

Sample Itinerary

Day.1

No.1 Zuiyuiji Temple (national treasure) and Lord Maeda Toshinaga's Mausoleum (国宝・瑞龍寺と利長公墓所)

Zuiyuiji Temple, a national treasure, is the family temple of Lord Maeda Toshinaga. His mausoleum is located near the temple. Let's start by saluting the lord who opened the city.

Zuiyuiji Temple
35 Sekihonmachi, Takaoka TEL: 81-766-22-0179
Maeda Toshinaga's mausoleum
72-1-1 Seki, Takaoka TEL: 81-766-20-1547 (Takaoka Tourism Association)



No.2 Yasuragi-an (やすらぎ庵)

This Japanese-style restaurant located before Zuiyuiji Temple faces a beautiful Japanese garden. Come enjoy a leisurely lunch, including dishes featuring kelp, a common ingredient in Takaoka

No.3 Nousaku (能作)

A tour of a well-established casting manufacturer, known for its bending baskets. The manufacturer energetically tackles various new approaches, including partnerships with artists and medical product development. The factory bustles with youthful energy.



No.4 The Great Buddha of Takaoka (高岡大仏)



Counted among Japan's three greatest Buddhist statues, this seated statue of Amida Buddha rises some 16 meters. It's been lost to fire twice before but recreated each time through the donations, passion, and casting skills of the citizenry and the town's. Takaoka people built the bronze statue we see today. Akiko Yosano, a leading Japanese tanka poet, remarked on the striking aspect of this figure.

Kadokyu Ryokan (角久旅館) (●)

Day.2

No.1 Takaoka Mikurumayama Museum (高岡御中山会館)

In addition to a year-round display of real floats, enjoy a beautiful 4k film depicting events on festival day. Have your picture taken wearing a festival costume or play instruments in the ohayashi (orchestra of Japanese traditional music instruments). The Café Mimpi, located in the hall, offers lunch.



47-1 Moriyamamachi, Takaoka
TEL: 81-766-30-2497
Closed Tuesdays

No.2 Kanayamachi [Important Traditional Buildings Preservation District] (金屋町)



You'll find the Casting Museum, Takaoka's craft shops, and galleries run by young crafters set among rows of houses with beautiful senbon-goshi (a great number of window lattices of evenly spaced timber bars) called samauko.

Takaoka Casting Museum (高岡市博物館)
1-5, Kanayamachi, Takaoka TEL: 81-766-28-6088

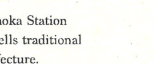
No.3 Musashigawa Kobo (武蔵川工房)

Visitors come here to see how the exquisite mother-of-pearl inlay works are made. Based on real shells characterized by their soft and glowing reflections of light, mother-of-pearl inlay is a key Takaoka Lacquerware technique.

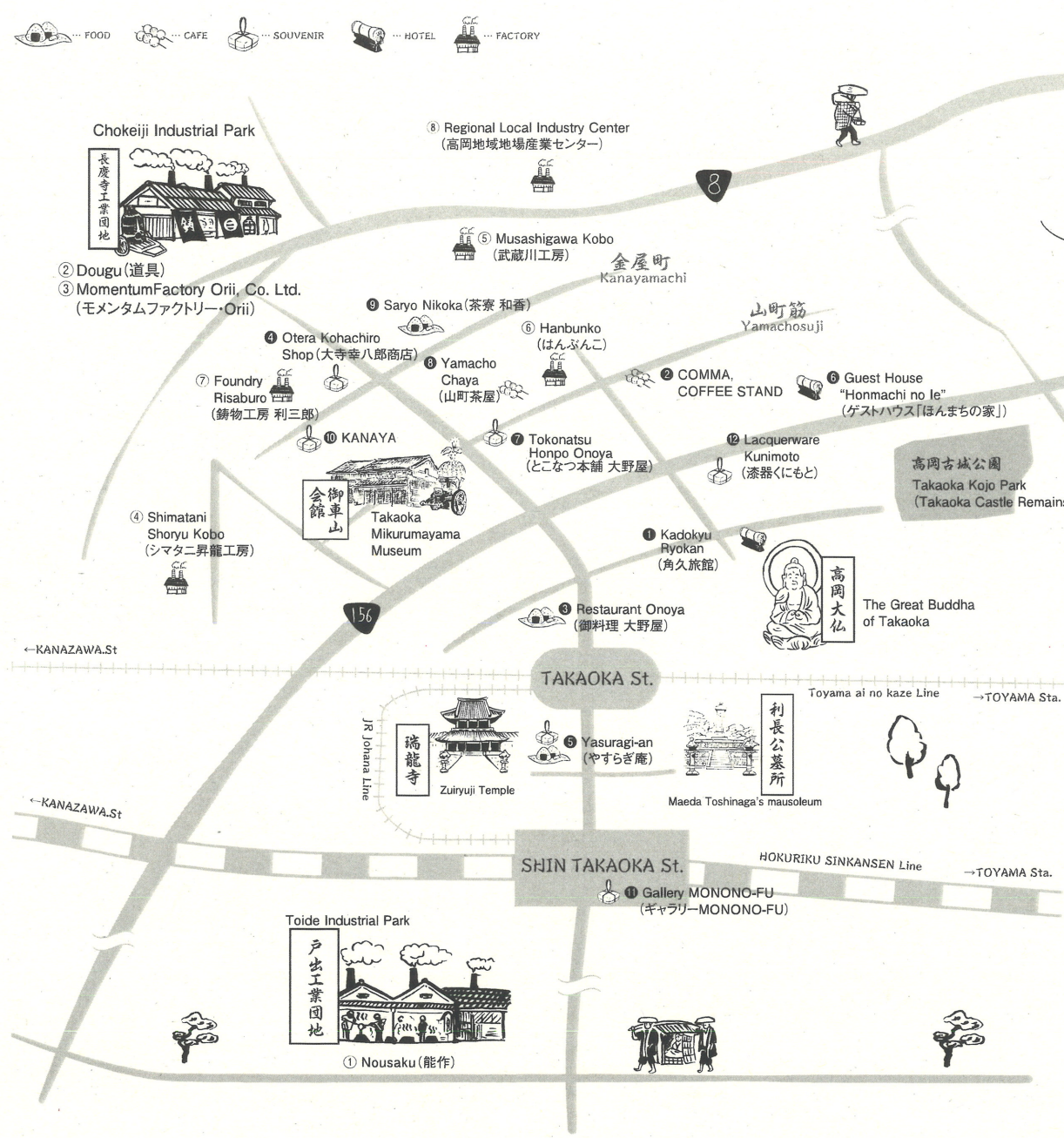


No.4 Gallery MONONO-FU (モノモノフ)

Located inside the Shinkansen Shin Takaoka Station Building, this gallery shop displays and sells traditional and non-traditional crafts of Toyama Prefecture.



1-23 Jishikimachi, Takaoka
TEL: 81-766-26-0792



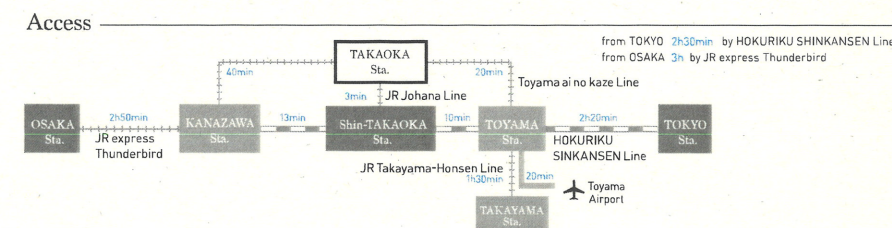
Walking around the traditional streets of Takaoka and enjoying hands-on crafts will give you a deep feeling for the many charms of this city.



TAKAOKA TRAVEL GUIDE

Takaoka Leisurely Travel Journal Touching, Feeling, and Tasting

To this day, Takaoka has maintained its traditional industries, whose origins date back to the craftsmen invited to the city by Lord Maeda Toshinaga. Here are some suggestions for those seeking to experience this side of Takaoka. The town offers various incomparable experiences available nowhere else, including studio tours where visitors can meet craftspeople, hands-on crafts experiences, and gourmet tours.



Studio Tours Places for Hands-on Experiences

① Nousaku

Tours Casting



Celebrating its 100th anniversary, this well-established manufacturer is an active participant in new undertakings. Visitors come to see how products popular both at home and abroad are made.

46-1 Toidesakemachi, Takaoka
TEL: 81-766-63-5080

⑤ Musashigawa Kobo

Tours Mother-of-pearl inlay works



This studio has inherited the delicate technique of cutting shells from thin shaved shells measuring just 0.1 mm in thickness. Visitors come to watch craftsmen work with mother-of-pearl inlays, a traditional Takaoka craft.

63 Konmadashimachi, Takaoka
TEL: 81-766-26-0792

② Dougu

Tours Hands-on experiences Casting



The experienced craftsmen at this factory make molds with sand, into which they pour by hand molten metal at temperatures reaching 1,000 degrees centigrade or more. Come for close-up views of how their products are made.

1000 Chokeiji, Takaoka
TEL: 81-766-23-8540

⑥ Hanbunko

Hands-on experiences Mother-of-pearl inlay works



This specialty store uses a clay kura (traditional Japanese stovetop). Visit for hands-on experience casting and making mother-of-pearl inlay works. Consider drinking sake from a tin cup you made yourself!

8-11 Kanayamachi, Takaoka
TEL: 81-766-91-8380 Closed Tue.& Wed.

③ Momentum Factory Orii, Co. Ltd.

Tours Metal Works



Using even white radish and rice bran, this manufacturer works on coloring, the last step in the copperware-making process and one involving various techniques and chemicals. Chemical reactions with copper result in an array of colors.

530 Nagae, Takaoka
TEL: 81-766-23-9685

⑦ Foundry Risaburo

Tours Hands-on experiences Casting



This Kanayamachi fixture also sells metal works. Visitors come to watch the goings on at this retro-inspired studio and to try their hand at casting with tin.

8-11 Kanayamachi, Takaoka
TEL: 81-766-24-0852 Closed 4th Sun.

④ Shimatani Shoryu Kobo

Tours Metal Works



The craftsmen at this studio make rin (a Buddhist altar fitting) with their hands, something fewer than ten people in Japan can do. Their hammering technique is used to make a popular product called suzugini.

4-2 Sengenmachi, Takaoka
TEL: 81-766-22-4727

⑧ Takaoka Regional Local Industry Center

Hands-on experiences Mother-of-pearl inlay works



Visitors come here to try various hands-on programs (ex. casting techniques, forming patterns on lacquerware). The center also displays and sells traditional crafts.

1-1 Kahatsuhonmachi, Takaoka
TEL: 81-766-25-8283 Closed Tue.

Places to Check Out

① Kadokyu Ryokan

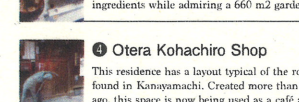
Founded in 1866, this two-story wooden ryokan (Japanese-style inn) stands directly before the Great Buddha of Takaoka, close to Yamachosuji Street.



12-11 Otemachi, Takaoka
TEL: 81-766-22-0354

② COMMA, COFFEE STAND

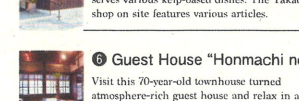
Take a break at this lovely renovation of a former merchant house. The single-origin coffee and special cream puffs are highly recommended.



48-1 Konmadashimachi, Takaoka
TEL: 81-70-5465-0993
Closed Tue.&4th Mon.

③ Restaurant Onoya

Come to this established restaurant to enjoy meals based on seasonal recipes and local seasonal ingredients while admiring a 660 m2 garden.



2-39 Suchiromachi, Takaoka
TEL: 81-766-21-0306
*Reservation required.

④ Otera Kohachiro Shop

This residence has a layout typical of the row houses found in Kanayamachi. Created more than 200 years ago, this space is now being used as a cafe and gallery.

6-9 Kanayamachi, Takaoka
TEL: 81-766-25-1911
Closed Thu.

⑤ Yasuragi-an

Located in front of Zuiyuiji Temple, this restaurant serves various kelp-based dishes. The Takaoka craft shop on site features various articles.

4-5-2 Ekinan, Takaoka
TEL: 81-766-25-0505
Closed Mon.

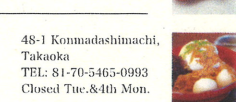
⑥ Guest House "Honmachi no le"

Visit this 70-year-old townhouse turned atmosphere-rich guest house and relax in a space based on a townhouse layout.

1-24 Honmachi, Takaoka
TEL: 81-766-25-2676

⑦ Tokonatsu Honpo Onoya

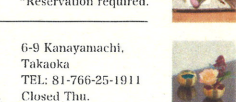
Japanese confection shop established in 1838. The Takaoka Ramme (kind of fizing candies) made from local ingredients is one of the best souvenirs.



38 Kifunemachi, Takaoka
TEL: 81-766-25-0215
Closed Wed.

⑧ Yamacho Chaya

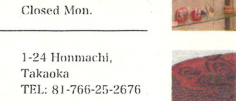
A cafe in a renovated storehouse-style building on Yamachosuji Street. They serve sweets from Japanese confection shop Onoya. Lunches are also available.



2-26 Kanayahonmachi, Takaoka
TEL: 81-766-75-8529
Closed Sun. & holidays.

⑨ Saryo Nikoka

This remodeled traditional townhouse, now serving as a restaurant and tea house, features a relaxed atmosphere. Reservations are required for a lunch.



2-5 Kanayamachi, Takaoka
TEL: 81-766-5630-9206
Closed Wed. & Thu.

⑩ KANAYA

The showroom of Takaoka copperware brand. The modern products made here are popular products known even overseas.

1-23 Jishikimachi, Takaoka
TEL: 81-766-26-0792

⑪ Gallery MONONO-FU

Here you'll find some 200 products on display and for sale, from various places in Toyama Prefecture. Conveniently located in Shintakaoka Station.

Inside the Shintakaoka St. Tourism Exchange Center
1793-2 Shimokuroda, Takaoka
TEL: 81-766-30-2626

⑫ Lacquerware Kunimoto

The lacquerware store, founded more than 100 years ago, features popular items of Takaoka copperware and a range of Takaoka lacquerware products.

13 Chitomachi, Takaoka
TEL: 81-766-21-0263
Closed Wed.

Reservations are required for tours and hands-on events.