


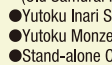






The Ariake Sea

A tidal land stretching as far as the eye can see... Nowhere else in Japan than here at the Ariake Sea can you feel such dynamism of the tide. The tidal range is 5 meters on average and 6 meters at maximum. At low tide, the tidal land stretches as far as 7 kilometers from the beach. This is home to various creatures that have long maintained their unique ecologies since the Japanese Islands became separated from the continent. Here you will be welcomed by mudskippers, eel gobies, Japanese tapertail anchovies, lingula and other unique creatures that you cannot see anywhere else.



Flower Calendar		
 [Late March to early April] ● Asahigaoka Park ● Bukeyashikidori ● Yutoku Inari Shrine, Higashiyama Park ● Yutoku Monzen Market Street ● Stand-alone Cherry Tree of Kashima City Office ● Otani Shinrin Park ● Garyugaoka Park ● Shidare Zakura Cherry Tree of Nogomi Doll Studio ● Tanjoun Temple	 [Late April to early May] ● Yutoku Inari Shrine ● Higashiyama Park ● Tanjoun Temple	 [Mid to late June] ● Nakakoba Rice Terraces ● Yutoku Inari Shrine ● Tanjoun Temple
 [Late April to early May] ● Yutoku Inari Shrine ● Higashiyama Park ● Tanjoun Temple	 [October] ● Yutoku Inari Shrine, Japanese Garden ● Ono Gorge ● Japanese Maple of Iwaya Kannon	 [November] ● Yutoku Inari Shrine, Japanese Garden ● Ono Gorge ● Japanese Maple of Iwaya Kannon



15 Gibizan Park
- Panoramic View of Kashima City -
This is a park with an athletic field, baseball stadium. This place commands a panoramic view of the whole city and the Ariake Sea.



16 Dyeing and Weaving Museum (Nogomi Doll Studio)
- The art of Suzuta Shigetō, a living national treasure -
Kimono and other dyeing works by Suzuta Shigetō, a living national treasure, are exhibited here. The site also has a craft studio of Nogomi dolls, traditional toys of this region.



17 Rengonin Temple
- Peaceful expressions of the Buddha from the Heian Era -
This is a temple of Shingon Buddhism constructed in the late 9th century. It houses three Buddhist statues - two Amitabha Buddhas and one Bhaisajyaguru Buddha - that are designated as important national cultural properties.



18 Location for the film "Gabai Bachan"
- A 100 year old thatched roof house -
This house which provided the main location for a film about a boy learning the wisdom of living from his grandmother is over 100 years old.



19 Nakakoba Dam
- Take a break on the Shiawasekaido street -
Located on National Highway Route 444 (Shiawasekaido Street) between Kashima and Omura City. The surrounding area provides perfect driving courses for sightseeing that are rich in nature.



20 Nature Hall Hiratani
- Get to know nature, and each other -
Located in Tataru Natural Park, this accommodation and training facility is popular among customers visiting for job-training, trekking and various other purposes.



21 Okuhiratan Campground (May - September)
- Barbecue at a resort surrounded by fresh greenery -
This campground is located near the starting point of the Mt. Kyogadake trail. There is a stream running through the dazzling fresh greenery of the national forest. It is the perfect place for summer retreats and camping.



22 Hiratani Gorge (spring water spot)
- A gorge with high quality spring water -
This gorge is located just behind a shop dealing with local products of Hiratani. Here you can enjoy the beauty of a clear stream and fresh green or autumn leaves. They serve spring water at the shop.



23 Mt. Kyogadake, the tallest mountain in the prefecture (main)
- Taradake Prefectural Natural Park -
The trail starting point of Mt. Kyogadake, the tallest mountain in Saga Prefecture, is located near the entrance of Okuhiratan Campground. It attracts many hikers during the best seasons.