

Takeno Kaigan Coast' Many Places of Interest

① The source of Takeno Hot Springs



Takeno hot springs are slightly alkaline, containing sodium, calcium and chloride. Its main health benefits are relieving neuralgia as well as muscle and joint pain. The hot spring water is drawn from a depth of 1000 m.

② Large garden lantern



Takeno was once called "Takeno no Ohama (Takeno long beach)," flourishing as a typical shipping village of the Tajima region. The large garden lantern, donated by a Kitamaebune ship owner, is a symbol of its prosperity.

③ Jajayama Cave



It is thought that this cave, located at a height of 4 -5 m from the surface of the sea, was formed during a period when the sea level was higher than it is now, about 6000 years ago. The rocks forming the cave are conglomerate that was made by the accumulation of stones carried by rivers to the hollows that later became the Sea of Japan, about 20 million years ago.

④ Takeno Beach

Takeno Beach is a shallow beach with clear water and white sand that was selected as one of "the 100 Best Beaches in Japan" by the Ministry of the Environment. Nekozaki Peninsula, which juts out from the beach, formed when a sandbar developed due to the accumulation of a great amount of beautiful sand (a feature also known as a tombolo). Seasonal winds from the Sea of Japan and coastal currents connected an island, formerly called Kashima, with the mainland.



⑤ Kitamaekan Museum



Takeno flourished as a typical trade port for Kitamaebune ships during the Edo (1603-1868) and Meiji periods (1868-1912). Many historical relics that convey foreign culture brought in by ship, as well as the joys and sorrows of people engaged in Kitamaebune trading, still remain. The Kitamaebune Museum introduces these priceless materials and exhibits. (Info) 0796-47-2020

⑥ Around Kashima Park View of Tanjo-no-ura

Tanjo-no-ura, where a monument of Ritsuzan Shibano (1736-1807, Edo period Confucian scholar) stands, commands a view of a wave-cut bench (a shelf-like feature). The bench is characterized by pot holes which were formed when stones fell into the hollows, having been rolled around inside by the waves. These pot holes are designated as a Prefectural Natural Monument. In the surrounding area, fossilized elephant footprints can be observed in the sandstone and mudstone strata formed during the early stage of the formation of the Sea of Japan.



⑦ Takano Shrine



This shrine is dedicated to a God called "Takemikazuchi-no-kami", who became a God of Kashimamiya Shrine after coming to the shore of Tanjo-no-ura. The remains related the Kitamaebune ships, such as the compass stone and sacred lanterns, remind people of the golden era of Kitamaebune. Oyoji-kan Museum and the old fashioned townscape give us a glimpse of the atmosphere of times gone by.

⑧ Oyoji-kan Museum

Oyoji-kan is a history museum that was constructed using the restored inn, "Sumiyoshiya," where Tadataka Ino (1745-1818, Edo period geographical surveyor who made the first map of Japan) stayed during his great project. A great Buddha from Sumiyoshi (Osaka) as well as calligraphy by Ritsuzan Shibano are on display around a sunken hearth on the earthen floor and a gallery that utilizes a storehouse in the courtyard. The memorial hall of Kosei Nakata, a local master calligrapher who was from Takeno, is attached to the museum. (Info) 0796-47-1555



⑨ Suwa Shrine



Suwa Shrine is dedicated to a deity transferred from a powerful shrine near Lake Suwa in Nagano Prefecture. Garden lanterns and a pair of stone guardian dogs formed of Kimachi-ishi (a type of sandstone found only in Shimane Prefecture) remain in the shrine, suggesting that they were carried to this location with Kitamaebune ships

⑩ View from Ourakaigan Coast



This spot affords a splendid view from the nature trail on the grounds of the National Park Resort Takeno Kaigan. Visitors can see Oura Beach, with its crystal clear water and reefs. This area is utilized as a Marine Park of the San' in Kaigan National Park.

⑪ Oura Kaigan Coast & Takeno Snorkel Center



This facility provides an introduction to the excellent natural resources of the San' in Kaigan National Park, up-to-date information about the seashore and other natural features of the Takeno region, as well as the relationship between coastal topography and marine organisms. It also offers hands-on activities such as snorkeling in summer, allowing visitors to experience marine life. (Info) 0796-47-1932

⑫ Yodo Sea Cave



Yodo Sea Cave is located at the northern edge of Kiriham Beach. It spans 24 m in width, 40 m in depth, and 13.8 m in height. The cave was formed due to wave erosion along the fault. There is a legend that says a giant ogre called the King of Yodo made a hole in the rock with a metal rod and lived there with other ogres, until he was defeated by Susanoo (a god in Japanese mythology).

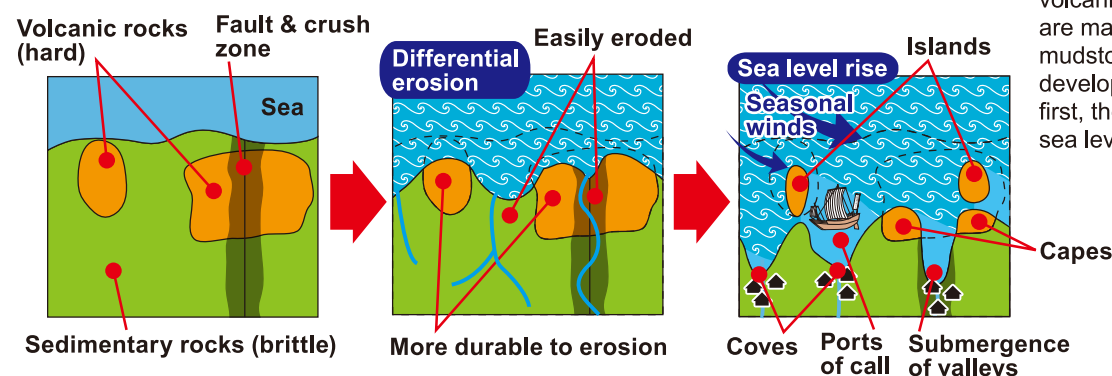
⑬ Hasakariwa Rock



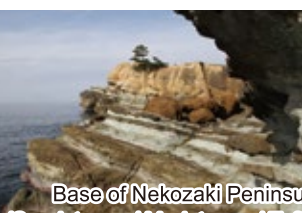
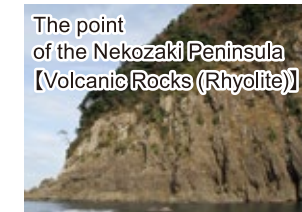
Hasakariwa Rock is an unusual wonder which is made up of a round rock with a diameter of 3-4 meters struck between two elongated columns in the sea. It is thought that the round rock was once a part of the roof of a sea cave. The original roof of this sea cave fell down and was caught between its two sides, creating the formation as seen today. It is designated as a Hyogo Prefectural Natural Monument.

Geo-Column ①

Complicated coastal topography created by geological diversity



The unique feature of rock distribution in coastal topography is that islands, peninsulas and the points of capes are made up of hard volcanic rocks, while coves and level ground are made up of brittle sandstones and mudstones. This complex coastal topography developed when the brittle parts were eroded first, then valleys were submerged by rising sea levels.



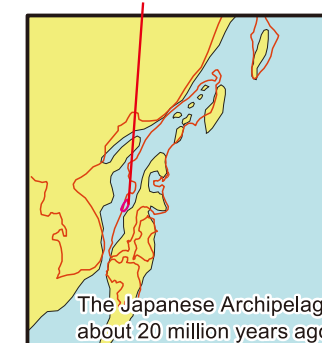
【Sedimentary Rocks (Sandstones / Mudstones / Tuff)】

Geo-Column ②

Fossils discovered around the Takeno Kaigan Coast

Fossilized oysters and mammal footprints can be observed in the sandstone and mudstone strata around the base of Nekozaki Peninsula. They are the traces of living things in low-lying hollows which were formed during the process of the formation of the Sea of Japan, the age when the edge of the Asian Continent began to split.

The place where the vicinity of Takeno has once located



Fossilized elephant footprints



Fossils of standing trees



Roots grow radially

Quiz-Answer

- ① The surface of the sea continued to rise and sink. Long ago, it came up to this height.
- ② Due to the sedimentation of sand caused by coastal currents and seasonal winds, a sandbar developed and connected the island with the mainland.
- ③ In the local dialect, "Hasakaru" means "to get caught in something." The name "Hasakariwa Rock" is derived from this word because the big round rock looks like it is caught between two other rocks.

Snow Crab dishes (Info) Takeno Tourism Association TEL.0796-47-1080
Live squid sashimi (Info) Kitamaekan Museum TEL.0796-47-2020

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