



Discover Saiki

So many delicious, fun, and joyful moments.

One
Oita Prefecture
Saiki
Sightseeing Guidebook

A most splendid day
Will make you lose track of time



Saiki Tourist Information Center
Tel +81-972-23-3400
2-6-37, Eki-mae, Saiki, Oita Prefecture.
Saiki City Tourism Division
Tel +81-972-22-3942
1-1, Nakamura Minami-machi, Saiki, Oita Prefecture.

 Saiki City Tourist Information Site

 Oita: Japan's best hot Springs
hot spot  Full of flavors

Saiki is the place to visit for a relaxing break.

Time slows to a relaxing pace

Delicious food

Interactions with relaxed people

Why not take a break in Saiki?

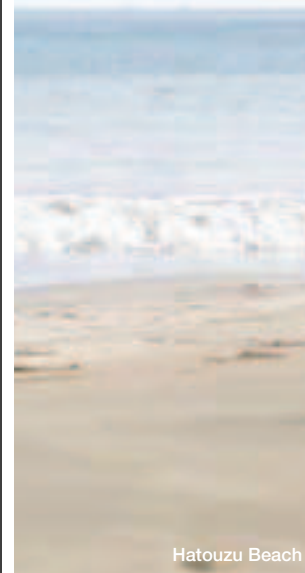
Kyushu's largest city, Saiki, is full of delicious and fun things to do that are better than anywhere else.

Spend enjoyable time in ways that will make you smile.

Go on a journey and fully experience Saiki.



The significance of One
The word One in the guidebook title refers to "Number One" and the very best of what Saiki has to offer, and this book is packed full of Saiki's best. We hope you will enjoy a time that is relaxing and easygoing as the sea, in Saiki.



Hatouzu Beach

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- Discover Saiki 4-7 Go on a drive to find impressive views.
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Saiki Food II~V [Feature: Food] Discover Saiki's culture



History and Literature Road



Kyushu Olle Saiki, Onyujima Island Route "Funakakushi"



Saiki Castle Town Tourist Information

Saiki Drive

Gaze in wonder
at the uninterrupted
azure vista.



Discover breathtaking sweeping views!

Your mind will switch into vacation mode as you gaze at the horizon in the distance. You will spontaneously take a deep breath as the ever-changing ocean, picturesque fishing ports, and dynamic mountains stir your emotions. With a beautiful sea spreading along the pacific coast and verdant rural landscape inland, you will discover that Saiki is dotted with scenic spots, sparkling with the charms of nature offering many spectacular views. The scenic route with views of Yonouzu and Kamae, also known as Bungo Kuroshio Line, offers the best exhilarating seaside drive. The route's highest point, 250 meters above sea level, offers the view of Bungo Channel below, where the mountains of Shikoku can be seen behind the open sea on a clear day.

Take a moment to enjoy the gentle sound of the waves, the sea breeze caressing your skin, and the sea merging with the sky.

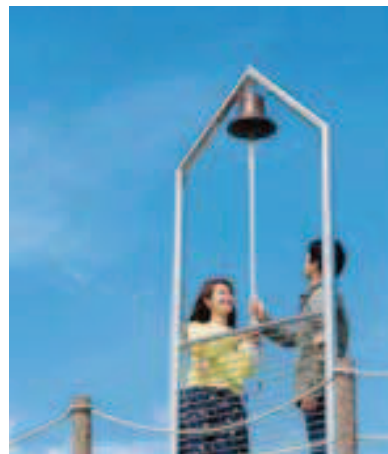
Hatouzu Bathing Beach 浦

The beautiful beach with starkly contrasting white sands and green pine groves is counted as one of Japan's top 100 white sand beaches and green pine groves. Situated at the prefecture's southernmost tip, it is the most popular bathing beach in the summer.

Sora no Koen (Sky Park) 浦 Situated along Bungo Kuroshio Line with the magnificent Pacific Ocean below, the park offers the view of the mountains of Shikoku on a clear day. It is perfect for a family day-out.

Bells of Happiness 浦

Ring the Bells of Happiness in the four scenic spots Saiki is proud of; Marinopolis Memorial Park, Tsurumisaki Lighthouse, Sky Park, and Takahira Tembo Park, is said to make your dreams come true. Ring the bells with your friends or significant other.



Visit Saiki's seaside Love Roads

There are energy vortexes called Love Roads that attract romance in Saiki's Ura area, known for its sawtooth coastline. About 16 places are dotted around four areas; Kamiura, Tsurumi, Yonouzu, and Kamae, and each one makes a perfect dating spot for lovers. The twin rock bound by a heavy rope at Kamiura district's iconic Bungo Futamigaura is believed to help visitors with family happiness, fulfillment in love, and matchmaking. Your luck is sure to improve if you wish for help in love against the spectacular sea view!



Tsurumisaki Lighthouse (Upper left) 浦

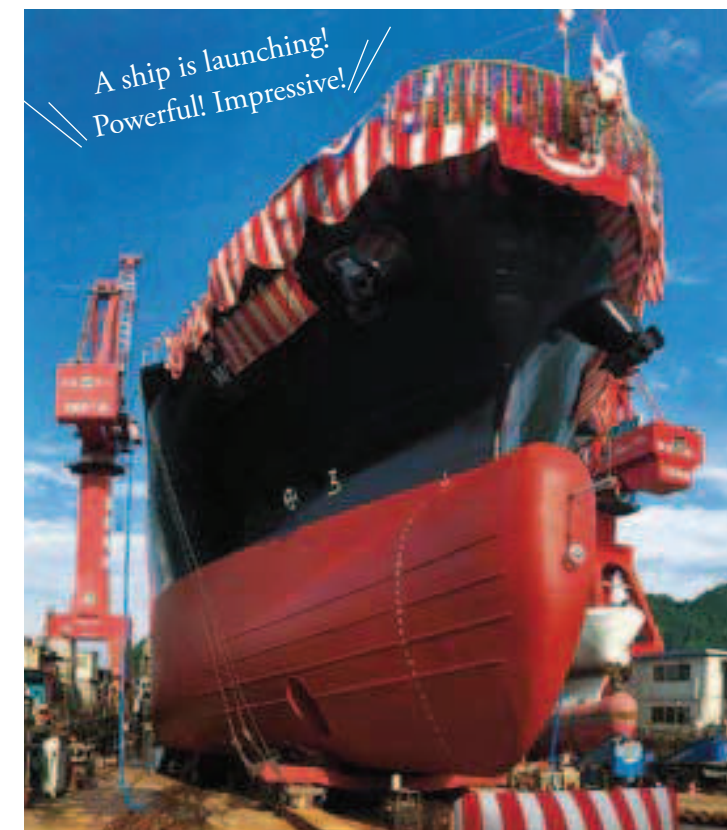
Tsurumisaki Lighthouse at Kyushu's easternmost point is where the sun rises the earliest in Kyushu. Why not ring the Bell of Happiness while enjoying the spectacular vista?

Bungo Futamigaura (Lower left) 浦

Bungo Futamigaura is a cherished symbol of Kamiura district. The inseparable, tightly bound rope that never falls might impart it powers to strengthen the tie between lovers.

Tanga Hodai Park 浦

A former military fortress is a peace-themed park today. The riptides of Motonoma Strait seen from the plaza are spectacular.



Launch ceremony

Attend an old-fashioned launching ceremony to celebrate the completion of a new ship. Such an occasion has become rare in Japan, but it is a ritual that is essential to the region's shipbuilding industry.



Open air sightseeing cruises offer spectacular views, where visitors can experience the seasonal landscapes all year.

Connecting visitors to Saiki with its nature, food, and culture...

Saiki can boast Kyushu's largest city, with diverse food, history, and nature.

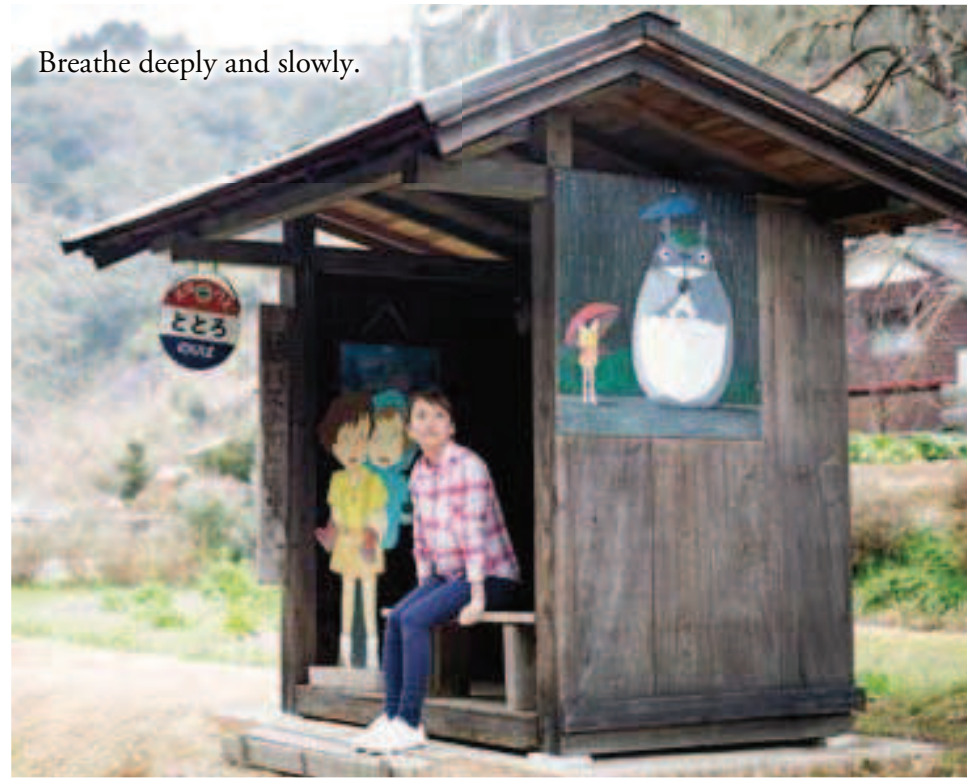
The city considers all its unique elements as tourism resources and provides various experiences to tourists with residents' help. The way a massive ship slowly launches into the sea with a splash at a dynamic launching ceremony is an overwhelming sight! We hope you get to see the grand ceremony for celebrating the completion of a new ship.

Saiki city imparts its many charms to visitors, including cruises for enjoying the sawtooth shaped coastline, fishing experiences with local fishermen, and water sports.

Sea Side

Saiki Drive

Breathe deeply and slowly.



Totoro's bus stop 里

Ume Minami-Tabaru, Saiki.

The quiet satoyama feels like Totoro's village, where numerous Totoro dolls and a cat bus welcome visitors. Totoro is an actual place name in Ume, Saiki, where there used to be a local bus stop. The bus stop sign still stands at the site.

Slow, leisurely and nostalgic. Explore the old-fashioned surroundings.

A satoyama (farming landscape near the hills and mountains) is a beautiful and uniquely Japanese environment where nature is in harmony with the people and the various creatures that it nurtures. Why not visit the gorgeous landscapes where people and nature resonate together, and experience the unspoiled nature and the old way of life? Your heart will feel lighter by just placing yourself in an abundant yet simple environment. Idyllic farmland, mountains in seasonal colors, and natural smiles fill the hamlets of Ume, Naokawa, Yayoi, and Honjo in Saiki. They are reminiscent of the setting of the anime film, "My Neighbor Totoro". Every district offers truly varied features, from a forest that makes you feel as if a real Totoro might appear, to a unique monument that replicates a large watermill used by farmers to generate power in the old days. A journey through a satoyama will give you pleasure and a sense of security that you are surrendering yourself to something greater. The time you spend experiencing the rich landscapes and local stories that you will hear will be deeply engraved in your heart.



Honjo's large watermill 里 Honjo Onagara, Saiki.

The Honjo district, AKA "Daisuisha no Sato" (home of the giant watermill), has a wooden watermill monument. With a diameter of 18.18 meters and 128 blades, it is one of Japan's largest wooden watermills. Visitors can try their hands at making soba noodles at Suishajaya Nanohana.



Uta Genka Bridge 里

The bridge spans across the Kitagawa Dam lake on the boundary between Oita and Miyazaki prefectures. Its beautiful geometric form makes it an iconic spot. The roadside rest area Michi-no-Eki Ume is nearby.

Firefly trail 里

Visitors can see an astonishing number of fireflies, along Saiki's first-class river Banjo. Honjo's Kabuchi district provides the best view, where many people visit in early June.



Fujigawachi Valley



Omoide Bridge

Mountain

Saiki-no-Yu

- Bathhouses -

There are five public bathhouses located by the sea and in the mountains of Saiki. Why not take a break and visit one?

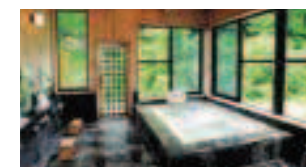


Kabutomushi-no-Yu 里

1252, Akagi, Naokawa, Saiki ☎ +81-972-58-3311

Kosen Center Naokawa

10:00~21:00 (Oct-Apr), 10:00~22:00 (May-Sep)
Thursdays (Friday, if Thursday is a holiday)
Adults ¥500, children ¥300



Yayoi-no-Yu 里

898-1, Kamiogura, Yayoi, Saiki.
☎ +81-972-46-5841
10:30~23:00 (Last admission 22:15)
2nd Tuesday

Adults ¥500, children ¥300
Family bathroom, ¥1,500 (90 min/by reservation)

Sato-no-Eki Utagenka-no-Yu 里

Rekishi-no-Sato Kiura Meisuikan

Kiura-Kozan, Ume, Saiki.
☎ +81-972-55-4154
10:00~19:00 (Apr-Oct) 10:00~18:00 (Nov-Mar)
Wednesdays
Adults ¥430, children ¥210



Shioyu 浦

2920-3, Azamuiura, Kamiura, Saiki.
☎ +81-972-27-8309
10:00~23:00 Wednesdays
Adults ¥500, children ¥300
Family bathroom, ¥1,800- (1 hour)

Fujigawachi Yu-topia 里

1297, Kiurauchi, Ume, Saiki.
☎ +81-972-54-3938
10:30~17:00 (Apr-Oct)
10:30~16:00 (Dec-Mar)
Thursdays ¥ Adults ¥430, children ¥210



We want to protect our precious treasures. Sobo, Katamuki and Okue Area Registered as a UNESCO Geopark

A UNESCO Geopark is a concept for developing economically and socially sustainable ecosystems and biodiversity through conservation. An area centered on the mountains of Sobo, Katamuki, and Okue on the boundary of Oita (Saiki, Taketa, Bungo-Ohno) and Miyazaki (Nobeoka, Takachiho, and Hinokage) prefectures was registered as a UNESCO Geopark in June 2017.

The park contains mountainous areas with Kyushu's highest peaks, beautiful valleys, and virgin forests. The forests contain a wide variety of plants, including broad-leaf trees such as the red-bark oak and summer greens, which produce delightful crimson foliage. It is also an important area inhabited by indigenous species on the brink of extinction, including the Japanese serow and certain Asian salamanders. Folk entertainment, such as festivals and kagura (sacred music and dance), has been passed down through generations, and reverence for nature is rooted in the region's culture. Various activities, including bioassessment, nature camps, trekking, and outdoor events are offered to help protect the region's abundant nature and pass it on to the next generation.

Roadside Rest Areas/Shops

Michi-no-Eki Ume

2513-5, Minamitabarau, Ume, Saiki.
☎ +81-972-54-3090
Shop 10:00~17:00
Restaurant 11:00~14:00
3rd Thursday



Michi-no-Eki Kamae

5104-1, Kamaeura, Kamae, Saiki.
☎ +81-972-42-0050
Farm shop 9:00~17:00
Restaurant 10:30~16:00 (Last order 15:30)
The end of the year and New Year holidays



Michi-no-Eki Yayoi

898-1, Kamiogura, Yayoi, Saiki.
☎ +81-972-46-5951
Yayoi Pikaichi 8:30~17:30 Yayoi-no-Yu 10:30~23:00
Yayoi Pikaichi is closed on New Year's Day.
Yayoi-no-Yu and Banjou Osakana-kan are closed on the 2nd Tuesday of the month.



Onyujima Shokusaikan

1059-11, Kuboura, Saiki.
☎ +81-972-23-2535
Dining & shopping 9:00~18:00
Wednesdays, the end of the year and New Year holidays.



Tsurumi Shokuhinkan

1059-1, Jimatsura, Tsurumi, Saiki.
☎ +81-972-33-1056
8:00~16:30
Tuesdays, the end of the year and New Year holidays.



Kamae Interpark Amabe-no-Ichi (seafood market)

142-16, Morizakiura, Kamae, Saiki.
☎ +81-972-44-5515
9:00~18:00
Umi-no-Restaurant Waraiyo
Weekdays 11:00~15:30 (Last order 15:00)
Saturdays, Sundays & holidays 10:30~16:00 (Last order 15:30)
New Year's Day



Sato-no-Eki Takahira Tembo Park

Takenoura Gouchi, Kamae, Saiki.
☎ +81-972-42-1880
10:00~16:00 (Apr-Nov)
10:00~15:00 (Dec-Mar)
Wednesdays, Dec 29 ~ Jan 3



Unite with nature



Canyoning

Fujigawachi Valley on the border of Ume, Saiki, provides the setting for the French water sport, Canyoning. You could take a dive there and swim in the river or scale the cliffs of nature's creation. Epic adventures you can only experience in nature's gallery await you.



Fujigawachi Valley

Kiurauchi, Ume, Saiki.

The valley has trails where trekking tours are conducted on an irregular basis.

Ume Camping Village Sora no Hotori

+81-972-54-3088



The vibrant crimson foliage that adds color to the landscape is also worth seeing.

When your body is weary from all the fun you've had, the thing to do is to visit the little-known baths of Fujigawachi Yu-topia and Kiura Meisuikan (p.07).

Eco Park Promotion Office

+81-972-25-4118

Saiki Nature Activity

Check off items on your bucket list in Saiki!

Trekking

Certified Kyushu Olle route

Saiki-Onyujima Route was certified as a Kyushu Olle route in March 2018. The route contains many of the island's unique features, including a coastal walk. The Tomiyama Viewing Spot offers a 360-degree panorama of Shikoku, Bungo Channel, and the city of Saiki. Rural roads exude the ambiance of the island's old days. You will get a pleasant feeling from the slow-paced island life as you walk with the sea breeze behind you.



Onyujima Island, Saiki

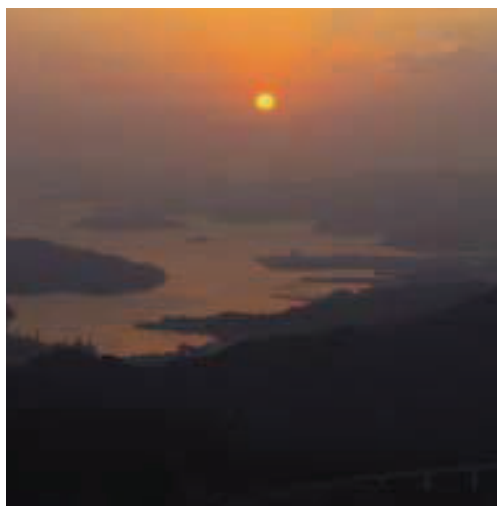
+81-972-22-3942



Mount Motogoe

Kitachi & Yonouzu, Saiki.

The 582-meter-high mountain is counted as one of Kyushu's best 100 mountains and boasts a spectacular 360-degree view. The faraway mountains of Shikoku, the Bungo Channel, and Sobo-Katamuki are visible from the summit on a clear day.



Mount Shakuma

Yayoi, Saiki.

The mountain is part of the Nippo Kaigan Quasi-National Park. It is known as a sacred mountain and has a Shinto shrine at the summit. It is a famous spot for viewing the sunrise attracts many visitors on New Year's Day.



Surfing

Surfing lets you feel nature's grandeur. With the Bungo Channel's abundant sea, Saiki offers surfing spots such as Hatouzu and Motozaru beaches with striking white sands and green pine groves. The waves are sure to wash away your everyday stress.



So many moving experiences!!

Scubadiving

Adorable tropical fish swimming gracefully and the coral reefs add color to the underwater seascape. The best part of scuba diving is that it lets you enjoy a world of another dimension. Diving spots such as Fukushima and Yakata islands offer natural surroundings unique to remote islands and are like resorts where you can experience extraordinary and profound healing.



Hazako

Nature Center

1751, Urashiroura, Yonouzu, Saiki.

The interactive nature center offers visitors the chance to learn about sea turtle biology through their rearing and release. It provides many programs for taking in the delights of nature throughout the year.

+81-972-34-8448



Relax and have fun with family and friends!



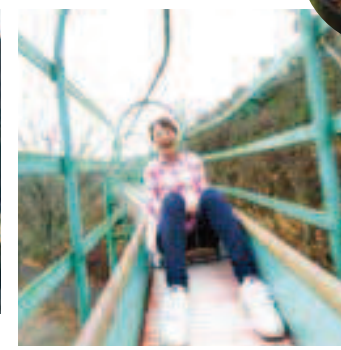
Camping



Banjou Osakanakan

898-1, Kamiogura, Yayoi, Saiki.

The freshwater aquarium primarily exhibits creatures that inhabit the first-class river Banjo. Besides the permanent exhibits, the aquarium also frequently holds limited-period special exhibitions. Visitors can see a beautiful school of ayu (sweetfish).



Naokawa Ikoji-no-Mori Park Campsite

1262, Akagi, Naokawa, Saiki.

The campsite is popular for its insectarium where visitors can get a close-up view of 150 to 200 live unicorn beetles. Youngsters can enjoy playground equipment such as a roller slide.



Onagara Forest Park Campsite

107, Onagara, Honjo, Saiki.

The campsite is adjacent to a large wooden watermill.

Sora-no-Hotori Ume Camping Village

2513-3, Minamitabar, Ume, Saiki.

The campsite is adjacent to the Michi-no-Eki Ume rest area. Pets are allowed in some areas of the site.

Takahira Campsite

Takenoura Gouchi, Kamae, Saiki.

The campsite offers views of the sea below.

Zeai Park Campsite

Zeai, Kamiura, Saiki.

The site offers bungalows close to the ocean.

Saiki Nature Activity

Check off items in your bucket list in Saiki!

[Island Tours]

Deep 深島

Fukushima Island

Cats outnumber island residents, and time moves slowly on the island. Once you step onto such a remote island, you are welcomed by its pristine ocean, where coral reefs grow. The island also has many scuba diving and surf fishing spots.

See colorful coral reefs as you peek inside the clear water!

Keep an eye out for the traditional Kamado white miso made by the island's women for generations.

Food without additives can be enjoyed at the Fukushima Diner.

The island has 15 inhabitants and about 100 cats, and every cat has a name.

Board one of the three-a-day scheduled boat services and land at the tiny paradise on the southern sea, feeling the sea breeze on your face.

Kangaroo Hiroba

A statue of a reclining kangaroo greets you at Kangaroo Hiroba.

Onyujima Island

大入島

The gourd-shaped Onyujima Island on Saiki Bay is only 17 kilometers in circumference. The time you spend on the island will make you feel free as a bird. Enjoy sightseeing on a rental bike and see gorgeous views of the deeply indented coastline, or fishing at any time of the year, will be truly healing.

Kami-no-I (well)

The stone well faces the sea. A mythical tale attached to it states that crystalline water sprung up where Emperor Jinmu had carved out the coast with his arrow.

The Onyujima Kanko Ferry, that travels from Saiki Bay to Onyujima Island, runs 15 services a day and takes about seven minutes.

Explore the castle town.

The approximately 700-meter road that stretches from the site of Otemon Gate to Yokenji Temple is called the History and Literature Road. The cobble street and white earthen walls add to the ambiance of the castle town. Take a nostalgic trip to a place where the past lives alongside today while feeling the vibe of the town that dates back to the Edo period.

Saiki City Historical Museum

The museum exhibits Saiki's valuable historical artifacts. There are permanent exhibits primarily themed on history from the middle ages to early modern times. Also check out the rotating exhibits and various lectures.

Mount Shiroyama

Mount Shiroyama is Saiki's cherished symbol. The view from the summit includes the faraway mountains of Shikoku. There are also stone walls that indicate the site of the castle built by Mouri Takamasa in 1606.



column

From the ocean to the mountains, there is so much to experience in Saiki!

Blue tourism

Blue tourism involves staying in a fishing village in a coastal region or an island to experience marine life unique to the area. It is active in Kamae fishing town that has the advantage of having a naturally-formed port on the indented coastline. Visitors can try various programs, including fishery, pearl cultivating, and water sports while enjoying interactions with the locals. Visitors will discover the region's life and culture that are rarely seen in strolling through the town. You are sure to treasure your encounters with residents.

<http://kamae-unigyo.com/>



Green tourism

Find unspoiled nature, old-fashioned way of life, and natural smiles. A time you spend discovering idyllic rural landscapes, the regions' age-old industries, and handicraft that has been passed down in farming villages also gives you a chance to discover yourself. While staying in a farmhouse, various experiences await, including fruit and vegetable picking, stone-baked pizza-making, rice planting, and recreational activities.



Castle Town Saiki Kunikida Doppo Museum

The museum is housed in the restored old Sakamoto family residence where Meiji's leading literary legend Kunikida Doppo had lodged in during his youth while living in Saiki. The museum shows exhibits and it also has an archive.



Yokenji Temple

*The training temple is closed to the public.

Saiki Peace Memorial Hall Yawaragi

Visitors can learn about the history of the early Showa era and peace in Saiki, which has developed along with the Saiki Naval Air Fleet.

Enjoy a refreshing ride! Bike rental

Rental/returns

- Saiki Castle Town Tourist Information
- Saiki City Tourist Information

Take a used admission ticket from Kunikida Doppo Museum or Saiki City Historical Museum to get a half-price discount on bike rental.

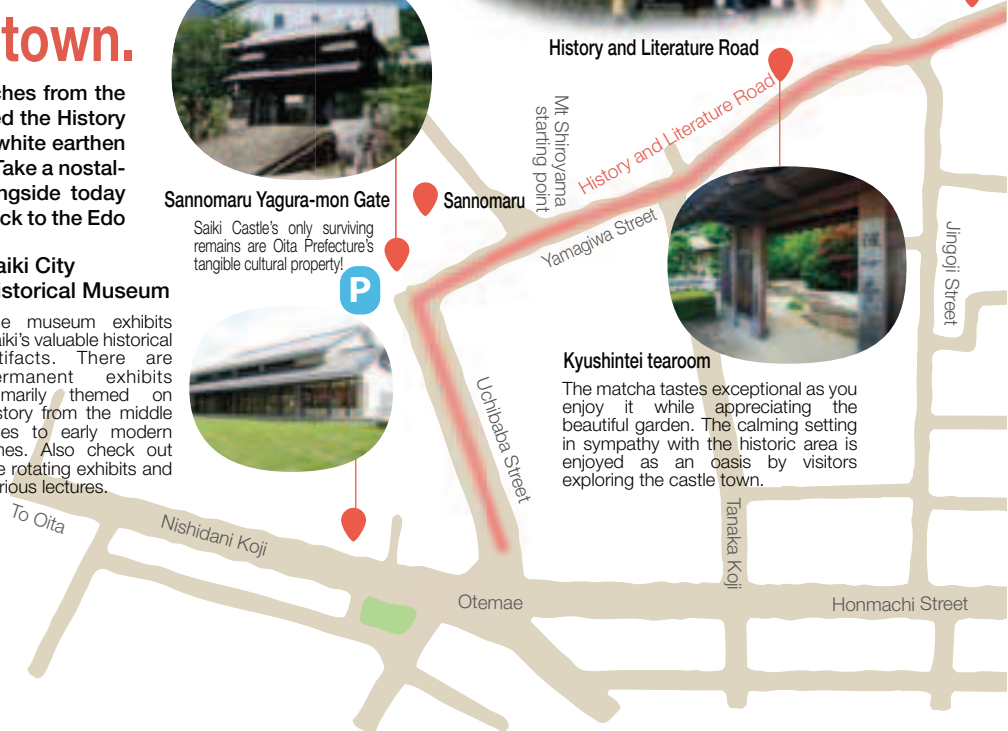
Saiki City Tourist Information

+81-972-23-3400
¥ 200/3 hours
(¥300 for an electric bike)



Saiki Castle Town Tourist Information

The site surrounded by old earthen walls contains a garden where visitors can stroll or take a break. The center houses a gallery and tourist information area. Visitors can enjoy coffee and sweet treats that represent Saiki.



EVENT CALENDAR

Spring



- Early April Saiki Spring Festival
- Early April Senzaki Park Azalea Festival
- Early April Yanase Tulip Festival
- Late April Mt Katamukiyama's start of the climbing season
- Late May New Season Tea Festival

Summer



- Early June Honjo Firefly Festival
- Late June { Start of the swimming season (Motozaru, Hatouzu, and Zeai beaches)
- Early July
- Mid-July Unicorn Beetle Tree Climbing Competition
- Early August Saiki Jinmu Fire Festival
- Early August Mizube-no-Sato Music Festival
- Late August Evening of Katata Odori

Fall



- Early September Yayoi Summer Evening Festival
- Mid-September Gocho Festival (Joyara)
- Late September Tsubakihara, Hachihikibaru & Ume Fall Festival
- Late September Tsurumi Hougyo Festival
- Mid-October Banjo Ayu Yana Kanko Festival
- Late October Yonouzu Seafood Festival
- Mid-November Takahira Tembo Park Nojigiku Festival

Winter



- Early December Replacing of the shimenawa rope at Bungo-Futamigaura
- Late December The lighting of the illuminations at Bungo-Futamigaura
- January 1 Sunrise walk
- Mid-January Onyujima Island Tondo Fire Festival
- Mid-January Kamiura Osettai
- Mid-February Kiura Sumitsuke Festival *Biennial

1 Castle Town Saiki by Bicycle

Sushi-making experience is also available

Bicycle rental

Saiki Tourist Information Center

2-6-37, Ekimae, Saiki.

TEL: +81-972-23-3400

Hours: 9:00 – 18:00

Closed on Year-end and New Year

Bicycle rental
Tariffs: from ¥200 for 3 hours



Hiking on Mt. Shiroyama (walk: about 20 min one-way)

Saiki Castle was built in 1606 by Mouri Takamasa. Today, only the gatehouse and stonewalls at the summit remain. Saiki Castle site is now called Shiroyama, and it remains the spiritual home and town symbol for Saiki residents. There are four hiking leading to the summit, and each offers enjoyable seasonal scenery. The summit affords a far-reaching view of Shikoku's mountains.

Mt. Shiroyama 1-1-1, Ote-machi, Saiki.



L: The gatehouse.



R: The start of a trail up Mt. Shiroyama.

Gomadashi Udon

Gomadashi is a seasoning made of a grilled and flaked locally-caught fish, ground sesame seeds, and soy sauce. Enjoy udon noodles with flavorsome gomadashi. The restaurant also serves tasty chicken tempura.



Compare our taste against others if you get a chance.

Miyuki Shokudo

7-25, Nakamura Minami-machi, Saiki.

TEL: + 81-972-23-7240 Closed on Tuesdays



Sushi-making experience

Let's make Saiki's famous sushi!

Sushi-making experience

Fees: from ¥4,000 (excl. tax)

Capacity: up to eight people

Session hours: 14:30 – 16:00 (open to requests)

Requires booking

Tuesday-Friday

Kamehachi Sushi

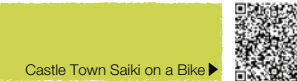
7-12, Nakamura Minami-machi, Saiki.

TEL: +81-972-22-5818

Hours: 11:00 – 14:00 / 16:00 – 22:00 Closed on Mondays.



Enjoy delightful parfaits, too.



Castle Town Saiki on a Bike

Recommended sights in the area

Umeda Sweets Factory

2616-4, Tsurumi Terada, Saiki.

TEL: +81-972-24-1231

Hours: 9:00 – 21:00

Open all year

The shop's Western and Japanese confectionery are both worth trying. Why not take a little detour for a summer-only gelato?



Kojiya Honten

14-29, Sendo-machi, Saiki.

TEL: +81-120-166-355

Koji (malted rice) cooking experience: 2 hours

Fees: ¥10,000 per person (5 – 20 people)

Closed on Sundays and public holidays

Requires booking

E-mail: info@saikikoujiya.com



Kojiyahonten has been making koji for 330 years in Saiki. You can learn the effects of koji, which is the basis of Japanese fermented seasonings, and you can enjoy workshops on koji cooking too.

Tokosan Dainichiji Temple (Princess Kiku legend)

2-37, Sendo-machi, Saiki.

TEL: +81-972-22-0420

Dainichiji Temple was founded in 1608, but many of its buildings were built in the Edo period. A statue of Sarasvati, reputed to have granted Princess Kiku's wish, is enshrined in the temple grounds. The Princess Kiku procession during the Spring Festival based on the Princess Kiku legend is a fantastical spring evening event.



Nagesen Guesthouse Sankaku Wasabi

3-262, Uchi-machi, Saiki.

TEL: +81-90-5749-7355

The guesthouse offers reasonably priced rates. The vegetarian ramen, served at lunch only on Thursdays, is a customer-favorite. Please enquire if you require a vegetarian supper.



Saiki sushi restaurants

Scan the QR code for details



Sushi is closely linked to Saiki. Be sure to try Saiki's sushi.

Onyujima Olle route

Scan the QR code for details



7 minutes by boat. Enjoy walking on Onyujima Island.

\Start/

Depart from Saiki Station at 10:00

Saiki Tourism Information Center 10:10

10 min by bike

The start of a hike up Mt. Shiroyama 10:20 – 11:20 (60 min)

10 min

Miyuki Shokudo 11:30 – 12:20 (50 min)

10 min

Saiki Hongo Jokado
Saiki City Historical Museum
Kyushintei
Kunikida Doppo Museum
Castle Town Tourism Exchange Center
12:30 – 14:20 (110 min)

Stroll down the History and Literature Road

10 min

Kamehachi Sushi 14:30 – 16:00 (90 min)

15 min

Arrive at Saiki Station 16:15

Return the bike

\Goal/

Check out some souvenirs!

Saiki Hongo Jokado

The satellite store sells Saiki's agricultural, forestry, and fishery products, and artifacts made in the city.

3-3-7, Ote-machi, Saiki. TEL: +81-972-28-6464

Hours: 9:00 – 17:00 No scheduled holidays



Saiki City Historical Museum

The site played a vital role in Saiki's history as it was used as the Saiki clan's administrative offices in the Edo period and the former domain clan head's home in the Meiji era. Outside, the Sambu Gomon gate for the clan's administrative offices and the Mouri family home's living room are open to the public.

1-2-25, Ote-machi, Saiki.

TEL: +81-972-22-0700

Hours: 9:00 – 17:00

Closed on Mondays, Year-end and New Year

Admission: Individuals / Adults ¥300, school children ¥100

Groups / Adults ¥200, school children ¥50



Saiki City Tearoom | Kyushintei

A cup of tea (matcha: ¥300) enjoyed in a tranquil ambiance with a view of the beautiful garden is exceptional.

3-13, Joka Nishi-machi, Saiki.

TEL: +81-972-24-3905

Hours: 9:00 – 17:00

Closed on Mondays, Year-end and New Year



Castle Town Saiki Kunikida Doppo Museum

The house the literary legend had occupied in the 1800s has been conserved almost intact. Enjoy feeling as if you have traveled back in time.

9-37, Joka Higashi-machi, Saiki.

TEL: +81-972-22-2866

Hours: 9:00 – 17:00

Closed on Mondays, Year-end and New Year

Admission: Adults ¥200, school children ¥100



Saiki Castle Town Tourist Information

Why not take a break appreciating the beautiful Japanese garden? The meticulously crafted Japanese building is worth a look. Coffee, snacks, and soft-served ice cream are available for purchase. Please receive a stamp to commemorate your hike.

8-19, Joka Higashi-machi, Saiki.

TEL: +81-972-28-5656

Hours: 9:00 – 18:00

Closed on Year-end and New Year



2 Enjoy a UNESCO Geopark's natural surroundings



Natural Cuisine Yukinko

The restaurant prides itself on serving delicious homebred meat and game dishes. It has a money-saving lunch menu and also takes bento orders.



2800-2, Onoichi, Ume, Saiki.
TEL: +81-972-54-3319
Hours: 11:30 – 13:30 / 18:00 – 20:00



Fujigawachi Valley

The certified UNESCO Biosphere Reserve offers spectacular scenery. Enjoy fresh greenery in the spring, river activities in the summer, crimson foliage in the fall, and the sumi painting-like landscape in the winter. Canyoning can be enjoyed from May to September. (Beware of icy roads in the winter)

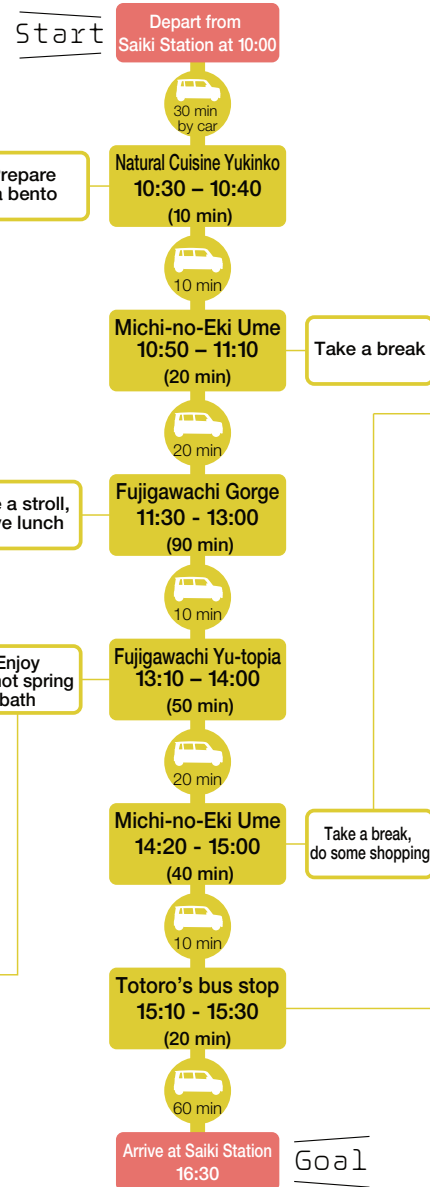


Fujigawachi Yu-topia

Enjoy the view of the majestic Fujigawachi from the large windows, and bathe in the babbling stream.



1297, Kiurauchi, Ume, Saiki.
TEL: +81-972-54-3938
Closed on Thursdays



Michi-no-Eki Ume

Look for the prominent Utagenka Bridge. The restaurant Umeria sells the popular kara'age (fried chicken) and seasonal soft-served ice cream. In-season fruits and vegetables are sold on-site.

2513-5, Minami-Tabaru, Ume, Saiki.
TEL: +81-972-54-3090



Totoro's bus stop

Totoro is an actual place name in Ume, Saiki, Oita Prefecture. The bus stop reminiscent of the amine, My Neighbor Totoro, directed by Hayao Miyazaki, is still cherished by the city's community bus users.

Minami-Tabaru, Ume, Saiki.



Recommended sights in the area

Ume Kimchi Shokudo

237, Minami-Tabaru, Ume, Saiki.
TEL: +81-90-8917-5814
Hours: lunch 11:00 – 15:00
Shop: 9:00 – 17:00
Closed on Tues and Weds

The restaurant offers homemade kimchi made with seasonal local vegetables without synthetic seasoning or preservatives. It serves ramen, rice balls, and fried rice made with kimchi.



Ume Camping Village Sora no Hotori

2513-3, Minami-Tabaru, Ume, Saiki.
TEL: +81-972-54-3088

Anyone wishing to enjoy the great outdoors fully is welcome. World alpinist Masafumi Todaka heads the campsite. Cabins are also available.



Cafe & Restaurant Ryo

1382, Minami-Tabaru, Ume, Saiki.
TEL: +81-972-54-3502
Hours: 10:00 – 18:00
(Reservation is required after 18:00)

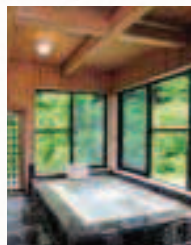
The café/restaurant with a comfy ambience is near Totoro's bus stop. The menu includes game dishes.



Kiura Meisuikan

(see page 7)
399, Kiura Kozan, Ume, Saiki.
TEL: +81-972-55-4154

The bathtubs smell faintly of cypress. Relieve your physical fatigue by relaxing in nature. The bathhouse has a rest area and restaurant where you can enjoy famous local dishes.



Fujigawachi Gorge Canyoning

Please call if you wish to try canyoning.

Doshin ni Kaeru
2309-1, Minami-Tabaru, Ume, Saiki.
TEL: +81-90-2088-0478

Otter Down River Club
448-1, Onoichi, Ume, Saiki.
TEL: +81-50-3749-0040



SUMMER

3 Climb up the sacred Mt. Shakuma and enjoy the local buckwheat while looking at the massive waterwheel.



Mt. Shakuma (Shakuma Shrine)

Mt. Shakuma with Shakuma Shrine at the summit is Oita Prefecture's prominent spiritual vortex, and it has been known since ancient times as a sacred mountain. The summit offers views of the distant hills.

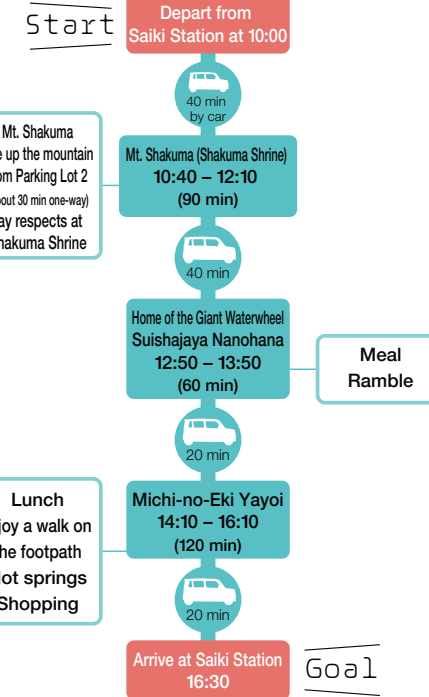
945, Shakuma, Yayoi, Saiki.
TEL: +81-972-46-1413



Michi-no-Eki Yayoi

The rest area comprises Yayoi Pikaichi, a shop specializing in products from Oita Prefecture's southern region, Yayoi-no-Yu, a hot spring spa, and Banjo Osakana Kan, a rare freshwater fish aquarium.

898-1, Kamiogura, Yayoi, Saiki.
TEL: +81-972-46-5951



Home of the Giant Waterwheel

West Japan's largest waterwheel was completed in 1995. Its diameter is 18.18 meters, which is the height of a six-story building. It is made of 70 to 100-year-old oak.

107, Honjo Onagara, Saiki.



Suishajaya Nanohana

Enjoy aromatic soba made with an abundance of locally-produced buckwheat and shitake. The restaurant is popular for its menu of dishes made with local ingredients, including chicken, game, and vegetables.



107, Honjo Onagara, Saiki.
TEL: +81-972-56-5566
Hours: 9:00 – 14:30
Open all year (subject to temporary closures)

4 See a rarely visited station and enjoy satoyama's nature and food



Sotaro Station

Trains stop only three times a day. Listen to birdsongs and enjoy the station in the great outdoors. When visiting, check the timetable and be sure you do not miss the train!

Shigeoka, Ume, Saiki.



Restaurant Colline

The restaurant is popular for its dishes made with game and wild herbs. Enjoy the seasonal scenery from the all-glass interior. There are a golf course and practice range attached to the restaurant, and guests can also enjoy turf-skiing.

3757, Naokawa Kaminaomi, Saiki.
TEL: +81-972-58-3308
Closed on Thursdays
(closed on Friday if Thursday is a holiday)

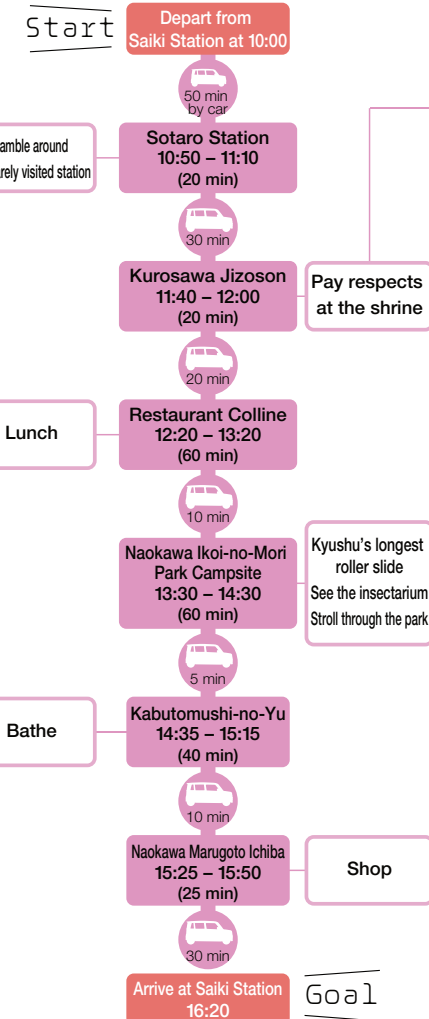


Kabutomushi-no-Yu

The spacious bathrooms have several types of tub and sauna. The bathhouse also has rest areas and a café for guests to enjoy.



1252, Naokawa Akagi, Saiki.
TEL: +81-972-58-3311



Kurosawa Jizoson

The jizo (Ksitigarbha) is known for granting longevity. The pretty garden is also worth a look.

1519, Naokawa Nitahara, Saiki.
TEL: +81-972-58-2696



Naokawa Iko-no-Mori Park Campsite

Enjoy sliding down Kyushu's longest, 202-meter roller slide in the outdoors! A dip in the river pool is also recommended in the summer. There is also an insectarium for insect enthusiasts.

For visitors wishing to stay overnight, the park has well-equipped facilities with bungalows and a campsite. Reserve a place online.



1262, Naokawa Akagi, Saiki.
TEL: +81-972-58-2517
Hours: 9:00 – 17:00
Closed on Thursdays Admission: ¥300

Naokawa Marugoto Ichiba

The market sells specialty goods and processed products (deep-fried sweet crackers, jam, miso, tofu, etc.) made with fresh local produce. There is a 6.5-meter-tall stag beetle monument across the street. Be sure to take pictures!



4-3, Naokawa Akagi, Saiki.
TEL: +81-972-58-2800
Hours: 8:00 – 17:00
Closed on Year-end and New Year

5 Cook with luxury ingredients! Enjoy the fishing town fully.



Luxury ingredients cookery experience

Would you like to cook fresh Japanese spiny lobsters and sea urchins? You can also opt for a meal only.

Japanese spiny lobster cleaning and prepping experience:
Including a meal ¥3,500 (excl. tax)
Sea urchin opening experience: Including a meal ¥2,500 (excl. tax)
*Requires booking *Overnight stays are permitted

Minshuku Maru-ni-Maru
2643, Nishinoura, Kamae, Saiki.
TEL: +81-972-42-1600



Kamae Blue Tourism website

Start Depart from Saiki Station at 10:00

40 min by car

Japanese spiny lobster cleaning and prepping experience
Sea urchin opening experience

Minshuku Maru-ni-Maru
10:40 – 12:10
(90 min)

15 min

Takahira Tembo Park
12:25 – 13:25
(60 min)

Stroll
Cycle
Tea break

10 min

Stroll,
take pictures

Motosaru Beach
13:35 – 14:25
(50 min)

10 min

Michi-no-Eki Kamae
14:35 – 14:50
(15 min)

Rest, shop

35 min

Arrive at Saiki Station
15:25

Goal

Sato-no-Eki Takahira Tembo Park (see page 7)

The park with a stunning view has campsite, cycling lanes, and walking trails. The park's original soft-serve ice cream is worth a try.

Bicycle rental:
Per day / Adults ¥320, children ¥210



2156-171, Takenoura Gouchi, Kamae, Saiki.
TEL: +81-81-972-42-1880



Michi-no-Eki Kamae (see page 7)

5104-1, Kamaeura, Kamae, Saiki.
TEL: +81-972-42-0050

The shop prides itself on serving fresh seafood dishes and processed products. Of particular note are yellowtail and Kamae's specialty, the noble scallop. They are appealing for their vibrant color, umami, and reasonable prices. Also superb at the Japanese spiny lobster dishes, available for a limited time (Sep-Dec).



Motozaru Beach

Stroll down the 40-meter-side, 2km-long sandy beach or chat with friends in front of the open sea. The beach is also known for surfing and bodyboarding.

Takenoura Gouchi, Kamae, Saiki.



Recommended sights in the area

Kamae Inter Park (see page 7)

142-16, Morisakiura, Kamae, Saiki.
TEL: +81-972-44-5515

A minute's drive off Higashi-Kyushu Expressway Kamae IC. The rest area comprises a restaurant, Waraiyo, and a fisherman's market, Amabe, and visitors can take a break, dine, and shop there. The parking lot and restrooms (with multi-purpose toilets) are open 24 hours a day.



Senzaki Tsutsuji Park

2110, Nishinoura, Kamae, Saiki.

The park offers an opportunity to take epic pictures of the Pacific Ocean. Early April is the perfect time to capture images of azaleas.



SPRING

Hatouzu Beach

Hatouzuura, Kamae, Saiki.

The 800-meter-long beach is listed in Japan's Top 100 Sandy Beaches with Pine Groves.

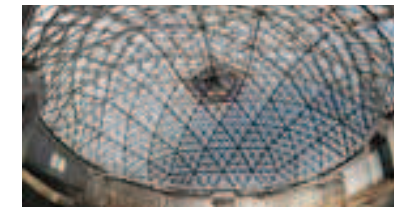


6 See stunning views of nature and architecture



Tanga Hodai Park

The military fortress from 1931 was built over four years. An accidental explosion in 1942 claimed the lives of many people. The renovated site with an incline elevator by the 170 steps leading to the battery has a curious film set-like ambiance, and it has had a renaissance as a new tourist spot.



577, Tsurumi Tangaura, Saiki.
TEL: +81-972-34-8222

Hours: 9:30 – 16:30

Closed on Tues and Weds (closed the following day if Tue or Wed is a holiday)
Admission: Adults ¥200, junior high school-age and under ¥100



Tsurumi Kaibo Park

The Japanese seafood restaurant has a sea view. Enjoy fresh fruits of the sea at a table with great views. The restaurant seats 120, so it is perfect for large groups. Dinner is also available. Please reserve a table for a meal after 16:00.



Tsurumi Ariakeura, Saiki.

TEL: +81-972-33-1237

Hours: 11:00 – 16:00 / 16:00 – 22:00



Saiki Umi-no-Ichiba Maru

The large market sells many seafood and agricultural products. It is top-notch for variety.

Visitors can enjoy a meal or take a break there, too.

3-2-1, Kazura Minato, Saiki.

TEL: +81-972-22-0007

Hours: 9:30 – 18:00



Start Depart from Saiki Station at 10:00

40 min by car

Stroll
Take pictures

Tanga Hodai Park
10:40 – 11:20
(40 min)

20 min

Tsurumisaki Lighthouse
11:40 – 12:20
(40 min)

Stroll
Take pictures

40 min

Dine

Tsurumi Kaibo Park
13:00 – 14:00
(60 min)

20 min

Sky Park
Sora-no-Jizoson
14:20 – 15:10
(50 min)

Stroll
Take pictures

30 min

Rest, shop

Umi-no-Ichiba Maru
15:40 – 16:10
(30 min)

5 min

Arrive at Saiki Station
16:15

Goal

Tsurumisaki Lighthouse

The lighthouse stands atop a sheer 200-meter cliff in Tsurumisaki Nature Park on Kyushu's eastern-most tip.

During the war, a gun battery and bunker were built for the lighthouse to serve as a fortress. There is a viewing platform nearby, so enjoy a stroll in nature in all its seasons, appreciating the beautiful sea.

549-2, Kajiyoseura, Tsurumi, Saiki.



Sky Park

The park offers a view of the Pacific Ocean below, and it is the perfect place for taking pictures as faraway hills of Shikoku are visible on a clear day. The spring moss phlox season, in particular, is worth a visit. The grassy park is perfect for a family day out.

Iroriura, Yonouzu, Saiki.



Sora-no-Jizoson

The jizo (Ksitigarbha) was installed to mourn the victims of a boating disaster of 1771, hoping that such a tragedy will not repeat itself.



Recommended sights in the area

SPRING SUMMER

Hazako Nature Center

1751, Urashiroura, Yonouzu, Saiki. TEL: +81-972-34-8448
Hours: 9:00 – 17:00 Closed on Tuesdays

Hazako Nature Center offers nature and fishing village experiences, and minshuku eco-tourism. Visitors can learn about the studies and conservation of sea turtles, environmental education, and enjoy water sports, overnight stays, and BBQ! Experience Hazako's nature through sea turtles! Requires booking.

Sea turtle keeper's work experience
Hours: From 13:30 / from 15:00
Capacity: three to 20
Fees: from ¥1,000
● Experience marine activities, too.



Kaisen-no-Yado Matsuura

550-30, Jimatsuura, Tsurumi, Saiki.
TEL: +81-972-33-1191

The inn serves Saiki's fresh seafood and black wagyu sourced directly from a butcher. It also accepts meal-only guests.

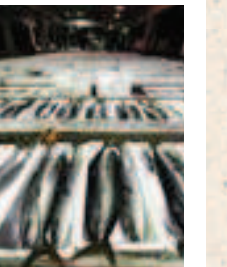


Tsurumi Public Seafood Wholesale Market

206-16, Jimatsuura, Tsurumi, Saiki.
TEL: +81-972-33-1121

Closed on Sundays/no fixed holidays

The auction begins at 6:45. Visitors can observe but must call to book.

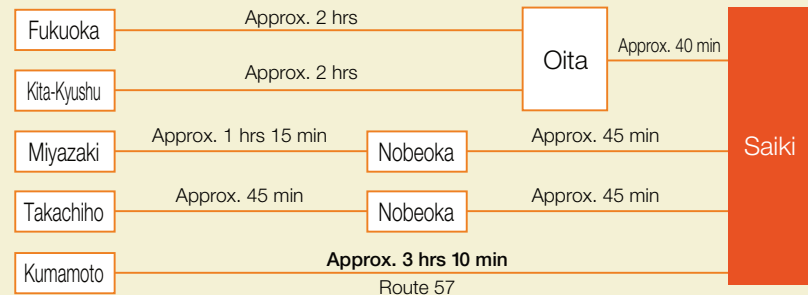


Saiki is Kyushu's largest city with an azure sea, sparkling streams, and abundant greenery.

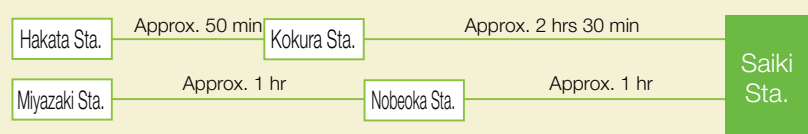
Saiki Map

How to Get to Saiki

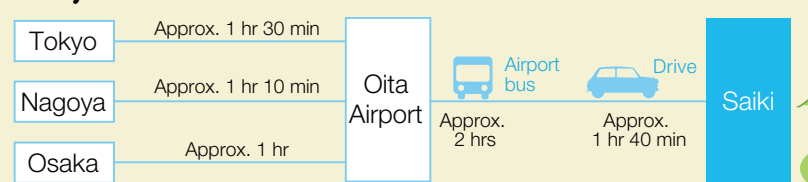
▶ Drive



▶ JR



▶ Fly

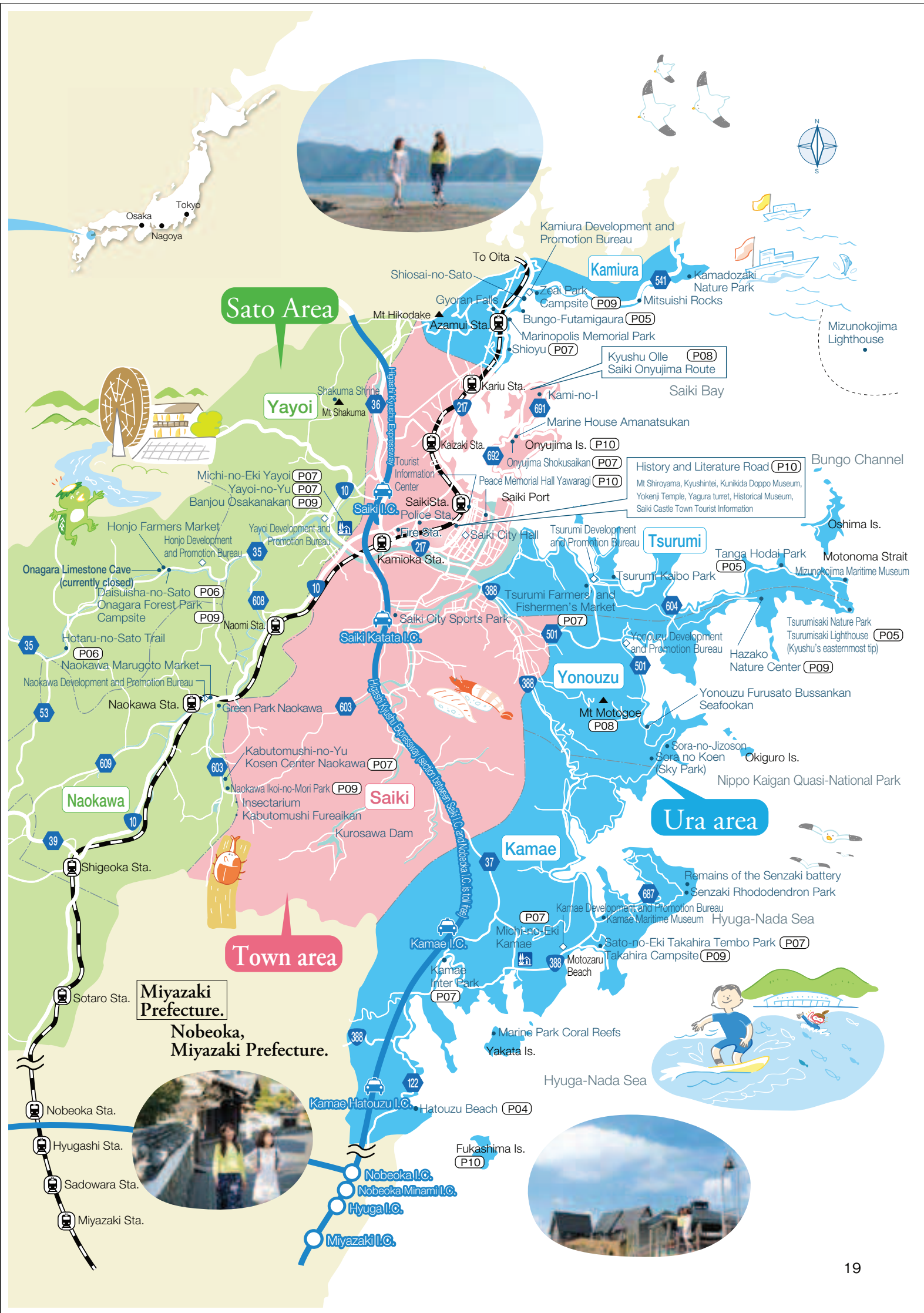
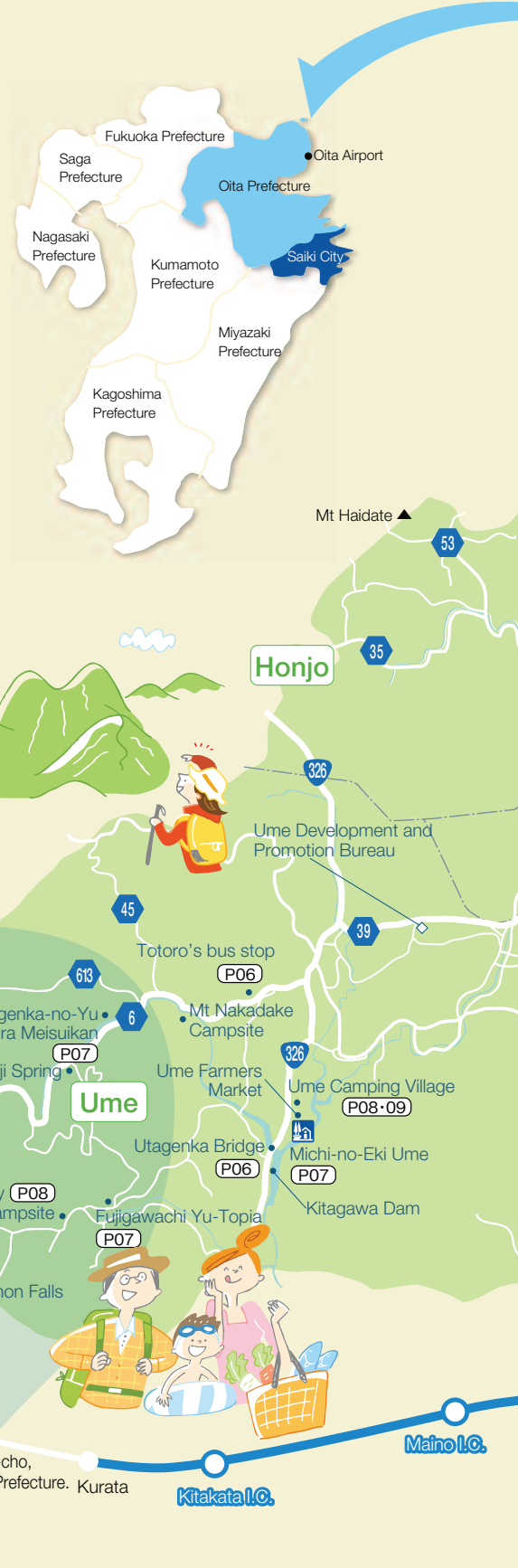
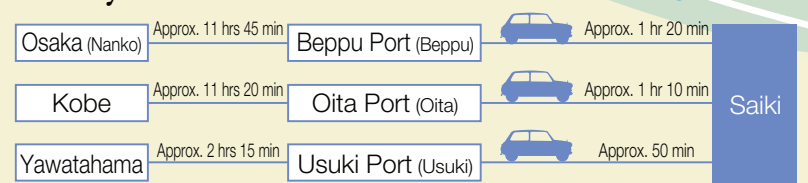


Aso, Kumamoto Prefecture.
Mt Aso ▲

Kumamoto Prefecture.



▶ Ferry



Ise Lobster

Iseebi

Fresh Ise lobster dishes can be enjoyed at various restaurants for three months starting in September when the Ise lobster fishing season opens in Saiki. Wild Ise lobsters with a firm flesh packed with sweetness and umami are top-notch in every aspect; color, luster, and size.



Local rice bowl dishes topped with foods from the sea and the mountains

Saiki Bowl Saiki don

Saiki that boasts the most extensive acreage in Kyushu, offers a wide selection of unique rice bowl dishes for you to savor the foods of the sea and the mountains with gusto, thanks to the region's bountiful nature. Find your favorite from Atsumeshi for enjoying marinated sashimi with piping hot rice to seafood bowl and wild game bowl.



Shirasu (Whitebait) Bowl Shirasu don

Scarce, fresh whitebait caught in the morning, and fluffy boiled whitebait: Both make perfect toppings for a bowl of rice, and if you come across them, you must try them before going home! Go on, take a big bite. They also come in mini bowls.

Venison Poêlé Bowl

Shika poeler don

The dish made with local venison thighs involves pan-frying the meat slowly in butter, leaving the inside tender and moist. The light-tasting dish has a gentle, gamey flavor.



Atsumeshi Atsumeshi

The rice bowl dish consists of sashimi such as yellowtail, horse mackerel, and mackerel marinated in a soy-based sauce, arranged over piping-hot rice, topped with condiments, and steeped in tea or dashi.



Column

We also recommend Saiki's bar foods with a twist

Umaimon (tasty food) Street

As the sun goes down, the red lanterns begin to light up in the street lined with izakayas (taverns) in Saiki. The so-called Umaimon Street bustles with people seeking Saiki's tasty fare. Besides eateries serving fresh seafood, those specializing in chicken dishes are also popular. Make sure you try the profoundly deep Saiki's culinary world.



A traditional and versatile seasoning of a fishing town

Saiki Sesame Dashi

Gomadashi (sesame dashi) is a soul food made with love by older women in fishing villages. It is made by grilling and flaking locally-caught horse mackerel and lizardfish and making a paste out of mirin, soy sauce, and lashings of sesame seeds. It makes a dish come to life and is used in a variety of dishes.



Seafood Bowl

Kaisen don

You must not miss trying a seafood bowl if you want to get your fill of the fruits of the sea nurtured by one of Japan's top fishing grounds, the Bungo Channel. Many kinds of seafood are caught throughout the year, and the numerous seasonal fish gracing the bowl speaks of the sea's abundance.



Enjoy many delicious morsels

Country feasts utilizing the region's climate await you in Saiki, where the environment is blessed with the sea, mountains, and rivers. Saiki's favorable environment created the phrase "Saiki's lord is alive thanks to the sea" in the Edo period. These days, people say, "the woodlands nurture the sea's bounty." The culinary offerings utilizing nature's bounty from the sea to the mountains are richly varied, from seafood bowls topped with a luxurious range of seafood to game and traditional home cooking. The abundance and freshness of countless food ingredients are thanks to the region's excellent environment blessed with the sea and mountains' bounty. To this day, the locals' creative ideas are giving birth to new local specialties. What will you try first in the town of gastronomy where you will find delicious things all year?



Saiki Sesame Dashi Udon

Saiki gomadashiudon

The regional dish consists of boiled udon topped with traditional sesame dashi, steeped in hot water. The white fish and aromatic sesame seasoning act as dashi when mixed well, creating a mild-flavored soup.

Saiki Sushi

Saiki Sushi

Fish swimming in the Bungo Channel's rough waves have firm flesh and just the right amount of fat. When a skilled chef works his magic on such excellent fresh fish, it instantly turns into Saiki sushi. Saiki's sea yields one of the highest volumes and varieties of seafood. The range of sushi ingredients alone is said to exceed 50. Please enjoy seafood when it is in-season as it tastes the best and provides the highest nutritional value.

Bungo Channel's seasonal catches and masterful skills create Saiki's gastronomic fare.



Sated by unforgettable, Delicious flavors

What will you do if you suddenly find time for a vacation?

Go where you want, when you want.

It'll be a great idea to go on a short vacation of experiencing the sights, smell, sound, and climate with your entire body.

Satisfy your appetite with delicious and unique regional dishes.

You could leap from the norm and sit at the sushi counter.

The gorgeous piece of sushi the chef's eye-catching handiwork and seasonal flavors create possess a magical power to make diners smile.

The city of Saiki has been protecting its mountains and nurturing its sea since the old days.

It has cultivated many regional products and culinary delicacies that utilize the city's climate, where people live in harmony with beautiful natural surroundings.

The city's abundant culinary offerings warm the heart of visitors.

There are many stories behind each dish.

They are waiting for you to discover them.

contents

Saiki Sushi... III

Enjoy many fresh morsels

Seafood bowl, Ise lobster

Saiki sesame dashi udon...IV · V