

Nakatsugawa Nakasendo Historical Museum

This museum has many valuable historical materials from old families in Nakatsugawa-Ena area. These documents include various historic events both within and outside Nakatsugawa-Ena, a package of a wedding procession of Imperial Prince Kameyama and a secret meeting about an alliance between Satsuma Domain and Choshu Domain were recorded. Because of its characteristics of a relay station, Nakatsugawa-Ena used to be where nationwide information gathered.



Museum Hours
Open 9:30AM to 5:00PM
Closed Mondays (except holidays) and the next day
Year-end and New Year period

Admission Fee
Elementary and Junior-high School Students - Free

Ticket	Adult	330 yen
	Groups	270 yen
Year Pass		1620 yen

Tel 0573-66-6888
http://nakasendo-nmuse.jp

Hiroshige Museum of Art, Ena



We would like to disseminate information to the world about the towns and culture of Ena by collecting, storing, and researching Utagawa Hiroshige's ukiyo prints as well as displaying them to the general public. We are especially proud of our "Nakasendo Rokuyajo-tsuji Nohsui" (Traveler's collection of the Nakasendo in the Rain). There is also a popular video corner on the 2nd floor (Ukiyoe Navigation Room) where you can try overprinting and learn about the process of making ukiyo.

Museum Hours
9:30AM to 5:00PM (last entrance 4:30PM)
Closed Mondays (excepting holidays),
Days after holidays, Year-end and New Year period

Admission Fee
Elementary, middle, and high school students - Free

Adult	510 yen
Special Exhibits	820 yen
Adults (space of 20 or more)	410 yen
Special Events	660 yen

Tel 0573-20-0522
https://hiroshige-ena.jp/english

Surrounding tourist information

Gifu prefecture



Nakatsugawa-Ena region is located in the southeastern part of Gifu prefecture. Located precisely in the center of Japan, Gifu Prefecture is rightly divided into two regions: Hida in the north and Mino in the south. While the Hida region is defined largely by its grand mountains that rise more than 3,000 meters above sea level and the heavy snow it gets during the winter, the Mino region is characterized by its expansive plains and clear, flowing rivers. This sharp contrast between regions gives Gifu a marvelous variety in scenery and culture that few places can match. Gifu is home to many distinctly "Japanese" locations and customs, ranging from the old streets and Historic District of Takayama and the other "Little Kyoto" in the prefecture to Gifu Castle, which renowned feudal warlord Oda Nobunaga used as his base from which to unite Japan into one country. Other "Japanese" elements to Gifu are UNESCO World Heritage Site Shirakawa-go and the traditional method of ceramic firing known as ashiko. Hot springs are also abundant; the Okuhida Hot Spring Villages region is home to the most open-air hot spring baths of any region in Japan, and Gero Hot Spring is one of Japan's three most famous, dating back for over a millennium. Gazing at the surrounding natural landscapes while soaking in a comforting, rejuvenating hot spring bath is an absolute must when you come to Gifu!

Gero-Onsen

Gero City is north of Nakatsugawa-Ena region. Gero Hot Springs, considered one of the three most famous hot springs in all of Japan, is particularly famous for the incredibly smooth quality of the water, which in turn makes the skin of those who soak in it just as smooth. This "water of beauties" attracts people from all over the world, and once you experience the water of Gero, they find it difficult to settle for anything else! The foot baths scattered throughout town make taking a stroll a pleasure, as you can soak in hot spring water virtually anytime and anywhere.

Kiso Valley

Nakatsugawa-Ena region is gateway to Kiso Valley. Kiso is located in the southeastern part of Nagano Prefecture, which lies almost at the center of Japan's main island, Honshu. In the Edo Period (1603-1867), after the completion of the Nakasendo, the lumber industry there flourished by utilizing beautiful local forest resources. Kiso is well known as one of the handiwork regions sustaining "virgin landscape of Japan", thanks to the beautiful nature, history and tradition created by Kiso's rich culture and the Kiso's people's unspoiled human nature.

Tajimi City / Toki City / Mizunami City

Our neighboring cities, Tajimi, Toki, and Mizunami are the home of Mino Yaki, which is one of the most famous kind of ceramic ware in Japan and boasts more than a 60% share of all the pottery goods made and sold in the country. Walking around these towns, you will come across many pottery workshops, ceramics museums, specialty shops, and even cafes that place a strong emphasis on the dishes they use to serve their food.

Toyota City

Toyota City is located south of Nakatsugawa-Ena region. Industry and history reached in Suwayama National Cemetery. Though Toyota is named after the biggest automobile companies in the world and is a center of Japanese industry, the area abounds with stunning scenery and astounding views all year round. And Toyota City is a venue for the Rugby World Cup 2019.



Yamashiro [Castle Ruins]

Naegi Castle Ruins



The stone walls of the ruins of Naegi Castle, which appropriate massive, naturally occurring boulders as a part of their construction, are considered quite unique amongst Japanese castles. These walls have an undeniable aesthetic that must be seen to be believed. An inexpressible attraction to stone walls is not necessarily to enjoy this location, however, as the scenery from the viewpoint atop the ruins is simply to die for. Visitors are rewarded with a breathtaking glimpse of not only Nakatsugawa City, but of the beautiful Ena Mountains as well. Located just beneath the viewpoint is a small spot dedicated to the guardian spirits of the Toyotama family, the Eight Great Dragon Kings. The area is also home to a fascinating legend that tells of a dragon god. The Naegi Toyama Historical Museum is located nearby and we promise that anyone with an interest in history will find it worth their time to pay a visit!

Iwamura Castle Ruins

Since it was built on the highest place (171m above sea) for a castle in Japan, the ruins of Iwamura Castle have been selected as one of three major mountain castles in Japan. It also has been selected as one of 100 superior castles in Japan. It was an inexpressible castle by taking advantage of the altitude and geographical features. The builders took advantage of the unique foggy climate around the area in constructing the castle giving it the nickname "Foggy Castle". It lasted the Warring States period and 300 years of the Edo period since its construction in 1185. It continued to stand about 700 years until the government ordered to destroy all the castles in the Meiji period. One of the famous lords of the castle was a woman called "Onna Joushu" and protected her vassals and people while she chose a political marriage. Although the castle is gone, the way the stone walls and wells were made says much about the technologies at that time. Materials about those technologies are restored in History Museum. The castle town is divided into two areas. Samurai residences are located on the north side of the mountain. Over and merchant residences are located on the south side of it. You can find sea cucumber-patterned walls and lattices which are iconic of the old ages here and there.

Magomejuku Honjin / Toson Museum

Here is the remains of Magomejuku Honjin on the Nakasendo. Even greater part of architecture of Honjin have lost by repeated big fires, there still remains Retreat, Well, Comestories, or stone walls as used by it. And, here is also a portrait of Toson Shimazaki (1872-1943) who is the great novelist in modern era literature of Japan. At the Toson museum, there are exhibitions of his works or his study notes. In Toson's long novel [Yokusai] (Before the Dawn), there described again life of Toson's father Masaki Shimazaki (Koyama Haruo in the novel), at his birth, during upheaval period from Sakamataki (1850-) to early Meiji (1868-).



Museum Hours

Open throughout the year except every Wednesday in December, January and February.
9:00-17:00 April-November
9:00-16:00 December-March

Admission Fee
Adult 500 yen
Child 100 yen

Tel 0573-69-2047
http://toson.jp/publish/index29/

Nakasendo Hishiya Museum



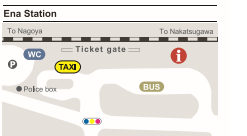
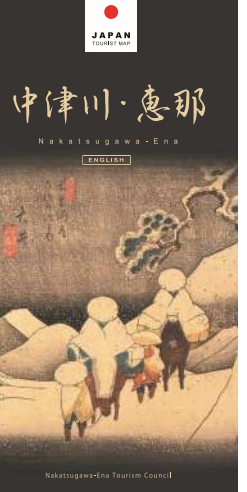
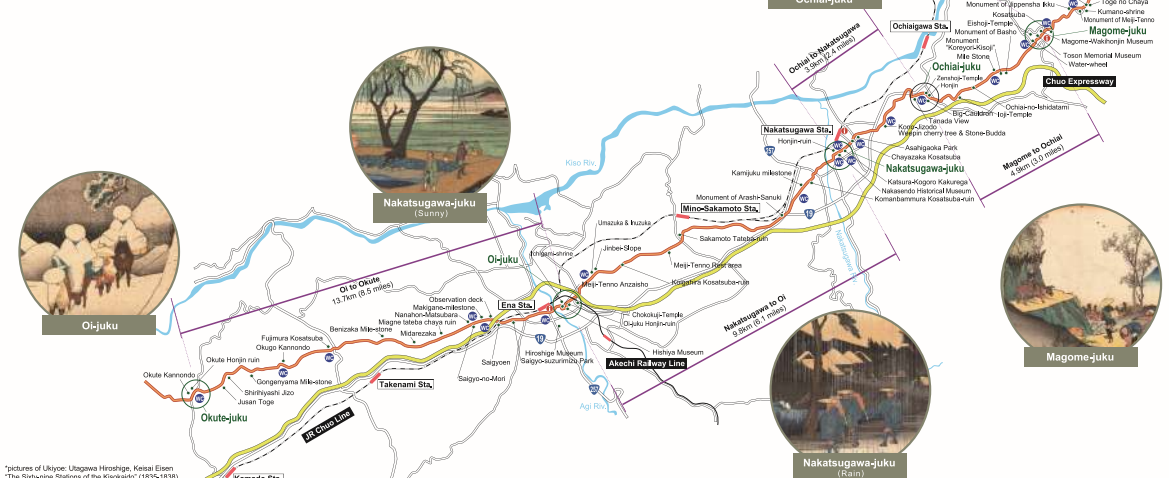
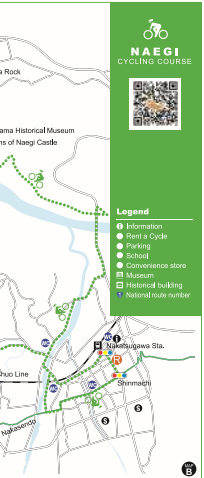
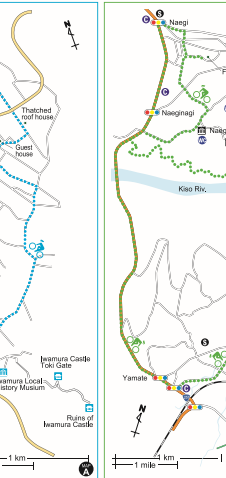
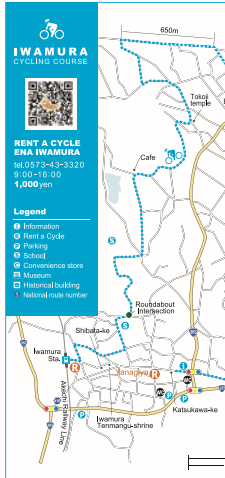
A highly influential family named Furuyama in Ochiu ran a trading house called Hishiya and lived near the middle of the Edo Period (1603-1868). They held high social standing as the head family of Ochiu. From the Meiji period on (1868-1912), they ran the local postal service and were appointed with responsibility for the tea-craft (Cha no Ma) of Ena region. They put their efforts into such things as promoting poetry and literature as well as shoinen training. Their family house was established in the first year of the Meiji Period, but it took on display some of the distinctive features of large-scale, high-quality construction techniques of the time from mid-to-late Edo through the Edo Period. As such, it has been designated a cultural asset of the City of Ena. The Nakasendo Hishiya Museum is a structure that has been repaired and restored to give visitors the experience of a Hida-norinawared townhouse of those days. In the showroom there are three displays for Nakasendo, Ochiu and the Hishiya, and they feature illustrations, written materials from the time, and period furnishings among other displays.

Museum Hours

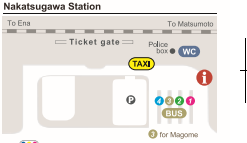
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Days after holidays, Year-end and New Year period

Admission Fee
Elementary, middle, and high school students - Free
Adult 200 yen
Adults (space of 20 or more) Exhibits 150 yen

Tel 0573-26-2111 City Hall
http://www.city.ena.gifu.jp



Ena Tourist Information Center
TEL.0573-25-4058



Nakatsugawa Tourist Information Center
TEL.0573-62-2277

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*Pictures of Ukiyoe: Utagawa Hiroshige, Keisai Eisen
The Sixty-nine Stations of the KisoKaido (1835-1838)

