

TAIWA

宮 城 県 大 和 町



IMPRESSION

Tourist Guide for Taiwa, Miyagi Prefecture



Ryomi Vineyard and Winery

了美ヴィンヤード & ワイナリー

This winery, which is largest in Miyagi Prefecture, is located in the heart of the mountains overlooking Nanatsumori. Wines are made here using the grapes that they grow. A restaurant from which you can enjoy the scenery here is scheduled to open in December 2019.

Tel: 022-725-8370 <http://ryomi-wine.jp/>
Map E-3



December 2019 Restaurant Open

Enjoy a journey through time at

TAIWA

時間を愉しむ旅 大和町



Nanatsumori Lakeside Park

七ツ森湖畔公園

You can enjoy the thousand cherry trees that color the Nanatsumori lakeside, the autumn leaves, the winter scenery and the magnificent scenes of all four seasons to the full here. The park has day camping, imonikai (outdoor party where various vegetables are cooked) and BBQ facilities in its grounds. There are also bungalows and tent sites available for use.

Tel: 022-346-2442 Map F-3

NANATSUMORI ONE DAY TREKING

Nanayakushigake 七葉師掛け



There are Bhaisajyaguru Buddhas enshrined on all the mountain tops on all the trails in Nanatsumori. Nanayakushigake is a pilgrimage involving climbing all 7 mountains in Nanatsumori in one day to pray for good health.



Guide to Nanatsumori and the Surrounding Areas

The Nanatsumori nature trails through Nanatsumori where there is a legend about a giant measure 6km in total length and take about 2hrs 30mins to walk them. The scenery from the 359m top of Mt. Nadekurayama with its 360 degree panoramic view is stunning.

THE HITOH

Secret hot springs

秘湯

Takinohara Hot Springs Chidori-so

滝ノ原温泉 ちどり荘

It is said that Munefusa, the grandchild of Date Masamune, used to soak in the hot waters that gush up at this secluded hot spring to soothe his tiredness after running around during hunting. This hot spring that pulls its water from that source charms visitors who come here. The colorless, clear water that's makes your skin beautiful and the elaborate, creative tea-ceremony dishes are popular here.

Tel: 022-346-2565 Map F-3
<http://www.chidoriso.com/>



Daigamori Hot Springs Yamanokawa Ryokan

台ヶ森温泉 山野川旅館

There is a legend about this secluded hot spring that a warrior who was sick soaked in this spring as instructed by Bhaisajyaguru (the Buddha of healing) for half a month and was completely healed. There is also a legend that this spring won a silver cup as a prize for hot spring quality at the world fair in Germany in 1913. Yamanokawa Ryokan is the only hot spring you can stay at in Daigamori Hot Spring Village which is surrounded by greenery and mountain streams.

Tel: 022-342-2057 Map E-4
<http://yamanokawa.jp/>



Nanatsumori



The story of how Nanatsumori was formed

A huge man who was immensely strong called Asahina Saburo lived in Kami District long ago. One day he decided to make a mountain as a target for bow and arrow practice. He made a tangara (a basket that goes on your back for carrying earth) and he made his way to Kurokawa. He put a lot of earth in his tangara from an open field to the east of Otani (present day Kashimadai) and carried earth back from here to his home 7 times and built a mountain as his bow and arrow target. On his way back each time to where he lived, he rested and some earth spilled out of his tangara. This earth hardened and 7 mountains were formed. These mountains are present day Nanatsumori, the place he dug up the earth is Shinai-numa Pond and the footprints of where he walked became the Yoshida River. The mountain he made for target practice was Mt. Yakurarai and finally it's said that the mountain made by what was left in his tangara became Mt. Tagaramori.



Asahina Saburo

Tea-Ceremony Dishes

懐石料理

Enjoy these elaborate dishes made from ingredients including seasonal vegetables and marine produce, local rice and char (type of fish), and meat.



Sendai Beef

仙台牛

This beef is nice and tender with a mellow flavor. Sendai Beef is a brand of beef that has cleared set standards including having a perfect balance of marbled fat and lean meat and a delicate, fine composition to be classified as a top-grade of beef.



Japanese Sake

日本酒

Junmaishu (sake made without added alcohol or sugar) made with rice grown in Taiwa and water has a distinctive rice taste and rich flavor.



TAIWA CUISINE

Date Iwana Sashimi

伊達いわな刺身



Date Iwana

伊達いわな

This is a large type of char fish which can be up to 50cm in length and 1kg in weight. In addition to being perfect as fatty sashimi, a nigiri-zushi, in tempura, grilled or eaten shabushabu style (thinly sliced and boiled quickly), it is also delicious in whatever kind of cuisine it's in whether it's Japanese, Chinese or Western style.

Soba Noodles

蕎麦

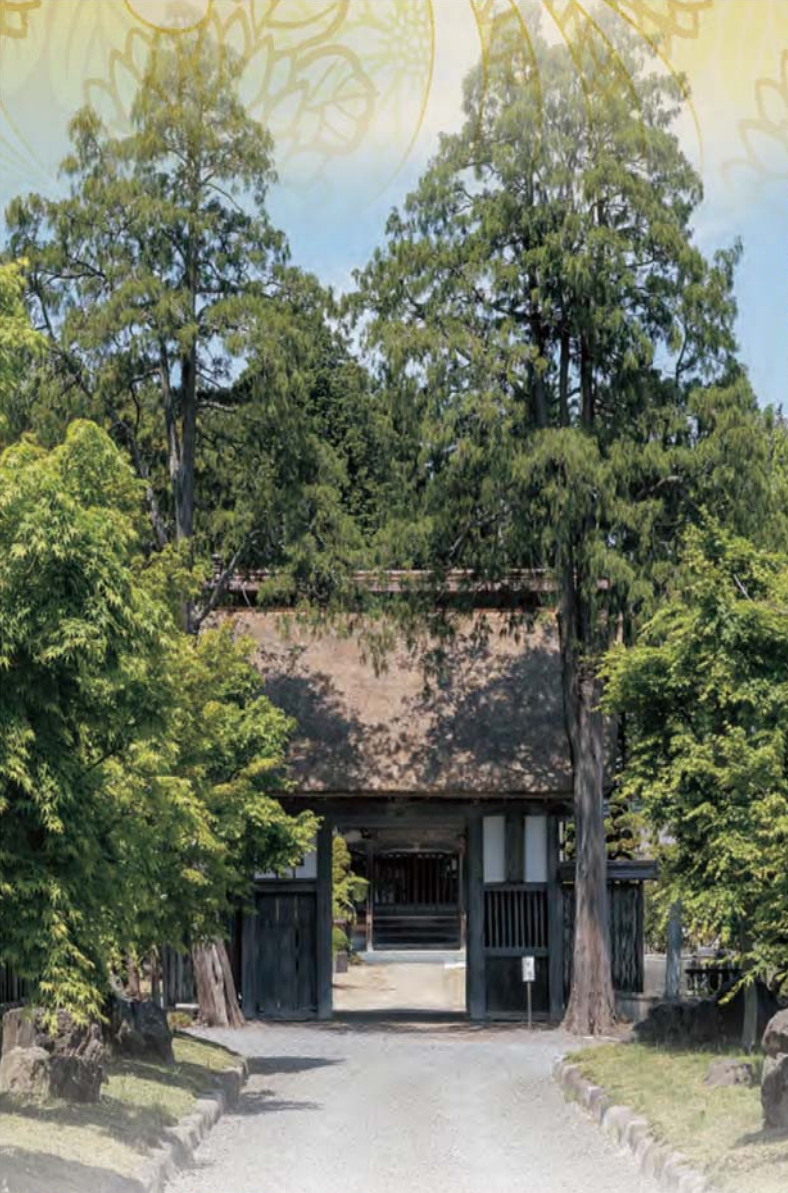
These soba noodles made by hand with pristine water and a sure technique have an outstanding aroma and slip down the throat exceptionally well.



Date Iwana Sushi

伊達いわな寿司





Tenno-ji Temple

天皇寺



Yoshioka Hachiman Shrine 吉岡八幡神社

This temple was built in its present location in 1616 when Munekiyo, the third son of Date Masamune, moved the castle he resided in to Yoshioka. The kuri (temple kitchen) is of Edo era construction and ranks next to the temple kitchen of Zuigan-ji Temple in historic value and is designated as a tangible cultural property of the town. The main temple gate is also from the Edo era. The graves of Munekiyo and his mother-in-law Isaka no Tsubone are within the temple grounds.



The grave of Date Kawachimori Munekiyo



Temple kitchen (kuri)

Map H-3

This shrine was moved to its current location in 1618 when Date Munekiyo moved the castle he resided in to Yoshioka and it became the chinjusha (a shrine that enshrines a patron spirit that protects an area) of the Kurokawa gun. The main shrine building was designated a tangible cultural property of Miyagi Prefecture but it burned down after a lightning strike in 1987 and was rebuilt in 1989. The Zuishin-mon Gate was built in 1764.

Map H-3

SHRINES & TEMPLES



Kuhon-ji Temple 九品寺

This temple was built in its current location in 1616 when Date Munekiyo moved the castle he resided in to Yoshioka. The Kokuonki Ken-shohi Monument which tells of the relief work for the poor people of the Yoshioka Juku Post Station is found here.

Map H-3

The Genealogy of the Date Clan

Date Munefusa

伊達宗房

Munefusa, the grandchild of Date Masamune of the Sendai Clan, became the adopted child of Tade Takazane when he was 4 years old. He was given the title Date when he was 14 and took residence in Miyatoko the following year. After that he took the daughter of Katakura Kagenaga, the lord of Shiroishi Castle, as his wife and they were blessed with 2 children. The descendants of Munefusa ruled over Miyatoko until the end of the Edo era and were known as the Miyatoko Date Clan.



Date Yoshimura

伊達吉村

Yoshimura was the eldest son of Munefusa and he succeeded as head of the Miyatoko Date Clan when he lost his father at 7 years old. After this he became the adopted child of the 4th Lord of the Sendai Domain, Tsunamura, at the age of 16. At 24 he became the 5th Lord. Over the next 40 years he left a great legacy through his political reforms within the province.



Kakusho-ji Temple 覚照寺

Date Munefusa, the grandchild of Date Masamune of the Sendai Domain who also went by the alias Dokuganryu Masamune, built Keiun-ji Temple for his mother Kozasa (Keiunin) in 1666. His eldest son Yoshimura became the 5th Lord of the Sendai Domain and changed the name of the temple to Kakusho-ji. There are graves for successive generations of the Miyatoko Date Clan starting with Munefusa within the temple grounds.

Map G-4

伊達の

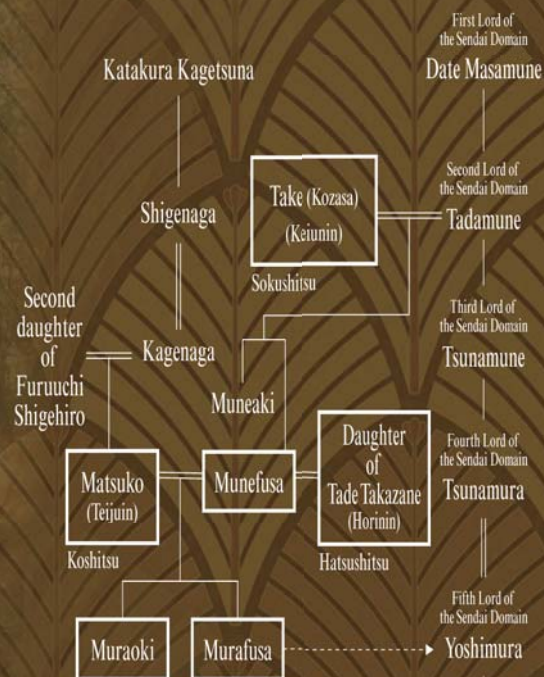
系譜

On the Trail of the Miyatoko Date Clan

宮床伊達家探訪



Family Tree



POTTERY EXPERIENCE

Nanatumori Pottery Experience Center

七ツ森陶芸体験館

You can try your hands at making Daigamoriyaki pottery at this pottery center which is unique in Japan with it having 7 different kinds of kilns on site.

Open: 10:00-17:00 (until 16:00 November-March)
 Closed: Wednesdays (the following day if Wednesday is a national holiday); New Year Holidays
 Tel: 022-346-2377 Map F-3

陶芸



Refresh yourself staying in a log house or tent

Nanatumori Fureai no Sato

七ツ森ふれあいの里

Enjoy the outdoors staying in a log house, bungalow or tent site on high ground overlooking Nanatumori. You can come here for day trips or overnight stays.

Open: April-November
 Enquiries: Minamikawa Dam Museum
 Tel: 022-346-2442 Map F-3



Hara Asao (1888-1969)

Hara Asao studied tanka poems under Yosano Akiko and later received instruction from Sato Mokichi and Shimaki Akahiko of the Araragi-ha group of poets. Asao was one of the Sankeishuka poets (known for their splendid tanka poems) of the Taisho era. (Born in the area that is present day Miyatoko, Taiwa.)



Hara Asao Memorial Museum

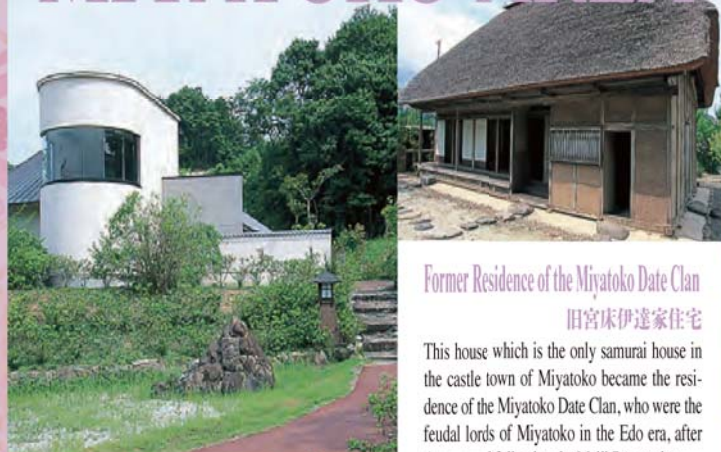
原阿佐緒記念館

This museum established in the house where Hara Asao was born is built in the Giyofu architectural style of the Meiji era. Artefacts of her diary, manuscripts of her poems and letters are on display here.

Open: 9:00-16:00
 Closed: Mondays (the following day if Monday is a national holiday); New Year Holidays
 Tel: 022-346-2925 Map G-4

WALK AROUND

MIYATOKO AREA



Former Residence of the Miyatoko Date Clan 旧宮床伊達家住宅

This house which is the only samurai house in the castle town of Miyatoko became the residence of the Miyatoko Date Clan, who were the feudal lords of Miyatoko in the Edo era, after they moved following the Meiji Restoration.

Open: 9:00-16:00
 Closed: Mondays (the following day if Monday is a national holiday); New Year Holidays
 Entry: Free



Miyatoko takaragura (Local history museum) 宮床宝蔵

This is a museum where artefacts connected to the Date Clan that remain in Taiwa are preserved and on display and the history and the natural features of Miyatoko are explained. The former residence of the Miyatoko Date Clan is also here to view.

Open: 9:00-16:00
 Closed: Mondays (the following day if Monday is a national holiday); New Year Holidays
 Tel: 022-346-2438 Map G-4

八吉
縁結御縁起
島田飴



Wakuguri

輪くぐり

This is a festival held over the summer at Yoshioka Hachiman Shrine. Walking around and through an arch made of thatch in a figure of 8 pattern three times is said to bring divine favor for sound health and safety for one's family.



Yabusame (Horseback Archery)

流鏑馬

This event is held at the big autumn festival at Yoshioka Hachiman Shrine. It's a soul-stirring event where arrows are shot at targets from the back of horses dashing along a 60m section of track.



Shimada-ame Festival

島田飴まつり

This festival held on the 14th December is for people hoping to find a good partner for marriage. On the day of the festival only, Shimada-ame candy is on sale as a lucky charm for attracting a suitable marriage partner and lots of people come here to buy them.



Bonden Bayai

梵天ばやし

This is held at Funagatayama Shrine on the 1st May. It's a Shinto ritual in which the shrine's parishioners take part in the Bonten contest. This ritual is designated as an important intangible cultural asset of Miyagi Prefecture.

Kagura Dance

神楽

There are 5 Kagura dances passed down the generations in Taiwa that have been influenced by Nanbu Kagura dance.



Gallery of Sato Churyo

佐藤忠良ギャラリー

This is an exhibition of the works of the world-renowned sculptor Sato Churyo who was from Taiwa. Sculptures under the theme of family, personal accessories, woodblock prints and sketches he painted of his neighborhood are on display.

Open: 9:30-16:30
Closed: 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month;
New Year Holidays
Inside Taiwa Fureai Culture and Creativity
Center Tel: 022-344-4401 Map H-3



TRADITIONAL CULTURE

Taiwa Local Produce



Tsurusu Soba Noodles

(JA Shin-Miyagi)



Nanatumori Rusks

(JA Shin-Miyagi)



Negimiso Karinto

(JA Shin-Miyagi)



Shiitake Mushroom Curry

(JA Shin-Miyagi)



Soba Shochu Nanatumori

(JA Shin-Miyagi)



Asahina Saburo and Juzaburo Goods

(Taiwa Tourism and Produce Association)



Nihon Mitsubachi no Hachimitsu Honey

(Chiba Katsumi)



Nanatumori Soba Noodles

(Takatomi)



Junmaishu Sake Nanatumori Densetsu

(Taiwagura Shuzo Brewery)



Nanatumori no Amazake (sweet sake)

(Akama Nogyo Kaihatsu)



Tokubetsu Junmaishu Sake Nanatumori no Shiki

(Kokudaya)



Junmaishu Sake Furusato no Otachizake

(Taiwagura Shuzo Brewery)



Tono, Risokuyaki de Gozaru! (Baked goods)

(Chef Dream)



Harukaze (Japanese tea)

(Chasho Yabe-en)



Daigamoriyaki Saiyu Toki Pottery

(Nanatumori Pottery Experience Center)



Leather goods

(SAMURAI CRAFT)

A B C D E F G H I J

Kami gun
Kami

Kami gun
Shikama

Kurokawa gun
Ohira

Kurokawa gun
Taiwa

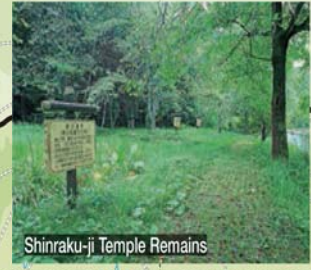
Tomiya

Sendai

Rifu



Masuzawa Nature Trail



Shinraku-ji Temple Remains



Hachiyadate Residence Remains



Mt. Funagatayama



Jaishi Sesaragi Park

TAIWA Navi Map

1 : 70,000
0 1 2 3km

A B C D E F G H I J

1
2
3
4
5
6



Yoshioka Juku was a post station on the Oshu-kaido and Dewa-kaido highways in Yoshioka in the Edo era. A great burden of labor and care of the horses needed to carry goods was imposed on the people of the post station and gradually the number of people living tough lives bearing this hardship increased.

In order to solve this problem, 9 people including Kokudaya Juzaburo and Sugawaraya Tokuheiji had the idea to raise a large sum of money (1000 ryo (old unit of currency), deposit it to the Sendai Clan and to help the people of the post station using the interest from this deposit. This led to the end of their terrible hardships being realized in 1773.

The story of this is written down in the 'Kokuonki' by Eishu Zuishi who was formerly an abbot at Ryusenin Temple. The historian Isoda Michifumi published his historical and biographical work 'Kokudaya Juzaburo: The Unselfish Japanese Person' based on the 'Kokuonki' and furthermore, his work was made into a film and released in 2016 called Tono, Risoku de Gozaru (The Magnificent Nine (English title)).

The street of Yoshioka Juku is still in the same location with connections to the old post station so try to imagine the experiences of the people who lived here as you look around.

YOSHIOKA JUKU

吉岡宿



Taiwa Tourism and Produce Association (inside Yoshioka Juku Honjin Information Center)
Tel: 022-345-7501

Remains of the Yoshiokate Residence

These are the remains of the residence constructed for the occasion of the Okuyama Clan becoming the feudal lords of Yoshioka. This residence was moved when the Tadaki Clan replaced the Okuyama as the feudal lords in 1757. The moat surrounding it has been filled in but you can see the inner earthen fortification walls in the western part of the northern area. There was a residence for the retainer between the surroundings of this residence and the town of the post station also.

Kosatsuba Remains

These are the remains of an old noticeboard (Itafuda) which had the laws and ordinances of Shogunate or Japanese feudal laws displayed on it.

Yoshioka Castle Remains

These are the remains of the castle where Munekiyo, the third son of Date Masamune, lived. The castle was completed in 1616 and was moved together with the temple from its original location in present day Tsurusu Shimokusa. Two foundations that remain from the corner towers can be seen here. It is said that the ichi no maru (living quarters) of the castle were north of here in the vicinity of Hidamari no Oka Hill and the ni no maru (outer layer) of the castle was on the east side. There was a moat in the low ground on the south side.

Honjin Remains

This is the remains of a facility that the feudal lords and government officials of the Shogunate used for accommodation and rest.

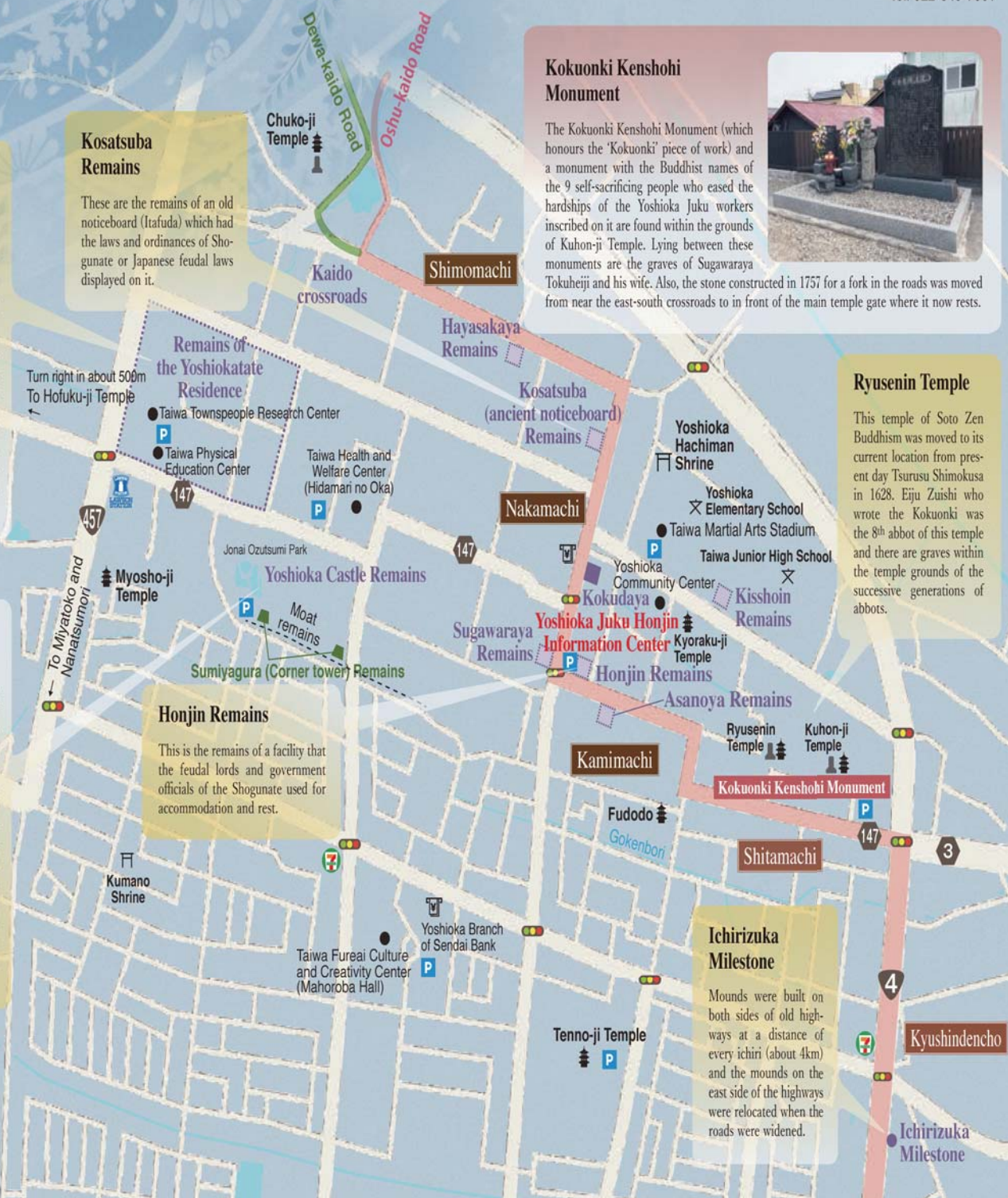
Kokuonki Kenshoji Monument

The Kokuonki Kenshoji Monument (which honours the 'Kokuonki' piece of work) and a monument with the Buddhist names of the 9 self-sacrificing people who eased the hardships of the Yoshioka Juku workers inscribed on it are found within the grounds of Kuhon-ji Temple. Lying between these monuments are the graves of Sugawaraya Tokuheiji and his wife. Also, the stone constructed in 1757 for a fork in the roads was moved from near the east-south crossroads to in front of the main temple gate where it now rests.



Ryusenin Temple

This temple of Soto Zen Buddhism was moved to its current location from present day Tsurusu Shimokusa in 1628. Eiju Zuishi who wrote the Kokuonki was the 8th abbot of this temple and there are graves within the temple grounds of the successive generations of abbots.



Ichirizuka Milestone

Mounds were built on both sides of old highways at a distance of every ichiri (about 4km) and the mounds on the east side of the highways were relocated when the roads were widened.

Kyushindencho

Ichirizuka Milestone

Getting here



go to
HIRAIZUMI



World Heritage Site

go to
SENDAI

Prefectural capital
(The City of Trees)



© City of Sendai

go to
MATSUSHIMA

A Top Three View in Japan



Highway Bus

Sendai Station → Taiwa Bus Terminal (about 40mins)

Tohoku Expressway

Kawaguchi Junction → Taiwa IC (357.1km/about 4hrs 35mins)

Morioka IC → Taiwa IC (155km/about 1hr 50mins)

Tohoku Shinkansen

Tokyo Station → Sendai Station (about 1hr 30mins) About 45mins from Sendai by car

Morioka Station → Furukawa Station (about 1hr) About 30mins by car from Furukawa

Airplane

About 50mins by car from Sendai Airport

Tourism Inquiries

Taiwa website

Taiwa Commerce, Industry and Tourism Section

Postcode: 981-3680

1-1-1 Yoshiokamahoroba, Taiwa, Kurokawa, Miyagi

Tel: 022-345-1184



Taiwa Tourism and Produce Association

(inside Yoshioka Juku Honjin Information Center)

Postcode: 981-3621

31-1 Kamimachi, Yoshioka, Taiwa, Kurokawa, Miyagi

Tel: 022-345-7501



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