

Tradition★Culture★Products in Shinonsen

Tajima-miho-no-ura

The name of the seacoast in Shinonsen. It is a deeply-indented ria coast with various kinds of cliffs, sea caves and small islands. Mio-ooshima island is a popular spot due to the clear columnar joints that can be seen here. This area is also blessed with an abundant of marine products such as seaweed, shells and various kinds of fish. People here have long lived together with the sea and protected it.



Tookan tunnel

The longest tunnel in San' in Main Line. Its construction is very difficult.

Kiri-ga-taki Falls

A waterfall 61 meters high situated in the upper part of the Kishida river. It is cool around here even in summer.



Special Products

- ★ Miisuya-bari Needles produced in Hamasaka have been known in all over Japan since the Meiji period. These skills are used in making diamonds needles.
- ★ Snow crabs, Tajima beef, dry fish, pears, chikuwa, tochi-mochi (rice cake with horse chestnuts)



Predecessors in Shinonsen

Buntarou Katou

A mountaineer who was born in Hamasaka. People called him the "Immortal Mountaineer."

Kyuuzou Fukui

A professor of Literature who was born in Kumadani. He was a professor at Gakusyu-in-University in Tokyo.

Sumitaka Maeda

A poet who was born in Moroyose. He is called the "unfortunated poet" as he died at a young age. His poems drew upon the tragedy of his life.



Information Facilities

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Shin-onsen Town



Town of the Sea, Mountains, Hot Springs

The coastline "San' in Kaigan National Park" is a world full of majestic rock formations, mysterious caves and other geological features. You can observe the grandeur of nature here to offer via a boat cruise, cycling or whatever means you choose. A great variety of seafood can also be enjoyed. The local fishing ports are always a bustle with activity and bring in the largest amount of snow crabs and firefly squids in all of Japan.

The mountainous region to the south is full of nature and famous for its production of Tajima beef. People here enjoy the different activities of the four distinct seasons including hiking, autumn leave viewing, and skiing in winter.

The jewel of Shinonsen town is its many and varied hot springs. People from all over Japan come here to relax in the hot springs and then dine on the local delicacies.



Population: 16,552 (2012 March)

Location: Northwest Hyogo Prefecture

Main industries: Primary industries, tourism

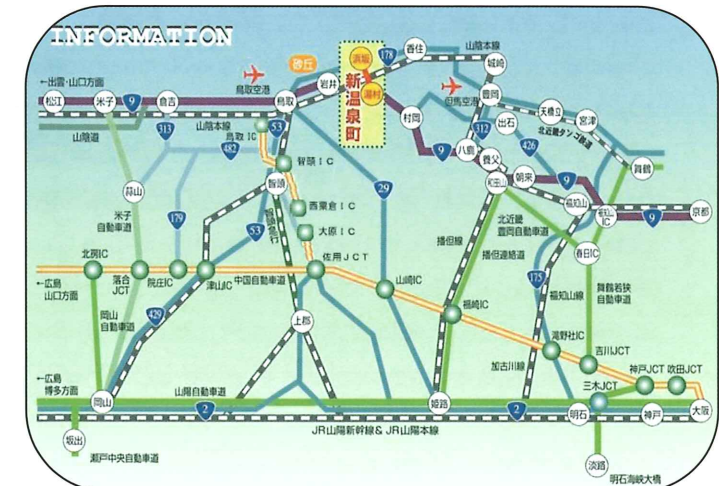
Hometown of Warmth

The old traditions and customs are maintained and felt in every aspect of life here. The year is full of festivals and events of each village and community.

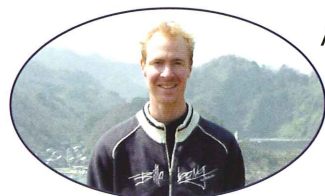


Hometown of Dreams

Professionals of the sake and snow crab trades continue to use the refined techniques handed down them by previous generations. Other groups embark on new challenges, making new souvenirs and products from local produce of the sea and mountains.



Jarrd's Corner



ALT in Hamasaka J.H.S.



People in Shinonsen

The people of Shinonsen Town are active and friendly. The epitome of this are the grandpa's and grandpa's that drive their little trucks to work in the rice field each day and always happy for a chat. Shinonsen Town is not a city. The aged population far outweighs the young, there are no department stores, and the town sleeps come 10pm. Yet there is an energy here. The young people feverishly love this town, and if there is nothing to do, they make something to do! From musical festivals to sports events, there is always something going on and something to enjoy!



Refresh with Onsen and Delicious Foods

You cannot visit Shinonsen Town without trying to local hot springs. They are among the best in Japan and with numerous spots to try you are sure to find one that suits your style of relaxation. Undoubtedly the most famous in the area is Yumura hot spring. The entire town of Yumura has built up around the hot spring which at its source registers at 98 degrees, the hottest in Japan. At night you can see the guest of the local hotels walking the lantern lit streets in their yukata. With each change of the season, a different atmosphere is given to the town. Yet, whichever the season, the relaxation and enjoyment gained from a visit to a hot spring followed by a good meal is unchanged. It is an experience I wholeheartedly recommend.

San'in Kaigan Geopark

Recently the coastline of this town has become part of an international recognized GEOPARK. Because of this, there has been a great increase in development in the area. Yet the main attraction of this town remains its untouched natural beauty. Along the coastline are numerous secluded beaches; golden sand, rich blue water and the green of the surrounding forest create a truly spectacular experience. A drive along the coastal road will also greet you with gorgeous scenery; majestic rock formations rise out of the ocean at every corner. At sunset they are exquisite. These can be enjoyed further by a close up inspection on a boat cruise that I recommended to all.



Introduction of Each Area

Igumi • Moroyose

Igumi and Moroyose developed as a town through fishery and the transportation of goods along the Sea of Japan. Moroyose is a good natural harbour and it was as a port of call for the Kitamae-bune ships of the Edo period. It is also the site of precious geological features and beautiful sites. Such as coastal cliffs, sea caves and pot holes. "Ryuu-gu-no-tsukai", a very rare deep-sea fish has also been found here.



Yu

People have enjoyed the hot springs here for a long time dating back to when feudal lords would travel along the road on their way to Kyoto. The source of the hot spring is called "Ara-yu" and its temperature is 98 degrees, the highest in Japan. The hot spring is utilized for many purposes and is used in both public bathhouses of the numerous hotel in the area and local houses.



Hatta • Teragi

Hatta is in the upper valley of the Kishida River. It is an area blessed with highlands, ravines and beautiful waterfalls. People here live with nature by utilizing the landform cleverly, such as raising vegetables in the highlands, making terraced rice fields and raising fish in the clean water. The main industries in the Teragi area are forestry and agriculture. This is the origin of "Tajima Beef", which is a famous brand of beef. In winter, the snow is so great it forces some of the residents here to move to temporary accommodation. But there is fun to be had with ski resorts or visiting the prefectural Tajima zoo.

Hamasaka

Hamasaka started as a small town in the lower reaches of the Kishida River in the Edo period. At this time the Hon-machi area was the centre of culture and economy, and still to this day old houses such as merchant houses and breweries remain and give the area a nostalgic feel. Hamasaka hot spring was discovered during digging for water to melt snow. The temperature of the spring's water is 72 degrees. This discovery changed Hamasaka and turned it into a hot spring resort town.

Water from the spring is used in public bathhouses and houses in the local area.



Ooba • Kuto • Kutoyama

Shichikama hot spring was discovered in this area during the digging of a well in 1965 and remains a popular spot still today.

This area is also famous for Baikamo, flowers that grow only in clean, cold water. It can be seen in the Takimi River in Tochidani from May until August. "Tug-of-war with Japanese iris" is an annual event played in the Kuto area in June. It is recognized as a national intangible cultural asset.

