

Learn more about the roots of Gempei Art Village!

The community, the skills of the craftsmen, Sanuki materials and the spectacle of the Seto Inland Sea combine to make Gempei-no-Sato a hometown for the arts.

It was roughly fifty years ago, in the late 1950s, when Japan was experiencing its greatest period of growth. With mass-production and mass-consumerism, the focus at the time was on quantity, not quality. Kagawa Prefecture too seemed to be about to be overwhelmed by that wave of growth. Then Governor Masanori Kaneko, believed that the people of the prefecture needed to see not only economic growth but also cultural developments that would lead to economically and spiritually richer lives. That was the foundation for the concept of today's Gempei Art Village, and the basis for the Setouchi International Art Festival as well.

Why did Kaneko have such an appreciation for the arts, and why did he make the decisions that charted the route for Kagawa Prefecture's future? Some say that he was profoundly influenced by someone he attended Marugame Middle School (now Marugame High School) with: Genichiro Inokuma. Inokuma is known as a Japanese painter in the Western style. Perhaps it was Kaneko's friendship with Inokuma that led him to realize that a rich appreciation of the arts could lead to the revitalization of local communities. When it came time, for example, to re-design the prefectural capital buildings, Inokuma lent an ear, and is said to have introduced Kaneko to the father of modern Japanese architecture, Kenzo Tange. Tange's design of the East Building of the Prefectural Capital would then later be selected as one of Japan's top 100 public works projects. Furthermore, Inokuma drew on his broad

connections when, in 1957, UNESCO made a request for a stone sculpture and he came to Shikoku and together with Kaneko sought out the sculptor Isamu Noguchi. Then, in 1959 at the introduction of Tange, the sculptor Masayuki Nagare came to Kagawa. After being greatly welcomed by Kaneko, Nagare began sculpting in Aji, and even moved his base of operations to this area. After that, the community of artists grew even further when, in 1964, at the recommendation of Nagare, George Nakashima visited Sakura Seisakusho in Mure and yet another outstanding artist graced Kagawa.

The friendship between one governor and one artist led to connections between artists of the world and the Gempei area, and the foundation of the Gempei Art Village. However, it was not just a community of people that led artists of the world to love this place. There are also quality materials, including Aji Stone, incredibly skilled and artistic Sanuki craftsmen, the warm climate afforded by the Seto Inland Sea and the unforgettably beautiful scenery of the islands floating there. We live in a time when the material means less and the spiritual means more. In the Gempei area, where history and art come together, we learn that our hearts are truly rich. In a place so many artists have loved, we find new artists, creating still more, an impetus for the next generation. This is the Gempei Art Village.



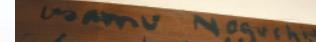
East Building, Kagawa Prefectural Capital



Signatures showing the gathering of countless artists (George Nakashima Memorial Gallery)



George Nakashima



Isamu Noguchi



Genichiro Inokuma Masayuki Nagare



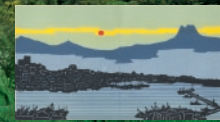
Profile

Kagawa Prefecture Regional Promotion Advisor

Shuzen Takeuchi

Born in Kagawa Prefecture in 1947, began working at the Prefectural Capital in 1967. Worked at the Prefectural Design Office from 1972 to 1975. Researched and responsible for design strategy specific to local and cultural revitalization under Governor Masanori Kaneko. Involved in multiple planning roles after leaving the Design Office, in the Planning Division and Tourism Section, for events and exhibitions, as well as tourism policy, Sanuki Seto Regional Revitalization Vision Planning, etc. Retired in 2003 as the head of the Political Strategy Division's Regional Revitalization Section (for Cultural Revitalization and Seto Inland Sea Revitalization). Became a Regional Revitalization Advisor for Kagawa Prefecture. Guest editorialist for the Shikoku Shimbun. Part-time lecturer, Faculty of Economics, Kagawa University. Instructor in trade training (design). Continues to publish numerous works as a cut-paper and woodblock print artist.

Shuzen Takeuchi



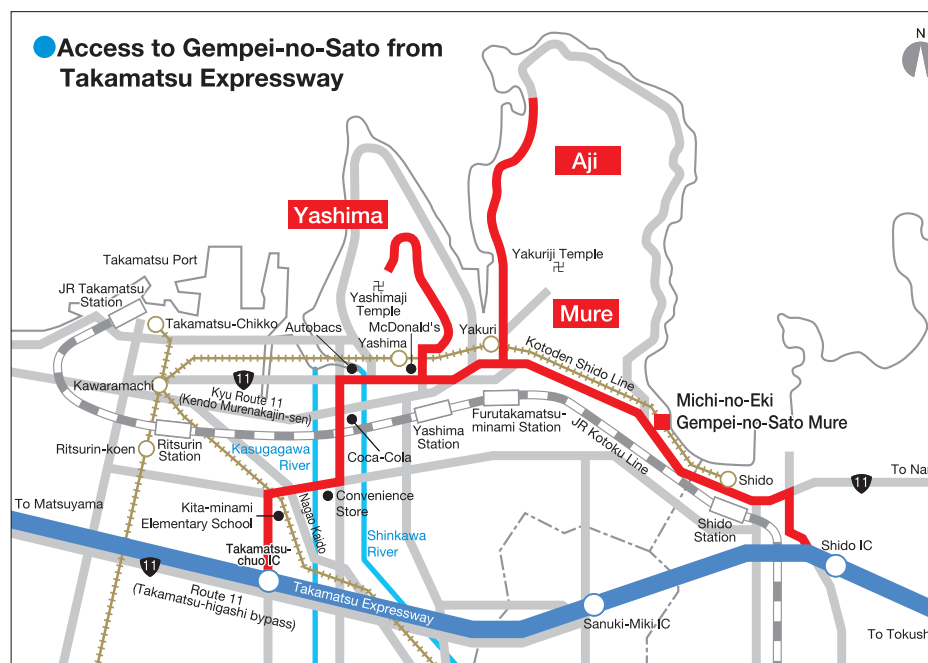
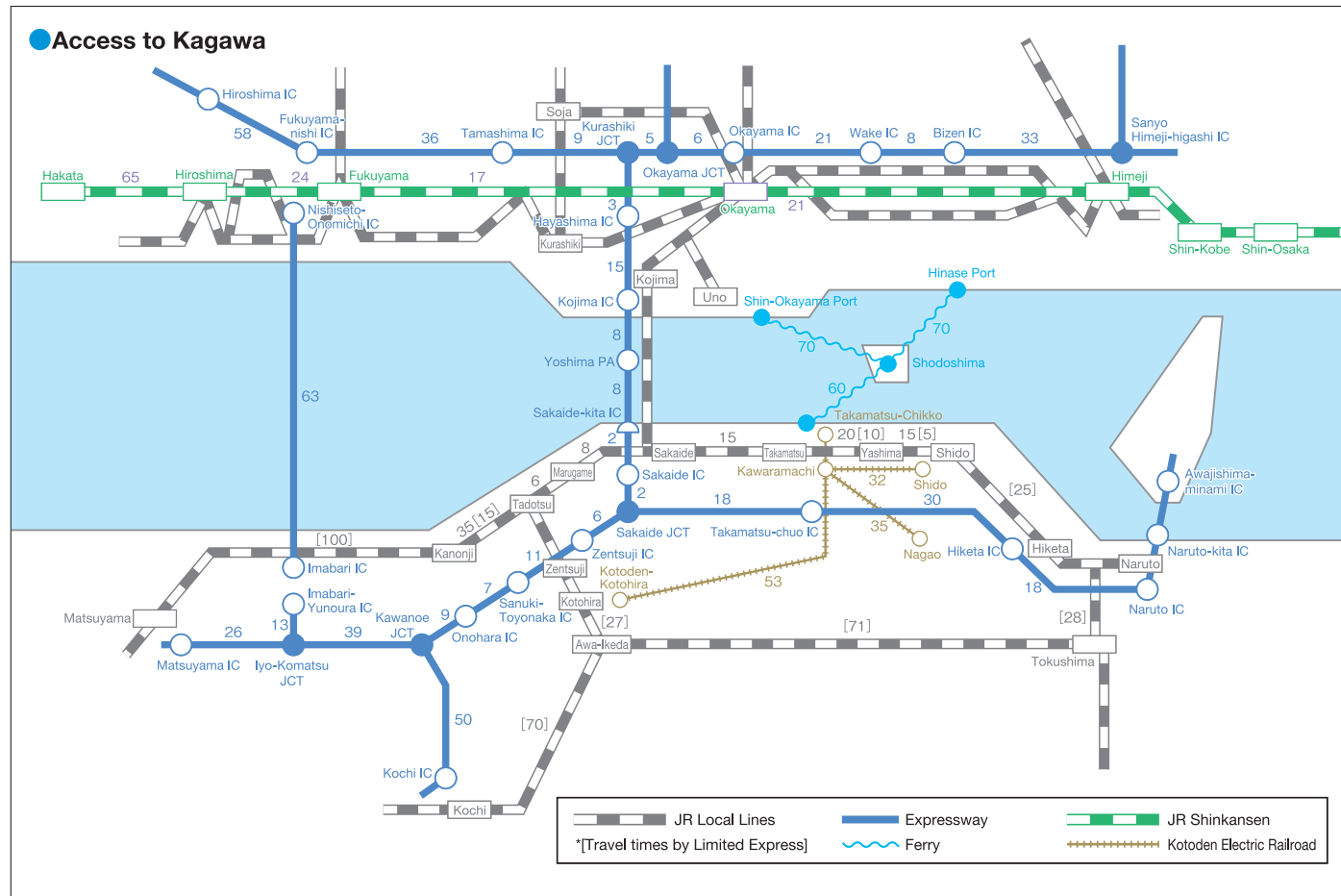
Shuzen Takeuchi, Collection of Cut-paper and Woodblock Prints: Shikoku Mandala—Aji, 1981, Sunrise at Mount Goken from Oji Shrine

ART VILLAGE Aji Mure Yashima

What is the Aji-Mure-Yashima Gempei-no-Sato Art Village Project?

The Aji, Mure and Yashima area is linked hand-in-hand with numerous world-renowned artists and artists, including George Nakashima, and it is all too simple to spend a day sating oneself on world-class art to the charming backdrop of this art area. The area is an "Art Village" not just for Kagawa Prefecture, but for Japan as a whole.

When you experience the intellectual riches that Gempei-no-Sato has to offer the world, you will find an Art Village project that not only aids in regional development but also helps in the rediscovery of local attractions. Please take this opportunity to join us here at the wellspring of art.



By Air

Haneda Airport—Takamatsu Airport
Approx. 1h 20min
Seoul Incheon Airport—Takamatsu Airport
Approx. 1h 50min

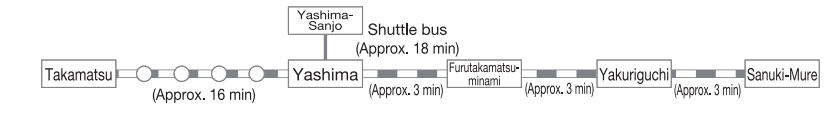
By JR

From Tokyo—Approx. 4h 30min
From Osaka—Approx. 2h
From Fukuoka—Approx. 3h 30min

By Car

To Michi-no-Eki Gempei-no-Sato Mure
From Tokyo—Approx. 9h 30min
From Osaka—Approx. 3h 30min
From Kobe—Approx. 3h
From Hiroshima—Approx. 3h 15min
Add approx. 30 min to reach each facility

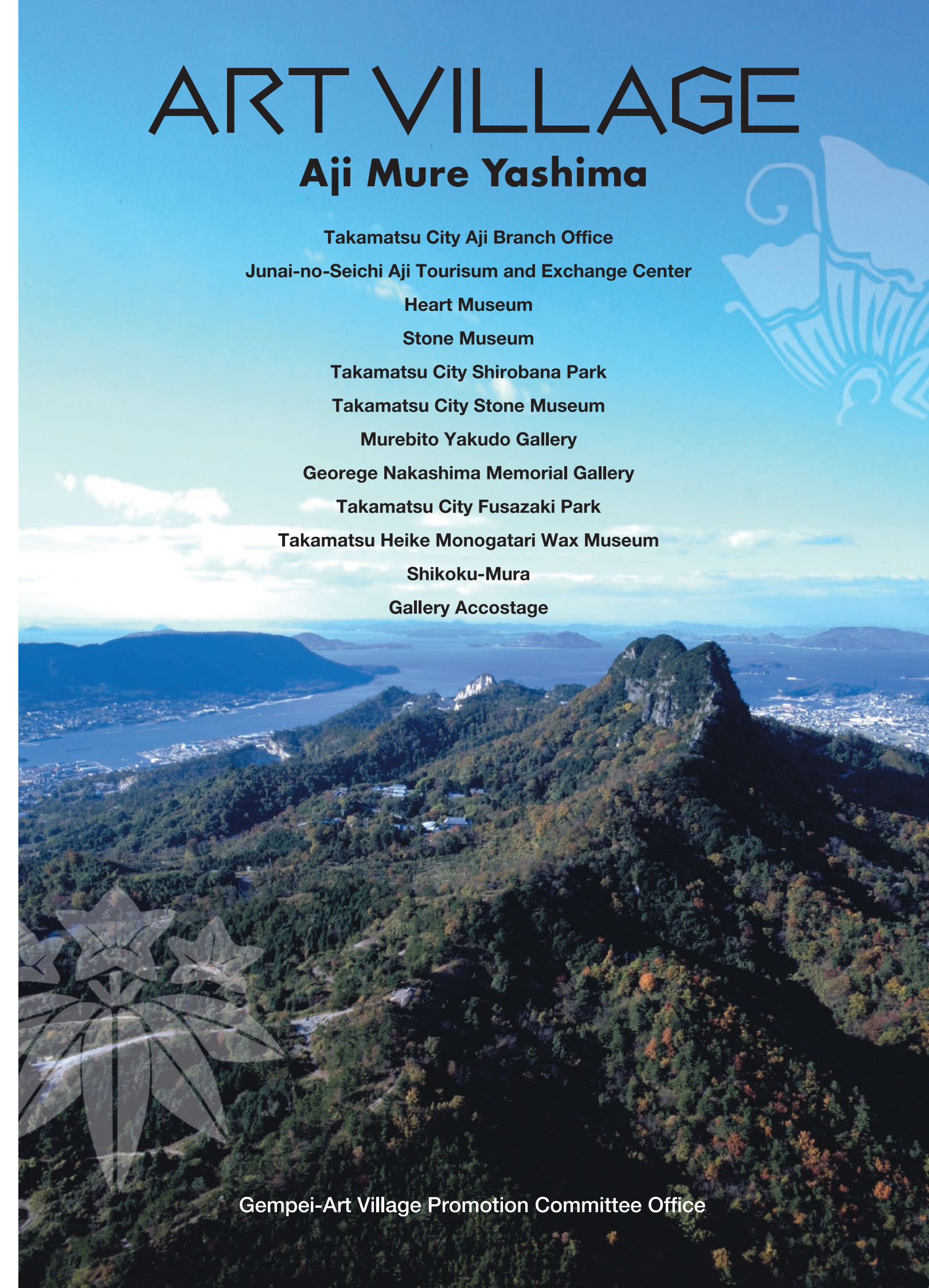
JR Shikoku (Kotoku Line, Local train)



Takamatsu-Kotohira Electric Railroad



Gempei-Art Village Promotion Committee Office
<http://www.yashima-artvillage.jp>



ART VILLAGE Aji Mure Yashima

- Takamatsu City Aji Branch Office
- Junai-no-Seichi Aji Tourism and Exchange Center
- Heart Museum
- Stone Museum
- Takamatsu City Shirobana Park
- Takamatsu City Stone Museum
- Murebito Yakudo Gallery
- George Nakashima Memorial Gallery
- Takamatsu City Fusazaki Park
- Takamatsu Heike Monogatari Wax Museum
- Shikoku-Mura
- Gallery Accostage

Gempei-Art Village Promotion Committee Office

Takamatsu Heike Monogatari Wax Museum



Facility Overview
The rise and fall of the Heike clan is reproduced in a massive scale using 310 wax figures, in seventeen scenes using historical dioramas. There is also a gallery introducing famous persons from Shikoku as well.



Admission:
Adults: ¥1,200 (¥1,000),
College Students: ¥1,200,
High-School Students: ¥800,
Junior High-School Students:
¥800, Elementary School
Students: ¥600

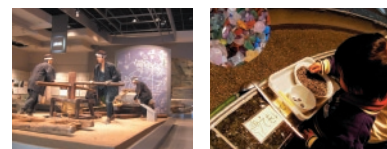
3-6-38 Asahi-cho, Takamatsu City, Kagawa
Prefecture, 760-0065 Tel: 087-823-8400
Open year-round
<http://www.heike-rekishikan.jp/>
Parking available for up to 50 cars

NB: Prices in parentheses are
for groups of 20 or more
Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Takamatsu City Stone Museum



Facility Overview
Massive dioramas present the long-built history and culture of stone work. Stone crafting tools are introduced in an easily-understood using materials and replicas, as well as visual guides. There are hands-on learning opportunities as well for stone craft and stone hunting.



Admission:
Adults: ¥200, College Students:
¥150, High-, Junior-High
and Elementary School Students:
Free

1810 Mure, Mure-cho, Takamatsu City, Kagawa
Prefecture, 761-0121 Tel: 087-845-8484
Closed Mondays
(or the following day if a national holiday)
http://www.city.takamatsu.kagawa.jp/kyouiku/bunkabu/rekisi/ishi_mure/index.htm
Parking available for up to 50 cars

Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

George Nakashima Memorial Gallery



Facility Overview
The Japanese-American furniture designer, George Nakashima, was recognized as peerless across the world for his technique, and he began working with Sakura Seisakusho in 1964. This center was established to commemorate the sixtieth anniversary of Sakura Seisakusho's founding. More than sixty pieces are on display to teach visitors about Nakashima's life and his philosophy towards creativity.
Admission: Adults: ¥500 (¥400), Elementary and Junior High School Students: ¥200
NB: Prices in parentheses are for groups of 20 or more
Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (last entry 4:30 p.m.)

1132-1 Omachi, Mure-cho, Takamatsu City, Kagawa Prefecture, 761-0122
Tel: 087-870-1020
Closed on national holidays and for the year-end holidays. Reservations needed for groups and for Sundays.
<http://www.sakurashop.co.jp/nakashima/>
Parking available for up to 20 cars

Stone Museum



Facility Overview
A stone themed exhibition park that opened in 1991. Focusing on stone sculptures, there is also a permanent exhibit of stone from around the world, as well as fossils and gemstones, and stone craft items available for sale.



Admission :
Adults: ¥200 (¥150), College
Students: ¥200 (¥150), High-
School Students: ¥200 (¥150),
Junior High-School
Students: ¥100 (¥70),
Elementary School
Students: ¥100 (¥70)

6390-84 Maruyama, Aji-cho, Takamatsu City,
Kagawa Prefecture, 761-0130
Tel: 087-871-2200
Closed on Mondays, Thursdays and for the
year-end holidays
<http://www.stone-museum.com>
Parking available for up to 15 cars

NB: Prices in parentheses are
for groups of 10 or more
Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Junai-no-Seichi Tourism and Exchange Center



Facility Overview
The photo studio that was built as a major set for the smash hit film *Crying Out Love, In the Center of the World* is now a café with an adjacent gallery area where a variety of exhibits and events are held year-round. There is also a shop where various souvenirs are sold.



Admission: Free

5824-4 Aji-cho, Takamatsu City, Kagawa
Prefecture, 761-0130
Tel: 087-871-1700
Closed on Tuesdays
Parking available for up to 10 cars

Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Shikoku-Mura



Facility Overview
Shikoku-Mura is a collection of 33 traditional homes and architectural structures that have been relocated here from various locales in Shikoku to recreate the traditional look of a peaceful Shikoku village where visitors will find a welcome rest. In the adjoining gallery you will also find a collection of artworks.



Admission:
Adults: ¥800 (¥700), High-
School Students: ¥500 (¥400),
Elementary and Junior High
School Students: ¥300 (¥200)

91 Yashima Naka-machi, Takamatsu City,
Kagawa Prefecture, 761-0112
Tel: 087-843-3111 Open year-round
<http://www.shikokumura.or.jp/>
Parking available for up to 200 cars

Hours: From April through
October: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00
p.m., from November through
March: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Murebito Yakudo Gallery



Facility Overview
The Murebito Yakudo Gallery is for artists and groups who are working to follow their dreams. This gallery was established so that their use of it would contribute to revitalization of the local community through greater development of culture and the arts. Not only is it available for exhibits, but it can be used for workshops and events as well.



Gallery Fees: ¥2,000 per
day
¥1,500 per half-day

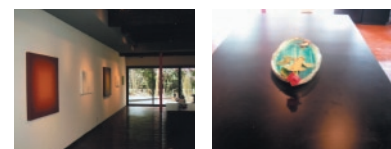
137 Omachi, Mure-cho, Takamatsu City,
Kagawa Prefecture, 761-0122
Tel: 087-845-2835
(within Takamatsu City Mure-Aji Chamber of Commerce and
Industry, weekdays 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)
Parking available for up to 30 cars
(reservations needed)

Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
*For detailed information on conditions
and application, please submit inquiries
to the contact on the left

Gallery Accostage



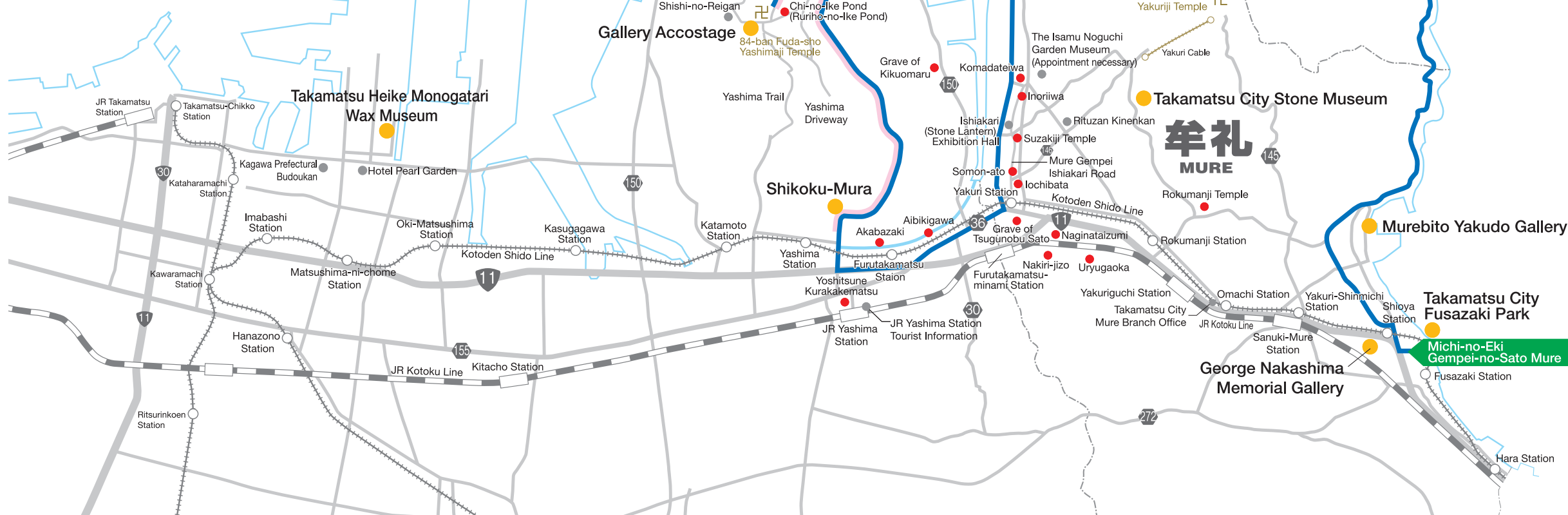
Facility Overview
Gallery Accostage is a place where art can originate and interact in front of the ancient gates of Yashimaji Temple, on the mountain above Yashima. In the quiet of the back garden, where the passing of the seasons provides a beautiful backdrop, you will find the perfect space to appreciate fine art.



Admission: Free

1803-2 Yashima Higashi-machi, Takamatsu City,
Kagawa Prefecture, 761-0111
Tel: 087-841-8200
Open every day during exhibitions
<http://www.senyotei.co.jp/accostage/> Driveway parking available

Winter hours: 10:00 a.m. to
4:00 p.m.
Summer hours: 10:00 a.m. to
5:00 p.m.



Takamatsu City Fusazaki Park



Facility Overview
A natural park adjacent to Michi-no-Eki Gemppei-no-Sato Mure, the roadside station along National Route 11. Kagawa Prefecture's local train line, the Takamatsu Kotohira Electric Railway, runs gently along the park's northern edge, and beyond that is the Seto Inland Sea, from which we can hear the gentle beating of the waves. Several works from famous sculptors are found throughout the park, making it the perfect place to experience the best of Mure and its stone art.

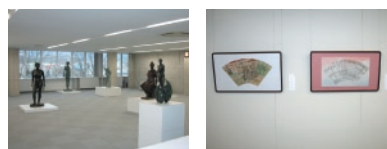


Parking available for up to 12
cars
632 Hara, Mure-cho,
Takamatsu City, Kagawa
Prefecture, 761-0123

Takamatsu City Aji Branch Office



Facility Overview
Completed in the spring of 1996, the Takamatsu City Aji Branch Office was designed by Toru Murakami, winner of a Newcomers' Award at the 47th Geijutsu Sensesho. Made from local stone and glass, the unique building looks out across the sea at Yashima and Mount Goken to take in beautiful sunsets. Its comfortable spaces have made it a well-loved location for the local people.



Admission: Free

6393-5 Aji-cho, Takamatsu City, Kagawa
Prefecture, 761-0187
Tel: 087-871-3111
Parking available for up to 100 cars

Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.

Takamatsu City Shirobana Park



Facility Overview
This seaside park, with abundant greenery, is adjacent to the calm waters of the Seto Inland Sea and looks west to Yashima. The Relaxation Trails that lead here are a string of parks established by the city along its roads. Within the park you will find Pure Love Road, which symbolizes Aji, love's homeland. You will also find several sculptures made fittingly from Aji Stone, for a park that lets you relax with a combination of nature and art.



6392-91 Shinkai, Aji-cho,
Takamatsu City, Kagawa
Prefecture, 761-0130