

# KARATSU

**K**aratsu ware is a historic, traditional art handed down for years. The production of Karatsu ware is believed to have started around the 1580s in the territory of the Hata, the lord of Kishitake Castle. Later, the production volume of Karatsu ware was increased by adopting techniques from Korean potters who immigrated to Japan after the Korean Campaigns of Toyotomi Hideyoshi. Karatsu ware spread to Kyoto, Osaka, and other areas in Western Japan. It became so popular that all styles of pottery were called "Karatsu-mono." Karatsu ware was also popular among the masters of the tea ceremony – as their old saying goes: "first, Ido; second, Raku; and third, Karatsu."

Now, 70 or more pottery factories are interspersed around Karatsu, creating their own styles of Karatsu ware by getting inspiration from the innovative styles of contemporary artists.



## E Karatsu (Painted Karatsu Ware)

Karatsu ware is known as the first painted pottery in Japan. E-Karatsu is a typical traditional style of Karatsu ware, painted with iron oxide paints called "oni-ita" and glazed with a transparent glaze. Various types of Karatsu ware works are adorned with beautiful paintings. They come in a variety of patterns, ranging from flowers and plants to birds.

## Madara Karatsu (Mottled Karatsu Ware)

Madara Karatsu is a style of Karatsu ware which uses It is named after its characteristic blue and black mottled pattern created by the melting of the iron contained in the clay and the pine ash from the firewood. This traditional style of Karatsu ware has been produced since the late 16th century.

A historical heritage handed down for more than 400 years

# Karatsu Ware

## Kuro Karatsu (Black Karatsu Ware)

Kuro-Karatsu is a style of Karatsu ware which uses an iron-rich glaze. Depending on the content of iron and the level of oxidation, the color varies, ranging from amber to brown and deep black. They are all referred to as "Kuro-Karatsu."



## Chosen Karatsu (Korean Karatsu Ware)

Chosen Karatsu is characterized by the combination of two different glazes, an iron oxide glaze and an ash glaze, which run together freely when fired at a high temperature. In many cases, the milky white ash glaze runs down over the black iron oxide glaze.



## Mishima (Slip inlay decoration)

This is a technique adopted from Korean Yi Dynasty ceramics, which are called "Mishima" in Japan. In this process, floral and linear patterns are stamped or carved on the surface of the semi-dried clay, filled with a contrasting slip, and then coated with a glaze. In Karatsu, this slip inlay technique was adopted in the Edo period.



## Kohiki (White slip pottery)

It is a style of pottery in which the dark brown clay body is covered with a white slip and then glazed with an ash glaze before fired. This technique was adopted in modern times.



In addition...

there are various other styles of Karatsu ware, such as Muji-Karatsu (plain Karatsu), Ki-Karatsu (yellow Karatsu), Ao-Karatsu (green Karatsu), Hakeme-Karatsu (brush-marked Karatsu), Hori-Karatsu (carved Karatsu), and Jakatsu-Karatsu (scaled Karatsu). They are named after their patterns and styles.

## Best Events to Explore the Beauty of Karatsu Ware

### Karatsu Yakimon Festival

Aimed to familiarize visitors with Karatsu ware, which has a history of more than 400 years, the festival offers a variety of events, such as the exhibitions and on-site sales of Karatsu ware works at stores that are usually unoccupied and the collaboration event of Karatsu ware artists and local restaurants for gourmets.

### Karatsu Pottery Tourism

Autumn pottery factory tours take place in Karatsu known as a town of pottery. You can visit pottery factories in Karatsu, which is famous for its scenic beauty. Consisting of the special exhibitions and on-site sales of exclusive Karatsu ware works, communication with ceramic artists, and the tasting of local specialties and delicacies, the tour is designed to explore the elegance of Karatsu ware and the glamour of the town. Wouldn't you like to escape from the daily bustle and embark on a relaxing journey to the town of pottery?

Mid-Nov.



# KARATSU

## Karatsu Tourist Map

Japan's 3 greatest pine groves

Niji-no-Matsubara Pine Groves

Gift from the river  
Freshwater fish dishes

Famous for cherry blossoms and wisteria flowers

Karatsu Castle

Famous as one of the three best morning markets in Japan  
Yobuko Morning Market

Swim like a fish!  
Experience something out of the ordinary and impressive

Marine sports

Designed by Kingo Tatsuno, engaged in the construction of Tokyo Station and the Bank of Japan Headquarters and nicknamed the "Father of Modern Japanese Architecture"

Former Karatsu Bank

Known for the power of answering prayers for winning the lottery  
Hoto Shrine

Enjoy delicacies from the land and sea  
Special delicacies of Karatsu

Listed as one of Japan's 100 most beautiful terraced paddy fields  
Terraced Paddy Fields in Warabino

Served as a base for allied military generals in the Warring States period  
Nagoya Castle Ruins

Appreciated as one of the highest-quality beef breeds  
Saga beef

Listed as one of Japan's 100 most beautiful falls  
Kannon Falls

Natural Monument  
Nanatsugama Caves

UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage  
Karatsu Kunchi

Representative seafood of Saga  
Yobuko Squid

Karatsu ware

Corresponding to multi-lingual  
Please scan the QRcode

Download the app "catapoke".

Can be read or listened to on a smartphone or tablet.

스마트폰이나 태블릿에서도 읽거나 들을 수 있습니다

可通过智能手机或平板电脑阅读、收听

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Karatsu Tourist Association Website

# POTTERY

Karatsu District

Hotel	[TEL.]	[Accommodation capacity]	[Reference prices for accommodation]
1 Business Hotel Chitose	☎72-3361	33 people	S: 4,700 yen (excluding tax) – T: 7,800 yen (excluding tax) – No credit cards accepted
2 Business Hotel Sola	☎72-3003	72 people	5,100 yen (including tax) – No credit cards accepted
3 Karatsu Dai-ichi Hotel	☎74-1000	132 people	S: 7,000 yen (including tax) – T: 12,000 yen (including tax) –
4 Asuka Hotel	☎75-1210	46 people	S: 5,800 yen (including tax) – T: 17,800 yen (including tax) –
5 Karatsu Dai-ichi Hotel Riviere	☎75-2000	172 people	7,000 yen (including tax) –
6 Karatsu Seaside Hotel	☎75-3300	356 people	14,700 yen –
7 Hotel&Resorts SAGA-KARATSU (Karatsu Royal Hotel)	☎72-0111	732 people	10,500 yen (including tax) –
8 Jonai Hotel	☎72-4000	36 people	S: 3,900 yen (including tax) – T: 7,000 yen (including tax) –
Public accommodation			
9 Kokumin Shukusha Nijinomatsubara Hotel	☎73-9111	110 people	8,000 yen (excluding tax) –
Japanese-style hotel			
10 Ryokan Nagasakiso	☎72-2254	Individual: 14 people Group: 40 people	10,000 yen (excluding tax) –
11 Ryokan Wataya	☎72-4181	61 people	15,750 yen (including tax) –
12 Ryokan Fukuya	☎74-1298	25 people	4,320 yen (including tax) –
13 Onyado Kaisyu	☎72-8101	50 people	10,800 yen (including tax) – 16,800 yen (including tax)
14 Nagisakan Kimura	☎72-4617	55 people	12,960 yen (including tax) –
15 Ryokan Omasa	☎72-4446	40 people	10,800 yen (including tax) –
16 Mizuno Ryokan	☎72-6201	30 people	20,000 yen (excluding tax) –
17 Karatsu Castle	☎58-8381	22 people	4,500 yen (excluding tax) –
18 Matsunoi	☎72-8131	45 people	15,000 yen (excluding tax) –
19 Yoyokaku	☎72-7181	60 people	20,000 yen (excluding tax) –
20 Sakamotoya Ryokan	☎72-2842	20 people	7,000 yen (including tax) –
21 Kawaguchiya Ryokan	☎72-3620	18 people	3,800 yen (including tax) –
22 Shirasagiso	☎74-7819	25 people	5,500 yen (including tax) –
23 Nankaiso	☎72-3806	13 people	4,000 yen (including tax) –
24 Midori Ryokan	☎72-4961	26 people	3,800 yen (including tax) –
25 Ikiya Ryokan	☎73-6683	15 people	5,500 yen (including tax) –
26 Asahiya Ryokan	☎72-4301	10 people	5,200 yen (including tax) –

Hamatama District

Japanese-style hotel			
27 Uohan	☎56-6234	90 people	12,000 yen (excluding tax) – 30,000 yen (excluding tax)
28 Shioyu Naginoto	☎56-7007	57 people	16,000 yen (excluding tax) –
Guesthouse			
29 Minshuku Hamatama	☎56-3040	15 people	4,000 yen (including tax) –
Homestay-style inn			
30 Dosanko Mira Farm	☎56-2328	Limited to only one group per night	10,000 yen (excluding tax)

Nanayama District

Rental cottage			
31 Loft Nanayama	☎096-288-9629		For 6 people: 18,360 yen For 8 people: 21,600 yen
Campsite			
32 Oldena Saen	☎70-7010		For 5 people: 16,200 yen (including tax) –

\*Please note that the room rates may change depending on the time of year, the type of room, and the number of guests. Moreover, some prices include tax and some do not. It is therefore advisable to contact each facility for current prices.

Kyuragi District

Japanese-style hotel			
33 Tenzankaku	☎65-2221	25 people	5,000 yen (excluding tax) –
34 Seiryu	☎63-2006	20 people	5,800 yen (including tax) –

Ouchi District

Japanese-style hotel			
35 Miyakoso	☎62-2413	40 people	10,800 yen (including tax) –
36 Satomiso	☎62-3678	15 people	11,000 yen (including tax) –
37 Sari Onsen Ginnoyu	☎62-4645	40 people	12,960 yen (including tax) –

Kitahata District

Guesthouse			
38 Minshuku Kitahata	☎64-3130	14 people	5,300 yen (excluding tax)

Hizen District

Japanese-style hotel			
39 Ebisuya Ryokan	☎54-0123	21 people	6,000 yen (excluding tax) –
40 Kokumin Shukusha Irohajima	☎53-2111	105 people	7,000 yen (including tax) –

Guesthouse			
41 Minshuku Oura	☎53-2811	15 people	6,500 yen (including tax) –
42 Minshuku Shima	☎54-2152	20 people	8,500 yen (excluding tax) –
43 Minshuku Toeimaru	☎54-2165	13 people	7,500 yen (including tax) –

Homestay-style guesthouse			
44 Farm Log Miura	☎090-7299-4227	Limited to only one group per night	10,000 yen (excluding tax)

Chinzei District

Japanese-style hotel			
45 Taiboukaku	☎82-1711	100 people	12,960 yen (including tax) – 27,000 yen (including tax)
46 Chikazaki Bekkan	☎82-2144	85 people	6,800 yen (excluding tax) –
47 Yasubei	☎82-5098	40 people	8,000 yen (excluding tax) –
48 Yamashita Ryokan	☎82-9851	15 people	7,000 yen (excluding tax) –
49 Ichifuku	☎82-9814	15 people	7,000 yen (including tax) –
50 Chinzeimachi Kokumin Shukusha Hadomisaki	☎82-1511	66 people	9,050 yen (including tax) –
Guesthouse			
51 Minshuku Sachi	☎82-4382	14 people	7,000 yen (excluding tax) –
52 Minshuku Fuji	☎82-1737	20 people	Business: 5,500 yen (excluding tax) – Sightseeing: 8,000 yen (excluding tax) –
53 Minshuku Yusuge	☎82-9463	20 people	8,000 yen (excluding tax) – 12,000 yen (excluding tax)
54 Ryoshi Minshuku Amagoya	☎090-4515-4786	10 people	8,000 yen (including tax) –

Yobuko District

Japanese-style hotel			
55 Ryokan Izumo	☎82-3706	30 people	10,800 yen (including tax) –
56 Ryokan Kanamaru	☎82-3921	60 people	12,960 yen (including tax) –
57 Business Ryokan Fujiya	☎82-3556	15 people	4,300 yen (including tax) – Room incl. breakfast only: 5,000 yen (including tax) –
58 Tabiyado Yobuko	☎82-6666	120 people	12,800 yen (including tax) –
59 Chikuzenya Ryokan	☎82-3714	30 people	10,800 yen (including tax) –
60 Umibe no Yado Seiriki	☎82-2311	50 people	10,800 yen (including tax) –
61 Meguri Island Ogawa	☎82-8420	48 people	6,500 yen (including tax) –
62 Onoue Ryokan	☎82-3006	71 people	7,300 yen (including tax) –
Guesthouse			
63 Minshuku Daikei	☎82-4547	13 people	7,500 yen (including tax) –
64 Minshuku Ogawajima	☎82-8247	25 people	8,800 yen (including tax) –
65 Minshuku Kujirajima	☎82-8440	15 people	8,640 yen (including tax) –
66 Minshuku Mizuho	☎82-8585	15 people	8,640 yen (including tax) –

KARATSU

Karatsu Festivals & Events

Discover the excitement only found in Karatsu.



# Karatsu Kunchi

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UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage  
Intangible Cultural Heritage

Karatsu Kunchi is the largest festival in Karatsu. This annual autumn festival of Karatsu Shrine was designated as an Important Tangible Cultural Property of Saga Prefecture in 1958 and as a National Important Intangible Folk Cultural Property in 1980. Moreover, Yama, Hoko, Yatai, float festivals, including the Hikiyama parade of Karatsu Kunchi, were placed on the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage List in 2016. The festival attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors from inside and outside Saga Prefecture as well as from overseas. One of the highlights of the festival is Yoiyama, during which the Hikiyama floats look fantastic in the light of lanterns. The excitement of the festival reaches its climax when the floats are paraded around the town and pulled into and out of the Otabisho, with rhythmic shouts of "enya, enya" and "yoisa, yoisa."

Information on festivals and events in Karatsu

## Yobuko Great Tug of War

with history and tradition  
1st Sat and Sun in June



This is a traditional festival dating back to the time when Toyotomi Hideyoshi stationed his troops at Nagoya Castle. In order to raise their morale, he divided them into two teams, Eastern and Western, led by Kato Kiyomasa and Fukushima Masanori, respectively, and had them pull a rope of a battleship.  
Place: Yobukocho Yobuko, Karatsu  
○ Hado Undersea Tug of War: Aug. 15  
Place: Chinzeimachi Hado, Karatsu  
○ Ishimuro Inoko Festival: 2nd Sat in Nov.  
Place: Chinzeimachi Ishimuro, Karatsu



## Hamasaki Gion Festival

Sat and Sun immediately after  
Marine Day in July

This is a summer festival with a history of more than 250 years. The Omagiri, in which one of the largest yamakasa floats in Japan with a height of 15 meters and a weight of over 5 tons is whirled by men in shimekomi loincloths, is particularly impressive.  
Place: Hamatamamachi Hamasaki, Karatsu  
○ Tokusue Gion Festival: Sat and Sun in late July  
Place: Kitahata Tokusue, Karatsu  
○ Kodomo Gion Festival: June 14-15 on the lunar calendar  
Place: Yobukocho Kodomo, Karatsu

## Furyu

Furyu is a folk art of the people of Saga. It is performed to express their gratitude for the abundant harvest. Their dancing to the music of pipes, drums, and bells is a must-see.



- Hoshiro Furyu Place: Kyuragimachi Hoshiro, Karatsu
- Hirose Furyu Place: Kyuragimachi Hirose, Karatsu
- Amagawa Tenshobu Furyu Place: Kyuragimachi Amagawa, Karatsu
- Torigoe Furyu Place: Kyuragimachi Torigoe, Karatsu
- Torisu Furyu Place: Hamatamamachi Torisu, Karatsu

Sep.  
– Oct.



## Ouchi Kunchi

Sat and Sun in Mid-Oct.

Ouchi Kunchi is an autumn festival of Kumano Shrine. The parades of omikoshi, haguma, yamakasa, nakayama furyu, chigo, and ono daikoku mai walk through Shuku-dori in front of Ouchi Citizen Center. Place: Ouchicho Ouchi, Karatsu City  
○ Nousa Kunchi: late Sep.  
Place: Hizenmachi Nousa, Karatsu  
○ Motoyama Kunchi: Sat and Sun closest to Nov. 9 and 10  
Place: Kyuragimachi Motoyama, Karatsu  
○ Nakashima Yamagasa Festival: 2nd Sat and Sun in Oct.  
Place: Kyuragimachi Nakashima, Karatsu

For tourist information, please contact:

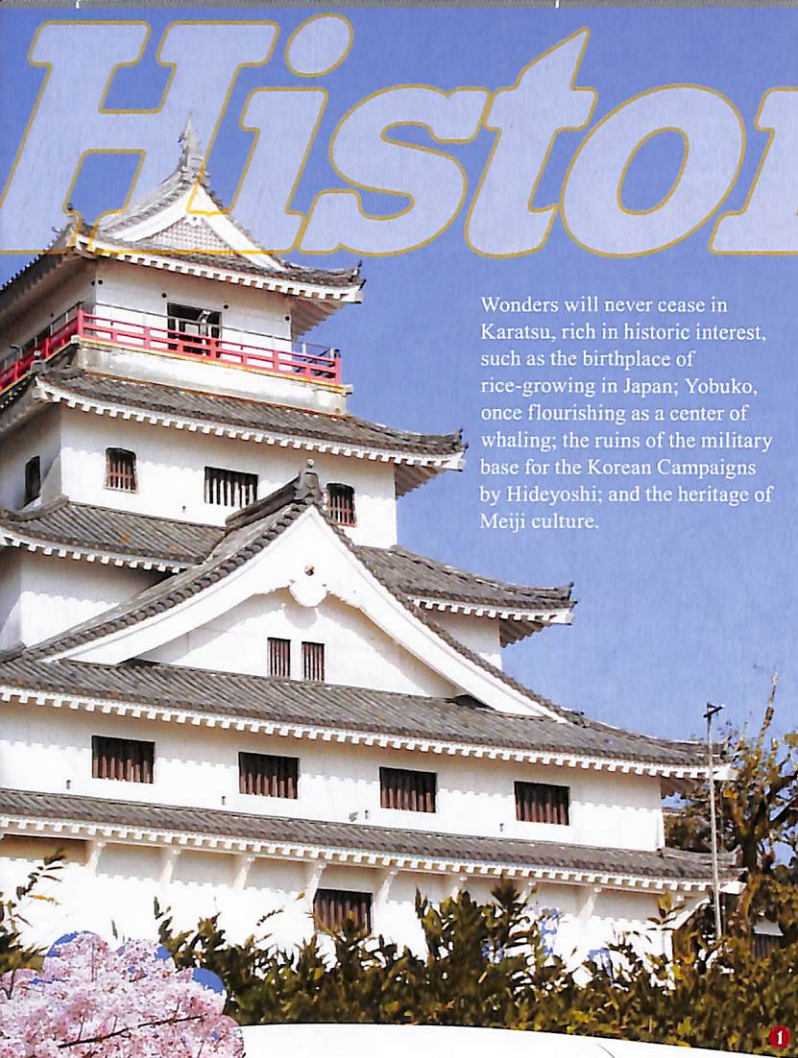
Karatsu Station General Tourist Information Center ☎ 0955 (72) 4963

Karatsu Tourist Association.....☎0955-74-3355	Chinzei Tourist Information Center.....☎0955-51-1052	Karatsu City Ryokan Association.....☎0955-72-2015
Hamatama Tourist Information Center.....☎0955-56-6937	Yobuko Tourist Information Center.....☎0955-82-3426	Karatsu Ware Association.....☎0955-73-4888
Ouchi Tourist Information Center.....☎0955-51-8312	Nagoya Castle Ruins Tourist Information Center.....☎0955-82-5774	Division of Tourism, Karatsu City Government.....☎0955-72-9127

For more detailed information on the festivals and events in Karatsu, please search on the Internet.

Karatsu festivals Search

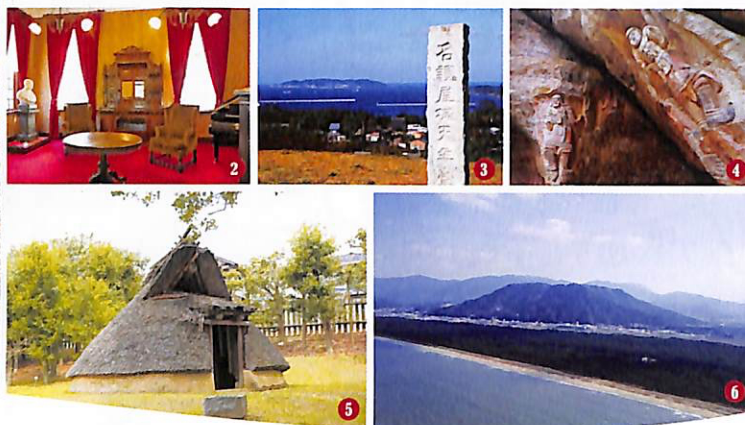
# History



Wonders will never cease in Karatsu, rich in historic interest, such as the birthplace of rice-growing in Japan; Yobuko, once flourishing as a center of whaling; the ruins of the military base for the Korean Campaigns by Hideyoshi; and the heritage of Meiji culture.

## Explore history

- ❶ **Karatsu Castle** Karatsu Castle was built by Terazawa Shima-no-kami Hirotsu, a retainer of Toyotomi Hideyoshi. Starting in 1602, the construction allegedly took seven years to complete. The castle is also known as Maizuru Castle. It is famous for its beautiful cherry blossoms and wisteria flowers. [Higashijonai, Karatsu] **Map I-5**
- ❷ **Former Takatori Residence** Although it appears to follow the typical modern Japanese architectural style where Western-style rooms are integrated into the Japanese-style design, the former Takatori House is unique in its structure, as exemplified by the Noh stage in the main hall. Listed as a National Important Cultural Property. [Kitajonai, Karatsu] **Map I-5**
- ❸ **Nagoya Castle Ruins** Nagoya Castle was constructed by Toyotomi Hideyoshi around 420 years ago. The stone walls of the castle, as well as the ruins of military camps formed by generals in the Warring States period, have survived to the present. The site where the castle tower previously stood commands a panoramic view of Iki and Tsushima islands. Designated as a National Special Historic Site. [Chinzeimachi Nagoya, Karatsu] **Map G-3**
- ❹ **Udono Stone Buddha Statues** Inscribed on the list of Saga Prefectural Historic Sites. The Buddha figures were carved in the protruding stone walls, allegedly in 806, when Kukai Shonin returned to Japan. [Ouchicho Ouchi, Karatsu] **Map J-8**
- ❺ **Matsuro-kan (Nabatake Ruins)** Designed after an ancient raised granary, Matsuro-kan houses an exhibition regarding the Nabatake Ruins, known as the birthplace of rice-growing in Japan and designated as a National Historic Site. [Nabatake, Karatsu] **Map I-5**
- ❻ **Mount Kagami** Mount Kagami is 284 meters high above sea level. Its summit commands a magnificent view of the Karatsu Bay as well as the Niji-no-Matsubara Pine Groves designated as a National Place of Scenic Beauty. It is also known as a mountain mentioned in poems written by Yamanoue no Okura and other poets of *Manyōshū* (the Collection of Ten Thousand Leaves). [Kagami, Karatsu] **Map I-6**



Embark on a journey through the history and nature of Karatsu!



- ❶ **Hado Cape** Located on the northwestern tip of the Higashimatsura Peninsula, Hado Cape extends into the Genkai sea. It is home to Genkai Kaichu Park, which is the first park designated as a National Marine Park. An underwater observation tower was built in the park to observe fish and marine plants in the underwater world at 7 meters below the surface. [Chinzeimachi, Karatsu] **Map F-2**
- ❷ **Irohajima Islands** Consisting of 48 islands of various sizes in the tranquil bay, the Irohajima Islands are famous for their scenic beauty, as legend has it that Kobo Daishi gave up trying to describing it. [Hizenmachi Mitsukoshi, Karatsu] **Map F-7**
- ❸ **Mikaeri Falls** Consisting of the Odaki Falls roaring down in torrents and the Medaki Falls running alongside them, the Mikaeri Falls have been selected as one of Japan's 100 most beautiful falls. They attract many tourists, especially in early summer when hydrangeas bloom. [Ouchicho Ikisa, Karatsu] **Map J-8**
- ❹ **Nanatsugama Caves** Listed as a National Natural Monument. The seven caves on the basalt cliff were formed by the wild waves of the Genkai Sea. [Yakataishi, Karatsu] **Map H-2**
- ❺ **Kirigo Peony** The peony tree was imported from the Ming Dynasty, loved by Hata, the lord of Kishidake Castle, and his wife. Offering more than 500 flowers in various sizes at its full bloom in mid-April, the peony tree attracts many visitors. Listed as a Prefectural Natural Monument. [Hizenmachi Kirigo, Karatsu] **Map G-6**
- ❻ **Kankyo Geijutsu no Mori** Located on the mid-slope of Mount Sarei, it is a little-known place for autumn leaves. [Kyuragimachi Hirano, Karatsu] **Map K-8**
- ❼ **Niji-no-Matsubara Pine Groves** Beautiful pine groves are distributed in a rainbow arc shape along the Karatsu Bay. The prefectural road going through the green tunnel of pine trees has been selected as one of the 100 most beautiful roads in Japan. The pine groves themselves are also listed as one of the three greatest pine groves in Japan and designated as a National Scenic Beauty. [Kagami, Karatsu] **Map J-5**

Karatsu is blessed with natural resources both in land and sea. One day may not be enough to fully appreciate the beauty of nature in Karatsu, as it varies season by season.



## Enjoy nature

Special Delicacies of Karatsu that appeal to the senses

# Karatsu Gourmet

Yobuko Squid is famous as a representative seafood of Karatsu. In particular, fresh squid sliced off while it is still alive has an incomparably crunchy texture and a distinctive rich, sweetish flavor. Squid legs are also served as tempura or grilled with salt.

Yobuko Squid

Blessed with a mild climate and abundant nature, Karatsu is rich with agricultural and marine products.

Karatsu offers various delicious foods, including marine products from the Genkai Sea, Saga beef raised in a rich natural environment, traditional confectionery, and Japanese Sake. Please try these local specialties.



Raised in the pastures with abundant environment, fresh air, and mild weather, Saga beef is characterized by its tender texture and rich flavor with a hint of sweetness. Karatsu has many restaurants that offer Saga beef.

The upper Tamashima river is inhabited by deep green Japanese mitten crabs, which are popular as one of the delicacies of autumn in Hamatama and Nanayama districts. These crabs are very savory, especially when boiled in saltwater or cooked with rice (Ganemeshi).

Karatsu Q Mackerel has been developed as a new alternative to Yobuko Squid. Developed through industry-academia collaboration, these fully farmed, plump, tasty chub mackerel are available and fresh all year round.

## Most popular / Gifts in Karatsu

### Japanese-style confectionery

Karatsu, known as the birthplace of rice-growing in Japan and as a castle town once thriving with the popularity of the tea ceremony, provides a wide range of traditional rice-based cakes and Japanese-style confectionery, including a bean-jam filling noted in connection with Toyotomi Hideyoshi. Please enjoy the taste of the history and traditions of Karatsu.



### Others

Locally brewed sake



Tofu served on a bamboo colander

Matsura pickles/ Genkai pickles



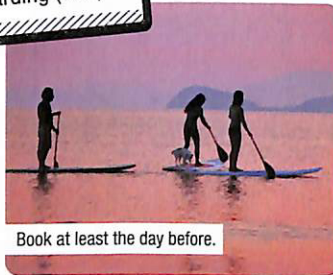
Sweet summer orange jelly

# Hands-on Tourism Experience in Karatsu

A Variety of Activities You Can Only Do in Karatsu!

## Stand up paddle boarding (SUP)

Duration 120 minutes  
Available time Apr. to Nov.  
No of participants 1 to 5 people  
Price 8,640 to 10,800 yen



Book at least the day before.

For further information, contact:  
Karatsu Beach club  
https://select-type.com/s/karatsu\_beach\_club  
Email: e0907416225@icloud.com

It is a new water sport where the rider stands on a surfboard and paddles it on the water. It is designed to be enjoyed by individuals of all experience levels, including those new to the sport. Just give it a try. (The course and the contents are subject to change due to the weather.)

## Pleasure boat with an underwater observatory

Duration Approx. 40 minutes  
Available time Year round  
No of participants 1 person  
Price



No reservations required

Zeela  
Adults: 2,100 yen; Children: 1,050 yen  
Ikamaru  
Adults: 1,600 yen; Children: 800 yen

For further information, contact: Marinepal Yobuko  
http://www.marinepal-yobuko.co.jp/  
Email: marinepal-yobuko@etude.ocn.ne.jp

The Pleasure Boat "Zeela" has an underwater observation chamber where you can see fish and other sea creatures living 1.2 meters below the surface. Take Zeela to enjoy the underwater world in Yobuko. Another pleasure boat, Ikamaru, will take you to an adventure in the Nanatsugama sea caves. \* To be canceled in case of bad weather at sea.

## Casual tea ceremony experience

Duration Approx. 20 to 30 minutes  
Available time Year round  
No of participants 1 person  
Price 500 yen (adult admission, matcha green tea and wagashi)



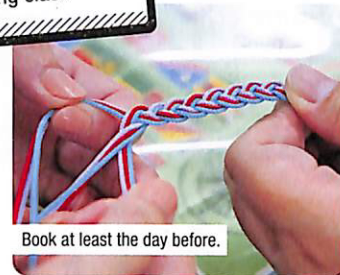
No reservations required

For further information, contact:  
Tya-en Kaigetsu  
http://www.chaen-kaigetsu.jp/  
Email: kaigetsu@mirror.ocn.ne.jp

You can enjoy the beauty of the season in our Japanese garden while relishing a cup of matcha green tea and wagashi (Japanese-style confectionery). Come to experience the Japanese tradition of the tea ceremony.

## Strap spool-knitting class

Duration Approx. 40 minutes  
Available time Year round  
No of participants 1 person  
Price 800 yen



Book at least the day before.

For further information, contact:  
Handcraft Yamashita  
http://www.people-l.ne.jp/~ririana/  
Email: ririana@po.people-l.ne.jp

You can make a beautiful colorful strap using a spool knitter. Create your own original strap as a memorable souvenir of your trip to Karatsu.

## Hizen Nagoya Castle Virtual Tour

Duration Approx. 45 to 60 minutes  
Available time Year round  
No of participants 1 person  
Price Equipment rented for free



No reservations required

Admission for the Nagoya Castle Ruins:  
100 yen (optional)  
For further information, contact: Saga Prefectural Nagoya Castle Museum  
http://saga-museum.jp/nagoya/  
Email: nagoyajouhakubutsukan@pref.saga.lg.jp

Time travel to Nagoya Castle 420 years ago! Using a tablet or smartphone, you can enjoy a virtual experience of exploring Nagoya Castle reconstructed with computer graphics. (To be canceled in case of rainy weather. Please fill in the application form at the reception of Nagoya Castle Museum. You are also requested to show your ID.)

## Tour Guide Services for Foreign Visitors

### KVG Karatsu Volunteer Guide Club

- Available Language: English
- Guide Area: Mainly Karatsu city
- Guide Spots: Karatsu Castle, The Former Takatori Residence, Karatsu Kunchi Festival Floats Exhibition Hall, Karatsu Shrine, Karatsu-ware Kilns and Galleries, etc

For Further Information  
Email: kvg@karatsu.or.jp  
Tel: 0955-72-5141  
The Secretariate of KVG:  
c/o Karatsu Chamber of Commerce & Industry  
Mr. Yoshida / Ms. Masaki



Reservation: by two weeks in advance

\* For more detailed information, including the opening hours and closing days, please contact each facility.



In Yobuko

## Enjoy the Savory Squid and Morning Market

Yobuko is famous for its fresh squid sliced off while it is still alive. These translucent, crunchy squid attract many gourmets from around the country.

In addition, fresh seafood and vegetables as well as processed goods are sold on the about 200-meter-long street of the Yobuko Morning Market, which is famous as one of the three best morning markets in Japan.

It is also interesting to chat with friendly local market sellers.

It is definitely worth getting up early to visit the market.

Yobuko's famous spinning squids

Pick up! Various types of squids are caught in Yobuko, depending on the time of year.

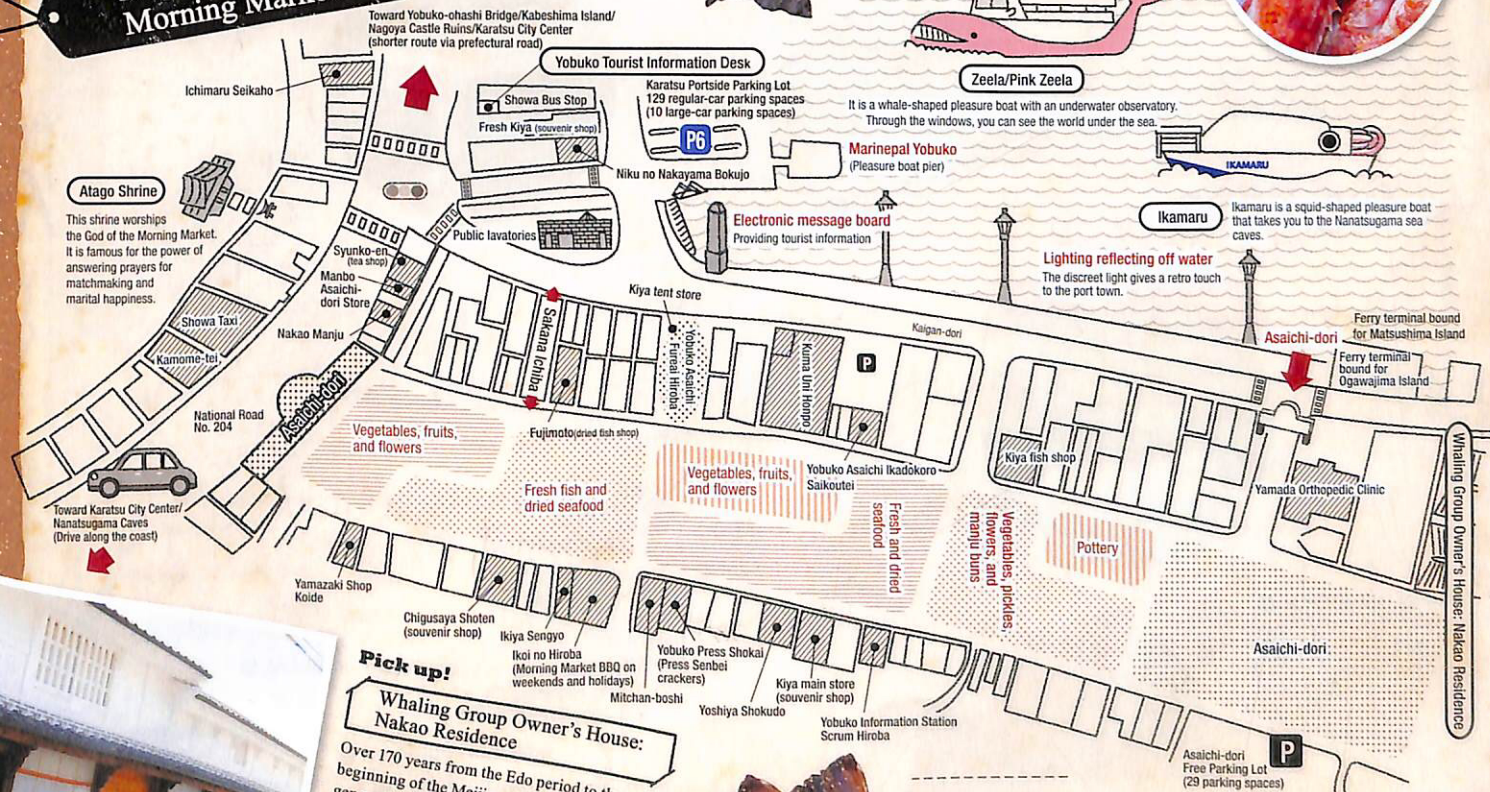
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Oval squid												
Swordtip squid												
Spear squid												
Cuttlefish												

Mid-Oct. - Mid-Apr.  
Mid-Apr. - Mid-Oct.  
Jan. - Mar.  
Feb. - June

Yobuko's local specialty:  
Squid Shumai Dumplings

Get fish and shellfish fresh from the sea!

## Map of Yobuko Morning Market



## Whaling Group Owner's House: Nakao Residence

Over 170 years from the Edo period to the beginning of the Meiji period, eight generations of the Nakao family served as owner of the whaling group. Surviving as it was, this town house is listed as an Important Cultural Property of Saga Prefecture.

Explore delicacies from the land and sea in the Yobuko Morning Market!