



Kagoshima Prefecture is located on the southernmost extremity of Kyushu, one on It has a unique history and culture created by many centuries of contact with the world. Stretching some 600 kilometers north to south, this wide, warm weather re-ma, and other beautiful islands as well as volcanoes like the great Sakurajima. It has history and culture and other tourist resources that make it one of the top tourist It also has a role as food supplier to the nation, producing a cornucopia of high-quality products. It also has a role as food supplier to the nation, producing a cornucopia of high-quality products. It also has a role as food supplier to the nation, producing a cornucopia of high-quality products.

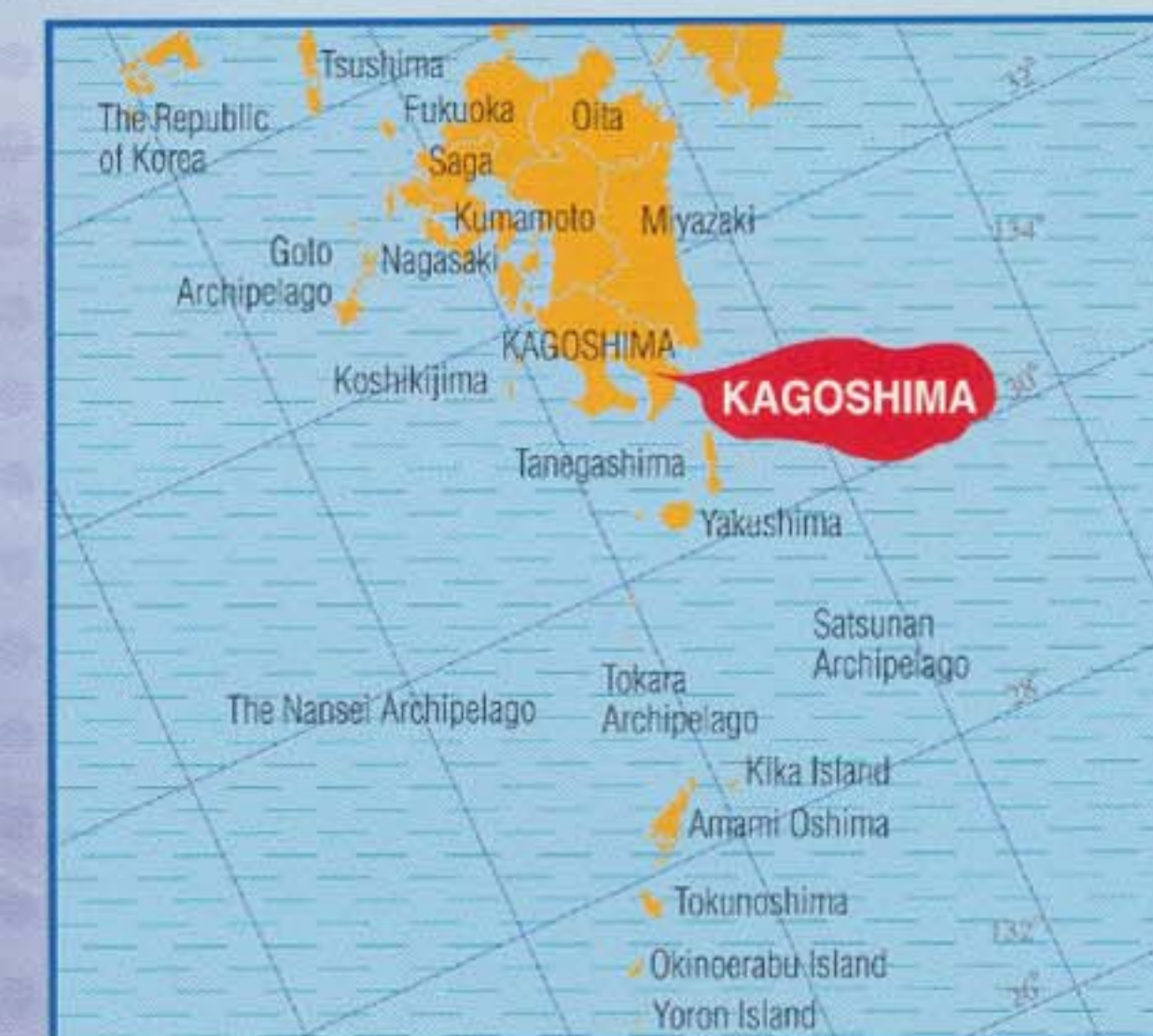
In March of 2004, the Kagoshima Chuo-Shin Yatsushiro section of the Kyushu Shin-over 2 hours catapulting the domestic, land-based accessibility to Kagoshima. National flight routes to Shanghai and Seoul but also many domestic routes to Japan's the Prefecture.

Prefectural inhabitants have the pleasant disposition one would find folks from offer in terms of its productive and colorful natural environment and southward or-dustries and technologies and talented human resources, Kagoshima is a veritable

the southwestern-most tip of the 4 major islands making up the Japan Archipelago. peoples and cultures of China, Korea, Southeast Asia and other countries of the gion is home to Japan's very first World Natural Heritage designated site, Yakushi-lush, green forests, a wealth of hot springs, a pristine natural environment, a unique destinations in Japan.

ity agricultural and marine products. Meanwhile, it is also gathering strength and so-space rocket launching facilities in Japan, an apex where all the advances of modern kansen Kagoshima Route was opened finally linking Kagoshima to Hakata in a little goshima Airport, the very hub of Southern Kyushu, boasts not only 2 fixed interna-main cities including Tokyo and Osaka as well as to the many remote islands within

southern countries. They are good, amiable people filled with goodwill. With much to ented geographical features, a unique history and culture, an agglomeration of in-treasure chest of possibilities.



A Profile of Kagoshima

Nature

Kagoshima Prefecture is on the southwestern tip of the Japanese isles with a total land area of 9,187km². It's 272km laterally, 600km longitudinally and the average annual temperature in Kagoshima City is 18.8°C. The Kirishima Volcanic Belt elongates down to the Tokara Archipelago and its volcanoes, Sakurajima in particular, are still very much active with the result of having multiple hot springs spewing all over the region. The world's largest calderas, "Ata" and "Aira", make up what is Kagoshima Bay or "Kinko Bay" right in the very center of the Prefecture and volcanic ejecta, in the form of shirasu and welded tuff, can be found in the soil of roughly half the entire Prefecture.

Industry

This Prefecture is ranked No. 1 in the country for the number of specialized agriculturists. It's also No. 1 in the number of heads of hog, broiler chickens and egg laying chickens and No. 2 in the number of heads of beef cows and tea production. In marine products, the region is No. 1 in Japan for bonito catches and is prominent in deep-sea fishing, such as for tuna, as well as coastal fishing. Using this bounty from the land and seas, much is processed into various commercial products such as dried bonito shavings, brown sugar and distilled spirits. Also a major industry is tourism, which is solidly based on the region's wondrous and plentiful natural environment, its historical treasures and wealth of valuable hot-springs.

Geography

Humans appeared some 2-million years ago when glaciers covered the earth and volcanoes were vehemently active. At that time, Kagoshima's Ata and Aira calderas saw much activity and then sank in the ocean waters to form Kinko Bay. Although there are many volcanoes in Kyushu, Kagoshima Prefecture has 7 active volcanoes such as the symbolic Sakurajima, Mt. Kirishima made up of several volcanoes, the "Satsuma Fuji" Mt. Kaimon and several volcanic isles strewn in the southern sea.

History and Culture

Kagoshima is a land that has welcomed many cultures of the world which found their way to its shores on the Black Current and the seasonal winds. Between the 7th and 9th Centuries, the boats of the Japanese envoys to Tang Dynasty China departed from and returned to Bonotsu, and it was also here that the Tang High Priest Jianzhen landed. Firearms from Portugal arrived at Tanegashima, and the first Christian missionary in Japan, Francis Xavier, landed in 1549 in Kagoshima (in Yamagawa). Satsuma ware, or Satsuma-yaki, was begun here by Korean potters, whom Shimazu Yoshihiro, the lord of the Satsuma Domain, had brought back with him from the continent in 1598. The Satsuma Domain, which unified and stabilized this region in the 16th Century, also independently carried out foreign diplomacy and trade, and was instrumental in the development of modern Japan following the Meiji Restoration.

People

Kagoshima Prefecture is the meeting place between Japanese culture on its southward journey, and the cultures of the south that flowed up along the sea-route comprised by the many southern islands. A new culture can be seen in the fusion of these two elements. Due to the isolating topography hampered by the northern Kyushu Highlands, there is the distinctive culture and language established under the 700 year reign of the Shimazu Clan, while added to this is the bright and open temperament from the ocean-encircled southern clime.



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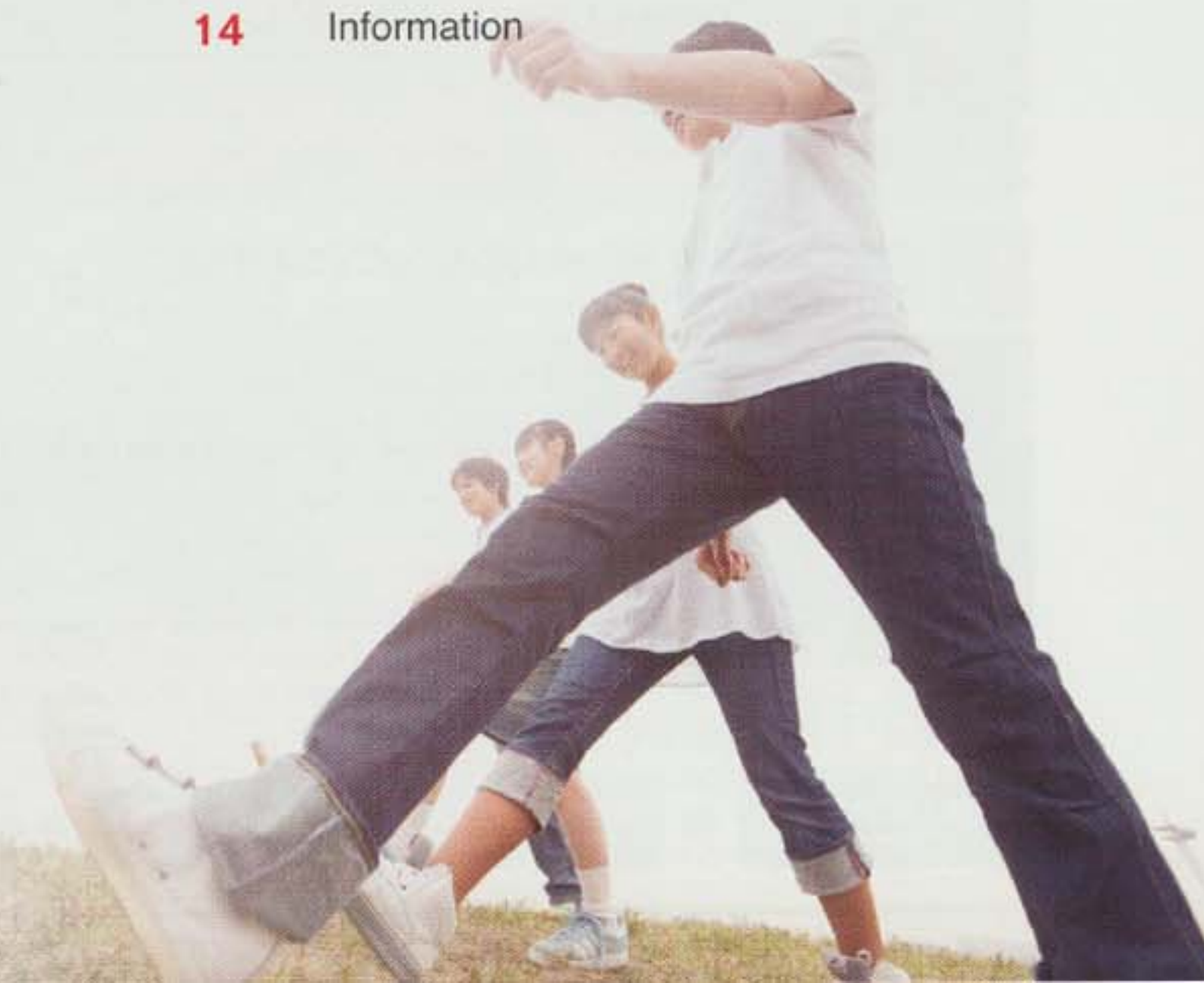
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Learning the structure of volcanos



1 Sakurajima is one of the world's most active volcanos map 1

Known as the symbol of Kagoshima, Sakurajima is a volcanic island some 4 kilometers in the ocean off Kagoshima City, the urban center of southern Kyushu. Standing proud at 1,117m, the mount appeared about 25,000 years ago on the southern marginal rim of the Aira caldera. Consisting of two strato volcanoes of Mt. Kitadake and Mt. Minamidake, it has had numerous eruptions throughout history. As recently as 1914, it covered 400 meters of the channel coastline and made a land bridge to Osumi Peninsula spewing 10 billion tons of molten rock, such amount hardly seen anywhere else in the world. There is an observation deck halfway up the mountain that gives visitors a great view of the summit and enables them to get a feel of this active volcano, which still erupts time and again. This locale is great for not only experiencing the workings of our earth and the great outdoors but also for learning about how people live there.

2 Arimura Observation Deck map 2



Located on the south side of Sakurajima before the Cape Arimurazaki, it sits on the small hill that was created by lava during the Great Eruption of 1946. It offers a striking view of the Sakurajima in the forefront as well as a close up look at its still active Mt. Minamidake.

3 Sakurajima Visitor Center map 3



It boasts a high-vision theater, georama and PCs to clearly present and explain the volcano's history, its surrounding nature and how people live in the area. Because it is right onsite, visitors can actually experience what they just learned.

Entrance fee Free **Opening hours** 9am to 5pm
 * Open 365 days a year **Phone** +81(0)99-293-2443

4 Sakurajima International Volcanic Sabo Center map 4



On Sakurajima, which is an active volcano, there is always the danger of disasters such as fires and avalanche of rocks and earth in the aftermath of eruptions. At the Center, monitors keep watch on the volcano's activity while maintaining a functional role as an emergency evacuation center. Normally, it serves as a place where visitors can learn about all the countermeasures employed during volcanic disasters.

Entrance fee Free **Opening hours** 9:30am to 5pm
 * Closed on Mondays and from December 28 to January 4
Phone +81(0)99-221-2030



5 Enjoy "Kaimondake" Hiking and learn how volcanoes form map 5

Because the mount has a strato basalt summit topped with an andesite lava dome, which, when viewed from afar, looks like they are perfectly congruous, it is dubbed the "Satsuma Fuji". Its seismic activity began some 4,000 years ago and the last lava dome was formed in the 9th Century. All year long, climbers go up its 924m elevation taking them 2 to 3 hours to reach the summit by the spiral hiking trail. The top boasts a 360° panoramic view of the Kirishima Mountain Chain as well as the islands in the South China Sea.



Ibusuki Natural Sand Hot Spring

6 "Hot Springs"...a blessing from the volcano map 6

Kagoshima Prefecture, which is blessed with volcanic geothermal sources, is ranked No. 2 in the number of hot springs and third in total ground-water discharge making it Hot Spring Heaven. Everywhere in the prefecture, you'll find hot springs. Ibusuki, where hot springs spew onto a beach, is world renowned as a natural sand hot spring where visitors cover themselves with hot sand.

Ibusuki Natural Sunamushi Hot Spring Sunamushi Hall "Saraku"
Phone +81(0)993-23-3900
Reception 8am to 8:30pm (9pm closed)
Entrance fee Adults ¥900, Children ¥500
 *Aside from weekends and national holidays, the facility closes for custodial purposes between Noon and 1pm.
 *A head wrap-around towel is required (available for ¥100).

Encompassed by sheer nature



7 Viewing nature's wonders and studying the environment on Yakushima, the first region of Japan to become a designated World Natural Heritage site map 7

Located some 60km due south of the Cape Sata on the southern tip of the Kyushu continental plate, Yakushima is reputed as having been created over ten and several million years ago by a huge chunk of granite thrusting upwards from the earth's crust. The seacoast is subtropical but the summit is nearly subarctic and having a winter season with snow and ice, giving the area a natural system that is very desirable for witnessing at once all the climates of the Japan Archipelago. Its vertical distribution of climates, lush primeval forest and ancient Yakusugi trees are world renown. In 1993, it received Japan's very first World Natural Heritage site designation.

8 Yakusugi Nature Museum map 8



Exhibition of branches of Jomon cedar tree, which is 1660-year-old, tree stumps from the Edo Period using a number of images as reference, let you learn about symbiosis of Yakushima's ecology.

Entrance fee Adults ¥600, High School/University Students ¥400, Elementary/Junior High School Students ¥300
Opening hours 9am to 5pm (doors close at 4:30pm)
 * Closed every first Tuesday of the month, from December 29 to January 1 **Phone** +81(0)997-46-3113

9 Yakushima Environmental and Cultural Learning Center map 9



Located in the Kamiyaku Miya-no-Ura Harbor, the facility allows visitors to learn from instructors about Yakushima's nature, environment, lifestyle and culture from large screen image, panel models and exhibits.

Entrance fee Free (charges applied to some part) **Opening hours** 9am to 5pm (doors close at 4:30pm)
 * Closed on Mondays and from December 28 to January 1 **Phone** +81(0)997-42-2900

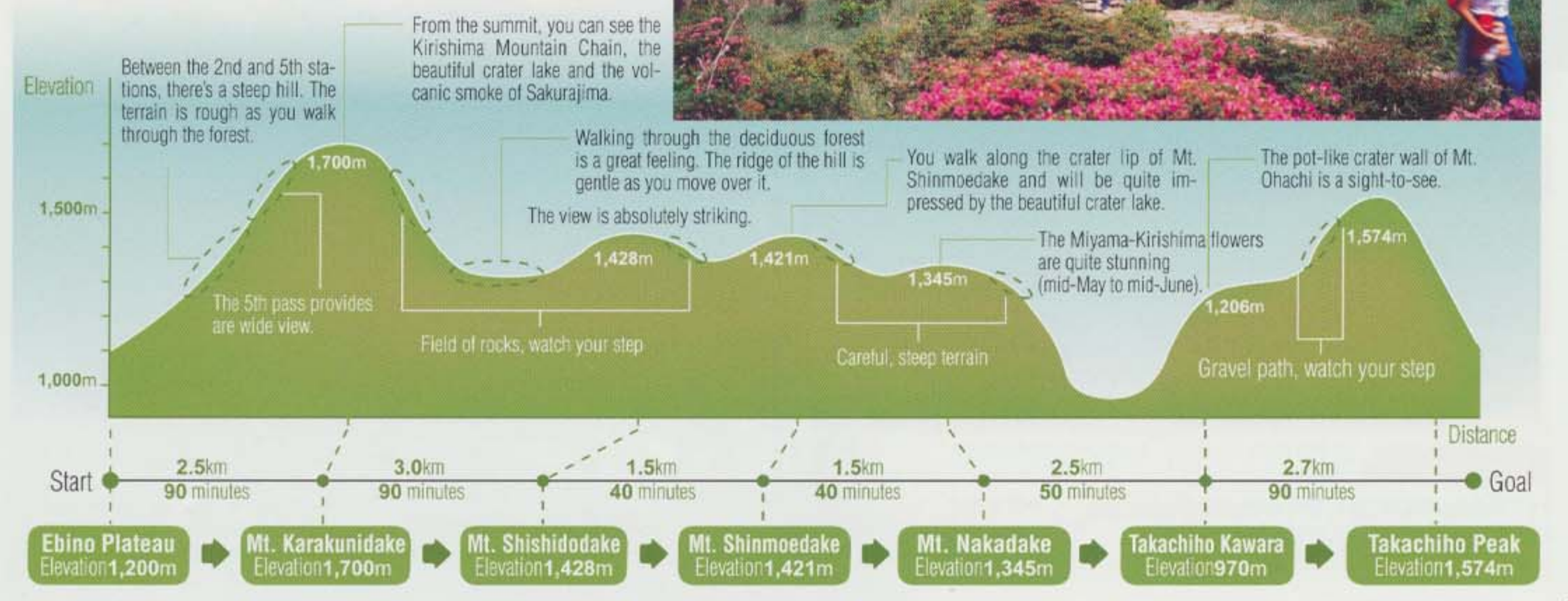
10 Yakusugi Land map 10



Take a hearty stroll with just some light equipment through Yakushima's enchanted primordial forest where ancient Yasusugi trees thousands of years old stand tall. While forest bathing along one of 4 courses, learn about many plants, the regenerative mechanism of the forest, traces of nature's symbiosis with man and other wondrous facts.

11 Enjoy nature viewing and trekking at Kirishima, Japan's first National Park map 11

In 1934, Kirishima was designated for the first time by the Japanese Government as a National Park. It is one of the few Parks in Japan where one can witness such vast diversity. Join the Kirishima Mountain Trekking Guide Club and envelop yourself in nature, encounter wild animals like deer and racoon dogs and view a wealth of plants such as the Nokaïdo, a protected species, as well as wide plains covered in Miyama blossoms along the Kirishima Mountain Range. You can also enjoy various types of hot springs.





Come and behold the bountiful nature blessed with the Black Current



1 Learn about the raising and protecting of coral at Yoron Island's Yurigahama, paradise of the of South Sea - Okaneku Coast map 1

From the depths of the ocean, we can see how we humans live. While playing along in the gorgeous South Sea, we discover about how coral is raised and protected and come to understand why safeguarding nature and environmental preservation are global issues.



2 Learn about the lifestyle and the nature of the Amami Islands, a subtropical paradise - Amami Park map 2

Come to Amami-no-Sato to discover the nature, history, lifestyle and culture of the Amami Islands with fascinating exhibits and films. Also, go to the Isson Tanaka Memorial Museum of Art to see the works of Japanese artist Isson Tanaka, whom, attracted by its wondrous nature, moved to Amami and spent years drawing and painting the region's nature scenes. Don't just view his art, find out how he lived and all about painting.



Amami Park
Entrance fee Adults ¥400, High School/University Students ¥280, Elementary/Junior High School Students ¥200
Opening hours 9am to 6pm (doors close at 5:30pm)
 *Closed the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month **Phone** +81(0)997-55-2333

3 Hidden mangroves and canoe touring - Mangrove Park map 3

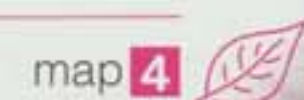
The term "mangrove" is a general appellation for a group of trees that live in the marshlands at the mouths of rivers in the tropics and subtropics or in seacoast wetlands. The mangroves of Sumiyo Village consist of Kandelia and Bruguiera trees and make up a habitat for precious wildlife. Row your canoe along side them and exC&eOlore primordial mangroves.



Mangrove Park
Fee Canoe trip-- ¥1,500/1 hour
Opening hours 9:30am to 6pm (doors close at 5:30pm)
 *Closed January 1 **Phone** +81(0)997-56-3355

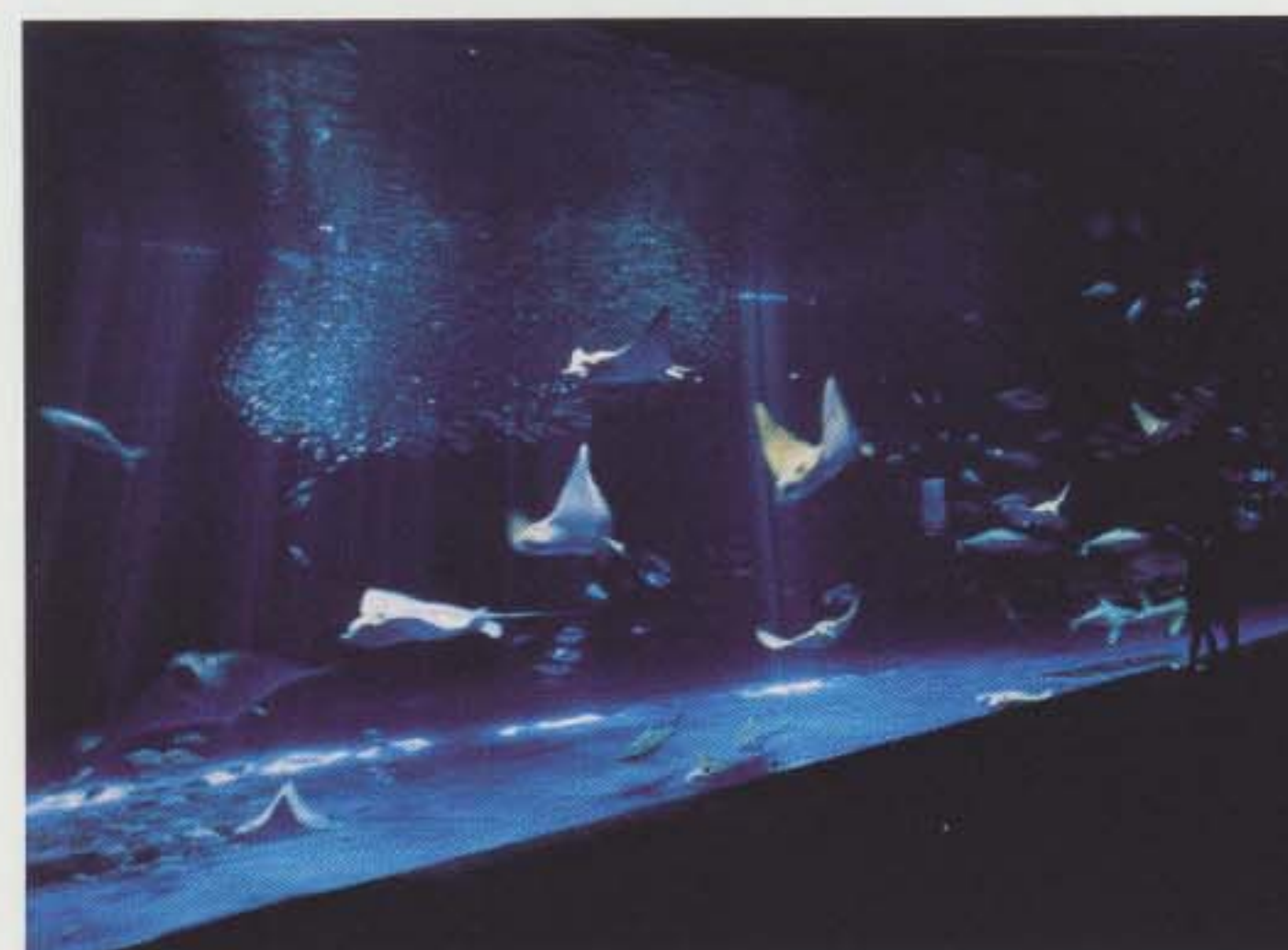
4 Sand sculpture challenge with world champion - Sand Festival in Minami Satsuma

Every year in May, one of the largest sand dune areas of Japan, Fukiage Beach in Minami Satsuma City, is the venue of the Fukiage Beach Sand Festival. World-class sand artists taking part in a sculpture contest creating some 60 works that glimmer in the sun or are lit up gloriously at night. Very impressive!



Inquiries
 Fukiage Beach Sand Festival Planning Committee
Phone +81(0)993-53-2111

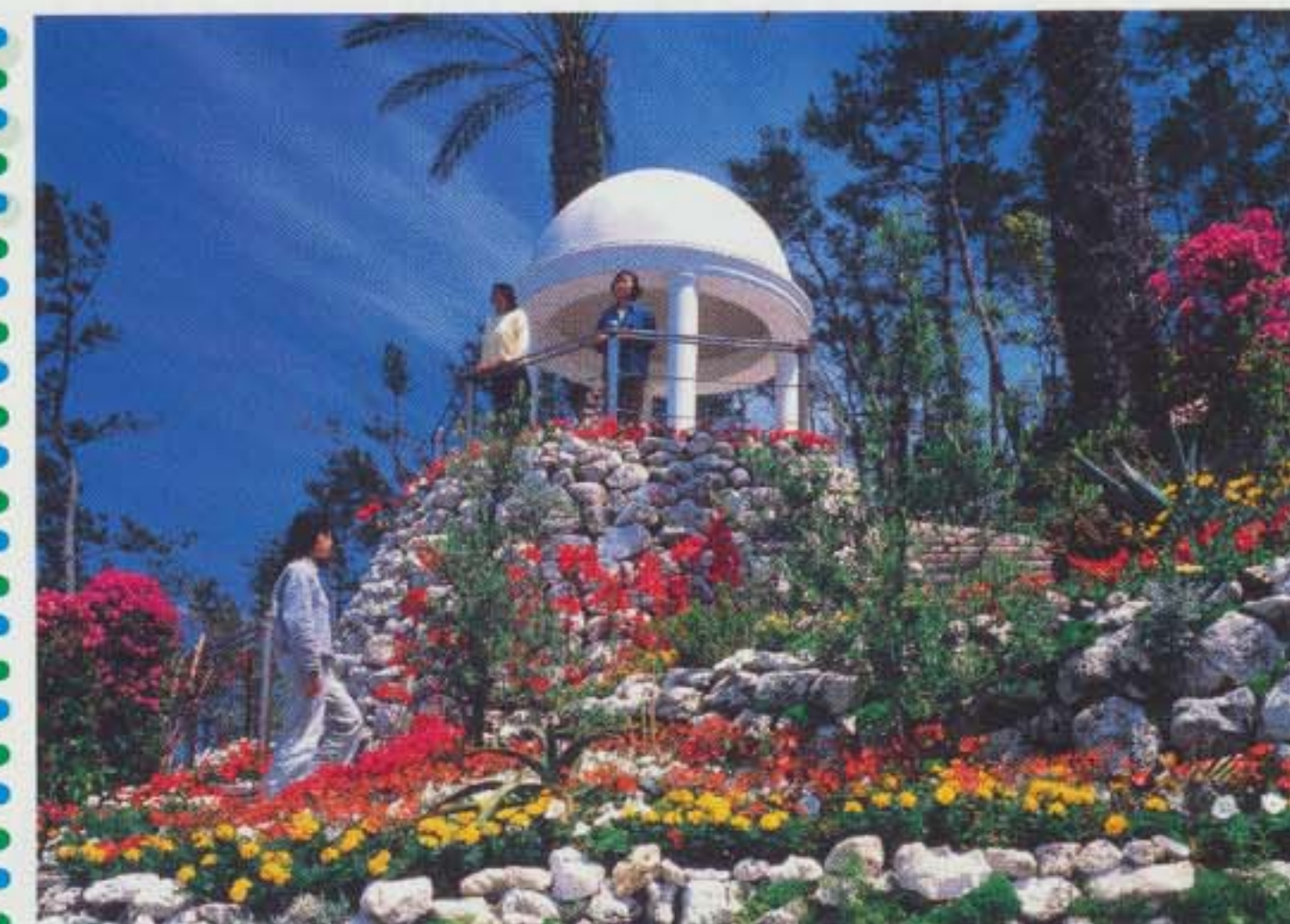
Meet other living things



5 Open your mind to the mysteries of life through variegated living things - Kagoshima Aquarium "Io World" map 5

Behold the large black current tank which holds scores of the world's largest fish, whale sharks. There's also an exhibit of Satsuma tube-worms that live in Kinko Bay as well as the tank holding the world's largest freshwater fish, pirarucu. Learn all about life in the sea with beautiful 3D high-vision imagery.

Kagoshima Aquarium "Io World"
Entrance fee Adults ¥1,500, Children ¥750
Opening hours 9:30am to 6pm (doors close at 5pm)
 *Closed the 1st Monday of December for 4 days **Phone** +81(0)99-226-2233



6 Learn about the relationship between flowers, plants and people - Kagoshima Flower Park map 6

As one of the largest flower theme parks in Japan, it has not only flowers and trees native to Kagoshima but also boasts a variety of plants from around the globe. Come and learn all about flower and tree planting, how to make pressed flowers, how to prepare soil, how to make a cutting, how to raise and use flowers and much, much more.

Kagoshima Flower Park
Entrance fee Adults ¥600, Elementary/Junior High School Students ¥300
Opening hours 9am to 5pm (doors close at 4:30pm)
 *Closed from December 30 & 31 **Phone** +81(0)993-35-3333



7 Learn about the healthy drink "natural black vinegar" - Tsubobatake Black Vinegar Information Center map 7

For 2 centuries, Kirishima City's Fukuyamacho, located in the northeast region of Kagoshima Prefecture, has been the home of traditional rice vinegar making in pots in which only rice is placed to ferment out in the open air. Several species of bacteria act alternately inside 1 pot, which is the rarest form of vinegar making in the world.

Tsubobatake Black Vinegar Information Center
Entrance fee Free **Opening hours** 9am to 5pm
 *Open 365 days a year **Phone** +81(0)995-54-7200



8-9 Learn about the habitat and ecology of cranes at the world's important crane migration area - Izumi Crane Observation Center - Izumi Crane Park map 8 map 9

Here in Izumi City, where some 10,000 cranes migrate from the continent to spend the winter, you can observe up close these graceful birds between November to the beginning of March. Come learn all about the ecological cycle existing between these cranes and nature.

Izumi Crane Observation Center
Entrance fee Adults ¥210, Elementary/Junior High School Students ¥50
Opening hours 9am to 5pm
 *Closed from April to October **Phone** +81(0)996-85-5151

Izumi Crane Park
Entrance fee Adults ¥310, High School/University Students ¥210, Elementary/Junior High School Students ¥100
Opening hours 9am to 5pm (doors close at 4:30pm)
 *Closed every Monday from April to October (with temporary holiday)
Phone +81(0)996-63-8915



Learn about the formation of modern Japan



Learn about the Shusei Hall project, the forerunner of industrial modernization in Japan
 ~Sengan'en, Satsuma Glassworks, and Shoko Shusei Hall



1 The majestic garden of the Shimazu Clan, set against the scenery of Sakurajima and the Kinko Bay - Sengan'en map 1

The villa built by Shimazu Mitsuhsa, the 19th successor to the lordship of the Shimazu Clan. Enjoy strolling about the luxurious, Japanese-style garden, built especially to allow for a view of the Kinko Bay regarded as a pond and the mountainous Sakurajima regarded as an artificial hill, then tour the eleven rooms of the mansion. There are also traditional festivities held year-round.

Sengan'en
 Entrance fee Adults ¥1,000, Children ¥500
 Opening hours 8:30am to 5:30pm *Open 365 days a year Phone +81(0)99-247-1551



2 World Famous Satsuma Traditional Art: "Satsuma Cut Glass" - Satsuma Glassworks map 2

In the 19th Century, the Satsuma Domain began the production of glassware. Satsuma cut glass, using a variety of colorization and crafting techniques, has since developed to take its place as a world-class industrial art, resulting in new products made from a combination of historical techniques and modern sense.

Satsuma Glassworks
 Entrance fee Free Opening hours 8:30am to 5:30pm
 *Closed Mondays and the third Sunday of every month Phone +81(0)99-247-2111

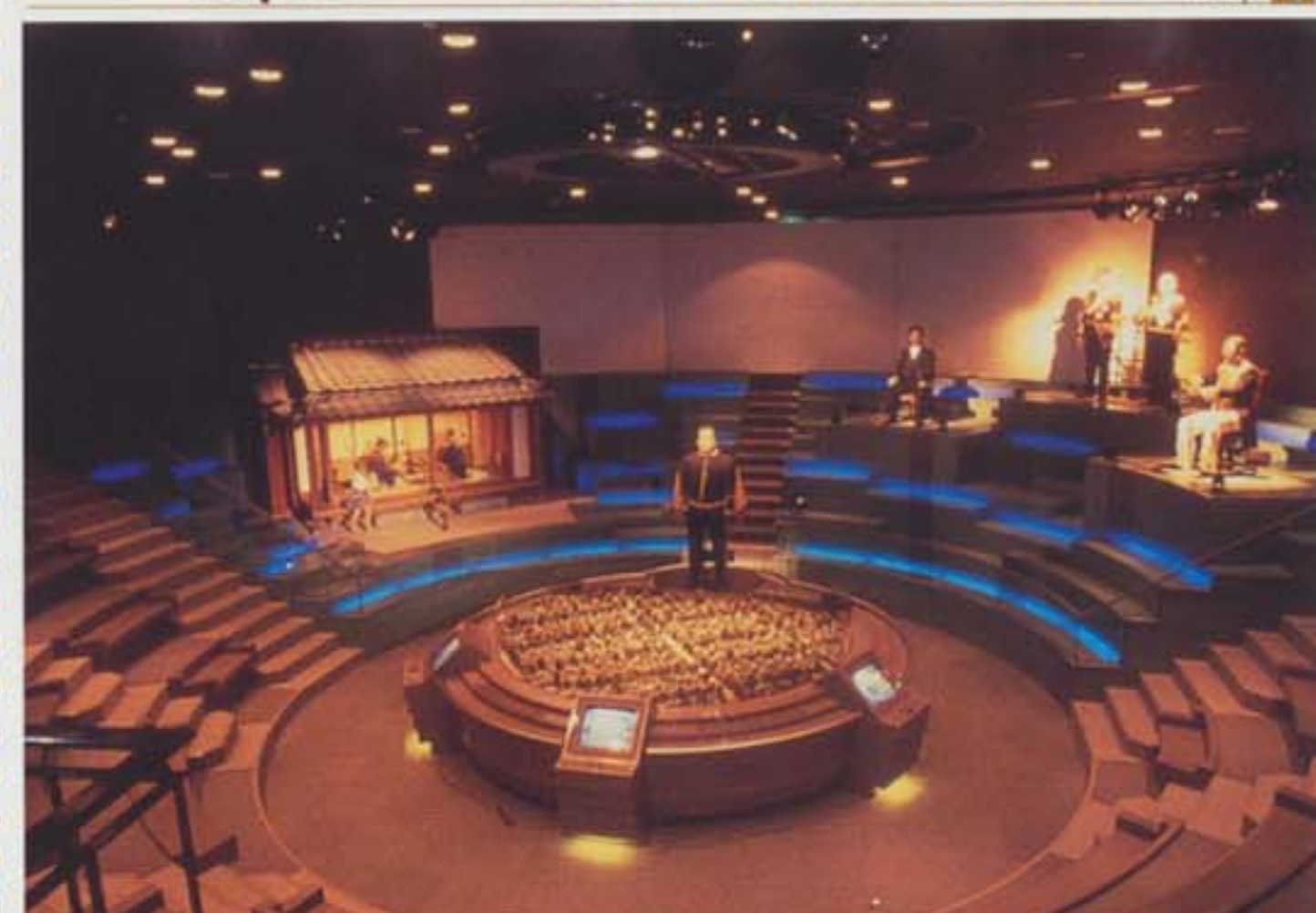


3 Learn about the history of Satsuma as a leader of the industrial modernization of Japan - Shoko Shusei Hall map 3

Inaugurated as the lord of the Satsuma Domain in 1851, Shimazu Nariakira formed his policies of enriching the country, strengthening the military, increasing production, and reforming business, in order to compete with the advancement of the world powers. Thus he established the Shusei Hall, a hub for industrial production that took the lead in modernizing such industries as steelworks, shipbuilding, and textile production. Today, the vestiges of the Shusei Hall are open to the public as a museum.

Shoko Shusei Hall
 *Entrance may be gained with a Sengan'en entrance ticket, at no extra cost
 Opening hours 8:30am to 5:30pm *Open 365 days a year Phone +81(0)99-247-1511

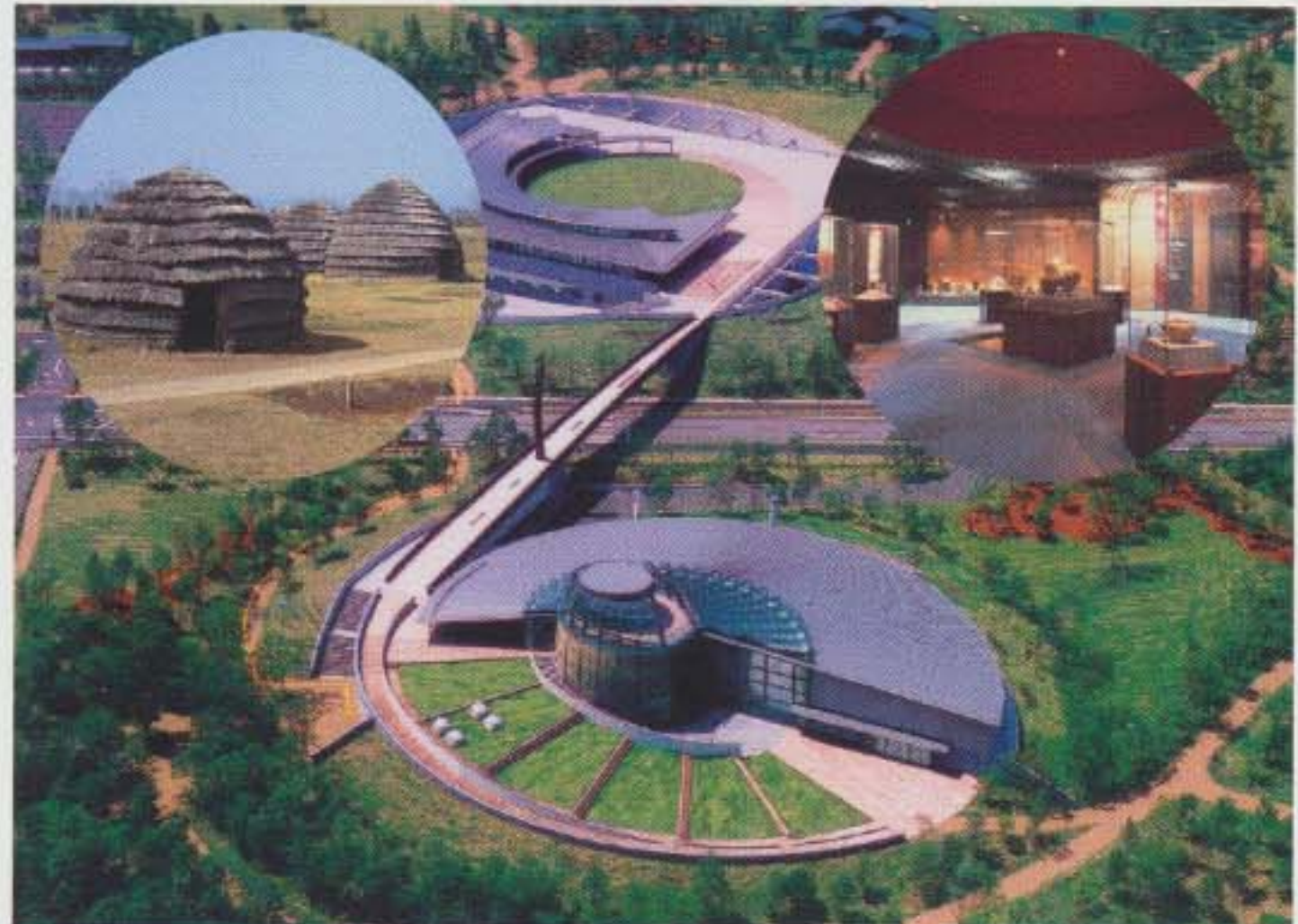
4 Learn about the motivating power behind the Meiji Restoration, which gave rise to modern Japan - Ishin Furusato Museum map 4



A facility that teaches history through tourism. The Ishin Furusato Museum introduces the history of Kagoshima and its historical personages who became the motivating force behind the Meiji Restoration, the movement that led Japan to modernization. Presentation completes with life-sized robotic replicas of historical figures such as Saigo Takamori and Okubo Toshimichi, multimedia video, and other high-tech digital arts.

Ishin Furusato Museum
 Entrance fee Adults ¥300, Children ¥150 Opening hours 9:00am to 5:00pm (No admission past 4:30 pm)
 *Open 365 days a year Phone +81(0)99-239-7700

Experience ancient Japan and the cultures of Asian and Pacific peoples



5 Journey through time to the distant past in the Uenohara Jomon Forest - Uenohara Jomon Forest map 5

An excavation site where remains have been discovered by the excavation-based research, from the remnants of a village approximately 9,500 years old (early Jomon), to the ruins of structures built in the middle ages. This is a theme park where visitors can experience the Jomon Period firsthand through displays of excavated pottery, a reconstructed village, and the Jomon Theater and Georama.

Uenohara Jomon Forest
 Entrance fee Adults ¥300, High School/University Students ¥210, Elementary/Junior High School Students ¥150
 Opening hours 9:00am to 5:00pm (No admission past 4:30 pm)
 *Closed every Monday, Closed Dec. 30 to Jan. 1 Phone +81(0)995-48-5701



6 Walk the beautiful, traditional streets of a samurai estate - Chiran Samurai Mansion Complex map 6

The Chiran samurai compound, built about 260 years ago. Constructed against the backdrop of Hahagatake Mountain, the 7 gardens of this estate have been designated as some of the country's most scenic locations. Although the bushido samurai spirit clearly emphasized defense, its concern with natural beauty is also apparent here.

Chiran Samurai Mansion Complex
 Entrance fee Adults ¥500, Elementary/Junior High School Students ¥300
 Opening hours 9:00am to 5:00pm (No admission past 4:30 pm)
 *Open 365 days a year Phone +81(0)993-83-2511



7 Experience the Cultures of Asian and Pacific Peoples - The Kanoya City Asian-Pacific Intercultural Countryside Village Ethnic Hall map 7

We offer displays of ethnic Asian and Pacific clothing, musical instruments, and toys, grouped along three themes: "Play," "Hear," and "Wear." In addition, visitors can try out these items for themselves. The adjoining KAPIC Center offers facilities for lodging and study.

The Kanoya City Asian-Pacific Intercultural Countryside Village Ethnic Hall
 Entrance fee Free Opening hours 9:00am to 5:00pm (No admission past 4:30 pm)
 *Closed every Monday, Closed Dec. 29 to Jan. 2 Phone +81(0)994-45-2872



8 Feel the essence of Jigenryu at this living museum - Jigenryu Martial Arts Historical Archive map 8

Since the latter half of the 16th Century, Satsuma has a history of strong rule and excellence in the literary and military arts. Representative of this spirit is Jigenryu, a martial art hoarded in Satsuma even into the early Showa Period. Jigenryu is infused with the Satsuma spirit, telling us to "improve the body as well as the heart," and that "a katana is something that should not be drawn." Get a feel for this martial art, and get that much closer to the spirit of the Satsuma warriors that contributed so much to the modernization of Japan since the Meiji Restoration.

Jigenryu Martial Arts Historical Archive
 Entrance fee Adults ¥500, Elementary/Junior High School/High School Students ¥300
 Opening hours 10:00am to 5:00pm (No admission past 4:30 pm)
 *Closed every Monday (If a holiday falls on Monday, the museum will also be closed on the following Tuesday), Closed Dec. 31 to Jan. 2 Phone +81(0)99-226-1233



Japan-Kyushu-**Kagoshima**

