

Explore Saitama

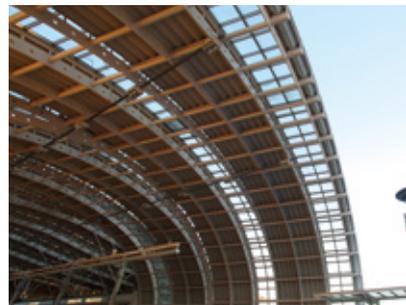
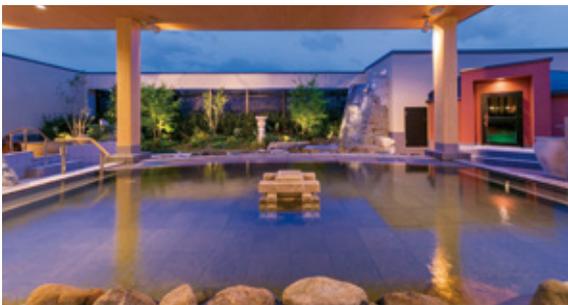
Treasure of Tokyo's Suburbs

Nature, Culture,
Gourmet & Japanese Craft



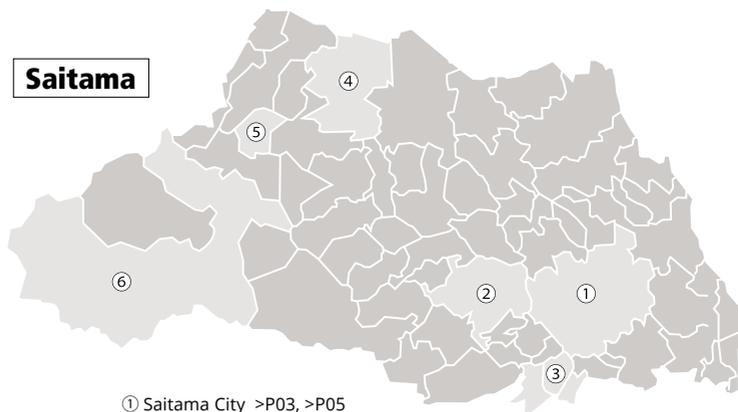


© The Omiya Bonsai Art Museum, Saitama





Saitama



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Cover photo: Hodosan-jinja Shrine (see P14)

Legend of Icons: Address 🏠 URL 📱

Scan the QR code to access the Google Map for more information.

Saitama City Area

World-famous Museums, Bonsai and Beautiful Surroundings!



Saitama City offers plenty to enjoy, from parks and breweries to Omiya Bonsai Art Museum and the Railway Museum!



START:
JR Toro Station

About
a 5-min
walk



The Omiya Bonsai Art Museum, Saitama

Bonsai trees are an inherent part of Japanese traditional culture, and for those of you who are curious about them, Omiya Bonsai Art Museum is the place for you. Some of the trees here, such as the Japanese white pine named “*Chiyo-no-Matsu*,” are hundreds of years old, and all of them are carefully looked after by bonsai masters. This museum isn't only limited to bonsai. It also has a collection of artwork and *suseki* (small stones with naturally beautiful shapes).

About a 5-min walk

📍 2-24-3 Torochō, Kita-ku, Saitama-shi



© STIB

Omiya Park

Japan is also famous for its parks, and Omiya Park was rated among the top 100 city parks in Japan, making it a must-see. With 1,200 cherry trees, an artificial lake, a red pine forest, and even a petting zoo and playground, Omiya Park has something for everyone!

📍 4 Takahanacho, Omiya-ku, Saitama-shi



About
a 7-min
walk



Omiya Bonsai Village

Omiya Bonsai Village was established by bonsai traders who had relocated as a group following the Great Kanto Earthquake (1923). The village is famous among bonsai lovers of the world as a sacred place for bonsai. Even the streets are named after trees like *Kaede* and *Momiji*! The Bonsai House of Four Seasons lets you explore the seasons in beautiful surroundings. You can even create your own bonsai in *Seikou-en* bonsai nursery. There are also English bonsai lessons for visitors.

📍 Bonsaicho, Kita-ku, Saitama-shi



Japanese white pine named *Chiyo-no matsu*



Musashi Ichinomiya Hikawa-jinja Shrine

Musashi Ichinomiya Hikawa-jinja Shrine is one of the oldest shrines in the Kanto region, with a history that stretches back over an astonishing 2,400 years! Its history and beauty make it popular with both locals and visitors alike, and it's often the site of traditional festivals and other events.

📍 1-407 Takahanacho, Omiya-ku, Saitama-shi



About
a 5-min
walk

nearby



The Railway Museum

No visit would be complete without a stop at the biggest railway museum in Japan, which contains five different areas: "Rolling Stock," "Job," "History," "Science," and "Future." There are different types of trains, simulators for steam trains and shinkansen, and fun, learning-related activities for both children and adults. Model train enthusiasts will love the huge diorama, which boasts an impressive track that's approximately 1,200 meters long!

📍 3-47 Onaricho, Omiya-ku, Saitama-shi



📍 1-36-1 Takahanacho, Omiya-ku, Saitama-shi

From JR Omiya Station, take the New Shuttle and get off at "Tetsudo-Hakubutsukan Station", then walk for 1 minute.

▶ New Shuttle Tetsudo-Hakubutsukan Station

Goal:



Bamboo Forest at Hikawa-no-mori Culture Hall

Surrounding Hikawa-no-mori Culture Hall is a beautiful bamboo forest, which is adjacent to the Hikawa-jinja Shrine. During the evening, the forest is illuminated with gentle lighting, creating a beautiful and truly mystical atmosphere.

📍 2-262-1, Takahanacho, Omiya-Ku, Saitama-shi



About an 8-min walk

Hikawa Brewery

Beer aficionados can't miss Hikawa Brewery, which opened in 2014 and is the first of its kind in Saitama City. There's a wide choice of food and delicious craft beer that's brewed in-house and served from ten different taps. Drop in on your way to the station!



HELLO CYCLING

Adventuring through Saitama with HELLO CYCLING reveals hidden gems and the charming every-day life of locals. After downloading the smartphone app, just enter your basic information and find an available bicycle with the built-in map. Rental fees may vary depending on location.

📱 www.hellocycling.jp/ (Japanese)



* Please be aware that riding a bicycle under the influence of alcohol is strictly prohibited by Japanese traffic law.

Saitama City Area

Where Past and Future Coexist



Touring the traditional buildings, you can enjoy the historical atmosphere of another era before returning to the present to view stunning night scenery!



START: JR Urawa Station

Urawa Unako-chan Statue

Designed by the creator of Anpanman, Yanase Takashi, Urawa Unako-chan was made to share Urawa's delicious *unagi* (freshwater eel) dishes!



About a 10-min walk



Masuya

Unagi has long been a part of Urawa's cuisine. Every shop has its own unique sauce, which is often handed down through generations. Unagi is usually grilled or baked before being served with rice, making it a light, healthy option. If you like to eat and enjoy tasting new things, head to Masuya to try their famous unagi meals!



Uramon Shotengai Shopping Street

Uramon *Shotengai* is a historical shopping street and the *monzen-machi* of *Gyokuzo-in* Temple. The word *monzen-machi* refers to the town or street that develops in front of a temple in response to the Japanese people going to worship at temples during their leisure time. There are wonderful cafes and gorgeous pottery shops in Uramon Shotengai for you to enjoy and pick up wonderful souvenirs!



🏠 Nakacho, Urawa-ku, Saitama-shi About a 7-min walk



▶ 🏠 7-1-3 Kishicho, Urawa-ku, Saitama-shi



About a 4-min walk



Tsuki-jinja Shrine

Like many other Japanese shrines, Tsuki-jinja Shrine has stone guardians. Unlike many other shrines, however, this one is guarded by stone rabbits, as the word *tsuki* means “moon” in Japanese, and, while some people see a face when they look at the moon, Japanese people see a rabbit! For this reason, rabbits are considered the messengers of the moon, making this a must-visit not just for people who are interested in shrines, but rabbit lovers too!

📍 3 Kishicho, Urawa-ku, Saitama-shi



About a 3-min ride to JR Saitama Shintoshin Station by train

Kanouya



About a 6-min walk

Kanouya is a river fish restaurant, which is run by a river fish wholesaler. You can eat delicious Japanese *sanjin* (three-god) cuisine, which features freshwater ingredients such as carp and eel, making for a wonderful meal! Both the hospitality of this restaurant and its carefully planned menu with its amazing food is designed to bring you health, beauty and happiness!

📍 4-101 Kishicho, Omiya-ku, Saitama-shi



The Night Scenery of Saitama Shintoshin

Although the location has a lot to offer during the day, it's just as beautiful by night, particularly from the Saitama Shintoshin area. You can enjoy a stunning view of the nighttime cityscape from several spots in Saitama Shintoshin, such as SAITAMA SUPER ARENA, Keyaki Hiroba and COCOON CITY. Keyaki Hiroba has around 20 restaurants and retail shops on the first floor, where you can have a delicious meal while shopping.

📍 **Keyaki Hiroba** 10 Shintoshin, Chuo-ku, Saitama-shi



© SAITAMA SUPER ARENA



About a 5-min walk

Goal:

JR Saitama Shintoshin Station

Stamina Ramen and Stamina Curry

With its great price and even better taste, stamina ramen is one of the best, most popular soul foods in Saitama Prefecture. Its unique sauce is made from ingredients such as leeks, minced meat, and *Doubanjiang* (chili bean paste). You can also have it sprinkled over rice as stamina curry!

📍 **Nyan Nyan Kitaurawa** 1-2-13 Kitaurawa, Urawa-ku, Saitama-shi



Kawagoe Area

A Window to the Past

Kawagoe offers a glimpse of feudal lord lifestyle at Honmaru Goten among the unique historical buildings on Kurazukuri Zone!



START: JR and Tobu Railway Kawagoe Station / Seibu Railway Hon-Kawagoe Station

About a 20-min walk or 12-min ride on the Co-Edo Loop Bus from JR and Tobu Railway Kawagoe Station, or a 15-min walk from Seibu Railway Hon-Kawagoe Station.



Kita-in Temple

Believed to have been built in the 9th century, Kita-in Temple houses a wealth of history. After the original temple was destroyed in a fire in 1638, several parts of the original Edo Castle were moved here. These include the reception hall and writing alcove. After the historic fires of Edo, the surviving parts of Kita-in Temple stand as a reminder of the great castle.

📍 1-20-1 Kosenbamachi, Kawagoe-shi

Kawagoe Hikawa-jinja Shrine

Built about 1500 years ago, Kawagoe Hikawa-jinja Shrine became an important place of worship during the Edo period (1603-1868). Enshrined within are two couples of married gods. For this reason, the shrine is known as a shrine of marriage, where people should go to worship the “deity of matchmaking”.

📍 2-11-3 Miyashitamachi, Kawagoe-shi



About a 10-min walk



About a 15-min walk

Honmaru Goten (residence) of Kawagoe Castle

Honmaru Goten is the only surviving building of the former Kawagoe Castle. The structure, which was built in 1848, served as the entrance, hall and office of *Karo* (chief retainer). This unique spot offers a glimpse into the past with cultural details throughout. There's even a life-size doll of a former retainer that adds to the atmosphere.

📍 2-13-1 Kuruwamachi, Kawagoe-shi





Kurazukuri Zone: Kawagoe Ichibangai Shopping Street and Bell Tower

Kurazukuri Zone is the most popular place to visit in Kawagoe. Kurazukuri is a unique style of architecture that has been rebuilt after fires decimated the town in 1893. These traditional storehouse buildings remain preserved and are still in use today by many shops. The bell tower known as the Toki-no-kane stands over the street at the center of Kurazukuri Zone. The bell's chimes can be heard ringing throughout the area four times a day adding to the atmosphere while visitors shop and sample the local cuisine.

🏠 15-7 Saiwaicho, Kawagoe-shi



About a 10-min walk



About a 10-min walk



Koedo Kurari

Koedo Kurari, or the Kawagoe City Industry and Tourism Center, was once an old sake cellar used by the Kagamiyama Shuzo Brewery from 1875. It has since been remodeled and now features 34 different breweries from the Saitama area that can be sampled on the premises. The unique system allows customers to buy special tokens that can be used in sake tasting vending machines that distribute the different varieties available! Also available in Koedo Kurari is the rich and colorfully labeled COEDO beer. Each is based off of classic Japanese hues and feature their own flavors.

🏠 1-10-1 Shintomicho, Kawagoe-shi

About a 15-min walk from JR and Tobu Railway Kawagoe Station, or a 4-min walk from Seibu Railway Hon-Kawagoe Station



Goal: JR and Tobu Railway Kawagoe Station / Seibu Railway Hon-Kawagoe Station



Taisho Roman Dori Street, Kashiya Yokocho and Craft Workshops

Beyond the major sights, there are still many other things to experience in Kawagoe. Only 10 minutes from Hon-Kawagoe Station is Taisho Roman Dori Street. This charming street features many buildings from the Taisho period (1912-1926) and is a popular shooting location for Japanese television dramas and movies looking to capture that classic atmosphere. *Kashiya Yokocho* (Penny Candy Lane) is another nearby point of interest, especially for those with a sweet tooth. Many Japanese traditional sweets can be purchased at the many shops lining this shopping street. For a more hands-on experience, there are also many workshops held in the area, from glasswork crafts to pottery, that will spark your creativity.

🏠 **Taisho Roman Street** Renjakucho, Kawagoe-shi

🏠 **Kashiya Yokocho** 2 Motomachi, Kawagoe-shi



Wako, Asaka and Niiza Area

A Fresh Breeze Rolling Through Rural Saitama



Cycling through Saitama takes you on a whimsical tour of the area's rural landscape and suburban charm, allowing you to find hidden treasures along the way.



START: Tobu Railway Wakoshi Station



About
15-min by
bicycle



Borrow a bicycle from HELLO CYCLING around Wakoshi Station, then begin your journey! *More information on P4.

The JGSD (Japan Ground Self-Defense Force) Public Information Center

Experience what it's like behind the wheel of a tank or military helicopter through simulations at the JGSD Public Information Center. You can get an up-close look at these machines while learning about Japan's impressive technology, and even take fun photos in camouflage uniforms. 🏠 4-6 Sakaecho, Asaka-shi



About
20-min by
bicycle



Saitama Prefectural Wako Forest Park

After a breezy ride around the JGSD Camp Asaka, take in more of Saitama's natural beauty and join the cheery locals at Saitama Prefectural Wako Forest Park, popular for its open fields and leisurely jogging courses.

🏠 3 Hirotsawa, Wako-shi



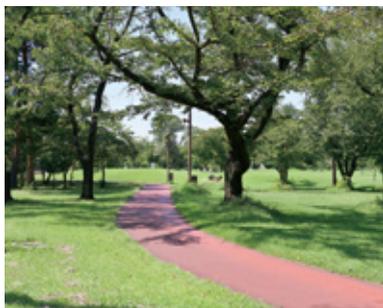
Niikura Furusato Folk Houses

See how families lived in the past and learn about traditional Japanese culture while visiting this carefully reconstructed farmhouse from the mid-Edo period (1603-1868). Feel the charm of the old days from the thatched roof and traditional farm facilities.

🏠 2-33-1 Shimoniikura, Wako-shi



About 25-min by bicycle





Shiroyama Park

Built on the old grounds of Oka Castle, Shiroyama Park splits into three parts, looking over the Kurome River. After hiking up this landmark, you can rest at the picnic area. For more historical sights, the Historic Square Hiiragizuka Kofun Tomb rests nearby.

🏠 3-386 Oka, Asaka-shi

About 30-min by bicycle. If you have time, hop back on your bicycle and visit the nearby Asakaohashi Bridge and Shinseibashi Area



Center for Niiza Agricultural Products Outlet Stores (Toretate Batake)

Recharge after a day of cycling at the Toretate Batake with some sweets, like Satokagura, made with Niiza-grown carrots. You can also find their specialty carrot udon as well as other locally grown products from Saitama.

🏠 6-1-48 Nobitome, Niiza-shi



About 3-min by bicycle



Goal: JR Niiza Station



Kurome Riverbank Cherry Blossom

Kurome River is beautiful year-round, but it really shines in the spring as cherry blossoms bloom. The scenic riverside path makes a great cycling course, and it is deservedly called one of the most beautiful places around this area.

About 30-min by bicycle



.....▶ 🏠 Asaka-shi
About 10-min by bicycle

Nobitomeyosui Canal & Nobitome Park

Nobitome is another area that highlights Niiza City's beautiful scenery with tranquil streams. The Nobitomeyosui Canal was ordered to be built by the influential feudal lord of Kawagoe to bring drinking water to the area from the Tamagawajosui Canal.

🏠 **Nobitome Park** 4-3-1 Nobitome, Niiza-shi

Return the bicycle on the way to JR Niiza Station. The station is a 11-min walk from Toretate Batake.



Photo by Board of Education, Niiza City

SAIKO DOMAN GREEN PARK BBQ GARDEN & Sakitama Bridge Night Scenery

If you have time for a pit stop, consider refueling your energy at the SAIKO DOMAN GREEN PARK BBQ GARDEN and enjoy eating and drinking with friends among Saitama's nature. In the evening, you can also catch the nighttime view of the Sakitama Bridge.



© myy_t

🏠 **SAIKO DOMAN GREEN PARK BBQ GARDEN**

745 Omose, Oaza, Toda-shi

🏠 **Sakitama Bridge** Located between Toda-shi and Wako-shi



Fukaya Area

A Big City with A Big Past!

Fukaya is especially famous as the site of Japan's first mechanized brick factory and the birthplace of Shibusawa Eiichi, who helped modernize Japan.



START: JR Fukaya Station

JR Fukaya Station

JR Fukaya Station's design imitates Tokyo Station, which uses bricks baked in a factory located in Fukaya.

About an
11-min
walk



Former Nanatsu Ume Sake Brewery

After falling out of use as a brewery, the Nanatsu Ume Sake Brewery found a new purpose as a small collection of shops and even a movie theater called Fukaya Cinema! While a few parts are off-limits to visitors, there's bound to be something here for everyone to enjoy.

▲ 9-12 Fukayacho, Fukaya-shi



.....
About
8-min by
bicycle



Bizenkyo Iron Bridge (Plate Girder Bridge)

Bizenkyo Iron Bridge is a plate girder bridge that was built in 1895. It has been designated as a National Important Cultural Property and was part of Japan's first private railway, linking the brick factory to Fukaya Station.

▲ 290 Joshikimen, Fukaya-shi



About
8-min by
bicycle



Nakasendo Architecture Walk

Take a walk from Former Nanatsu Ume Sake Brewery to Nakasendo for an intriguing stroll through history! You can see many old red-brick buildings as you walk along, such as the Tsukamoto *Shoten* Store with its Japanese-style machiya and unusual red-brick *udatsu* (short pillars), or the Fujihashi Tozaburo Shoten Store and its tall, red-brick chimney. Rent a bicycle at Fukkachan shop to continue your trip.

▲ Tsukamoto Shoten Store 1-5 Motosumicho, Fukaya-shi

▲ Fujihashi Tozaburo Shoten Store 4-10 Nakacho, Fukaya-shi



Photo by Hotetu no Tatujiin



About
20-min by
bicycle



Japan Brick Manufacturing Company Former Brick Factory Facilities

The Japan Brick Manufacturing Company was established by Shibusawa Eiichi and other founders in 1887. It produced the materials for many of Japan's beautiful red-brick buildings, including Tokyo Station and the Kanagawa Prefectural Museum of Cultural History. The factory finally closed its doors in the 2006 and has been converted into a museum full of fascinating information!

🏠 28-10 Joshikimen, Fukaya-shi



About
3-min by
bicycle

Former Residence of Shibusawa-Nakanchi

For people wanting to visit a part of Japanese history, look no further than *Nakanchi*, the birthplace of Shibusawa Eiichi. Both the main building – which was built by his brother-in-law, Ichiro, in 1895 – and garden are open to the public free of charge. You can also enjoy a stroll in the adjoining Seien Park!

🏠 247-1 Chiarajjima, Fukaya-shi

Shibusawa Eiichi Memorial Museum

Along with its own charms, Fukaya is also special as the birthplace of Shibusawa Eiichi, who's rightly called the "father of the modern Japanese economy." In the Shibusawa Eiichi Memorial Museum, you can see various displays of materials and photographs that showcase the achievements of this extraordinary man. There's also a statue of Shibusawa Eiichi himself for you to admire! 🏠 1204 Shimotebaka, Fukaya-shi



© Shibusawa Eiichi Memorial Museum Collection

Fukkachan Yokocho Alley

If you're feeling hungry, then *Fukkachan Yokocho* is the place to be! There are nine restaurants with different styles of food. You can even sit in one. You can enjoy local food, such as Fukaya *negi* (leeks) here.

🏠 2-18 Nishijimacho, Fukaya-shi

About 25-min by bicycle. You can return the bicycle here.



.....
About a
5-min
walk



Goal:
JR Fukaya Station

Shibusawa Eiichi and the Modernization of Japan

In terms of modernization, Japan has come a long way in a short space of time. Much of that is thanks to Shibusawa Eiichi (1840-1931), who made huge contributions to Japan's economy. Shibusawa Eiichi helped establish nearly 500 companies. Additionally, as a private sector entrepreneur, his work led to friendly Japan-US relations. He was also involved in nearly 600 other projects, such as education, urban planning, and financial support of various medical facilities.



© Shibusawa Eiichi Memorial Museum Collection

Nagatoro Area

A Placid Geographical Journey



Near Chichibu, Nagatoro's natural beauty can be experienced by cruising down the Arakawa River or hiking around Iwadatami.



START: Chichibu Railway Nagatoro Station

Nagatoro River Cruise

Anyone seeking a unique way to experience the gorgeous natural surroundings of Nagatoro should check out the Nagatoro River Cruise. A short walk from Nagatoro Station will take you to the river where boatmen steer groups of about 20 passengers down the Arakawa River. Voyager can experience up-close views of the rock cliff faces and foliage bordering the river. While much of the cruise is quite tranquil, there are some lively rapids along the way that should appeal to those looking for a bit of excitement!



GOAL: Chichibu Railway Nagatoro Station

You can also reach Chichibu City by taking the Chichibu Railway



Nagatoro Iwadatami Dori Shopping Street

This street, which stretches from Nagatoro Station to the Iwadatami rocks, is a popular place to shop as souvenir stalls line the area. If you need to refuel after a day of boating and hiking, try some of the local cuisine at one of the many restaurants. Miso potatoes and miso pork crepes are some of the tasty foods you'll find there.

🏠 Nagatoromachi, Chichibu-gun

Nagatoro Valley and Iwadatami

At the upper part of the Arakawa River is the Nagatoro Valley. This especially scenic area has breathtaking views year-round as the changing seasons offer a varying color palette. In Autumn, vivid reds and oranges blanket the valley, while in the spring, the plum and cherry blossoms line the area. Of particular note are the Iwadatami rocks. These natural formations extend along the river and beckon hikers to traverse their unique structures that have formed over millennia. They present a beautiful contrast with the surrounding greenery.



Saitama and the Flavors of Nature



The region's natural resources have blessed Saitama with delicious tea, eels, and sweet potatoes used in local specialties. Additionally, udon is a big hit around the dining table.



Indulge in Local Cuisine and B-Class Gourmet



Waraji Katsu and Miso Pork

Unlike other egg-topped pork cutlet bowls, Chichibu's Waraji Katsu stays true to its roots with just good old-fashioned deep-fried cutlets over rice. Another mouthwatering Chichibu dish that has been around for generations is sweet and salty miso pork. Try them both at Chinbata!

🏠 **Chinbata**
5919 Omiya, Chichibu-shi



Kawahaba Udon

Saitama's love of udon tops the charts if you're measuring in width. Kawahaba Udon, or "river-width" udon, stretches eight centimeters side-to-side, honoring Arakawa River, the widest river in Japan, which runs through Saitama. Try Kawahaba Udon with a variety of toppings at Kuraichi.

🏠 **Kuraichi**
4-1-36 Ningyo, Konosu-shi



Tofu Ramen

Saitama's original tofu ramen, flavored with light soy sauce and ground meat, has become the ramen representative for the prefecture. The slices of tofu make its signature look, taste, and texture. Get authentic tofu ramen at its birthplace, Restaurant Otemon.

🏠 **Restaurant Otemon**
3-1-1 Ota, Iwatsuki-ku, Saitama-shi

Refreshment and Refinement from the Tea Fields

Sayama Tea

From the luscious green tea fields of Sayama, the people of Saitama harvest the freshest leaves to indulge in Japan's tea culture. The famous leaves are also used for matcha sweets, lattes, and more. Discover the rich flavor of Sayama Tea at Tea Café Musashi Rikyu (Araien Honten).

🏠 **Tea Café Musashi Rikyu**
1-15-5 Kotesashicho, Tokorozawa-shi



The Rich Flavor of Saitama's "Kawagoe Sweet Potato"



Kawagoe Sweet Potato Treats

Kawagoe's sweet potatoes are Saitama's specialty. This charming shop, with its traditional look and feel, creates delicious sweets that make the best use of the domestically produced sweet potatoes. They offer plenty of delicious items that make a great souvenir from Saitama.

🏠 **Imonokura** 7-7 Saiwaicho, Kawagoe-shi



Sweet Potato Cuisine

The region's sweet potatoes are so delicious that they are worthy of being the main course. You can try a mini *kaiseki*, a traditional Japanese course meal, featuring the incredible versatility of the sweet potato at YAMAWA's Café Torocco.

🏠 **Café Torocco** 7-1 Saiwaicho, Kawagoe-shi

The Endless Flow of Saitama Sake



Saitama Local Sake

Blessed with abundant natural resources, Saitama is one of the top producers of sake in Japan. Throughout the region, there are plenty of local, award-winning sake brews to taste as you wind down from a day of adventure in Saitama.

🏠 **Ishimaru Shoten Sakayanotonari**
2-403 Sakuragicho, Omiya-ku,
Saitama-shi



Whisky Ichiro's Malt

Ichiro's Malt, by Chichibu native Akuto Ichiro, infuses the beautiful natural surroundings for an authentic flavor worthy of international praise at the World Whisky Awards. Have a glass after relaxing at Matsurinoyu.

🏠 **Seibu-Chichibu Ekimae Onsen Matsurinoyu** 1-16-15
Nosakamachi, Chichibu-shi



Chichibu Wine

Chichibu Wine is made from 100% Japanese Koshu grapes, and it boasts a great, well-balanced flavor that's nurtured by the region's lush nature. Enrich yourself with this flavorful wine after a relaxing dip at Matsurinoyu.

🏠 **Seibu-Chichibu Ekimae Onsen Matsurinoyu** 1-16-15
Nosakamachi, Chichibu-shi

Explore Saitama through Fun Activities and Attractions



Saitama captivates visitors with scenic hiking paths, fascinating Japanese cultural, and amazing spots.

The Excitement and Enchantment of Nature Chichibu Geo Gravity Park

Immerse yourself in the sweeping forests of Chichibu by flying through the verdant landscape on a zip line or bungee jumping into a vast canyon as the Arakawa River rushes. There are plenty of exciting activities that reveal the astonishing natural surroundings from a new perspective. Spectacular views combined with electrifying thrills invigorate the senses.

🏠 730-4 Arakawaniegawa, Chichibu-shi



Pioneering a New Blend of High Culture and Popular Culture Tokorozawa Sakura Town

This new culture capital welcomes guests with Musashino Reiwa Shrine, which adds a modern twist to the traditional Japanese shrine aesthetic. Towering over the rest of Tokorozawa Sakura Town is the Kadokawa Culture Museum, expertly designed by legendary architect Kuma Kengo. Inside, the "Bookshelf Theater" creates a community for stories with a massive 8-meter-tall sanctuary for books and manga.

🏠 3-31-3 Wada, Higashitokorozawa, Tokorozawa-shi



Unforgettable Family Fun in Saitama

MOOMINVALLEY PARK & mestä village

MOOMINVALLEY PARK celebrates the world and stories of Moomin. Fans will enjoy exploring the extensive gallery, and while outdoor enthusiasts will marvel at the magnificent scenery and artistry on display. In addition, friends and family can appreciate the Scandinavian lifestyle at the nearby metsä village.

🏠 327-6 Miyazawa, Oaza, Hanno-shi



©Moomin Characters™

A Stroll through Saitama's Ancient History Sakitama Kofun Park

Sakitama Kofun Park is a cluster of ancient burial mounds. Although its history is solemn, the breathtaking landscape evokes feelings of hope and peace. In spring, the park's stunning cherry blossoms fill the area with bright colors, attracting crowds of sightseers who stroll over the many hills admiring the view.

🏠 Sakitama, Gyoda-shi



Discover Saitama through Traditional Crafts



Hina ningyo, kokin-bina style (Edo period)

The Ageless Beauty of Dolls Iwatsuki Ningyo Museum

The beauty is in the details of these *ningyo* (dolls). Iwatsuki, the "city of ningyo," grew to fame back in World War II as many dealers started business in the area. Today, the ningyo are still displayed attractively during the *Hinamatsuri*, or Girl's Festival. See a wonderfully well-preserved collection of ningyo at the Iwatsuki Ningyo Museum.

🏠 6-1-1 Honcho, Iwatsuki-ku, Saitama-shi



Craft Lasting Memories with Washi Paper Washi-no-Sato, Higashichichibu Village

As the washi center of the Kanto region, Higashichichibu Village and Ogawa Town uphold the Japanese tradition of Hosokawa papermaking, earning UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage status. The durable paper is handmade by skilled artisans with the help of the Tsukikawa River's clear water. Try creating your own colorful postcards and paper crafts at Washi-no-Sato.

🏠 441 Mido, Oaza, Higashichichibu-mura, Chichibu-gun



Sake Brewery with a flavorful history since 1851 Mikadomatsu Matsuoka Brewery

Guided tours welcome guests into Mikadomatsu Matsuoka Brewery to learn and sample sake enriched by Saitama's nature and generations of brewing mastery. It holds Saitama's record for the most consecutive wins of the National Research Institute of Brewing's "Gold Award."

🏠 7-2 Shimofurutera, Oaza, Ogawa-machi, Hiki-gun

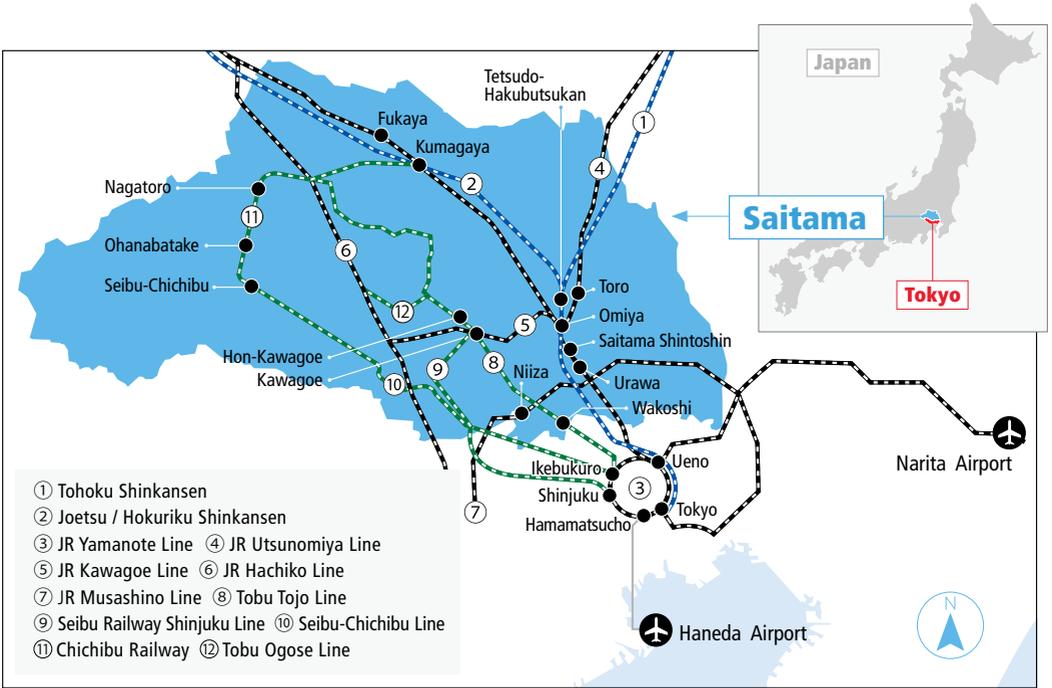
A Day Trip Soaking in Japanese Culture

In Japan, travelers love to indulge in one-day hotspring or spa trips, to enjoy local food, exploration, and a soothing dip before heading back home. Saitama is an excellent place for one-day hotspring or spa trips because its proximity to Tokyo. If you have more time, you can also stay overnight at a *ryokan* (a traditional Japanese inn).

🏠 **Biraku Onsen SPA-HERBS** 1-816-8 Uetakecho, Kita-ku, Saitama-shi
Ofuro Café Utatane 4-179-3 Onaricho, Kita-ku, Saitama-shi **Miyazawa Lake Onsen-Kirari Bettei** 27-49 Miyazawa, Oaza, Hanno-shi **Seibu-Chichibu Ekimae Onsen Matsurinoyu** 1-16-15 Nosakamachi, Chichibu-shi
Fukaya Hanazono SPA HANAYU NO MORI 888 Hitomiyakushido, Fukaya-shi



Fukaya Hanazono SPA HANAYU NO MORI



JR Omiya Station

Take the Shinkansen from Tokyo Station (about 25 min), JR Ueno-Tokyo Line or JR Keihin Tohoku Line (about 40 min), or ride the Shonan-Shinjuku Line from Shinjuku (about 35 min).

JR and Tobu Railway Kawagoe Station

From Tokyo, take the JR Yamanote Line or Tokyo Metro Marunouchi Line to Ikebukuro Station (about 25 min). Then transfer to the Tobu Tojo Line (about 35 min) or the JR Kawagoe Line and Saikyo Line (about 55 min) bound for Kawagoe Station.

Seibu Railway Hon-Kawagoe Station

Take the limited express train from Seibu-Shinjuku Station (about 45 min).

JR Fukaya Station

From Tokyo Station take the JR Ueno-Tokyo Line (about 90 min).

Tobu Railway Wakoshi Station

From Tokyo Station, take the Tokyo Metro Marunouchi Line to Ikebukuro Station (about 20 min). Then transfer to the Yurakucho Line bound for Wakoshi Station (about 20 min), or transfer to the Tobu Tojo Line bound for Wakoshi Station (about 15 min).

Seibu Railway Seibu-Chichibu Station

From Tokyo Station, take the JR Yamanote Line or the Tokyo Metro Marunouchi Line to Ikebukuro Station (about 25 min). Then transfer to the Seibu Line and take a limited express train bound for Seibu-Chichibu Station (about 80 min).

JR Kumagaya Station

Take the Shinkansen from Tokyo Station (about 40 min) or the JR Ueno-Tokyo Line (about 70 min).

Saitama Prefecture, Department of Industry and Labor, Tourism Division

Saitama Prefecture Products & Tourism Association  **Saitama Style**

Saitama Prefecture Official Travel Website
 CHOKOTABI SAITAMA URL: en.chocotabi-saitama.jp/



 Saitama JAPAN Just North of Tokyo-en

 [saitamakanko](https://twitter.com/saitamakanko) (Japanese)

 [@saitama.japan.official](https://www.instagram.com/saitama.japan.official)

*Please do not drink alcohol while using a bicycle. Riding bicycles while under the influence of alcohol is prohibited by the Japanese Road Traffic Law.

*The information is current as of December 2020. Please check the official website of the facilities for the latest information.