



# SHIMABARA

Shimabara City Sightseeing Leaflet

Shimabara City, Nagasaki Prefecture



## 交通アクセス Access to Shimabara

- 国道 National Road
- 高速道路 Express Way
- バス路線 Bus Line
- 航路 Ship Line
- 新幹線 New Line
- JR各線 JR Line
- 私鉄線 Private Line



### Major Access to Shimabara City (Sea Routes)

Port of Miike (Fukuoka Prefecture)	Shimatetsu High-speed Ship (Passenger Ship)	Time Required: 50 min.	Shimabara Port
Kumamoto Port (Kumamoto Prefecture)	Kyū-Shō Kumamoto Line	Time Required: 80 min.	
Kumamoto Port (Kumamoto Prefecture)	Kumamoto Ferry Line	Time Required: 30 min.	Taifu Port (Kumamoto)
Nagasu Port (Kumamoto Prefecture)	Ariake Ferry Line	Time Required: 40 min.	

### Major Access to Shimabara City (Air and Buses)

Tokyo	14 flights every day Time Required: 1 hr. 55 min.	Nagasaki Airport	Shimabara Tetsudo Bus Time Required: Approx. 1 hr. 45 min.	Shimabara
Nagoya	5 flights every day Time Required: 1 hr. 30 min.			
Osaka	7 flights every day Time Required: 1 hr. 20 min.			

### Major Access to Shimabara City (JR, Shimabara Railway, Buses, and Cars)

Hakata (Fukuoka Prefecture)	Highway Bus Time Required: Approx. 2 hr. 02 min.	JR Isahaya Station	Highway Bus Time Required: Approx. 1 hr.	Shimabara
Hakata (Fukuoka Prefecture)	JR LEX Kamome Time Required: Approx. 1 hr. 50 min.	JR Isahaya Station	Shimabara Railway, Buses Time Required: Approx. 1 hr. 10 min.	
Dazaifu IC (Fukuoka Prefecture)	Nagasaki Expressway Time Required: Approx. 1 hr. 40 min.	Isahaya IC	by Car Time Required: Approx. 1 hr. 10 min.	

©For more information and inquiries, call:

Shimabara City Municipal Office,  
Department of Commerce and Tourism  
☎0957-63-1111

Shimabara Tourism Association  
☎0957-62-3986

Shimabara City Website

<http://www.city.shimabara.lg.jp/>



◀Shimabara City Mobile Site▶

Shimabara Tourism Association Website

<http://www.shimabaraonsen.com/>



- Japan's First Geopark



## Spring water



### Lake Shirachiko

Many of the springs of Shimabara were formed as a result of the series of earthquakes that were induced by the eruption of Mt. Unzen / Mt. Fugen in 1792.

Lake Shirachiko is one of them. When Mt. Mayuyama collapsed onto the City in 1792, underground water started flooding this area and formed this lake overnight.



### Hamanokawa Spring

The wash places are divided into 4 sections: the most upstream section is used for washing food, the next section is used for washing used dishes, and so on. The residents still proudly commit themselves to this traditional water utilization system.



### City of Swimming Carp

The "City of Swimming Carp" is well maintained by the local residents. Red, white, tricolor, gold, and other colorful carp swim in the clear waters of the City, adding elegance to the City of Fresh Springs.



### Water Canal for Old Samurai Residences

The 5.6-meter wide street runs from north to south for a total distance of 406.8 meters. A spring water canal runs down the center of the street, supplying fresh water to the residents since the clan era.



## Historic sites

### DATA

- Admissions: Adults: ¥520, Children: ¥260
- Opening Hours: 9:00am to 5:30pm (admission until 5:00pm)
- For information: Shimabara Castle Keep Tower Office, Phone: 0957-62-4766



### Shimabara Castle

The construction of Shimabara Castle started in 1618 by Matsukura Shigemasa, who was then the lord of the Matsukura Bungo Province. He cut the highlands of then-called Mt. Moritake to outline the castle, erected the stone walls, dug the moat, and completed the castle 7 years later. Today, historical materials of Christian relics and other local collections and ethnic records are displayed in the keep tower of the castle.



### Old Samurai Residences

The currently restored old samurai residences of Shitanocho stand along the 5.6-meter wide, 406.8-meter long street. Three samurai houses, the Yamamoto residence, Shinozuka residence, and Torita residence, are opened to the public exhibiting the lifestyles of the old samurais.



### Honkoji Temple

Honkoji Temple maintains the cemetery of the Matsudaira family, and the Cave of 16 Disciples of Buddha. The Tokiwa Palace, which was removed from Shimabara Castle and reconstructed on the grounds of the Honkoji Temple and now stands as Tokiwa Museum of Historical Materials and exhibits valuable literary documents and mementos.



### Remains of the Old Shimabara Province Herbal Garden



The Remains of the Old Shimabara Province Herbal Garden is a national historic site. Although the Herbal Garden was run by a small Province during the last days of the samurai period, its remains have been very well preserved, and are now a firstclass site that is considered one of the "Three Best Japanese Herbal Garden Remains" along with the remains in Nara and Kagoshima.



### Statue of Buddha Entering Nirvana

The Nirvana Statue was built here in memory of Itakura Shigemasa, chief commander of the expeditionary force who tried to take the rebels' headquarters, Hara Castle, during the Shimabara Rebellion. The statue is 8.6 meters long and 2.12 meters high.



## Festivals



8



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15

## Shimabara Event Calendar

- February to March
- 1 Shimabara Castletown "Hina" Dolls Exhibition (Hina Meguri)
- Early March
- 2 Shimabara Flea Market (Hatsu-ichi)
- End of March to early April
- 3 Shimabara Castle Spring Tea Ceremony (Ocha-kai)
- Early August
- 4 Shimabara Water Festival (Mizu Matsuri)
- August 15
- 5 Shimabara Lantern Festival (Shoro Nagashi)
- Late August
- 6 Shimabara Onsen Gamadus Firework Festival (Hanabi Taikai)
- Mid-October
- 7 Shimabara Castle Takigi Noh Performance
- Mid-October
- 8 Shimabara Onsen Sea Fire Festival (Shiranui Matsuri)
- Late October
- 9 Shimabara Peninsula Two-day March (Walk Event)
- Late October
- 10 Ariake Festa
- 11 "Gane" Crab Festival
- Chinese Moon Festival (13th moon day of the 9th Chinese lunar month)
- 12 Shimabara Castle Autumn Festival (Aki Matsuri)
- Late November
- 13 Shimabara Industrial Festival (Sangyo Matsuri)
- Early December
- 14 Shimabara City Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Festival (Norin-suisan Matsuri)
- December to early January
- 15 Shimabara Winter Night Fantasia



Guzouni (pot soup dish)



Ganba Yubiki ("fugu" blowfish shabu-shabu dish)



Kanzarashi (sweets)



Ariake Gane (blue crab)

### Specialty Products of Shimabara

- Candied citrus "zabon" • Shimabara Mayuyama ceramics
- Shimabara ceramics • Handmade "somen" noodles • Shimabara "miso" bean paste
- Pickles • Handmade cutting knives • "Wakame" seaweed
- "Cherry-mame" horse beans snack • "Wakame Shochu" (Japanese distilled spirit)
- "Kamaboko" (processed seafood product)

## Specialty products



## Natural sceneries



### Ariake-no-mori Flower Park

Ariake-no-mori is a beautiful park with marigold and salvia in the summer, and flower carpets of salvia and 300 thousand Mexican asters in the fall. It is well located to offer a great view of Mt. Unzen/Mt. Fugen in the background.



### Maidake Fureai Road (8,888 Steps)



A 3-kilometer natural walking trail with 8,888 steps of faux logs starting from the hillside to the top (703 meters) of Mt. Maidake. Visitors of all ages can climb to the top in about one hour. Views during the climb and from the peak are breathtaking.

### Flowers of Shimabara Castle (Japanese plum / cherry blossoms / iris / lotus flowers)



Cherry blossoms

Japanese plum blossoms: late January ~ mid-February  
Cherry blossoms: late March ~ early April  
Iris: late May ~ late June  
Lotus flowers: mid-July ~ mid-August



Japanese plum blossoms



Iris



Lotus flowers

# List of Hotel Accommodations in Shimabara City

As of March 2009

NO	Hotels & Ryokans	MAP	Location	☎(0957)	Hot Spring Baths
1	Hotel Nampuro	C-6	2-chome, Benten-machi	62-5111	♨
2	Tsukumo Hotel	B-3	Chichibugaura-machi	62-3111	♨
3	Shimabara Kanko Hotel Kowakien	B-4	1-chome, Shinminato	62-5211	♨
4	Kaiboso	B-4	Shimokawashiri-machi	62-2225	♨
5	Iwanaga Ryokan	B-6	Horimachi	62-2121	♨
6	Fujinoi Ryokan	C-4	Minato-machi	62-4406	
7	Saiwaiya Ryokan	C-5	Tsumachi	62-3073	
8	Sakataya Ryokan	D-7	Yue, Ariake-cho	68-0510	
9	Business Hotel Gaiko	B-4	1-chome, Shinminato	63-1316	
10	Shimabara Youth Hostel	B-4	Shimokawashiri-machi	62-4451	
11	Business Hotel Horaisen	C-6	2-chome, Benten-machi	62-4446	
12	Business Hotel Toraya	C-4	Minato-machi	63-3332	
13	Hotel Hakusan	C-5	Nakagumi-machi	63-5400	
14	Business Hotel Chidori	C-6	2-chome, Benten-machi	62-4845	
15	Shimabara Daiichi Hotel	C-6	1-chome, Shirachi-Momoyama	63-0011	
16	Hotel & Spa Hanamizuki	B-7	Nakamachi	62-1000	
17	New Queen Hotel	C-5	Minato-machi	64-5511	
18	Shimabara Station Hotel	B-7	Imagawa-machi	65-0666	
19	Minshuku Shimabara	A-8	Sugiyama-machi	62-2681	
20	Minshuku Naniwa	C-3	Chichibugaura-machi	63-2168	
21	Minshuku Kazuki	B-8	Tamachi	62-3031	
22	Minshuku Akashi	C-7	Shinden-machi	62-5335	
23	Minshuku Matsufuku	E-5	Oomisaki, Ariake-cho	68-3618	
24	Maidake Mountain Lodge	D-2	Oomisaki, Ariake-cho	68-5888	
25	Kaminoyu	B-5	4-chome, Shinyama	63-2290	♨

※ Kaminoyu has mineral hot spring baths.

## Thermal hot spring (onsen)

### ♨ 1 Shimabara Onsen



The clear, colorless, and neutral hot spring water of Shimabara Onsen is mild and comfortable, ideal for bathing with healing effects for cuts, burns, and chronic skin diseases. In addition to bathing in the water, the spring water is drinkable. The healing effects by drinking the hot spring water include chronic digestive diseases, diabetes, gout, and liver diseases. There are 7 locations in the City where you can enjoy the water from drinking fountains. There are also 2 "Ashiyu" footbaths, both very popular for relieving neuralgic pain, poor circulation, and arthritic pain. Ashiyu facilities are available free of charge and open 24 hours a day.



■ Ashiyu Footbath in Kannon-jima Sengen (Hot Spring) Park



■ Yutorogi Bathhouse

## Volcanoes



### 2 Mt. Unzen Disaster Memorial Hall (Gamadus Dome)



#### DATA

- Admissions: Adults 1,000 yen, Jr. & Sr. High School Students: ¥700, Elementary School Students: ¥500
- Hours: 9:00am to 6:00pm (admission until 5:00pm)
- For Information: 0957-65-5555

Visitors can observe, experience, play, and learn about volcanoes through recreation. A grand scale facility with a variety of intellectual entertainments on volcanoes.

Learn about what happened during the events starting from the Mt. Unzen/Mt. Fugen eruption in November 1990 and what was left at the time the series of volcanic activities were declared to have ended in May 1996.

Exhibits show the threatening power of Mother Nature, and the wisdom and courage of people who have struggled to coexist.

### 5 Museum of The Disaster



Exhibits include: the volcanic eruption simulator that demonstrates the mechanism of pyroclastic flow; personal mementos found at disaster sites vividly revealing the events; and records of the so-called "Shimabara Catastrophe", a series of disasters in Shimabara and Kumamoto (Higo) triggered by the Mt. Fugen eruption about 200 years ago.

### 6 Heisei-shinzan Mountain Field Museum

Located along Shimabara Mayuyama Road, the Field Museum offers a dynamic tour of volcanoes with close-up views of Nature's trace of pyroclastic flows and mudslides, and the large-scale erosion-control dams.



### 3 Heisei-shinzan Nature Center



Located on the high plateau of Taruki-daichi, the Center is easily accessible from Shimabara Mayuyama Road. The paved walking trail around the Center is safe with full emergency escapes and offers the closest view of Heisei Shinzan.

#### DATA

- Admissions: Free
- Closed on Tuesdays
- For Information: 0957-63-6752

### 4 Shimabara Mayuyama Road



### Shimabara Mayuyama Road

Opened to traffic on March 21, 2000, the Shimabara Mayuyama Road is an 8-kilometer skyline drive that winds around Mt. Mayu, the backdrop of Shimabara City, and passes Heisei-shinzan, the newest mountain in Japan. Heisei-shinzan Mountain Field Museum is located along Mayuyama Road.

