Theater) ▼ 2.0 km	Mozu-hachimangu Shrine ▼ 1.0 km	Daisen Park Tourist Information Center

### Get cycling information here.

#### Rental Bicycles

##### Mozufuru Rental Bicycles

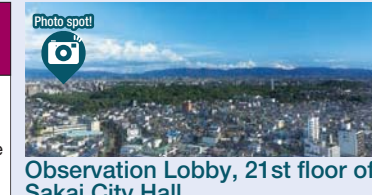
\* You can rent and return your bike at either bicycle rental location.

##### (Daisen Park Tourist Information Center)

■ 2-160 Mozusekiun-cho, Sakai-ku, Sakai, Osaka  
Open: 9:00-16:30  
Closed: Year-end and New Year's holiday  
TEL 072-245-6207

##### (Furuichi Station Bicycle Parking Lot)

■ 1-1-15 Furuichi, Habikino, Osaka  
Open: 9:00-18:00 (Availability for day of rental: 09:00-16:00)  
Closed: Year-end and New Year's holiday  
TEL 072-958-0303



#### Observation Lobby, 21st floor of Sakai City Hall

The top floor of the city hall includes a corridor lobby with a 360-degree panoramic view and tea corner. Admission is free.  
■ 3-1 Minamikawara-machi, Sakai-ku, Sakai, Osaka  
Open: 9:00-21:00  
Closed: Year-end and New Year's holiday

## The Takenouchi Kaido offers a treasure trove of kofun mounded tombs!

### Habikino, Osaka (Fujiidera) Furuichi Mounded Tomb Group

A total of 45 mounded tombs can be seen within a 2-km radius located along east-west and north-south axes. Many iron weapons and impressive tomb artifacts have been found in this area.

#### Ojin-tenno-ryo Kofun

This enormous mounded tomb is the second largest in Japan after the Nintoku-tenno-ryo Kofun. Its volume is the largest of all mounded tombs in Japan. The hills and slopes of the mound are adorned with *fukishi* (stones used to cover a mounded tomb) and it contains more than 20,000 cylindrical *haniwa* (clay figures) arranged in rows.  
■ 6 Konda, Habikino, Osaka



#### Minegazuka Kofun, Minezuka Park Administration Building

Of all the large keyhole-shaped tomb mounds in the Furuichi Mounded Tomb Group, only this mounded tomb has had its interior excavated for ongoing research. You can learn more about Furuichi Mounded Tomb Group in the adjacent Minezuka Park Administration Building.  
■ 2 Karasato, Habikino, Osaka  
Open: 10:00-17:15  
Closed: Thursdays and year-end and New Year's holiday



#### Minegazuka Kofun

Constructed in the second half of the 5th century, this keyhole-shaped mound rises 23 meters and is 200 meters long. Along a path extending from the Takenouchi Highway to the north of the mound, a reflection of this beautiful keyhole-shaped mound can be seen on the surface of the large moat.

#### Seine-tenno-ryo Kofun



# Spring



**Cherry Blossoms** Takada "Senbonzakura" (Yamatotakada)  
In bloom from late March to early April. Onaka Park features 2.5 km of cherry trees that extend along both sides of the river to the north and south.  
■ Onaka, Yamatotakada, Nara



**Rhododendrons** Oka-dera Temple (Asuka)  
In bloom from mid-April to early May. About 3,000 strains of rhododendron reach full bloom in the precincts. The blooms on both slopes of the approach to the Oku-no-in (inner sanctuary) are especially beautiful.  
■ 806 Oka, Asuka-mura, Takaichi-gun, Nara



**Chinese Peonies** Sekko-ji Temple (Katsuragi)  
In bloom from early to late May. About 500 plants of 100 varieties bloom in the precincts, including the American peony, which does not topple over like most peonies.  
■ 387 Someno, Katsuragi, Nara



**Tree Peonies** Hasedera Temple (Sakurai)  
In bloom from late April to early May. The peonies of Hase-dera Temple, known as "The Temple of Flowers," bloom throughout the four seasons depending on the variety. They colorfully embellish the entire shrine precincts.  
■ 731-1 Hase, Sakurai, Nara



**Roses** Ofusa Kannon Temple (Kashihara)  
In bloom from mid-May to mid-June. Enjoy this garden's about 3,800 roses of numerous varieties. In recent years, pleasing fragrances have emerged, with a particular focus on elegant English roses with many petals.  
■ 6-22 Osa-cho, Kashihara, Nara



**Cherry Blossoms** Osaka Castle Park (Osaka City)  
In bloom from late March to early April. About 3,000 cherry trees bloom in this park. About 300 of them are located around Someiyoshino in the Nishinomaru Garden. The cherry blossoms are illuminated at night.  
■ 1 Osaka-jo, Chuo-ku, Osaka

**Japanese Iris** Daisen Park Japanese Garden (Sakai)  
In bloom from late May to early June. In early summer, the shoreline of the circuit style garden — which is constructed with traditional techniques — is embellished with alpinia root and iris.  
■ Daisen-nakamachi, Sakai-ku, Sakai, Osaka  
Closed: Mondays (open if a national holiday, and closed next day) and New Year's holiday



**Hydrangea** Ono no Imoko Mausoleum (Taishi)  
In bloom from mid-June to mid-July. These flowers bloom serenely on both sides of the stairs toward the Ono no Imoko mausoleum adjacent to Shinaga Shrine.  
■ Yamada, Taishi-cho, Minamikawachi-gun, Osaka (near Shinaga Shrine)



**Lotus** Okuda Lotus Pond Park (Yamatotakada)  
In bloom from late June to early August. The Lotus Picking Rite, designated an intangible folk cultural property of Nara Prefecture, is held on the day of Tanabata in early July. These lotus blossoms are offered up at the summit of Mount Omine by mountain ascetics.  
■ 469-1 Okuda, Yamatotakada, Nara

**Sunflowers** Yamada District (Katsuragi)  
In bloom from mid-July to early August. The sunflowers blooming in the fields south of Yashikiyama Park present an exceptional sight.  
■ Yamada, Katsuragi, Nara



**Water Hyacinth** Ruins of Motoyakushiji Temple (Kashihara)  
In bloom from late August to late September. During the peak period, about 400,000 pale purple flowers can be seen spread across the paddy fields.  
■ 279 Kidono-cho, Kashihara, Nara



## Nature's Beauty Four Seasons Tour Highlights

The Takenouchi Kaido / to a wide variety of temples These sites are yours to  
Yokooji will take you and flower-viewing sites. enjoy throughout the year!

Cherry blossoms, Higashibojo (Kashihara)

Common cosmos, Fujiwara Palace (Kashihara)

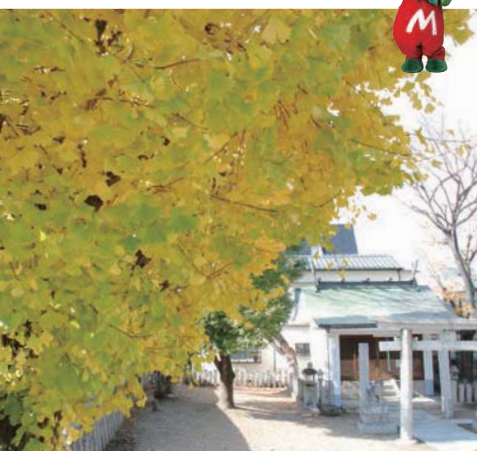
# Fall

**Common Cosmos** Ruins of Fujiwara Palace (Kashihara)  
In bloom from early to late October. Several kinds of cosmos, resembling a beautiful carpet, bloom on the site of the historic capital.  
■ Daigo-cho, Kashihara, Nara



**Cluster Amaryllis** Inabuchi District (Asuka)  
In bloom from mid to late September. The cluster amaryllis bloom in the rice terraces of Inabuchi, which have been included among the top one hundred most beautiful rice paddies of Japan. These blossoms complement the nostalgic countryside.  
■ Inabuchi, Asuka-mura, Takaichi-gun, Nara

**Ginkgo Trees** Kawai-jinja Shrine (Matsubara)  
In peak color from mid to late November. This small shrine is well loved by the local community. The colors of the ginkgo herald the arrival of the seasons.  
■ 3 Kawai, Matsubara, Osaka



**Autumn Leaves** Taima-dera Okuno-in Temple (Katsuragi)  
In peak color from late November to early December. The stone tower, statue of Buddha and autumnal leaves make a splendid combination. Also spectacular is the view of the twin towers from Seinan-in and its stunning foliage.  
■ 1263 Taima, Katsuragi, Nara

**Heavenly Bamboo** Shorinji Temple (Sakurai)  
In bloom from November to February. Heavenly bamboo (nandina), sarcandra glabra, and coralberry with its lovely fruit welcome the many visitors at the temple gate and throughout the precincts.  
■ 692 Shimo, Sakurai, Nara



**Winter-flowering Peony** Sekko-ji Temple (Katsuragi)  
In bloom from early December to early January. The head priest cultivates the winter-flowering peony by covering the plants with straw wrappers. Note the vitality of not only the blossoms but also the leaves and branches that seem to easily withstand the cold.  
■ 387 Someno, Katsuragi, Nara



**Plum Trees** Miyake-jinja Shrine (Matsubara)  
In bloom from late February to early March. Miyake Shrine is renowned for its weeping plums. A tea ceremony and other events are held during the Ume Festival.  
■ 4-1-8 Miyakenaka, Matsubara, Osaka

**Japanese Allspice** Yatsuri District (Asuka)  
In bloom from late January to early February. The rare Japanese allspice grows naturally along the Yatsuri River behind Asukaniimasu Shrine. The yellow blossoms and sweet fragrance comfort the spirit.  
■ Yatsuri, Asuka-mura, Takaichi, Nara



# Winter

\* Blooming schedules are approximate. Some sites charge admission fees.



# Popular Sweets and Traditional Local Cuisine

A diverse selection of traditional confectionery, novel

sweets, traditional local cuisine, and unique souvenirs

**Delicious Cuisine**

**Sweets**

**Sakai**

**Tsuboichi the tea house  
Matcha Milk Kintoki**

Delicious teas and sweets are yours to savor in a *machiya* (traditional townhouse) of Sakai. A favorite is the matcha-flavored shaved ice, which is light and cottony, prepared with a blade custom-crafted by a long-established swordsmith. This "weightless shaved ice," which melts in the mouth in a flash, is very popular.

■ 1-1-2 Kukenchogigashi, Sakai-ku, Sakai, Osaka

Sales: 10:30-18:00 / Tearoom 11:00-18:00

Closed: Tuesdays (Open on national holidays.) / New Year's holiday

☎ 072-227-7809

Matcha Milk Kintoki  
(Available April to October)

**Photo spot**



**Kashihara**

**Mutsuki Tiramisu**

This tiramisu is offered in a cedar box bearing an impressive pattern of *koma-tsunagi* (a ring for tying horses, a symbol of Imaicho). Ingredients include homemade candy, *matcha mizu-yokan* (adzuki-bean jelly), and dried persimmon. (Limited to 10 each day.)

■ 1-9-12 Imai-cho, Kashihara, Nara  
Open: 11:00-18:00 (from November to end of February 17:00) Closed: Mondays, Tuesdays & Wednesdays ☎ 0744-47-3717



**Katsuragi**

**Chujodo Shop Chujo Mochi**

Chujo mochi rice cake ("wormwood mochi") is a bite-size treat made from palm-sized rice cake. This traditional recipe has been handed down since olden days in the village of Taima. This delicacy is shaped to resemble peony petals.

■ 55-1 Taima, Katsuragi, Nara  
Open: 9:00-18:00 (until sold out)  
Closed: July / Mid-August-August 31 / December 31-early January  
☎ 0745-48-3211 (Toll-free: 0120-483-203)



**Yamatotakada**

**Patisserie Ange  
Mikuchan Nikkoring**

Mikuchan, the mascot of Yamatotakada, has been collaborating with this cake shop, a favorite of local residents for many years. It offers a variety of baked goods ranging from plain and matcha to caramel with unique ingredients, including specialty vegetables of Yamatotakada such as *kikuna*, *shirona*, and spinach, which are blended into their products.

■ 2-9 Hongo-cho, Yamatotakada, Nara  
Open: 8:30-20:00  
Closed: New Year's Day, January 2  
☎ 0745-52-4227



**Osaka City**

**JTRRD cafe  
Beauty Smoothie**

In addition to offering JTRRD original specialty coffees, this shop offers tea and healthful non-caffeine herbal teas that also enhance beauty. It features a menu with visually appealing food as well as colorful smoothies prepared with "super foods" that are delicious at the same time.

■ Head office: 1st Fl., Tatsuta Bldg., 3-4-5 Temma, Kita-ku, Osaka

Open: 12:00-17:00  
Closed: Mondays  
☎ 06-6882-4835

■ Utsubohommachi Branch:

1-7-13-1 Fl., Utsubohommachi, Nishi-ku, Osaka

Open: 11:00-18:00  
Closed: Thursdays  
☎ 06-6444-3365



**Kashihara**

**Sanaburiya Sanaburi Mochi**

In the old days, when the rice planting was done, it was common to prepare *kinako-mochi* (roasted-soybean powdered mochi) and offer it up to the gods of the rice fields in gratitude. The texture of the grain is unique because it is made from whole wheat with a granular feel that has long been popular in Yamato.

■ 243 Nawate-cho, Kashihara, Nara  
Open: 9:00-17:00 Closed: Tuesdays  
☎ 0744-22-2243



**Photo spot**

**Habikino**

**Kawachi Wine-kan  
Seasonal Shokado-bento + Wine**

Offering a combination of ingredients from each season along with exquisite wines chosen to complement the meal

■ 1027 Komagatani, Habikino, Osaka

Open: 10:00-18:00 (from 9:00 on Saturdays, Sundays & national holidays)

Closed: Irregular schedule ☎ 072-956-0181

**Sakai**

**Dining Room Hanachawan  
Kofun Curry**

This handcrafted curry dish is designed as a keyhole-shaped mound. The aromas of fruit and spice are exquisite. Available daily until sold out.

■ 2-265 Mozusekiun-cho, Sakai-ku, Sakai, Osaka

Open: 11:00-19:00 Closed: Irregular schedule

☎ 072-244-8725

**Gifts & Souvenirs**



**Sakai**

**Mozu Kofun-gun Souvenir Shop  
Mozuan**

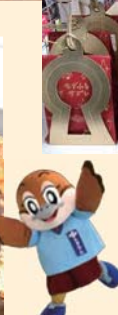
This shop offers a selection of unique souvenirs related to kofun and Sakai, including kofun cushions, kofun tote bags, and Mozu-Furu sablé shortbread.

■ Osamezuka Kofun Square in Daisen Park

2-150-4 Mozusekiun-cho, Sakai-ku, Sakai, Osaka

Open: 10:00-17:00  
Closed: Open year-round

☎ 072-350-5899



**Photo spot**

**Osaka City**

**Sohonke Tsuriganeya  
Manju Bun Temple Bell**

The Tsuriganeya shop was established in Shitennoji, Osaka, in 1900. The Manju Bun Temple Bell adopts the motif of the large bell of Shitennoji Temple, renowned as the best in the world. This Osaka specialty is a store original. The flavor of this delicacy has remained unchanged since the shop was founded.

■ 1-5-2 Daido, Tennoji-ku, Osaka

Weekdays: 8:00-18:00 / Sundays and national holidays: 8:00-17:00

Closed: Irregular schedule ☎ 06-6771-0044

**Katsuragi**

**Roadside Station  
Katsuragi**

This shop offers several popular favorites, including *karafurun* roll cakes and *mapurun* cheese cream & cookies.

■ 1257 Ota, Katsuragi, Nara

Agricultural direct retail sales shop: 8:30-19:00 / Forest Café: 9:00-18:00

Restaurant: 11:00-18:00

This facility provides travel information and offers a multipurpose square, washrooms, and 24-hour parking.

Closed: Open year-round (Not applicable to some stores in the facility) ☎ 0745-48-1147



**Asuka**

**Asuka-no-yumeichi Shop, Yumeichi-jyaya Tea House  
"Kodamai Gozen (Wild Rice set menu)"**

Enjoy a meal of ancient rice and local seasonal vegetables cooked with time and care by local housewives. The Asuka Nabe dinner is available during winter.

■ 154-3 Shimasho, Asuka-mura, Takaichi-gun, Nara

Open: 11:00-16:00 (until 17:00 on Saturdays, Sundays & national holidays)

Closed: Year-end and New Year's holiday

☎ 0744-54-9450



**Sakurai**

**Somen Morisho  
Miwa Somen**

These noodles can be enjoyed adjacent to the Ninotorii Gate of Omiwa-jinja Shrine. The persimmon-leaf sushi dinner is also recommended.

■ 535 Miwa, Sakurai, Nara

Weekdays: 10:00-16:30 / Saturdays, Sundays & national holidays: 9:30-17:00

Closed: Mondays & Tuesdays (Irregular schedule) ☎ 0744-43-7411



**Matsubara**

**Tsumura Butcher Shop  
Kawachi Duck**

For 140 years from the early Meiji period, this store has been raising a cross between mallards and domestic ducks. Fresh, safe and delicious Kawachi duck meat can also be purchased here.

\* No meals are served.

■ 8-10-24 Bessho, Matsubara, Osaka

Open: 9:00-17:00  
Closed: Sundays and irregular days

☎ 072-334-1111



**Asuka**

**Roadside Station Asuka**

Popular souvenirs such as "Asuka Sanpo" confections are available at the General Information Center, "Asukabito-no-Yakata."

■ 6-3 Koshi, Asuka-mura, Takaichi-gun, Nara

Asuka General Information Center

Asukabito-no-Yakata: 8:30-18:00 (Varies by season.)

Asuka Yume Shop, direct retail sales of agricultural products, 9:00-17:00

Closed: Year-end and New Year's holiday ☎ 0744-54-3240



**Asuka**

**Souvenir Shop  
Asuka Omoiedo**

Offering unique *haniwa* figurines and Buddha statues made with a 3D printer as well as "a row of four gods" made with tatami material.

■ 1218 Oka, Asuka-mura, Takaichi-gun, Nara

Open: 10:00-18:00  
Closed: Tuesdays (Open on national holidays.)

☎ 090-1482-3330





# Tourism Associations & Tourist Information Centers

Tourism Associations and Tourist Information Centers have been established in the various municipalities. We invite you take advantage of them to obtain more detailed local information.

## Osaka City

### Tourist Information OSAKA

■ Central Concourse, JR Osaka Station 1st Fl.,  
3-1-1 Umeda, Kita-ku, Osaka 530-0001  
Open: 7:00–23:00 Closed: Open throughout the year

### Information Center NAMBA

■ Nankai Terminal Bldg. 1st Fl., 5-1-60 Namba,  
Chuo-ku, Osaka 542-0076  
Open: 9:00–20:00 (Dec 31–Jan 3: 10:00–18:00)  
Closed: Open throughout the year

## Sakai City

### Sakai Tourism & Convention Bureau

■ 1-1-35 Kaino-cho Nishi, Sakai-ku, Sakai, Osaka 590-0950  
Open: 9:00–17:30  
Closed: Saturdays, Sundays & national holidays  
☎ 072-233-5258

### Sakai Station Tourist Information Center

■ 3-22-1 Ebisima-cho, Sakai-ku, Sakai, Osaka 590-0985  
Open: Sakai Station Building, 1st Fl.: 9:00–18:00  
Beside West Exit ticket gate: 10:00–19:00  
Closed: Year-end and New Year's holiday  
☎ 072-232-0331

### Sakaihigashi Tourist Information Center

■ 39-1 Mikunigaoka-miyukidori, Sakai-ku, Sakai, Osaka 590-0028  
Open: 9:00–19:00 Closed: Year-end and New Year's holiday  
☎ 072-238-7174

### Daisen Park Tourist Information Center

■ 2-160 Mozusekiun-cho, Sakai-ku, Sakai, Osaka 590-0802  
Open: 9:00–17:00 Closed: Year-end and New Year's holiday  
☎ 072-245-6207

## Matsubara City

### Matsubara City Tourism Association

■ 1-1-1 Ao, Matsubara, Osaka 580-0043  
Open: 9:00–17:30 Closed: Saturdays, Sundays and  
national holidays / year-end and New Year's holiday  
☎ 072-330-8201

## Habikino City

### Habikino City Tourism Association

■ Habikino City Hall Tourist Section  
4-1-1 Konda, Habikino, Osaka 583-8585  
Open: 9:00–17:30 Closed: Saturdays, Sundays and  
national holidays / year-end and New Year's holiday  
☎ 072-947-3725

### Habikino tourist information office

■ 1-1-19 Furuichi, Habikino, Osaka 583-0852  
Open: Weekdays: 9:30–17:00  
Saturdays, Sundays & national holidays: 9:00–17:00  
Closed: Thursdays, year-end and New Year's holiday

## Taishi Town

### Taishi-cho Tourism and Community Development Association

■ 88 Yamada, Taishi-cho, Minamikawachi-gun, Osaka 583-0992  
Open: 9:00–17:15 Closed: Mondays, Tuesdays & year-end  
and New Year's holiday ☎ 0721-21-1600

## Katsuragi City

### Katsuragi City Tourism Association and Tourist Information Center

■ Premises of the Sumo Museum of Katsuragi City KEHAYA-ZA  
83-1 Taima, Katsuragi, Nara 639-0276  
Open: 10:00–17:00 Closed: Tuesdays & Wednesdays  
(Open if Tuesday or Wednesday is a national holiday.)  
☎ 0745-48-4611

### Information Center, Roadside Station Katsuragi

★ On Saturdays, Sundays and national holidays, volunteer  
guides are available in the information center inside  
Roadside Station Katsuragi.

■ 1257 Ota, Katsuragi, Nara 639-2153

## Yamatotakada City

### Yamatotakada City

■ 100-1 Onaka, Yamatotakada, Nara 635-8511  
Open: 8:30–17:15  
Closed: Saturdays, Sundays and national holidays /  
year-end and New Year's holiday  
☎ 0745-22-1101

## Kashihara City

### Kashihara City Tourism Exchange Center, Tourist Information Office

■ 1st Fl., Kashihara City Tourism Exchange Center  
1-6-8 Naizencho, Kashihara, Nara 634-0804  
Open: 9:00–19:00 Closed: Open year-round  
☎ 0744-47-2270

### Kashihara City Tourism Association

■ 2nd Fl., Kashihara City Tourism Exchange Center  
1-6-8 Naizencho, Kashihara, Nara 634-0804  
Open: 9:00–19:00 Closed: Open year-round  
☎ 0744-20-1123

### Kashihara Tourist Information Center Jingumae

■ 1st Fl., Shoko Keizai Kaikan  
652-2 Kumecho, Kashihara, Nara 634-0063  
Open: 9:00–19:00 Closed: Open year-round  
☎ 0744-27-2070

## Sakurai City

### Sakurai City Tourism Association

■ 2nd Fl., Sakurai Shoko Kaikan  
260-2 Kawai, Sakurai, Nara 633-0063  
Open: 8:30–17:15 Closed: Saturdays, Sundays and  
national holidays / year-end and New Year's holiday  
☎ 0744-42-7530

### Sakurai Tourism Information Office

■ Kintetsu Sakurai Station premises  
190-2 Sakurai, Sakurai City, Nara 633-0091  
Open: Jan/Feb/Mar/July/Aug/Dec: 8:30–17:15  
Apr/May/June/Sept/Oct/Nov: 8:15–17:00 Closed: Year-end  
and New Year's holiday ☎ 0744-44-2377

### Hase Tourism Center

■ 1593-2 Hase, Sakurai, Nara 633-0112  
Open: 9:00–17:00 Closed: Tuesdays, Wednesdays &  
year-end and New Year's holiday ☎ 0744-44-3331

## Asuka Village

### Asuka Sightseeing Association

■ 6-3 Koshi, Asuka-mura, Takaichi-gun, Nara 634-0138  
Open: 8:30–18:00 (Varies by season)  
Closed: Year-end and New Year's holiday ☎ 0744-54-3240



# Information on Volunteer Guides

Volunteer guides are available in each city. If you need a guide, please contact them directly as indicated.

## Osaka City

### NPO Osaka Volunteer Guide Council

■ Premises of Osaka-jo Castle Park Center, 3-11 Osaka-jo, Chuo-ku, Osaka 542-0002  
Open: 10:00–15:30 Note: No response is available outside these hours.  
☎ 090-3059-6923 / 090-3493-9269

## Sakai City

### NPO Sakai Tourist Volunteers Association

■ 4th Fl., Kawaramachi Ueno Bldg., 2-3-29 Nakakawara-machi, Sakai-ku, Sakai,  
Osaka 590-0077  
Open: 10:00–16:30 Reservation deadline: About two weeks in advance.  
☎ 072-233-0531

## Matsubara City

### Matsubara Town Guides

■ Matsubara City Tourism Association, 6th Fl., Matsubara City Hall, 1-1-1 Ao, Matsubara,  
Osaka 580-0043  
Open: 9:00–17:30 Closed: Saturdays, Sundays and national holidays / year-end and  
New Year's holiday ☎ 072-330-8201

## Habikino City

### Habikino (matiarukigaidonokai) Walking Guide

■ Premises of Tourism Association, 4-1-1 Konda, Habikino, Osaka 583-8585  
Open: (Weekdays 9:00–17:30) Habikino City Tourism Association, premises of Tourism  
Section, Habikino City Hall (Saturdays, Sundays & national holidays: 9:00–17:00)  
Tourist Information Center, Furuichi Station Higashi Hiroba ☎ 072-958-1111

## Taishi Town

### Association of Taishi Guides

■ 88 Yamada, Taishi-cho, Minamikawachi-gun, Osaka 583-0992  
Open: 9:00–17:15 Closed: Mondays, Tuesdays & year-end and New Year's holiday  
☎ 0721-21-1600

## Katsuragi City

### Tourism Volunteer Guide Association, Katsuragi City

■ Premises of the Sumo Museum of Katsuragi City KEHAYA-ZA, 83-1 Taima, Katsuragi,  
Nara 639-0276  
Open: 10:00–17:00 Booking deadline: 10 days in advance Closed: Tuesdays,  
Wednesdays & year-end and New Year's holiday ☎ 0745-48-4611

## Yamatotakada City

### Yamatotakada Cultural Property Volunteer Guide Association

■ Premises of Lifelong Learning Section, Yamatotakada City Board of Education  
1-15 Nishimachi, Yamatotakada, Nara 635-0096  
Open: 8:30–17:15 Booking deadline: one week in advance Closed: Saturdays,  
Sundays and national holidays / year-end and New Year's holiday ☎ 0745-53-6264

## Kashihara City

### Volunteer Guides, Kashihara City Tourism Association

■ Premises of Kashihara City Tourism Association, 2nd Fl., Kashihara City Tourism  
Exchange Center, 1-6-8 Naizencho, Kashihara, Nara 634-0804  
Open: 8:30–19:00 Booking deadline: one week in advance  
Closed: Open year-round ☎ 0744-20-1123

## Sakurai City

### Tourism Volunteer Guide Association, Sakurai City

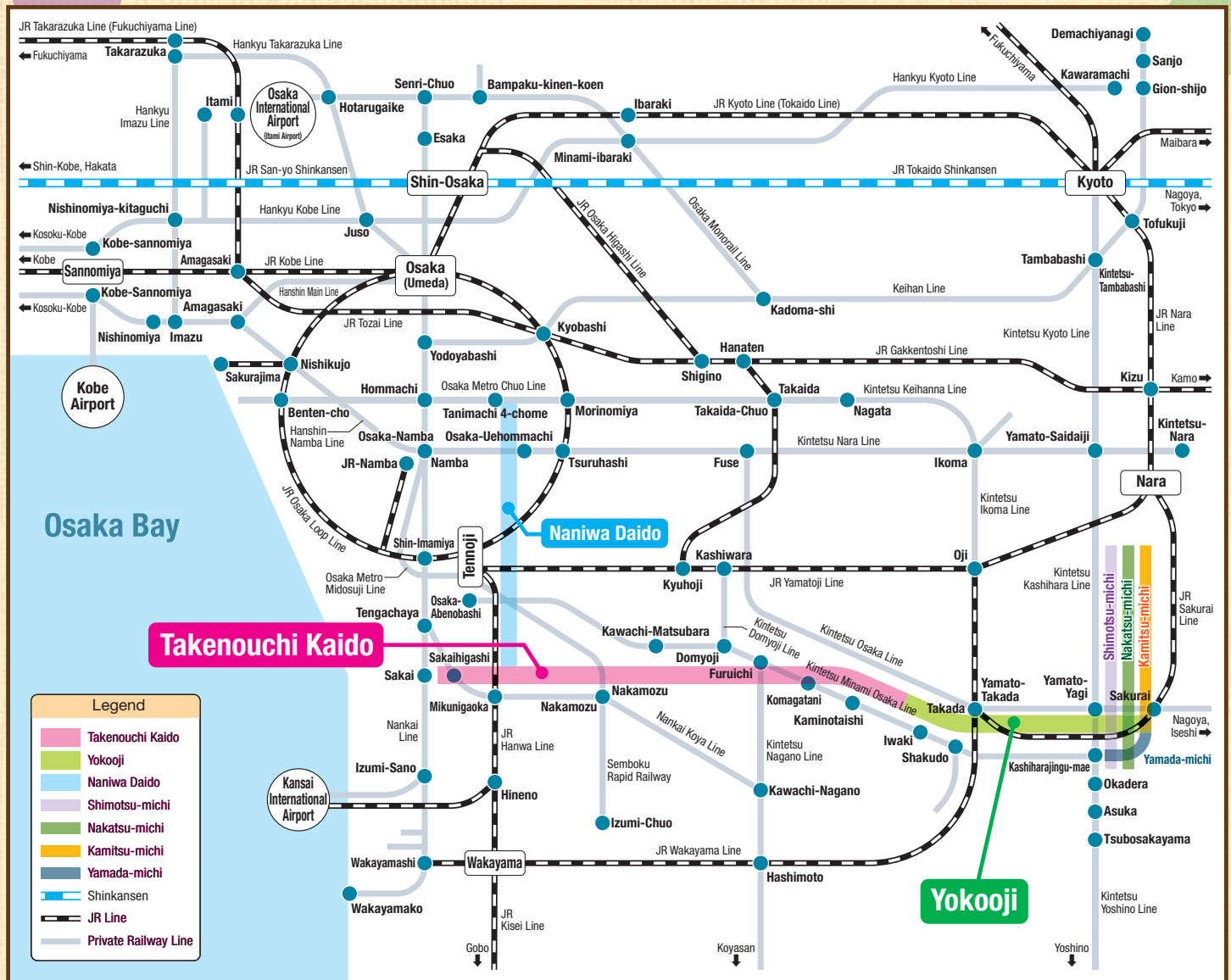
■ Premises of Sakurai Tourism Urban Planning Section, 432-1 Oono, Sakurai,  
Nara 633-0062  
Open: 8:30–17:15 Booking deadline: one week in advance Closed: Saturdays,  
Sundays and national holidays / year-end and New Year's holiday ☎ 0744-42-9111

## Asuka Village

### Volunteer Guides, Asuka Sightseeing Association

■ 6-3 Koshi, Asuka-mura, Takaichi-gun, Nara 634-0138  
Open: 8:30–17:00 Booking deadline: 10 days in advance  
Closed: Year-end and New Year's holiday ☎ 0744-54-3240

# Access Map for Takenouchi Kaido / Yokooji



## For more information

### Osaka Prefecture

<b>Osaka City</b>	Planning Division, Construction Bureau Tel: 06-6615-6425
<b>Sakai City</b>	Civil Engineering Management Division, Civil Engineering Department, Construction Bureau Tel: 072-228-7416
<b>Matsubara City</b>	Tourism Division, Civic Life Department Tel: 072-334-1550
<b>Habikino City</b>	Policy Promotion Division, The Mayor's Public Office Tel: 072-958-1111
<b>Taishi Town</b>	Tourism Section, Urban Planning Department Tel: 0721-98-5521

### Nara Prefecture

<b>Katsuragi City</b>	Department of Commerce and Industry, Tourism Division Tel: 0745-44-5111
<b>Yamatotakada City</b>	Industry Promotion Section, Civil Affairs Department Tel: 0745-22-1101
<b>Kashihara City</b>	Tourism Planning Section Tel: 0744-22-4001
<b>Sakurai City</b>	Tourism & Development Division Tel: 0744-42-9111
<b>Asuka Village</b>	Industrial Promotion Section Tel: 0744-54-2001

## Publication

Takenouchi Kaido / Yokooji: Japan's Oldest National Highway From Naniwa to Asuka Revitalization Executive Committee

(Osaka Prefecture, Osaka City, Sakai City, Matsubara City, Habikino City, Taishi Town, Nara Prefecture, Katsuragi City, Yamatotakada City, Kashihara City, Sakurai City, Asuka Village)

<http://www.saikonokandou.com>

\* The information in this guide is effective as of December 2018 and is subject to change.

\* Before heading out, we suggest you contact your destination to confirm admission fees, product availability, and other details.

## Contact

Plan Group, Road Improvement Division, Traffic and Road Office,  
Department of Urban and Public Works, Osaka Prefecture  
Tel: 06-6941-0351

Tourism Capacity Improvement Division, Tourism Bureau,  
Regional Promotion Bureau, Nara Prefecture  
Tel: 0742-27-8974