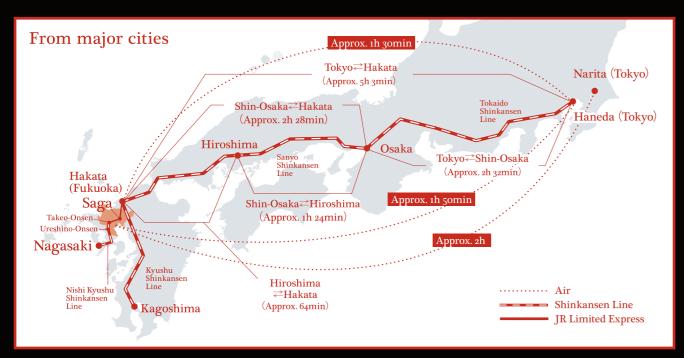
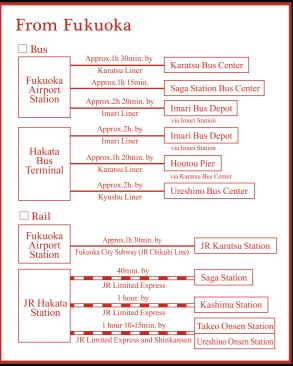
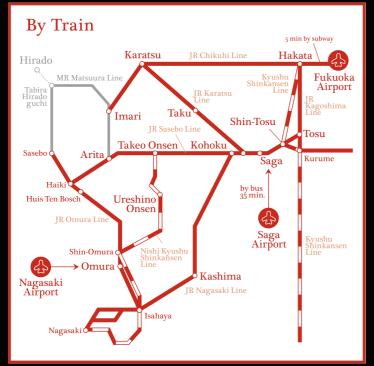


How to get to Saga







One and Only SAGA

One and only experience in Saga High end travel Japan



The Beautiful World of Arita and Imari Porcelain

Arita and Imari Ware

The translucent white, captivating the world with its graceful appearance

Arita ware was started by potters from the Korean Peninsula who were brought to Arita at the end of the 16th century. After that, many potteries produced overglaze enamelled decoration, and the technique continued to evolve. In the latter half of the 17th century, because of its high artistic quality, the East India Company began purchasing Arita ware. As they were exported from Imari port, they were eventually called "Imari Ware".Imari ware spread all over the world (currently, the products produced in Arita Town and Imari City are called Arita ware and Imari ware by their respective names). The transparent white color was praised as "white gold" by European aristocrats. Decorated with colorful paintings and decorations, its graceful apperance fascinated the noble people in Japan and abroad, and were treasured as a work of art. In recent years, items with sophisticated and simple designs as well as daily use items for each lifestyle have become available. The technique continues to be inherited from generation to generation, and at the same time new ideas are being born one after another.

\ Arita Ware /







A famous place for cherry blossoms as mentioned in an old Japanese poem

Ogi Park / Cherry Blossoms

Known as the "Little Kyoto of Kyushu," this park is a symbol of the old castle town of Ogi. The cherry trees planted by Motoshige Nabeshima (1602-1654), the first lord of the Ogi domain, still come into full bloom from late March to early April every year, and the park has been selected as one of Japan's Top 100 Cherry Blossom Spots. During the cherry blossom viewing season, it is also lit up at night. Also situated in the park is the Okayama Shrine where the first and second lords of the domain are enshrined, and a sacred tree (Okusu) that is about 300 years old.

\ more fun /



Tel. 0952-37-6129 185 Ogimachi, Ogi City



A spectacular summer scenery woven in blue and green

Kagamiyama Observatory / Blue and Green

With an altitude of 284m, Mt. Kagamiyama is a historical mountain that has been colored by many legends and even appeared in old poetry collections. Because the summit is flat, the beautiful trapezoidal shape of the mountain can be seen from any angle in the city. From the summit observatory, you can enjoy a spectacular view of the contrast between the blue waters of Karatsu Bay facing the Genkai Sea and the green of Niji-no-Matsubara Pine Grove. The pine grove, which stretches for about 4.5 km in length and about 500 m in width, is listed as one of Japan's three major pine groves, and is nationally designated as a special place of scenic beauty.

\ more fun /



Tel. 0955-72-4963 Kagamiyama Peak, Kagami, Karatsu City

Four Seasons that Evoke Emotions

Pure white snow covering the vermilion shrine

Yutoku Inari Shrine / Snowscape

The main shrine, Kagura hall, and the tower gate are all painted in richly colored lacquer, mainly vermilion, making it an excellent photo spot. Winter is a recommended season to visit, as (depending on the weather) the blanket of snow covering the shrine offers a different scenery than usual. Listed as one of the three major Inari shrines in Japan, many people come to pray for thriving business, family fortune, abundant fishing, and traffic safety.

\ more fun /



Tel. 0954-62-2151 1855 Furueda Otsu, Kashima City



The elegant beauty of Japan that can be enjoyed at an ancient temple

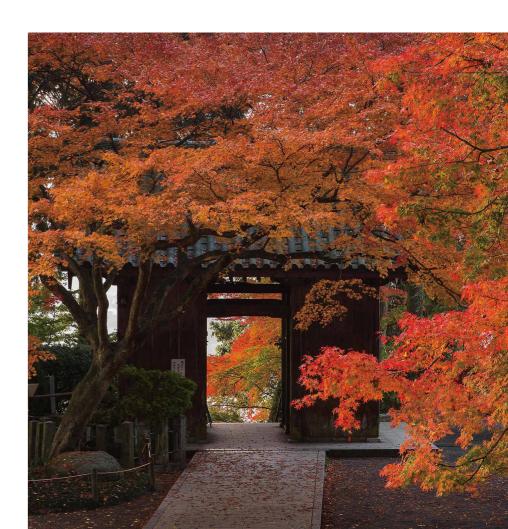
Daikouzenji Temple / Autumn Leaves

This ancient temple dates back to the early 8th century (Nara period). Although it was destroyed in a fire, it was rebuilt in 1624 which is still used as the main hall to this day. Its long history is characterized by the traditional Japanese thatched roof, and the elegant beauty of its combination with the autumn foliage is fascinating. The botanical garden "Chigirien" behind the main hall is a tourist attraction where you can enjoy not only autumn leaves but also azaleas in spring and hydrangeas in summer. It is also known as the Azalea Temple.

\ more fun /



Tel. 0942-92-2627 3628 Sonobe, Kiyama Town, Miyaki District





The popular ceramics painting experience

Arita Ware / Painting Experience

One of the attractive features of Arita ware is the brightly colored patterns that stand out on the white porcelain. The painting, which is done by craftsmanship where the traditional skills are passed down from generation to generation, is the most important part of the manufacturing process. The painting experience that can be enjoyed at many kilns and sightseeing spots, along with the pottery experience by using the potter's wheel or by hand forming, has become a popular experience for tourists from overseas.

\ more fun /



Making traditional Japanese paper (Washi) handed down in the region

Nao Washi hand made Japanese paper / Handmade Washi Paper with Stencil

Designated as an Important Intangible Cultural Property of Saga Prefecture, Nao Washi is a traditional craft with a history of over 300 years. Enjoy the experience of making washi while learning about the process from the craftsmen, using the same raw materials (paper mulberry and tororoaoi) in the process that is unchanged to this day. You can also enjoy making your own original fan.

Tel. 0952-63-0334 4756 Nao, Yamatocho, Saga City





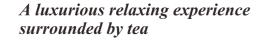
Unique and special experience

Saga Prefectural Nagoya Castle Museum / Golden Tea Room Experience Program

\ more fun /

Nagoya Castle's "Golden Tea Room" was once used by Hideyoshi Toyotomi, a famous feudal warlord in Japan. In the beautifully restored tea room, visitors can experience a traditional tea ceremony as well as learning about its history from a curator. This is a special program that can only be found here in Japan. A unique experience in a world surrounded in gold.

Tel. 0955-82-4905 1931-3 Nagoya, Chinzei-cho, Karatsu City



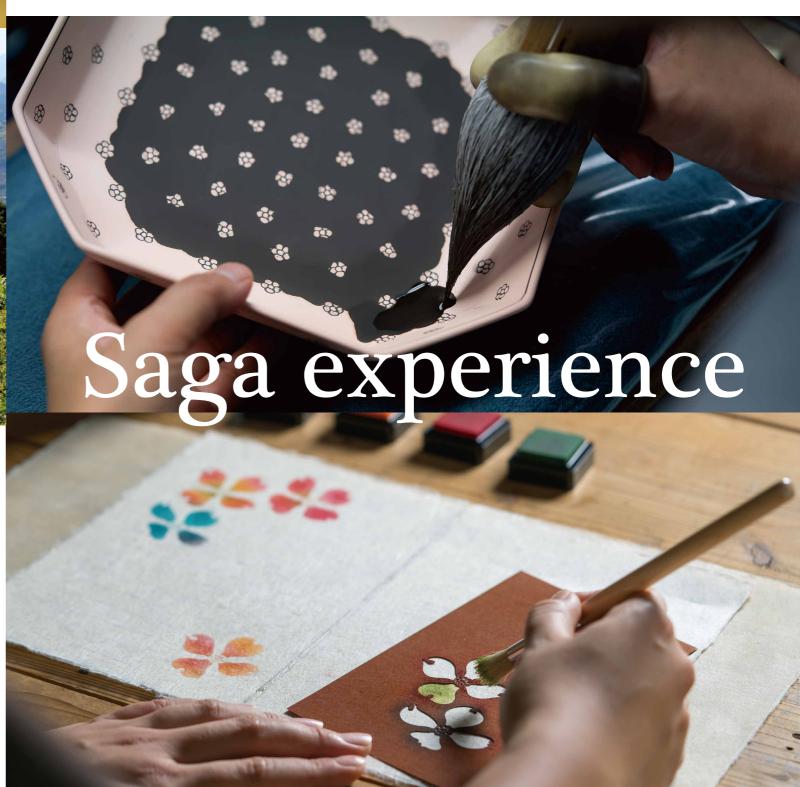
Tea Tourism / "Tea Space" Experience

Ureshino is also famous for producing Japanese tea. Ureshino tea leaves have a unique round shape which is called "Tamarikucha", and is known for its deep luster, strong aroma and flavor. The tea plantations on the hillsides are dotted with elaborate "spaces for enjoying tea", where you can relax and enjoy the best cups of Japanese tea.



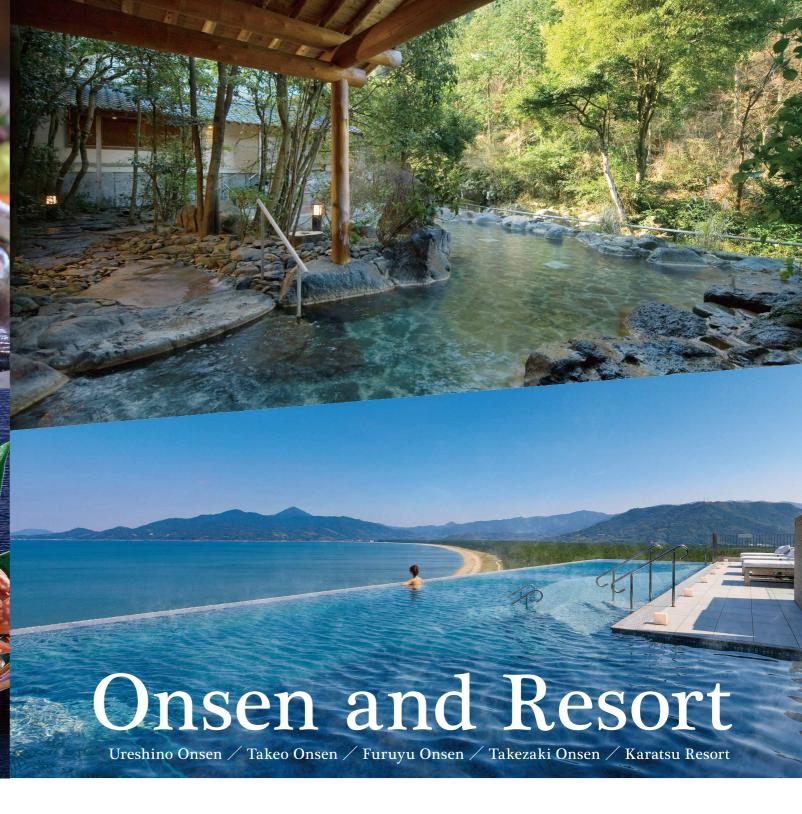
\ more fun

ureshinochadoki@gmail.com Ureshino City



Gastronomy to Remember





The Ariake Sea and the Genkai Sea, two seas with different characteristics, along with a fertile land and warm climate make Saga a place to enjoy a variety of foods. Seafood such as squid from Yobuko and crab from Takezaki, agricultural products such as fruits and vegetables, sake made from high-quality rice and one of Japan's best waters, and Saga beef are particularly noteworthy. The prefecture puts effort into gastronomy that is unique to Saga by taking into consideration the climate and culture as well as pursuing cooking techniques to bring out the best of each ingredient.



Visit a variety of hot springs in Saga, each with a deep history

Saga Prefecture has a variety of unique hot spring areas, each with a different history."Ureshino Onsen" and "Takeo Onsen" appear in a history book compiled in 713. A place with many accommodation facilities, Ureshino Onsen became famous after the emperor stayed there in the 1980s. It is one of Japan's three major hot springs for beautiful skin, as the water makes the skin feel moist and smooth. The symbol of Takeo Onsen, the vermilion tower gate, was designed by architect Kingo Tatsuno who also designed Tokyo Station. Takeo Onsen is characterized by its transparent and soft water. It is an area where many

people drop by to bathe. Furuyu Onsen has a longer history, located in the scenic mountains. The pleasant, lukewarm water of about 38 degrees has flourished as a place for hot spring cure and has been a healing spot for many people. There are other hot springs in Saga such as Tara Takezaki Onsen facing the Ariake Sea where the view is spectacular, and the hot springs in the Karatsu area, a resort-like location facing the Genkai Sea. One of the charms of Saga is that you can enjoy various hot springs with strong regional characteristics.



