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Educational, Scientific and  
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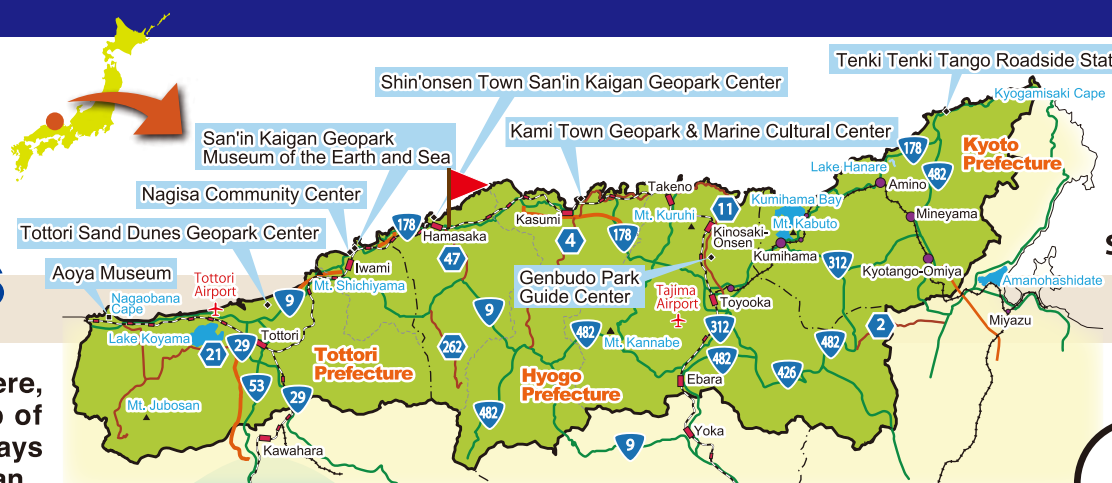
San'in Kaigan  
UNESCO  
Global Geopark

# Hamasaka & Moroyose Courses

Hamasaka is a town of history  
and culture, while Moroyose is  
a port town where commercial ships,  
or Kitamaebune called.

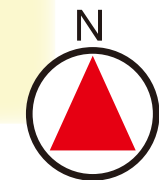
Hamasaka and Moroyose are seaside villages. As Kitamaebune (commercial ships) made port calls there, they prospered as mercantile villages. They were also home to many intellectuals. From the top of Shiroyama Park, you can see the tranquil landscape of Moroyose Port, and imagine the bustling old days when the port thrived through trade of Moroyose whetstones and other special products from all over Japan.

Hamasaka and Moroyose are now known for fisheries and hot springs. The fishery yield of Matsuba Crab (snow crab) and firefly squid from Hamasaka Port is the highest in Japan. Hamasaka-chikuwa (tubular rolls of grilled fish paste), dry squid and other dry fish are also delicacies of the area. For more information on the San'in Kaigan Geopark, please visit the Shin'onsen Town San'in Kaigan Geopark Center, one of the core facilities of the Geopark.



San'in Kaigan Geopark Walk model course  
(San'in Kaigan National Park)

First edition: 2012.10.29 Last updated: 2018.2.28



Entsu-den Hall is the innermost sanctuary of Sououbuji Temple. The hall enshrines an eleven-faced wooden standing statue of Kannon bodhisattva, which is designated as a national cultural property.

## Moroyose Course

- Start** Time is on foot
- JR Moroyose Station
  - 5min → About 250m
  - ① Moroyose Public Center (Moroyose Kikan Shuraku Center)
  - 10min → About 500m
  - ② Townscape of fishing village
  - 10min → About 500m
  - ③ View of Hiyoriyama
  - 30min → About 1.5km
  - ④ Sea Cave in Shiodani
  - 30min → About 1.5km
  - ⑤ Shiroyama Park (View Over Moroyose)
  - 25min → About 1.25km
  - JR Moroyose Station
- Necessary time: 1h 50min  
Total distance: About 5.5km

## Hamasaka Course

- Start** Time is on foot
- JR Hamasaka Station
  - 25min → About 1.25km
  - ① The Shin'onsen Town San'in Kaigan Geopark Center
  - 20min → About 1km
  - ② Yajogahana Lighthouse
  - 15min → About 750m
  - ③ Tajima coast Boat Tour
  - 30min → About 1.5km
  - ④ Old Town (Modern Townscape)
  - 60min → 15min
  - View from Mt. Kannon
  - JR Hamasaka Station
- Necessary time: 4h  
Necessary time: 1h 45min  
Total distance: About 5.25km

## Moroyose Short Course

- Start** Time is on foot
- JR Moroyose Station
  - 5min → About 250m
  - ① Moroyose Public Center (Moroyose Kikan Shuraku Center)
  - 10min → About 500m
  - ② Townscape of Fishing Village
  - 10min → About 500m
  - ③ View of Hiyoriyama
  - 30min → About 1.5km
  - JR Moroyose Station
- Necessary time: 55min  
Total distance: About 2.75km

## Hamasaka Short Course

- Start** Time is on foot
- JR Hamasaka Station
  - 25min → About 750m
  - ① The Shin'onsen Town San'in Kaigan Geopark Center
  - 20min → About 1km
  - ④ Old Town (Modern Townscape)
  - 20min → About 1km
  - JR Hamasaka Station
- Necessary time: 1h 5min  
Total distance: About 2.75km



**Quiz 2**  
Why did Moroyose develop as a port of call for Kitamaebune? (The answer to the back)

**Quiz 1**  
As its name would suggest, there are many slopes in Hamasaka (saka means "slope" in Japanese). Why? (The answer to the back)

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!!

Example			
	Shipyard		Rice paddy
	Toilet		Farmland & pasture
	Parking lot		Look out for cliffs
	Restaurant		Traffic hazards
	Explanation signboard		Hamasaka course
	Route		Moroyose course
			Climbing course for walkers
			Connecting channel both courses



# Fascinating Hamasaka & Moroyose Coasts

## ● Hamasaka Course

### ① The Shin'onsen Town San'in Kaigan Geopark Center



This is one of the core facilities of the San'in Kaigan Geopark, located in the Hamasaka Port and Hamasaka Sun Beach area. Displays include rocks, fossils and materials representing the whole San'in Kaigan Geopark. Hands-on learning, such as microscopic observation, is also available.  
Tel & Fax 0796-82-5222 / Closed every Tuesday

### ② Yajogahana Lighthouse ~A Panoramic View of 270 Degrees~



The view from the lighthouse on the top of Yajogahana, about 50 m above the sea level, is simply fascinating. From the west, we can see a range of harsh coasts eroded by rough waves, continuing from Senzoku Cliff (180 m high) to the boundary between Hyogo and Tottori, such as Kugami Cape and Haneo Cape. To the east, you can see the coast called Tajimamihonoura (designated as a natural monument and place of scenic beauty), including Hamasaka Sun Beach and Mio-oshima Island.

### ③ Tajima Coast Boat Tour



This tour allows visitors to enjoy the magnificent beauty of Tajimamihonoura, a natural monument and place of scenic beauty. Visitors to the area can also enjoy the geological and geographical features related to the formation of the Sea of Japan. The view of the splendid coastline, one of the best in Japan, and the mysterious masterpieces made by Mother Nature can be enjoyed from a sightseeing boat. Cruising on the ocean is a great way to relax.  
Tajima Coast Boat Tour : Tel & Fax 0796-82-1904

### ④ Old Town (Modern Townscape)



The town of Hamasaka was formed on a sandbank at the mouth of the Kishida River. In modern times, the town flourished in sake brewing and the production of sewing needles, achieving urbanization at an early stage for the Tajima region. Old houses and stone walls still exist on the path along the Ajiwara River. You can imagine people's lives in the past from the remaining drawbridges, statues of the god of water, docks and traces of wells. A house called Shichikama-ya is preserved as Imeitei (museum of local great figures), which is designated by the town as a cultural asset. Famous poets of the Edo period, Shuichiro Mori (aka Baien Mori) and Kinzaburo Mori (aka Rambai Mori) were born there.

### An Extra ~ Broad View from Mt. Kannon ~



Mt. Kannon (245m) is located in the east of central Hamasaka. Entsu-den Hall, the main hall of Souou-buji Temple, was established on its peak in 737. The temple was opened by Gyoki, one of the most famous priests of the Tendai Sect of Buddhism in those days. The hall enshrines an eleven-faced wooden standing statue of Kannon bodhisattva, which is designated as a national cultural asset. It always has been a source of support and comfort for the people of the region. The top of the mountain commands a view of the town of Hamasaka, Yajogahana and, in the east, Tajimamihonoura.

## ● Moroyose Course

### ① Moroyose Public Center (Moroyose Kikan Shuraku Center)



Materials on Moroyose natives Sumitaka Maeda (a poet), Muzen Shinohara (a specialist in social education), Hisaharu Tanikado and Takeshi Fujita (painters) among others are displayed and preserved here at the Moroyose Public Center.  
Tel.0796-82-5233 / Closed every Wednesday

### ② Townscape of Fishing Village



When maritime trade via the Sea of Japan thrived, the old Moroyose Port served as an excellent kazemachi port (a place to wait out storms) since the cape of Hiyoriyama blocked the west wind. The atmosphere of the old times still remains in the port town area.

Located on a hill looking down the village, Iyonaga Shrine enshrines the god of the sea called Shiotsuki no Okina no Mikoto. As such, there are dedicated votive tablets with prayers for safety. On the fences surrounding the shrine, you can see inscriptions of the donors' names, as well as names of old provinces, such as Mutsu-no-kuni (present-day Tohoku), Echigo-no-kuni (Niigata), and Shimotsuke-no-kuni (Tochigi).

### ③ View of Hiyoriyama

~ Mooring points of Kitamaebune & Dike (A Path for Magma) ~



Many holes for the Kitamaebune mooring posts are left on the rocky stretches spreading out under the lighthouse on Hiyoriyama. Volcanic rocks which gushed out when the Japanese archipelago began to separate from the Asian continent can be observed here, as well as dikes made of magma which got into the rifts of volcanic rocks and then cooled, becoming solid. The dikes continue to the opposite shore Kuzure-no-wan Bay. Why not try to find all the holes for the posts?

### ④ Sea Cave in Shiodani



Volcanic rocks with highly developed platy joints were eroded by the power of waves and became this sea cave in Shiodani. The depth inside is larger than the entrance, giving the structure the look of a man-made warehouse. The space is large enough for only several adults to enter and visitors must be careful of falling stones because it is a natural cave.

**\* Safety First (Entry to the cave should only be attempted with the necessary safety precautions.)**

### ⑤ Shiroyama Park (View Over Moroyose)



After climbing up hairpin corners from Ashiyazaka, you will reach Shiroyama Park, which commands a great view. The scenery of Moroyose Bay and the Umikongo area, both in the morning sunshine and by twilight, is just spectacular. You can enjoy seasonal beauty such as cherry blossoms in spring and snow in winter. Along the nature trail leading to the cape of Yajogahana, there are monuments of the poet, Tetsuji Okagaki and the mountaineer, Buntaro Kato.

## Geo-Column①

### Hamasaka & Moroyose: the towns which have developed on sandbars

The old towns of Hamasaka and Moroyose have developed on sandbars. Earth and sand were brought through the Kishida and Otochi Rivers, and waves formed this into sandbars, which became the bases for Hamasaka and Moroyose, respectively. People built villages on sandbars because the land is higher and well-drained. Even now, there are many slopes that connected those sandbars and the surrounding lowlands. It is said that Hamasaka was named after this (saka = slope in Japanese).



## Geo-Column②

### Ajiwara path

Ajiwara River (a canal) was used for carrying goods in the Edo period. There were many merchants' houses along the river in those days and they used to load and unload goods from the river. Even now, gateways and stairs leading down to the river that once served these houses, remain intact.



## Geo-Column③

### Hamasaka & Moroyose : towns of fishing

Marine trade was at its most prosperous in the age of Kitamaebune (a kind of trading ship in the Edo period) in Moroyose. Hamasaka was also the center of business. They are now towns known for fishing and hot springs. In fact, the catch of Matsuba Crab (snow crab) and firefly squid in Hamasaka Port is the best in Japan. The port of Hamasaka is particularly full of energy in April and November, when it plays host to the Firefly Squid and Snow Crab Festivals, respectively. The people of Hamasaka are trying to make a name for themselves by fostering certified master hands of snow crab, local culture and hospitality, or "Crab Sommelier."



#### Production

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

## Quiz=Answer

① The town developed on a sandbar. ② Hiyoriyama protected it from the seasonal west wind, so Moroyose developed as a port to wait out storms.