



Sasayama

The Bounty of Nature MAP P36

The Tamba-Sasayama region is known for its elegance. Located close to Kyoto, the area developed a long time ago. With many samurai and merchant houses still standing, the castle-town of Sasayama has historic remnants. Tachikui pottery is one of the six oldest potteries in Japan, and it has over 800 years of history. It is a popular souvenir from the area. This region is nationally famous for botan-nabe, a hotpot with locally caught boar meat cooked in miso soy bean paste. Also popular are chestnuts, matsutake-mushrooms, and black beans.

Tachikui Sue-no-Sato

(Tachikui Pottery Village)



Experience hands on pottery workshops with an exciting variety of making techniques.

Website: <https://tanbayaki.com/english/english.html>
Tel: 079-597-2034

Price: High School Students and older ¥200, Elementary and Junior High School Students ¥50

Hours: Apr - Sept 10:00-18:00, Oct - Mar 10:00-17:00
Date closed 12/29 - 1/3

Access: Catch the Shinki Green Bus headed for Shimizu from 10 minutes from JR Aino station. Get off at Sue-no-Sato-mae.

Museum of Noh Artifacts



Noh masks and costumes used in traditional Japanese Noh dance are on display.

Website: <http://www.nohgakushiryokan.jp/>
Tel: 079-552-3513
Hours: 9:00-17:00

Closed date: Mondays (The following day when Mondays falls on a national holiday) and New Year's holidays. 7/1-8/31, 12/25-2/28.

Admission: Adults ¥500, High school & College students ¥400, Elementary & Junior high school students ¥200

Access: 20 minutes by Shinki Green Bus from JR Sasayama-guchi station to Hon-Sasayama.

The Museum of Ceramic Art, Hyogo



Museum with a wide range of Hyogo ceramics, mainly Tamba and Izushi style potteries, are on display.

Website: <http://www.mcart.jp/english/>
Tel: 079-597-3961

Hours: Apr - Oct: 10:00-19:00, Nov - Mar 10:00-18:00

Access: Take the Shinki Green Bus headed for Shimizu from JR Aino station. Get off at the Hyogo-Tougei-Bijutsu-Kan.

JA Tamba Sasayama Restaurant & Store



The Tamba-Sasayama region's specialties can be found in this one location.

Website: <http://www.tokusankansasayama.com/jatanba/tokusan/index.html>
Tel: 079-552-3386

Hours: 10:00-18:00 Closed on Wednesdays

Access: 15 minutes by Shinki Green Bus from JR Sasayamaguchi station to Kasugajinja.

Sasayama Castle Daisho-in



Splendid wooden building reconstructed on the Sasayama Castle Ruins.

Website: http://www.withsasayama.jp/REKIBUN/soyojin_top.htm
Tel: 079-552-4500

Hours: 9:00-17:00 (Last entry 16:30)
Closed on Mondays.

Admission: Adults ¥400, High school and College students ¥200, Elementary and junior high school students ¥100 (Group discounts available) Four-Facility Pass (Sasayama Castle Daisho-in, Aoyama History Village, Anma Family Samurai Residence Museum, and Sasayama Historical Art Museum): Adults ¥600, High school and college students ¥300, Elementary and Junior High School Students ¥150

Access: Take the Shinki Green Bus Sasayama-Eigyosho from JR Sasayama-guchi station for 15 minutes. Get off at the Nikaimachi bus stop and walk for 5 minutes.



Enjoy great tasting sweets made from black beans, Tamba Dainagon beans, chestnuts, and other foods taken from the fruit park in Tamba.

Visitors can also participate in harvesting the fruit.



Awaji

MAP P38

The creation of Japan began with Awaji Island

Awaji, the first island to be formed according to the creation myth of Japan, is located about an hour drive from Kobe. It is a popular island-resort, where you can find abundant nature, delicious food from both the land and the sea, and hot springs.

Awaji Yumebutai



With over 70 acres of land, this park includes large conference halls, a resort hotel, an outdoor theater, a botanical garden, and other facilities. Originally, land from this area was taken to build Kansai International Airport, but the famous architect, Tadao Ando, wanted to rebuild the area with the concept of harmony between humans and nature. His unique concrete-based buildings match perfectly with the recovering nature.

Website: <http://www.yumebutai.co.jp/> Tel: 0799-74-1000

Access: A 1 hour ride on JR Bus/ Honshi-Kaikyo Bus from Sannomiya station. Get off at the Awaji Yumebutai-mae bus stop.



Awaji Ningyo-za puppet theatre ★★



Awaji Ningyo Joruri (puppetry) has a history of over 500 years. It is designated as an Important Intangible Cultural Property. Its new pavilion opened in August 2012.

Website: <http://awajiningyoza.com/other/>
Tel: 0799-52-0260

Show times: 10:00, 11:10, 13:30, 15:00

Ticket: Adults ¥1,500, Senior/ Junior high school students ¥1,300, Elementary schoolchildren ¥1,000, Children (3+) ¥300

Access: Take the highway bus from Sannomiya to Fukura. (90 minutes)



Nijigen no Mori

("Two dimensional forest")



Usually, people enjoy anime, manga or games as an indoor activity. Nijigen no Mori is an experience-based anime park where visitors can enjoy the world of these 2D contents through physical activities using their five senses.

Website: <http://nijigennomori.com/>
Tel: 0799-64-7061

Access: 2 minute walk from JR Sannomiya station. (Sannomiya Bus Terminal) Approximately 40 minute from Sannomiya to Awaji Interchange, and then change shuttle service to Nijigen no Mori.

Night Walk Area -Hi no Tori night walk area-

Hours: Sep 18:30-22:00, Oct 18:00-22:00, Nov-Dec 17:30-22:00 (Last entry 20:30) It depends on the seasons.

Admission: Adults ¥3,300, Child (5 - elementary school students) ¥1,200

※For more information, please see the Website.

Izanagi Shrine



Izanami and Izanagi, the creators of Japan, are enshrined at this ancient shrine. It is said to bring luck to marriage and longevity.

Website: <http://izanagi-jingu.jp/hp/>
Tel: 0799-80-5001

Access: Take Awaji Kotsu express bus from Sannomiya to Tsuna Kou and change to the Awaji Kotsu bus Nishiura Line. Five minute ride to Izanagi Jingu-mae bus stop.

Uzushio Science Museum



Uzushio (whirlpools) are created by various natural phenomena. Visitors can feel the wonder and learn the value of whirlpools through hands-on activities by "meeting, experiencing and playing with" them.

Naruto Whirlpools

One of the three fastest currents in the world, Naruto Whirlpools form every 6 hours when the tide changes.

Website: <http://kinen.uzunokuni.com/kagakukan.html>
Tel: 0799-52-2888

Hours: 9:00-17:00 (Last entry 16:30) Closed on Tuesdays, except for national holidays. 1/1

Admission: Adults ¥500, junior/high school students ¥200, elementary school children ¥100

Access: 2 minute walk from JR Sannomiya station. (Shinki Bus Sannomiya Bus Terminal) Approximately 90 minute from Sannomiya to Fukura Bus Terminal, and then change shuttle service to Uzunooka Onarutoko Memorial Hall. (20 min.)

Japan Heritage

The legacies that represent unique regional histories, traditions and customs, preserved in the form of “stories,” have served to pass down Japan’s culture and tradition and are recognized by the Agency for Cultural Affairs as “Japan Heritage.” This system aims to promote regional revitalization by supporting each region’s independent efforts to maintain and utilize the entirety of various attractive cultural assets that comprise the abovementioned stories, and strategically publicize them widely in Japan and around the world.

Dekansho-bushi in Tamba-Sasayama

hometown memories passed down in folk songs
[Sasayama City] / Designated in 2015



Tamba-Sasayama once flourished as a castle town. The dekansho-bushi is the folk song deriving from local folk song sung in that region during the Edo Period (1603-1868), and its lyrics have conveyed the local

climate and culture, human nature, famous sights, and culinary specialties of each area and of the times. People here have sung the dekansho-bushi for generations, treasuring the landscapes of their villages and enhancing their affection for their hometown. To this day, local people have continued to create new lyrics to pass down new traditions on to the next generation. Through the dekansho-bushi (which has grown to over 300 verses long), we can experience the traditions of Tamba-Sasayama, as well as its streetscapes of rows of old houses and charming paths.

The Gin-no-Bashamichi and the Koseki-no-Michi

Old Silver Mine Carriage Road and Road of Ore

a 73 km track that supported the resource-rich country
[Himeji City, Fukusaki Town, Ichikawa Town, Kamikawa Town, Asago City, Yabu City] / Designated in 2017



The Gin-no-Bashamichi is a straight track in the Bantan region in the center of Hyogo, stretching from south to north to connect Shikama Port in Himeji and the Ikuno Silver Mine. The Koseki-no-Michi further

stretches to the Akenobe and Nakaze Mines. The 73 kilometer track runs through old station towns retaining its atmosphere from the Meiji Era (1868-1912), leads to mine towns, and finally reaches the quiet tunnels of each mine. These mines are the starting point of Japan’s modernization and the terminal of this track. Visitors will be able to see the quaint landscape of mine towns and the history of local lifestyles while imagining mineral-rich old Japan.

Awaji Island: creation of Japan’s first island and the people of the sea

[Awaji City, Sumoto City, Minami-Awaji City]
Designated in 2016



The *Kojiki* (“Records of Ancient Matters”), Japan’s oldest existing written record of its history, begins with the country’s creation myth. According to this, Awaji Island was the first island that was created in Japan. What lies

beneath this story is the existence of the Ama (“people of the sea”), who created a new era and supported the government, provincial kings and people in the capital in Japan’s Kansai region by introducing metal tools, salt-making techniques and advanced navigation skills. Awaji Island, the largest island in the Seto Inland Sea, represents the history of the Ama who played a central role in the formation of ancient Japan.

Six Ancient Kilns

home of pottery born and developed in Japan
[Sasayama City (Hyogo Prefecture) and others]
Designated in 2017



The Six Ancient Kilns are Japan’s six most noteworthy pottery sites of old: Tamba, Seto, Tokoname, Shigaraki, Bizen and Echizen. At these kilns, traditional techniques that Japan boasts to the world and date back to

the prehistoric Jomon period have been preserved. These are the 100% Japanese pottery production sites, born and developed in Japan. People have been engaged in the production of pottery in these areas since medieval times, and there are maze-like alleys that lead to kiln sites and studios of various sizes. While walking along the walls, led on by the smoke from chimneys as though you are searching for a lover, you will find yourself in the world of traditional Japanese beauty that cherishes simplicity and nature.

Hot Springs in Hyogo

Some of the best onsen in the prefecture.



Arima Onsen

Along with Dogo Onsen and Shirahama Onsen, Arima Onsen is one of the three oldest in Japan, with over 1400 years of history. It is located on the northern part of Mt. Rokko.



Kinosaki Onsen

Taste seasonal delicacies along with delicious seafood at Kinosaki Onsen. Going on a sotoyu-meguri (visiting seven different hot springs) in a yukata and geta sandals is a traditional way to enjoy Kinosaki.



Yumura Onsen

With over 1,000 years of history, this quiet hot spring nestled in the mountains is loved by many. The hottest spring reaches 98°C, which is hot enough to boil an egg.



Takarazuka Onsen

This 700 year-old hot springs has been popular since the Kamakura period. Conveniently located close to Kobe and Osaka, it is located right next to the famous Takarazuka Grand Theater.



Takedao Onsen

Located in Mukogawa Valley, it is surrounded by beautiful nature. The hot spring can be easily accessed from Kobe and Osaka. This area is also a top spot to view beautiful autumn leaves.



Shiota Onsen

Famous for the captivating view of Seppiko Mountain from the hot springs, it is also called Harima’s getaway, and attracts a number of visitors.



Ako Onsen

It is famous for its stunning view overlooking the Seto Inland Sea. The hot springs is also called “the Hot Spring of Youth” because it is said to be beneficial for your bones, muscles, and skin.



Sumoto Onsen

It is located in a historical castle-town along the coast of Sumoto. The largest hot spring town on Awaji Island, it is considered to be a resort-hot springs.



Iwaya Onsen

It is located on top of a hill overlooking the Akashi Kaikyo Bridge. Water contains radon, which is said to be good for your body. Located on the northern tip of Awaji, it is popular onsen at the entrance to Awaji Island.