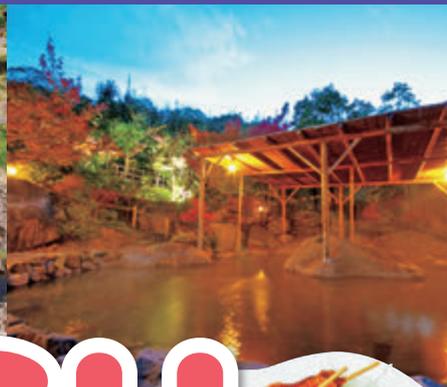


The very best travel information—from scenic spots to local foods, hot springs, and where to stay!



Special Edition

Nakatsu Yabakei



Nature, a castle town,
and local food!

Tons of fun!

Scenic spots

Japan Heritage Drive the
Yabakei Gorge

Stroll around the castle town

Enjoy Nakatsu's local foods!

Onsen-hopping & inns in Yabakei

Nakatsu souvenirs



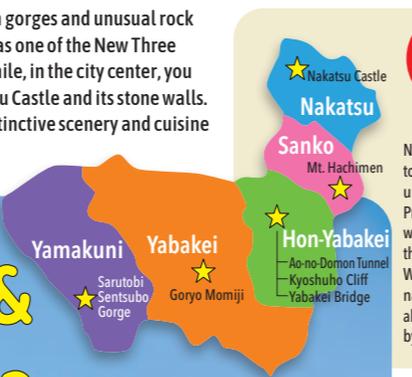
Ride through the great outdoors!
Maple Yaba Cycling Road



Come visit!
Yabakei
See, eat, shop, play,
and stay!

Spectacular views dot the Yabakei area, centered on gorges and unusual rock formations. This expansive landscape was selected as one of the New Three Views of Japan and is a Japan Heritage site. Meanwhile, in the city center, you can see beautiful historic landmarks such as Nakatsu Castle and its stone walls. Discover Nakatsu's varied charms, including the distinctive scenery and cuisine that each area has to offer.

Scenic spots & what to do in each area



About Nakatsu

Nakatsu City, formed by the merger of five towns and villages, is attractive because of the unique character of each of its areas. It is Oita Prefecture's premier sightseeing destination, where an atmospheric castle town built by the great daimyo Kuroda Kanbei during the Warring States period coexists with the grand natural beauty of the Yabakei Gorge. There are also a growing number of cafes and shops run by new residents and young locals.

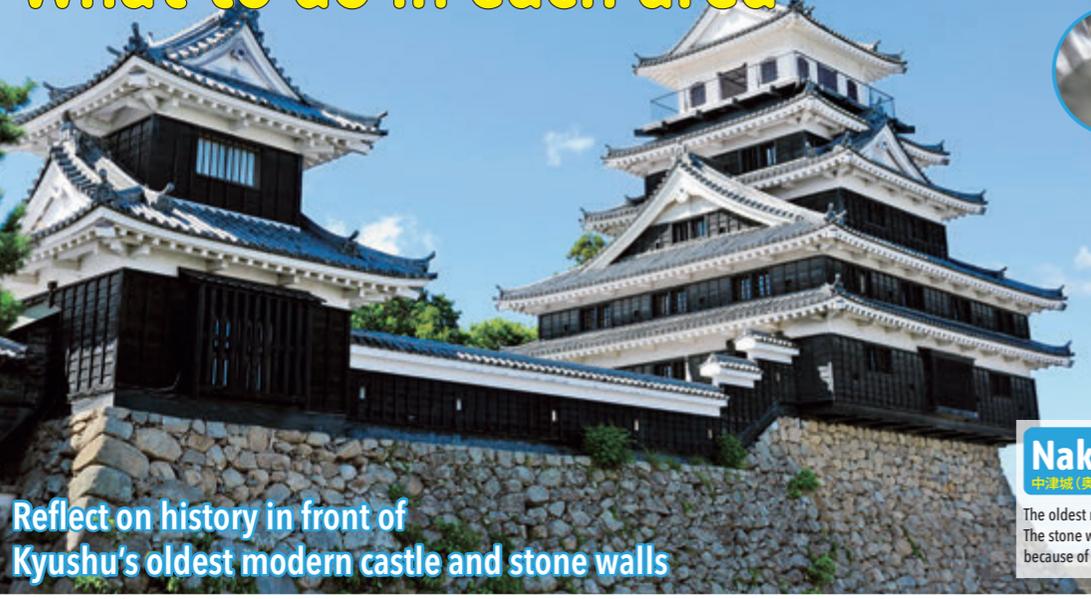
What to do in the Nakatsu area

Nakatsu abounds in historical sites like the castle and old residences. The city has many shops. We recommend walking around and stopping to eat and shop.

- **Eat Nakatsu karaage and hamo at popular restaurants** (→P. 11)
Karaage Genkiya Sohonten / Nakatsu Karaage Moriyama Manda Honten / Wafu Ajidokoro Kitaro / Kappo Marukiyo
- **Shop for souvenirs at JR Nakatsu Station Meitengai** (→P. 16)

Nakatsu Castle (Museum of the Okudaira) (→P. 6)

The oldest modern castle in Kyushu, built in 1588 by Kuroda Kanbei. The stone walls are original. It's also known as *Ogi-jo* ("fan castle") because of the castle's fan shape.



Reflect on history in front of Kyushu's oldest modern castle and stone walls

☞ A museum is inside the castle tower. Enjoy the exhibits as well as the facade

Great views both day and night!
Mt. Hachimen is even more fun when you climb it

Mt. Hachimen

Mt. Hachimen ("eight faces"), which is 659 meters high, is said to have been given its name because it looks the same from all directions. There are four trails suitable for hiking or walking, and the viewpoint can be reached by car.

☎ 0979-43-2050 (Regional Development Division, Sanko Branch Office, Nakatsu City)
MAP P15D2
☞ Sankotaguchi, Nakatsu-shi ☎ 20 min. drive from JR Nakatsu Sta. ♿ ♿ ♿ Free entry ♿ Use the free parking lots nearby



☞ The night view from Mt. Hachimen has been designated a "Night View Heritage of Japan"

What to do in the Sanko area

- **Try the outdoor baths & savor local cuisine** (→P. 12)
Mt. Hachimen Kanairo Onsen

Sanko Cosmos Garden

Roughly 28 million cosmos flowers bloom across 16 hectares of rice paddies at the foot of Mt. Hachimen. During this period, various events are held, and produce and specialty products are sold.

☎ 0979-43-2050 (Sanko Cosmos Festival Executive Committee Secretariat / Regional Development Division, Sanko Branch Office, Nakatsu City)
MAP P15D1



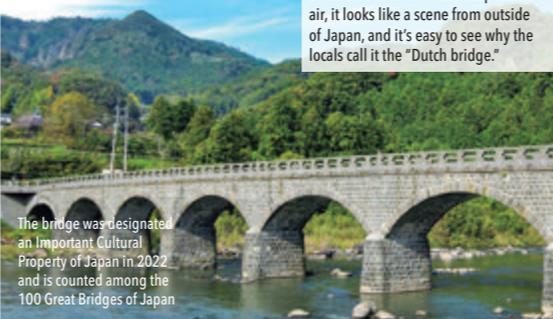
☞ Colorful red, pink, and white cosmos flowers in full bloom!

What to do in the Hon-Yabakei area

There are many popular spots in the Yabakei area to experience nature. Michi-no-Eki Yapatopia offers both food and activities.

- **Try making soba noodles** (→P. 5)
Michi-no-Eki Yapatopia
- **Enjoy a country-style buffet** (→P. 5)
Domon Patio
- **Stay in a log house or campsite** (→P. 13)
Nishitani Onsen Camping Park / Barun Barun no Mori (Domon Campground)

Japan's longest stone bridge with eight beautiful connected arches



The bridge was designated an Important Cultural Property of Japan in 2022 and is counted among the 100 Great Bridges of Japan

Yabakei Bridge (→P. 4)

This stone bridge was built in 1923. Blanketed in snow in the crisp winter air, it looks like a scene from outside of Japan, and it's easy to see why the locals call it the "Dutch bridge."

Walk through a beautiful tunnel where a world of crimson and gold unfolds before you

☞ The shrine precincts from mid- to late November



Goryo Momiji (Goryo Shrine) (御霊もみじ(御霊神社))

The approach to Goryo Shrine is a lesser-known spot for viewing autumn leaves. Maple and ginkgo trees lining the moss-covered path form a tunnel carpeted with a rainbow of fallen leaves, creating a beautiful sight in every direction.

☎ 0979-54-3111 (Regional Development Division, Yabakei Branch Office, Nakatsu City) MAP P15C2
☎ 2176 Tobaru, Yabakeimachi, Nakatsu-shi ☎ 30 min. drive from JR Nakatsu Sta. ♿ ♿ ♿ Open to the public ♿ 20 spaces

What to do in the Yabakei area

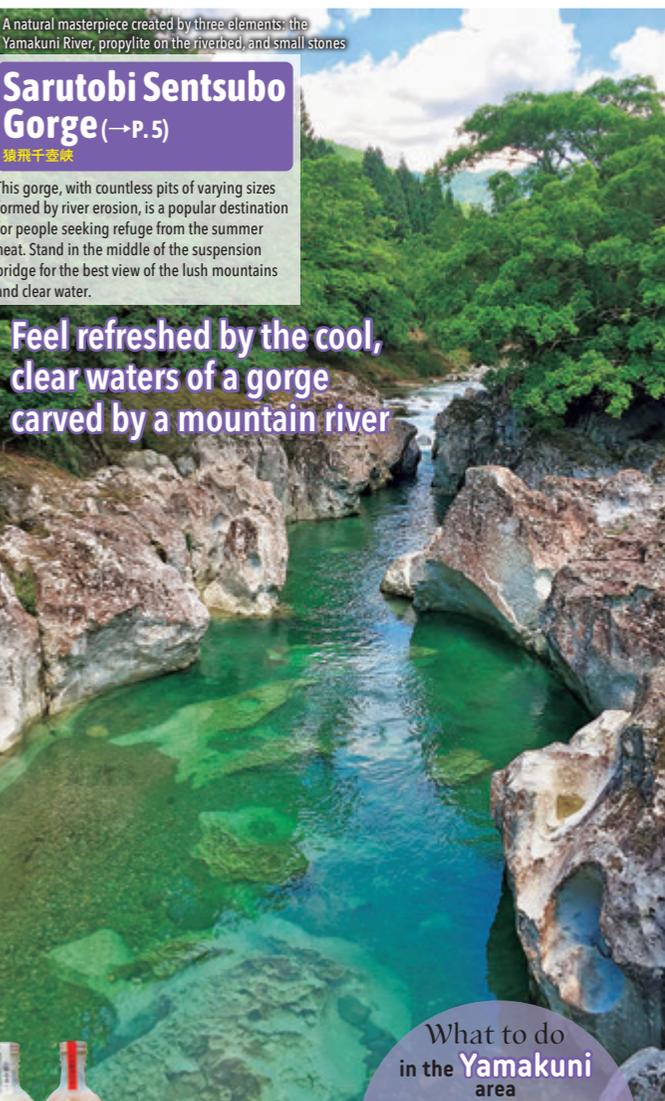
- This area is popular for scenic spots such as Shin-Yabakei Gorge (→P. 4). Try locally made soba noodles and treat yourself to a luxurious stay at a hot spring inn surrounded by nature.
- **Taste locally made soba noodles** (→P. 10)
Sobadokoro Senkeibo / Japanese Garden and "Chokatsu Soba-ya" Keisekien
- **Buy Nakatsu shochu** (→P. 9)
MIFUKUYA DAISAKETEN
- **Enjoy a luxurious stay in nature** (→P. 13)
Auberge Funoki / Tsuki-no-Hotaru



What to do in the Yamakuni area

This area offers access to the deep natural mountain and river environment upstream of the Yamakuni River, where you can enjoy the local onsen and specialty products.

- **Find local specialties at Michi-no-Eki Yamakuni** (→P. 5)
- **Enjoy a natural onsen** (→P. 12)
Morizane Onsen Yasuragi-no-Sato Yamakuni



Sarutobi Sentsubo Gorge (→P. 5)

A natural masterpiece created by three elements: the Yamakuni River, propylite on the riverbed, and small stones. This gorge, with countless pits of varying sizes formed by river erosion, is a popular destination for people seeking refuge from the summer heat. Stand in the middle of the suspension bridge for the best view of the lush mountains and clear water.

Feel refreshed by the cool, clear waters of a gorge carved by a mountain river

A tunnel dug over the course of decades by Edo-period Buddhist monk Zenkai



Ao-no-Domon Tunnel (→P. 4)

Ao-no-Domon Tunnel is a well-known photo spot that attracts crowds of spectators during the autumn foliage season.



Kyoshuho Cliff (→P. 4)

An iconic range of huge cliffs and unusual rock formations that stretch for one kilometer along the lower reaches of the Yamakuni River. Nemophila flowers bloom every April, turning the cliffs baby blue.

A famous landscape in Hon-Yabakei enveloped in pretty nemophila flowers

☞ Based on the "blue" in Ao-no-Domon ("blue tunnel"), baby-blue nemophila flowers were planted here in 2012

☞ This passage, constructed using only picks and shovels, is about 342 meters long, of which about 144 meters are tunnels



In 2017, Yabakei Yuran, a vast site that encompasses Hon-Yabakei, Hon-Yabakei, Shin-Yabakei, and Oku-Yabakei, was designated a Japan Heritage site by the Agency for Cultural Affairs. Take a drive through this area that looks like a Chinese landscape painting and visit all the scenic spots.

Take a road trip through Yabakei Gorge, a Japan Heritage site

Yaba-haku
(Japan Heritage Yabakei Yuran Exposition)

This immersive program is a great way to enjoy the nature and history of the Yabakei Yuran Japan Heritage site. Held every spring and autumn, the program includes fun activities for people of all ages, such as trekking, cycling, and family camping.

Inquiries: Tourism Division, Nakatsu City 0979-62-9035

One breathtaking scene after another

2 ●耶馬溪ダム記念公園「溪石園」
Yabakei Dam Memorial Park "Keiseki-en"

A Japanese garden situated next to Yabakei Dam. Using dam water and 120,000 rocks from the Yabakei area, the garden recreates the look of Yabakei Gorge. It contains over 20,000 trees of 50 different species that reveal the beauty of each season.

☎ 0979-54-3111
(Regional Development Division, Yabakei Branch Office, Nakatsu City) MAP P15C2

📍 2286-1 Oshima, Yabakeimachi, Nakatsu-shi 🚗 35 min.-drive from Kusu IC, Oita Expwy 🅡🅢🅣 Free entry 🅕 150 spaces

A Japanese garden in harmony with the nature of Yabakei Gorge, popular with international visitors

📍 The garden is illuminated during the autumn foliage season

●耶馬溪アクアパーク
Yabakei Aqua Park

At the Yabakei Aqua Park, which also functions as a dam, you can enjoy activities such as water skiing, wakeboarding, and cruising on the lake.

☎ 0979-54-3000
MAP P15C2

📍 2704 Yamatsuri, Yabakeimachi, Nakatsu-shi 🚗 30 min.-drive from Kusu IC, Oita Expwy 🕒 9:00 AM-5:00 PM
🅗 Wed. and Dec. 29-Jan. 3 🅕 Available

📍 Have a go at marine sports surrounded by the magnificent nature of Yabakei Gorge

3 ●耶馬溪橋
Yabakei Bridge

This stone bridge with eight connected arches was built in 1923. At 116 meters, it is the longest stone bridge in Japan. Locals call it "Dutch Bridge" because it uses a stone masonry method commonly seen in stone bridges in Dutch-influenced Nagasaki. It was designated an Important Cultural Property of Japan in 2022.

☎ 0979-52-2211
(Regional Development Division, Hon-Yabakei Branch Office, Nakatsu City) MAP P15C2

📍 Sogi, Honyabakeimachi, Nakatsu-shi 🚗 45 min.-drive from Kusu IC, Oita Expwy 🅡🅢🅣 Free entry 🅕 12 spaces

Japan's longest and only eight-arched stone bridge

📍 A statue of a frog and its young stand guard at the foot of the bridge

4 ●青の洞門(競秀峰)
Ao-no-Domon Tunnel (Kyoshuho Cliff)

Kyoshuho is a one-kilometer stretch of rocky cliff that faces the Yamakuni River. It was once a dangerous path that could only be crossed by clinging to a chain strung across it. Unwilling to watch people struggle, the Edo-period monk Zenkai dug out the cliff himself with a pick and shovel, creating the Ao-no-Domon Tunnel.

☎ 0979-52-2211
(Regional Development Division, Hon-Yabakei Branch Office, Nakatsu City) MAP P15C2

📍 Sogi, Honyabakeimachi, Nakatsu-shi 🚗 45 min.-drive from Kusu IC, Oita Expwy 🅡🅢🅣 Free entry 🅕 85 spaces

📍 A 342-meter-long tunnel was dug out over three decades

A tunnel that was hand-dug by a monk at the base of a series of rock cliff faces

The name Kyoshuho ("competing cliffs") comes from the series of eleven cliffs and rock formations that appear to be in competition with each other

1 ●深耶馬溪(一目八景)
Shin-Yabakei Gorge (Hitome Hakkei)

A scenic area along the ravine created by the Yamatsuri River, a tributary of the Yamakuni River. The Hitome Hakkei ("one look, eight views") observation point offers one sweeping view of eight unusual rock formations and cliffs with poetic names such as Mt. Gun'en ("monkey troop"), Mt. Tobinosu ("kite's nest"), and Meoto Iwa ("husband and wife rock").

☎ 0979-55-2880 (Shin-Yabakei Tourist Information Center) MAP P15C3

📍 Shinyaba, Yabakeimachi, Nakatsu-shi 🚗 15 min.-drive from Kusu IC, Oita Expwy 🅡🅢🅣 Free entry 🅕 Use the public parking lot; 256 spaces

Try your hand at making soba using Hon-Yabakei buckwheat flour 7 min.-drive

5 ●道の駅 耶馬トピア
Michi-no-Eki Yapatopia

A roadside rest area near the Ao-no-Domon Tunnel. Hon-Yabakei is a famous soba (buckwheat) production area. This rest area offers soba noodle-making workshops, a soba restaurant, and a variety of buckwheat products for sale.

☎ 0979-52-3030 MAP P15C2

📍 2193-1 Sogi, Honyabakeimachi, Nakatsu-shi 🚗 45 min.-drive from Kusu IC, Oita Expwy

📍 1 space at the soba-making workshop (4 servings); 4,000 yen 🕒 9:00 AM-5:00 PM (soba-making workshop starts at 10:30 AM; reservation required) 🅗 One Thu. per month 🅕 93 spaces

📍 Try cutting soba noodles made with locally grown, freshly milled buckwheat flour

📍 Make sightseeing in Yabakei even more fun!
●日本遺産センター 耶馬溪風物館
Japan Heritage Center Yabakei Museum

Experience the story of the Japan Heritage site "Yabakei Yuran" through photos and videos.

☎ 0979-52-2002

📍 Free admission 🕒 9:00 AM-5:00 PM 🅗 Year-end and New Year's holidays

📍 Important materials about Yabakei's history and culture are displayed



A mountain that looks the same no matter what angle you view it from

6 ●八面山
Mt. Hachimen

A sacred mountain, home to a cluster of colossal rocks associated with various legends. When you reach the summit after passing Shugen-no-taki Falls and unusual rock formations, you will be rewarded with a panoramic view of the Nakatsu Plain and the Sunnada Sea to the north, and the Yabakei and Kusu mountains to the south.

☎ 0979-43-2050
(Regional Development Division, Sanko Branch Office, Nakatsu City) MAP P15D2

📍 Sankotaguchi, Nakatsu-shi 🚗 20 min.-drive from JR Nakatsu Sta. 🅡🅢🅣 Free entry 🅕 Use the free parking lots nearby

📍 This famous 659-meter-high mountain is a symbol of Nakatsu City



A firefly village surrounded by clear streams and lush mountains

7 ●道の駅やまくに
Michi-no-Eki Yamakuni

The local products hall sells local specialties and fresh vegetables from Nakatsu. Have fun finding all the firefly motifs in the lampposts and stained glass.

☎ 0979-62-3680
MAP P15B3

📍 3485-4 Nakama, Yamakunimachi, Nakatsu-shi 🚗 25 min.-drive from Hita IC, Oita Expwy 🕒 Shops: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM; Restaurants: 11:00 AM-last order at 2:00 PM 🅗 Year-end and New Year's holidays 🅕 50 spaces

📍 Amazake (fermented rice drink) made from glutinous rice grown in Yamakuni Town and homemade koji mold

📍 The cabin-style local products hall sells a variety of processed foods made from mountain vegetables



Take a little detour to see a spectacular view
●鹿林峽
Mabayashi-kyo Gorge

MAP P14A3

Located roughly 1.5 kilometers downstream of the Sarutobi Sentsubo Gorge. Similar to that gorge, massive pits formed here over a long period of time, leading to the current landscape where the walls between the pits disappeared. The river is clear all the way to the bottom.

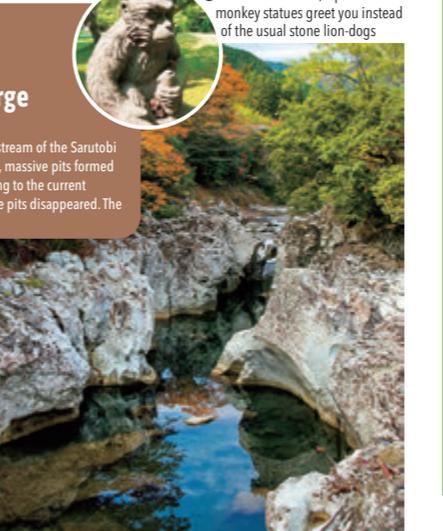
8 ●猿飛千壺峽
Sarutobi Sentsubo Gorge

A gorge located in the upper reaches of the Yamakuni River. This two-kilometer stretch, where river erosion has created countless pits of varying sizes, is named after the wild monkeys that used to jump from rock to rock.

☎ 0979-62-3111
(Regional Development Division, Yamakuni Branch Office, Nakatsu City) MAP P14A3

📍 Kusamoto, Yamakunimachi, Nakatsu-shi 🚗 40 min.-drive from Hita IC, Oita Expwy 🅡🅢🅣 Free entry 🅕 36 spaces

📍 Take in the scenic beauty of the gorge



For a driving stop!
Restaurants and cafes in the forest

●洞門パティオ
Domon Patio

Enjoy homemade dishes prepared with an emphasis on using ingredients such as vegetables and rice purchased from local growers. Popular items include *karashi shiitake* (stewed shiitake mushrooms with Japanese mustard), which has long been eaten in the Yabakei area as a preserved food, Nakatsu's famous *karagee* fried chicken, and Japanese mustard spinach juice.

☎ 0979-52-2250 MAP P15C2

📍 180 Hida, Honyabakeimachi, Nakatsu-shi 🚗 3 min.-drive from Ao-no-Domon Tunnel 🕒 11:00 AM-last order at 3:00 PM (product sales area: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM) 🅗 Tue. (or the next day when Tue. is a national holiday) 🅕 50 spaces

📍 The popular buffet is 1,500 yen per person. Add the drink bar for 250 yen more. 🅗 You can also buy local specialties in the restaurant's local products sales area

📍 Feast on a buffet of famous local dishes that are gentle on the stomach

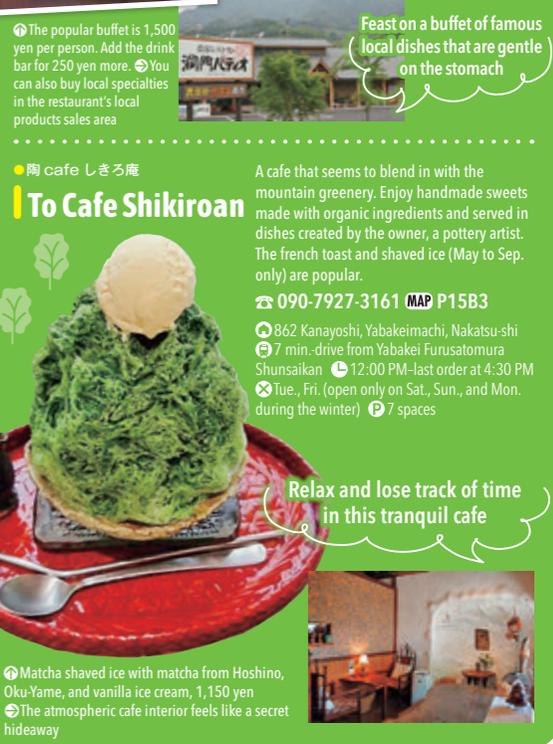
●陶cafe しきろ庵
To Cafe Shikiroan

A cafe that seems to blend in with the mountain greenery. Enjoy handmade sweets made with organic ingredients and served in dishes created by the owner, a pottery artist. The french toast and shaved ice (May to Sep. only) are popular.

☎ 090-7927-3161 MAP P15B3

📍 862 Kanayoshi, Yabakeimachi, Nakatsu-shi 🚗 7 min.-drive from Yabakei Furusatomura Shunsaikan 🕒 12:00 PM-last order at 4:30 PM 🅗 Tue., Fri. (open only on Sat., Sun., and Mon. during the winter) 🅕 7 spaces

📍 Relax and lose track of time in this tranquil cafe



Nakatsu, a town built
by genius strategist **Kuroda Kanbei**
Steeped in history

Stroll around the castle town

The townscape of Nakatsu was developed and expanded upon by successive generations of castle lords, beginning with the foundation of the castle by Kuroda Kanbei in the late 16th century. Trace the vestiges of each era and get a feel for the history of Nakatsu.

The oldest modern castle in Kyushu, once home to the Okudaira clan that ruled this area



Nakatsu Castle (Museum of the Okudaira)
The residence of the Okudaira clan from 1717—when the seventh head of the Okudaira clan, Masashige, moved to Nakatsu Castle—until the replacement of the feudal domain system with a system of prefectures in 1871. Built in 1588, it was the first castle built in Kyushu by Kuroda Kanbei.
☎ 0979-22-3651 MAP P14A1
● Honmaru, Ninocho, Nakatsu-shi 15-min. drive from JR Nakatsu Sta. ☎ Entry: 400 yen ☎ 9:00 AM-5:00 PM
☒ Open year-round ☎ 300 spaces

Strategically located at a water-land transportation hub, Nakatsu Castle is considered to be one of Japan's three great water castles



Inside Nakatsu Castle
Check out the stone walls from the Kuroda era!

The wall along the river was built using stones transported from Tobaran Castle, a mountain fortress from the seventh century. It has a distinctive L-shaped cut on one side.

The wall on the right with large rectangular stones was built by Kuroda Kanbei. The wall on the left with small stacked stones is from the subsequent Hosokawa era.

This is the most representative stone wall of the Kuroda era. It's made of unprocessed natural stones assembled using masonry techniques such as *Ano-zumi* (dry stacking) and *wadori* (inward-sloping design that strengthens the wall).



Admire Nakatsu's cultural properties and the oldest stone walls in Kyushu!
First, explore the history of Nakatsu!
● Enjoy the aromatic flavor and chewy texture of the Shin-Yabakei buckwheat galette (1,000 yen)!

1 Nakatsu History Museum
This museum presents the history and culture of Nakatsu, which developed amid diverse landscapes that include a seaside castle town and Yabakei Gorge. In addition to the exhibition rooms, the free-entry area has a play studio with hands-on learning activities and a cafe.
☎ 0979-23-8615 MAP P14A1
● 1290 Sannocho, Nakatsu-shi 15-min. walk from JR Nakatsu Sta. ☎ Free entry (Exhibition rooms only: 300 yen) ☎ 9:00 AM-5:00 PM (Last entry at 4:30 PM) ☒ Mon. (or the next day when Mon. is a national holiday) ☎ 22 spaces

2 A stylish tea cafe in a renovated historic building
● 華林茶房
KARINSABOU
Enjoy teahouse sweets and other refreshments in a relaxing space. The renovated building was built during the early Showa era (1926-1989).
☎ 0979-22-0123 MAP P14A1
● 1533 Kyomachi, Nakatsu-shi 12-min. walk from JR Nakatsu Sta. ☎ 11:00 AM-4:00 PM ☒ Sun.-Wed. ☎ Available at the Shinhakatomachi Public Parking Lot (free for 1 hr.)

3 Yukichi Coruri
This curry restaurant gets its name from a story about Yukichi Fukuzawa that says he initially introduced curry to Japan as a dish called "coruri." It also offers sightseeing information and sells souvenirs.
☎ 0979-53-9523 MAP P14A1
● 591 Rusuimachi, Nakatsu-shi 3-min. drive from JR Nakatsu Sta. ☎ 10:00 AM-4:00 PM (Curry: 11:00 AM-2:00 PM) ☒ No regular closings ☎ 40 spaces available at the Former Residence of Yukichi Fukuzawa & Fukuzawa Memorial Hall parking lot

4 Former Residence of Yukichi Fukuzawa & Fukuzawa Memorial Hall
Keio University founder Yukichi Fukuzawa was an important figure who was born into a samurai family of the Nakatsu Domain and spent his youth in Nakatsu. You can visit the museum, which introduces Yukichi's life and achievements, and see the old house where he actually lived.
☎ 0979-25-0063 MAP P14A1
● 586 Rusuimachi, Nakatsu-shi 3-min. drive from JR Nakatsu Sta. ☎ Entry: 400 yen ☎ 9:00 AM-5:00 PM (Last entry at 4:30 PM) ☒ Dec. 31 ☎ 40 spaces

5 Former Residence of Yukichi Fukuzawa & Fukuzawa Memorial Hall
This family of doctors has practiced medicine since 1640.
● 村上医家史料館
Murakami Family Museum of Historical Medical Data
The museum has a large collection of materials related to Western studies and medicine, including anatomical drawings from the Edo period (1603-1867).
☎ 0979-23-5120 MAP P14A1
● 1780 Moromachi, Nakatsu-shi 10-min. walk from JR Nakatsu Sta. ☎ Entry: 210 yen ☎ 9:00 AM-5:00 PM (Last entry at 4:30 PM) ☒ Mon. (or the next day when Mon. is a national holiday) ☎ 10 spaces

6 Nakatsu Yabakei Tourist Information Center
Sightseeing information concerning Nakatsu and Yabakei is available at the south exit of JR Nakatsu Station. The center also rents out bikes for sightseeing in the Nakatsu castle town area. (Please inquire).
☎ 0979-23-4511 MAP P14A1
● 219-2 Shimata, Nakatsu-shi JR Nakatsu Sta. South Exit ☎ 8:30 AM-5:00 PM (Bike rental: 9:00 AM-4:45 PM) ☒ Dec. 30-Jan. 2 ☎ Available at the parking lots around JR Nakatsu Sta.



Enjoy the aromatic flavor and chewy texture of the Shin-Yabakei buckwheat galette (1,000 yen)!

● 美味創匠 朱華
Bimisoshu Shuka
This restaurant occupies a roughly century-old traditional Japanese house. It serves Japanese-French fusion kaiseki cuisine using seasonal, locally sourced ingredients. Each group gets their own room, so you can enjoy the food and the space at your leisure. Phone reservations are recommended.
☎ 0979-22-3239 MAP P14A1
● 876 Bungomachi, Nakatsu-shi 10-min. walk from JR Nakatsu Sta. ☎ 11:00 AM-last order at 2:00 PM; 5:00 PM-last order at 8:00 PM ☒ No regular closings ☎ 9 spaces

● 華林茶房
KARINSABOU
Relax in the museum cafe overlooking the stone walls

● 華林茶房
KARINSABOU
Sat., Sun., and national holidays: 11:00 AM-5:00 PM (Last order at 4:30 PM)

● 華林茶房
KARINSABOU
Soy sauce and miso are secret ingredients!

● 村上医家史料館
Murakami Family Museum of Historical Medical Data
They're a family of doctors from the Edo period!

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● JR中津駅
JR Nakatsu Station
There's a bronze statue of Yukichi at the north exit roundabout!

● 中津耶馬溪観光協会
Nakatsu Yabakei Tourist Information Center
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Savor the beautiful and delicious Hanakago-zen set in a spacious, traditional townhouse
● 合元寺
Goganji Temple
After Utsunomiya Shigefusa (1536-1588), a local clan leader who opposed the forces of Toyotomi Hideyoshi (1537-1598), was murdered in Nakatsu Castle, his retainers fought a final battle here. It's said that its white walls were painted red because blood splatters kept showing through no matter how many times the walls were repainted.

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Materials related to Western learning are displayed!

● 大江医家史料館
Oe Family Museum of Historical Medical Data
The former residence of the Oe family, who served as physicians to the feudal lord of the Nakatsu Domain, is open to the public.
☎ 0979-22-0049 MAP P15B1
● 906 Takajomachi, Nakatsu-shi 7-min. walk from JR Nakatsu Sta. ☎ Entry: 210 yen ☎ 9:00 AM-5:00 PM (Last entry at 4:30 PM) ☒ Mon. (or the next day when Mon. is a national holiday) ☎ 5 spaces

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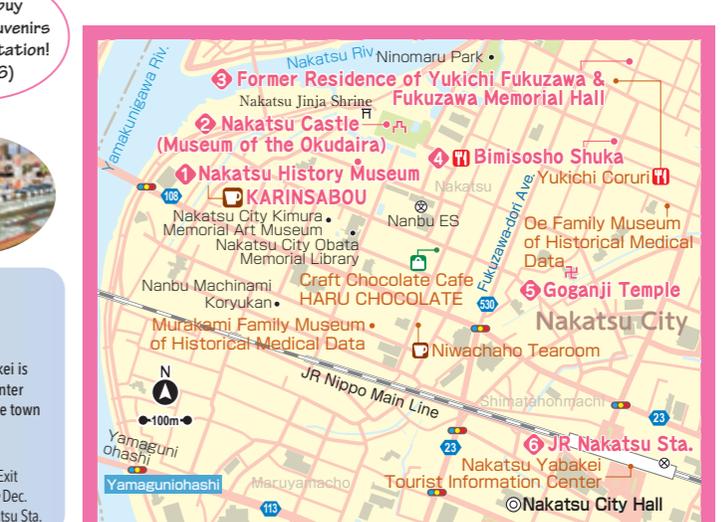
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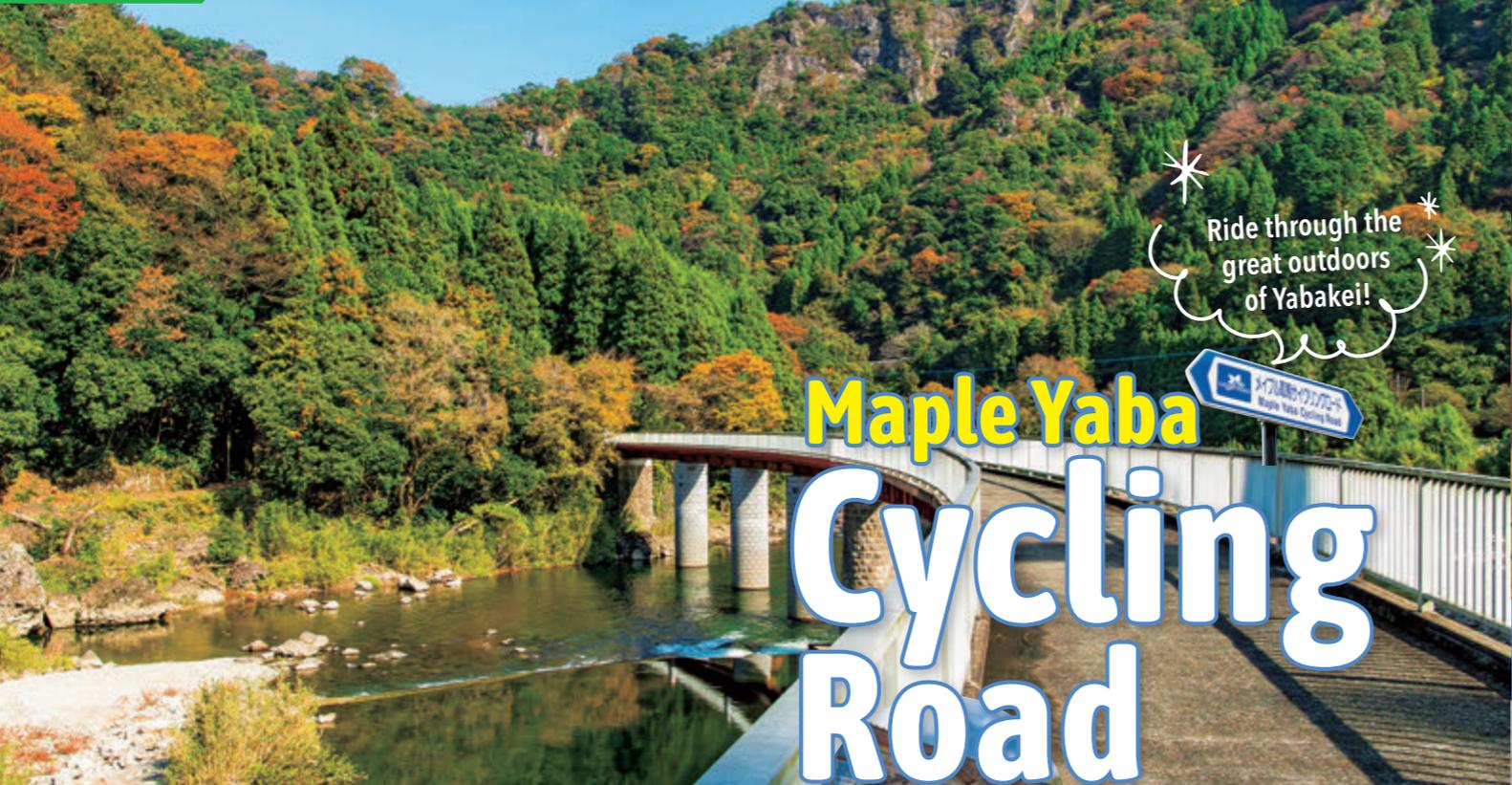
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It's commonly referred to as Akakabe ("red wall") Temple after the red walls in front of the gate

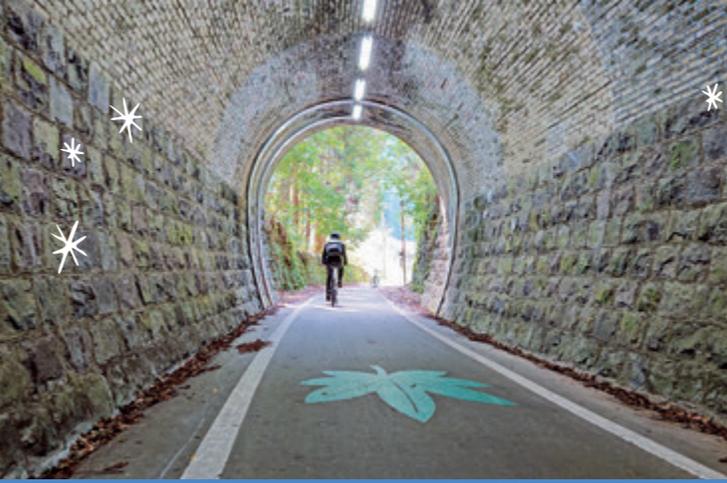


The Second Yamakunigawa Bridge, originally a railway bridge, has an unusual curve
The Maple Yaba Cycling Road, which runs from JR Nakatsu Station to the Yamakuni area, is a cycling route that was built in 1982 using the abandoned Yabakei Railway. Rent a bike and follow the road!



Ride through the great outdoors of Yabakei!

Maple Yaba Cycling Road



There are many picturesque relics of the old railway, such as Kii Tunnel (MAP P15C2)



Stop by the five-arched Baki Bridge in Hirata!



Why not sate your hunger at Morizane Onsen Yasuragi-no-Sato Yamakuni (→P.12)?



We recommend taking a detour to Michi Cafe Yokanohi in Michi-no-Eki Yapatopia (→P.5), which is located along the route!



Some exclusive bottles of Yaba Bijin with original labels are also available!

The bar also serves non-alcoholic drinks!

You'll find a full range of non-alcoholic drinks made with cyclists in mind! (DAISAKETEN)

Asahi Shuzo's "Yaba Bijin" honkaku shochu is a popular classic! (DAISAKETEN)

Ask MIFUKUYA DAISAKETEN's fourth-generation owner Ryoji Dai anything about alcohol!



Enjoy Yabakei's natural scenery, which changes with each season

Bike rental Q&A

Where can I rent one?

A You can rent bikes at the Yabakei Cycling Terminal, Morizane Onsen Yasuragi-no-Sato Yamakuni, Ao-no-Domon Cycling Center Fusuien, and Michi-no-Eki Yapatopia. Choose a location based on the area you want to explore and the time required.

How much is it?

A 700 yen for adults (no time limit); 1,500 yen for e-bike rentals (no time limit); 300 yen for elementary school students and younger; add 500 yen for one-way bike rentals.*Return bikes at any of these locations: Morizane Onsen Yasuragi-no-Sato Yamakuni, the Yabakei Cycling Terminal, or Ao-no-Domon Cycling Center Fusuien. Contact the return location in advance when returning a bike rented from somewhere else.

What should I keep in mind?

A You are responsible for any accidents that occur while cycling. Choose a suitable bike and route, and go at a pace that you can manage. Be careful of cars as there are places where the route runs alongside or crosses road traffic.

Check the distance markers located along the route

Are there toilets and rest areas?

A There are two rest stops (places to rest equipped with toilet facilities) located in old station buildings along the route. Here and there, you'll also find *michi-no-eki* roadside stations, which are convenient places to get drinks or a light meal. It's also a good idea to take breaks at cafes.

Scan here for more details about the route!

Mokuseiza is a quaint coffee shop located in an old elementary school building



When the bike path intersects with the road, watch out for cars and pedestrians as you ride



At Mokuseiza, relax with some coffee and cakes made in-house!



The route is about 10 kilometers long. Choose a bike that suits your needs! (Yabakei Cycling Terminal)

Treat yourself to a light meal ahead of the goal at Yaba-no-Mori!

●耶馬溪サイクリングターミナル
Yabakei Cycling Terminal

A base for exploring the Yabakei area, located roughly halfway between Ao-no-Domon Tunnel and the Yamakuni area. About 240 bikes are available, including road bikes, single-speed bikes, e-bikes, and children's bikes. People who rent bikes can use the shower room free of charge.

☎ 0979-54-2700 MAP P15C2

353 Kakisaka, Yabakeimachi, Nakatsu-shi

40-min. drive from JR Nakatsu Sta. ¥700 yen for bike rentals (no time limit); 1,500 yen for e-bike rentals (no time limit); 300 yen for elementary school students and younger; add 500 yen for one-way bike rentals

8:30 AM-5:00 PM ☎ Wed. (Dec.-Feb.: Tue. and Wed.)

40 spaces

●第二山国川橋
Daini-Yamakunigawa Bridge

This bridge makes use of a railway bridge from the old Yabakei Railway, which was discontinued in 1975. Its most striking feature is its gently curving path, supported by solid cylindrical bridge piers.

MAP P15C2

Tochigi, Yabakeimachi, Nakatsu-shi

5-min. drive from the Yabakei Cycling Terminal

☎ Free passage

☎ Not available

●三福屋 台酒店
MIFUKUYA DAISAKETEN

This liquor store has remained in the same family for four generations. It stocks around 100 varieties of alcoholic beverages such as sake and beer, with a focus on shochu from Oita. Yaba Bijin, Nakatsu's local shochu (1,700 yen for a 720-milliliter bottle), comes in rice and barley varieties—why not compare them?

☎ 0979-54-2117 MAP P15C2

4-1 Miomo, Yabakeimachi, Nakatsu-shi

9-min. drive from the Yabakei Cycling Terminal

7:00 AM-9:00 PM

☎ Open year-round

6 spaces

●木精座
Mokuseiza

A coffee shop popular with locals, located in the former Kii Elementary School building. Savor their coffee and cakes, which are made in-house. The owner runs the shop alone, so be sure to stop by if you have time.

☎ 0979-54-2520 MAP P15C2

1525 Hirata, Yabakeimachi, Nakatsu-shi

10-min. drive from the Yabakei Cycling Terminal

12:00 PM-7:00 PM

☎ 1st day of the month and Tue.

5 spaces

●耶馬の森
Yaba-no-Mori

A specialty store for ham and sausages that are made with care using local pork. Enjoy a light meal, such as a hot dog with a homemade sausage featuring parsley or coarse-ground pork, on the terrace.

☎ 0979-52-3356 MAP P15C2

1618-1 Sogi, Honyabakeimachi, Nakatsu-shi

14-min. drive from the Yabakei Cycling Terminal

9:00 AM-6:30 PM (Hot dogs: 11:00 AM-5:00 PM)

☎ Wed. (Open every day during peak season)

12 spaces

●青の洞門サイクリングセンター風水園
Ao-no-Domon Cycling Center Fusuien

A bike rental spot in the Hon-Yabakei area with about 120 bikes for adults and children, including e-bikes. Contact the center in advance when returning a bike rented from somewhere else.

☎ 0979-52-2108 MAP P15C2

1702-1 Sogi, Honyabakeimachi, Nakatsu-shi

16-min. drive from the Yabakei Cycling Terminal

600 yen for bike rentals (no time limit); 1,300 yen for e-bike rentals (no time limit); 300 yen for elementary school students and younger; add 500 yen for one-way bike rentals

9:30 AM-6:00 PM

☎ No regular closings

50 spaces



Soba

Characteristics of Nakatsu soba

Buckwheat cultivation has prospered in this area for a long time. Soba buckwheat noodles made with freshly milled flour and the clean water of Yabakei Gorge have an exquisite aroma and glide smoothly down your throat! The noodles are perfect with some mildly sweet broth.

How locals eat it

The Nakatsu way is to add *yuzu kosho* (a citrus chili pepper condiment) while eating. Many restaurants also serve the popular *yamakake soba*, or soba topped with grated, locally grown mountain yams.



☞ Buckwheat flowers bloom as the buckwheat season approaches

Enjoy soba made in Shin-Yabakei along with the area's peaceful scenery!



Juwari zaru soba (100% buckwheat soba noodles served cold with some dipping broth) 1,200 yen
This soba is made from a sweet-tasting buckwheat variety called Haru-no-Ibuki. Enjoy the aroma of the freshly milled buckwheat.

そば処 仙景堂 Sobadokoro Senkeibo

This restaurant grows their own buckwheat and uses flour milled in-house. You can watch a brilliant soba-making demonstration at the prep area next to the entrance. The attractive location allows you to enjoy a meal while gazing at nature along the Yamautsuri River.

☎ 0979-55-2052 MAP P15C3
☑ 3155-3 Shinyaba, Yabakeimachi, Nakatsu-shi ☎ 40 min. drive from JR Nakatsu Sta. ☎ 11:00 AM-5:00 PM
☒ No regular closings ☎ Not available (256 spaces available at the adjacent Shin-Yabakei public parking lot)



☞ A wonderful setting surrounded by nature

そば処 石臼亭 Sobadokoro Ishiusutei

Here, buckwheat grown in the Hon-Yabakei area is manually ground into flour using a millstone, made into soba, and boiled right in front of you. Squeeze out your own soba noodles with the patented Juwari Soba Shibori for 810 yen.

☎ 0979-52-3030 MAP P15C2
☑ 2193-1 Sogi, Honyabakeimachi, Nakatsu-shi (within Michi-no-Eki Yapatopia) ☎ 25 min. drive from JR Nakatsu Sta. ☎ 11:00 AM-last order at 2:00 PM (Sat., Sun., and national holidays: Last order at 2:30 PM)
☒ Thu. (open if Thu. is a national holiday) ☎ 93 spaces



☞ Soba-based products and local specialty goods are also available for purchase



Have some locally made soba!

Staff members Furuno (right) and Takada (left)

Enjoy freshly made soba at Michi-no-Eki Yapatopia



Shrimp tempura soba 1,380 yen
Honyabakei's aromatic soba noodles pair perfectly with shrimp tempura! Enjoy this prized delicacy!

☞ Rich and intense Oita Kabosu ice cream 500 yen



Tons of delicious food! Enjoy Nakatsu's local foods!

In addition to *karaage* (Japanese fried chicken), a local specialty that made "Nakatsu" a household name across Japan, the area has tons of other famous foods, from its *hamo* (conger eel), which is known as a premium ingredient, to its aromatic, flavorful soba (buckwheat noodles)! Come and savor all the local flavors.

Chokatsu soba "Meibutsu Sumisoba" set 1,298 yen

The famous black *sumisoba* noodles made with Yabakei buckwheat flour and bamboo charcoal, which is attracting attention for its digestive benefits and detox effects, are recommended. Pair the noodles with additive-free side dishes.



Look at these striking black soba noodles!

日本庭園「湯活そば屋」・漢石園 Japanese Garden and "Chokatsu Soba-ya" Keisekien

Try soba with digestive benefits and coffee roasted in-house in a spacious Japanese garden with a running stream, away from the crowds. You can also reserve a seat on the terrace to eat with a canine companion. Feeding the koi is fun, too.

☎ 2286-1 Oshima, Yabakeimachi, Nakatsu-shi (within Yabakei Dam Memorial Park "Keiseki-en") ☎ 35 min. drive from JR Nakatsu Sta. ☎ 10:00 AM-6:00 PM ☒ Wed. ☎ 150 spaces available at the Keiseki-en park parking lots



Charcoal helps with digestion and promotes beautiful skin!

☞ Look out over the garden from inside the restaurant
Restaurant manager Makoto, also known as the YouTuber "Sobaya no Nee-san"



Spicy neck skewer 240 yen (per skewer)

Chicken wing 280 yen (per 100 g)

Gizzard skewer 120 yen (per skewer)

Boneless breast meat 250 yen (per 100 g)

Boneless chicken thigh 300 yen (per 100 g)

The garlic-and-salt sauce will whet your appetite and have you hooked

The garlic packs a punch

Chiaki, the owner's wife



☞ A famous restaurant in Kyushu with locations in Kanto

中津からあげ もり山 万田本店 Nakatsu Karaage Moriyama Manda Honten

This is the restaurant that sparked the Nakatsu *karaage* boom. Chicken from Miyazaki and Oita prefectures is marinated in a salt-based sauce made using a blend of natural salt, contract-grown garlic, and several other types of seasonings. The garlicky aroma lingers long after.

☎ 0979-24-2222 MAP P15C1
☑ 566-5 Manda, Nakatsu-shi ☎ 7 min. drive from JR Nakatsu Sta. ☎ 11:00 AM-8:00 PM
☒ No regular closings ☎ 10 spaces

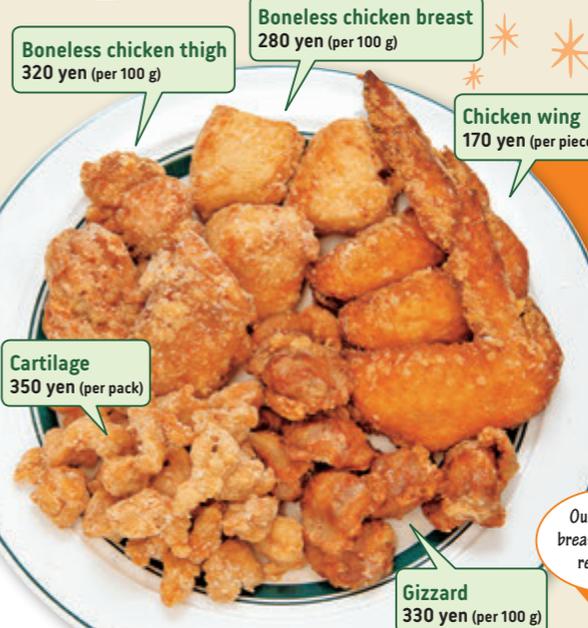
Karaage

Characteristics of Nakatsu karaage

Chicken meat is first marinated to perfection in a sauce made from blending garlic, ginger, and other ingredients into a base of soy sauce or salt. Then the *karaage* is deep-fried to order—that's how it's done in Nakatsu!

How locals eat it

There are roughly 50 restaurants serving *karaage* in the city! Many of them allow takeout. Every family has their own go-to restaurant.



Boneless chicken thigh 320 yen (per 100 g)

Boneless chicken breast 280 yen (per 100 g)

Chicken wing 170 yen (per piece)

Cartilage 350 yen (per pack)

Gizzard 330 yen (per 100 g)

Moist and tender breast meat, a healthier *karaage* option

Our chicken breasts are the real deal!

Founder Yasuhiro Inokuchi



からあげ専門店げんきや(絨喜屋) 総本店 Karaage Genkiya Sohonten

The winner of the highest Gold Award at the 11th and 13th *Karaage Grand Prix* organized by the Japan *Karaage* Association. This restaurant's secret lies in marinating the chicken for a long time in a special sauce made with local soy sauce and battering right before frying.

☎ 0979-24-1933 MAP P15C1
☑ 35-2 Kanate, Nakatsu-shi ☎ 8 min. drive from JR Nakatsu Sta. ☎ 11:00 AM-9:00 PM ☒ Open year-round ☎ 19 spaces



☞ Outside of Nakatsu City, there are 10 other locations across Japan

Hamo

Characteristics of Nakatsu hamo

The conger eels that grow up in the Buzen Sea, which is fed by water from Yabakei's forests, are well-regarded for their springy texture and great flavor. These eels are so large that they contort themselves into the shape of the Japanese character "tsu" to fit into their fish cooler, earning them the nickname *tsu-no-ji hamo* ("tsu"-shaped conger eel).

How locals eat it

Probably because *hamo* can be purchased locally for a reasonable price, many restaurants offer quirky dishes like *hamo* cutlet curry and *hamo* cutlet over rice.

Savor the plump, delicate *tsu-no-ji hamo* in someshabu-shabu hot pot



Hamo course cuisine 7,200 yen or more
(*Hamo* is only available from June through October)
Enjoy the different textures and flavors of *hamo* across various styles, from sashimi to shabu-shabu hot pot.

割烹 丸清 Kappo Marukiyo

In addition to seasonal *kaiseki* cuisine, this Japanese restaurant offers a wide-ranging menu of à la carte dishes from sashimi to steak. They specifically use wild *hamo* in their dishes, which is only available from June through October. The Hamo Mini Zen set meal (3,000 yen) is recommended.

☎ 0979-22-4055 MAP P14A1
☑ 2-12 Higashihonmachi, Nakatsu-shi ☎ 3 min. walk from JR Nakatsu Sta. ☎ 11:00 AM-2:00 PM; 5:00 PM-last order at 9:00 PM (Reservation recommended for lunch and dinner courses) ☒ Mon., temporary closures ☎ 20 spaces



☞ The restaurant is authentically Japanese in style. There are counter seats available as well as a room with tables on the second floor

☞ You can buy a Hamosama *hamo* fishcake (756 yen per block) to take home



Try a variety of new *hamo* dishes, such as a *hamo* cutlet bound with eggs and *hamo* shumai dumplings

和風味処 鬼太郎 Wafu Ajidokoro Kitaro

This restaurant has been serving fresh fish for over 40 years. The fish are kept in tanks in the restaurant, allowing you to taste fresh local fish such as *hamo*, *seki-aji* (horse mackerel), and *seki-saba* (mackerel). The Kuroda Kanbei-themed Kanbei Gozen, a set meal featuring a variety of *hamo* dishes, is popular.

☎ 0979-22-0304 MAP P14A1
☑ 2-16 Toyodamachi, Nakatsu-shi ☎ 8 min. walk from JR Nakatsu Sta. ☎ 11:00 AM-2:00 PM; 5:00 PM-last order at 9:00 PM (Sun.: Last order at 8:30 PM) ☒ Mon. ☎ 30 spaces

Kanbei Gozen 2,200 yen

This set's main dish is a meaty *hamo* cutlet bound with egg. It is served with a lid reminiscent of Kuroda Kanbei's red helmet.



☞ Counter seating and private raised-floor seating options are available

For information on food in Nakatsu City, check out the Tourism Nakatsu Yabakei website!



No. 1 in Japan for both the number of hot spring sources and the volume of spring water!

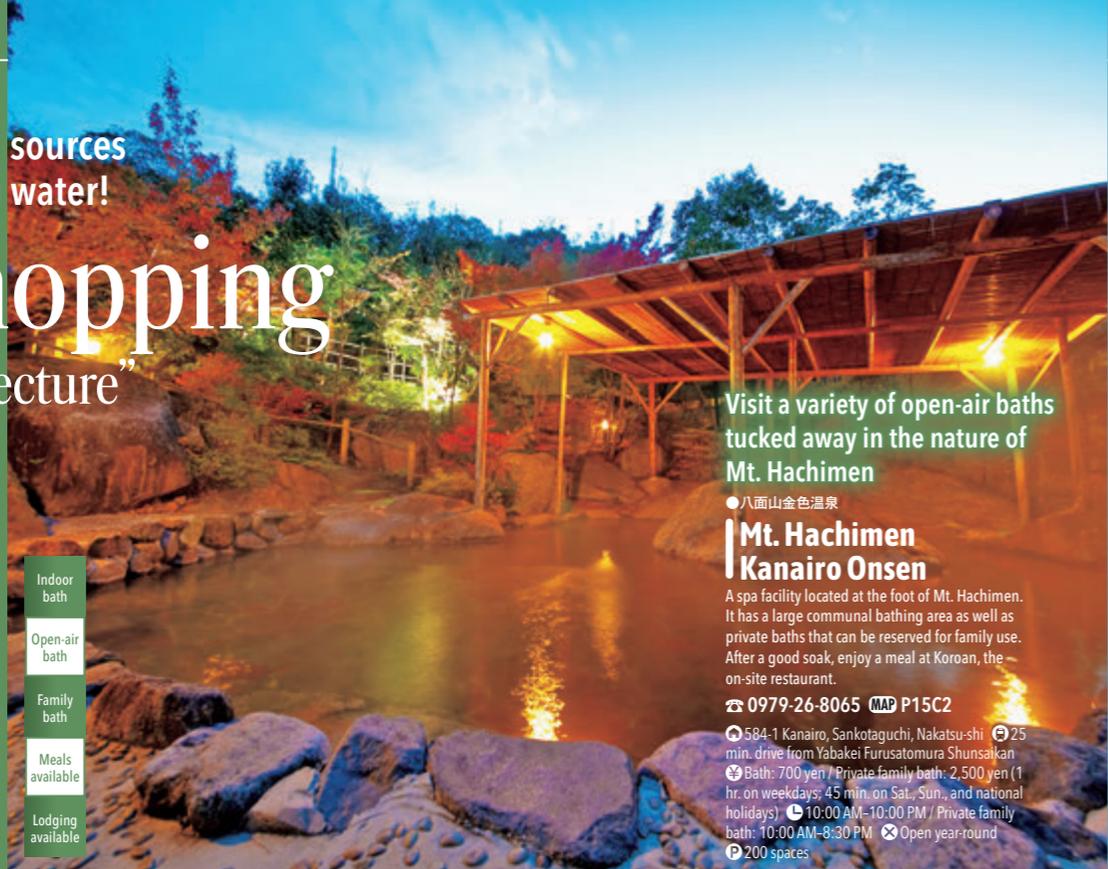
Onsen-hopping

in the "Onsen Prefecture" of Oita



When people think of Oita Prefecture—where Nakatsu City is located—they think of its onsen! The Yabakei area is also dotted with hot spring sites that everyone should visit at least once. Soaking in an onsen surrounded by the stunning natural beauty of Yabakei Gorge is guaranteed to have therapeutic effects.

Day spa facilities are scattered throughout the Yabakei area. Drive to all the baths, using **Yabakei Furusatomura Shunsaikan** (MAP P15C2), a centrally located farmers' market, as your base!



- Indoor bath
- Open-air bath
- Family bath
- Meals available
- Lodging available

Visit a variety of open-air baths tucked away in the nature of Mt. Hachimen

●八面山金色温泉

Mt. Hachimen Kanairo Onsen

A spa facility located at the foot of Mt. Hachimen. It has a large communal bathing area as well as private baths that can be reserved for family use. After a good soak, enjoy a meal at Koroan, the on-site restaurant.

☎ 0979-26-8065 MAP P15C2

📍 584-1 Kanairo, Sankotaguchi, Nakatsu-shi 🕒 25 min. drive from Yabakei Furusatomura Shunsaikan
 ♪ Bath: 700 yen / Private family bath: 2,500 yen (1 hr. on weekdays; 45 min. on Sat., Sun., and national holidays) 🕒 10:00 AM–10:00 PM / Private family bath: 10:00 AM–8:30 PM 🗳 Open year-round 🛏 200 spaces

An open-air bath surrounded by nature where you can feel the refreshing breeze blowing from the gorge

📍 The "Yayama Large Open-Air Bath" is set in a beautiful Japanese garden where you can feel the passing of the seasons

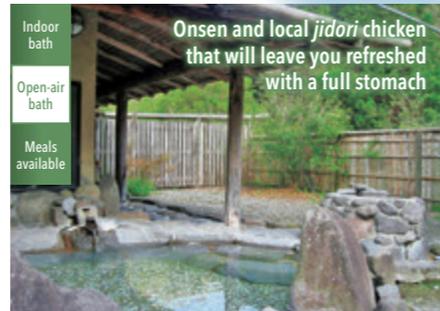
●とろろ乃湯

Tororo-no-Yu

Nestled in a mountain village with terraced rice fields, this establishment takes pride in its natural onsen and local *jidori* chicken cuisine. After soaking in a serene bath, enjoy a set meal with local *jidori* chicken grilled over charcoal at your table (1,600 yen).

☎ 0979-55-2080 MAP P15C3

📍 5927 Yamautsuri, Yabakeimachi, Nakatsu-shi 🕒 10 min. drive from Yabakei Furusatomura Shunsaikan ♪ Bath: 400 yen 🕒 11:00 AM–6:00 PM (Last reception at 5:00 PM) / Open from 10:00 AM on Sat., Sun., and national holidays 🗳 Mon. (Open when Mon. is a national holiday) 🛏 20 spaces



Indoor bath
Open-air bath
Meals available

Onsen and local *jidori* chicken that will leave you refreshed with a full stomach

📍 The baths are filled with soft, simple alkaline hot spring water

📍 It looks like a folk house in a peaceful mountain village

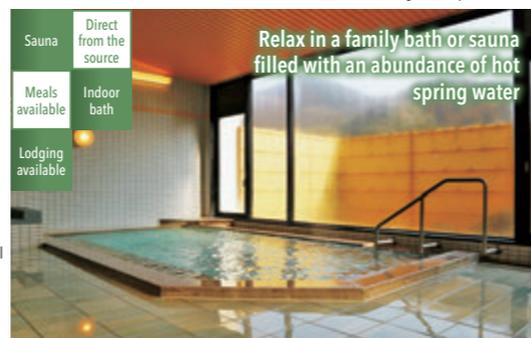
●守実温泉 やすらぎの郷 やまくに

Morizane Onsen Yasuragi-no-Sato Yamakuni

This onsen facility is located right next to the Core Yamakuni cultural complex. Its large, gender-segregated communal baths are absolutely filled with natural hot spring water. It also has a restaurant called Wakana.

☎ 0979-62-2186 MAP P15B3

📍 12-1 Fujinoki, Yamakuni-machi, Nakatsu-shi 🕒 15 min. drive from Yabakei Furusatomura Shunsaikan ♪ Bath: 400 yen 🕒 10:30 AM–9:00 PM (reception closes at 8:30 PM); Restaurant: 11:30 AM–last order at 2:30 PM, 5:00 PM–last order at 7:30 PM 🗳 1st and 3rd Tue. of the month (open on national holidays and during peak season) 🛏 50 spaces



Sauna Direct from the source
Meals available Indoor bath
Lodging available

Relax in a family bath or sauna filled with an abundance of hot spring water

📍 In addition to the large communal bath, a sauna and family bath are also available *The family bath is closed during winter

📍 Enjoy an onsen surrounded by nature in the picturesque Shin-Yabakei area!



📍 After a soak, lounge around on tatami mats in the rest area

●深耶馬温泉館 もみじの湯

Shinyaba Onsen-kan Momiji-no-Yu

This public day spa facility is located along Shin-Yabakei Gorge. It has indoor and open-air baths, both of which use hot spring water that flows directly from the source. The open-air bath has a superb view of Shin-Yabakei Gorge, and is especially popular during the spring and fall due to the gorgeous foliage.

☎ 0979-55-2770 MAP P15C3

📍 2941 Shinyaba, Yabakeimachi, Nakatsu-shi 🕒 18 min. drive from Yabakei Furusatomura Shunsaikan ♪ Bath: 510 yen 🕒 11:00 AM–6:30 PM (Last entry at 6:00 PM) 🗳 Wed. (or the next day when Wed. is a national holiday) 🛏 50 spaces

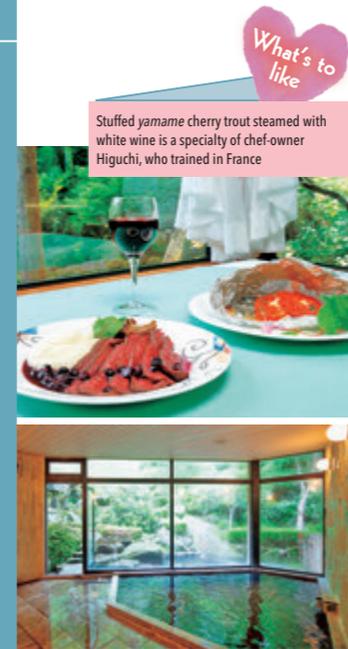
The air and time feel different here!

Soothing Yabakei inns

Yabakei Gorge is located on the border between Oita and Fukuoka prefectures. There are countless things to see while you're here, so it's worthwhile to stay overnight. The tranquil nature, local ingredients, and natural hot springs are sure to soothe the soul.



Website with a list of accommodations



What's to like
Stuffed yamame cherry trout steamed with white wine is a specialty of chef-owner Higuchi, who trained in France

📍 The large communal bathing area has an open-air bath in a garden full of Yabakei flowers

●小さなお宿 つきのほたる

Tsuki-no-Hotaru

This inn occupies a single building in Orito Onsen, a place known for its fireflies. Meals are made from fresh fish and meat from Oita Prefecture and seasonal homegrown vegetables. The bath is the town's public bath across the street from the inn.

Enjoy Yabakei Gorge's seasons with all five senses, appreciating the plants and tasting seasonal flavors



●オーベルジュ 楓乃木

Auberge Funoki

This inn with seven rooms follows the contours of the Yabakei Gorge mountainside. After looking for wild plants along the path that runs through the property, enjoy French cuisine featuring local ingredients such as yamame (cherry trout) and Bungo beef.

☎ 0979-55-2222 MAP P15C3

📍 3190 Shinyaba, Yabakeimachi, Nakatsu-shi 🕒 45 min. drive from JR Nakatsu Sta. ♪ 22,000 yen or more for 1 night w/ breakfast and dinner 🕒 Check-in: 4:00 PM / Check-out: 10:00 AM 🗳 Tue. night (Open when Tue. is a national holiday and closed the previous or next day) 🛏 10 spaces

☎ 0979-55-2259

MAP P15C3

📍 2142-1 Shinyaba, Yabakeimachi, Nakatsu-shi 🕒 45 min. drive from JR Nakatsu Sta. ♪ 15,000 yen or more for 1 night w/ breakfast and dinner 🕒 Check-in: 3:00 PM / Check-out: 10:00 AM 🛏 6 spaces



📍 Come for Yabakei Gorge's mountains, river, and dishes that let you taste the bounty of the land

One twin room with a scenic balcony and three Japanese-style rooms are available, all of which have scenic views of the Orito area. A bath and toilet are in every room



Rent an entire log house where you can have a BBQ or cook your own food

📍 The log houses are fully equipped with a TV, a refrigerator, air conditioning, a shower, and a toilet

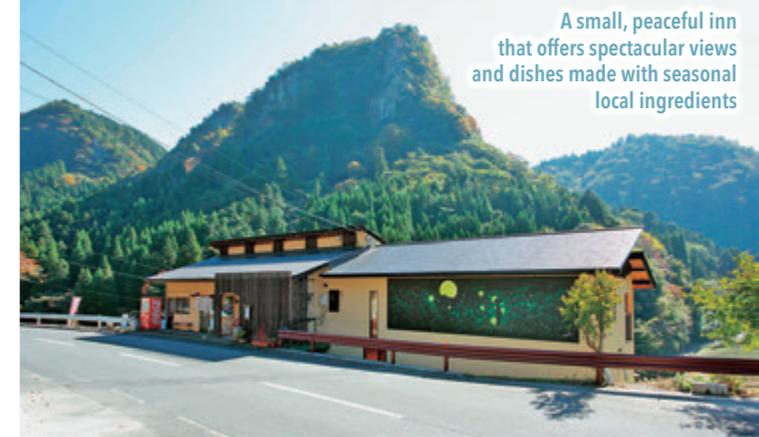
●西谷温泉 キャンピングパーク

Nishitani Onsen Camping Park

This facility has a day-use onsen fed directly from the source and a campground, and guests can rent an entire log house with its own hammock. Each log house has a kitchen, so you can have a BBQ or cook for yourself, as well as order a BBQ set. The dog-friendly log houses and camping trailer park with a dog run are also popular. For details, check their website!

☎ 0979-53-2100 MAP P15C3

📍 1448 Nishitani, Honyabakeimachi, Nakatsu-shi 🕒 35 min. drive from JR Nakatsu Sta. ♪ 1 log house: 15,000 yen / Day-use bath: 500 yen for adults; 250 yen for children / Overnight guest bath: 400 yen for adults; 150 yen for children 🕒 Check-in: 3:00 PM–6:00 PM for log houses; 1:00 PM–6:00 PM for tents / Check-out: 11:00 AM for log houses; 12:00 PM for tents / Day-use bath: 10:00 AM–8:00 PM 🗳 Tue. and Wed. 🛏 40 spaces



A small, peaceful inn that offers spectacular views and dishes made with seasonal local ingredients

📍 Their cafe is only open on Saturdays, Sundays, and Mondays (reservation required)

Take it easy and campin the great outdoors!

●バルンバルンの森 (洞門キャンプ場)

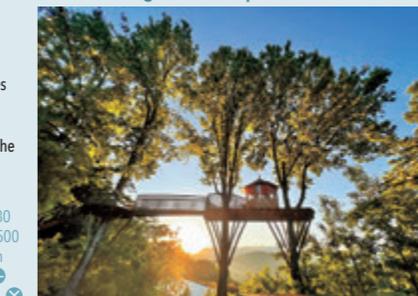
Barun Barun no Mori (Domon Campground)

Take it easy at this campground, which also comes with a reading room and cafe in the woods. You can stay in a stylish bungalow or bring your own tent. Adults and children alike will get a taste of the extraordinary.

☎ 0979-52-3020 MAP P15C2

📍 459-9 Sogi, Honyabakeimachi, Nakatsu-shi 🕒 30 min. drive from JR Nakatsu Sta. ♪ 1 bungalow: 9,500 yen or more (excluding meals) / BYO tent: 3,500 yen or more (mountain entry fee charged separately) 🕒 Check-in: 1:00 PM–5:00 PM / Check-out: 10:30 AM 🗳 Mon.–Thu. (excluding peak season) 🛏 20 spaces

Cute, retro-style buildings♪ A world straight out of a picture book



📍 The area around the treehouse, a symbol of the facility, is for campers



📍 Yomu-Neru-no-Su, a reading room in the woods where you can read a book or take a nap



📍 The tent campground can be used for overnight stays as well as day camping

Check out these Nakatsu souvenirs!

Take home delicious memories!

The castle town of Nakatsu is home to many famous sweets that have been enjoyed for generations. All of these local sweets evoke nostalgia in the people of Nakatsu. You can buy them at JR Nakatsu Station, so stock up at the end of your trip!

A famous confection with a cute shape from the Edo period (1603-1867)

Nakatsu's *uiro* (steamed cake) has a distinctive flower shape. Enjoy its subtle sweetness with a hint of ginger.

Uiro manju
Kuriyamado
864 yen (per 10 pieces)

Buy them here!

● 中津駅名店街

Nakatsu-Eki Meitengai

This area is located in front of the ticket gates at JR Nakatsu Station. In addition to iconic confections from famous shops, you'll find a wide selection of local products and character merchandise.

☎ 0979-25-1810 MAP P14A1

- Within JR Nakatsu Station, 219 Shimata, Nakatsu-shi
- Within the JR Nakatsu Station building
- 9:30 AM-6:00 PM ☒ Open year-round

A sophisticated dairy confection that's a cross between a British biscuit and a manju pastry

The milky flavor of biscuit dough wrapped around a sweet filling made of egg yolk and bean paste goes perfectly with tea. It also comes in a mini size.

Bisman Futabado
1,580 yen (per 10 pieces)

Petit Bisman Futabado
864 yen (per 9 pieces)

This wheat cracker is practically the same size and shape as an actual old 10,000-yen banknote! It makes a great gag gift.

10,000 yen note senbei Keigetsudo
594 yen (per 5 pieces)

Eat an old 10,000-yen note that's sweet and aromatic

Little plovers bob to the surface of this instant shiruko

Pour hot water over this clamshell-shaped wafer for instant shiruko (sweet red bean porridge)!

Hamaguri shiruko Musashiya Sohonten
1,300 yen (per 5 pieces)

An uncommon medicinal confection that highlights the taste and texture of its ingredients

A solid jelly-like confection that has been passed down in Nakatsu for over 200 years, made by adding kudzu starch to wood ear fungus, beans, and other ingredients

Kenchin Futabado
864 yen

A sweet, moist confection made by artisans for former feudal lord Okudaira Masataka

Osada boro Tokunaga
780 yen (per 5 pieces)

Nakatsu's *maru-boro* are cake-like cookies that came about when Lord Okudaira had confectioners imitate Nagasaki's castella cakes

Get dressed in your favorite kimono and stroll around the castle town

Rent a kimono along with accessories such as tabi socks and undergarments. While dressed, be sure to visit the historical sites within walking distance. Please note that hairstyling and makeup services are not provided, so come prepared. Reservations are required at least three days in advance.

Inquiries Kimono Oshimaya
☎ 090-9564-3860

Location Rental Kimono Tamaya
MAP P14A1

- Himitsu Kichi 1F, 352-7 Shimata, Nakatsu-shi (within the Hinodemachi Shopping Arcade)
- 3-min. walk from JR Nakatsu Sta. ☎ 5,000 yen
- 10:00 AM-5:00 PM ☒ No regular closings
- Available at the Hinode Terrace parking lot

● A wide range of kimonos and obis are available in a variety of colors, patterns, and sizes



● You can take tons of elegant photos that are only possible in a castle town!

Make memories of your trip

● Make a custom blend from eight fragrances!

Make your own forest mist surrounded by the scents of nature

Participate in an aromatherapy-mist-making workshop using Rokugatsu Yohka's forest essential oils. The essential oils extracted from local Oita ingredients have wonderful aromas and make for a relaxing workshop. Reserve your spot by 5:00 PM three days prior.

Inquiries Nakatsu Yabakei Tourist Information Center ☎ 0979-64-6565
Location Rokugatsu Yohka MAP P15C1

- 4-3-1 Kamimiyanaga, Nakatsu-shi (within the Hisatsune family residence) ☎ 4,000 yen or more
- 5-min. drive from JR Nakatsu Sta. ☎ Open from 10:30 AM (2 hr. required) *Please inquire for dates. Up to 10 people (at least 2 people required); advance application required ● 10 spaces

● You can browse and shop in the store after the workshop

Activities in Nakatsu!



Inquire about tours here!

● 豊の国千年ロマン観光圏

Activities and tours like these are available!

Toyonokuni Millennium Heritage Tourism Zone

Various tours are offered that allow you to experience the history and culture of Oita Prefecture's northern area.

☎ 0977-85-8511

https://www.millennium-roman.jp

豊の国千年ロマン観光圏

Indigo dyeing experience

Experience the process of indigo dyeing using a cotton cloth and designs prepared by an artisanal dyer. Your dyed cloth can be turned into things like a hand towel or pouch.

● 4,000 yen or more (tailoring and shipping fees charged separately)

Make your own mini paper umbrella lantern

Have fun making a Japanese-style paper umbrella lantern while learning traditional techniques using bamboo and paper that have been passed down since the Edo period.

● 16,500 yen

Includes a castle town walk and lunch

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*The information contained in this publication is up to date as of December 2024. Some information may have changed after publication; we recommend calling in advance to confirm. We take no responsibility for any damages, etc. incurred due to the content of this publication and cannot provide compensation under any circumstances. *Entry fees and other fees listed in this publication are the price for one adult. *In general, the year-end and New Year holidays, Obon summer holiday, and Golden Week (late April to early May) holiday are not mentioned in the descriptions of regular closings. *Hours, unless otherwise mentioned, generally refer to the period from a facility's opening time to its closing time. Please note that the last order time and last entry time for facilities are generally 30 minutes to one hour before closing. *Transportation information is subject to change depending on the season, weather, and/or other factors. We recommend confirming in advance with relevant public transportation providers. *Hot spring qualities and benefits are those of the onsen's source, not individual baths. Related text to onsen responses received from each facility. *The maps contained in this publication were created by modifying digital maps (basic geospatial information) provided by the Geospatial Information Authority of Japan (GSI).