JAPAN HERITAGE
日本遺産

日本遺産
絶景の宝庫 和歌の浦
Treasure House of Scenic Beauty Wakanoura

4 Kishu Toshogu Shrine

Affectionately known as "Gongen-san," this shrine has ties with the Kishu Tokugawa family. The steep 108 stone steps lead to a panoramic view of Wakanoura Bay.

The inner sanctuary is a nationally designated Important Cultural Property, featuring intricate carvings and luxuriously adorned with paintings from both the Kano and Tosa schools of art.

5 Wakaura Tenmangu Shrine

Sugawara no Michizane, now worshipped in Wakaura Tenmangu Shrine as the Shinto god of academia, was a scholar and minister of state in the Heian Period (794-1185).

After being demoted, it is said that Michizane visited Wakanoura on his way to the Daizaifu government headquarters, leading to his connection with the shrine.

Alongside Daizaifu and Kyoto, Wakaura boasts one of Japan's three main Tenmangu Shrines.

Its colorfully adorned inner sanctuary is a nationally designated Important Cultural Property.

6 Wakaura Sightseeing Promenade

This ocean-side promenade connects Wakaura Fishing Port and Tanoura Fishing Port. Horai Rock, jutting from the promenade toward the open sea, has become a popular photo spot due to its unique hollowed-out shape.

With lights lining the pathway, you can also enjoy a breathtaking nighttime stroll.

7 Saikazaki Lighthouse

On March 31, 1960, Wakayama City established a viewpoint, upon which the Japan Coast Guard constructed Saikazaki Lighthouse. The light house offers a magnificent sprawling view of the Kii Channel and islands such as Futagojima.

On clear days, you can even see Awaji Island and Shikoku in the distance.

○Sightseeing spot

① To Kimii-dera Temple ····· 0km
② To Tamatsushima Shrine ····· 2.0km
③ To Kataonami Beach ····· 2.7km
④ To Kishu Toshogu Shrine ····· 2.7km
⑤ To Wakaura Tenmangu Shrine ····· 3.0km
⑥ To Wakaura Sightseeing Promenade ··· 3.9km
⑦ To Saikazaki Lighthouse ····· 5.8km

★ VIEW SPOT

To Waka-gawa River Tidal Flats ····· 2.2km
To Mt. Takatsushi Observation Deck ··· 4.5km
To Saikazaki Townscape ····· 5.0km
To Lemon Hill Park ····· 5.4km

To see a translation in your language, Please use the QR codes below.

English 簡体中文 繁体中文 한국어

1 Kimii-dera Temple

Established in 770 (Nara period) by Tang Dynasty monk Iko, Kimii-dera is the second site of the Saigoku Kannon Pilgrimage, and a famous viewing spot for early-blooming cherry blossoms.

In 2008, a Kannon statue (bodhisattva of compassion) covered in gold leaves was enshrined in the temple, becoming one of the tallest wooden statues in Japan.

2 Tamatsushima Shrine

Worshiped since ancient times, Tamatsushima Shrine is dedicated to the god of waka poetry. Many waka poems, dedicated by emperors and courtiers across the years, are preserved at the shrine.

The nearby Shiogama Shrine is dedicated to the god of safe childbirth and fertility, longevity, abundant fishing, and maritime safety.

3 Kataonami Beach

Featuring views of Wakaura Bay that have inspired ancient poetry, the shallow shores of this 1.2 km beach attract many visitors every year.

The adjacent park boasts a fitness area adjoined with the Man'yo Poetry Museum, as well as the Man'yo Walkway and a Japanese garden.

VIEW SPOT d Lemon Hill Park

Located on the former site of Saikazaki Elementary School, this park has a delightful view of Saikazaki's charming streets and fishing port.

Reminiscent of the Amalfi coast in Italy, Saikazaki has been stage to actual cultural exchanges with the Italian city.

As a symbol of mutual friendship between the two cities, lemon trees, a specialty of Amalfi, were planted in Lemon Hill Park, leading to its name.

VIEW SPOT c Saikazaki Townscape

Located in Saikazaki, this fishing town has been immortalized in Man'yo poetry.

The narrow alleyways winding from the hilltop to the fishing port resemble a maze, and the houses clustered along the cliff are often likened to the Amalfi Coast in Italy.

When bathed in the setting sun, the townscape is nothing less than enchanting.

VIEW SPOT b Mt. Takatsushi Observation Deck

Situated atop a 136 m summit, this observation deck offers a 360-degree panoramic view, and has been selected as one of Wakayama's 100 Best Sunrise and Sunset viewing spots.

VIEW SPOT a Waka-gawa River Tidal Flats (Mt.Tengu)

These nature-rich tidal flats fan out at the mouth of the Waka-gawa River.

The sight of cranes flying towards the shoreside reeds is depicted in Man'yo poetry and selected as one of the Top Ten Views of Wakaura Bay.

Viewed from Mt. Tengu, the majestic scenery dynamically transforms with the tides, and even waka poetry has confessed the impossible desire to "wrap up the view and take it home."

Legend

- Promenade
- Path of Sound of Waves
- National Highway
- Prefectural Road
- JR Line
- Bus Stop