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# HAGI, TSUWANO and AKIYOSHI-DO CAVE



JNTO Website : <http://www.jnto.go.jp>

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"YOKOSO" means "welcome"

**Hagi** (萩) is an good old castle town in Yamaguchi Pref. along the Japan Sea. The town cradled many important figures of the Meiji Restoration, and a number of relics associated with them remain. Many people say the whole town looks like a history museum. Hagi is also famous for the cultivation of Natsumikan oranges and 380-year- old traditional Hagi-yaki pottery.

**Tsuwano** (津和野) is a little smaller old castle town, often called "little Kyoto." The Tsuwanogawa River runs through the town, where many multi-colored carps are hatched to the delight of

visitors.

**Akiyoshi-do Cave** (秋芳洞) is one of the largest stalactite caves of its kind in the Orient, developed underground the **Akiyoshi-dai Plateau** (秋吉台), the largest limestone plateau in Japan known for its Karst topography.

These 3 places are easily accessible to each other by a well-developed network of buses and trains. Ogori on the Sanyo Shinkansen is a convenient gateway to these places.

**Access:**



To	From	Transportation	Time required	One-way Fare (¥)
Yamaguchi-Ube Airport	Haneda Airport (Tokyo)	JAL (airplane)	1 hr. 45 min.	19,800
		ANA (airplane)		23,800
Iwami Airport	Haneda Airport (Tokyo)	ANA (airplane)	1 hr. 45 min.	25,100
	Itami Airport (Osaka)	ANA (airplane)	1 hr.	25,300
Shin-Yamaguchi	Tokyo	JR Tokaido, Sanyo Shinkansen "Nozomi"	4 hrs. 40 min.	20,850
	Kyoto	JR Tokaido, Sanyo Shinkansen "Hikari"	3 hrs. 22 min.	12,670
	Yamaguchi-Ube Airport	Ube-shiei Bus	37 min.	870
Hagi (Higashi-Hagi Sta.)	Shin-Yamaguchi	Bocho Bus	1 hr. 30 min.	1,970
Hagi (Hagi Bus Center)	Iwami Airport	Iwami Bus	1 hr. 15 min.	1,560
	Tokyo (Shinagawa)	Keihin Kyuko Bus	13 hrs. 50 min.	14,250
	Osaka (Umeda)	Kintetsu Bus	10 hrs. 30 min.	9,480
	Tsuwano	Bocho Bus	1 hr. 45 min.	2,080
Tsuwano	Shin-Yamaguchi	JR Yamaguchi Line, LEX "Oki"	1 hr. 8 min.	2,970
		local train	2 hrs.	1,110
Akiyoshi-do	Matsue	JR Sanin & Yamaguchi Line, LEX "Oki"	2 hrs. 45 min.	6,070
	Shin-Yamaguchi	Bocho Bus	43 min.	1,140
	Higashi-Hagi	Bocho Bus	1 hr. 12 min.	1,710

\* The one-way fare depends on seasons.

JR=Japan Railways, JAL=Japan Airlines, ANA=All Nippon Airways

● Steam Locomotive "Yamaguchi-go" trains operate on generally Sat. and Sun. from Mar. through Nov. (depends on months)

Reservations should be made at a travel agency or at the Travel Service Center at major JR stations. Reserved seat fee: ¥510.

Shin-Yamaguchi	Yamaguchi	Tsuwano
Lv. 10:34 →	Lv. 10:56 →	Ar. 12:35
Ar. 17:17 ←	Lv. 16:57 ←	Lv. 15:33

## HAGI

**How to get around:**

Higashi-Hagi Sta. on the Sanin Line is the main entrance to the town. Hagi is a pleasant town to be explored on foot or by bicycle. There are many rental cycle shops in the town. ¥100~ per hour. ¥500~ per day. A loop line bus called "Maaru Bus" is operated by Hagi City. It has two different routes, the easterly and the westerly course. The buses run every 30 min. respectively. They depart from and return to Hagi City Office. ¥100 per ride or ¥500 for a one-day free pass.

Sightseeing by taxi costs depend on taxi company. It will take about 2 hrs. for a city tour. Bus tours are operated by Bocho Kotsu Bus Co. Time required: 4 hrs. English is not spoken by taxi drivers or bus guides.

**Major Places of Interest:**

**Kumaya Art Museum** (熊谷美術館), a 20-min. walk from Higashi-Hagi Sta., is an interesting museum containing a variety of art objects and antiques. Admission: ¥700. Open daily: 9:00–17:00. Closed: Mon. & New Year's holiday.

**Tamachi Shopping Arcade** (田町アーケード街), about 25 min. on foot from Higashi-Hagi Sta., is the busiest shopping street in Hagi. Old looking shops and modern stores stand side by side, totalling about 130.

**Ishii Chawan Museum** (石井茶碗美術館) on the Tamachi shopping Arcade exhibits its rare collection of antique "chawan" or tea bowls. Admission: ¥500. Open 9:30–12:00, 13:00–16:30. (depends on days) Closed: Wed.

**Horiuchi** (堀内) once was the residential section for upper class Samurai like the **Kuchiba Clan** (口羽家), and **Hagi Castle Town** (萩城下町) located east of Horiuchi was for rich mer-

chants like the **Kikuya Family** (菊屋家), doctors belonging to feudal domain and lower class Samurai. Each section preserves the old castle town atmosphere best.

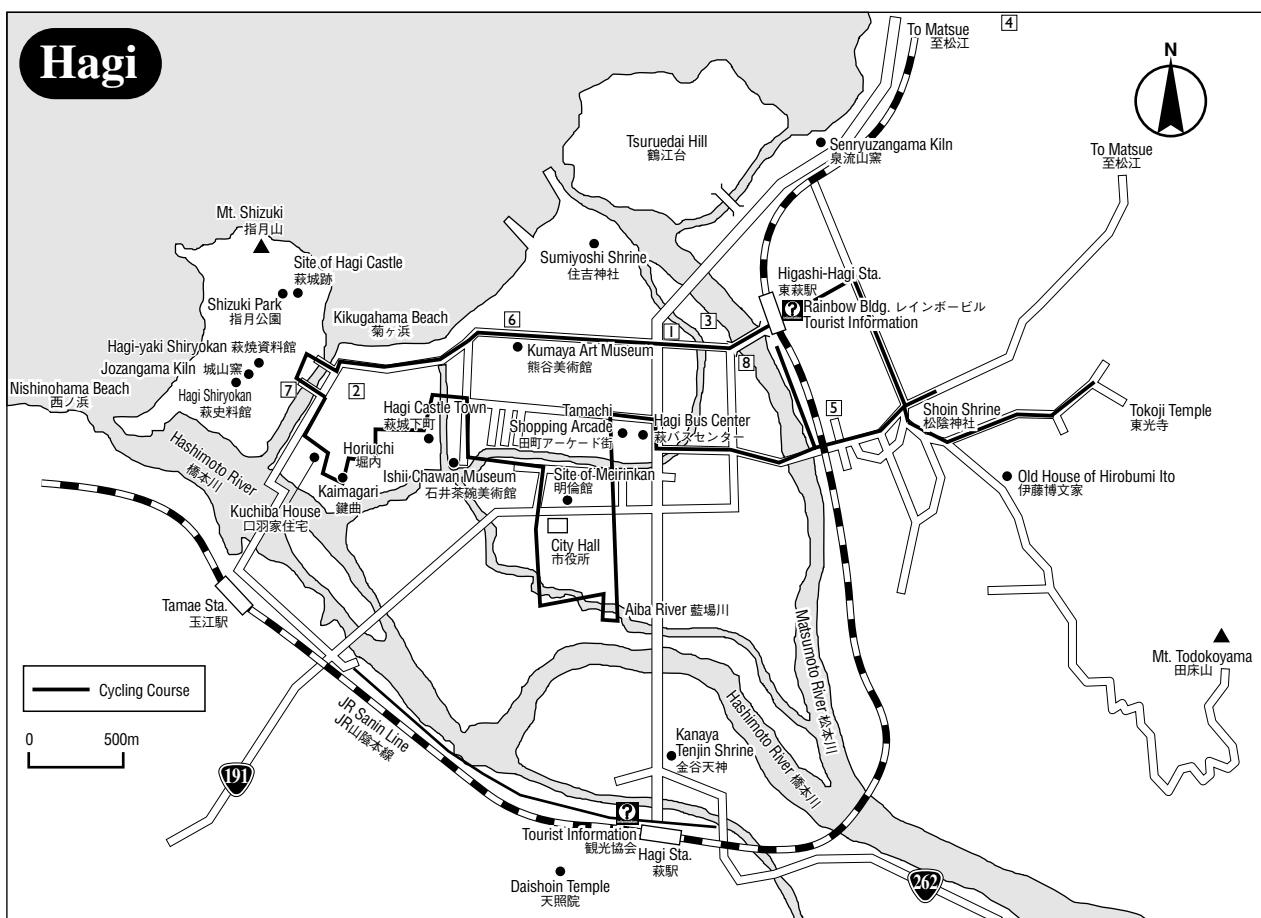
**Tokoji Temple** (東光寺), dedicated to the Mouri Clan who governed Hagi during 260 years of the Edo Period has Soumon Gate, Sanmon Gate, Bell Tower and Daiohoden as important cultural assets.

**Shizuki Park** (指月公園), 10 min. by bus from Higashi-Hagi Sta., is a castle-site park at the foot of the 143m-high Mt. Shizuki. Admission: ¥210. Open: Daily. 8:00–18:30 (Apr.–Oct.), 8:30–16:30 (Nov.–Feb.) and 8:30–18:00 (Mar.). Only stone walls and the inner moat remain from the original castle. The hilltop is reached in 20 min. on foot from the park.

**Hagi Shiryokan** (萩史料館) is a local history museum located near Shizuki Park. Admission: ¥500. Open daily: 9:00–17:00.

**Shoin Shrine** (松陰神社), a 15-min. walk from Higashi-Hagi Sta., is dedicated to Shoin Yoshida (1830–1859), a famous Hagi-born thinker who influenced many revolutionaries who played important roles in the Meiji Restoration. **Shoka-Sonjuku** (松下村塾), a private school which he founded, is in the shrine precincts.

**Aiba River** (藍場川), a small canal-like river, is a peaceful haven for multi-colored carp. The placid neighborhood, reminiscent of olden times, offers a restful promenade for a stroll.



Numbers [1] - [8] correspond to those in the "Accommodations" list on page 3/5.



**Old House of Ogai Mori** (森鷗外旧居), 45 min. on foot from Tsuwano Sta., is where Ogai, one of the most prominent figures in the history of Japanese literature, lived until he was 11 years old. Open: Daily 9:00–17:00 (enter by 16:45). Admission: ¥600.

**Sekishukan** (石州館), next to Ogai's House, is a museum of Japanese handmade paper called washi. Admission: Free. Washi-making class: ¥600 apply in advance. Open: Daily. 8:30–17:00.

**Yomeiji Temple** (永明寺), a 15-min. walk from Tsuwano Sta., is a quiet Zen temple revered for a long time by the provincial lords in the feudal period. Ogai's tomb is here. Admission: ¥300. Open: daily. 8:00–17:00. (enter by 16:30)

**Katsushika Hokusai Museum** (葛飾北斎美術館) shows Ukiyo-e (wood-block prints) made by Katsushika Hokusai, one of the most famous Ukiyo-e artists in the Edo Period. Admission: ¥500. Open daily: 9:30–17:00. (enter by 16:30)

**Walking or Cycling Route of Tsuwano:** ( ) time by bicycle.

Tsuwano Sta. ....Katsushika Hokusai Museum .....

5 (3) min.

5 (2) min.

Tonomachi St. &

Tsuwano Minzoku Museum ....Tsuwano Kyodokan Museum  
2 (1) min.

.....Old House of Ogai Mori, Sekishukan Paper Museum  
10 (5) min.

.....Kamei's House.....Washibara Hachimangu Shrine  
10 (5) min. 15 (7) min.

.....Site of Tsuwano Castle .....Taikodani-Inari Shrine  
30 (25) min. 10 (10) min.

.....Yasaka Shrine.....Yomeiji Temple.....  
15 (7) min. 20 (10) min. 10 (5) min.

St. Maria Cathedral.....Tsuwano Photo Gallery, Tsuwano Sta.  
15 (7) min.

### Accommodations:

Name of facilities	Tel.	Room rate (¥)
① Ryokan Meigetsu (R)	(08567)2-0685	¥¥
② Hoshi Ryokan (R)	(08567)2-0136	¥
③ Tsuwano Youth Hostel (Y)	(08567)2-0373	¥
④ Minshuku Wakasagi-no-Yado (M)	(08567)2-1146	¥

Remarks: Numbers ① – ④ correspond to those on the map on page 3/5.

H = Hotel

Rate for a twin room.

R = Ryokan

Rate per person.

Y = Youth Hostel

Rate per person.

M = Minshuku (family-run inn)

Rate per person.

¥¥¥ more than 15,000 yen

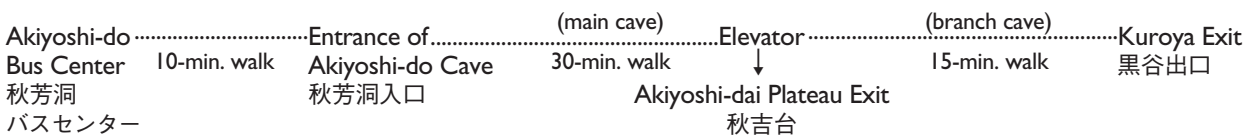
¥¥ 8,001 yen – 15,000 yen

¥ 8,000 yen or less

## AKIYOSHI-DO CAVE

**Akiyoshi-do Cave** (秋芳洞): A large cavity created under the limestone plateau, extends for about 10 km, of which about 1 km permits human access. Admission: ¥1,200. Open: daily. 8:30–16:30. 16:30–17:30 (+¥100) Inside the cave, an elevator is linked to Akiyoshi-dai Plateau.

\* It takes 10 min. by bus from Akiyoshi-dai Plateau Exit back to Akiyoshidai Bus Center.



### Accommodations:

Name of facilities	Tel.	Room rate (¥)
Shuho Royal Hotel Shuhokan (H)	(08376)2-0311	¥¥
Akiyoshi-dai Youth Hostel (Y)	(08376)2-0341	¥

Remarks:

H = Hotel

Rate per person with 2 meals.

Y = Youth Hostel

Rate per person with 2 meals.

PE = People's Lodge

Rate per person with 2 meals.

¥¥¥ more than 15,000 yen

¥¥ 8,001 yen – 15,000 yen

¥ 8,000 yen or less

**W** **Welcome Inn Reservation Center (WIRC)** is here to help you book economical accommodations at participating inns throughout the country. Our participating establishments, called "Welcome Inns", comprise a range of accommodations from hotels, business hotels, Ryokan, minshuku, pensions and Shukubo (temple lodgings) to youth hostels. Most of them have guest rooms at rates which do not exceed ¥8,000 yen per night (excluding tax and service charges) for a single room.

#### Reservation over the Internet

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Application deadline – generally 5 days ahead of your check-in date

#### Reservation at booking counters in Japan

To take advantage of our service, you must appear in person at any of the Welcome Inn reservation counters located at the Tourist Information Centers (at Narita International Airport and Kansai International Airport) and Kyoto Tourist Information (on the 9th Fl. of JR Kyoto Sta. Bldg.).

### Welcome Inn Reservation Center

c/o International Tourism Center of Japan

Kinseisha-Kanda Bldg. 3F, 3-15 Kanda-Nishikicho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 101-0054

Tel:03-3233-3303 Fax:03-3233-3305



## TOURIST INFORMATION

#### Hagi City Information Office:

1st fl., Rainbow Bldg., Higashi-Hagi Sta.

Tel.(0838)25-3145

#### Hagi City Tourist Association Information Office:

Next to the JR Hagi Sta.

Tel.(0838)25-1750

#### Tsuwano Tourist Association Tourist Information Office:

Tsuwano Sta.

Tel.(08567)2-1771

#### Tourism Section, Shuho-cho Town Office:

Tel.(0837)62-0304

All information, including transportation schedules, fares, prices and accommodation charges, which is contained in this leaflet is based on data as of February 2007, and is subject to change without notice. While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of all information, regrettably errors do occasionally occur. Therefore, you should check with organizations concerned for updated and accurate information on your chosen destination. JNTO shall not be liable for any loss or damage of whatever nature that may arise as a result, directly or indirectly, from the use of any of the information or material contained in this leaflet.