



黒潮町

**Lively people, lively nature,
and a lively town**

Kuroshio is blessed with beautiful nature and a rich cultural heritage. Let us introduce you to the many cultural properties of our town.



Cultural Property of Kuroshio Town



MAP 31 **Kamo Hachimangu Shrine**

The Kamo Shrine, a Shinto shrine originally located at the Kamo Estate, was combined with the Hachimangu Shrine of Irino's Hayasaki district around 1599 to form the Kamo Hachimangu Shrine. The shrine's ceremonies are held in July and October.

Designated as Cultural Property Nov. 3, 1972

MAP 11 **Ansei Tsunami Memorial**

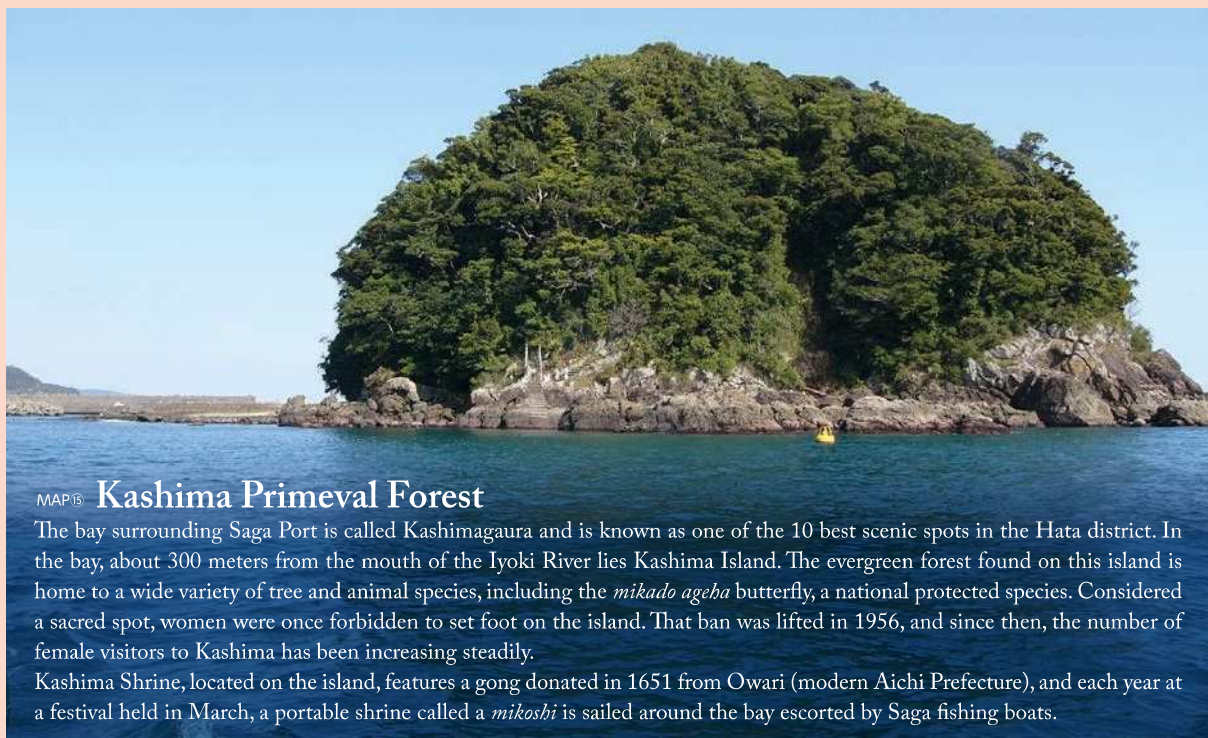
Local residents erected this monument in year 4 of the Ansei era (1857) as a warning to future generations. The inscription tells how small rises in sea level known as *suzu-nami* foretell the coming of a tsunami. This monument also shows us that the Tokai and Tonankai Earthquakes have been occurring for centuries.

Designated Nov. 3, 1972



Visit the past to
know the present.

Kuroshio Board of Education



MAP 15 Kashima Primeval Forest

The bay surrounding Saga Port is called Kashimagaura and is known as one of the 10 best scenic spots in the Hata district. In the bay, about 300 meters from the mouth of the Iyoki River lies Kashima Island. The evergreen forest found on this island is home to a wide variety of tree and animal species, including the *mikado agaba* butterfly, a national protected species. Considered a sacred spot, women were once forbidden to set foot on the island. That ban was lifted in 1956, and since then, the number of female visitors to Kashima has been increasing steadily.

Kashima Shrine, located on the island, features a gong donated in 1651 from Owari (modern Aichi Prefecture), and each year at a festival held in March, a portable shrine called a *mikoshi* is sailed around the bay escorted by Saga fishing boats.

List of Designated Cultural Properties of Kuroshio Town

	Designated by	Category	Name	Location
1	Country, Town	Place of Scenic Beauty	Irino Matsubara Pine Grove	Irino
2	Prefecture, Town	Historic Site	Tanokuchi Kofun	Shimotanokuchi
3	Prefecture, Town	Historic Site	Grave of Arii Shoji	Ariigawa
4	Town	Historic Site	Saga Castle Site	Saga
5	Town	Historic Site	Iyoki Castle Site	Iyoki
6	Town	Historic Site	Grave of Iyoki Yaheiji	Iyoki
7	Town	Historic Site	Grave of Manroku	Koguronokawa
8	Town	Historic Site	Hayasaki Archeological Site	Hayasaki
9	Town	Historic Site	Komehara Residence Site	Komehara
10	Town	Historic Site	Grave of Ohira Danjo	Okuminatogawa
11	Town	Historic Site	Ansei Tsunami Memorial	Irino
12	Town	Historic Site	Oike Shunsui's Tooth Memorial	Ida
13	Town	Historic Site	Shishiba Kiln Site	Ukitsu
14	Town	Historic Site	Matsuyama-ji Temple Site	Ida
15	Town	Natural Monument	Kashima Primeval Forest	Kashima
16	Town	Natural Monument	Yamato Tachibana Tree	Saga
17	Town	Natural Monument	Muku Tree and Yusu Tree	Ichinonogawa
18	Town	Natural Monument	Sakura Tree	Ichinose
19	Town	Tangible Folk Property	Shakuryosai Kannon Statue	Saga
20	Town	Tangible Folk Property	Millet Seeds	Kobushinokawa
21	Town	Tangible Folk Property	Water Jug	Kobushinokawa (Kuroshio Town Office)
22	Town	Tangible Folk Property	Iron Stove	Kobushinokawa
23	Town	Intangible Folk Property	Ariigawa Shoji Odori	Ariigawa
24	Town	Intangible Folk Property	Josei Odori	Minagawa
25	Town	Intangible Folk Property	Shinkichi Odori	Ida
26	Town	Intangible Folk Property	Ukitsu Otake-san Song	Ukitsu
27	Town	Intangible Folk Property	Kamikawaguchi Boat Song	Kamikawaguchi
28	Town	Sculpture	Bato Kannon Statue	Ichinonogawa
29	Town	Sculpture	Kannon Statue	Kobushinokawa
30	Town	Historical Document	Tani Tateki Hanging Scroll	Ichinose
31	Town	Structure	Kamo Hachimangu Shrine	Irino
32	Town	Structure / Sculpture	Chosen-ji Temple and Engraved Kannon Statue	Irino
33	Town	Structure / Sculpture	Izumi-ji Temple and Kannon Statue	Tanoura
34	Town	Historical Record	Moon Frame Record	Ida
35	Town	Handicraft Object	Sacred Vase and Kamochi Castle Pot	Tamura
36	Town	Handwritten Calligraphy	Moon Frame Fragment	Ida
37	Town	Structure	Ida Ansei Tsunami Memorial	Ida
38	Town	Handicraft Object	Kamikawaguchi Tenmangu Katsuo Fishing Tablet	Kamikawaguchi (Kuroshio Town Office)
39	Town	Handicraft Object	Kamikawaguchi Tenmangu Katsuo Tablet	Kamikawaguchi (Kuroshio Town Office)

Kuroshio Cultural Properties Map



MAP①

Irino Matsubara

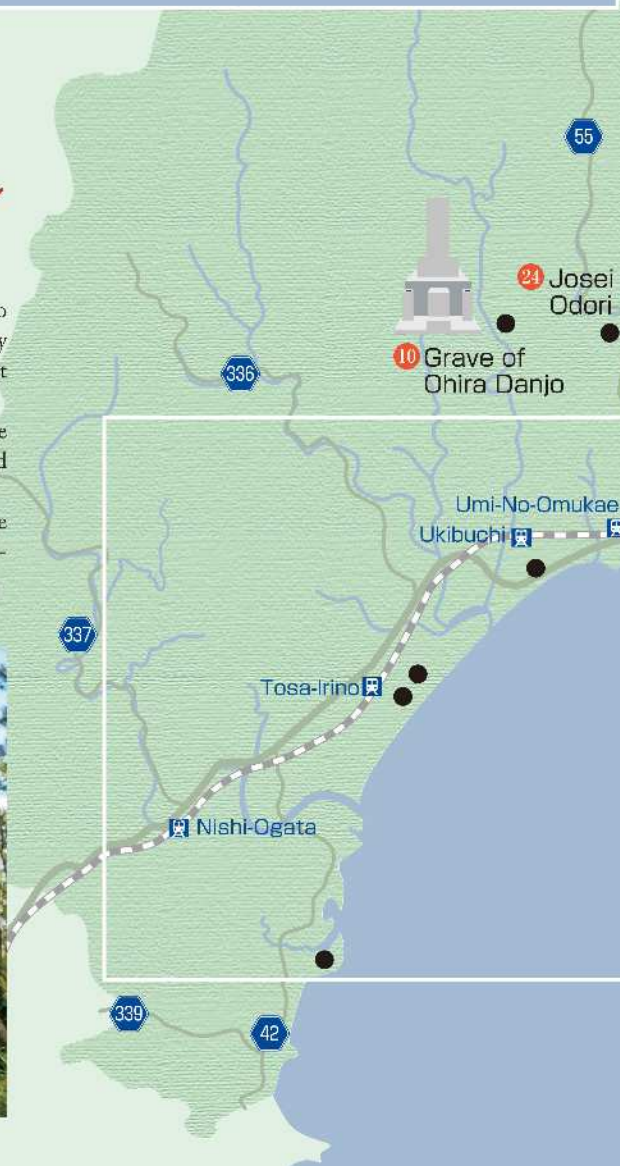
Nationally Designated Place of Scenic Beauty

The Irino Matsubara, a 4km pine grove along the Irino coast, dates back to the Tenso era (1573–1592), when the chief retainer of Chosokabe Motochika and lord of nearby Nakamura Castle, Tani Chubei Tadazumi, is said to have ordered prisoners to plant pine trees along the shoreline.

In 1945, the Japanese army ordered that the Irino Matsubara be felled. However, the head of the Nakamura Forestry Service at the time, Horiuchi Yoki, strongly opposed this plan, and thanks to his efforts, the forest was spared.

Today, the picturesque Irino Matsubara is beloved by tourists and locals alike as a place to walk or jog while feeling the cool sea breeze. In 1928, the Irino Matsubara was designated by the Japanese government as a place of scenic beauty.

Designated Feb. 17, 1928



Tangible Folk Property / Others

Lives of the townspeople

Natural Monument Ichinonogawa

MAP17 Muku Tree and Yusu Tree

The muku tree produces clusters of light green flowers in spring and small, sweet, dark purple fruit that ripens and can be eaten in autumn. The yusu tree, also called an *isu* tree in other parts of Japan, is exceptionally old, a rarity for trees of this species. The leaves of the tree are rough to the touch and are used as polishing tools in various crafts. Both trees exude an unmatched air of majesty.

Designated Apr. 11, 1976



Natural Monument Saga

MAP16 Yamato Tachibana Tree

An indigenous species to Japan, the yamato tachibana is a rare tree that can be found growing in warm coastal regions. It is thought that conditions in Kuroshio are just right for these trees, since they can be seen in relatively high numbers here. They grow to be 2-4 meters tall and bloom with white flowers in June. They produce small yellow fruit that can be eaten raw but are quite sour.

Designated Mar. 18, 1975



Tangible Folk Property Kobushinokawa (kept at the Kuroshio Town Office)

MAP21 Water Jug



A jug from the Azuchi-Momoyama Period (1568-1600). Before plumbing became the norm, water jugs like this were a necessity for each household.

Designated Mar. 12, 1975

Sculpture Ichinonogawa

MAP28 Bato Kannon Statue



This Kannon statue is enshrined in a small roadside shrine in Ichinonogawa and wears a kimono lovingly handmade by local residents. In times past, it is thought that this statue kept travelers safe on the road.

Designated Mar. 12, 1975

Historic Site Koguronokawa

MAP7 Grave of Manroku



In 1829, Manroku's village was ruled by a corrupt and miserly headman, who collected steep taxes of rice while the villagers starved and bribed his superiors to keep the rice for himself. He even went so far as to imprison three villagers as scapegoats to keep his own crimes hidden. Manroku was part of a group of 80 villagers who revolted and broke into the headman's residence to free the three prisoners, and for this he was banished to the village of Iyoki. There, he gained the favor of Iyoki's headman and was allowed to live as a servant at the former headman's manor. He eventually fell in love with a prostitute and lived out the rest of his life with her in Koguronokawa. The date of his gravestone is unknown.

Designated Aug. 2, 1984

Sculpture Kobushinokawa

MAP29 Kannon Statue

Originally, this statue was housed at Eiryuji Temple, but the temple was shut down in the *haibutsu kishaku*, an anti-Buddhist movement during the Meiji Restoration that resulted in large-scale destruction of Buddhist property and temple closures across the country. Now, the statue can be found in Kobushinokawa, where it is carefully looked after by the local community.

Designated Mar. 12, 1975



Tangible Folk Property Kobushinokawa

MAP20 Millet Seeds

In the year 1800, a man named Ninomiya Saemon taught his offspring to carefully store their leftover millet seeds. This practice continued through the generations, resulting in a bale of millet that has survived to this day. It has been beautifully cared for and kept safe from bugs. Looking at it, it's hard to believe that it's over 200 years old!

Designated Mar. 12, 1975

Tangible Folk Property Kobushinokawa

MAP22 Iron Stove



This iron stove has been in its owner's home for decades. It allowed the family to prepare meals while warming up sake at the same time, making it a useful and cherished appliance.

Designated Mar. 12, 1975

Handicraft Object Kamikawaguchi (kept at the Kuroshio Town Office)

MAP38 Kamikawaguchi Tenmangu Katsuo Fishing Tablet

This wooden *ema* tablet from Kamikawaguchi Tenmangu Shrine depicts 14 gallant fishermen aboard a ship fishing for *katsuo* (also called "bonito" in English).

Designated Jul. 2, 2021



Handicraft Object Kamikawaguchi (kept at the Kuroshio Town Office)

MAP39 Kamikawaguchi Tenmangu Katsuo Tablet

An *ema* tablet depicting a single large *katsuo* fish, an unusual portrait for an *ema*. The artist is unknown, but this precious work features wonderfully vibrant colors and expresses the spirit of the fishermen of the time, whose lives were so closely tied to the *katsuo*.

Designated Jul. 2, 2021



Castles, Shrines, and Temples

A spirit of faith enduring through time

Historic Site Iyoki

MAP⑥ Grave of Iyoki Yaheiji



Iyoki Yaheiji was the 5th and most famous lord of Iyoki Castle. He was one of the three best archers in Tosa (present-day Kochi Prefecture) but perished fighting in Korea when he was just 17. The grave was gifted by the feudal lord of Tosa, Chosokabe Motochika.

Designated Nov. 10, 1973

Historic Site Saga

MAP④ Saga Castle Site

The exact year of the castle's construction is unknown, but according to *A Brief History of Tosa's Ancient Castles*, Saga Castle was first ruled by the Iyoki clan. It was then handed over from Mitsutomi Gonnosuke to Chosokabe Motochika in the Tensho era (1573-1592) following the destruction of the Ichijo clan.

Designated Nov. 10, 1973



Natural Monument Ichinose

MAP⑮ Sakura Tree

A 12-meter-tall sakura tree located at Fuku-sen-ji Temple that is estimated to be over 400 years old. It is carefully maintained by the local community.

Designated Mar. 12, 1975



Structure / Sculpture Tanoura

MAP③ Izumi-ji Temple and Kannon Statue



Situated on top of Mt. Izumi, Izumi-ji Temple is said to have been established by Kobo Daishi, the founder of the Shingon school of Buddhism. Its 11-faced Kannon statue was made

in 1291. The temple becomes lively during its festivals called Kannon-san, which take place in February and August. At the rest area partway up the mountain, you can see the mouth of the Shimanto River to the west and Inomisaki Cape to the east.

Designated Apr. 1, 1990

Historic Site Iyoki

MAP⑤ Iyoki Castle Site

Built in 1478 by Ichijo Norifusa, the castle was ruled by the Iyoki clan for 122 years until it was handed over to Yamauchi Kazutoyo in 1601.



Designated Nov. 10, 1973

Structure / Sculpture Irino

MAP⑩ Chosen-ji Temple and Engraved Kannon Statue

It is unknown when Chosen-ji Temple was first built. It was reestablished as a branch of the Myoshin-ji Temple of Kyoto 1880. Its objects of worship include a daruma statue and a thousand-handed Kannon.

Designated Apr. 1, 1990



Tangible Folk Property Saga

MAP⑮ Shakuryosai Kannon Statue

A Kannon statue carefully looked after by the local residents. People in the Saga area fondly refer to it as Buttei-san.

Designated Mar. 12, 1975



Historical Document Ichinose

MAP⑩ Tani Tateki Hanging Scroll

Inherited from a doctor of former Kubokawa Town when he left the prefecture in 1960, the scroll tells of Tani Tateki, an ally of Sakamoto Ryoma who fought in the Meiji Revolution.

Designated Mar. 12, 1975



The Tale of Prince Takanaga

As a result of the Genko Incident, the eldest son of Emperor Go-Daigo, Prince Takanaga, was exiled by the ruling Hojo clan to Modoru Beach in Tosa (what is now Kuroshio's Onashi Beach). During his exile of over 1 year, he was protected by his loyal retainers Ohira Danjo and Arii Shoji.

Historic Site Okuminatogawa

MAP10 Grave of Ohira Danjo



The grave of one of Prince Takanaga's loyal retainers, Ohira Danjo, who sheltered the prince in his own home at the start of his exile. The current grave is believed to have been restored by the village headman of Kuchiminatogawa in 1823.

Designated Nov. 3, 1972

Historic Site Ariigawa

MAP9 Grave of Arii Shoji

Most of the stones that make up Arii Shoji's grave are said to have come from Prince Takanaga, who gifted the stones after his return to the capital to honor Shoji's unwavering loyalty during his exile.



Designated Jan. 29, 1953

Historic Site Komehara

MAP9 Komehara Residence Site

The site of the last residence used by Prince Takanaga during his exile. It features a poem left by the literary master Omachi Keigetsu, who once visited the site.

Designated Nov. 3, 1972



Intangible Folk Property Ariigawa

MAP23 Ariigawa Shoji Odori

Also known as the Shojin Odori, this *Bon Odori* dance is performed on August 16th in Ariigawa as an offering to console the spirit of Arii Shoji. The dance is carried out each year without fail and shows the adoration that Shoji earned from the local residents.

Designated Nov. 3, 1972

Related Spot



Monument to Chiyo, Shoji's daughter. Near the Komehara residence.

The Tale of Ki-no-Tsurayuki and Matsuyama-ji Temple

Historic Site Ida

MAP14 Matsuyama-ji Temple Site



Said to have been established by the renowned monk Kukai (Kobo Daishi) or perhaps at the order of Emperor Shomu, this temple experienced periods of prosperity and decline until it was finally shut down in the anti-Buddhist *haibutsu kishaku* movement.

Designated Apr. 1, 1990

Historical Record Ida

MAP34 Moon Frame Record

A record of Ki-no-Tsurayuki's moon character frame written by the magistrate Oike Shunsui in 1790. The original record has survived to this day.



Designated Apr. 1, 1990

Historic Site Ida

MAP12 Oike Shunsui's Tooth Memorial

A memorial to the Hata District Magistrate Oike Shunsui erected in 1813 by the head priest of Matsuyama-ji Temple, who so respected Shunsui that he buried his tooth on the temple grounds and commissioned this monument. It has since been moved to near-by Kannon-ji Temple.

Designated Apr. 1, 1990



Handwritten Calligraphy Ida

MAP36 Moon Frame Fragment

The character for moon written on this fragment of wood was claimed by the district magistrate Oike Shunsui to have been written by the famed Heian poet, Ki-no-Tsurayuki. The original frame featuring the calligraphy was supposedly hung by Tsurayuki at the government office when he was in Tosa and then later moved to Matsuyama-ji Temple where it was mistakenly burned as rubbish. This fragment is all that remains.

Designated Apr. 1, 1990



Ancient Ruins, Dances, and Songs

Bringing the past to new generations

Historic Site Hayasaki

MAP⑧ Hayasaki Archeological Site

An archeological site dating to the Yayoi and Kofun Periods (around 200-600 A.D.) that was discovered in 1973. Over 80,000 relics have been uncovered at the site, with 57% of that consisting of Yayoi and Haji pottery.

Designated Apr. 1, 1990



Handicraft Object Tamura

MAP③ Sacred Vase and Kamochi Castle Pot

The sacred vase of the Tamura Daimyo Shrine is a *goshintai*, an object of worship that is believed to contain the spirit of a Shinto deity. The pot comes from the Kamochi Castle archeological site. Both vessels are Tokoname ware, a type of pottery produced in and around Tokoname in Aichi Prefecture.



Designated Apr. 1, 1990

Handicraft Object Minagawa

MAP② Josei Odori



Josei's grave and a grave believed to belong to his wife stand together in Minagawa, and even now, 300 years after his death, the locals perform the Josei-san, a *Bon Odori* dance dedicated to him. It is thought that Josei

must have done great deeds for the town to earn this honor.

Designated Nov. 3, 1972

Intangible Folk Property Kamikawaguchi

MAP⑦ Kamikawaguchi Boat Song

"Congratulations! Let's celebrate, heigh-ho!" says the opening line of this song, which is sung in the Kamikawaguchi area at celebratory events such as weddings, 60th birthday parties, housewarming parties, and the launching of newly built ships.

Designated Nov. 3, 1972

めでたいな御祝儀 ヨイショ (子が囃)
めでたいのえーいそれははいか
へ枝もえさ (子が歌う。以下同じ)
さかいのえーえ (エエエヤモウヤ)
(子が主となり親も歌うことあり。以下同じ)

くれの御門に鶴がふけた
なんとふけたと立ち寄り聞けば
君は万年末代とな うれし
めでたい
のえーいそれははいか
へ枝もえさ
さかいのえーえ (エエエヤモウヤ)

Historic Site Shimotanokuchi

MAP② Tanokuchi Kofun



This *kofun* burial mound dates back to the latter half of the Kofun Period at the end of the 6th century. Judging by

artifacts uncovered at the site, this was a grave for an influential person in the area. It was discovered in 1907 when the owner of the property was cultivating the land for farming.

Designated Jan. 29, 1953

Historic Site Ukitsu

MAP⑩ Shishiba Kiln Site

Discovered in 1965, this 8th-9th century kiln sat on the bank of the Koguta River, a small river between Muchi and Ukitsu. The site consisted of 4-5 *anagama*, or "cave kilns," that produced Sue ware, a kind of unglazed pottery made from the middle of the Kofun Period through the Heian Period. When the site was first discovered, a large amount of Sue pottery fragments were found in the area.



Designated Apr. 1, 1990

Intangible Folk Property Ida

MAP⑤ Shinkichi Odori



The Shinkichi Odori, or "Shinkichi Dance," commemorates the village leader of Ida, Kakegawa Shinkichi. Around 600 years ago, a great storm struck the village of Ida, destroying houses and bridges. After the storm,

the villagers found a great deal of cut timber had miraculously washed up in the harbor, and they used it to repair the village. However, the timber had come from the government-owned Kanzai Woods, and the penalty for stealing it was death. In order to save the lives of his people, Shinkichi took full responsibility for the crime and committed *hara-kiri* on the Ida beach. The dance memorializing his sacrifice has taken place every year since on August 17th.

Designated Nov. 3, 1972

Intangible Folk Property Ukitsu

MAP⑥ Ukitsu Otake-san Song

A long time ago in Ukitsu, the beautiful Otake-san was engaged to a suitor chosen by her parents, but she fled the wedding ceremony to Kubokawa where her true love was waiting for her. This song opposing the strict social rules of the time was often sung at banquets until about the beginning of the Showa era.

Designated Nov. 3, 1972

浮津お竹さんは
八寸島田に緋がなこまいて
縦がすりのまえかけなんぞで
窪川へすっといた

浮津順慶さんは
一合の酒にてころりとまろで
地下をさわがすやら
かかさん泣かすやら

Structure Ida

MAP⑦ Ida Ansei Tsunami Memorial

With knowledge of the Hōei earthquake and tsunami of 1707, the monument's creator predicted that the next Nankai earthquake would occur 140 to 150 years later and engraved this memorial to ensure that this warning would not be forgotten. His will can be felt in the memorial's final line – "For the sake of future generations, I pass on these words."



Designated Jul. 2, 2021