


Welcome to Yanagawa

The city of water

Yanagawa
Travel Guide
English / 英語

Unforgettable memories
and hospitality
await you in Yanagawa.

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"Yanagawa mari"
Yanagawa mari is a traditional Japanese craft and handball wrapped with yarn like beautiful flowers.

"Yanagawa dako"
Yanagawa dako is a traditional Kite believed it brings us a good luck. It's the face of "Kintoki Sakata" (Kintaro), the hero of old stories.

"Hanagoza"
Hanagoza is comfortable mat made from weaving high quality "Igusa" rush grass.

"Sagemon"
When a girl is born, people in Yanagawa make hanging decoration called "Sagemon" wishing her much happiness. Each "Sagemon" has 51 decorations such as rabbits, cranes and decorated balls for baby's "Hatsuzekku" a child's first celebration of life.

"Nori"
"Nori" (seaweed laver) from Ariake Sea is one of specialty of Yanagawa. Above all high quality "Hatsuzumi-Nori" (picked the first of the year) is soft and melts in your mouth.

"Kamidana"
Kamidana is a household Shinto shelf. There are a few precious Kamidana craftsmen in Yanagawa.

Unique souvenirs of Yanagawa

You will find wonderful folk arts and handicrafts made in Yanagawa.

Enjoy the unique experience of Yanagawa

Thanks to variety of fields and the blessing of the Ariake Sea, we offer you unique experiences such as making seaweed laver (Nori) and picking seasonal vegetables or fruits with locals.



Blessing of the Ariake Sea with a thousand year history

Ariake Sea is known for the largest tidal range, which is 6 meters. When the tide is low, a vast tideland appears. From medieval times our ancestors have made good use of marshes by building canal. During the Edo period (1603-1867) people got a vast arable land after reclaiming work. The scenery we can see today is the proof of our ancestor's efforts. You can also enjoy breathtaking sunset of Ariake Sea with Nori (seaweed laver) farming from the shore.

最大6メートルという日本一の干満差がある有明海は、干潮になると広大な干潟が現れます。先人たちは、中世の時代から、この湿地を「クレーク」という水路を巡らねながら利用してきました。さらに、江戸時代(1603～1867)になると、この干潟を人力による「干拓事業」によって埋め立て、広大な耕地を得ました。今の柳川の風景は、1000年以上にわたる、先人の生きてきた証。その海岸からは、海苔養殖場広がる美しい有明海の夕景を見ることができます。広がる干拓地、「新柳川開闢図説」(撮影 橋本文夫)



Feel the friendly local atmosphere at morning market in Yanagawa

Nakashima's morning market is the place where you can get fresh and unique seafood of Ariake Sea and local cuisine with reasonable price.



Eel, a Must-Eat local specialty

"Unagi no Seiro-Mushi"(steamed eel) is a famous local Yanagawa dish. The dish is made up of rice mixed with traditional sauce topped with grilled eel, topped with thinly-sliced egg which is then steamed in its container. There are many eel specialty restaurants in Yanagawa and each maintains their own special.

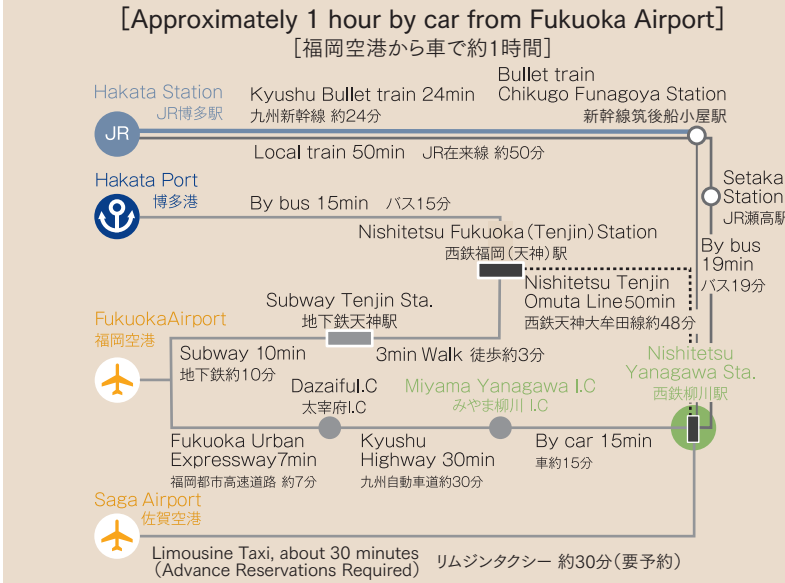


Wholesale fish market with full of fresh seafood
Yanagawa has a big wholesale fish market which ranks as one of the top three in Kyushu Island. Fish are sold by auction and being full of energy. Local Restaurants offer unique and fresh seafood from Ariake Sea such as Mutsugoro (mud skipper), Mekajya (lingulate brachiopod) or Warasubo (species of eel goby).



Seasonal Discovery in Yanagawa

Throughout the year, you will always feel great atmosphere in Yanagawa. We hope you enjoy the beauty of Yanagawa.



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