

Explore the charms and recommended places to visit in Nagato city!

A city which embodies the spirit of Japan
'kindness and warmth'

Nagato

Travel guide



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Nagato city lies at the northwesternmost tip of the Honshu island and is located in the northwest of Yamaguchi prefecture. Relish the picture-perfect scenery in the Sea of Japan that the Kita Nagato Coast National Park offers, and let your hair down in five famous hot springs in the Nagato Hot Spring Village. Your story unfolds while traveling around Nagato. This is where you can discover Japanese heart "kindness and warmth" in every scene enveloping the sea, village, hot springs, food, and people.

Cultural facilities of Nagato city

Kaneko Misuzu Memorial Museum



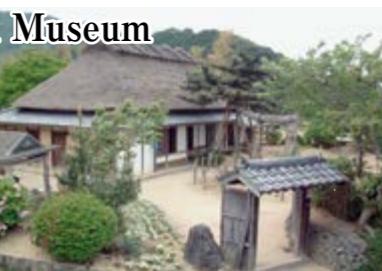
Kaneko Misuzu was a writer of poetry for children. Until she died at the young age of just 26, she had written 512 verses. The museum takes visitors back to the time when she spent her life through her books and collections of poems. It also features the recreated bookstore Kaneko Buneido where she spent her childhood and her room.

Kazuki Yasuo Art Museum



Kazuki Yasuo, known for his work "Siberia Series", blazed the great trail in modern Japanese oil paintings. The museum displays collections of his works and sketches that used to be in the possession of his family.

Murata Seifu Memorial Museum Misumi Village



Murata Seifu was a prominent reformer of Choshu Domain in turbulent times of the late Edo period. The museum includes personal belongings and documents of Murata the wise and Sufu Masanosuke, allowing visitors to find achievements in their distinguished service and personalities.

Whale Museum



Whale Tomb (Kujira-baka)



The Whale Museum stores and exhibits materials related to the ancient whaling which was brisk in the Kayoi area of the Omijima Island. Displayed photographs of fishermen who lived with whales, ancient whaling equipment, and drums performed along with whaling songs express the deep bond between local people and whales. Located within sight of the museum there is the tomb of whales "Kujira-baka" praying for their fetuses. It embodies special feelings of fishermen that turned to whales.



Legend

- Hot Springs
- National Highway
- Prefectural Road



Recommended places to visit



Omijima Island

Omijima Island boasts picturesque scenery with approximately 40 kilometers of breathtaking coastline with sheer cliffs, caves, and multitudes of oddly shaped rocks like monoliths created by the wild waves. The island offers an excursion boat ride which travels all the way around it, walking trails, a beach, and a campsite.



Senjojiki

Senjojiki is grassland extending over the hill which stands 333 meters in height, with islands in the Sea of Japan below. The 360-degree panoramic view of a boundless expanse of a blue sky and sea unrolls itself. Isaribi floating in the sea on a summer night creates a romantic, exquisite world of nature.



Motonosumi Inari Shrine

The shrine was built in 1955 after being split from Taikodani Inari Shrine in the neighboring Shimane Prefecture about 60 years ago, after a divine revelation from a white fox. An impressive view of 123 red torii shrine gates wind down along a mountain towards a cliff overlooking the Sea of Japan. The offertory box usually located on the ground, is at the top of the five-meter tall torii gate. It is believed that your wish will come true if your offering lands in the offertory box. In March 2015, the shrine was voted as one of Japan's 31 most beautiful places by CNN.



Higashi Ushirobata Tanada

Terraced rice fields in Higashi Ushirobata spread in the hills of the peninsula approaching the shore, which is unique among fields generally seen in the mountain areas. The spectacular views of fields against a background of the sea (isaribi [fishing-fire]) or the dazzling sunset keep photographers spellbound. With the scenery of terraced rice fields overlooking the Sea of Japan, the area was selected as one of "The best 100 terraced rice fields in Japan" in 1999 by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

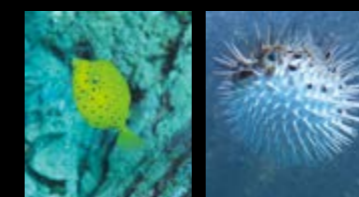


Taineiji Temple

Taineiji Temple is one of the largest noted Soto Zen temples, where the Ouchi clan thriving in Yamaguchi Prefecture as a western victor in the Muromachi period came to an end. The Banjaku-kyo Bridge spanning the Taineiji River, which was built in the early days of the Edo period, is called one of the three distinctive bridges in the prefecture. The temple enchants many visitors with the fantastic scenery of cherry blossoms in spring and red foliage in fall.

Yang Guifei Village

Folklore in the area has it that Yang Guifei, known as one of the Three Beauties of the World, passed away soon after reaching Todoguchi. Locals laid her to rest in the Nisonin Temple with respect after her death. The Gorinto in the temple is said to be her grave.



Scuba Diving

Areas around Omijima Island are designated as Kita Nagato Coast National Park and they are famous among Japanese scuba divers for the beautiful diving spots. The beach is equipped with diving shops, restrooms, accommodation, etc. for the comfort and safety of divers.



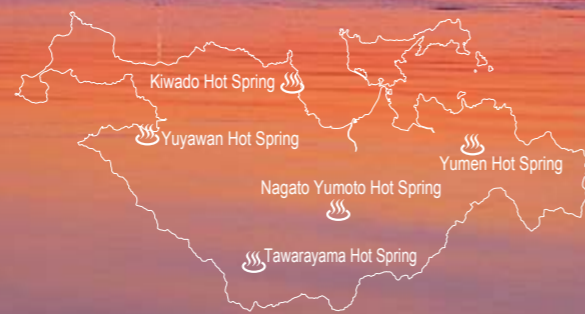
Mara Kannon

It is said that Mara Kannon Shrine was built by the locals who took pity on the son of Yoshitaka Ouchi who had been sheltered, disguised as a girl and eventually killed, to comfort his spirit. It still exists today with many visitors to pray for fertility and good health.



Nagato Hot Spring Village Five Famous Hot Springs

Nagato city is home to exceptional hot springs renowned as "Five Famous Hot Springs in the Nagato Hot Spring Village": Nagato Yumoto, Tawarayama, Yumen, Kiwado, and Yuyawan.



Repose yourself to the chatter of the Otozure River at the village of your heart

1 Nagato Yumoto Hot Spring

Nagato Yumoto Hot Spring is believed to have been discovered about 600 years ago. Bristling with quaint inns on both sides of the Otozure River that runs through the hot spring village, the area is filled with peaceful atmosphere. Old-fashioned public bath "Onto" still soothes visitors' souls.

- Spring quality** Alkaline simple hot spring; Clear and colorless, bland, slight hydrogen sulfide gas
- Therapeutic effects** Nerve pain, muscle pain, joint pain, soothing effects, promoting good health, etc.
- Features** Slippery-texture water makes the skin smooth and supple.



Footbath
Yumoto Hot Spring has two footbaths available to visitors to soothe your weary feet after strolling.

Encounter the history spanning a thousand years in the village resonating with wooden clogs

2 Tawarayama Hot Spring

Tawarayama Hot Spring, renowned as a therapeutic bath featuring high efficacy. You can find yourself in rustic retro-flavored atmosphere which wooden inns along the river radiate. Few inns own indoor baths, making the spectacle of bathers in yukata and wooden clogs (geta) going to public baths common.



- Spring quality** Alkaline simple hot spring; Clear and colorless, slight sulfurous smell
- Therapeutic effects** Rheumatism, nerve pain, muscle pain, joint pain, soothing effect, promoting good health, etc.
- Features** This hot spring boasts exquisite slippery-texture water.

Indulge in the beautiful view and undertones in the village of Yang Guifei

3 Yuyawan Hot Spring

Yuyawan Hot Spring on the hill allows you to experience the breathtaking views of the sun rising and setting at the small verdant island on the shores of the shimmering waters of the Yuya Bay, to relieve you from daily fatigue and refresh yourself.

- Spring quality** Alkaline simple hot spring; Clear and colorless, bland and odorless
- Therapeutic effects** Nerve pain, muscle pain, joint pain, soothing effect, etc.
- Features** This hot spring boasts exquisite slippery-texture water, leaving the skin silky smooth.



Encounter the joy of meeting and loving people at the center of art and culture

4 Yumen Hot Spring

Legend has it that the name of Yumen is derived from a rabbit healing wounds in spring water (the kanji character for a rabbit (兔) was translated into a similar kanji (免)). This hot spring is said to be effective for healing wounds and skin diseases.

- Spring quality** Alkaline simple hot spring; Clear and colorless, bland and odorless
- Therapeutic effects** Smooth skin, nerve pain, muscle pain, joint pain, skin disease, etc.
- Features** Since ancient times, it has been a sought-after hot spring for beautiful skin.



Discover harmony with the sky, sea, and forest

5 Kiwado Hot Spring

Overlooking the Kita Nagato Coast National Park, you can enjoy beautiful scenery of the Fukawa Bay from an open-air bath.

- Spring quality** Alkaline simple hot spring; Clear and colorless, slight sulfurous smell
- Therapeutic effects** Nerve pain, muscle pain, joint pain, etc.
- Features** Hot spring water with sulfur content leaves bathers with "silky feeling" on their skin.





Yakitori

Nagato is renowned as one of the Japan's top Yakitori-consuming cities in the number of stores. Garlic Yakitori (skewers of barbecued chicken) is Nagato style, seasoned with garlic powder and cayenne pepper according to preference.



Kaiseki Ryori

You can enjoy Kaiseki Ryori, Japanese traditional multi-course cuisine, using a selection of ingredients from Nagato to experience Japanese style dining.

冷 Food



Kamaboko

Senzaki Kamaboko (semi-cylindrical shaped fish cakes) has a reputation for quality that has fine and firm texture characterized in the original processing method of "Yakinuki". Nagato offers factory tours allowing visitors to learn the process of Kamaboko, from molding to packaging.



Senzaki Squid

Senzaki market in Nagato city boasts one of the highest sword-tip squid hauls in Japan. Squid fishing using artificial lures is found as the main method of fishing to catch squid without injuring it to preserve freshness. Sword-tip squid landed at the Senzaki Market is highly valued as "Senzaki Ika (squid)" brand.

Photos by Yuyawan Onsen Hotel Yokikan

Nearby Tourist Attractions



Tsunoshima Island

Tsunoshima Ohashi bridge is one of the longest toll-free bridges in Japan (1780 m) connecting Honshu and an island.

45 minutes from Nagato city;
15 minutes from Yuyawan Hot Spring.



Akiyoshido Cave

Akiyoshido Cave is located at the southern part of Akiyoshidai plateau and one of the largest and longest limestone caves in Japan. It is registered as a national natural monument.

45 minutes from Nagato city



Akiyoshidai Plateau

A long time ago, Akiyoshidai plateau was born as a coral reef in a faraway sea. After about 350 million years, these became karst plateau developed as dolines and limestone caves.

45 minutes from Nagato city

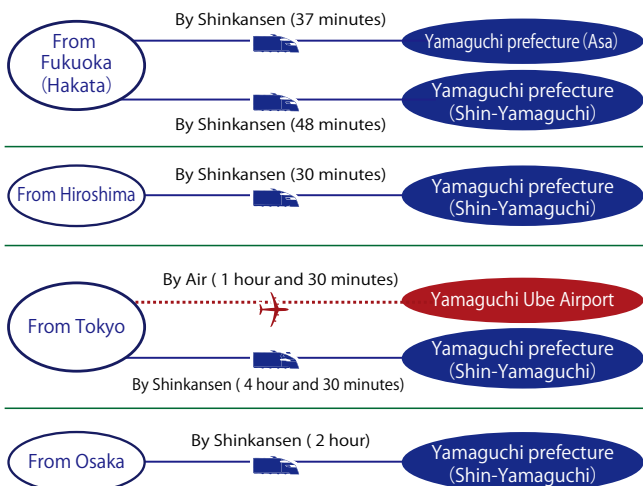


World Heritage Site Hagi Proto-Industrial Heritage

In 2015, five properties such as Shokasonjuku Academy, Hagi Castle Town, etc. were registered as World Heritage Site.

30 minutes from Nagato city;
20 minutes from Yumen Hot Spring

How to get to Nagato



By JR (Local lines)

