



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



San'in Kaigan  
UNESCO  
Global Geopark

# Yumura Hot Springs Courses

Historical town lives alongside  
hot springs – a blessing of the earth

Hot spring water (98°C) gushes out in large quantities here at Yumura Hot Springs. The heated underground water springs out naturally through the Yumura Fault. It is said that these hot springs were opened by Jikaku Daishi (a famous Buddhist priest) in 848 during the Heian period, approximately 1150 years ago. People in Yumura have long lived here with this gift from the earth, taking full advantage of it in their day-to-day lives.

## The water quality of Yumura Hot Springs

Sodium-Hydrogen carbonate, Chloride, Sulfate spring  
(Hypotonic / Neutral / High temperature),  
Colorless and transparent

### Main effects

Neuralgia, Muscle pain, Joint pain, Frozen shoulder, Motor paralysis, Stiff joints, Bruise, Sprain, Chronic digestive diseases, Diseases, Sensitivity to cold, Recovery after illness, Relieving fatigue, Promotion of good health, Cuts, Burn, Chronic skin diseases, Frail health, Chronic women's diseases, Arterial sclerosis

## Basic Course

**Start** Time is on foot

### Zentan Bus Terminal

3 min About 100 m

### ① Yakushi-do Temple

3 min About 100 m

### ② Kabuyu (Former Yakushiyu)

2 min About 50 m

### ③ Arayu

3 min About 100 m

### ④ Touji-kan (Museum of chief sake brewers)

4 min About 150 m

### ⑤ Yumechiyo-kan Museum

3 min About 100 m

### ⑥ Yakushiyu (Public bathhouse)

20 min About 600 m

### ⑦ Hachiman Shrine

3 min About 100 m

### ⑧ Refresh Park Yumura

4 min About 150 m

### Zentan Bus Terminal

Total traveling time: 45 min  
Total distance: 1.45 km

## Look for hidden hearts!

Let's look for the "heart marks ♡" around Yumura Hot Springs Resort and receive some great souvenirs! For details, please contact the Yumura Hot Springs Tourism Association! Tel: 0796-92-2000

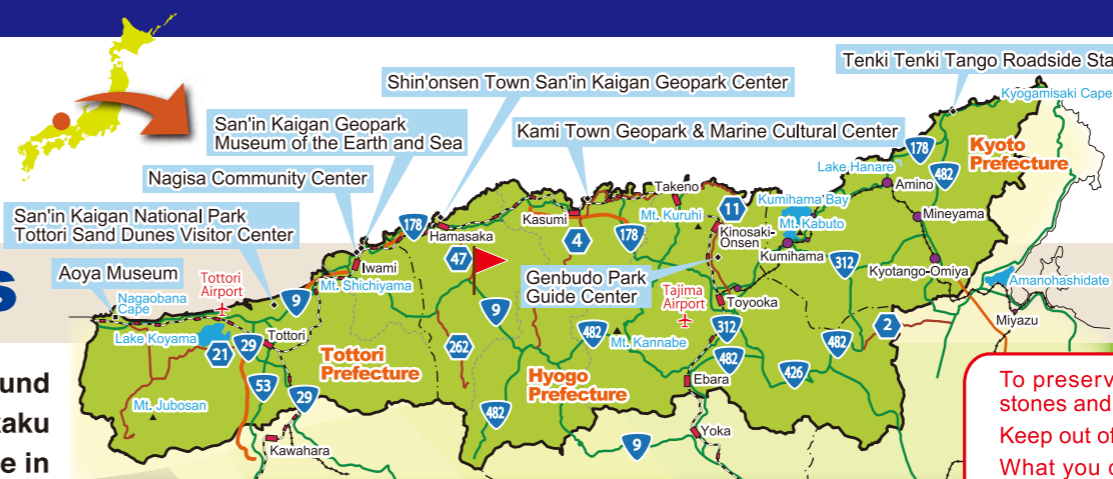
Arayu and Path with Handprint Reliefs



The Statue of Yumechiyo Yumechiyo Square



The total output of hot spring water in Yumura is about 2,300 liters per minute. About 500 households share the abundant hot spring water.



## San'in Kaigan Geopark Walk model course

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To preserve these beautiful natural assets, please leave stones and plants as they are.  
Keep out of dangerous places and do not go off-limits.  
What you can bring home with you are happy memories, photos and local souvenirs!!

Why do high-temperature hot springs gush out in Yumura?  
The answer is on the back.  
(Read Geo-Column ①)

**Quiz!**

Enjoy Tajima Beef, a local specialty

Restaurant "Kaede"

## ⑧ Refresh Park Yumura

Five-storied pagoda

East parking area

A pet hotel and hot springs for dogs and cats

Site of old Yumura livestock market



Tajima cattle auction



## Example

- Toilet
- Parking lot
- Restaurant
- Explanation signboard
- Route
- Hot Springs
- Footbath
- Watch your step
- Traffic hazards
- Basic Course
- Hot spring source zone
- Path

Best spot for lunch!



Townscape of Yumura from Seisho Park

# Yumura Hot Springs' Many Places of Interest

## ①Yakushi-do Temple



Yakushi-do Temple is dedicated to Yuyakushi-sama (a Buddha) and Jikaku Daishi (a Buddhist priest), who founded Yumura Hot Springs. It is said that the temple was established in 875 when a Buddhist image of Yakushi-nyorai was enshrined there. Yakushi-nyorai, known as a Buddha who cures people of illness, is worshipped by visitors to Yumura Hot Springs. There are paintings of the 8 best views of Yumura on the ceiling. Within the grounds is a stone tablet inscribed with a haiku by Matsuo Basho, a famous Edo period haiku poet.

## ②Kabuyu (Former Yakushiyu)



Kabuyu is one of the sources of Yumura Hot Springs. About 300 liters of hot water (98°C) gushes out per minute. Although Yakushiyu (a public bathhouse) was once here, it moved to another location in 2008. The hot spring water from Kabuyu is distributed to Yakushiyu and Refresh Park Yumura. The surrounding area, called Yumura Hot Springs Pocket Park, is a place of rest and relaxation for visitors and residents.

## ③Arayu



Located in the center of Yumura Hot Springs, Arayu is one of the hot spring sources. 470 liters of hot water (98 °C) springs out naturally per minute. The dense steam that rises from Arayu is very impressive. Hot water also emerges from some places on the riverbed of the Haruki River located in front of Arayu. The ground around Arayu is warmed by the hot water flowing underground. Some places are too hot to touch with bare hands.

## Arayu An Extra: Arayu-eggs



Arayu is open to everyone, and people can boil eggs and vegetables here. Visitors can easily enjoy making Arayu-tamago, or eggs boiled in Arayu water, by soaking eggs in the hot spring water for about 13 minutes. Boiling vegetables with the hot spring water of Yumura removes the bitter taste, due to the sodium bicarbonate present in the water.

## ④Touji-kan Museum (Museum of chief sake brewers)



Materials related to Tajima-touji (chief sake brewers from Tajima) and tools for making sake are exhibited in this museum. Because of the heavy snowfall in winter in the Tajima region, it was almost impossible to make a living through agriculture and fishery alone. Men left their homes during winter in search of temporary work all over Japan, especially as chief sake brewers. "Touji" refers to the most important person in charge of making sake. The characteristics of the people of Tajima coupled with long years of experience produced the so-called Tajima-touji. The knowledge and skills fostered over many generations are now utilized for making sake in this area.

## ⑤Yumechiyo-kan Museum



Yumechiyo-kan is a museum centered on the theme of "Yumechiyo Diary", a TV drama that was a smash hit in early 1980s. Visitors to the museum will feel as if they are traveling back to the Showa period (1926-1989). The museum recreates the nostalgic, heart-warming days when people lived rugged, close-knit lives. Tel 0796-99-2300(Closed every Thursday, except holidays)

## ⑥Yakushiyu



Yakushiyu is a public bathhouse equipped with open-air baths and sauna, where visitors can enjoy pure hot spring water. It has a long history and has been hugely popular for a long time. The transparent, smooth water lathers well, speeds up the metabolism and draws out waste products from the skin. That's why this mild water is called the Hot Springs of Beauty. At present, the experimental generation of electricity by temperature difference using a Peltier device is being carried out here.

## ⑦Hachiman Shrine



This Hachiman Shrine has been believed to be a guardian god for the protection of human life and luck since ancient times. The five-storied pagoda in the shrine is made of conglomerate stone from Yumura. The pagoda is commonly known as "the god of warts" to local people. If you are worried about your wart, connect it and the pagoda with disposable wooden chopsticks and repeat "wart, wart, cross this bridge" three times. It is believed that this charm will get rid of warts!

## ⑧Refresh Park Yumura



Refresh Park Yumura is a natural hot spring park, which makes use of the source of Yumura Hot Springs. Visitors can enjoy the hot springs to the fullest with various kinds of indoor and open-air baths, a 25 m warm pool and a pool for children. Tel 0796-92-2002(Closed every Thursday, except holidays)

## An Extra Nakamachi Street



There are many hot spring sources along Nakamachi Street, a shopping district in Yumura Hot Springs. Barbers here use the hot spring water for shampooing, which is popular because it is mild for scalp. Some houses even have drying rooms that utilize the heat of the hot springs, showing how much people in this area have taken advantage of hot springs in their daily lives.

## Geo-Column①

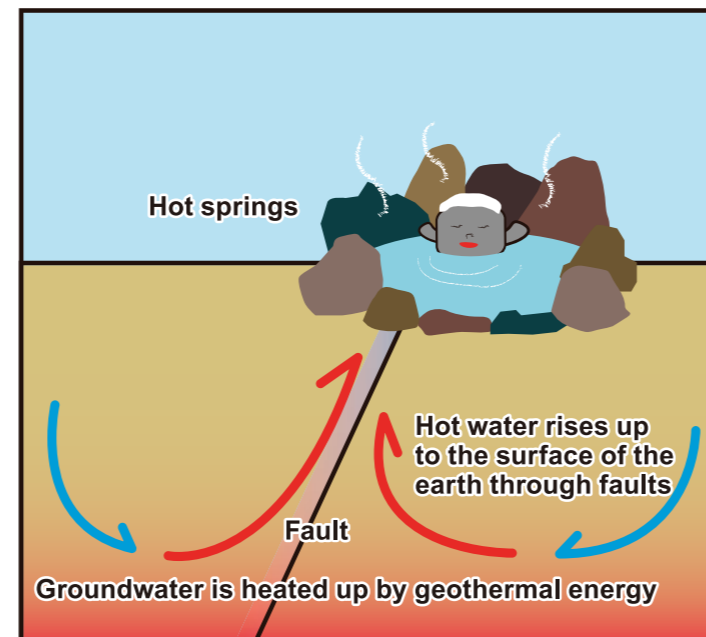
### The reason hot springs flow out naturally in Yumura:

~Why does the hot water gush out in the area with no volcanoes?~

A hot spring occurs when geothermally-heated underground water emerges from the surface of the earth. Even without volcanoes, the temperature underground becomes higher and higher depending on the depth due to geothermal energy. The temperature at 10 km below the ground is about 300-400°C. When water is exposed to high temperatures underground, the groundwater itself is heated up. The following conditions are important for underground hot water to gush out: ①A large quantity of water is heated at a high temperature. ②The water rapidly rises up to the earth's surface. ③Cold water does not mix with the hot water as it rises to the surface. To satisfy these three conditions, the presence of bedrock continuing to deep underground and faults which function as conduits to the heat sources are necessary. In Yumura, there is a big fault called the Yumura Fault which penetrates through the granite layer, continuing deep underground. The heated underground water rises up as hot springs to the surface of the earth along this fault.



Arayu



## Geo-Column②

### Hot springs, past and present

~Making good use of hot springs~

Yumura Hot Springs boasts an abundance of hot water and has attracted many visitors as therapeutic baths for a long time. "Tajima livestock market", an auction market for Tajima cattle, was established in 1925 as one of the local industries. A great amount of excellent Tajima cattle has been shipped from here to all over Japan. The hot spring water itself is open to public as a common property of the region, and local people use it for boiling vegetables and crabs, as well as for washing.



Power Generation Equipment (Yakushiyu)

Production

The San'in Kaigan Geopark Promotion Council & Research Section for Geo-environment, Institute of Natural and Environmental Sciences, University of Hyogo



At present, people are trying to develop new ways of utilizing hot springs in addition to the traditional ways. Generating power using the temperature difference with Peltier devices is the focus of particular attention. This method differs from geothermal power generation, and is currently in an experimental operation stage here in Yakushiyu. Electric power produced this way is provided for charging cellphones at Yakushiyu. Other new products made from hot spring water include lotions, which are on sale at Yumura Hot Springs.