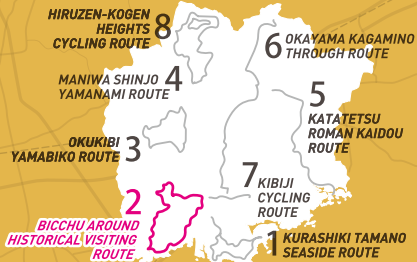


Bicchu Around Historical Visiting Route



This route kicks off on reclaimed land by the sea in Kasaoka City where fields bloom with gorgeous seasonal flowers. From there, you glide by the Seto Inland Sea coast to Tamashima, then on to the town of Yakage that enjoyed its heyday as a lodging town in the time of the samurai, visiting many historic sites and scenery along the way.



Created December 2020

Level of Difficulty
☆☆☆ Intermediate

Route Length
108km

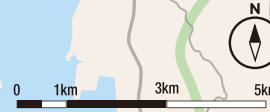
Difference of Elevation(Max)
409m

- Participating Stores
- Bicycle Rental
- Road Station

Check here for the latest info.



Both sides of the road bloom with poppies in spring, sunflowers in summer, and cosmos in fall.





SPOTS OF BICCHU AROUND HISTORICAL VISITING ROUTE

KASAOKA / TAMASHIMA START - 25km

① Roadside Station Kasaoka Bay Farm

This roadside station is next to flower meadows that change with the four seasons, including sunflowers (1 million), cosmos flowers, and canola flowers (10 million). Popular purchases are locally grown fruit and vegetables, and soft-serve ice cream made from local milk and grapes.

③ Sami Coast

This public swimming beach has been chosen as one of Japan's 100 best beaches and visitors can enjoy a cooling dip while taking in the view over the placid waters of the Seto Inland Sea.

⑤ Shino Udon

A specialty of Tamashima, these distinctive udon noodles are 2 cm wide and 1 m long with a chewy texture. It is said that the monk Ryokan enjoyed these noodles and they have been eaten by monks at Entsu-ji Temple since then.

② Kasaoka Municipal Horseshoe Crab Museum

This is the only museum in the world dedicated to the horseshoe crab. It looks out over the Konoshima Channel which is a horseshoe crab breeding ground and a nationally designated natural monument.

④ Entsu-ji Temple

This ancient temple of the Soto School of Zen Buddhism is known as the place where the Edo-period monk Ryokan undertook his training. Points of particular interest are the rock garden and the impressive and imposing thatched buildings in the temple grounds.

⑥ Tamashima Historical Preservation District

In the Genroku era (late 17th to early 18th century), Tamashima prospered as a port town thanks to the maritime and river-based trade conducted using Kitamaebune and Takasebune ships and boats. Many of the merchant houses and storehouses from that era still remain.

MABI / IBARA 35km - 65km

⑦ Makibi Park

Makibi Park was created to honor the memory of the great scholar and nobleman Kibi-no-Makibi for future generations.

⑨ Views of the Takahashi River

In ancient, medieval, and modern times, the Takahashi River has been used for water transportation by Takasebune boats, serving as an economic artery of the Bichu area.

⑪ Hoshi-no-Sato Open-air Market

This market sells a variety of produce, including fresh local fruit and vegetables from Bisei Town in Ibara City as well as cut flowers, locally sourced Bisei milk, other milk products, and grilled pork.

⑧ Seishi Yokomizo's Evacuation Home

The house where Seishi Yokomizo lived as an evacuee at the end of the Second World War has been preserved as it was at that time.

⑩ Onigadake

Onigadake is situated along a 4 km stretch of the Miyama River, a tributary of the Oda River, where the riverbanks are formed from distinctive rock formations known as platy joints. Also, it is awesome to see that the river has carved a varied and contrasting waterscape of pools, shallows, and waterfalls.

⑫ Chusei-Yumegahara

Chusei-Yumegahara is a park exhibiting village life in the Kibi highlands from the Kamakura to Muromachi periods (12th-16th centuries) based on accurate research.

YAKAGE / KASAOKA 70km - GOAL

⑬ Bisei Astronomical Observatory

Enjoy stargazing as the staff explain the skies to you at the largest public observatory in the Chugoku region.

⑮ Yakage Honjin Former Ishii Residence

The honjin functioned as a lodging house for feudal lords, nobles, and other members of samurai clans who had to travel regularly to Edo (modern-day Tokyo).

⑰ Kasaoka Ramen Noodles

As home to many chicken farms, over the years, Kasaoka has built up a wealth of knowledge about the best ways to use all parts of chickens young and old.

⑭ Daitsu-ji Temple Garden

One of the famous sights of Okayama Prefecture, this garden took 21 years to create at the end of the Edo period and is a classic example of a garden centered around a pond.

⑯ Ikasa Railroad Museum

Opened in 1981, this museum is located in the old Niiyama Station building of the Ikasa Railway and features various photos and exhibits of equipment used on the railway.

⑱ Dr. Nishina Memorial Museum

This museum displays artifacts and equipment of Dr. Yoshio Nishina, the father of nuclear physics in Japan.