

北陸街道・北国街道の標柱が並ぶ岩室温泉街

The ruins of Tenjin-yama castle
天神山城址 234m

松岳山城址 174m



温泉管理棟

遠藤実別荘

下の堤



湯の里公園

Ceramic panel paintings of around Iwamuro Onsen spa's scenery



【絵陶板】温泉街に54の絵陶板が飾られています。探してみてください!

招魂社

③ Yakushi-do Hall / Shokusanja Shrine

薬師堂

④ Yonaki Jizo 夜泣き地蔵



② Gensen Koen Park

源泉公園

⑦ hot spring bathing

⑪ Enjoy the dances performed by "Geigi" at Yumotoya Inn

① Iwamuroya / ⑧ Foot bathing / ⑨ Shopping

観光施設 いわむろや



からむし家 Karamushi-ya

At Karamushi-ya (karamushi cloth exhibition house), you can experience weaving of the traditional "karamushi ori" and "saki ori" textile. Karamushi (also known as choma or aosa), commonly known in the West as China grass or ramie, is the raw material used to make Ojija-chijimi and Echigo-jofu textiles. The income generated by supplying high-quality Karamushi became important commodity and the source of great revenue for Kenshin Uesugi (1530-1578) who was a daimyo, ruled Echigo province in the Sengoku period of Japan. Today, a few scattered karamushi, which belongs to the family Urticaceae, are found spread throughout the skirts of Iwamuro Onsen area.

北国街道 Hokoku-kaido <National side street>

The starting point of Hokoku-kaido in Iwamuro district locates in Sone village, where is known for the borderline between Fukui.

It passes Iwamuro hot spring area - Ishize village - Kanaike to Yashiko as a final destination, and that entire distance is around 6 kilometers.

Edo Shogunate was constructed on this side street. The original purpose of this street aimed to carry the mined gold at Sado island to Edo district by ship routing from Sado Ogi port to Izumozaki, Jyoetsu, Nakayama road and eventually Edo city. Once the port of Niigata started to thrive, "Hokuriku-do and Hokoku-kaido," which runs through Izumozaki - Yahiko - Iwamuro, came to be called Hokoku-kaido. However, some still call this road "Hokuriku-do" or "Hokoku-kaido" in the Nishikan district. * Both names are correct.



無匠庵 能面作家 吉川花意さん



陶芸家 米沢さん

ガラス工房 Polarisu
かわいいガラス細工の小物が人気!



長田中の松と歌碑(石瀬)

岩室の田中の松は待ちぬらしわを待ちぬらし田中の松は

北国街道を示す

至間瀬

至種

栄

SINCE 1713

Iwamuro Onsen



In 1713, Seiemon Murai, a village headman of the gate-guard office, asked the Ishize government office for the establishment of the hot spring resort area; thus, the Iwamuro Onsen resort area was opened.

The hot-spring resorts were used by the locals, but it soon used by the visitors who came to visit Yahiko Shrine lined up alongside the "Hokkoku Highway." It was a booming area as the travelers needed a place to stay in the early modern times. In addition, it is also known as "wonderworking hot water of wild goose" because of healing one injured wild goose.

だいろや〜 だいろ、だいろ〜 角だせ だいろ〜
角を出さぬと曾根の代官所に 申し上げるが
いかだいろ〜

Expressing one paragraph of the folk song, "Iwamuro Jinku" on behalf of Echigo, in a humorous way, this lyrics express what Iwamuro once was, and as well as the hot springs resort, it is still sung this way.

The folk song was a Bon festival dance-like song back then, but there was no dance to accompany the song. However, a geisha "Koryu (small dragon)," added the shamisen sound and a dance, and then it was performed in a traditional tatami mat room early in the Showa era.

There are lots of famous and historic sites in the Iwamuro Onsen resort area and it was one of the important places of the "Hokkoku Highway." Footprints of many literary legends such as Ryoukan, Yoshida Shōin, Matsuo Bashō, etc., were left in this hot spring resort area.



Ceramic panel paintings of around Iwamuro Onsen spa's scenery

There are 54 fine ceramic panel paintings on the street lamps. These are associated with Iwamuro. Made by Katsuhiko Sato, who is a painter, calligrapher, and ceramist.

Sightseeing Facility of Iwamuro "Iwamuroya"

It's a facility transmits and provides information of Iwamuro's history, tradition, and tourist attractions to visitors. Their main theme is hospitality and it opened on April 1, 2010.



Yakushi-do (a Buddha hall where Yakushi Nyorai is the principal image)

In 1713, Yakushido was built. Yakushi Nyorai is a god of eyes, and protected by the community as a guardian deity of the spa.

Stone Jizo statue for children

People made a visit to the stone statue of Jizo in the outskirts of the village, in order to stop babies crying at night. This statue has been cherished for a long time and a votive talisman of Geigi also has been enshrined in the hut. They say the stone statue of Jizo is the ancient guardian deity of Children and Geigi.



The ruins of Tenjin-yama castle

At an altitude of 234m, the ruins of Mt. Tenjin castle are located at the top of the mountain. It was used from the Kamakura era to the Sengoku era (around 1185-1590). At the top, there is Honmaru Castle, and around the ruins, there are 7 moats, and the open shelter was established for Samurai warriors near the castle gate. The last castellan was Oguni Saneyori; the younger brother of Naoe Kanetsugu.



Mt. Matsutake

At an altitude of 174m, Mt. Matsutake is also called "Iwamuro Kofuji." They say the castle on top of the mountain was placed to protect the main castle - Mt. Tenjin castle. On top of the mountain, a monument inscribed with a poem of Suin Komuro (1874~1945) who was Japanese artist has been placed.



Masazyo Suzuki's monument inscribed with a poem about fireflies

・恋を得て螢は草に沈みけり, Koeoete hotaruwawakusani shizumikeri
・死のうかとささやかれしは螢の夜, Shinoukato sasayakareshiwa hotarunoyoru



The springwater

The springwater was used to make tea for the Meiji Emperor at Takashimaya Inn when he visited Hokuriku area in 1878. People put up a monument to the memory of the Meiji Emperor's visit to Takashimaya Inn.

Koshi no Yado Takashimaya Inn

Kōshi no Yado Takashimaya Inn is registered as a National Tangible Cultural Property in order to preserve the original wooden structure for more than 250 years. It has also been designated as a national historic site under the name of Meiji Tenno Anzaisho (a temporary lodging built to accommodate an Imperial visit). Visit and enjoy the resting room called "Chuhitsu" where Emperor Meiji rested during his travels.



The site of Nanei Kensyu residence

From 1387 to 1459 This is the old residence where a monk having discovered Ishize "Shugetsu temple" which is one of 4 Echigo Soto temples, used to live. Original calligraphy written by a Zen monk has been certified as a designated cultural property, and is currently secured in "Shugetsu temple."



Shamisen-zaka

This street is called "Shamisen-zaka". Shamisen is a Japanese traditional musical instrument. Long, long ago, there were many "Geisha" women in this area. Moreover, there is an office for geishas. People say that if you walk this street, you can heard sound of the shamisen from those days.



Start/end point of the road

In 1919, every municipal had to build a statue of the start or end point of the road by old traffic law. It is called "Douro-Genpyou." It located around city hall or main cross point. The law has changed so it is rare to see them.

Iwamuroya's villa, "Kokajiya"

You can experience the old days in Japan through the Japanese traditional house. It's a very popular place where many events are held throughout the year.



The pine tree of Ryoukan-tanaka

Ryoukan was a Japanese famous priest and poet. He wrote about this pine tree in his poem. He often composed poems in Iwamuro.



Jizo of child raising

The Jizo is a small stone statue. People made the Jizo to pray for the children's happiness and good health. This Jizo also warmly watches over the growth of children.



Kosatsuba

The laws and regulations from the Tokugawa shogunate authorities were announced to townspeople and villagers by posting them on an official notice board known as the "kosatsuba." Such notice boards were located in every town and village in a prominent position

alongside the main highway where everyone could read the regulations. The usage of kosatsuba became widespread in Japan after 1711 and most of them disappeared promptly after the system was abolished in 1874, shortly after the Meiji Restoration.

Iwamuro Jizo-An (inside of Iwamuro community center)

Dokurinkyo was the 13th priest of Tafukuji, who was named as the founding priest of Iwamuro Jizo-An. Tafukuji was known to be the branch temple of Eihei-ji, one of the head temples of the Soto school. There used to be priests and nuns who were living together at Iwamuro Jizo-An. There was the Terakoya (educational facilities founded in Buddhist temples) that taught writing and reading to the children of nearby commoners during the Edo period until it was abolished in 1908 where Nishi Elementary School was established.



Iwamuro shrine (1913)

God is Amaterasu Ōmikami (Great Divinity Illuminating Heaven). The Zyuni shrine, Suwa shrine, Mihoko Shirine and Inari shrine have all been spotted in the village. However, these shrines were incorporated with Jinmei Shrine. After that, Iwamuro shrine erected.

Japanese "Noh mask" studio <Musyo-an>

The old house built in the early period of Showa-era, where a Geisha named Koryu used to live and it was refurbished. She is a well known lady who modified Iwamuro Jinku to the Ozashiki-style.

The atmosphere surrounding the house and the world of Noh mask artisan, Hanai Yoshikawa always attracts visitors.

