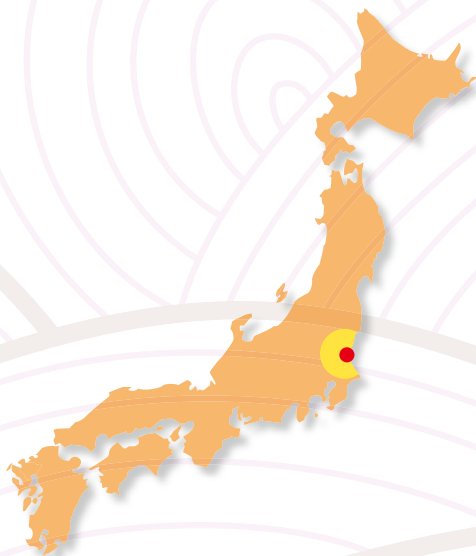


Hitachinaka City Ibaraki Prefecture

in Japan

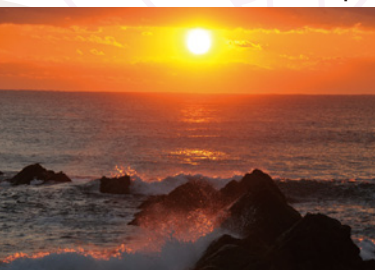


Hitachinaka City

Sightseeing Guide



Scan to watch the video clip



Contents

Parks.....	4
Oceanside	6
History	8
Festivals & Events	11
Foods	12
Recommended Gifts	14
Accommodation / Hot Spring	18
Hitachinaka Seaside Railway	20
Hitachinaka Area MAP.....	22
Access Information	24



Nemophila
Hitachi Seaside Park (Spring)

Welcome to Hitachinaka City.

Hitachinaka is located near the Tokyo metropolitan, within approximately 110 kilometers of the city and northeast of the center of Ibaraki Prefecture. It is situated on the great Pacific Ocean. Hitachinaka City is blessed with a traditional history and magnificent nature around the area, as well as incredible seafood. The town combines the flavor of bygone days with a modern atmosphere.



Parks



Hitachi Seaside Park

Stretching across a vast area of approximately 350 hectares, the park features numerous attractions including a large ferris wheel and fresh flowers of the four seasons. The park's Miharashi-no-oka area is flush with sweet blue nemophila in the spring, and lovely rounded kokia in the fall. In the season of the changing leaves, the place is on fire as the kokia transforms from green to red. The scene of platinum blue nemophila and the striking red kokia is truly a sight to behold. [605-4 Mawatari]



Kokia (Autumn)



Ice tulip(Winter)



- Park hours: 9am–5pm(Depending on the season)
 - Closed: Mondays (closed Tuesday where a national holiday falls on a Monday)
 - Admission: Adults ¥410, children ¥80
- ☎029-265-9001【Hitachi Seaside Park Office】



Mawatari Haniwa Park

The Haniwaseisaku Ruins, an area where the haniwa clay figures were made over the period of the 5th (475-500 BCE) and 6th (575-600 BCE) centuries, has in modern times been rendered into a park. Purple and white irises come into bloom in the area around mid-June every year, drawing many visitors to the park. [2881-3 Mawatari]

Oceanside



Ajigaura Ocean Swimming Beach

This swimming beach, stretching some 1.5 kilometers, draws many visitors to enjoy its waters. Hitachi Seaside Park and large shopping and restaurant areas are also located in this major sightseeing area.



Hiraiso Swimming Beach

Since the surrounding embankments protect the area from high waves, this place is ideal for families. An orange slide in the shape of a whale is very popular with the kids. Rocky fishing areas offer a chance for kids to play with the various marine life of the area including small fishes, crabs, shellfish, and more.



Uba-no-Futokoro Marine Pool

This saltwater pool powered by the tides is unusual even in Japan. Because the water is pulled into the pool by natural means, you can see small fish in the pools as well. .

Check tide data and weather data on the Mito Local Meteorological Office web site.



Beachcombers' Paradise

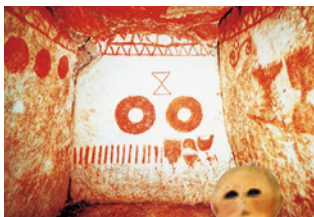
The rocky beaches stretching from the Hirasō to Isozaki coasts are great fun for beachcombers from April to October. Visitors can find crabs, hermit crabs, small fish, and more.



Beachcombers' Paradise

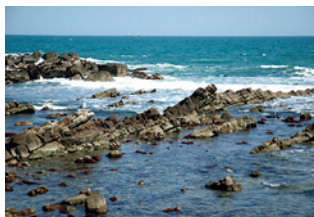


The coastline from Hiraiso-cho to Isozaki-cho is dotted with deposits dating back to the Mesozoic Latter Cretaceous period approximately 75 million years ago. Look into the layers and you'll find fossils of ammonite, pterosaur shoulder bones, and more. There are also many historic sites in the city where visitors can get a taste of the history of the place including colored wall murals, *haniwa* production ground ruins, and more from the Kofun Period.



Torazuka Tomb

This large keyhole-shaped tomb mound, dating to the first half of the seventh century (roughly 600 CE), measures a total of 56.5 meters in length. A series of well-preserved coloring murals were found in the stone chamber in 1973 excavations. [3494-1 Nakane]



Hiraiso Cretaceous Period Layers

(Mesozoic Era Cretaceous Period)

Geological layers of rock ledges all facing the northeast direction dot the section of beach stretching the Hiraiso-cho to Isozaki-cho areas of the city. Discoveries of ammonite fossils in the layers identify them as dating from the Mesozoic Era Cretaceous Period.



Hitachinaka Buried Cultural Property Research Center

This facility houses research on buried cultural property in the city as well as related documents. [3499 Nakane]

■ Closed: Mondays, national holidays, and the year-end/New Year holidays

■ Hours: 9 am-5 pm

☎029-276-8311



Jugoroana Tunnel Tombs

These mass graves were carved into rock during the Kofun to Nara Periods (roughly 500-800 CE). The total number of graves is greater than 300, making it one of the largest sites of its kind of the east Japan region. [3490 Nakane]

The Mito Tokugawa Area

Ibaraki Prefecture, where Hitachinaka City is located, was known as the Mito Domain during the Edo Period (1615-1868). The Nakaminato area of the city in particular has been known for its scenic views since ancient times. It prospered as a shipping hub during the Edo Period, giving rise to numerous wealthy individuals. The area was also an important location for national defense at the end of the Edo Period, hence its numerous historical and scenic spots relating to the Mito branch of the house of Tokugawa.



Nakaminato Reverberatory Furnace Ruins

Toward the end of the Edo Period, ships hailing from foreign nations began to appear off the coast of Nakaminato. At the adamant behest of the ninth lord of the Mito Domain, Tokugawa Nariaki — who insisted it was necessary for the defense of the country — a large ballistics foundry operated by the Mito Domain was built in 1857. The furnaces were destroyed in the rebellion of 1864, but rebuilt in 1937. [1-10 Sakae-cho]



Ihinkaku Ruins / Minato Park

These are the ruins of a second house of the Mito Clan, built in 1698 by the order of Tokugawa Mitsukuni, second lord of the Mito Domain. The building was lost in a fire during the rebellion of 1864. The site is now known to the people of the area as Minato Park. This is a very scenic spot offering a view of the Pacific Ocean and Minato-town.

Minato Park is home to black pines that are more than 300 years old. [1-1 Minato-chuo]



Sanjo Gate

This gate was established for the purpose of welcoming envoys at the Koishikawa residence of the Mito Domain (Bunkyo Ward, Tokyo). [1-10 Sakae-cho]

The Takeda Clan area of the city is home of the Takeda Clan ancestors of the former Kai Province, known in particular for the famous general Takeda Shingen.

In addition, the area boasts numerous sightseeing spots including shrines and approach roads to the shrines, which are covered in camellia forests to create a mystical atmosphere. There is also the Tenmangu Shrine, where Tokugawa Mitsukuni came to pay his respects, as well as many buildings dating back to the Meiji and Taisho periods. We also recommend that visitors take a leisurely walk in the city, using the Hitachinaka Seaside Railway Minato Line—a local train line of the Hitachinaka area.



Takeda Clan Residence

The area in the city dedicated to the Takeda Clan represents the origins of the clan hailing from the former Kai Province. The Residence, erected to commemorate this fact, is built in the *Shuden-zukuri* style of local samurai lords during the Kamakura Period (1192-1333).

[566-2 Takeda]



Sakatsuraisosaki Shrine

Legend has it that the god worshipped at this shrine appeared at the seaside of Oaraisosaki in December 856, leading to the establishment of shrines at Oarai and Saksuraisosaki.

The 300-meter approach to the shrine, decorated with evergreen groves, is a prefectural-designated natural treasure known for its highly artistic flavor and as an energetically powerful spot.

[4607-2 Higashi-4 Isozaki-cho]



Festivals and Events

Fireworks Festivals

Three fireworks festivals are held in Hitachinaka City every summer. Two of these are held in incredible locations near the ocean.



Ajigaura Seaside Fireworks Festival (Second half of July)

This fireworks festival is held on the beaches of Ajigaura. The sound of the waves and the sight of the fireworks are an unbeatable combination.

Nakaminato Seaside Fireworks Festival (Early August)

This festival is held at the Nakaminato Fishing Port. Star mines appearing like flowers blooming in the water are a must-see.

Hitachinaka Festival Fireworks (Mid August)

These fireworks are held in conjunction with the Hitachinaka Festival. A stunning show, they are launched right from where the spectators are sitting, and are accompanied by music.



Hitachinaka Festival (mid-August)

This very lively festival, specially created by the local people, features a variety of events including floats, *mikoshi* portable shrines, dances contests, and more.



Tenmangu Shrine Festival (Early August)

Widely known as the Hasshaku Festival, this event commemorates the legend of Tenmangu, who is said to have come out of the ocean, *Hamaori*.

Foods



Heading to the market for food

Nakaminato Fish Market

The Nakaminato Fish Market draws more than one million visitors annually from both inside and outside the prefecture. Fresh fish and shellfish are sold here at reasonable prices. There are also numerous food and drink establishments offering fresh seafood including sushi and seafood-on-rice dishes. You'll be delighted by the seafood you find here, including kaiten-zushi ("go-around" sushi).

[19-8 Minatohon-cho]

■ Hours: Closed only on New Year's Day. Hours depend on particular store location.

<Parking> Hours: 7 am–5 pm

Parking fees (four hours or less) Standard vehicles: ¥100

Mid-size vehicle: ¥210/Large buses: ¥330



Processed Octopus Products

Hitachinaka City is Japan's biggest producer of processed octopus products.

Dried Items

These naturally processed whitefish items are soaked in salt and then sun-dried.



Bite-Sized Abalone

These farmed abalones are grown smaller than usual to be bite-sized (approximately 7 cm).

Anglerfish (November–March)

The anglerfish is a typical winter food of Ibaraki Prefecture available from November through March. It is compared with the blowfish in the saying “anglerfish of the east, blowfish of the west.” The anglerfish hotpot, which utilizes all parts of the fish, is a staple hotpot at restaurants as well as *ryokan* and *minshuku* type inns in the city.



Nakaminato Yakisoba

Nakaminato yakisoba (fried noodles) are known for their chewy texture, a result of their being prepared in a hand-held bamboo steamer. These noodles have been a favorite with the locals for more than fifty years. We recommend that you try a variety of restaurants—because they’re all different!

■ Inquiries: Nakaminato Yakisoba Daigakuin

Dried Potatoes

Slowly sundried sweet potatoes are a traditional healthy food of the region, full of both the technique of traditional craftsmen and the fruit of nature. Hitachinaka City is Japan’s largest producer of dried potatoes. In the winter, you can see farmers drying the potatoes on reed screen in their yards. The potatoes are full of vitamins B1 and C, potassium, and more. Since no preservatives are used, they are safe food for everyone from children to adults.



Vine Berries (December–April)

On-the-vine strawberries feature a wonderful aroma and gorgeous red color. Our sweet-but-sour strawberries are popular with everyone from small children to the elderly.

Recommended Gifts (As of April 2015)

Dried Potato / Specialty Sweets

Daimaru Bussan [4-3-2 Odaira]

Flat-sliced (Small=200g): ¥400 ~ ,
(Large=550g): ¥1,000 ~ ,
whole dried: 250g ¥450 ~
☎029-272-4016



Maruhi [385-1 Ajigauracho]

Flat-sliced: 200g ¥550 ~
whole dried /thin-sliced/ diced: 200g
Starts at ¥600 ~



Dried potato cake

5-count ¥1,130, 10-count ¥2,210
☎029-265-8011



Hitachi Agricultural Cooperative

[34-4 Nagasuna / 3241-2 Tsuda]

Flat-sliced: 200g ¥350 ~ , 400g ¥600 ~
☎029-285-0202 / 274-8311



Kouta Shoten Co., Ltd.

[1113 Hiraisocho]

Tortoise dried potato Flat-sliced: 140g ¥570 ~
☎0120-97-9988



Daimaruya [18-38 Shakamachi]

Flat-sliced: 180g ¥500 ~ ,
roasted dried potato: 200g ¥650 ~ ,
whole dried potato: 200g ¥600 ~
☎029-263-7777



Sweets Kikuchi, Inc. Main Store [3-12-4 Nagahoricho]

Colored murals: 15-count ¥1,100 Potera: 6-count ¥1,100
Dried potato pie: 5-count ¥580, 10-count ¥1,100
Featuring dried potato wrapped and roasted in aromatic crust.
☎029-274-1713



Patisserie Great Leaf

[1-13-1 Odaira]

Potato Renu: 5-count ¥880,
12-count ¥1,910
☎029-272-0480



Edo-ya Sweets Shop

[6-8 Motomachi]

Kawara Tsukuribe: 7 pouches:
¥1,200, 10 pouches: ¥1650 ~
☎029-272-3825



Kurokiya Sweets Store

[960 Ichige]

Katsuta Specialties "Choja Monaka":
12-count ¥1,760, 16-count ¥2,300
☎029-272-3648



Nakaminato Sweets Commercial Association (primarily Tsuruya Seika) [2-35 Shakamachi]

Sable Hamagiku: 9-count ¥648, 15-count ¥1,080
Strawberry Dappe: One ¥129, 5-count ¥700
Hitachinaka City
Ajigaura local special-
ty: vine berry blend
jam on dacquoise
☎029-262-4411



Boxed Lunch (Bento)

Takomeshi Syndicate Office

[14-8 Katsutachuo]

Minato-no-takomeshi: ¥800
(call ahead to reserve)
☎029-273-1371



Katsuta Dessert Breads Cooperative

[14-8 Katsutachuo]

"Katsu" sandwiches: ¥550
(call ahead to reserve)
☎029-273-1371



SUSHIKO Furintei [2974-35 Mawatari]

Beef bento: Hitachinaka beefsteak ¥1,000 / Beef sukiyaki ¥800
Roast Pork: (Ibaraki brand
pork) teriyaki bento ¥800
(call ahead to reserve)
☎029-273-8070



Daisui Co., Ltd.

[3839-1 Mawatari]

Broiled mackerel sushi: Single pack,
8-count ¥1,080
☎029-273-6363



Recommended Gifts (As of April 2015)

Vacuum-Packed Foods / Delicatessen

Toriso [2-20 Minatoizumicho]

Hitachinaka beef vacuum-packed beef curry

(Sweet/medium/spicy): ¥410 each

Ganso Nakaminato minced meat (Hitachi beef 100%): ¥162

Ganso Nakaminato Croquet: ¥108

☎029-263-4147



Hitachi Agricultural Cooperative

[34-4 Nagasuna / 3241-2 Tsuda]

Dried potato curry: ¥494

☎029-285-0202 / 274-8311



Processed Marine Product Group

Yajirushi [1110-18 Sawameki]

“Dried squid for working people”

with shochu: ¥3,780

☎029-263-6811



Ajirushi [1110-9 Sawameki]

Octopus confit: 1-bottle 130g ¥1,180

Steamed octopus: 1 whole piece ¥1,800

Chinese-style squid & wild vegetables: 1 bag 150g ¥280

☎029-263-2111



Marine Development Group

[429 Ajigauracho]

Kajimenoyu set A (dry alga 1 bag)

: Five bags of extract ¥1,900, B ¥3,000

☎029-265-8732



Soy Sauce

Kurosawa Soy Sauce Shop

[1260 Mawatari]

Soy sauce "Kura" set: 360ml Three bottles
¥1,700, Three 1-liter bottles ¥3,330

☎029-272-3776



Coffee

Saza Coffee [8-18 Kyoieicho]

Tokugawa Shogun Coffee Beans: 200 g ¥1,500

Single-cup coffee w/ filters (five): ¥800

Liquid variety: 900ml (summer only): ¥1,500

☎029-274-1151



Sake

Hitachi Agricultural Cooperative

[34-4 Nagasuna / 3241-2 Tsuda]

Henokappa (dried potato shochu)

: Bottle 720ml ¥1,365

☎029-285-0202 / 274-8311



Daimaruya

[18-38 Shakamachi]

100-year dried
potato shochu:
bottle 720ml ¥1400

☎029-263-7777



Chojuso

[1-22-1 Odaira]

Hikaru Genji pitcher:

720ml ¥1,728,

Bottle 720ml

¥1,350

Murasaki Shikibu:

bottle 720ml ¥900

☎029-273-7711



Other

Torokon Main Store

[2382-10 Koya]

Torokon : (white, single flavor/seaweed/
ashitaba/yuzu citrus fruit/coffee) ¥200 each

☎090-5529-0283



Yokosuka Poultry Farm

[1581-3 Hetano]

Orange eggs: 30 pieces in a case ¥1,070,
one pack (M) ¥285, (L) ¥310

☎029-262-2289



Accommodation / Hot Spring

Hitachinaka City boasts a vast array of accommodate and hot springs with incredible ocean views.

 Indicates hot springs

Katsuta District Katsuta Station Area

 029

● Hotel

Brighton Hotel Mimaruya  272-2820

Hotel Crystal Palace  273-7711

New Central Hotel  274-0048

Hotel Crown Hills Katsuta  354-2755

Hotel Sun City Katsuta  272-1111

Hotel Crystal Plaza  275-1111

Life Inn Katsuta Station-Nishi  270-0333

Terrace Inn Katsuta  219-7211

● Ryokan-style

Suehiro Ryokan  272-2639

Ryokan Kagayakiso  272-2578


Daisen Ryokan  273-8511

Kinsen Ryokan (※Sawa Station)  273-6226

Nakaminato District Nakaminato Fish Market Area

 029

● Hotel

Kasuga Hotel  262-3164

Fujiya Hotel  262-4141


Minato-kanko Hotel  262-4118

● Ryokan-style

Matsuya Ryokan  262-4173

Hiraiso District Hiraiso Swimming Beach / Marine Pool Area 029

● Ryokan-style

Hiraisokan (ryokan-style inn)  262-2706

Seaside Haraya  262-4351

Hiranoya (restaurant)  262-5111

Ryokan Yamamaru (ryokan-style inn)  262-2669

● Guest Houses

Minshuku Horizoe  263-2484

●Hotel

Hotel New Hakuaki 🍲	☎265-7185
Tsuruya Hotel	☎265-8322

●Ryokan-style

Toraya Ryokan	☎265-8222
Chibaya	☎265-8416
Seigyokan	☎265-8153
Matsumoto Ryokan	☎265-8113
Ryoso Yoichi	☎265-7841
Amimoto-no-yado/Ebino-ya	☎265-8140
Shiosai-no-yado Marutoku Ryokan	☎265-7006
Ryoso Matsukaze	☎265-8332
Ryokan Shoeikan	☎265-7588
Minshuku & Ryokan Tobitaya	☎265-8326
Takaraya Ryokan	☎265-7004
Tsuruya Ryokan	☎265-8250
Ryokan Kiyomiso	☎265-8312
Ryokan Eiraku	☎265-7549
Ajigaura Club	☎265-7111
Kairaku Ryokan	☎265-8512
Komeya Ryokan	☎265-8103
Ryokan Kawasaki	☎265-9141
Asahiya (temporarily closed)	☎265-8346
Kaisho Daitoshi	☎265-7339
Haraya Ryokan	☎265-7479
Ryokan Yamagataya	☎265-8207
Resthouse Sakyu	☎265-7101
Ryokan Chidoriya	☎265-8181
Minshuku & Ryokan Furusato	☎265-8135
Ryokan and Iso Cuisine Godo	☎265-9104
Ryokan Hamada-kan	☎265-7211

●Guest Houses

Genzaburo	☎265-7480	Inazuma	☎265-8407
Taemon	☎265-8350	Shuzo	☎265-8390
Kurose	☎265-8415	Manshuya	☎265-8151
Shimizuya	☎265-7544	Isomae	☎265-7362
Kikuya	☎265-8480	Hinodeso	☎265-8307
Kachiya	☎265-8406	Tasuke	☎265-7495
Kamome	☎265-7519		

City excursion local line Hitachinaka Seaside Railway



The Hitachinaka Seaside Railway Minato Line is a historic train line launched in 1913.

Stretching over a 14.3 kilometers, the diesel cars are some of the country's oldest still in operation.

The wooden Nakaminato Station—built 100 years ago—has been named one of Kanto's "100 best" for its unique flavor. In addition, the station leads to a series of retro views from the train window including massive fields and other pastoral views. Even the signboard of station of the Seaside Hitachinaka Seaside Railway Minato Line are illustrated with local delicacies and characteristics—making it interesting for people to see.



Katsuta Station-Ajigaura Station
(10 stations/approximately 30 minutes)



Hitachinaka Area Map



★Hitachinaka City Tourism Section

2-10-1 Higashi-ishikawa, Hitachinaka, Ibaraki

☎029-273-0111 WEB: www.city.hitachinaka.ibaraki.jp

Official Site FB (*Toho-kenbunroku* “Travels of Marco Polo”)

★Hitachinaka Tourism Association ☎029-273-0116

Access Information



●Railway

[From Narita]

Narita Line(Narita) → (Abiko) → Joban Line(Mito) → (Katsuta)
: Approx 2 hours and 20 min

[From Tokyo]

Joban Line (Tokyo) → (Mito) → (Katsuta)
: Approx 1 hour and 20 min

●By Car

[From Ibaraki Airport] : Approx 1 hour

[From Tokyo]

Shuto Expwy (Misato JCT)–Joban Expwy (Tomobe JCT)–Kita-Kanto Expwy (Hitachinaka IC)
: Approx 1 hour and 30 min

●Highway Bus

[From Narita Airport] : Approx 2 hours and 15 min ¥3,100

[From Ibaraki Airport] : Approx 1 hour and 10 min ¥1,230

[From Tokyo] : Approx 2 hours ¥2,240

●Community Bus (Smile Aozora Bus)

Six in-city routes (five or more buses/day)

¥100 (free for pre-school age children and under)