

FREE



Fukuoka City Historical and Cultural

Walking Map



Fukuoka City Historical and Cultural Walking Map

Fukuoka City has developed as an urban center through maritime exchange for over 2,000 years. This map introduces 10 routes where urban life, history, and traditional culture coexist, allowing you to experience the charm of Fukuoka's rich heritage alongside its modern cityscape. We hope you'll find it helpful as a companion for exploring the city!

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*The routes introduced in this booklet can also be enjoyed as official routes in the Pokémon GO app.

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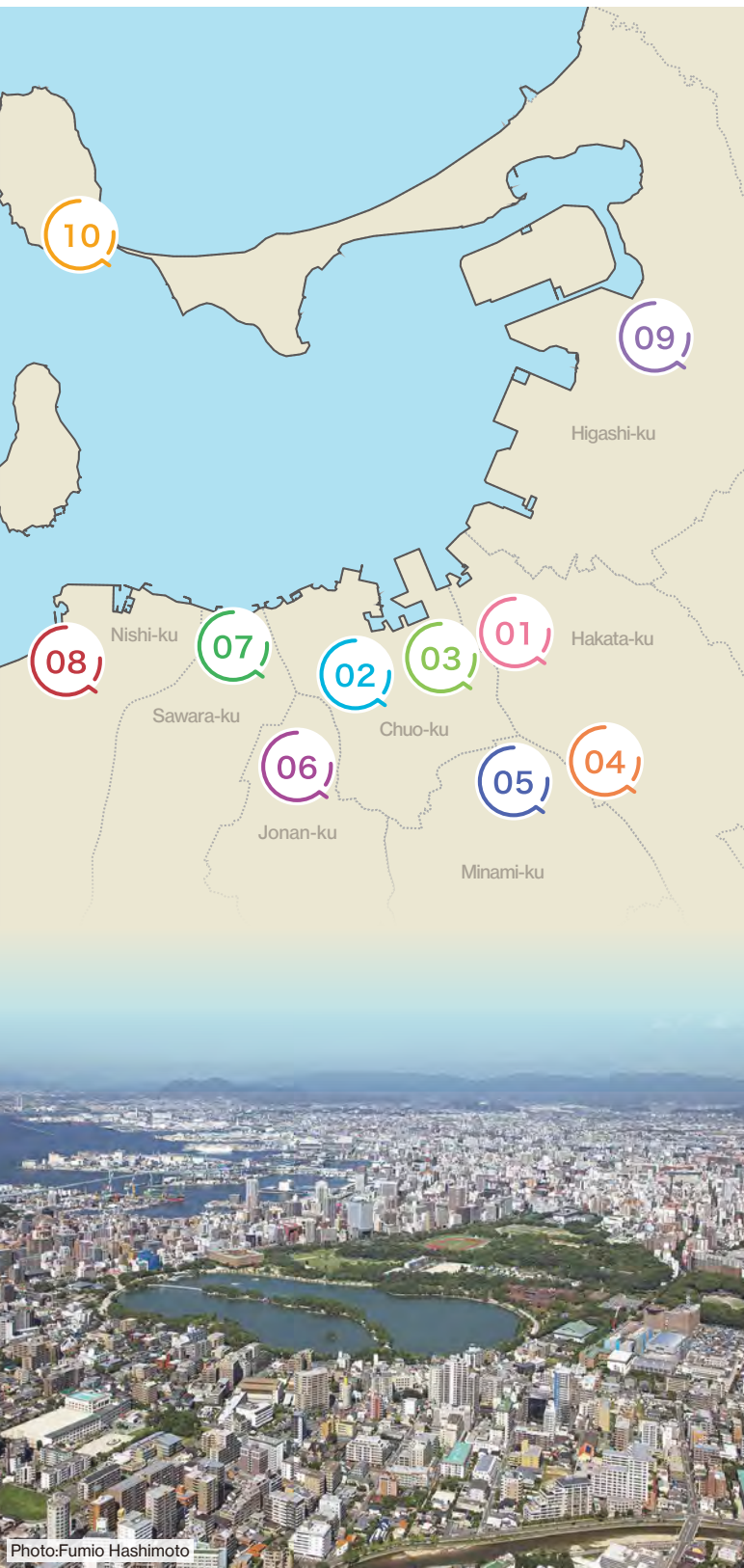
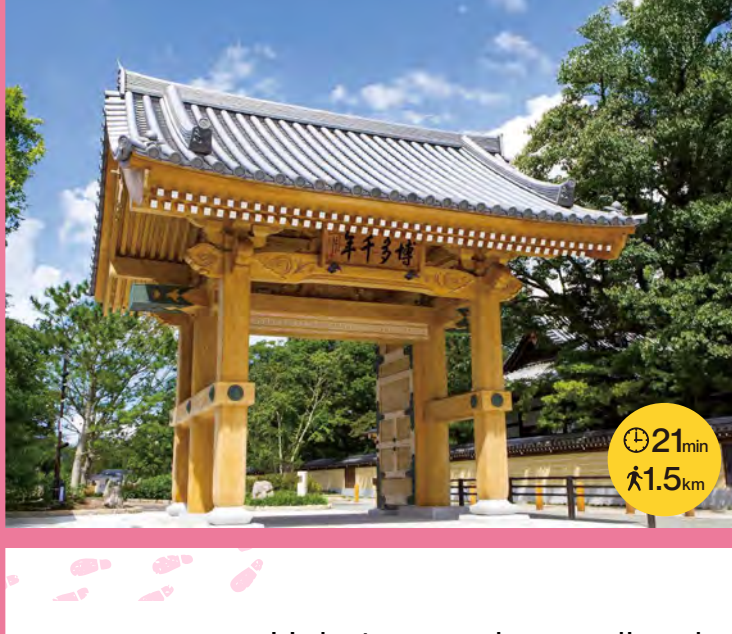


Photo:Fumio Hashimoto



Hakata, a major medieval trade port, has an Old Town with historic temples, traditions, and a vibrant festival-loving culture.

A

JR Hakata Station



The subway symbol mark is designed using the motif of Hakata Kenjo-ori textile, representing the station's role as a gateway to a city of commerce.

B

Hakata Sennen-no Mon



This gate, the entrance to Hakata, served on the old state road from Hakata to Dazaifu during the Edo period. The name "Hakata Sennen no Mon" was chosen out of the numerous submissions from all over the country.

C

Jotenji Temple



It was built by Shakokumei, a merchant from the Song dynasty. Jotenji is known as a place of origins and many traditions such as Hakata Gion Yamakasa and soba and udon making are said to have begun here. It is a quiet retreat away from the hustle and bustle of the Hakata area.

D

Tochoji Temple



Tochoji was built by Japanese Buddhist monk, Kukai, also known as Kobo-Daishi. Tochoji is the first temple he built in Japan. Famous within Fukuoka, the graves of several of Fukuoka's feudal lords can be found within, and the largest seated wooden Buddha in all of Japan is a must-see.

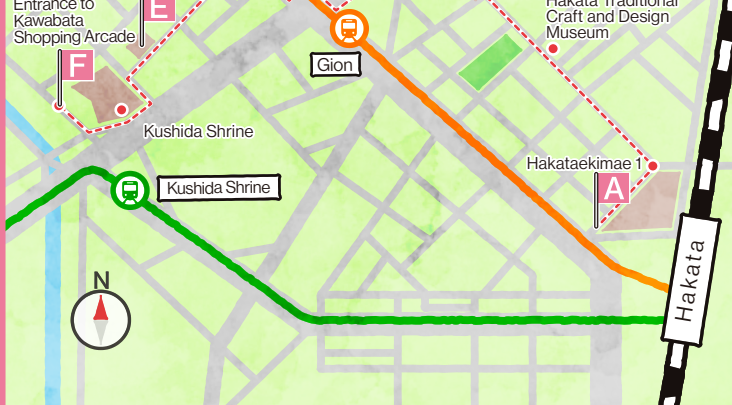
E

Hakata Machiya Folk Museum



Hakata Machiya Folk Museum stands on a tranquil street on the other side of Kushida Shrine, the tutelary shrine of the city. Hakata doll and other traditional craft painting activities are available in addition to exhibits.

Highlights Along the Route





Minamimaru Tamon Turret

 23min
 1.6km

Fukuoka Castle, built by Lord Kuroda Nagamasa, is a national historic site. The Fukuoka Art Museum houses cultural treasures of the Kuroda family.

A

Ropponmatsu Subway Station



The Fukuoka City Science Museum, and both shopping and cultural facilities can be found here. With Ohori Park within walking distance, one can appreciate the best of nature and urban living.

B

Ropponmatsu Stores Federation



The Ropponmatsu area is home to stylish and unique shops. It's the perfect place to explore Fukuoka's local gourmet scene and cafés. Don't miss a walk through its nostalgic, retro backstreets!

C

The Fukuoka City Art Museum

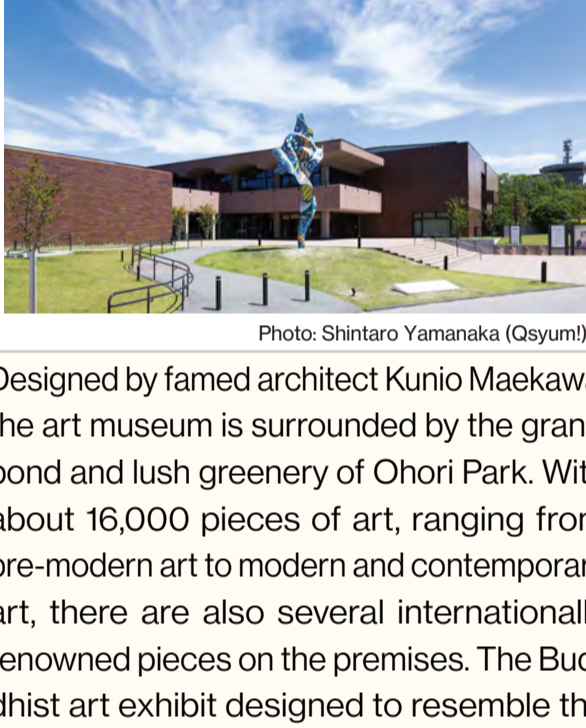


Photo: Shintaro Yamanaka (Qsyum!)

Designed by famed architect Kunio Maekawa, the art museum is surrounded by the grand pond and lush greenery of Ohori Park. With about 16,000 pieces of art, ranging from pre-modern art to modern and contemporary art, there are also several internationally renowned pieces on the premises. The Buddhist art exhibit designed to resemble the main hall of a Buddhist temple is a must-see.

D

Fukuoka Castle Ruins



Built in 1607 by the Kuroda family, the lords of the Fukuoka domain, the scale of this castle is one of the largest in western Japan". The castle ruins include structures such as the tenshudai (main keep base), Tamon turret, (presumed) Shiomi turret, Shimonohashi gate, the Nagayamon gate of the former Mori Tahei residence, Najima gate, and the site of the falconry quarters, offering a glimpse into its historical past.

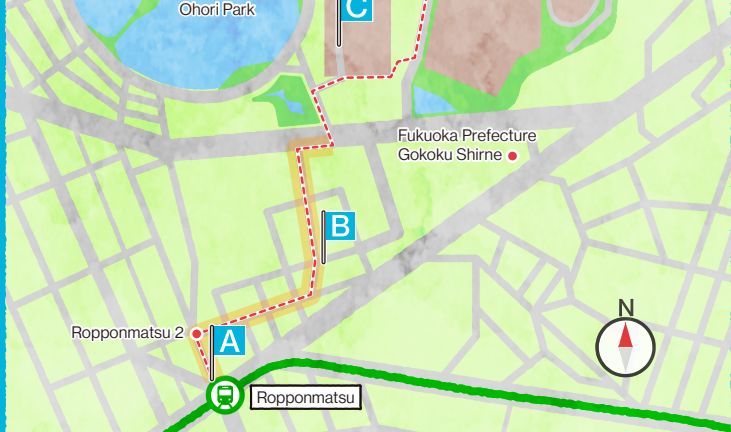
E

Korokan Ruins



Near the Fukuoka Castle Ruins one will find what remains of one of the foremost ancient reception halls in the city, the Korokan. The facility was used as a place to host and receive Chinese and Korean delegations, as well as lodgings for Japanese delegates heading overseas to both countries. Exhibited here are some of the objects that were unearthed when the facility was discovered.

Highlights Along the Route





ACROS Fukuoka

Tenjin, Fukuoka's commercial hub, blends modern heritage with history and culture. Explore Kyushu's busiest district and experience its rich charm.

A

Tenjin Subway Station Exit 16

天神
Tenjin

Plum blossoms were used to create a connection with the god Tenjin, for whom the area was named. The centrality of the district is communicated by the round shape of the flower petals.

B

Suikyo Tenmangu Shrine



Originally located in Imaizumi, it was moved to its current location by Kuroda Nagamasa, the first lord of the Fukuoka domain, in 1612. He established the shrine to protect the north-eastern "demon gate" of Fukuoka Castle, making it a guardian deity of the region and leading to the naming of the area as "Tenjin."

C

Fukuoka Akarenga Cultural Center



The construction of this building was completed in 1909, it was designed by Kingo Tatsuno and Yasushi Kataoka, two of the most famous architects in Meiji period. It is designed in 19th century British style, with red bricks and the external walls of granite, and carries other various features such as steeples and dome structures.

D

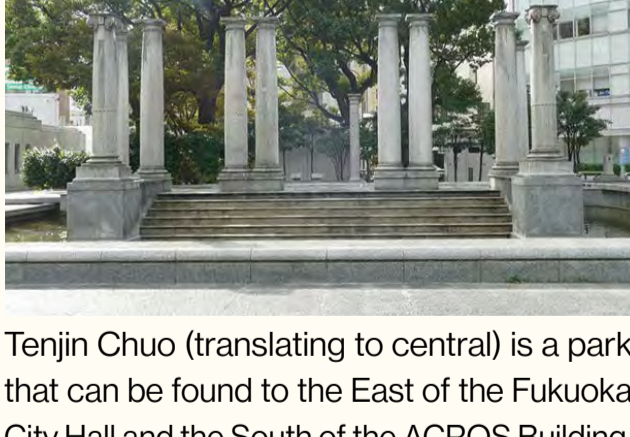
The Fukuoka Kihinkan (The Fukuoka Public Guest Hall)



This is a valuable wooden public building based on the French Renaissance style of the Meiji era. It was constructed in 1910 as a reception hall for guests during the 13th Kyushu-Okinawa Eight-Prefecture Joint Industrial Exhibition. The elegant exterior and intricate decorations are highlights.

E

Tenjin Chuo Park

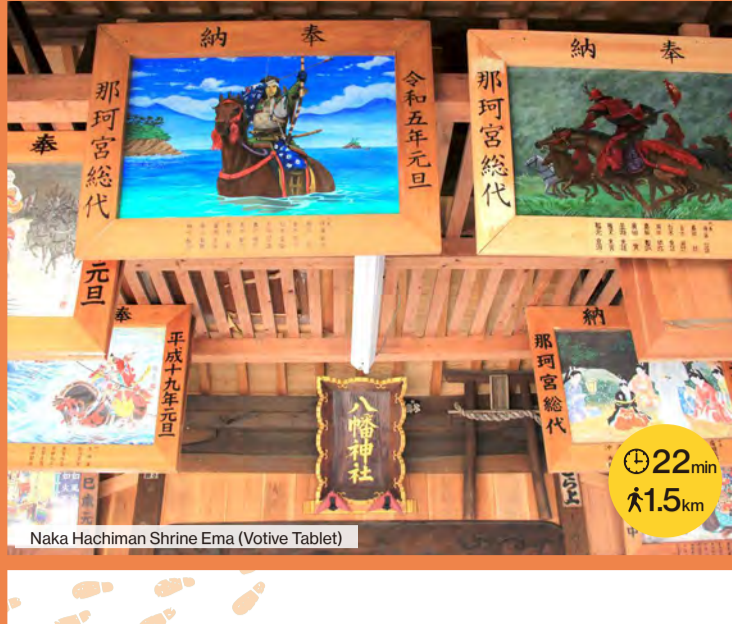


Tenjin Chuo (translating to central) is a park that can be found to the East of the Fukuoka City Hall and the South of the ACROS Building. In recent years this little oasis of green in the middle of the city has become known for its proximity to the aforementioned buildings as well as the Meiji-era Kihinkan (or distinguished guest house).



Highlights Along the Route





Naka Hachiman Shrine Ema (Votive Tablet)

 22min
1.5km

This area, once the prosperous Yayoi kingdom of Nakoku, features large ancient tombs. Walk through 2000 years of history.

A

JR Takeshita Station



B

Naka Hachiman Kofun



A round burial mound located within the precincts of the Naka Hachiman Shrine. While the front portion has been lost, estimates state that the mound was 8 meters tall and 80 meters in length at its maximum extent, making it the largest of its kind in the Fukuoka Plain area. Research suggests that it was built in the latter half of the 3rd century. Among the artifacts discovered here are the Shinju-Kyo, or a rare type of deity and beast mirror.



C

Ishinage Jizo (The Stone-Throwing Jizo)

It is said that this shrine has been worshipped at its current location for over 300 years, gathering the faith of villagers for its miraculous efficacy in safe childbirth, child-rearing, and healing illnesses or solving troubles.

D

Naka Chuo Park (Naka Ruins)



Ruins of a road dating to roughly 300-400 CE were discovered inside this park, and can be seen thanks to a display. Why not walk the same roads the ancient Japanese did?

E

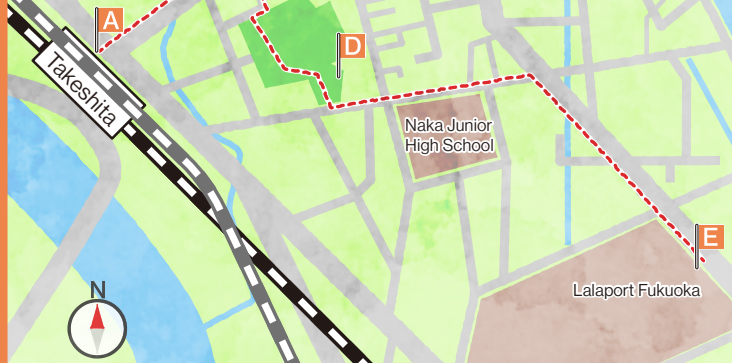
Monument for the Former Site of the Produce Market



This site served as a distribution hub for Fukuoka City from 1968 to 2016. It has now been transformed into a multi-purpose complex featuring open spaces and various facilities.



Highlights Along the Route





Takamiya Hachimangu

Takamiya is a peaceful residential area with rich nature, historical connections to Dazaifu and the Kōrokan. Perfect for a leisurely stroll.

A

Nishitetsu Takamiya Station



There are several stores of note along Takamiya-Dori, the street running in front of the station. It is said that in the past an ancient road used to run through the area.



In front of the station one can find "Sophie", a sculpture made by Japanese sculptor Asakura Kyoko, sitting on a bench.

B

Takamiya Teien Saryo (The old Kaijima estate)



Nestled in nature, this beautiful building was constructed in the Taisho era (1912-1926). Now having been newly renovated, it is used as a high-end restaurant and wedding venue. The history of the family emanates from the elegant halls of the mansion, and the tea-ceremony room located in the surrounding garden can also be visited.

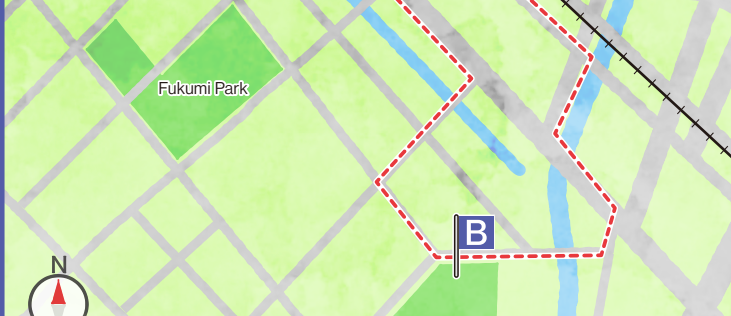
C

Takamiya Hachimangu Torii



Takamiya Hachimangu, located on a hill 500 meters southwest along the path from this torii gate, is considered the sō-sando (general local guardian deity) of the seventeen villages of Naka County. The Shishi Matsuri (Lion Festival) held in the summer is registered as an Intangible Folk Cultural Property of Fukuoka City.

Highlights Along the Route





Nearby Cultural Sites

Yusentei Park

Enjoy the lush nature of the Seinanmorinokohan (Southwest Forest by the Lake) Park near Nanakuma.

A

Nanakuma Subway Station



七隈
ななくま
Nanakuma



The area used to be called "Nanaguruma", or "Seven Vehicles", so the station symbol is meant to resemble the geometrical arrangement of seven wheels.

B

Kikuchi Shrine



In 1333, Kikuchi Taketoki, the military commander of Higo and a supporter of the Emperor, attacked an important shogunate office in Hakata. Taketoki was betrayed by an ally and died a heroic death. In 1869, the Fukuoka feudal lord built a shrine here to celebrate Taketoki's loyal service.

C

Seinanmorinokohan Park



A park that is surrounded by both a forest and pond. The area is actually home to very old historical sites, with the low valley containing remnants of graves, settlements, and burial mounds from the Stone Age, Yayoi Period (300 BCE - 300 CE), and Kofun Period (250 CE - 538 CE).

Umebayashi Kofun

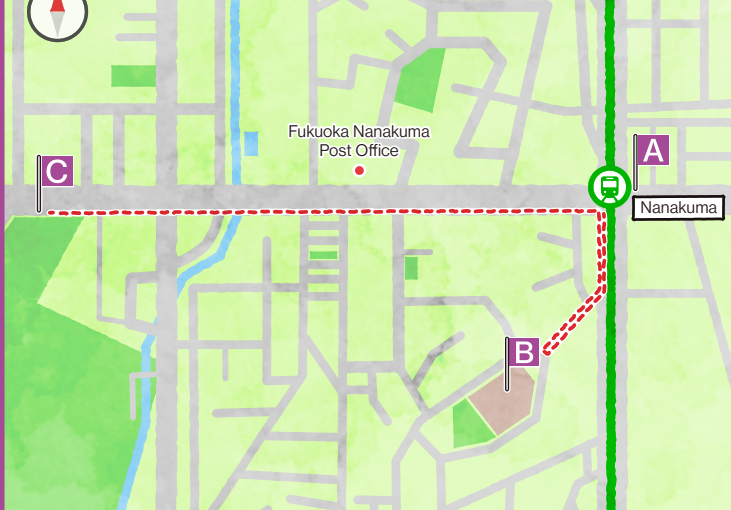
Nearby Cultural Sites



Umebayashi Kofun is a keyhole-shaped burial mound measuring 27 meters in length. The neighboring housing complex incorporates designs inspired by the tomb.



Highlights Along the Route





Explore the vibrant and bustling Nishijin Shopping District and Fukuoka City Museum, home to one of Japan's National Treasures (The Golden Seal).

A

Nishijin Subway Station



にしじん
西新
Nishijin



B

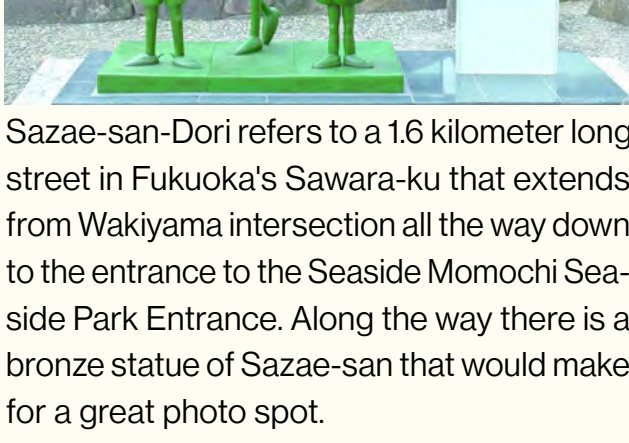
Nishijin Central Shopping Street



In the Nishijin shopping street of Sawara-ku, there is a row of portable stalls in the center of the street. They are nicknamed "the wheeled cart troop". The members of this itinerant merchant association of Nishijin carry and sell fresh vegetables, seafood and flowers. The street of Nishijin is always vibrant and lively with the brisk voices of these chatty merchants.

C

Sazae-san-Dori



Sazae-san-Dori refers to a 1.6 kilometer long street in Fukuoka's Sawara-ku that extends from Wakiyama intersection all the way down to the entrance to the Seaside Momochi Seaside Park Entrance. Along the way there is a bronze statue of Sazae-san that would make for a great photo spot.

D

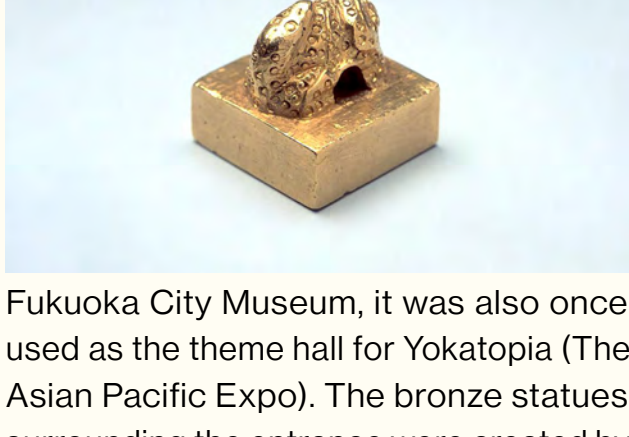
Seinan Gakuin University Museum



If entering Sazae-san-Dori from the East, a building made of red bricks in 1921 will come into view. The architect of the building was the American born William Merrell Vories. The building is notable for its Georgian Colonial architectural style which can be seen in the bilateral symmetry of its design. The window ornamentation and gravitas of the building are notable features as well.

E

Fukuoka City Museum



Fukuoka City Museum, it was also once used as the theme hall for Yokatopia (The Asian Pacific Expo). The bronze statues surrounding the entrance were created by famed French modern sculptor Antoine Bourdelle. The history of the Fukuoka and Hakata area is covered in the 200m² main exhibition hall in a way easy to understand by all sorts of visitors. One can also see "The Gold Seal" here, one of the national treasures of Japan.

Highlights Along the Route



Photo:Fumio Hashimoto

This route will immerse you in the history of the wall that helped defend Japan from the Mongolian armies 750 years ago.

A

JR Shimoyamato Station

B

Iki Shrine



According to *Nihon Shoki*, this shrine honors the loyal spirit of Iki no Atai Maneko, who died in place of Takenouchi no Sukune after being falsely accused. The name of the area “Iki no Matsubara” is said to have originated from when Empress Jingū planted a pine branch upside down to predict victory in battle, and the branch miraculously grew and flourished.

C

Iki-no-Matsubara Seaside Forest Park



Extending alongside a 3-kilometer stretch of the Karatsu Kaido highway is this forest of black pine. The quiet groves of trees that enclose the path leading to Iki Shrine contribute a solemn atmosphere to the park.

D

Torii Gate of Iki Shrine



This torii gate marks the entrance to Iki Shrine. The Bay of Hakata viewed through the torii gate makes it the perfect photo spot.

E

Iki-no-Matsubara Genkaborui Bulwark Ruins



These are the ruins of the bulwark built in 1276 to prepare against the Mongolian invasion. Stretching from Nagatare Coast to Odo Coast for about 2.5 kilometers, it was discovered in an archeological dig that the bulwark was built by piling up 1.5 meter by 1.8 meter stones before reinforcing the resulting wall with clay. The famous scene from the visual record of the Mongolian invasion (Moko Shurai Ekotoba) depicts Takesaki Suenaga riding a horse here, a warrior who served as a vassal of Shogun at the time.

Highlights Along the Route





This area, once the prosperous Yayoi kingdom of Nakoku, features large ancient tombs. Walk through 2000 years of history.

A

Nishitetsu Kashii-Miyamae Station

B

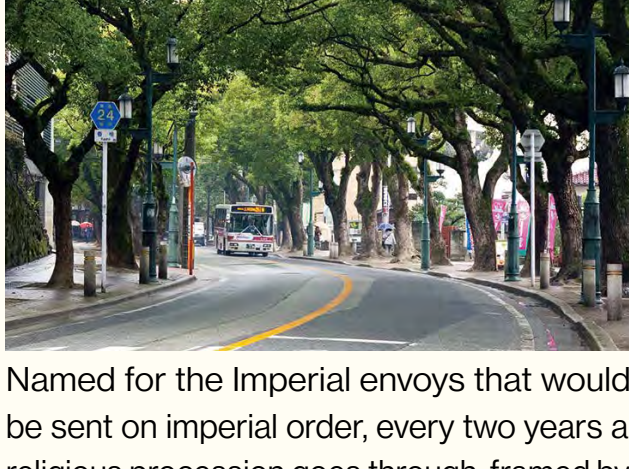
Manyoushuu Poetry Monument



One of the 20 locations in Fukuoka City featuring a stone dedication to the Manyōka, or songs featured in one of Japan's oldest collections of poems, the Manyōshū. In year 728 AD the famed poet and general of Dazaifu Otomo no Tabito visited the shrine along with two others and prayed there, with the moment being immortalized in song.

C

Chokushi Road (Imperial Envoy Road)



Named for the Imperial envoys that would be sent on imperial order, every two years a religious procession goes through, framed by the beautiful camphor trees flanking the road. In 2000 the road was awarded by Fukuoka City for its scenic beauty.

D

Kashiigu Shrine



This shrine enshrines Emperor Chūai, Empress Jingū, Emperor Ōjin, and the deity Sumiyoshi Ōkami. It is said to have originated when Empress Jingū enshrined the spirit of Emperor Chūai. The main hall, rebuilt in 1801 and known for its Kashii-zukuri architectural style, is designated as an Important Cultural Property by the Japanese government. Additionally, there are many historical highlights in the surrounding area, such as the Furōsu (Spring of Eternal Youth), associated with Takenouchi no Sukune, and the Kogu (Ancient Shrine), dedicated to Emperor Chūai.



Highlights Along the Route



Photo:Fumio Hashimoto

Explore Shika Island, a scenic coastal spot near Hakata Bay, accessible by ferry. Enjoy stunning views, historic shrines, and fresh seafood.

A

Shikanoshima Ferry Passenger Terminal



By taking the boat from the Shika-noshima Ferry Terminal at Hakata Wharf, one can get to Shikanoshima in just 30 minutes and Saitozaki in 15. The Ferry Terminal on Shika-noshima features an eye-catching and enormous rendering of the "Gold Seal", a national treasure that was discovered on the island.

B

Shikanoshima Bridge



Connecting Shikanoshima to the Kyushu mainland is a very thin strip of land forming a bridge. Surrounded by the Genkai Sea and Port of Hakata on either side, take in the beautiful view as you are caressed by the coastal breeze. The scenery changes with the four seasons, making this place popular with visitors year-round.

C

Shikaumi Shrine Approach



A 500-meter long path extends from the Shikanoshima Ferry Port to Shikaumi Shrine. Dotting the sides of the street are cafes, restaurants, and cute boutiques. These small shops allow visitors to enjoy the island-life as they make their way to the island's primary power spot.

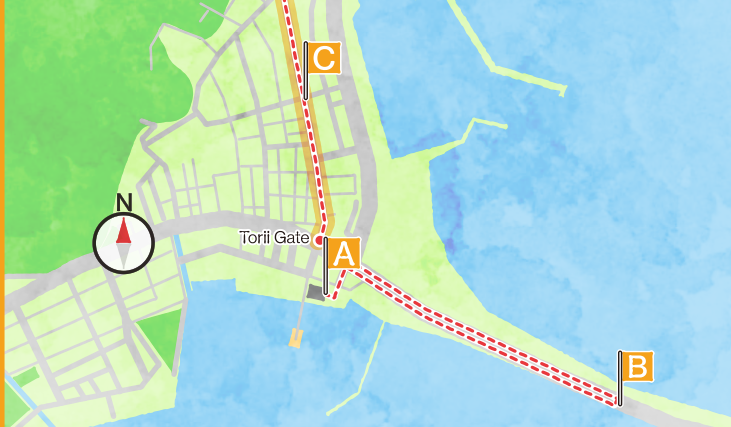
D

Shikaumi Shrine



Shikaumi Shrine sits on top of the hill along the coast, watching over the island. Since ancient times, the shrine has been called the "head shrine of the sea gods" and has been revered as the guardian deity of Hakata Bay, a strategic point for maritime traffic.

Highlights Along the Route





Learn more about
Fukuoka's history
and culture.

Fukuoka City Economy, Tourism & Culture Bureau,
Cultural Property Utilization Section
Published on March 2025