

Explore traditional
and modern sites

Tottori Japan

WAKASA TOWN

Warm Atmosphere
and Friendly People

WAKASANPO

Take a leisurely stroll and enjoy the sites

Wakasa Town, Yazu-gun, Tottori Prefecture



Wakasa - the town of the steam locomotive engine

Showa Retro Site

CONTENTS wakasa guide book

Visit the Showa Retro Area

Wakasa flourished as a lodging town in Edo Period. The old, bustling atmosphere of the town still remains to this day. Many old townhouses have been transformed into shops and galleries, allowing visitors to slip back in time and enjoy the sites. Why not also explore the classy retro zone while reminiscing on the good old Showa days?

P03-04



Great Nature

Wakasa's Mt. Hyonosen standing at 1,510 m tall

P05-06

Experience the great outdoors

Wakasa is renowned for its greenery and crystal clear streams. With 95% of its area covered by mountains and forests, the town makes the most out of its natural surroundings by offering outdoor activities in all four seasons, such as mountain climbing in summer and skiing in winter. Visitors can also learn about the natural wonders of Mt. Hyonosen at Hibikino Mori Visitor Center located at the foot of the mountain.



Historic Nageiredo Temple

Historical Wonders

P07-08

Travel through History

Visit historical sites in Wakasa such as the 1200-year-old temple, Fudoin Iwayado (important cultural asset) and the ruins of Wakasa Oniga Castle, the symbol of this old castle town. Embark on a journey to trace the history of great figures while experiencing the culture and customs of the time!

FEAST ON GOURMET FOOD

Within a 20-minute walking distance, you can access all the gourmet restaurants around Wakasa Station in this old lodging town. Enjoy to your heart's content the unique flavors of local specialties such as Yoshikawa Pork and gibier (game meat) cuisine. There are also many cafes with a cozy atmosphere, perfect for stopping by between sightseeing tours.

P09-10

Tonkatsu made from Yoshikawa Pork

Gourmet Galore



Take a leisurely stroll and enjoy the sites

Come and see what WAKASA has to offer



A beautiful townscape shaped by people and history. The serene mountain valley is just a short walk away. Soak in the nostalgic atmosphere of old-time Japan and be captivated by the scenery.



Visit the Showa Retro Area

A fusion of old and new architecture with an air of nostalgia.



Hands-on steam locomotive experience!



SL & Diesel Locomotive Operate the Steam Train

Experience driving an SL (C12-167) or a diesel locomotive (DD16) train. These eco-friendly trains run on compressed air instead of coal. The basic mechanics is the same as that of a steam locomotive, except that it does not emit smoke. You can feel like a real driver by wearing the official uniform and blowing the whistle.

Fees SL: 12,000 yen Diesel locomotive: 13,000 yen
Check beforehand the days it is open (*Reserve in advance)



SL Minecart Ride

The SL pulls a minecart for about 300 meters (round trip)! Feel the wind in your hair as you go on a fun little ride!

Open 4th Sunday from April to November
Fees Adults: 200 yen (entry fee not included)
Children: 200 yen (free entry)
Check beforehand the days it is open

Wakasa Station



A steam locomotive "C12-167," which belonged to the Tottori Engine District and ran on the Wakasa Line (31 August 1944 - 6 November 1946), is on display inside the station. The manual turntable is also worth checking out.

Fees Adults: 300 yen Children: Free (for elementary students or younger)

SIGHTSEEING TRAINS

3 sightseeing trains (Showa, Yazu, and Wakasa) designed by renowned industrial designer, Eiji Mitooka, run on the Wakasa Line. The Wakasa Train debuted in March 2020 and is an elegant green color that complements the town greenery. Much of the interior of the car is made of warm wood to create a relaxing and welcoming atmosphere for passengers.



Kariya Road

Historical castle town & post station

Selected as one of the best 100 buildings of the prefecture



The eaves of the first floor are extended to allow people to pass through without getting caught in the rain, snow, or wind.

Wakasa Folk Craft Museum



A 100-year-old traditional house (formerly Nakao residence) in Wakasa was transformed into a museum to display 5,000 folk craft clay bells made by people connected to Wakasa. This is the place where locals and tourists can relax and enjoy viewing the architecture and landscape.

TEL 0858-82-1289 **Open** 10:00~17:00 closes at 16:00 during winter
Closed New Year's Holidays **Cost** Free (December 1 - end of February)



Showa Toy Museum

A traditional house was renovated to create this nostalgic museum. The shop out at the front of the building sells candy and toys.

TEL 0858-71-0003 **Closed** Tuesdays & Wednesdays
Open Weekdays 10:30~12:00, 13:00~17:30
Weekends & public holidays 10:30~17:30

Railway items available!



Embroidered train items
Produced by Shishuya - Nishimoto Kougei



Train T-shirts, eco-friendly bags, mini towels and more!
Produced by NUTEK

Wakasa Inn Area Sightseeing Tour

Wakasa Town Tourism Association **TEL** 0858-82-2237 Guided tours by Wakasa Tourist Guide Club from ¥2,000 per visit (up to 20 people).

Nostalgic streets that take you back in time



Kura Street
<during Obon>

CONTENTS

SOAK IN THE NATURE

Wakasa offers lush greenery that stretches far and wide

Mt. Hyonosen, a 1510 m high peak, was selected as one of Japan's 200 most famous mountains. The natural beech forest (A.K.A Mother Forest) and the sasa (broad-leaf bamboo) fields are home to a variety of plants and protected species such as the golden eagle, dormouse and various kinds of butterflies.

Photo courtesy of Hibikino Mori



Photo courtesy of Hibikino Mori

Hibikino Mori - Mt. Hyonosen Visitor Center

Learn about the natural environment and tour the center for free. Visitors can observe the mountain forest during the day and at night. The miniature forest display is one of the largest in Japan, and there are many hands-on activities for the whole family to enjoy.

Address 635-175 Tsukuyone, Wakasa Town TEL 0858-82-1620 Hour 9:00~17:00
Closed Differs according to season Entry Free
HP <https://hibikinomori.gr.jp/>

Resthouse & Dining



Open during winter only
Restaurant Snowpia
TEL 631-110 Tsukuyone, Wakasa Town
TEL 0858-82-0512



Open during winter only
Lodge Downhill
TEL 631-100 Tsukuyone, Wakasa Town
TEL 0858-82-0953

Accommodation & Dining



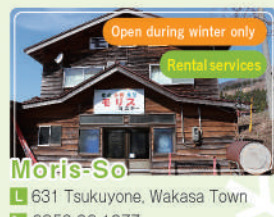
Year-round accommodation
Tsukuyone Sanso
TEL 630 Tsukuyone, Wakasa Town
TEL 0858-82-1978 (home 0858-82-1850)



Year-round accommodation
Alpine Hutte
TEL 631-13 Tsukuyone, Wakasa Town
TEL 0858-82-0956



Year-round accommodation
Hutte Shirakaba
TEL 631-29 Tsukuyone, Wakasa Town
TEL 0858-82-0955



Open during winter only
Moris-So
TEL 631 Tsukuyone, Wakasa Town
TEL 0858-82-1977



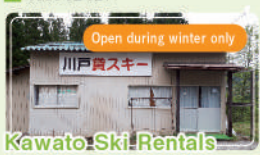
By appointment only
Hokkari Yomogiya Kizuku
TEL 635-219 Tsukuyone, Wakasa Town
TEL 080-7822-4941



Rent boards, skis & snow gear!



Open during winter only
Ski House Moumouchan
TEL 630-46 Tsukuyone, Wakasa Town
TEL 0858-82-0211



Open during winter only
Kawato Ski Rentals
TEL Tsukuyone, Wakasa Town
TEL 0858-82-0325

utatane

We offer a range of nature-based experiences from forest activities to fun river play. For more information, please contact us.
Contact: guide.kujira@gmail.com (summer only)

Hyotakun - Hyonosen Highland Lodging



Equipped with meeting rooms, halls and accommodation facilities. Commonly used by school groups, university student clubs and corporate training groups.

TEL 635-13 Tsukuyone, Wakasa Town TEL 0858-82-1111 HP <http://www.hyonosen.or.jp/>
H 11:00-13:30 (restaurant) Weekdays: Reservations required.

Relaxation House



Enjoy seasonal food!

Nakanosima Park

A turf playground with climbing frames and a large slide in Komorebi Square - a favorite for kids!



Star gazing spot

Experience Dynamic Nature!



Fun for the whole family!

Excellent snow!
Many ski courses to choose from!

Wakasa Hyonosen Ski Resort

Elevation 770~1200m Maximum skiing distance 2000m Maximum incline 39degrees

The ski slopes are 2000m long, ranging from 8 to 39 degrees. Skiers, snowboarders, beginners and advanced can all enjoy the slopes.

For inquiries regarding the Ski Resort

Wakasa Town Tourism Association TEL 0858-82-2237 Wakasa Telephone Service TEL 0858-82-1635
Hyonosen Snow School TEL 0858-82-0982 Juhyo Snowpia Inuwashi Lifts TEL 0858-82-0512
Wakasa Tourist Lift TEL 0858-82-0880 Yamaneya (takeaway dango snacks) TEL 0858-82-0293 (Sat., Sun. & public holidays only)
(See website & Facebook page)

Auto Camp Site

Facilities include bungalows, auto camping, and hot showers. A pet-friendly area is available for campers with dogs.

Location 635-1 Tsukuyone, Wakasa (Wakasa Hyonosen Campers Village)
TEL 070-2161-3315 Open Late April - early November

Firefly Watching

In June, enjoy watching countless fireflies fill the air. The best spot is around Nakanojima Park.



Nature Sightseeing Trail ... Walking Course
Hyonogoe Course ... For beginners
Sendani Course ... For intermediate/advanced hikers
Sannomaru Course ... For intermediate/advanced hikers
*Sendani Course is currently closed to traffic.

Wakasa's "Star-filled Sky"

Wakasa, designated by the prefecture as a starry sky conservation area, is an excellent place for seeing gorgeous star-filled skies.

Perfect Photo Spot!



After skiing, relax in an onsen!



Yuhara Hot Spring

A secluded hot spring located in the mountain valley. Relax and unwind in the jetted bathtub.

Location 627 Yuwara, Wakasa Town
TEL 0858-82-1177 Hours 10:00~19:00
Closed Mondays & New Year's

Amazing spots you can't miss!

Tsukuyone Terraced Rice Fields



Enlisted in Top 100 Terraced Rice Fields
Terraced rice fields located 800m above sea level, enveloped in the Chugoku Mountain Range.

Moroga Valley



Enlisted in Japan's Top 100 Natural Wonders
The landscape of lava rock formations and waterfalls, known as the seven Moroga waterfalls, stretches for about 10 kilometers.
For inquiries about shower climbing
• Hibikino Mori TEL (0858) 82-1620
• Kujirantan mail: kujirantan@gmail.com



Enlisted in Japan's Top 100 Natural Wonders

Oga Falls

The sound of the waterfall cascading down the rock face with great force and the splashing water will make you enjoy the beauty of nature.



CONTENTS

Travel Through History

Visit famous places and learn about the history of Wakasa Town

Nationally Designated Important Cultural Property:
Top 100 Selected Buildings

Fudoin Iwayado Temple

Known as a Shugendo temple, it is designated as a National Important Cultural Property and is built into a natural stone cliff. The main deity, Fudo Myo-o, is one of the three most famous Fudo Myo-o in Japan. The temple, embedded in the stone cliff, is approximately 7 meters wide, 13 meters high and 10 meters in depth. In addition to the front and sides, the front half of the temple has 3 rooms built with a hipped (sloped) roof and the rear half is built with a gabled-type sloped roof. The under floor structure is the same as Mitoku Temple (located in Misasa Town).

National Important Cultural Property

Fudoin Iwayado, one of the three largest "Nageiredo" halls in Japan

It is one of Japan's three major Irido (temple built in the side of a stone cliff), along with Sanbutsuji Temple in Misasa and Ryuiganji Okuin Reido Temple in Oita Prefecture, and was designated as a National Important Cultural Property in 1953. It is said to have been built about 600 years ago, and although Hideyoshi Hashiba burned down the area during his attack on Tottori Castle, only Iwayado survived the fire. On the last Sunday of March and July, a goma ceremony is held and the main Fudo Myoo statue is unveiled.

Fudoin Iwayado Guided Tour

Fees 1 - 5 people: 1,700 yen / 6 people or more: person/s X 350 yen
※Reservation required (at least 1 week in advance)

Inquiries Wakasa Tourism Association ☎0858-82-2237

*Worship may not be possible due to local conditions.

Wakasa Local Culture Village

This village offers workshops and facilities where you can learn about the history and culture of Wakasa Town. In addition to tours, visitors can try their hand at making woodwork.

Location 37 Yadora, Wakasa Town ☎ 0858-82-0583 **Hours** 9:00~17:00 **Closed** Mondays & New Year Holidays



History and Folklore Museum

Enlisted in Top 100 Selected Buildings

A building, that was used as a bank from 1907 to March 1981, has been relocated and restored, displaying folklore materials inside.

Fee Free tours



Sanbyakuda Residence

Prefectural Designated Protected Cultural Property

An important building that displays mid-Edo Period architectural style. For group dining, please contact the Tourism Association for reservations.

Fee Free tours, Usage fee: 520 yen/per usage

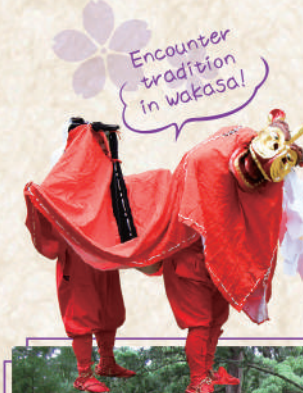


Takumi Hall

In addition to exhibits of works of local art, visitors can try their hand at woodworking using a wood wheel.

Fee Free tours
Woodworking experience: 300 yen (Adults only) & 150 yen (H.S. students and younger)

History Hunt Drive Map



Encounter tradition in wakasa!



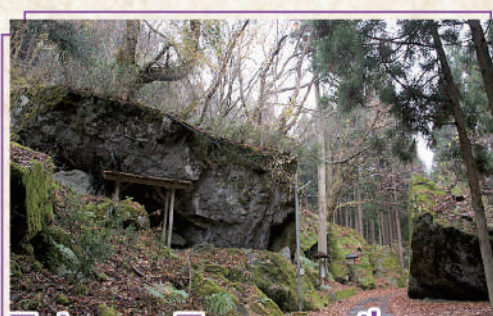
Fall colors are a must see!



Wakasa Shrine Grounds

☪ Prefectural Designated Natural Monument ☪

The shrine is said to have been founded by the Yabe Clan, the first lord of Oniga Castle, and in Edo Period it received the patronage of the Ikeda Clan, the feudal lords of Tottori. It is said that the shrine received many donations such as Emperor Godaigo's scroll, Nawa Nagatoshii's spear, Taira Moritsugu's camp hat and Taira Shiimori's armor. The shrine grounds are widely covered by a virgin forest, which was designated as a natural monument of the prefecture in 1982.



Taira no Tsunemori's Hiding Cave

According to legend, Taira no Kiyomori's younger brother, Taira no Tsunemori, and his men fled to this area in order to await the restoration of the Taira Clan. The cave where Tsunemori hid, the valley where his horse was kept, and Hokyoin Tower (which is said to be his tomb), exists to this day.

Breathtaking view of wakasa from the castle ruins!



Wakasa Benzaiten Shrine

Love Fortune & Business Prosperity

"Benten-san" has been worshiped for many years as a deity of business prosperity and matchmaking. Towering trees create a mysterious atmosphere along the path leading up to the main shrine. It is said that if you write your wish on zori (traditional sandals) and dedicate them to the shrine, your wish will come true. It is also said that praying to the 23 Ichio Jizo statues as you pass under the 3 torii gates that lead up to the Benzaiten Shrine, will grant you increased profit.



Reward your climb! Get a "Gojojin" Castle Stamp!



Wakasa Oniga Castle Ruins

☪ National Historic Site - Enlisted in top 100 castles ☪

As a mountain castle built in the Middle Ages, it was an important stronghold on the roads of Harima, Tajima, Mimasaka and Inaba. The castle has been designated as a National Historic Site in recognition of this importance. "Gojojin" castle stamps are for sale at the tourist information center.

50-minute mountain climb
15 minutes by car (to the parking lot)

Masters

Artisan Workshops

Enjoy the feel of the traditional handicrafts as you choose from a variety of local souvenirs. Why not take home some intricately made artisan goods?

Leather Goods

Authentic leather goods made from carefully selected local materials.
Shop Dear Deer ☎ 0858-82-0875



Woodturning

Using traditional sawmill techniques, beautifully grained pieces of natural wood are created.

Shop Kobayashi Hikimono Shop ☎ 0858-82-1530

Woodworking

Carefully crafted to bring out the grain and natural color of the wood, the pieces exude the warmth of wood.

Shop Shioya ☎ 080-1351-9286

Inshu Wakasa Pottery

This unique style comes directly from the touch of the potter's wheel and glaze. These folk crafts bring to life the everyday lives of the local people.

Shop Otsubo Eiji ☎ 0858-82-1217

Gourmet Food Delights

Great selection of gourmet dishes and souvenirs in Wakasa



Pork cutlet at Tonkatsu Arata



Savoring gourmet food is the best part of the trip!

Crispy and juicy!

Excellent dishes using pork produced in Wakasa! Tonkatsu Arata



Located inside Kariya Exchange Lounge (a renovated traditional house), you can enjoy dishes using pork from Wakasa Town's Yoshikawa. We recommend the tonkatsu, which is made with only the finest ingredients! The pork cutlet is slowly fried at a low temperature and then reheated to bring out the flavor and tenderness of Yoshikawa Pork.



Yoshikawa cattle raised in Wakasa

Yoshikawa Pork is safe and quality assured raised in the clean waters and air of Wakasa's Furukawa district. Savor the real taste of quality meat without the distinct smell of pork.

Location 298 Wakasa, Wakasa Town Tel 0858-71-0002 Closed Mondays & 3rd Sunday
Hours 11:30~14:00 (L.O. 13:30) Weekends: 11:00~15:00 (L.O. 14:00)
HP <https://www.tukushinbo.jp/arata.html>

Enjoy local foods and specialties

Yamaneya - Food & Souvenirs



Located in front of Wakasa Station, this restaurant sells both food and local specialties. Pork and game meat made from local ingredients are popular, as is the "Yaki-Saba-jyu," an arrangement of their signature "Yaki-Saba-zushi" (grilled mackerel sushi)!



Specialty products and original accessories are also on sale.

History of Wakasa and Saba

- National Route 29, which runs through Wakasa, has long been known as "Saba Kaido" (mackerel highway) and was intended to deliver seafood to the mountainous areas. Mackerel caught in the Sea of Japan were transported to various places along the Saba Kaido, and were used as an important ingredient. Even today, it is enjoyed by many as a local delicacy.



Location 356-1 Wakasa, Wakasa Town Tel 0858-71-1020 Hours 10:00~17:00 Closed Wednesday

Creating dishes using great local ingredients!

Wakasa "Sakuranbo" Rest Area



Located inside Wakasa "Sakuranbo" Rest Area, this cafeteria serves popular dishes such as tonkatsu cutlet and ginger pork using Yoshikawa pork, and venison curry using wild game meat. The shop also offers Wakasa's specialties, such as yokan (jelly), manju rice cakes, saké, homemade sausages and konnyaku, all of which are unique to Wakasa. Behind the building is the terminal station of Wakasa Railway, which attracts many parents and children on holidays when the SL and DL trains run.

Location 983-2 Wakasa Town, Wakasa Tel 0858-76-5760 Hours 11:00~15:00
Closed Monday & irregular holidays HP <http://michinoeki-wakasa.com/>



Furukawa pork with ginger sauce served over rice!

Café AI

A relaxing place where you can enjoy coffee and meals

A great place to spend time while waiting for buses and trains!

Located on the street in front of Wakasa Station, this stylish and relaxing coffee shop offers authentic coffee brewed with a siphon. You can enjoy top grade coffee brewed with a siphon.



Plump shrimp!

Location 396 Wakasa, Wakasa Town Tel 0858-82-0162
Hours 8:30~17:00 Closed Saturday

A stand where you can enjoy the refined flavor and aroma of Japanese tea

URUWASHI JAPANESE TEA



A Japanese tea shop where you can see carefully selected tea cascaded before your very eyes. Enjoy Japanese tea, sweets and tea food in a relaxed atmosphere.



Delicious tea dish!

Location 379 Wakasa, Wakasa Town Tel 070-2361-0369
Hours 11:00~17:00 (weekdays); 10:00~17:00 (weekends/public holidays)
Closed Irregular HP <https://uruwashicha.official.ec/>

Enjoy the serene atmosphere of this cafe surrounded by nature.

Gallery Café FUKU



Gallery café renovated from a vacant supermarket. Coffee and seasonal desserts are available. Books, paintings and baked goods are also available.



Location 396 Wakasa, Wakasa Town Hours 11:00~17:00
Closed Irregularly HP <https://fuku-wakasa.com/>

Enjoy carp grown in the clear waters of Wakasa.

Koi cuisine at Nakasei Restaurant

Nakasei's specialty Deep fried carp (only November - March)

A restaurant where you can enjoy hearty carp dishes. Carp raised in a garden pond fed by the cool, clean waters of Wakasa is pleasantly light flavored and does not have the odor of a river fish. Depending on the price, you can enjoy dishes according to the season. (Group bookings only)



Indulge on a whole carp!

Location 809 Wakasa, Wakasa Town Tel 0858-82-0166
*Available for groups of 5 or more. Reservation required.

A breath of fresh air while watching trains...

Wakasa Café Retro



Train spotters can't resist this!

This café is located inside Wakasa Station. You can enjoy delicious coffee and hamburgers while watching the Wakasa Railway. Try the coffee made with pride by a local roaster.



Location 345-2 Wakasa, Wakasa Town Tel 070-4740-5608
Hours 9:00~18:00 Closed Tuesdays

Affordable venison meal available!

Kitchen Furu-Ru

Feast on a full meal of gibier!



This restaurant is located near the Wakasa Town Hall. It offers two kinds of set meals that alternate daily at reasonable prices. We recommend the venison steak. You can enjoy authentic gibier cuisine at a reasonable



Enjoy a hearty meal!

Location 799-10 Wakasa, Wakasa Town Tel 0858-71-0262
Hours 11:00~14:00 (L.O. 13:30) Closed Sun. & Public Holidays

Curry and pasta with gibier

Cafe & Restaurant Artemis



Located opposite the rest area, this restaurant is named after Artemis, the mythical goddess of hunting. Homemade pasta and cakes are a must try! A non-gibier menu is also available.



Try the popular handmade bread!

Location 981-1, Wakasa, Wakasa Town Tel 0858-71-1126
Hours 11:00~14:00 (evening reservations required) Closed Mondays & Tuesdays