

Setting for the serial television drama *Scarlet*

Shiga pref.

まっふる

Koka is here!



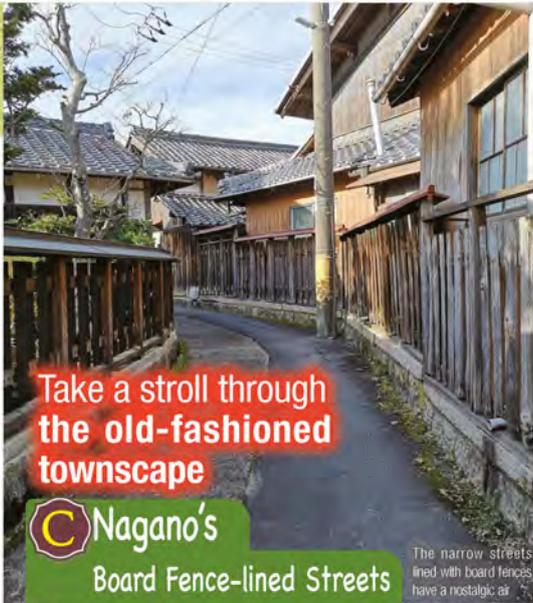
Koka city



Secrets to Enjoying Koka

- Festivals and Events
- Delicious Cuisine in Koka
- Having Fun in Koka
- Post Stations along the Old Tokaido Road
- Experience the world of Ninja
- Traveling around Koka by Car
- Learn about Shigaraki Ware
- Tour Filming Locations
- Walking Tour of Shigaraki





Take a stroll through the old-fashioned townscape

C Nagano's Board Fence-lined Streets

The narrow streets lined with board fences have a nostalgic air

MAP P.18 A-4

Many old-style narrow streets still remain in Shigaraki. Please be sure to stroll down these streets, lined on both sides with board fences, to enjoy the unique, pottery-town atmosphere.

The largest-scale climbing kiln in Japan still in use since the Edo period



D Sotoen Kiln

MAP P.18 A-4

Featuring a climbing kiln built up the mountain slope

The climbing kiln is still in operation and continues to produce good old-fashioned ceramics. Reservations are required, but visitors can tour the climbing kiln and the production process, conducted hands-on by the potters, and participate in ceramic art workshops.

☎ 0748-82-0316

🕒 8:30 am - 5:30 pm

📅 Irregular holidays, closed during New Year's holidays

📍 1423-13 Shigaraki-cho Nagano, Koka-shi 🚶 Walk from Shigaraki Station on the Shigaraki Kogen Railway (20 min) 🆓 Free

About the Koka brand

The Koka brand is designed to introduce people around the world to exciting things and products found only in Koka that will leave lasting memories. Among the unique Koka products and facilities featured in this guide, those bearing this mark have been awarded the Koka brand certification.



Japan Heritage
cultural assets are marked with the logo shown above. See the back cover for more information about Japan Heritage.

Koka City Offers Drama

Walking Tour of Shigaraki

The Pottery Quarter

A Uzan Kiln

A Yamabun Pottery Workshop

A Tanikan Kiln

Meizan Kiln Ogama

Rokuro-zaka

Shigaraki Kenzo Pottery Art Club

Kamaba-zaka

D Sotoen Kiln

Hirotsubo-zaka

B Shingu Shrine the Primary Shrine in Shigaraki

Nagano's Board Fence-lined Streets

Shingu-jiya-mae

Shigaraki-ekiguchi

Shingu Shrine, the Primary Shrine in Shigaraki
This ancient shrine was built in 715. The precinct features guardian dogs made from Shigaraki Ware.

"Scarlet Shopping Area"
A product shop operated by the Council to Promote Koka through Scarlet.
- Opening hours: Mon - Fri 11:00 am - 4:00 pm
Sat, Sun, and holidays 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
- Regular holidays: Tuesdays and Wednesdays

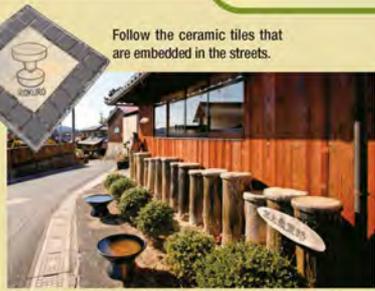
FUJIKI Art Gallery
Hosts exhibitions of local artists and displays the works of artists-in-residence staying in Shigaraki Ceramic Culture Park.

Enjoy a relaxing stroll along these charming streets.

The Pottery Quarter

MAP P.18 A-4

Along the quaint old path that leads to Shingu Shrine you'll find a climbing kiln, old hibachi piled one on top of another and ceramic signposts that take you back to a simpler time. Walk down Rokuro-zaka, Hirotsubo-zaka, and Kamaba-zaka lanes where you'll find art galleries, cafes, and guest houses.



There are visitor-friendly signposts here and there.

Follow the ceramic tiles that are embedded in the streets.



Early April Strolling Pottery Tour

Pottery workshops individually plan and offer their own forms of entertainment. Visitors can collect the hand-made ceramic beads made at each of the pottery workshops.

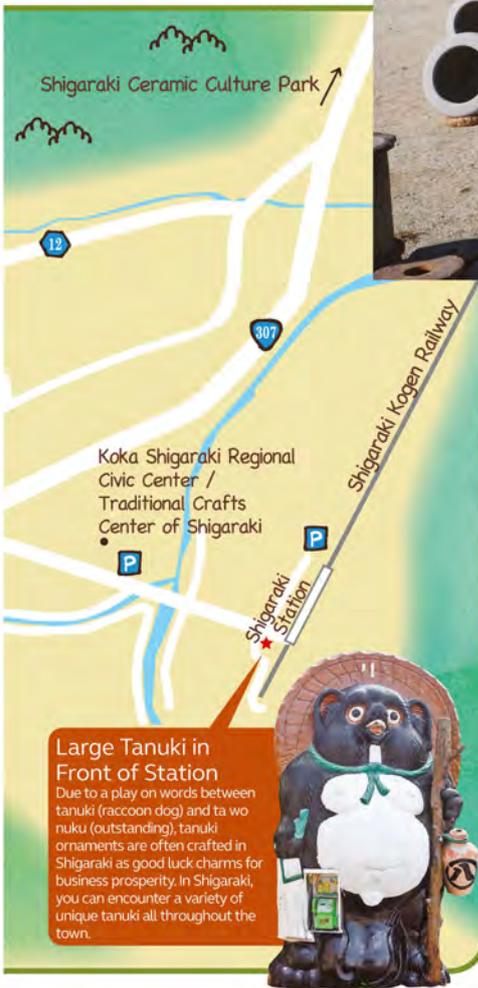


The sightseeing area Shigaraki, famous for ceramic production, also served as the setting for the serial television drama *Scarlet*, which was actually filmed here on location. You can enjoy strolling around town visiting the more than 200 pottery workshops and spotting ceramic tiles embedded in the roads and tanuki ornaments.



Production of hibachi braziers flourished from the Meiji period (1868-1912) through to the Showa period 30s (1953-1964).

A long-standing pottery workshop producing Shigaraki Ware, which conveys the warmth of the clay



A Yamabun Pottery Workshop, Tanikan Kiln, Uzan Kiln

MAP P.18 A-4

Yamabun Pottery Workshop which continues to produce hibachi charcoal braziers, also sells saucers and mini-sized braziers. Tanikan Kiln operates out of a relocated former lecture hall from a Meiji-period teachers' training school, which now houses a workshop and gallery. Uzan Kiln produces and sells a variety of ceramics in line with modern lifestyles, including ceramic light fixtures, etc.



The charming slope between the three pottery workshops

Visitors can receive cute-looking o-mikuji (fortune-telling slips)

B Shingu Shrine, the Primary Shrine in Shigaraki

MAP P.18 A-4

This ancient shrine, founded more than 1,300 years ago, is deeply revered by many as the home of the local guardian deity of Nagano, Shigaraki-cho. During the Fire Festival, participants depart from Shingu Shrine and deliver torches as offerings to Atago, Toki and Akiba Shrines, located at the top of Mt. Atago.

☎ 0748-82-0078

🕒 The precinct is open to the public; Shrine shop: 10:00 am – 4:30 pm (reception hours) 🗓 Open daily

📍 ADD 1151-1 Shigaraki-cho Nagano, Koka-shi

🚶 Walk from Shigaraki Station on the Shigaraki Kogen Railway (10 min) 🅇 Free



Built during the Nara period in 715

EVENT

Lots to do in spring, summer and fall. Enjoy Shigaraki even more by coming to events!

July 4th Saturday

Shigaraki Fire Festival

Roughly 700 giant torches are carried as offerings each year. Torches were actually built on-location and filmed together with local extras.



Late September

Shigaraki Ceramic Art Market in Shigaraki Ceramic Culture Park



Potters and other artists living and working in the prefecture sell high-quality, personally-created works of art under the theme of "meeting art and meeting the artists."

Mid October Shigaraki Pottery Festival

Manufacturers hold large-scale exhibitions and conduct on the spot sales. Stalls run by potters and artists sell ceramics at special Pottery Festival prices.



🕒 Hours 🗓 Days closed 🅈 Admission 📍 ADD Address 🗺 Directions 🅇 Parking

Koka City

Koka City has been the setting for popular television dramas and films!

Tour Filming Locations

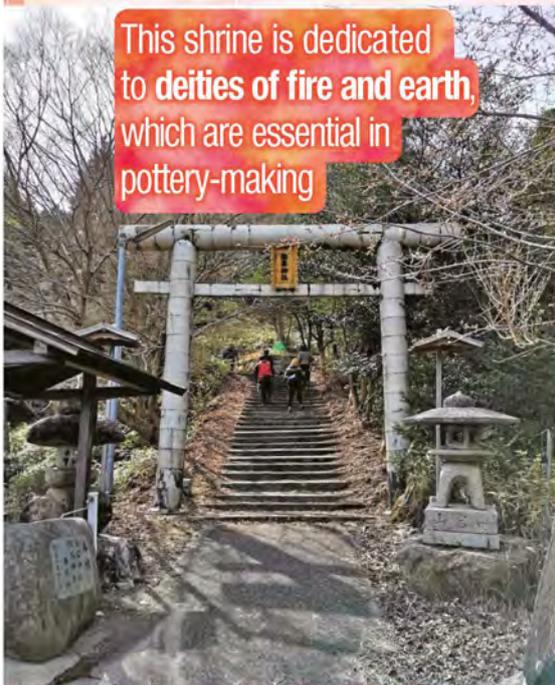
Koka City is also well-known as a filming location. Be sure to drop by filming locations that remind you of thrilling television dramas and interesting historical dramas you've seen and that have also been visited by your favorite stars.

Front Approach to Toki Shrine

MAP P.18 B-3

Toki Shrine, together with Atago Shrine, is located atop Mt. Atago, and during the Fire Festival, giant torches are carried here as offerings. Visitors can see ceramic torii gates and guardian dogs, which are unique to pottery towns.

This shrine is dedicated to deities of fire and earth, which are essential in pottery-making



Title: "Scarlet"

This too is a must-see! Homepage of the Council to Promote Koka through Scarlet.



In addition to tourism and restaurant information, the homepage provides traffic information and advertisements for products featuring the council's logo.

☎ 0748-69-2198
(Koka City Tourism Planning and Promotion Section, Location Promotion Office)



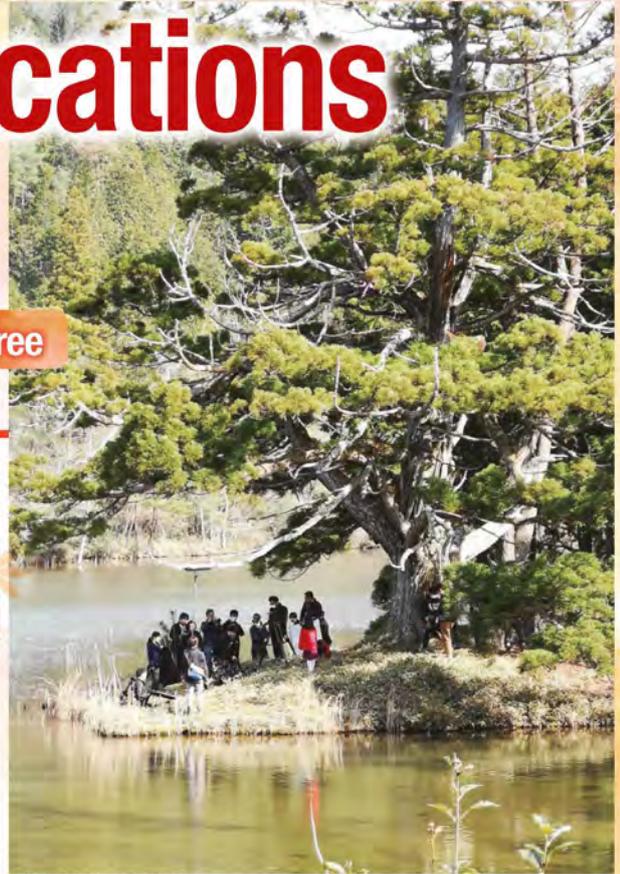
<https://scarlet-koka.jp/>

Legendary Cedar Tree on the Bank of Iwao Pond

Solitary Cedar Tree in Sugitani

MAP P.18 C-3

When the monk Saicho was constructing Enryaku-ji Temple on Mt. Hiei, he came to this region for lumber. It is said that, at the time, he jabbed his chopsticks into the ground after eating, at which point the chopsticks immediately sprouted roots and grew into a massive cedar tree. Sugitani Shinden, Konan-cho, the location of the solitary cedar tree, was selected as one of the 100 Best Villages in Japan.



Title: "Scarlet" and other works

Known for its spectacular crimson foliage in fall when the entire mountain is tinged red

The summit provides a panoramic view of Koka City



Kotoku-ji Temple (Mt. Koshin) MAP P.18 C-2

This temple was opened by the monk Saicho more than 1,200 years ago, and legends holds that this temple is the birthplace of brass production in Japan. Pilgrims visit here from far and wide. A stone guidepost, topped by three monkeys and said to have been carved by Saicho himself, stands at the entrance to the road leading to Mt. Koshin.

☎ 0748-60-2690
(Koka City Tourism and Community Development Association)
🕒 Grounds open 24 hours.
🕒 Open daily
📍 ACC. 988, Minakuchi-cho Yamagami, Koka-shi
🚗 Get off at JR Kibukawa Station, and walk 90 min
🆓 Free



Title: "Scarlet"

Walking Path near Gyokukeiji-Mae Station

MAP P.18 B-3

This path is located near Gyokukeiji-Mae Station on the Shigaraki Kogen Railway. Gyokukei-ji Temple, which belongs to the Mt. Koya Shingon sect of Buddhism, is also known as Chokushi's Kobo-san or Shigaraki's Kobo-san, in reference to the great priest Kobo Daishi.

Leisurely path leading up to the prestigious temple

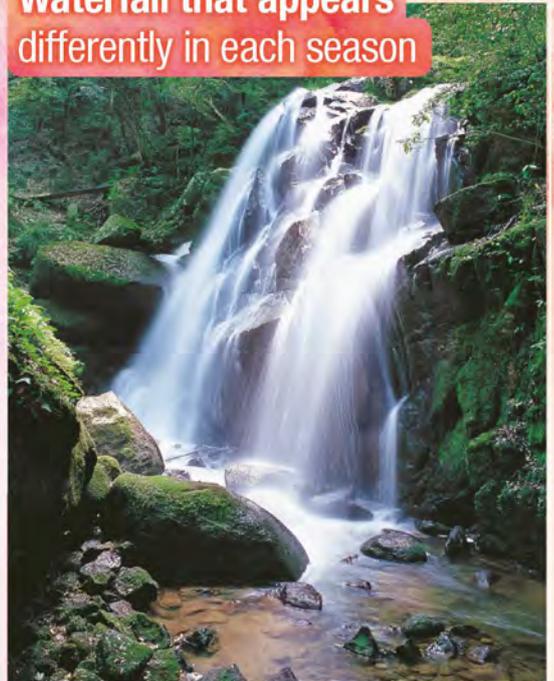


Title: "Scarlet"



Daido River runs near the path

Waterfall that appears differently in each season



Title: "Scarlet" and other works

Keimei Waterfall

MAP P.18 B-3

This waterfall, surrounded by the great outdoors, is also a popular spot for photographers.

☎ 0748-82-2345 (Shigaraki Tourist Association)

📍 Shigaraki-cho Koyama, Koka-shi 🚗 Drive 13 km after getting off at the Shigaraki IC on the Shin-Meishin Expressway 🅇 Free

Minakuchi Kodomo no Mori

MAP P.18 C-2

This park enables visitors to enjoy the rich natural environment in this undeveloped rural area. A variety of television dramas and movies have been filmed here, including the movie Rurouni Kenshin and the television drama Asa ga Kita.

☎ 0748-63-6712 (Minakuchi Kodomo no Mori Nature Museum)
 🕒 9:00 am - 4:00 pm 🗓 Monday (Tuesday if Monday falls on a holiday)
 🎫 Admission to nature museum 200 yen 📍 10 Minakuchi-cho Kita-naiki, Koka-shi 🚖 Take a taxi from JR Kibukawa Station (5 min)
 🅇 Free

Title: "Rurouni Kenshin" and other works

Quaint, small, old-fashioned private residences are used in the filming of historical dramas



Title: "Nobunaga Concerto" and other works



Features a tower gate with a beautiful corridor often used in the filming of historical dramas

Aburahi Shrine

MAP P.19 D-3

Films such as Nobunaga Concerto, A Tale of Samurai Cooking and Iwane: Sword of Serenity as well as serial television dramas and other large-scale, long-running dramas have also been filmed at this location.

☎ 0748-88-2106

🕒 Grounds open 24 hours

📍 1042 Koka-cho Aburahi, Koka-shi

🚶 Walk from JR Aburahi Station (30 min) 🅇 Free



Learn more about and experience Shigaraki Ware!

With this, you will become a Shigaraki expert too!

The huge climbing kiln you'll see after ascending Rokuro-zaka lane is an amazing sight.



Age-old climbing kilns keep the passion for pottery burning

Shigaraki, one of the Six Ancient Kilns of Japan, features a pottery-themed cultural park and pottery studio where visitors can experience making ceramics. There are also cafés and galleries made using remodeled ancient climbing kilns. The entire town can be enjoyed as one big pottery museum.



design by AN GRAPHICS

Ponpoko-char, the mascot of the Shigaraki Tourist Association. She loves Asamiya tea flavored ice cream and sweets.

The pottery-themed park is divided into four areas.



Park with museums and Shigaraki ware shops

Shigaraki Ceramic Cultural Park

MAP P.18 A-4

Here you can visit a park devoted to the art of pottery, the Museum of Contemporary Ceramic Art, a grass-covered plaza, the Institute of Ceramic Studies, a training facility for ceramic artists, and the Exhibition Hall of Industrial Ceramics. The Exhibition Hall has a cafe and a shop where you can buy Shigaraki ware tanuki figurines.

☎ 0748-83-0909

🕒 9:00 am - 4:30 pm

📅 Mondays (Tuesday if Monday falls on a holiday. The museum is closed some days in winter, New Year's holidays)

🎫 Free admission (fee required to enter the museum)

📍 2-188-7 Shigaraki-cho Chokushi, Koka-shi

🚌 Take Shigaraki Kogen bus from Shigaraki Station on the Shigaraki Kogen Railway (5 min) and get off at Togeji no Mori.

🆓 Free

Participate in a pottery workshop

It offers three different pottery workshops, each of which lasts about 1 to 2 hours. Once your piece of pottery is complete, it will be taken to the pottery studio where it will be dried, glaze-fired, and taken out of the kiln. The finished product will be sent to your home (additional shipping fees apply).



Visitors are served free coffee when making reservations for the pottery workshop.

The 2nd floor is a gallery where items can be purchased.



Enjoy making pottery in a quiet salon

Making a rice bowl. The bottom of the bowl is removed with a thread.

Make your own pottery at a studio nestled in a serene mountainside setting

Shigaraki Kenzo Pottery Art Club

MAP P.18 A-4

This is a pottery workshop facility run by Kenzo Ogawa, a fourth-generation potter. You can choose from among an electric potter's wheel, working by hand or the tataro course, and you have plenty of time to focus on crafting.

☎ 0748-82-2216

🕒 10:00 am - 5:00 pm (reservations required)

📅 Not scheduled

🎫 Pottery workshop 5,000 yen

📞 Contact the facility for more information.

📍 755-1 Shigaraki-cho Nagano, Koka-shi

🚌 Walk from Shigaraki Station on the Shigaraki Kogen Railway (20 min)

🆓 Free



An item made by potter Kenzo Ogawa

EXPERIENCE



Kenzo Ogawa's pottery studio is located in the Pottery Quarter

Ogama Climbing Kiln and Gallery

MAP P.18 A-4



Employing an abandoned climbing kiln and work shed that have been restored, Ogama operates a relaxing cafe overlooking the climbing kiln on the first floor as well as an art gallery and shop on the second floor featuring figurines and dishes made by Meizangama potters and Shigaraki-based artists.

☎ 0748-82-8066

🕒 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

📅 Wednesday and Thursday

📍 947 Shigaraki-cho Nagano, Koka-shi

🚌 Walk 15 min from Shigaraki Station on the Shigaraki Kogen Railway 🆓 Free



Known to bring good luck, owls are a favorite.

Stop at the cafe and enjoy a cup of coffee (500 yen) or locally produced Asamiya tea (650 yen).

A Boruto can be used for sake or condiments. 360ml for 2,200 yen.

Get in touch with the history of Shigaraki ware



The building facade features specially-made Shigaraki Ware tiles

Opens April 28, 2020!

Stop here first for information!

Traditional Crafts Center of Shigaraki

MAP P.18 A-4

Its exhibits include works of Shigaraki ware from the Kamakura period to the modern day and related materials. Special exhibitions spotlighting the work of contemporary artists are also held there.

☎ 0748-82-2345

🕒 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

📅 Thursday (Friday if Thursday falls on a holiday)

📍 1208 Shigaraki-cho Nagano, Koka-shi

🚌 Walk 3 min from Shigaraki Station on the Shigaraki Kogen Railway 🆓 Free

Shigaraki Column Addendum

Learn the epic history of Lake Biwa's ancient layers

Lake Biwa moved to its current location approx. one million years ago as an ancient lake that formed roughly four million years ago near the present-day location of Iga City, Mie Prefecture, continued to shift north. Lake Biwa's ancient layers formed as earth and sand, as well as the remains of plant and animal life, accumulated at the bottom of the lake. Soil gathered from here, which is perfect for use in pottery, is used not only in Shigaraki and Iga Ware but in Kyo Ware as well.



Geological strata can be seen on hill cliffs, etc.

Even public telephones are shaped like Tanuki!



You will be overwhelmed by the size of this Tanuki

There is a public telephone shaped like a giant Tanuki located in front of Shigaraki Station on the Shigaraki Kogen Railway. The Tanuki can be seen dressed differently depending on the season, including ninja and Santa outfits. **MAP P.18 A-4**

What does Hasso Engi mean?

Tanuki-shaped ceramic ornaments can be seen throughout Shigaraki. There are eight aspects of their appearance that are said to bring luck, and these are collectively referred to as Hasso Engi. It is said that people began to mentally equate Shigaraki with Tanuki from 1951, when images of rows of Shigaraki Tanuki lined up along the road holding small flags to welcome Emperor Showa during his visit to Shigaraki were broadcast across the country.

- Smile**: Always smiling and friendly as he is passionately engaged in commerce.
- Large Eyes**: Reminds people to pay attention to everything and to view things accurately.
- Bamboo Hat**: Reminds people to always be prepared to evacuate in the event of unexpected disasters.
- Large Belly**: Reminds people to remain calm and bold.
- Sake Bottle**: Reminds people to acquire virtues.
- Passbook**: Nothing is more important than trust. Reminds people to build up trust.
- Money bags**: For economic fortune. Reminds people to devote themselves with boldness.
- Thick Tail**: It's well that ends well.

There's more than just pottery! Shigaraki offers numerous attractions



A community-based railway that provides gorgeous views

Shigaraki Kogen Railway

MAP P.18 B-3

The Shigaraki Kogen Railway connects the 14.7km distance between Kibukawa and Shigaraki. From the windows of the train, which runs along the steep slopes of the verdant Shigaraki Highland, passengers can view seasonal flowering plants. The simple yet beautiful natural environment, notably the fresh greenery in spring and the crimson foliage in fall, will melt your heart.

0748-82-3391



Enjoy riding on a local train line.

Once the capital during the Nara period



Shigaraki Palace Ruins (Temple Area)

MAP P.18 B-2

Walk 7 min from Shigarakigu-shi Station on the Shigaraki Kogen Railway

This palace was constructed by Emperor Shomu during the Nara period, and excavations in recent years have determined that it was quite large-scale. It has been designated as a national historic site. Areas currently open to the public including the temple area, where the residents attempted to build a massive statue of Buddha in advance of the construction of the Dabutsu at Todai-ji Temple, and the palace area, located in the center. Displays of excavated items and introductory videos can be seen at the Survey Office, located in the palace area.



Shigaraki Palace Ruins (Palace Area)

MAP P.18 B-2

Walk 3.5 min from Shigarakigu-shi Station on the Shigaraki Kogen Railway

0748-83-1919 (Survey Office: Weekdays only 9:00 am - 4:30 pm)

HP: <https://www.ac-koka.jp/shigarakinomiya/>



Inviting you to an art museum hidden deep in the woods



MIHO MUSEUM

MAP P.18 B-2

Designed by I. M. Pei, an architect well known for his glass pyramid at the Louvre, this art museum houses collections of ancient art from Egypt, Asia, and China. It also hosts special exhibitions three times a year.

0748-82-3411

10:00 am - 5:00 pm (Final admission at 4:00 pm)

The museum may be closed some days. Check the official website for days it is open

Monday during periods when the museum is open (Tuesday if Monday falls on a holiday)

1,100 yen when only permanent collection is available; 1,300 yen during special exhibitions (includes entrance to permanent collection)

300 Shigaraki-cho Tashiro Momodani, Koka-shi

Take Teisan Bus from Ishiyama Station on the JR Biwako Line (50 min), get off at Miho Museum. Free

<http://www.miho.or.jp>



Standing Buddha from late 2nd century Gandhara (height: 250 cm)

An abundance of natural light pours through the geometric glass ceiling.

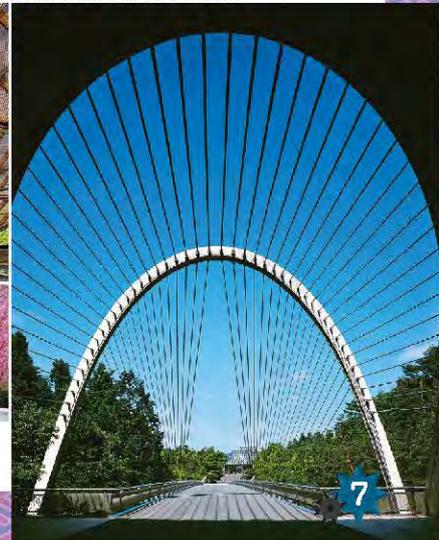


At the restaurant, guests can enjoy deluxe rice ball sets.



The cherry tree-lined street turns pink in spring.

Even the tunnel and suspension bridge that lead to the museum are works of art.



Be a Ninja and Explore Koka

Traveling around Koka by Car

There's so much to see in Koka. Drive a road that meanders through tea orchards and stop along the way to see **Shigaraki tanukis** as well as try some **ninja tricks**. You'll find many shops where you can discover good things to eat and great souvenirs plus more fun places to visit, so explore if time allows.

Exiting the tunnel on the Shin-Meishin Expressway, you suddenly find yourself in a ninja village.



A ninja standing face-to-face with a special guest, Ninjaemon, in front of the Ninja Trick House at Koka Ninja Village

This is Koka.

Our mascot, Ninjaemon, wants to live up the town together with everyone at the Tourism, Commerce and Industry Association in Koka City. His hobbies are making confectionaries and visiting hot springs. His specialty is hide-and-peek!

1300 years ago, during the Nara period, Emperor Shomu built the Shigaraki Palace. The 13th century Kamakura period saw the birth of Shigaraki ware. During the Warring States (Sengoku) period, Koka ninjas played a key role in the quests of Lords Nobunaga, Hideyoshi, and Ieyasu to rule the country. Once the 53 Stations of the Tokaido Road were completed under Ieyasu's rule in the Edo period, Minakuchi-shuku and Tsuchiyama-shuku thrived, paving the way to modern-day Koka.



START Shin-Meishin Expressway Shigaraki IC
↓ 5 km/Approx. 10 min

1 Shigaraki Ceramic Cultural Park
↓ 15 km/Approx. 25 min

2 JA Green Hanayakaichi
↓ 7 km/Approx. 15 min

3 Koka Ninja House
↓ 2 km/Approx. 5 min

4 Narita Fureai Farm
↓ 6 km/Approx. 12 min

5 Koka Ninja Village
↓ 13 km/Approx. 25 min

6 Michi-no-eki Aino Tsuchiyama
↓ 5 km/Approx. 10 min

7 Koka Hot Spring Yaponpon no Yu
↓ 10 km/Approx. 20 min

GOAL Shin-Meishin Expressway Koka-Tsuchiyama IC

Recommended driving route
Stay time: Approx. 7 hours and 30 minutes
Travel distance: Approx. 65 km / Travel time: Approx. 2 hours

Fun Detour: Pottery Quarter P. 2 (2 km/Approx. 3 min), Kusun Gekushukan/Rakuya-ji Temple P. 11 (5 km/Approx. 10 min), Tamura Shrine... P. 12 (Close by), Kamoshika Villa P. 15 (7 km/Approx. 15 min)

Fun Detour

Go to the Pottery Quarter if you have extra time. Here you'll find that perfect piece of pottery as well as a cozy cafe. A relaxing stroll should take around 2 to 3 hours. (Go to P. 2)

START

1 Shigaraki Ceramic Cultural Park **Stay time 1 hour**

MAP P.18 A-4
Start at the Museum of Contemporary Ceramic Art before moving on to the Plaza of Star and the Exhibition Hall of Industrial Ceramics where you can take a break at a fashionable cafe and shop. Although the slope is steep, it's lots of fun to walk.

Spot tanukis along the roadside.

See page 6 for more information.

A lush green park dedicated to the art of pottery

Pandas frolicking in front of the Shigaraki Ceramic Cultural Park museum.

There are many tanukis (raccoon dogs) in Shigaraki



5 Koka Ninja Village

MAP P.19 D-2
Featuring the Ninja Trick House, Water Spider Pond, Shuriken Dojo, and more, it's a fun place for ninja lovers of any age to spend all day.
See page 10 for more information.



Inside a thatch-roofed trick house



Tamura Shrine is just across National Route 1.



Roadside Station located along National Route 1



Priced at 850 yen (Sat., Sun. and holidays only), the Ninja Combo is a special menu item that comes with Kurokage rice udon noodles and Kurokagebo sushi rolls.

Fun Detour

6 Michi-no-eki Aino Tsuchiyama

MAP P.19 E-1 This Michi-no-eki (roadside station) features local specialties from the Tsuchiyama area of Koka. Be sure to try the self-serve green tea ice cream. Pile it as high as you like!
See page 12 for more information.

Enjoy a complimentary cup of Tsuchiyama tea.



Have fun with ponies and lots of other animals

4 Narita Fureai Farm

MAP P.18 C-2 Not only a producer of high-quality milk, this farm lets you get up close to ponies, goats, pigs, and other animals. You can also enjoy barbecuing, depending on the season (reservations required).
See page 15 for more information.

The gelateria offers fresh-made desserts starting at 350 yen.



7 Koka Hot Spring Yaponpon no Yu

MAP P.19 E-2 Equipped with luxurious private baths for families, bedrock baths, and more, it's the perfect place to escape the daily hustle and bustle and just relax.
See page 15 for more information.



The indoor baths use 100% natural hot spring water that leaves your skin feeling soft and smooth. The outdoor baths are spacious and relaxing.

3 Koka Ninja House

(Former Residence of Mochizuki Izumonokami)

Here you'll discover a trove of hidden secrets and ninja equipment. Learn all about the ninja house's revolving door, traps, hidden ladder, and more.
See page 10 for more information.



Ninja equipment and other items are also on display.



There are ninjas in every corner of the house.

2 JA Green Hanayakaichi (Farmer's Market)

MAP P.19 E-4 The shop carries locally grown farm products as well as food products such as miso and pickles. It also has a souvenir section where you can find locally made sweets and liquor.
See page 17 for more information.

Tea packaged like a ninja scroll is also sold here.



Kokas' "Jiji" brand vegetables are also charming.



Fresh vegetables harvested every morning



Lots of fresh produce inside

Column

Where to stay

Kamoshika Villa

Set in a tranquil environment, the villa offers creative cuisine made from local ingredients plus spacious and elegant guest rooms for a comfortable stay.
See page 15 for more information.



The year-round natural beauty of the Suzuka Mountains holds a healing power.





Experience

Follow in the footsteps of the Koka ninjas who played a vital role in Japan's Sengoku period.

the World of the Ninja in Koka

Ninja was an actual profession during the Sengoku and Edo periods. The work of a ninja included gathering information and waging warfare using special tactics. **Koka ninjas had a great knowledge of medicine** and they would sometimes disguise themselves as medicine peddlers. **The legendary Sarutobi Sasuke** is believed to have been a Koka ninja. Go ahead and immerse yourself in the world of the ninja.

EXPERIENCE

Come to the Koka ninja theme park and turn into a ninja!



On display at the Koka Ninja Museum you'll find ninja equipment, shuriken, and more.

Crossing the Water Spider Pond using water walking shoes



Koka Ninja Village

MAP P.19 D-2

Featuring the Ninja Trick House, Water Spider Pond, Shuriken Dojo, and more, it's a modern-day replica of a ninja village. Stop at the ninja museum to see real ninja gear and learn all about the life of the 53 samurai families of the Koka clan. It is possible to rent a ninja costume and there are outdoor barbecue facilities.

☎ 0748-88-5000

🕒 10:00 am - 4:00 pm 🗓 Monday (Tuesday if Monday falls on a holiday)

🎫 Admission 1,100 yen, Costume rental (adult) 1,100 yen, Barbecue 2,500 yen and up **ADD** 394 Koka-cho Oki, Koka-shi 🚗 Take a taxi from JR Koka Station (10 min) (complimentary bus service available from the station, reservations required) 🆓 Free



Column

Ruins of Koka's unique medieval castles

Medieval castle ruins

(Archaeological Site of Koka-gun Chuso)



Ruins of Jizen Castle and Murasame Castle, rectangular castles with a single outer wall, a style typical of the Koka area

MAP P.18 C-2

Koka-gun Chuso was an autonomous organization formed by Koka samurais during the Sengoku period. Medieval castle sites dot the city where you can still see tall mounds, moats, and baileys just as they were ages ago. Five of these castle sites (Jizen, Murasame, Shingu plus its annex, and Takenaka) are designated as National Historic Sites.



Step inside the last remaining ninja house and discover the world of the ninja

Koka Ninja House

(Former Residence of Mochizuki Izumonokami)

MAP P.18 C-2

The house was built during the Genroku period (1688-1704) as a residence of Mochizuki Izumonokami, the head of the Koka ninjas, consisting of 53 Koka families. Packed with hidden features as well as displays of ninja equipment, it is an authentic ninja house of great historical significance.

☎ 0748-86-2179

🕒 9:00 am - 4:30 pm

🗓 New Year's holidays

🎫 600 yen

ADD 2331 Konan-cho Ryuboshi, Koka-shi

🚶 Walk from JR Konan Station (20 min) 🆓 Free



Open Sunday July 5, 2020!

Koka Real Ninja

Tourism information center

MAP P.18 C-2

This facility introduces the historical culture of ninja villages, a Japanese Heritage, and conveys the influence and achievements of the Koka ninja. In addition to tours of historical sites, visitors to this facility can experience being a Koka ninja through videos and interactive ninja displays. The facility also provides information on Koka City, including a broad range of sightseeing information relating to the Tokaido Road, Shigaraki Ware, the Shigaraki Palace Ruins and more, as well as information on restaurants, transportation and lodging facilities.

☎ 0748-60-2690

(Koka City Tourism and Community Development Association)

🕒 10:00 am - 4:00 pm 🗓 Monday

ADD 600, Konan-cho Ryuboshi, Koka-shi

📍 Located inside Ninja Village Purara

🚶 Walk approx. 20 min from JR Konan Station 🆓 Free



Koka Ninja Training Grounds Koka's 3 Holy Mountains



Mt. Koshin

(Kotoku-ji Temple)

MAP P.18 C-2

Mt. Koshin served as a training site for ascetic mountain priests, and it is also said to have been the training grounds of the Koka ninja.

☎ 0748-60-2690

(Koka City Tourism and Community Development Association)

🕒 Grounds open 24 hours

🗓 Open daily

ADD 988, Minakuchi-cho Yamagami, Koka-shi

🚶 Get off at JR Kibukawa Station, and walk 90 min

🆓 Free

A sacred mountain known locally as Koshin-san

The main hall was rebuilt and restored at the end of March 2017.



Ninja's training field

Mt. Iwao (Sokusho-ji Temple)

MAP P.18 C-3

A sacred mountain towering 471 meters high, it was used as a training ground by ninjas and monks. The mountain has sheer cliffs and unusually-shaped rocks with unique names, such as Ouma-iwa, which is shaped like a horse, and Mokugyo-iwa, which makes the sound of mokugyo (wooden fish) when struck. The mountain is also known for its magnificent cherry trees and is a great place to have a picnic.

☎ 0748-60-2690 (Koka City Tourism and Community Development Association) **ADD** Konan-cho Sugitani, Koka-shi 🚗 Take a taxi from JR Konan Station (20 min)



Ninja training grounds dotted with odd-shaped rocks

Mt. Hando (Hando Shrine)

MAP P.18 C-2

Since ancient times, this shrine has prospered as Omi's leading sacred training grounds, and the monks who came here to lead an ascetic life are said to have greatly influenced the birth of the Koka ninja tradition. The ancient Hando Shrine, situated near the summit of Mt. Hando (664m), was built in the early Edo period. The grounds are covered with rhododendrons which bloom in April and May.

☎ 0748-60-2690

(Koka City Tourism and Community Development Association)

🕒 Grounds open 24 hours 🗓 Open daily

ADD 7 Shigaraki-cho Miyamachi, Koka-shi

🚶 Take a taxi from JR Kibukawa Station (10 min)

and walk to the summit (60 min) 🆓 Free

An old shrine on the Koka ninja's training grounds



The main hall featuring a thatched roof covered with Japanese cypress bark is a nationally designated Important Cultural Property.

Photos and design by Fujiwara Studio

From left, Statue of a sitting Shaka Nyorai Statue of a sitting Yakushi Nyorai Statue of a sitting Amida Nyorai



Three great Buddhas Three Buddhas of Koka

Serving as a holy site of the esoteric Tendai Buddhist sect since the Heian period, Koka thrived as a sacred place close to the capital. This religious culture was the crucible that shaped the art of the ninja. Koka is a sacred place of Kannon worship.

The three Buddhas of Koka are immense statues of Buddha located in three local temples. Follow the driving route to see these larger-than-life-size statues known as rokujo-butsu measuring 2.2 - 2.8 meters high. The grand statues of Shaka Nyorai, Yakushi Nyorai, and Amida Nyorai are sure to amaze you. It is believed that praying to the three Buddhas will bring peace upon the past, present, and future.



Daichi-ji Temple
Statue of a sitting
Shaka Nyorai



Rakuya-ji Temple
Statue of a sitting
Yakushi Nyorai



Juraku-ji Temple
Statue of a sitting
Amida Nyorai



Learn about people's relationship with medicine and the history of medicine.

Kusuri Gakushukan (medicine museum)

MAP P.19 D-3

Drug-making tools, signs and advertisements, as well as other materials dating back to as far as the Edo period are displayed in chronological order in the permanent exhibition room. In the workshop room you can get a hands-on lesson on how to make hyorogan, ninja energy pills (open to groups of 10 or more, reservations required, 200 yen per person).

0748-88-8110

9:30 am - 5:00 pm **C** Monday (Tuesday if Monday falls on a holiday) **F** Free

ADD 898-1 Koka-cho Oharanaka, Koka-shi
W Walk 20 min from JR Koka Station **P** Free



Located just across from Kafuka Yume no Mori

You can do an herb search, skin diagnosis, and more in the permanent exhibition room.



The god of
flaming oil

Aburahi Shrine

MAP P.19 D-3

Built at the foot of Mt. Aburahidake, this shrine to several gods stands 700 meters above sea level. The shrine is dedicated to the god of flaming oil and consists of a main hall, a hall of worship, a tower gate, as well as east and west roofed corridors, which are all designated as national important cultural properties.

0748-88-2106 **F** Grounds open 24 hours

ADD 1042 Koka-cho Aburahi, Koka-shi

W Walk from JR Aburahi Station (30 min) **F** Free

Those working in Japan's oil industry have a special feeling for this ancient shrine.



Also known as a spiritual "power spot"

Juraku-ji Temple

MAP P.19 E-2

The temple houses Japan's largest statue of a seated Amida Nyorai, which is its honzon (or principal object of worship), as well as the eleven-headed thousand-armed Kannon and statue of a seated Guze Kannon. Another must-see is the statue of a standing Queen Maya. This temple and Horyu-ji are the only temples with statues of Queen Maya depicted in the same posture in which she gave birth to Gautama Buddha.



Temple located on National Route 1

0748-68-0364

9:00 am - 4:00 pm **C** Not scheduled **Y** 500 yen **ADD** 351 Tsuchiyama-cho Yamanaka, Koka-shi
W Take a taxi from JR Koka Station (20 min) **F** Free

Horai Garden features exquisitely pruned azalea bushes.



Once through the gate, visitors can see the Buddhist temple



The main hall stands in the center of a huge pond

Daichi-ji Temple

MAP P.19 F-3

A branch of Myoshin-ji Temple, the Rinza sect's Daichi-ji is famed for its Horai Garden, a rock garden believed to have been designed by Kobori Enshu. Legend has it that the temple was founded by Gyoki. It's a great place to view azaleas at their peak from late May until mid-June as well as the beautiful fall foliage.

0748-62-0396

9:00 am - 5:00 pm (doors close, varies depending on the season) **C** Not scheduled **Y** 400 yen **ADD** 1168 Minakuchi-cho Nasaka, Koka-shi **W** Take Koka Community Bus Hiranodai Line from JR Kibukawa Station (25 min), get off at Daichi-ji Temple **F** Free

The Treasure House boasts an outstanding collection of Buddha statues

Rakuya-ji Temple

Rakuya-ji is a Tendai sect temple, which is believed to have been founded by Dengyo Daishi Saicho who carved an image of the eleven-faced Kannon on a live oak tree and enshrined it there. Measuring about 3.3 meters tall, the wooden statue of a seated eleven-faced Kannon, the temple's honzon, is the largest in Japan.



A Heian period temple housing a treasure trove of Buddha statues

MAP P.19 D-3

0748-88-3890

9:00 am - 4:00 pm (Dates the honzon is open to the public: Apr. 19 - second Sunday of May, Oct. 19 - second Sunday of Nov.) **C** Irregular holidays (Unavailable for viewing from Dec. 17 through Jan. 3) **Y** 500 yen, 800 yen (on dates when the honzon is open to the public) **ADD** 1377 Koka-cho Ichino, Koka-shi **W** Take a taxi from JR Koka Station (10 min) **F** Free



Stroll down the streets of towns that take you back to the Japan of yesteryear.

Step Back in Time along the Old Tokaido Road

Built by Tokugawa Ieyasu, the Tokaido was one of Japan's major routes in the Edo period. The road connected Edo with Kyoto and had 53 post stations along the way. Among the 53 post stations, Tsuchiyama-shuku and Minakuchi-shuku are located in Koka. Take a leisurely stroll along these streets where ninjas probably once walked too.

This old building looks exactly as it did back in the Edo period.



An inn used by Tokugawa shoguns during their travels between Kyoto and Edo. Formerly the Tsuchiyama-shuku Honjin

MAP P.19 D-1

Tsuchiyama-shuku Honjin was built as a lodging for Tokugawa Iemitsu, the third shogun of the Tokugawa dynasty, when traveling between Kyoto and Edo. Since it is still used as a private residence, a reservation is needed to see the interior. Guest books, visitor signs, crafts, and other precious materials are kept there.

☎ 0748-66-0007

🕒 9:00 am - 5:00 pm (Reservations are required) 📅 Not scheduled 💰 300 yen
 📍 1628 Tsuchiyama-cho Kita-tsuchiyama, Koka-shi 🚌 Take Koka City Community Bus Tsuchiyama Honsen from JR Kibukawa Station (35 min), get off at Ohmi Tsuchiyama, and walk 5 min 🆓 Free



A street in Tsuchiyama-shuku



A spring shower in Tsuchiyama depicted by Utagawa Hiroshige in his Fifty-three Stations of the Tokaido

Carvings in the main hall and the hall of worship are a must-see.



Famed for its magnificent fall foliage

A welcome rest stop for people traveling through the Suzuka Pass

Tsuchiyama-shuku

MAP P.19 D-1

The 49th post station along the Tokaido, Tsuchiyamashuku served as a rest stop for people making the arduous journey through the Suzuka Pass. You'll see historical stone markers here and there as you stroll lanes lined with traditional wooden buildings bearing signs indicating what they once were, such as honjin (inns for government officials).

Tamura Shrine

MAP P.19 E-1

This ancient shrine is believed to have been built in 812. The main deity enshrined here is Sakanoue no Tamuramaro, a general and shogun who subdued evil ogres that were harassing travelers along the Suzuka Pass. The shrine grounds command a beautiful view of the Tamura River.

☎ 0748-66-0018

🕒 Grounds open 24 hours (prayers, amulets, etc. offered 9:00 am - 4:00 pm) 📍 469 Tsuchiyama-cho Kita-tsuchiyama, Koka-shi 🚌 Take Koka City



Community Bus Tsuchiyama Honsen from JR Kibukawa Station (40 min) and get off at Tamura Jinja 🆓 Free

The Tamura Shrine Lantern Festival is a summer tradition

EXPERIENCE

Enjoy tea-dyeing



An information center replicating Tsuchiyama-shuku

Tokaido Tenmakan

MAP P.19 D-1

Providing information about Tsuchiyama-shuku and the culture that flourished along the Tokaido Road, this facility was originally a private residence built in the late Edo period. It features models and panels showing what Tsuchiyama-shuku looked like in the Edo period as well as a diorama using 100 Kyoto dolls to portray a daimyo procession. You can also try tea-dyeing in the workshop.

☎ 0748-66-2770 🕒 9:00 am - 5:00 pm 📅 Monday and Tuesday 🆓 Free
 Tea-dyeing (reservations required) 700 yen and up 📍 1570 Tsuchiyama-cho Kita-tsuchiyama, Koka-shi 🚌 Take Koka City Community Bus Tsuchiyama Honsen from JR Kibukawa Station (35 min), get off at Ohmi Tsuchiyama, and walk 3 min 🆓 Free



Get a photo of yourself dressed as a traveler. Diorama using 100 Kyoto dolls to portray a daimyo procession



Using an old private residence in Tsuchiyama

Learn about the history and culture of Tsuchiyama

Tsuchiyama Folk History Museum

MAP P.19 D-1

Like the town itself, "the road" lies at the heart of this museum whose exhibits focus on the history and people of Tsuchiyama. Here you'll see a panel display telling the story of the Saio Princess Procession as well as a video of the Kenketo dance.

☎ 0748-66-1056 🕒 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

📅 Monday and Tuesday 🆓 Free 📍 2230 Tsuchiyama-cho Kita-tsuchiyama, Koka-shi 🚌 Take Koka City Community Bus Tsuchiyama Honsen from JR Kibukawa Station (30 min), get off at Tsuchiyama Shisho Mae, and walk 5 min 🆓 Free



Exhibits include audiovisual equipment and models.

Column

Enjoy green tea ice cream and brown rice crackers while savoring green tea

Michi-no-eki Aino Tsuchiyama

MAP P.19 E-1

This Michi-no-eki (roadside station) features local specialties from the Tsuchiyama area of Koka. Be sure to try some brown rice crackers made with flavorful locally grown tea leaves and self-serve green tea ice cream. You can rest while sipping a complimentary cup of Tsuchiyama tea.

Simple architectural design



Tsuchiyama tea (100g starting from 600 yen) and other items are sold



☎ 0748-66-1244

🕒 9:00 am - 5:30 pm, restaurant 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

📅 Tuesday (following weekday if Tuesday falls on a holiday) 📍 2900 Tsuchiyama-cho Kita-tsuchiyama, Koka-shi 🚌 Take Koka City Community Bus Tsuchiyama Honsen from JR Kibukawa Station (40 min) and get off at Tamura Jinja

🆓 Free Self-serve green tea ice cream 400 yen



Built to resemble Kyoto's Nijo Castle



Also known for its spectacular view of the cherry blossoms

Shiga Prefecture-designated historic site Minakuchi Castle Ruins (Minakuchi Castle Museum)

MAP P.19 E-4

Shogun Tokugawa Iemitsu ordered Kobori Enshu to build Minakuchi Castle, also known as Hekisui (clear blue water) Castle, so he would have a place to stay during his travels between Kyoto and Edo. Inside the Minakuchi Castle Museum, which is designed to look like the castle's corner tower, you'll find a model of the castle and materials related to Minakuchi-han.

☎ 0748-63-5577

🕒 10:00 am - 5:00 pm 🗓 Thursday and Friday
🎫 100 yen 📍 4-80 Minakuchi-cho Honmaru, Koka-shi 🚶 Walk 4 min from Minakuchi Jonan Station on the Ohmi Railway 🆓 Free



Women drying kanzyo in Minakuchi depicted by Utagawa Hiroshige in his Fifty-three Stations of the Tokaido

A thriving post town that was the most popular stop along the Tokaido Road

Minakuchi-shuku

MAP P.19 E-4

The 50th post town along the Tokaido Road. Characterized by its distinctive three-forked road (called misuji), the town of Minakuchi-shuku sprang up around Minakuchi-Okayama Castle, which was built by order of Toyotomi Hideyoshi. The town's streetscapes look the same as they did back in the Edo period.

Column

A seasonal tradition that takes place from July to early August

Drying gourd strips in Minakuchi

Locally grown kanzyo (gourd strips) drying in the sun is a familiar summer scene in Minakuchi just as it was when Hiroshige captured it in his Fifty-three Stations of the Tokaido. Kanzyo is a key ingredient of the local specialty, ninja-maki sushi rolls.



Drying kanzyo



At the time of construction, this rest stop looked like a miniaturized version of Kyoto's Nijo Castle

Street of Minakuchi-shuku



The castle's stone wall



Known for its spectacular view of cherry blossoms; the best time for viewing is from early to mid-April

Minakuchi Okayama Castle Ruins (Mt. Kojo)

MAP P.19 F-4

This castle was built on Mt. Kojo by order of Toyotomi Hideyoshi. The remaining stone walls stand as a reminder of the past. Boasting beautiful views of cherry blossoms in spring, Mt. Kojo is easy to climb even for novices.

☎ 0748-69-2250

(Koka City Board of Education Historic Cultural Property Department)
📍 Minakuchi-cho Minakuchi, Koka-shi
🚶 Walk 20 min from Minakuchi Station on the Ohmi Railway 🆓 Free



Don't miss the floats' ornate carvings and elaborate decorations.

Shiga Prefecture-designated Intangible Folk Cultural Property
Minakuchi Hikiyama Festival
(Minakuchi Shrine) MAP P.19 E-4

The Minakuchi Hikiyama Festival, which dates back to the mid-Edo period, features Hikiyama floats from each community parading through the town in tune with the dynamic rhythms of the festival music known as Minakuchi-bayashi. Attracting countless tourists, the festival is the biggest event of the year for Minakuchi Shrine, which is fondly called "Omija-san" by the locals.

☎ 0748-60-2690

(Koka City Tourism and Community Development Association)

☎ 0748-62-0231 (Minakuchi Shrine)

📍 Minakuchi-cho Miyanomae, Koka-shi / Minakuchi Shrine and all around town 🚶 Walk 3 min from Minakuchi Jonan Station on the Ohmi Railway 🆓 Free

The annual Minakuchi Hikiyama Festival takes place on April 20 beginning at 9:00 am with the Hikiyama float parade kicking off at 10:00 am and the procession of portable shrines and children starting at 2:00 pm. Yomiya, the celebration held on the eve of the festival, takes place from 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm on April 19.



Those visiting here and the Minakuchi Castle Museum can get 200 yen off the entrance fees.

Floats, historical materials, and everyday folkcraft

Minakuchi Folk History

Museum MAP P.19 E-4

The museum provides information about Minakuchi-shuku, its history, folklore, and festivals. Also on display are excavated artifacts from the Kofun period and the actual floats used in the most recent Minakuchi Hikiyama Festival. The museum has a memorial hall dedicated to Iwaya Ichiroku, a native of Minakuchi and one of the three great calligraphers of the Meiji period, and Iwaya Sazanami, the father of Japanese children's literature.

☎ 0748-62-7141

🕒 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

🗓 Thursday and Friday

🎫 150 yen

📍 5638 Minakuchi-cho

Minakuchi, Koka-shi

🚶 A short walk from Minakuchi Jonan Station on the Ohmi Railway 🆓 Free

A place for visitors to rest and relax Koka City Hito Machi Kaido Koryukan

MAP P.19 F-4

Here you can get not only tourist information but also learn all about the history and culture of Koka, with a focus on Minakuchi-shuku, as well as local products. It serves as a crossroads of people just as Minakuchi-shuku did when it was a thriving Tokaido post town.

☎ 0748-70-3166

🕒 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

🗓 Monday (Tuesday if Monday falls on a holiday)

🎫 Free 📍 7-4 Minakuchi-cho Yasaka, Koka-shi

🚶 A short walk from Minakuchi-Ishibashi Station on the Ohmi Railway 🆓 Free

Located at Minakuchi-shuku along the Tokaido Road



Cherry blossoms, fall foliage,
parks, farms, hot springs,
and more

There's so much to do
and see in

Koka

Come to Koka and relax against an amazing natural backdrop that changes with the passing seasons. Rivers flowing with crystal-clear water and baths filled with natural hot spring water await you.

Water splashing against the verdant backdrop creates a beautiful contrast



Stunning threestream waterfall Misuji Falls

MAP P.18 B-2

The sound of these pristine waters cascading into the Tashiro River reverberates through the mountains. Spilling in three streams, the waterfall is called Misuji (three-way) Falls. There is a rest stop along the Tokaido Nature Trail.

☎ 0748-82-2345 (Shigaraki Tourist Association)

ADD Shigaraki-cho Tashiro, Koka-shi 🚗 Drive 11 km after getting off at the Shigaraki IC on the Shin-Meishin Expressway 🆓 Free

Recreational spot where you can ride fun-cycles



It's a world of fun.

Ozuchi Dam Eco Valley

MAP P.19 E-2

Situated near Ozuchi Dam Lake, this park has camping grounds as well as barbecue and fishing facilities. You can also play ground golf or ride off-road buggies. There's so much fun to be had.

☎ 0748-66-0316

(Tsuchiyama-cho Midori no Furusato Shinkokai)

🕒 Play facilities: 10:00 am - 4:30 pm; Lodging facilities: check-in 2:00 pm, check-out 10:00 am 🚗 Off-road buggy 500 yen, Cabin 6,000 yen

ADD 101-7 Tsuchiyama-cho Ozuchi, Koka-shi 🚗 Take Koka Community Bus Tsuchiyama Honsen from JR Kibukawa Station, get off at Omi-Tsuchiyama, switch to the Okawara-sen route, get off at Eco Valley (45 min) and walk 🆓 Free



Tokuhonzakura cherry tree at Daifuku-ji Temple

MAP P.19 D-2

In the center of the Jodo sect temple, Daifuku-ji, stands a giant weeping cherry. Its branches hang as low as eye level. Half the area beneath the shade of the tree is a graveyard and the other half is a garden.

☎ 0748-88-4427

ADD 1171 Koka-cho Iwamuro, Koka-shi 🚗 Drive 1 km after getting off at the Koka-Tsuchiyama IC on the Shin-Meishin Expressway 🆓 Free

200-year-old weeping cherry tree



The best time to see cherry blossoms is late March through early April.

SPRING Relax and enjoy the cherry blossoms

Enjoy catching fish by hand and barbecuing



Summertime family fun on the river

Kurotaki Yugyojo

MAP P.19 E-2

Hand-catch ayu, charr, satsukimasu salmon, rainbow trout, and other kinds of fish that live in the unspoiled upper streams of the Tamura River. You can barbecue your catch and enjoy it on the spot.

☎ 0748-68-0531 🕒 10:00 am - 6:00 pm 🆓 Open daily

🎫 Admission 500 yen, fish catching 2,500 yen, trout fishing 2,500 yen, satsukimasu salmon and charr fishing 3,000 yen

ADD 466 Tsuchiyama-cho Kurotaki, Koka-shi 🚗 Take Koka Community Bus Tsuchiyama Honsen from JR Kibukawa Station (42 min), get off at Kurotaki-guchi, walk 15 min 🆓 Free

SUMMER Beat the heat Keimei Waterfall

MAP P.18 B-3

Legend has it that a golden rooster emerges from the nearby ancient temple ruins on New Year's morning, ushering in good fortune for the new year. The Keimei Falls together with the Kamiari, Iwashidare, Hakufu, Byakuja, Shiragami, Shidario, and Hatsune waterfalls are known as Keimei Hachitaki (the eight falls).

☎ 0748-82-2345 (Shigaraki Tourist Association)

ADD Shigaraki-cho Koyama, Koka-shi 🚗 Drive 13 km after getting off at the Shigaraki IC on the Shin-Meishin Expressway 🆓 Free

The roaring Keimei Falls is 13 meters high and 11 meters wide.

Popular summer destination for escaping the heat



The Ugui River and Ozuchi Dam amid pink blossom

Ayukawa's thousand cherry trees

Ayukawa is a village located at the foot of the Suzuka Mountains. Streams of crystal-clear water flow from the mountain valleys into the Ugui River, whose banks are lined with 200 Somei Yoshino cherry trees. Including the trees around the nearby Ozuchi Dam, there are more than 1000 blossoming cherry trees every spring.

The best time to see the cherry blossoms is early to mid-April. They are lit up during the night.

MAP P.19 E-2

☎ 0748-60-2690

(Koka City Tourism and Community Development Association)

ADD Tsuchiyama-cho Ayukawa, Koka-shi

🚗 Drive 10 km after getting off at the Koka-Tsuchiyama IC on the Shin-Meishin Expressway

🆓 Free (Fee charged when cherry blossoms are in bloom)

Weeping cherry tree in Hata

MAP P.18 A-3

This Edo Higan variety of weeping cherry in Shigaraki's Hata region is believed to have been planted when Tokugawa Ieyasu visited here. Its magnificent drooping branches laden with cherry blossoms are a stunning sight.

The best time to see the cherry blossoms is at the beginning of April.

☎ 0748-82-2345

(Shigaraki Tourist Association) Shigaraki-cho Hata, Koka-shi

🚗 Drive 13 km after getting off at the Shigaraki IC on the Shin-Meishin Expressway 🆓 Free



Magnificent 400-year-old tree

Breathtaking fall foliage in glowing shades of crimson



Secret spot for leaf-viewing Hizuko Shrine

MAP P.19 E-2

Formerly known as Hachioji Myojin or Omiya Daimyojin, the shrine was renamed in the Meiji period. It consists of the honden (main hall), chozuya (water ablution pavilion), and shamusho (shrine office).

ADD 163 Tsuchiyama-cho Inohana, Koka-shi 🚗 Drive 7 km after getting off at the Koka-Tsuchiyama IC on the Shin-Meishin Expressway 🆓 Free

AUTUMN Enjoy stunning fall foliage

This drive is a leafviewer's delight! Suzuka Skyline

This 12-kilometer scenic drive leading to Yunoyama-onsen Hot Spring in Mie Prefecture offers panoramic views of the great outdoors throughout the year. The fall foliage is breathtaking.

☎ 0748-60-2690

MAP P.19 F-1

(Koka City Tourism and Community Development Association)

🚗 Drive 15 km after getting off at the Koka-Tsuchiyama IC on the Shin-Meishin Expressway *Road may be closed during the winter

Early to mid-November is the best time to view the fall foliage



Resort hotel featuring
tsubo (ceramic pot) baths
and carbonated hot
spring baths

Hotel Lake Villa

MAP P.18 B-4

Enjoy relaxing baths, including sumptuous Shigaraki ware ceramic tsubo baths, carbonated hot spring baths, outdoor baths, bed baths, and more. The hot spring water will leave your skin feeling soft and smooth.

0748-85-0250

11:00 am - 9:00 pm

Open daily ¥700 yen (weekdays),

1,200 yen (weekends and holidays)

ADD 1 Shigaraki-cho Tarao, Koka-shi

Take Shiga Bus from Shigaraki Station

on the Shigaraki Kogen Railway (30 min),

get off at Shigaraki Onsen Free

Hypotonic, low alkaline, low temperature spring



Spacious, relaxing outdoor bath

The hotel also has a golf course and tennis court.



Indoor baths using
100% natural hot spring water

Enjoy a relaxing dip
in the outdoor hot spring with
magnificent views of the mountains.

Relaxing Hot Spring Bath Day trips

Day trips

Day Trips

Koka Hot Spring Yaponpon no Yu

The outdoor rock bath surrounded by mountains is the perfect place to escape the daily hustle and bustle and just relax. In addition to the large main baths, there are also saunas, bedrock baths, and private baths for families.

0748-68-0250 MAP P.19 E-2

12:00 pm - 10:00 pm (opens 11:00 am on

weekends and holidays) Open daily

1,260 yen (weekdays), 1,560 yen (weekends and

holidays), 530 yen for bedrock bath (adults only)

ADD 1711 Tsuchiyama-cho Kurokawa, Koka-shi

Take Koka Community Bus from JR Kibukawa

Station (40 min), get off at Diamond Shiga Free

Sodium hydrogen-carbonate, cold mineral spring

Relaxing outdoor baths where you can enjoy beautiful natural scenery in all four seasons.

Kamoshika Villa

Hot spring baths with a scenic view of the Suzuka Mountains soothe the body and soul. Kamoshika Villa offers a tranquil setting and creative eat-the-view cuisine. Be sure to try the outdoor garden bath.

0748-69-0344 MAP P.19 E-1

Hours vary depending on the season Not scheduled

500 yen (availability depends on the number of guests staying at the inn) ADD 1104

Tsuchiyama-cho Okawara, Koka-shi Take Koka

Community Bus from JR Kibukawa Station (1 hour), get

off at Wakamiya Jinja Free

Hydrogen carbonate spring / radioactive spring



Hot spring inn located near the border of Shiga and Mie prefectures



The main bath is also equipped with a bedrock foot bath.

A hot spring inn amid idyllic surroundings

Miyano Onsen

MAP P.18 C-2

Reputed for making your skin healthier, the hot spring contains sodium and calcium chloride. Take a soothing hot spring bath in a wooden bathtub to relieve stress from your busy life.

0748-86-2212

11:00 am - 9:00 pm

Wednesday (Thursday if

Wednesday falls on a holiday)

800 yen ADD 364-1

Konan-cho Sugitani, Koka-shi

Take a taxi from JR Konan

Station (5 min) Free

Sodium-magnesium-calcium-chloride spring



Elegantly constructed outdoor bath



An elegant hotel located in Shigaraki

Village of Fire Shigaraki Hotel Ogawatei

Tanuki-accented outdoor baths are popular among guests.

The sodium-rich, hot spring-fed Tanuki Onsen baths soak away the fatigue of a long journey. Popular among tourists are the bathtubs made of ceramic tiles fired in a climbing kiln and outdoor baths that can be rented out privately. Reservations are required.

0748-82-0008 MAP P.18 A-4

11:30 am - 9:00 pm Not scheduled 900

yen, Private outdoor bath rental (50 min) 4,000 yen

for 2 persons, 5,000 yen for family ADD 876

Shigaraki-cho Nagano, Koka-shi Walk from

Shigaraki Station on the Shigaraki Kogen Railway

(10 min) Free Sodium hydrogen-carbonate spring



The outdoor bath is a Goemon-buro (cauldron bath).

Shiono Onsen

One of the oldest hot springs in Shiga

Shiono Onsen is a long-established restaurant and inn with a hot spring. The saline spring, whose source lies within the inn's grounds, is believed to have been discovered by Kobo Daishi. The granite bath is equipped with handrails, showers, and stools.

0748-86-2130 MAP P.18 C-2

11:00 am - 9:00 pm Not scheduled Day trips

Set price (meal + hot spring bath) 3,300 yen + service

charge (reservations required) ADD 269 Konan-cho

Shiono, Koka-shi Take a taxi from JR Kibukawa

Station (7 min) Free Natural cold mineral spring / salt spring

Family Fun



Get up close to cows

Pet bunnies and cows

Narita Fureai Farm

Not only a producer of high-quality milk, this farm lets you get up close to ponies, goats, pigs, and other animals. You can also enjoy barbecuing under the outdoor tent.

0748-86-3341 MAP P.18 C-2

Gates open 24 hours, Gelateria 10:00 am

- 5:00 pm (varies depending on season)

Open daily Admission free, BBQ

(reservations required) 3,500 yen, Gelato 350

yen and up ADD 696 Konan-cho Shinji,

Koka-shi Take a taxi from JR Konan Station

(5 min) Free

Grassy plaza where you can
spend all day having fun

Kafuka Yume no Mori

The park features a Dream Garden and Ninja Fort (an outdoor field and kids playground) as well as Koka Sokenkan, a library, plus a lifelong learning center.

0748-88-2190 MAP P.19 D-3

(Public Welfare Center)

Gates open 24 hours Monday ADD 507-2

Koka-cho Okubo, Koka-shi Take a taxi from

JR Koka Station (10 min) Free



Picnic area on a grassy hill



Fureai Hiroba is an exciting playground.

Recreation facility with
a multipurpose field

Minakuchi Sports no Mori

This athletic/recreational facility set in a lush green environment has a multipurpose field, swimming pool, tennis courts, camping grounds, and more.

0748-62-7529 MAP P.19 E-4

Gates open 24 hours (hours vary depending on

the facility) Open daily Varies depending on

the facility ADD 230 Minakuchi-cho Kita-naiki,

Koka-shi Take Koka Community Bus from JR

Kibukawa Station (5 min), get off at Sports no

Mori Nishiguchi Free

Discover the natural
wonders of Minakuchi

Minakuchi Kodomo no Mori

This nature park nestled in a sprawling woodland features a biotope, public farm, and a nature museum featuring displays that take you back in time to glimpse Minakuchi as it was 2.3 million years ago along with dioramas and other exhibits.

0748-63-6712 MAP P.18 C-2

(Minakuchi Kodomo no Mori Nature Museum)

9:00 am - 4:00 pm Monday (Tuesday if

Monday falls on a holiday) Free, Admission

to nature museum 200 yen ADD 10 Minakuchi-cho

Kita-naiki, Koka-shi Take a taxi from JR

Kibukawa Station (5 min) Free



Fossil Tunnel at the nature museum





A 50 g pack of "Shigaraki," Asamiya tea with full-bodied flavor and rich aroma, costs just 1,000 yen.

Locally produced tea with a refreshing, mild flavor "Shigaraki" Asamiya tea from Katagi Koukaen

Katagi Koukaen is a tea plantation where people grow tea in harmony with the environment. This superb organic tea is made from carefully selected young tea leaves harvested in early summer using a special processing technique.

☎ 0748-84-0135 **MDP.18 A-3**
🕒 9:00 am - 5:00 pm **📅** Not scheduled **📍** 1090 Shigaraki-cho Miyajiri, Koka-shi
🚗 Take a taxi from Shigaraki Station on the Shigaraki Kogen Railway (18 min) **🆓** Free

Savor the exquisite flavor of Asamiya tea Green Tea Otona Roll from Cha-no-miyagura

This shop run by a tea grower in Asamiya offers roll cakes made with the tea it produces. Featuring a rich flavor, these roll cakes are popular among shoppers. They come in sencha and matcha flavors. The shop also sells homemade gelato.

MDP.18 A-3
☎ 0748-84-0405
🕒 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
📅 Tuesdays, and the third Wednesday of the month
📍 39-1 Shigaraki-cho Shimo-asamiya, Koka-shi
🚗 Take a taxi from Shigaraki Station on the Shigaraki Kogen Railway (12 min) **🆓** Free



The sencha flavored Otona Roll is 1,405 yen.



Asamiya Ochabatake (green tea tiramisu) with premium hojicha (1045 yen)

Sweets that accentuate the flavor and aroma of Asamiya green tea

Matcha Kuzumochi from Yamamoto-en

The matcha kuzumochi cakes are 216 yen each, 1,080 yen for 5.

The center of this kuzumochi made with Yoshino kudzu is filled with sweet bean paste incorporating lots of Asamiya matcha. The robust full flavor, color, and aroma of the green tea really come through.

☎ 0748-84-0014 **MDP.18 A-3**
🕒 9:00 am - 5:00 pm (tearoom 10:00 am - 5:30 pm)

📅 Monday (Tuesday if Monday falls on a holiday)
📍 275-1 Shigaraki-cho Kami-asamiya, Koka-shi
🚗 Take a taxi from Shigaraki Station on the Shigaraki Kogen Railway (10 min) **🆓** Free

What's Asamiya tea?

Asamiya tea is a highquality tea grown on a misty mountainside situated 500 meters above sea level. Featuring a unique aroma and flavor, Asamiya is one of Japan's five leading tea brands.



Tea, sweets, liquor, fruits, vegetables, and more

Koka has so much to offer!

Dotted with beautiful tea plantations, Koka produces quality tea and delicious tea flavored sweets. Rice grown with Koka's pristine water goes into making Japanese sake and mochi rice cakes, the local specialties. Picking fruit when it's in season is fun for the whole family.

Take a break at a hojicha tea salon Ohmi-cha Maruyoshi

Tongu Hojicha, the shop's 5th specialty, provides a profound aroma and deep flavor. 70g bags for 648 yen



Hojicha in a 50 g can starts at 777 yen.

Using the tea leaves grown in Ohmi's Tsuchiyama Tongu area and locally harvested tea leaves, this tea shop employs a special roasting technique that brings out the best of the tea's flavor. Try its original hojicha flavored sweets, such as monaka and dorayaki, in the attached tea house.

☎ 0748-67-1333 **MDP.19 D-2**
🕒 9:30 am - 6:00 pm **📅** Open daily (Teashop closed Tuesdays) **📍** 2723 Tsuchiyama-cho Ono, Koka-shi
🚗 Take Koka Community Bus Tsuchiyama Honsen at JR Kibukawa Station (25 min), get off at Ono Imajuku **🆓** Free



Enjoy hojicha and sweets (385 yen). You can choose one of three types of sweets.



Gallery-mamma mia has displays of woodcraft and ceramics.

Savor tasty tarts in an idyllic setting patisserie MiA

This gallery and patisserie operating in a renovated old wooden school house offers a warm, cozy atmosphere that harks back to yesteryear. It offers cakes and more baked on the premises.

MDP.19 D-3
☎ 0748-86-1552
🕒 12:00 pm - 4:30 pm (carry-out and gallery 11:00 am - 5:00 pm)
📅 Monday and Tuesday
📍 835 Konan-cho Nogawa, Koka-shi **🚗** Take a taxi from JR Terasho Station (8 min) **🆓** Free

Strawberry tart and raspberry milk



What's Tsuchiyama tea?

Shiga Prefecture's biggest producer of tea, Tsuchiyama is home to vast tea plantations that stretch out across its rolling hills. The first Tsuchiyama tea is believed to have been grown from seeds taken from Daikoku-ji Temple in Kyoto.



Enjoy the savory flavor Cold Brew Akachan Bancha from Tatsuoka Seicha

Containing no caffeine, this tea is great for people of all ages. The company also offers fall-harvested bancha, which it makes from tea leaves harvested in October or later using a special technique.

☎ 0748-66-0025 **MDP.19 E-1**
🕒 9:00 am - 5:00 pm **📅** Sunday and holidays
📍 982 Tsuchiyamacho Kita-tsuchiyama, Koka-shi
🚗 Take Koka Community Bus Tsuchiyama Honsen from JR Kibukawa Station (35 min), get off at Higashi-tsuchiyama **🆓** Free



Tatsuoka's cold brew Akachan Bancha (840 yen/400 g) is also sold at the Aino Tsuchiyama roadside station.



Relax and enjoy tea with sweets at Horaku

Bringing delicious, healthy food from the home of the ninjas to your table
Kurokage Rice from Minori Sangyo

This ancient black sticky rice reminiscent of the ninjas in black is rich in nutrients such as anthocyanin, protein, and vitamins. It's sold at the Michi-no-eki Aino Tsuchiyama, Konan Parking Area, and Tsuchiyama Service Area. **MAP P.18 C-2**

☎ 0748-86-4778
ADD 2472 Konan-cho Ryuboshi, Koka-shi



Sake made with natural spring water from beneath the Suzuka Mountains
Aiga from Sugoi Eenou Ayukawa

Made from Ayukawa rice, grown with minimum use of chemical pesticides and fertilizers and groundwater from the Suzuka Mountains, this sake is hand-crafted according to the age-old brewing tradition of a place where time passes slowly.

☎ 0748-60-4828 **MAP P.19 E-2**
ADD 1226-1 Tsuchiyama-cho Ayukawa, Koka-shi

A taste as refined as a stream of crystal clear water.
 Aiga 500 ml 1,030 yen,
 1800 ml 2,880 yen



A 500 g bag of Kurokage rice is priced at 1,296 yen. It's great when cooked with white rice.



Mochi pounded in the traditional way
Ninja Mochi from Koka Mochi Factory

These healthy rice cakes inspired by the ninja diet come in five different flavors: Yuzu citron, perilla, mugwort, sesame and yam.

MAP P.19 D-2
☎ 0748-88-5841
🕒 8:30 am - 6:00 pm
📅 Monday (Tuesday if Monday falls on a holiday)
ADD 2121-1 Koka-cho Kosaji, Koka-shi
🚗 Take a taxi from JR Koka Station (10 min)
🆓 Free



Ninja Mochi (pack of 10) is priced at 670 yen.

Koka Mochi Kobo has a restaurant that serves light fare including gomoku ankake rice noodles (720 yen).



Check this out!
Featuring items supplied by some 500 farmers
JA Green Hanayakaichi (Farmer's Market)

The shop carries locally grown farm products as well as food products such as miso and pickles. The shelves are stocked with fresh vegetables harvested every morning by some of the 500 farmers who have signed up as suppliers.



This is the place to shop for local produce!

MAP P.19 E-4
☎ 0748-62-0711
🕒 9:00 am - 6:00 pm **📅** Open daily (may be temporarily closed for inventory) **ADD** 6111-1 Minakuchi-cho Minakuchi, Koka-shi **🚶** Walk 10 min from Minakuchi Jonan Station on the Ohmi Railway **🆓** Free

Bottled tea is also available.

Numerous varieties of rice are available.



Sweets bearing ninja names make a perfect souvenir.



Have fun on the farm!

The largest in Shiga Prefecture
Kafuka Strawberry Farm

Open Early Jan. - Late May.

Forty-five minutes of all-you-can-eat strawberry picking, with complimentary chocolate sauce and condensed milk. There's also a market where local produce and Kafuka gelato are sold.

MAP P.19 E-4
☎ 0748-63-5811
🕒 10:00 am - 5:00 pm **📅** Open daily **👤** 2,200 yen (Jan. 4 - end of Feb.), 2,100 yen (Mar. 1 - Apr. 10), 1,900 yen (Apr. 11 - May 10), 1,600 yen (May 11 - late May)
ADD 5940-4 Minakuchi-cho Minakuchi, Koka-shi
🚶 Walk 10 min from Minakuchi Jonan Station on the Ohmi Railway **🆓** Free
🚫 Barrier free



A sprawling farm of 35,000 strawberry plants



Open Late Jun. - Early Sep.

Pick sweet and juicy blueberries
Miya Berry's blueberry farm

At this pick-your-own farm you can enjoy all the ripe, plump blueberries you can eat. The farm also has a shop where you can buy jam.

☎ 0748-60-1746 **MAP P.19 D-3**
🕒 8:00 am - 4:00 pm **👤** All-you-can-eat 1,000 yen. All-you-can-eat + to-go 1,500 yen
ADD 462 Konan-cho Nogawa, Koka-shi
🚗 Take a taxi from JR Koka Station (10 min)
🆓 Free



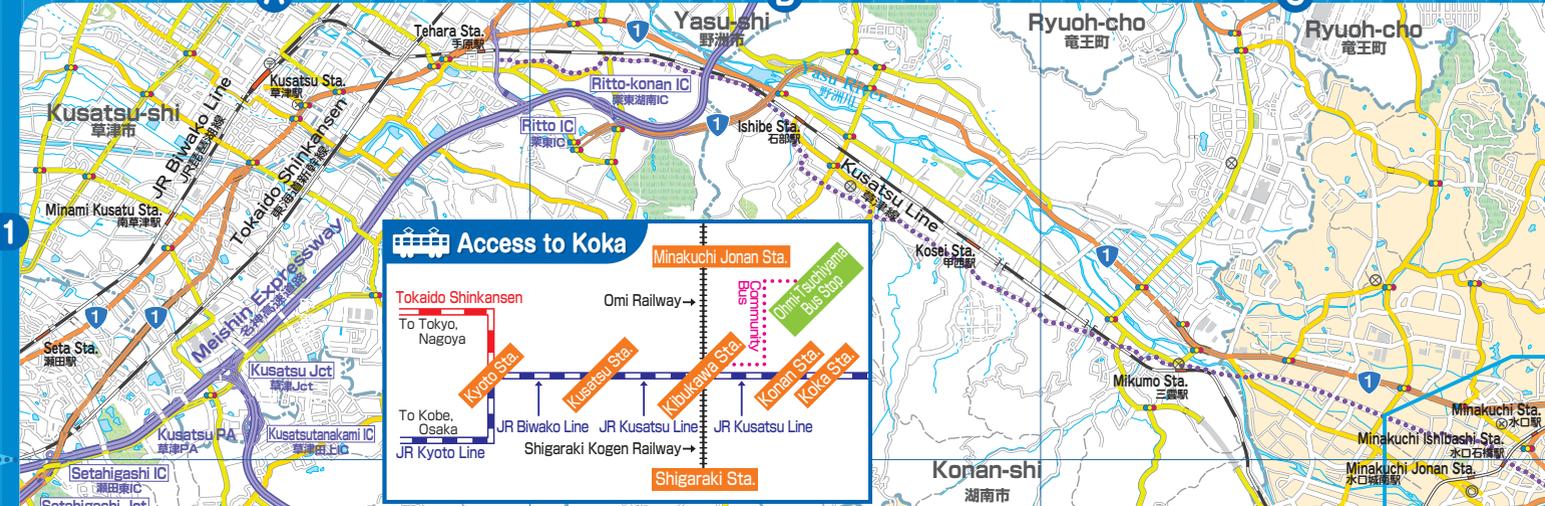
Delicious fresh blueberries.

The blueberry gelato is also delicious!

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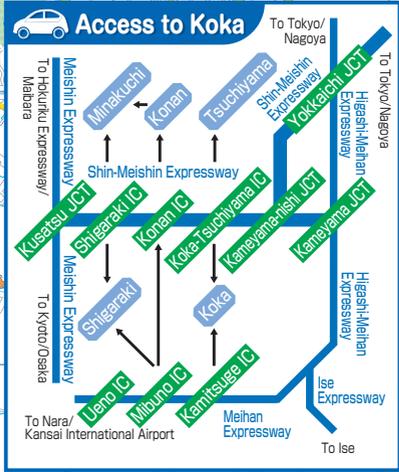
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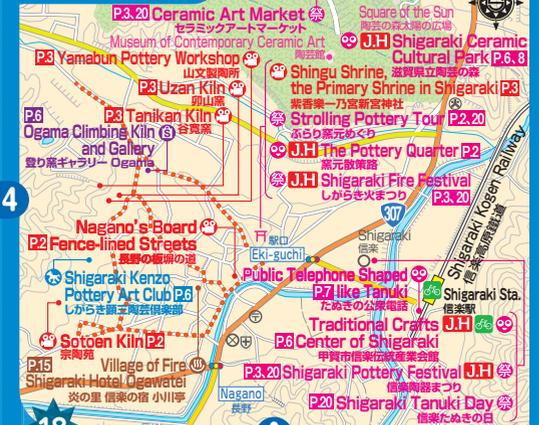
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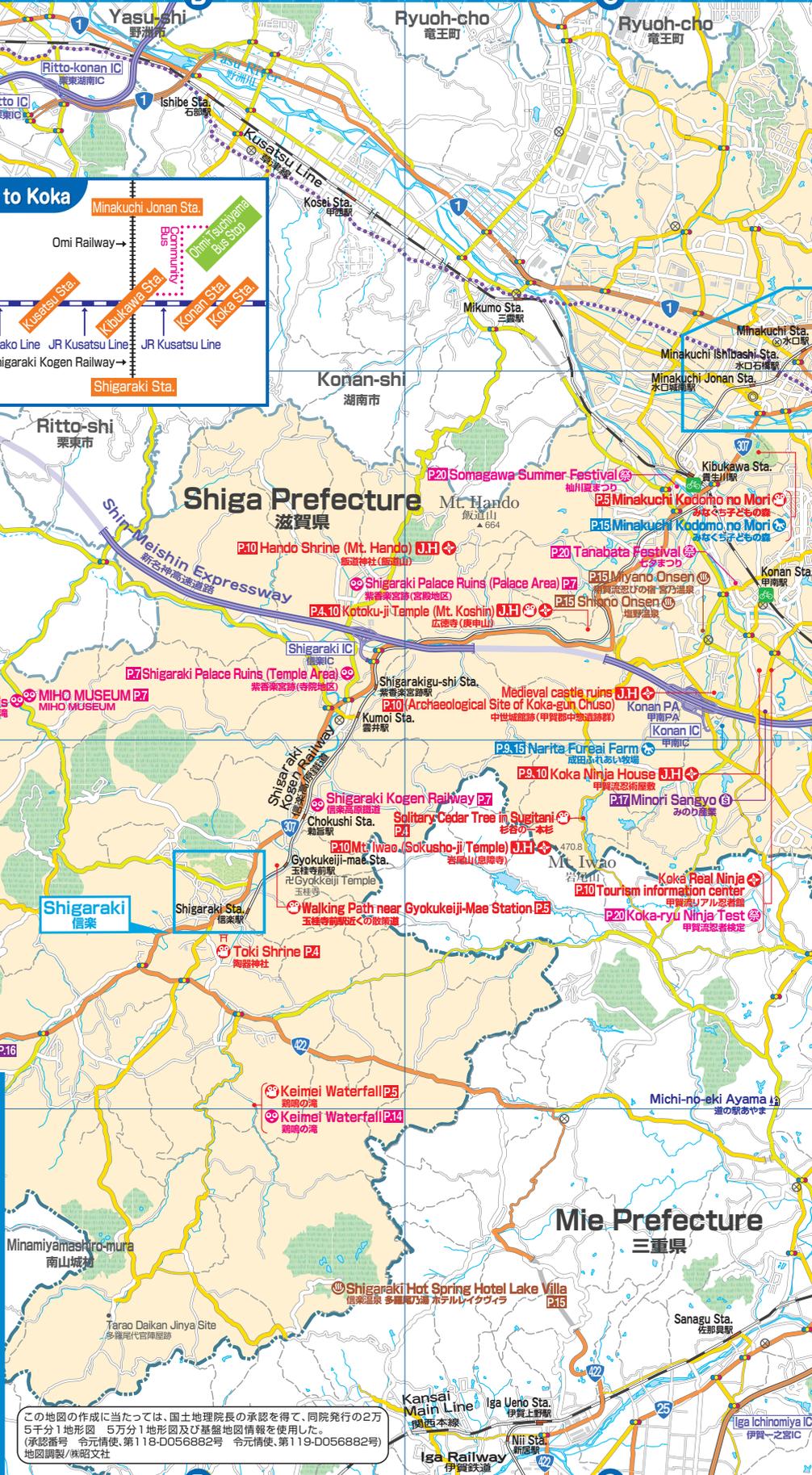


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この地図の作成に当たっては、国土院院長の承認を得て、同院発行の2万5千分1地形図 5万分1地形図及び基礎地図情報を使用した。
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 地図調査/地図文社

*Information provided here is current as of December 2019. Dates are subject to change.

Festivals & Events in Koka



February

17th - 19th Yakuyoke Festival

Tamura Shrine/**MAP** P.19 E-1

☎0748-66-0018 (Tamura Shrine)

Held in the shrine associated with Sakanoue no Tamuramaro, the festival is fondly called Tamura Matsuri.



22nd Ninja Day

February 22 is certified by the Japan Anniversary Association as Ninja Day. On this day various ninja-themed events are held across Japan.

March

Late March

Ai no Tsuchiyama Saio Princess Procession

Starting at Ono Elementary School and ending at the ruins of Tarumi Saio Tongu/**MAP** P.19 D-2

☎0748-66-1602

(Ai no Tsuchiyama Culture and Sports Promotion Council)

People dressed up in Heian period costume re-enact the Saio Princess Procession.

April

Early April

Strolling Pottery Tour

See page 2 for more information. **MAP** P.18 A-4

<http://shigaraki-wa.jp>

19th and 20th

Minakuchi Hikiyama Festival

Minakuchi Shrine and nearby areas/

See page 13 for more information. /

MAP P.19 E-4



Mid April

Yomigaere Minakuchi Okayama Castle

Summit of Mt. Kojo/**MAP** P.19 F-4

☎070-5509-4646

(Minakuchi-Okayama Association Administrative Office)

A huge inflatable castle representing Minakuchi Okayama Castle is set up atop Mt. Kojo (site of the Minakuchi Okayama Castle Ruins) and illuminated at night.

May

3rd Kenketo Dance

Taki Shrine/**MAP** P.19 D-2

☎0748-67-0533 (Taki Shrine)

Elementary school boys dressed in bright colored costumes dance to the beat of drums and bells. The festival is nationally designated as a Selected Intangible Folk Cultural Property.

3rd Miss Kunoichi Audition

Koka Ninja Village/**MAP** P.19 D-2

☎0748-88-5000 (Koka Ninja Village)

Taking place in the birthplace of the ninja, this event is where the top kunoichi (female ninja) is selected.



July

7th Tanabata Festival

Yagawa Shrine/**MAP** P.18 C-2

Spectacular tezutsu hanabi (hand-held fireworks) are set off as an offering to the shrine, which is decked out in Tanabata decorations.

23rd and 24th Ohara Gion

Otori Shrine/**MAP** P.19 D-2

☎0748-88-2008 (Otori Shrine)

On the eve of the festival people bearing lanterns on their heads clash with one another, ramming each other's lanterns. The main festival features a gauntlet run by participants carrying flowers.

4th Saturday Shigaraki Fire Festival

Shingu Shrine and Mt. Atago area

See page 3 for more information. **MAP** P.18 A-4

☎0748-82-0873

(Pottery Capital Shigaraki Festival Committee)



August

9th Sen-nichi Mairi

Rakuya-ji Temple/**MAP** P.19 D-3

☎0748-88-3890 (Rakuya-ji Temple)

Jizo statues and the temple's main hall lit by candle lights create a magical atmosphere.

16th Somagawa Summer Festival

Somagawa/**MAP** P.18 C-2

☎0748-82-2027 (Kibukawa Community Center)

This riverside summer festival, dedicated to world peace, features goma kuyo (holy fire ceremony), floating lanterns, and fireworks.

September

13th Omiya Gomori

Aburahi Shrine/**MAP** P.19 D-3

☎0748-88-2106 (Aburahi Shrine)

This fantastical festival features flames fueled by oil, given to the shrine as an offering, that are kept burning until midnight.

Late September Ceramic Art Market

See page 3 for more information. **MAP** P.18 A-4

☎0748-83-0909 (Shigaraki Ceramic Culture Park)

October

Mid October

“All Japan Ninja’s Contest”

Koka Ninja Village/**MAP** P.19 D-2

☎0748-88-5000 (Koka Ninja Village)

This popular event brings together ninja wannabes from all across Japan as they put their shuriken, obstacle course, wall climbing, water spider, and other skills to the test in competition with one another.



Ai no Tsuchiyama Saio Princess Procession (March)



Minakuchi Hikiyama Festival (April)



Shigaraki Fire Festival (July)

Mid October

Shigaraki Pottery Festival

See page 3 for more information. **MAP** P.18 A-4

☎0748-82-0039

(Shigaraki Ware Wholesaler Cooperative Association)

☎0748-83-1755

(Shigaraki Ware Promotion Council)



November

8th Shigaraki Tanuki Day

Across Shigaraki-cho/**MAP** P.18 A-4

☎0748-82-2345 (Shigaraki Tourist Association)

November 8th is certified by the Japan Anniversary Association as Shigaraki Tanuki day. It's a day dedicated to Shigaraki ware tanuki figurines. Many fun events associated with the tanuki are held on and around this day, such as the national belly drum contest and Shigaraki Kogen Railway's Tanuki Train.

Koka-ryu Ninja Test

Koka Real Ninja Tourism information center/**MAP** P.18 C-2

☎0748-60-2690 (Koka City Tourism and Community Development Association)

☎0748-60-2690 (Koka City Tourism and Community Development Association)

Koka-ryu Nin Nin Fireworks

Yasugawa River Bed/**MAP** P.19 E-4

☎0748-60-2690 (Koka City Tourism and Community Development Association)

☎0748-60-2690 (Koka City Tourism and Community Development Association)

* The date will be decided by the fireworks committee. Please see the Koka City Tourism Guide homepage (<http://koka-kanko.org>).



Japan Heritage Site

About Japan Heritage

Japanese tangible and intangible cultural properties/assets, i.e. regional histories, traditions and customs, are passed down for generations through narratives. These stories, telling of the legacy of our culture and histories, have been designated as "Japan Heritage" by the Agency of Cultural Affairs. In April 2017 two stories from Koka earned the Japan Heritage designation.

Published in March 2020

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● Information provided in this publication is current as of December 2019.

● Information about the events and facilities (address, hours, days closed, fees, and contact information) is subject to change. Please check beforehand.

● Operating hours of a facility indicate the hours during which it is open to the public. For restaurants, the hours shown here are from the time they open until the time the last orders are taken. For other facilities, the hours are from the time the doors open until the last admission.

● Days closed refers to regularly scheduled days facilities are closed and does not include New Year, Golden Week, and summer holidays or when facilities are temporarily closed.