

SHIGA

Visitors Guide



Hikone Castle



Kengorinji Temple



Find the freedom to open your heart
SHIGA



Welcome to Shiga Prefecture!

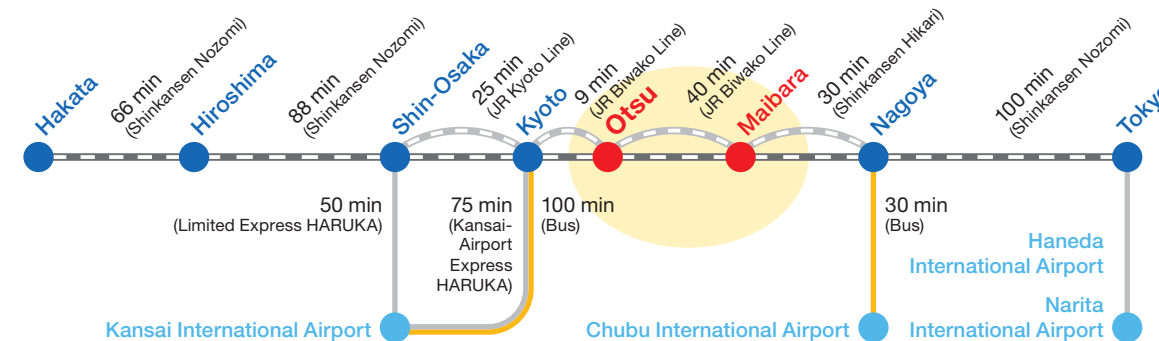
The natural riches of Shiga Prefecture make it ideal to enjoy the great outdoors amid stunning scenery, including Lake Biwa, one of the world's most famous ancient bodies of water and Japan's largest lake, stretching over one-sixth of the prefectural territory. Having prospered through the ages as the heart of a sophisticated society and economy, Shiga's deep history and culture are also major attractions.



Access to SHIGA

Travel time from major cities in Japan to Shiga Prefecture

| Major City | Shiga Pref. | By Train | Distance |
|------------|-------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Kyoto | Otsu | 10 min (Special Rapid Services) | 14.2 km (Kyoto Sta. → Otsu Sta.) |
| Osaka | Otsu | 40 min (Special Rapid Services) | 40.3 km (Suita → Meishin Expwy) |
| Maibara | Otsu | 45 min (Special Rapid Services) | 71.3 km (Meishin Expwy) |
| Nagoya | Maibara | 28 min (Shinkansen Hikari) | 58.7 km (Komaki → Meishin Expwy) |
| Tokyo | Maibara | 134 min (Shinkansen Hikari) | 402.4 km (Tomei/Meishin Expwy) |
| Kanazawa | Maibara | 113 min (Limited Express) | 182.7 km (Hokuriku Expwy) |



SHIGA

Basic Guide

Western Shiga

Kosei ▶ **Otsu, Takashima**

As a rest-stop town along the main travel artery connecting Tokyo and Osaka, the Otsu area flourished as an inland port on Lake Biwa and today remains a place of scenic beauty, dotted with majestic temples and shrines such as Enryakuji Temple and Miidera Temple. Head northward towards the skyline of Hira mountains to discover the wonders of wilderness in the Takashima district, a great area to enjoy water sports such as SUP, hiking, and skiing.

Southern Shiga

Konan ▶ **Kusatsu, Koka, Shigaraki**

Enjoy the atmosphere of a classic lakeside resort at Kusatsu on the east shore of Lake Biwa, still resplendent with echoes of past glory when it prospered as a major stop on the Tokaido and Nakasendo roads. Attractions here include Konan Sanzan, famous for autumn leaves, and the experience of becoming ninja in Koka. In the mountain village of Shigaraki, countless ceramic sculptures of Japan's beloved "tanuki" raccoon welcome you amid an idyllic environment.

Eastern Shiga

Koto ▶ **Hikone, Higashiomi, Omihachiman**

Home to national treasures like Hikone Castle and the daimyo gardens of historic nobility, a stroll through Hikone is a trip back in time amid the scenery of this ancient castle-town. The school buildings of the former Toyosato Elementary School are today a sacred place for anime fans of "K-ON!". Historical architecture and charming townscapes remain in Omihachiman, the famous hometown of the wise Omi merchants.

Northern Shiga

Kohoku ▶ **Nagahama, Maibara**

Nagahama once prospered as a major post town on the Hokkoku Road. The townscape of Kurokabe Square still retains the atmosphere of ages past. Visit the power spot Chikubushima Island, climb Mount Ibuki, one of "Japan's 100 most famous mountains," idyllic scenery of the Kannon Village, and take in the view of Lake Biwa, which was chosen as one of the 100 best sunsets in Japan.



Events

Shiga Prefecture has many notable seasonal events and aspects, such as festivals with a unique background and/or extraordinary history, arts and crafts nurtured through a long history, and natural landscapes with seasonal beauty.

SPRING

Omihachiman Sagicho Festival

A fire festival held at Himure Hachimangu Shrine. In the afternoon of the first day of the festival, about 10 to 20 Sagicho floats, which are made with straw and cedar wood, with a height of six meters, depart the shrine. On the next day, the floats parade through the town from the morning and start to be torched on the shrine grounds from about 8 p.m. (National Important Tangible Folk Cultural Property)



Nagahama Nagahama Hikiyama Festival

The festival of Nagahama Hachimangu Shrine is held from April 9 to 17 every year. The floats, decorated with traditional sculptures and paintings, are called a "mobile art museum." Another highlight of the festival is "Children's Kabuki," where children give performances of kabuki. (UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage)



Hikone Hikone Castle Cherry Blossom Festival

In spring, about 1,100 cherry trees in the area around Hikone Castle start to bloom, attracting many people with the beautiful blossoms. The festival is held around April 1 to 20 every year, during which the cherry blossoms along the moat are beautifully illuminated.



AUTUMN

Shigaraki Shigaraki Ceramics Festival

Shigaraki-yaki is the traditional craft product of the Shigaraki area. Beside the famous Shigaraki statue of *tanuki* (Japanese raccoon dog), various ceramic items, such as plateware, umbrella stands, and bathtubs, are available. You can also join a pottery workshop and have an opportunity to eat and drink using Shigaraki-yaki cups and plates.



Otsu Otsu Festival

This festival at Tenson Shrine offers an atmosphere similar to Kyoto's Gion Festival. It features elaborate *karakuri* wind-up dolls on each of the 13 *hikiyama* (*dashi*) floats. During the parade of the floats, the dolls showcase their *karakuri* performances at more than 20 sites. (National Important Tangible Folk Cultural Property)



Takashima Colored Leaves of the Row of Metasequoia Trees

About 500 metasequoia trees stand along the prefectural road for about 2.4 km, creating impressively beautiful scenery. The leaves of the metasequoia trees don't turn to bright red but to more unique colors, which are described as "brick color" and "brownish color."



SUMMER

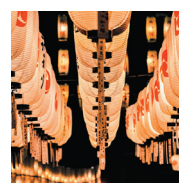
Moriyama Nagisa Park Sunflower Garden

Covering the huge park of about 4,000 sq. m., about 12,000 small sunflowers called "smile kids" bloom. The contrast between the yellow sunflowers and Mount Hira is really picturesque. The peak season for the sunflowers is usually mid to late July.



Taga Mantosai Festival at Taga Taisha Shrine

Held from August 3 to 5 at Taga Taisha Shrine, this lantern festival is for offering people's gratitude for "Izanami no Mikoto," the progenitor goddess of the Japanese myth. More than 10,000 lanterns are lit, shining against the summer night sky and creating a dreamy atmosphere.



Otsu Lake Biwa Grand Fireworks Festival

About 10,000 launches of fireworks above Lake Biwa create a colorful view of the summer night sky and lake surface. This festival attracts about 350,000 visitors every year to come and enjoy the powerful, colorful fireworks. You can enjoy the fireworks from anywhere along the lake shores.



WINTER

Nagahama Bonbai Exhibition

About 90 *bonbai*, *ume* plum tree bonsai, are beautifully displayed in Japanese style tatami rooms. These bonsai include a very tall tree of close to three meters and a very old tree, which is claimed to be 400 years old. Enjoy a sophisticated technique and natural beauty at the same time!



Otsu Omi Jingu Shrine Karuta Festival

"Karuta" is Japan's traditional card game, in which participants compete with each other for the speed of grabbing the correct card indicated by reading out loud of a poem. After "Karuta Opening Ceremony" with four women in a traditional costume, the national championship tournament of competitive karuta is held.



Omihachiman Hina-doll exhibition

Precious *hina* dolls and *gogatsu ningyo* dolls, which are owned by the local merchants, are displayed. From the elaborate works on the dolls, you can feel the spirit and attitude of merchants in Hachiman to cherish the culture and tradition. Why not go and see the elegant dolls in the quaint old town?



Activities

Taking advantage of the features of Lake Biwa, you can enjoy various activities, such as water sports, including canoeing and SUP, ferry cruise, and cycling along the lake. Feel the blessings of the area's rich nature through your whole body.



Across the prefecture

カヌー



Canoeing

Lake Biwa is a perfect place to enjoy water activities, such as canoeing. You can get unique experiences only available on Lake Biwa, such as visiting Shirahige Shrine, which features the torii gate standing in the lake, by canoe, and touring popular spots and spots where you can see wild animals by kayak.

📍 Across the prefecture



Across the prefecture

サイクリング
ビワイチ



“Biwaichi” Cycling

Cycling around Lake Biwa is called “Biwaichi.” Cycling along the blue lake while feeling a pleasant breeze, you can fully enjoy various attractive aspects of Shiga Prefecture through your five senses, such as the old castle and streets and mountains and plants and flowers giving a different impression for a different season.

📍 Around Lake Biwa



Otsu

ミシガンクルーズ



Michigan Cruise

“Michigan” is a sightseeing ship travelling around the south part of Lake Biwa. You can get a fully-satisfying cruising experience in various ways, such as a panoramic view from the top-floor deck, sightseeing guidance by the purser, music shows, and various tasty dishes.

📍 Otsu Port : 5-1-1 Hamaotsu, Otsu City, Shiga
🚶 Hamaotsu Sta. (Keihan) → 3 min walk / JR Otsu Sta. → 15 min walk



Across the prefecture

SUP



SUP

Lake Biwa is a nice place to enjoy SUP (Stand Up Paddleboard). You can also experience unique SUP programs, including SUP with yoga and with your pet. Why not enjoy SUP on the beautiful lake with good water quality?

📍 Across the prefecture



Western & Northern Shiga

スキー場



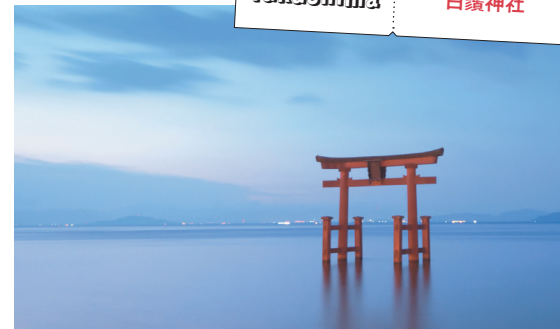
Ski Areas

Are you interested in enjoying skiing on a slope with a great view looking down at Lake Biwa? Go down the slope as if you are diving into the lake, and you will be able to feel a thrill and excitement of the highest order. Various ski runs are available, for beginners to experienced skiers.

📍 The western / northern areas in the prefecture

Historical Sites

Shiga Prefecture has many historical sites, where you can feel the long history of Japan. Many of them are instagrammable spots with a great view and perfect for strolling. As various kinds of traditional events and hands-on experience programs are offered, you will enjoy travelling in the area without ever getting bored.



Shirahige Shrine

Featuring the *torii* gate standing in Lake Biwa, this shrine is said to be the oldest in the prefecture as it has a history of more than 2,000 years since its foundation. The god of this shrine is known as a god of longevity. In the shrine, there is an observatory, from which you can get a panoramic view of the *torii* gate and Lake Biwa.

📍 215 Ukawa, Takashima City, Shiga
🚶 JR Omi-Takashima Sta. → 5 min by taxi

Takashima

白鬚神社



Omi Jingu Shrine

Enshrining the Emperor Tenji, who is said to be the person who made Japan's first clock, this shrine has an exhibition facility with a collection of various clocks. Also holding a championship tournament of competitive *karuta* and a *yabusame* demonstration, this shrine offers many opportunities to come in contact with traditional culture of Japan.

📍 1-1 Jingu-cho, Otsu City, Shiga
🚶 Omijingumae Sta. (Keihan) → 10 min walk

Otsu

近江神宮



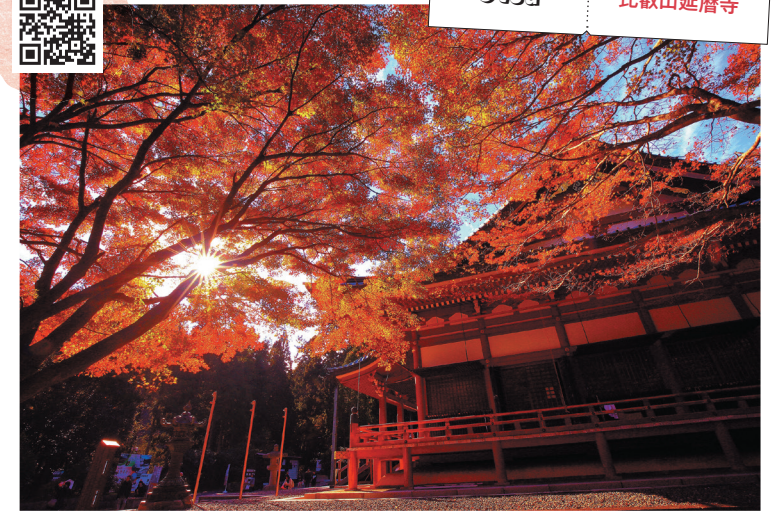
Ishiyamadera Temple

Reportedly founded in 747, this temple is one of Japan's most famous temples enshrining Kannon (the Buddhist Goddess of Mercy) in Japan, who has long been worshipped by many people. Visiting this temple became popular among the nobility, which is said to have led to Murasaki Shikibu (Lady Murasaki), Japan's renowned female novelist, getting the idea for the "Tale of Genji" here. The temple also has a large collection of National Treasures and Important Cultural Properties. On the grounds of the temple, you can enjoy beautiful seasonal flowers.

📍 1-1-1 Ishiyamadera, Otsu City, Shiga
🚶 Ishiyamadera Sta. (Keihan) → 10 min walk

Otsu

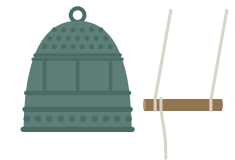
石山寺



Hieizan Enryakuji Temple

This temple with a history of 1,200 years has about 100 buildings scattered throughout the huge grounds of 1,700 hectares on Mount Hiei. Located on the border between Shiga and Kyoto prefectures, the temple offers a panoramic view of Lake Biwa below and the streets of Kyoto in the west. It was added to the UNESCO list of World Cultural Heritage sites in 1994.

📍 4220 Sakamoto-honmachi Otsu City, Shiga
🚶 JR Hieizan Sakamoto Sta. → 20 min walk → Sakamoto Cable → Cable Enryakuji Sta. → 10 min walk



Otsu

比叡山延暦寺

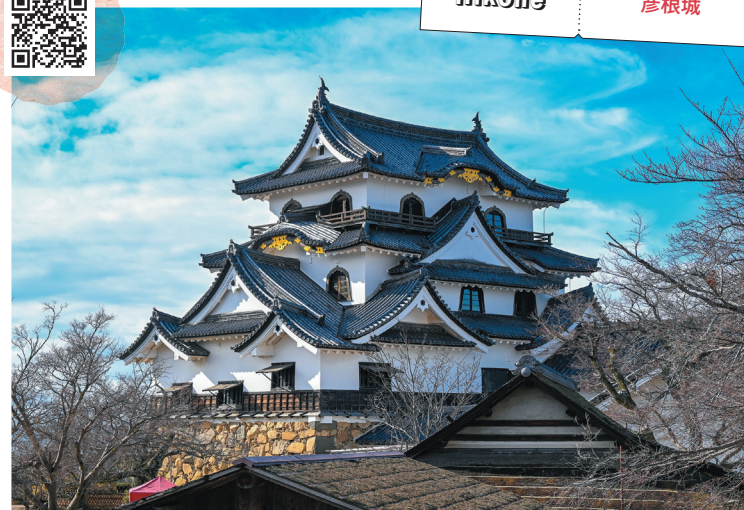
Historical Sites

Shiga



Hikone

彦根城



Hikone Castle

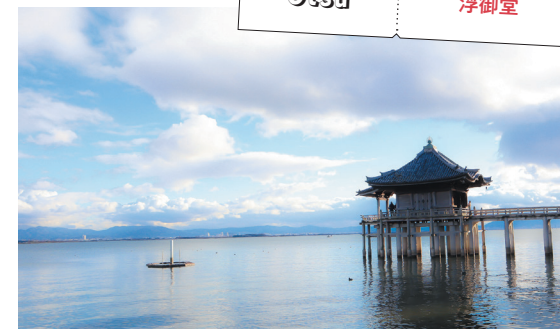
Built in the early 17th century, this castle is a symbol of Shiga Prefecture. As it has been well-maintained, many buildings still remain as they were at the time of completion. In spring, cherry blossoms bloom beautifully around the castle, creating a nice contrast with the white walls of the castle. The castle tower has been designated a National Treasure.

📍 Konki-cho, Hikone City, Shiga
🚶 JR Hikone Sta. → 15 min walk



Otsu

浮御堂



Ukimido (Mangetsuji Temple)

This building jutting out into Lake Biwa has a unique atmosphere. It is said to have been built about 1,000 years ago as a place of prayer for safety on the lake and the swift rescue of people in danger. As it has been famous as a scenic site since early times, famous literary figures have visited this temple and created *haiku* poems.

📍 1-16-18 Honkatata, Otsu City, Shiga
🚶 JR Katata Sta. → by bus → Demachi stop → 7 min walk



Chikubushima Island

竹生島



Chikubushima Island

Said to be the greatest “power spot” of Lake Biwa, this island is home to buildings of high historical value, such as Hagonji Temple, which enshrines “Dai-benzaiten,” one of Japan’s three great shrines of Benzaiten (Benzaiten is the goddess of music, water, and wealth), and Tsukubusuma Shrine. There is a theory that the Karamon Gate of Hagonji Temple is the only architectural remains of the original Osaka Castle (National Treasure).

📍 Hayazaki-cho, Nagahama City, Shiga
🚶 JR Nagahama Sta. → 10 min walk → Nagahama Port → Chikubushima by boat / JR Imazu Sta. → 5 min walk → Imazu Port → Chikubushima by boat



Otsu

三井寺



Miidera Temple (Onjoji Temple)

With a history of more than 1,200 years, this temple has managed to overcome difficulties no matter how many times it was involved in wars and other strife, and therefore it has earned the nickname “Phoenix Temple.” At this temple, you can try various kinds of experiences, such as *yamabushi* monk training, *zazen* sitting meditation, and *shakyo* sutra copying, and you can even stay overnight. There is also a cafe where you can enjoy local tea and tea cups.

📍 246 Onjoji-cho, Otsu City, Shiga
🚶 Miidera Sta. (Keihan) → 7 min walk

Healing and Experiences



Otsu

びわ湖テラス



Biwako Terrace

Biwako Terrace consists of two terraces at the summit of two mountains, one of 1,180 meters and the other of 1,174 meters above sea level, from which you can look down on Lake Biwa. One of the terraces, "The Main," offers a place where you can enjoy a great view while relaxing on the sofa on the wooden deck. It also offers a good selection of beverages and tasty food at cafes and a restaurant.

📍 1547-1 Kido, Otsu City, Shiga
🚶 JR Shiga Sta. → 10 min by bus → Biwako Valley stop



Takashima

びわこ箱館山



Biwako Hakodateyama

Reaching the summit at an elevation of about 630 meters by gondola, you will be in an open space with a panoramic view of Lake Biwa. Along with colorful seasonal flowers and plants, such as petunias, ko-chias, and sunflowers, this resort park has many attractive spots to see, such as rainbow curtains consisting of local specialty fabric and a small corridor full of colorful grass wind chimes.

📍 4201-1 Hiokimae, Imazu-cho, Takashima City, Shiga
🚶 JR Omi-Imazu Sta. → 20 min by bus → Hakodateyama stop



Koka

忍者屋敷



Koka Ninja House

This is not a ninja house recreated for tourists but was really a house where real ninja used to live. In this house, you can not only learn about the history of ninja but also try various trapdoors and other contrivances that were actually used, feeling the world of ninja more intimately.

📍 2331 Ryuboshi, Konan-cho, Koka City, Shiga
🚶 JR Konan Sta. → 20 min walk



Koka

MIHO MUSEUM



MIHO MUSEUM

Located in the mountains rich in nature, this art museum has a collection of about 3,000 antiquities from Japan, ancient China, Europe, and other places, and offers a permanent exhibition of about 250 to 500 pieces from the collection. The museum restaurant serves dishes made only with ingredients that were grown without using agricultural chemicals and chemical fertilizers.

📍 300 Tashiro Momodani, Shigaraki-cho, Koka City, Shiga
🚶 JR Ishiyama Sta. → 50 min by bus → MIHO MUSEUM stop

You can have many opportunities to encounter something that makes you relax and stimulates your curiosity, including spots on the mountain from which you can enjoy a grand panoramic view of Lake Biwa and facilities where you can step into the world of *ninja* and miniature figure dolls.



Otsu

大津絵の魔除け
鬼土鈴の絵付け体験



Lucky Ogre Bell Otsu-e Painting Program

Otsu-e painting is a unique folk art, which was born in Otsu City about 400 years ago. The variety of Otsu-e painting motifs includes gods, human persons, and ogres. In the city, there is a hands-on experience program to paint an ogre, one of the representative characters of Otsu-e painting, on a clay bell.

📍 Ichie Wado Seminar House : 4-17 Kozeki-cho, Otsu City, Shiga
🚶 Miidera Sta. (Keihan) → 8 min walk / JR Otsu Sta. → 12 min walk



Hikone

機織り体験



Weaving Experience Program

Omi-jofu, a traditional craft product of Omi, is a textile that is cool and light, and therefore is perfect for the hot humid summer. Omi-jofu Traditional Kogei Center offers a hands-on experience to make a coaster or a book mark using hemp thread, which is rare as a material for traditional craft fabrics, and a hand-loom weaving machine.

📍 Omi-Jofu Traditional Crafts Center : 32-2 Echigawa, Aisho-cho, Echi County, Shiga
🚶 Echigawa Sta. (Ohmi Railway) → 10 min walk



Shigaraki

陶芸体験



Pottery Experience Program

In Shigaraki Town, which is famous for Shigaraki-yaki ceramics, you can also enjoy a hands-on pottery experience at a pottery studio. You can create a rice bowl, tea cup, or plate based on your own idea. It sounds nice to create a piece of the local specialty with your own hands, for a memento of your trip!

📍 Ogama : 947 Nagano, Shigaraki-cho, Koka City, Shiga
🚶 Shigaraki Sta. (Shigaraki Kohgen Railway) → 15 min walk or 3 min by taxi



Nagahama

海洋堂フィギュア
ミュージアム黒壁



Kaiyodo Figure Museum Kurokabe

This is a museum of "Kaiyodo," a world-famous figure manufacturer. More than 4,000 items are displayed, including character figures of popular anime series and TV and movies with special effects. Some hands-on experience programs are offered, for painting figures or production of dioramas.

📍 13-31 Motohamacho, Nagahama City, Shiga
🚶 JR Nagahama Sta. → 5 min walk

Specialty Dishes



In Shiga Prefecture, you really cannot miss delicious local dishes. They include a wide variety of delicious food to satisfy both your palate and soul, including famous brand *wagyu* beef, Japanese sake, and sweets. After having fun at a sightseeing spot or in a hands-on experience program, you should really savor delicious food and wonderful drinks.



Omi Beef

Omi Beef is one of Japan's three best wagyu beef brands, along with Kobe Beef and Matsusaka Beef. Omi Beef has a history of over 400 years, and features a good and tender quality of the meat and melt-in-the-mouth texture. There are various ways to enjoy the beef, including steaks, sukiyaki, and shabushabu.



Sake

Shiga Prefecture with its Lake Biwa is a basin surrounded by mountains. Being rich in water resources, it is a producer of high-quality rice that is suitable for sake brewing. The prefecture has many sake breweries that offer a brewery tour, making it an irresistible place for sake lovers.



Fermented food products and lake fish

Fermented food products are popular among health-conscious people as they are believed to be effective in boosting your immune system. In Shiga Prefecture, which has been blessed with rich natural resources, the culture of fermentation, including *funazushi*, in which salted fish is fermented with rice, local sake, miso, and vinegar, has a long history and is deeply rooted in people's lives.



Wagashi / Sweets

A wide variety of cute pieces of *mochi* rice cake, *yokan* sweet bean jelly, shaved ice, and delicate wagashi is available, along with many long-established popular wagashi and sweets stores. A great selection of sweets, including Baumkuchen, eclairs, and gelati, is also on offer. As there are many unique cafes, it would be a good idea to stop by some of them during your trip.



Green Tea

Shiga Prefecture has been a tea producer from olden times, with a history of more than 1,200 years of tea production. Among others, the Asamiya area of Shigaraki Town is a producer of Asamiya tea, one of Japan's five most famous teas, and which has distinctive aroma and deep astringent taste. You should savor the taste in a Shigaraki-yaki tea cup.

Onsen



Another attractive aspect of Shiga Prefecture is onsen. By immersing yourself in the thermal water while gazing at Lake Biwa in a relaxing atmosphere, you can relieve the fatigue of travelling and refresh yourself mentally and physically! With onsen, which can be enjoyed both at the beginning and the end of your day, you can make more wonderful memories of your trip.



Ogoto Onsen

With a history of about 1,200 years, Ogoto Onsen is famous as an onsen where you can enjoy the sunrise. If you watch the sunrise from an open-air bath with a panoramic view of Lake Biwa, it will be an unforgettable memory. There are also drop-in bathing facilities and free footbaths.

📍 Ogoto, Otsu City, Shiga
🚶 JR Ogotoonsen Sta. → 20 min walk



Taiko Onsen

Taiko Onsen with brownish-red hot spring water has its source under the ruins of Nagahama Castle. The water is characterized by its long body-warming effects: it is said that once you immerse yourself in the hot spring water, your body will keep warm for a long time. It is assumed to be effective for relieving nerve pain, rheumatism, and symptoms of gynecological disorders.

📍 4-25 Koen-cho, Nagahama City, Shiga
🚶 JR Nagahama Sta. → 10 min walk

Souvenirs / Local Industries

One of the attractive aspects of Shiga Prefecture is its having lots of unique local specialty products, including nationally-famous Shigaraki-yaki ceramics, pearls from Lake Biwa, and Bitemari bottle-crafted *temari* balls, and *senkotsu* fan frames, among others. They all make great souvenirs. There are also hands-on experience programs to join *monozukuri* ("making things").



Shigaraki-yaki Ceramics

Shigaraki-yaki ceramics are produced in the Shigaraki area and they are one of the major local specialty items of Shiga Prefecture. Beside the famous Shigaraki statuette of *tanuki* (Japanese raccoon dog), various ceramic items for various purposes, such as plateware, umbrella stands, and bathtubs, are produced. The area has many places where you can enjoy a hands-on experience of pottery, so if you are interested in it, you really should try your hand!

📍 Around Shigaraki Town : Shigaraki-cho, Koka City, Shiga
🚶 Shigaraki Sta. (Shigaraki Kohgen Railway)



Echigawa Bitemari Bottle-crafted Temari Balls

This unique and cute traditional craft product is a small round glass bottle stuffed with colorful *temari* thread balls. Its origin is unclear; however, it is said to have been brought to the area in the late 19th century. In order to keep the techniques alive, the production is ongoing even today.

📍 Echigawa Bitemari no Yakata : 1673 Ichi, Aisho-cho, Echi County, Shiga
🚶 Echigawa Sta. (Ohmi Railway) → 10 min walk



Lake Biwa Pearls

Pearls can be cultured and harvested in lakes as well as in the sea. Lake Biwa used to be a big producer of freshwater pearls. Different from sea-water pearls, freshwater pearls from Lake Biwa are unique with various colors and shapes. Recently, the value of Lake Biwa Pearls has been positively re-evaluated and the resumption of the production is in progress. You can also purchase pearls, and join an accessory-making program!



Takashima Senkotsu Fan Frames

Senkotsu is a frame of a *sensu* foldable fan. About 90 percent of the frames produced in Japan are made in Takashima City. Senkotsu are made with thin pieces of bamboo and are mostly made by hand. Most of the frames are shipped to Kyoto, where pictured paper is pasted onto each frame to sell as a *kyo-sensu*; however, recently you can find unique local sensu fans.

Plan for independent travelers

FIT Group Coach Car Public Transport
Western SHIGA Southern SHIGA Eastern SHIGA Northern SHIGA



Schedule

| Day 1 | | |
|----------------------------|--------------|---|
| 09:15 | JR Otsu Sta. | |
| 10:00 | 16:30 | Miidera Temple / Yamabushi (mountain priest) ascetic training experience 10,000 yen per person (with boxed lunch) (Stay) WAQOO Mii-dera is recommended. Other options: ①Inase (Important Culrual Property) ②Hotel Koo ③Hotel style: Biwako Hotel, Lake Biwa Otsu Prince ④Onsen ryokan style: Ogoto Onsen Yuzanso Plan for consecutive nights |
| Day 2 | | |
| 09:30 | (Start) | |
| 10:20 | 12:00 | Harie Shozu no Sato Inbound Guide Tour (with English/French-speaking guides) (Lunch) Shozu Restaurant (Inside Rachine home Harie) or Kawashin, etc. |
| 13:00 | | Imazu Port → Chikubushima Island 13:10 Imazu Port → 13:35 Chikubushima Island (75 minutes) → 14:50 Chikubushima Island → 15:20 Imazu Port |
| 15:20 | | Imazu Port → Taxi |
| 16:30 | (Stay) | |
| Shiga MK Taxi charter plan | | |

| Day 3 | | |
|---|---------|---|
| 09:00 | (Start) | |
| 09:40 | | Omi-hachiman Hachimanbori Moat Traditional Boat Tour (30 minutes, 1,500 yen/person), La Collina |
| 12:00 | 13:30 | (Lunch) Omi Beef Restaurant "Tiffany" or Morishima |
| 14:00 | 15:00 | Hemp fabric weaving experience at Omi-Jofu Dento Sangyo Kaikan (English/French available) Experience program: from 500 yen |
| 15:30 | 16:45 | Hikone Castle, Genkyu-en Garden |
| 17:00 | | (Stay) Accommodation options in Hikone: ①Hikone Castle & Spa Resort (in front of Hikone Castle) ②Hikone no Machiya, Honmachi Juku ③Ryotei ryokan Yasui ④Futabaso |
| Activity examples: Local bar-hopping tour with staff of Omi Tourism Board | | |
| Day 4 | | |
| 09:30 | (Start) | → Sightseeing in Northern Lake Biwa |
| Sightseeing options: ①Participating in Biwako Backroads Local Tours ②Hikone Port → Take Island (uninhabited island on Lake Biwa, landing and walking available) ③Mount Ibuki Trekking, full of herbs, paraglider available) ④Rosa & Berry Tawada (Recreating "Shaun the Sheep" world) ⑤Blacksmithing experience (Manyo Kajigoya): Nagahama City Tangible Cultural Property) | | |

Biwako Backroads: Soy sauce brewery tour, Cycling, Visiting traditional artisans, etc. An interpreter-guide in Spanish is available among Nagahama Regional Licensed Guide Interpreter.

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Tourist Information Locations

After arriving in Shiga, you might have many things to ask about to local people, such as recommended sightseeing spots and where to eat delicious food. For such inquiries, go to the tourist information center! At Hikone, Nagahama, Otsu, and many other places in the prefecture, tourism experts await you!

Hikone City Tourist Information Center

Address
40-7 Furusawa-cho, Hikone City, Shiga
Phone
0749-22-2954
<https://tic.jnto.go.jp/jpn/detail.php?id=1218>



Nagahama Station Tourist Information Center

Address
1-5 Kitafuna-cho, Nagahama City, Shiga
Phone
0749-63-7055
<https://tic.jnto.go.jp/jpn/detail.php?id=3313>



Otsu Station Visitor's Information Center

Address
1-3 Kasuga-cho, Otsu City, Shiga
Phone
077-522-3830
<https://tic.jnto.go.jp/jpn/detail.php?id=1211>



Ishiyama Station Visitor's Information Center

Address
2-28 Awazu-cho, Otsu City, Shiga
Phone
077-534-0706
<https://tic.jnto.go.jp/jpn/detail.php?id=1213>



Omi-hachiman Kitaguchi (North Exit) Tourist Information Center

Address
Takakai-cho, Omi-hachiman City, Shiga
Phone
0748-33-6061
<https://www.japan47go.travel/ja/detail/9bbd8000-32f9-41b0-bcf0-9b484f09a32b>



Shigaraki Tourist Association

Address
1203 Nagano, Shigaraki-cho, Koka City, Shiga, (Traditional Craft Center of Shigaraki)
Phone
0748-82-2345
<https://www.city.koka.lg.jp/16124.htm>



Biwako Takashima Tourism Association

Address
1-10- 1 Asahi, Shinasahi-cho, Takashima City, Shiga
Phone
0740-33-7101
<https://takashima-kanko.jp/>



Biwako Visitors Bureau

2023/10

This brochure is based on the information provided by the establishments and/or Biwako Visitors Bureau as of September 2023. Please bear in mind that details are subject to change without prior notice. Please check each facility's official website or SNS for the latest information.

SHIGA/BIWAKO SHIGA Tourism Official Website

<https://en.biwako-visitors.jp/>



JR WEST Transportation, Economical Passes, etc.

<https://www.westjr.co.jp/global/en/>

