



# SAGA, JAPAN

## TOURISM GUIDE



## Saga Castle History Museum

Saga City

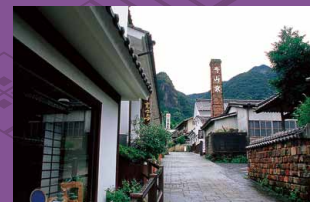
One of Japan's largest wooden reproductions of Edo-period buildings, the museum provides you with an opportunity to feel relaxed in a traditional Japanese atmosphere.



## Mount Ookawachiyama / Nabeshima Domain Kiln Park

Imari City

This area used to be home to Nabeshima domain's kilns. The old checking station to protect the potting secrets, remains of ascending kilns, and potters' houses are excellently reproduced in the park.



歴史

Saga has a deep and interesting history.

## History

### Yutoku Inari Shrine

Kashima City

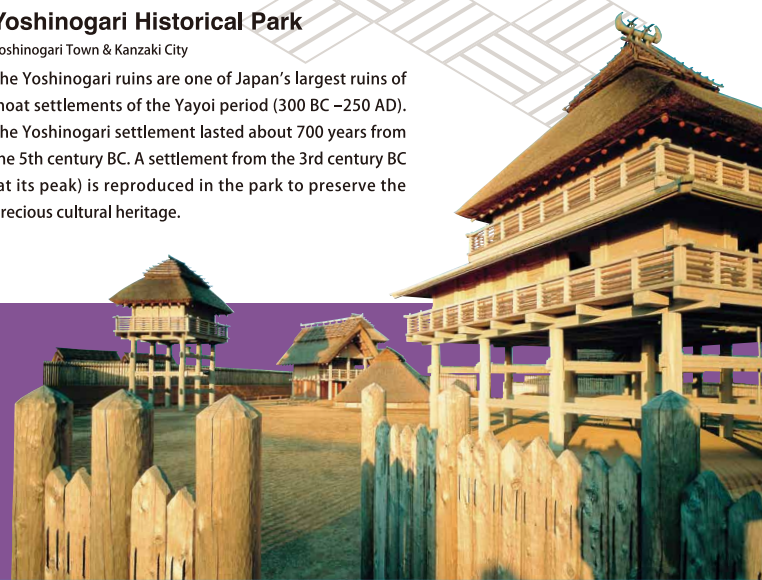
One of the three most famous Inari shrines in Japan, this shrine boasts an impressive bright red building with a background of green trees.



### Yoshinogari Historical Park

Yoshinogari Town & Kanzaki City

The Yoshinogari ruins are one of Japan's largest ruins of moat settlements of the Yayoi period (300 BC –250 AD). The Yoshinogari settlement lasted about 700 years from the 5th century BC. A settlement from the 3rd century BC (at its peak) is reproduced in the park to preserve the precious cultural heritage.



### Daikozenji Temple

Kiyama Town

Nicknamed "Azalea Temple," this temple is a favorite spot for people to enjoy azalea blossoms in spring and colored leaves in autumn.

自然

Saga has both mountainous and coastal areas, with a bright, clear sky up above. Enjoy Saga's beautiful nature!

## Nature

### Terraced Rice Fields in Hamanoura

Genkai Town

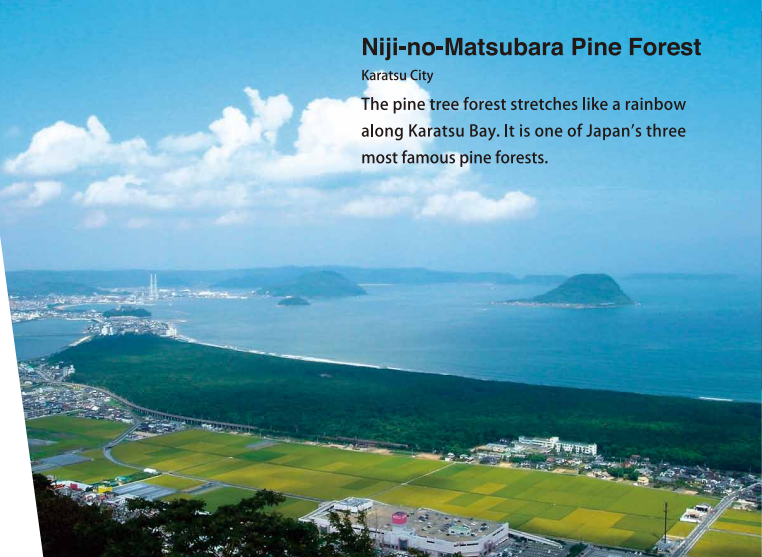
These terraced rice fields look like a flight of many large and small stairs climbing up from the coast. They are especially beautiful in the evening when the sun sets over the sea.



### Niji-no-Matsubara Pine Forest

Karatsu City

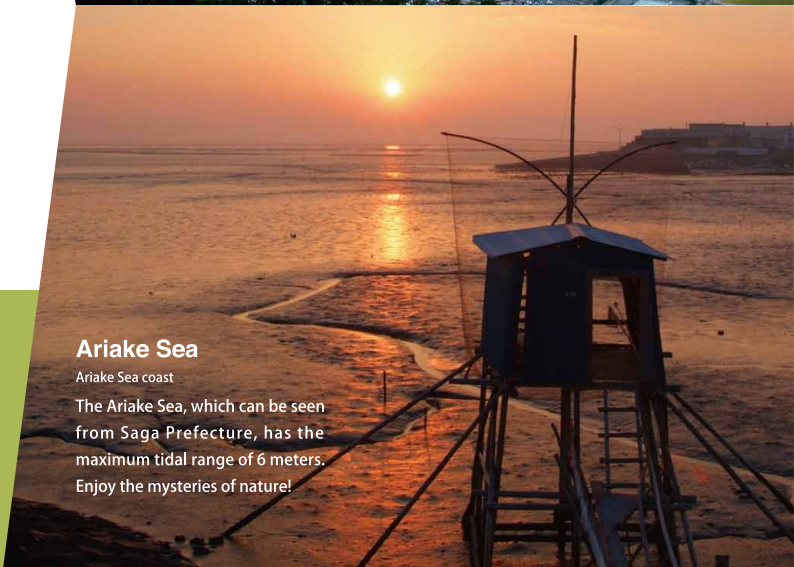
The pine tree forest stretches like a rainbow along Karatsu Bay. It is one of Japan's three most famous pine forests.



### Ariake Sea

Ariake Sea coast

The Ariake Sea, which can be seen from Saga Prefecture, has the maximum tidal range of 6 meters. Enjoy the mysteries of nature!







### Takeo "Onsen" Hot Springs

Takeo City

Featuring the velvety soft water of its hot springs, Takeo Onsen is a historic hot spring resort that was mentioned in the Hizen Fudoki (a record of the natural features, culture and history of the Hizen area-the area that includes present-day Saga and Nagasaki Prefectures) written around 1,300 years ago. A vermillion-lacquered, two-story gate standing at the resort's entrance is a must-see.



温泉

Saga's unique hot spring resorts, some on the shore and others in the mountains, will heal your mind and body.

## Hot Springs

### Ureshino "Onsen" Hot Springs

Ureshino City

With its 1300-year history, Ureshino Onsen has many traditional Japanese-style inns that produce an old-style atmosphere. Ureshino Onsen is also known as one of the three most famous beautifying hot springs of Japan.



### Tara-Takezaki "Onsen" Hot Springs

Tara Town

These hot springs are located by the Ariake Sea, which has Japan's largest mudflats. Their sodium bicarbonate water will make your skin soft and smooth.



### Furuyu-Kumanokawa "Onsen" Hot Springs

Fuji Town, Saga City

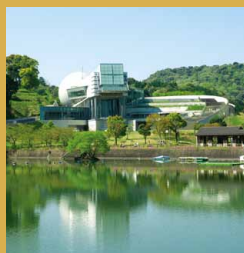
Characterized by its tepid and slimy soft water, hot springs have attracted many great artistic and literary figures.



### Saga Prefecture Space & Science Museum

Takeo City

One of the largest natural science complexes in the Kyushu region, the museum has 5 hands-on space science exhibition zones, as well as an observatory and a planetarium with the latest projection equipment.



遊学

Your varied experiences in Saga—from experiences of universal mysteries to those of ninja training—will excite your senses.

## Learning with enjoyment



### Hizen Yumekaido

Ureshino City

Streets of a town in the Edo period (1603–1868), where samurais and princesses walk around, are reproduced in this history theme park. The Ninja experience programs offered in the park are very popular.



### Tanjoin Temple

Kashima City

This temple features beautiful plum and cherry blossoms, as well as elegant pine trees. You can enjoy transcribing Buddhist sutra in Tanjoin Hall, adjacent to the Main Hall. (Reservation required).





Hi

## Craftwork

### Furyumen Masks

Kashima City

Furyumen are devil masks in which you can see the painstaking craftsmanship. These masks are worn by people dancing the "Memburu," a traditional folk performing art.



### Saga Nishiki Textile

Saga City

Saga Nishiki features delicate and gorgeous geometric patterns created by weaving using silk as the woof, and gold, silver or lacquer as the warp.



### Imari-yaki/Arita-yaki Pottery

Imari City & Arita Town

Japan's most renowned pottery, Imari-yaki/Arita-yaki has a tradition of about 400 years, and has captured the minds of not only Japanese but also people overseas including Europeans since the Edo period.

### Hizen-Nao Japanese Paper

Yamato Town, Saga City

Various types of handmade Japanese paper sheets are available depending on the purposes of use, such as wallpaper and lampshades.



### Hizen Vidro Glassware

Saga City

Hizen Vidro uses a traditional technique known as "Japanese blowing," which shapes glass into objects by blowing alone, without the use of molds. This is a phantom technique that cannot be seen anymore anywhere else in Japan. Enjoy this glassware's subtle beauty.



### Saga's Local Sake

various areas across the Prefecture

Produced with the blessings of Saga's rich natural environment, Saga's local sake is characterized by its rich and mature taste.



### Marubolo Cakes

Saga City

Originating in the Netherlands, Marubolo cakes are one of the most famous sweets in Saga. It is said that they were originally made as a preserved food for sailors.



土産

## Specialties

Why not buy some of  
Saga's unique specialties?



### Ureshino Tea

Ureshino City

Produced in a basin surrounded by foggy mountains, full of fresh air and crisp, clear natural water, Ureshino tea is gentle on the throat.



### Ogi Yokan Sweet Bean Jelly

Ogi City

Ogi Yokan is an elegant sweet made mainly of Ogi's clear natural water and carefully-selected red beans. It is one of the traditional sweets of Saga.







### Takezaki Crabs

Tara Town

Takezaki Crabs are a kind of blue crab. The recommended way to cook them is to boil in salted water. Drinking sake poured into the hollowed shell and mixed with the tomalley is also recommended.

### Saga Beef

various areas across the Prefecture

This tender, densely-marbled, tasty beef delights every palate.



美食

Try popular tasty foods from the sea and the land of Saga that will impress the palates of even the most discerning gourmets!

## Gourmet Food



### Slices of Squid Served Alive

Yobuko Town, Karatsu City

Squid served alive in Yobuko are clear, sweet and meltingly delicious. It is also recommended to try squid arms, broiled with salt or deep-fried in batter; you can drain the squid down to the dregs.

### Saga's mandarin oranges and strawberries

various areas across the Prefecture

Grown in a prefecture where the climate is warm and the soil is fertile, Saga's mandarin oranges and strawberries are well known for their high sugar content and fine flavor.



### Memburyu

various places in Prefecture

Memburyu is one of the most famous traditional folk performing arts in Saga, in which performers wearing devil masks dance to the accompaniment of flutes, gongs and drums.

Period: September to October



### Arita Pottery Market

Arita Town

A pottery market held in Arita Town, the birthplace of Japan's porcelain.

Period: April 29 to May 5



### Saga International Balloon Festa

Saga City

One of the largest events of its kind in Asia, this balloon festival attracts more than 100 balloons from around the world.

Period: late October to early November



祭り

A wide range of interesting events-from traditional festivals to international meets-are awaiting you! Why not feel the energy in Saga?

## Festivals

### Hina-Doll Festival

various places in Prefecture

Hina Matsuri (Doll Festival) is one of the traditional events celebrated throughout Japan. Unique dolls are displayed during the Hina-Doll Festival in various places in Saga Prefecture.

Period: February to March



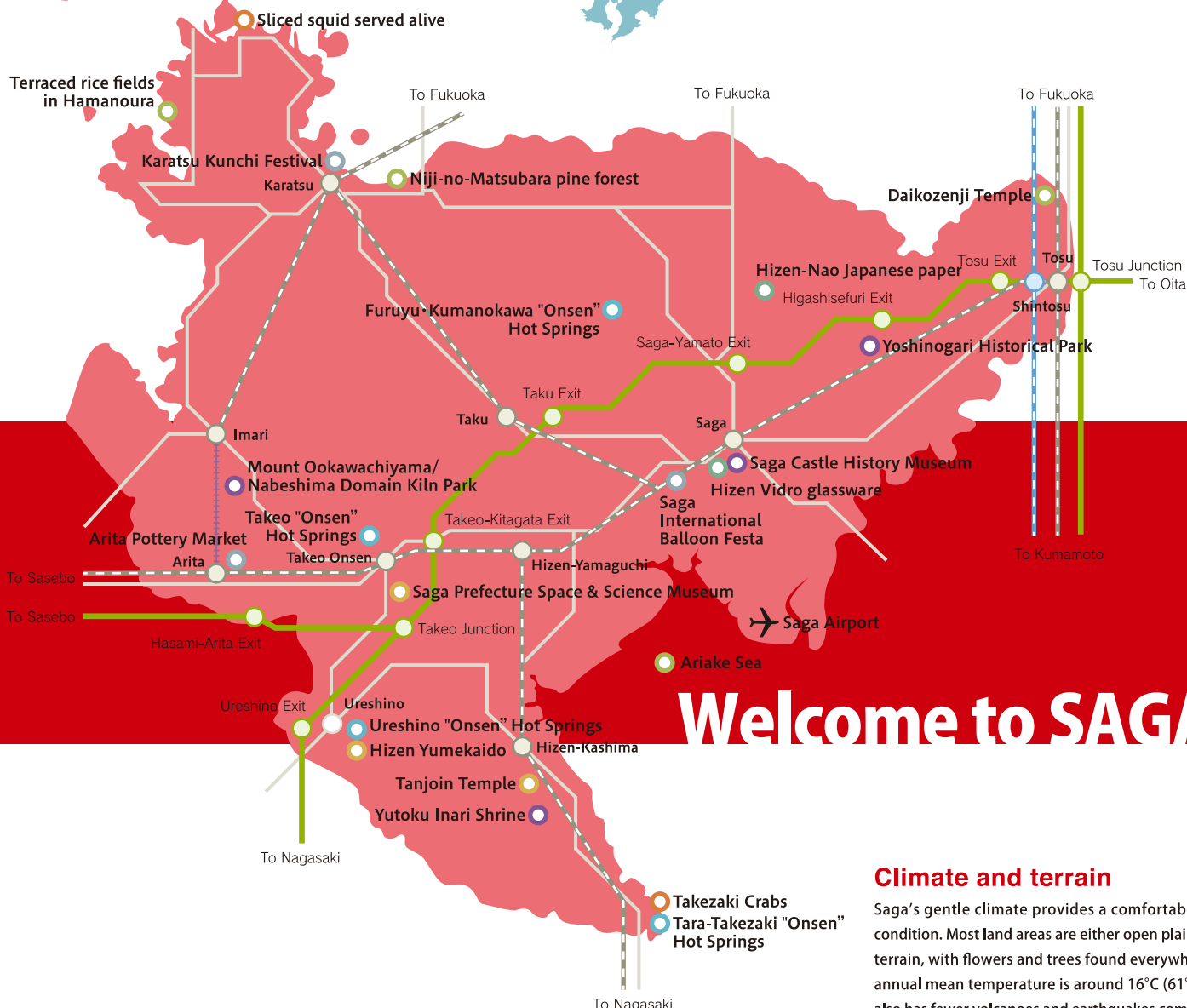
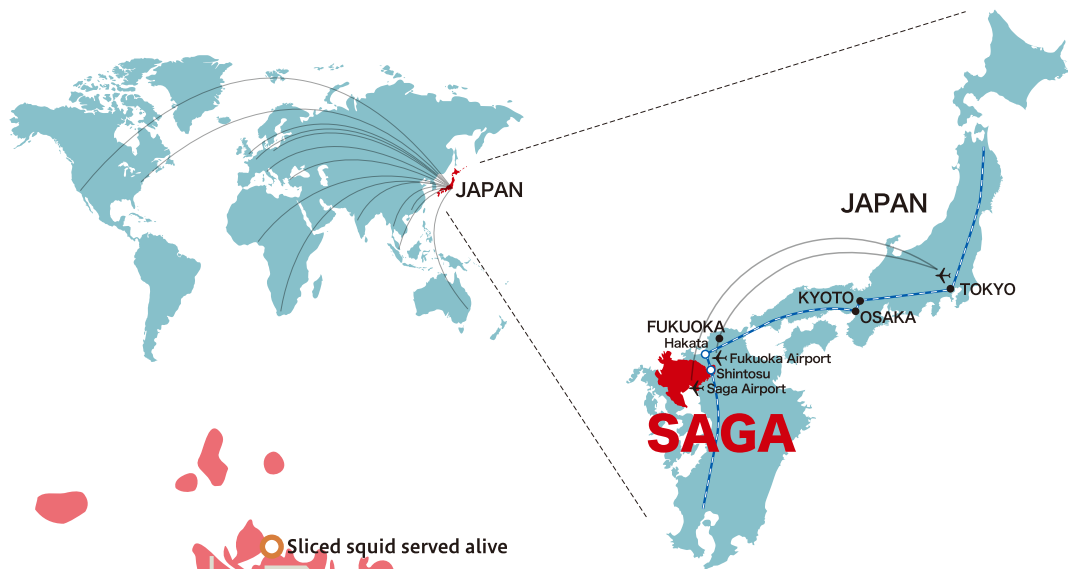
### Karatsu Kunchi Festival

Karatsu City

Fourteen hikiyama, or giant floats, race through the streets in Karatsu to the accompaniment of flute and drum music.

Period: November 2-4

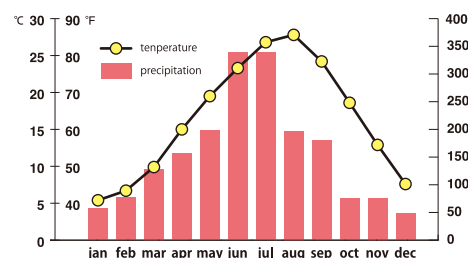




# Welcome to SAGA

## Climate and terrain

Saga's gentle climate provides a comfortable living condition. Most land areas are either open plain or hilly terrain, with flowers and trees found everywhere. The annual mean temperature is around 16°C (61°F). Saga also has fewer volcanoes and earthquakes compared to other regions of Japan.



○ For more detailed tourist information about Saga Pref., please contact:

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