

# COLORS

2way Stories  
- I like CULTURE -



# I like CULTURE

Travel Closer to Culture

Denim  
Factory

デニム工場

Denchu  
Art Museum

田中美術館

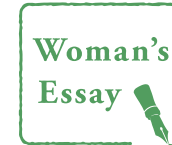
Hosen-ji  
Temple

法泉寺

Hojo Soun

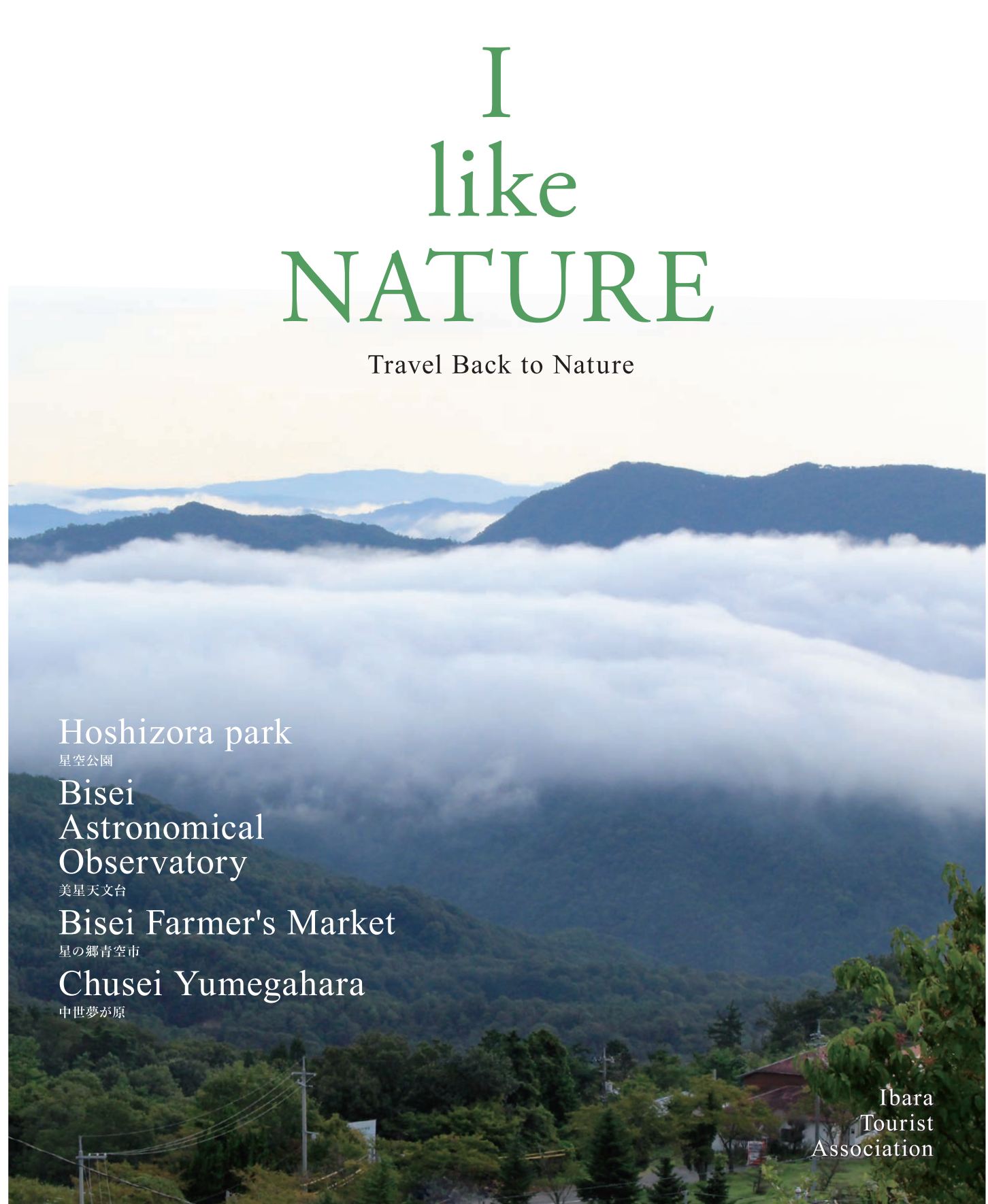
北条早雲

Ibara  
Tourist  
Association



# COLORS

2way Stories  
- I like NATURE -



# I like NATURE

Travel Back to Nature

Hoshizora park

星空公園

Bisei  
Astronomical  
Observatory

美星天文台

Bisei Farmer's Market

星の郷青空市

Chusei Yumegahara

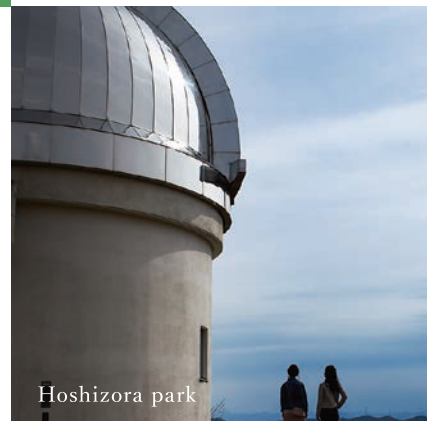
中世夢が原

Ibara  
Tourist  
Association

# Inspiration

I came here  
as if drawn by magnets,  
as if driven by the wind.  
What will happen? Who will I meet?  
I have a feeling that marvelous things await!

Bisei's Exquisite Starry Skies



Hoshizora park

When I was a little girl, I loved stargazing. I was enticed by the beautiful starry light and longed for them to return as night turned to day. I was captivated by the grandeur of space. But, when I became an adult, the night sky grew distant. I focused on day to day struggles rather than the wide expanse of space. My life was colorless and ordinary. Yet, from time to time, I'd see stories about meteor showers or space travel on the news, and my heart would stir, ever so slightly. My fortune teller said that the key to my good fortune lies in travel. As if by accident, I later discovered a town

known for its falling star legend, the "wish-come-true" town, the star village... and I couldn't resist. I dragged along my best friend and set out to find it.

I walk more slowly than usual, to let the atmosphere of this place seep into my body. The clear air feels so good. People gather in the open-air market filled with fresh, colorful fruits and vegetables, and other local specialties. All of the vegetables are ripe, lush, and bursting with flavor! You can feel the care the farmers put into them.

I enjoy a trip back in time at Chusei Yumegahara, the medieval village park. It's an odd feeling, like I've stumbled onto a period drama TV set! I find myself unwittingly taking on a role myself.

After our short time travel, we begin our grand Star Adventure! We take in Hoshizora Park, with its lovely view and the three shrines marking the spots where the falling star's three fragments landed, then the "Wish-Come-True" Lane, and the biggest attraction of all, the astronomical obser-

vatory... I look back at the star-strewn path we walked today... And somehow I feel I've grown. I have the feeling that when this trip is over, I'll be someone new and different. Please, let my wish come true!



Bisei Farmer's Market

## NATURE

### Hoshizora park

The scenery spreading out before us shifts and evolves with the changing seasons, weather, and even hours. It's a view that truly heals the spirit.

### Bisei Astronomical Observatory

The view of space through the 101cm reflecting telescope is exhilarating. I found myself wanting to get closer and closer to the stars. It will set your imagination, and heart, racing.



Bisei Astronomical Observatory



Chusei Yumegahara

### Bisei Farmer's Market

This market features an array of local foodstuff, both fresh and processed, as well as local specialty dishes and souvenirs. It's got so many delicious, fun treats you'll have trouble ending your shopping spree!

### Chusei Yumegahara

Step back in time to a medieval village and experience the lifestyle and culture yourself. The village is sometimes used as a filming location, and the woods are so dark and mysterious, you'd expect a ninja to pop out any minute!

願いかなう町 美星  
Town which hopes and accords Bisei

There is an old legend that says that long ago, a falling star split into three and fell on this village. The town holds some events related to stars and Tanabata Star festival, and it is known as a town where wishes come true.

1 Bisei Astronomical Observatory



This is one of the leading public astronomical observatories in Japan, and is equipped with a reflecting telescope whose aperture is 101 cm. On evenings when it is open to the public (Fri., Sat., Sun., Mon.) you can try stargazing with guidance from a staff member.

1723-70 Okura, Bisei-cho, Ibara Tel.0866-87-4222

2 Bisei Farmer's Market



This shop has a wide selection of goods like vegetables and flowers, as well as local specialty meat and dairy products, handmade bread and more. It's busy from early morning.

55-1 Nishimizusuna, Bisei-cho, Ibara Tel.0866-87-3908

3 Hoshizora Park



One of Japan's top three stargazing spots. It's home to "Wish-Come-True" Lane, covered with luminescent stones, and the "Wish-Come-True" Postbox.

1165-54 Uto, Bisei-cho, Ibara Tel.0866-87-4222

4 Chusei Yumegahara



This historical park recreates the feeling of an authentic old village with a market, craftspeople's houses, and samurai manor set amidst a lush natural landscape.

5007 Miyama, Bisei-cho, Ibara Tel.0866-87-3914

5 Ibarazutsumi



Here, a beautiful section of about 2 km along the Odagawa river is lined with 800 cherry trees. The illuminated cherry blossoms at night are also a must-see!

Around 3616, Ibara-cho, Ibara Tel.0866-62-8850

6 Tenjin Gorge



This scenic area along the Odagawa river is great all year round, with Yamazakura cherry trees, rhododendrons, river sports, autumn foliage, and winter scenery.

Yoshii, Yoshii-cho, Ibara Tel.0866-72-0112

7 Budo Roman Kan (Grapes Plaza)



Come here to pick up Ibara's famous grape varieties and fresh vegetables. This shop's popularity brings orders from all over the country.

3535-3 Aono-cho, Ibara Tel.0866-63-3126

A Denchu Art Museum



This museum has a collection of works from master Japanese sculptor and Order of Cultural Merit recipient Denchu Hirakushi.

315 Ibara-cho, Ibara Tel.0866-62-8787

B Hanatori Otsuka Art Museum



This museum collects and displays early modern art focusing on the works of painter Keika Kanashima, as well as Taikan Yokoyama and Ryuzaburo Umehara, and others.

3-11-5 Takaya-cho, Ibara Tel.0866-67-2225

C Hosen-ji Temple



This temple is where they say Ise Shinkuro (Hojo Soun) learned to fight and to study as a child from high priest Kokan Ninsen. It also has a valuable collection of materials connected to Soun.

4841 Nishiebara-cho, Ibara Tel.0866-62-1660

D Kyudo experience



This Kyudo hall is home to a major tournament every year. Anyone can come and try real Kyudo (Japanese archery) for themselves!

1770 Kamiizue-cho, Ibara Tel.0866-62-8850

井原デニム  
Ibara Denim

Ibara is considered the home of Japanese denim, with a concentration of denim fabric factories, jeans and clothing makers, and more. Ibara denim is coming to be a valued brand of its own due to the traditions and skills amassed over its long history.

E Ibara Denim Store



Ibara Denim Store at Ibara Station  
They sell jeans, suits, kimonos and bags made from Ibara denim here. You can also try working with denim yourself.

944-5 Nanukaichi-cho, Ibara Tel.070-5057-6070

Hotel	
8	Hoshizora Pension Comet 2-60 Hoshida Bisei-cho, Ibara Tel.0866-87-2926
	Family Lodge HATAGOYA 1-13-3 Sasaka-cho, Ibara Tel.0866-67-9858
	Hotel Rekiyoso 717 Ibara-cho, Ibara Tel.0866-62-0236
	Business Inn Daisyo 272-2 Ibara-cho, Ibara Tel.0866-62-0970
9	Kyogamaru Auto Camp Ground 1682-1 Sasaka-cho, Ibara Tel.0866-67-3511

# COLORS

人と街、自然と文化が織りなす色とりどりの旅

Take a trip and see all the colors made by the weaving of people and town, nature and culture.

## Ibara Tourist Map

### NATURE

- 1 Bisei Astronomical Observatory
- 2 Bisei Farmer's Market
- 3 Hoshizora Park
- 4 Chusei Yumegahara
- 5 Ibarazutsumi
- 6 Tenjin Gorge
- 7 Budo Roman Kan (Grapes Plaza)
- 8 Hoshizora pension comet
- 9 Kyogamaru Auto Camp Ground

### CULTURE

- A Denchu Art Museum
- B Hanatori Otsuka Art Museum
- C Hosen-ji Temple
- D Yoichi Kinen Kyudojo
- E Ibara Denim Store

Directions: To Takahashi, To Soja, To Kasaoka, To Fukuyama, Komoriutanosato Takaya Station, Sounnosato Ebara Station, Ibara station, Ibara Denim Store.

### Access

**Okayama Ibara City**  
Located in the south-west of Okayama prefecture, Ibara is near major cities and easy to reach.

By train To Ibara Line Ibara Station/  
Approx. 60 minutes from Okayama  
Approx. 30 minutes from Fukuyama

By JR Sanyo Shinkansen/  
Approx. 90 minutes from Hiroshima  
Approx. 100 minutes from Osaka

Tel.0866-65-0505  
Ibara Tourist Information Office

Tel.0866-87-3349  
Hoshi-no-sato Tourist Information Office

**Ibara Tourist Association**

10 Nanukaichi-cho, Ibara, Okayama 715-0014  
Tel. 0866-62-8850  
Fax.0866-62-8853  
https://www.ibarakankou.jp

2019.3

I came here, heart pounding,  
as straight as an arrow.  
What will I find?  
Who is waiting for me?  
I have a feeling that marvelous things await!

# Rhythmical

Ibara Denim

When I was a little girl, I loved being helpful and advising people. It was wonderful to see the looks of surprise and delight on people's faces when I whispered something new or interesting into their ear.

Now that I've grown up, I'm still the same. I love to tell people about delicious restaurants, beautiful views, and the perfect spot for their next trip.

My good friend suggested this trip, we're planning to visit various historical and cultural spots, which is just what I like. I'm sure to discover wonderful new experiences to share!

There's denim crafting, historical heroes, and famous artwork overflowing with tradition. It's vibrant and exciting!



Wooden Amida fumisage Buddha statue (seated with one leg down)

## Hosen-ji Temple

Ibara is the birthplace of Hojo Soun, a general from the warring states period. Knowing that makes this trip all the more exciting. We learned all about landmarks, documents, and stories related to Soun from the temple's head priest's generous explanation.

I'll want to sketch everything in my journal. I just know some of that color is going to rub off on me too. I can feel the sparks of joy already!

I walk faster than normal, moving through the area with so much energy I almost want to start skipping! We wander with ease, guide map and my phone in hand.

After a photo in front of Ibara Station, we head to the art museum. We take time to appreciate the beautiful pieces. I find myself wondering how the artist felt, and what skills they used in shaping each piece. Earlier I found myself lost in conversation with the staff at the denim shop asking, "How do you make this texture?" and "What kinds of



Hosen-ji Temple

designs do you use?" My friend was amazed, but I found myself more and more captivated learning to appreciate real craftsmanship.

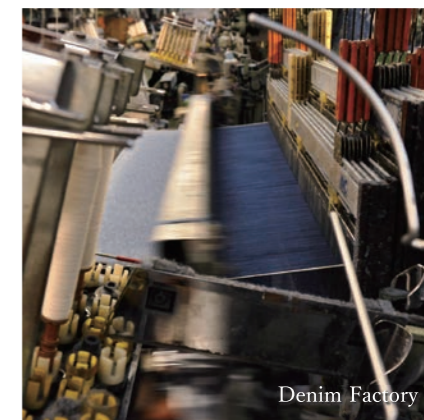
Next, we're touching on the history of the area. We're on the trail of Hojo Soun, a general from the warring states period with connections to Ibara. I found myself lost imagining the drama of the age as I looked over old temples and relics. We walk slightly slower to the Takakoshi Castle Ruins. We sit and relax while enjoying the scenery and posting our favorite trip pictures online.

"Traveling is so much fun!" my friend says. So far everything we've done has been something I wanted, so that acknowledgment of pleasure makes me truly happy.

It's now time to move on to my friend's recommendations. Let's see what new things we can uncover and learn! I have a feeling that when this trip is over, I'll be someone new and different.



Denchu Art Museum



Denim Factory

# CULTURE

## Denim Factory

I thought I knew about fashion, but there is so much more to denim than I dreamed! The care taken with the various dyes and raw materials combined with careful matching of fabrics, the potential is endless!

## Denchu Art Museum

I was finally able to see the works of Denchu Hirakushi who pursued his art with a passion until his death at 107 years old! I was overwhelmed by the power and will of his carvings and his attempts at adding color to his sculptures.