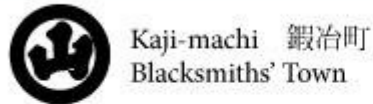


## Origin of the town names



Kaji-machi 鍛冶町  
Blacksmiths' Town

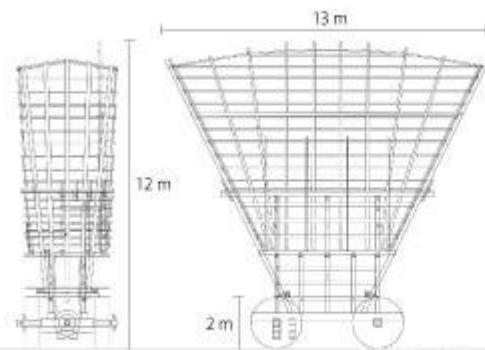


Fuchu-machi 府中町  
Former Capital of Noto



Uo-machi 魚町  
Fishmongers' Town

## Framework of Yama



図面提供：星荘閣士郎建築デザイン事務所 ©  
Drawing: Shotaro Okada Architecture Design Office

## Access

### By train

From Kanazawa to Nanao:  
Express :60 min/Local :80 min (JR Nanao line)  
To Kanazawa  
From Tokyo :150 min (by Hokuriku Shinkansen express)  
From Osaka :160 min (by Thunderbird express)  
From Nagoya :180 min (by Shirasagi express)

Japan Rail Pass can be used

### By car

Travelling by car is the easiest way to explore Nanao and the Noto Peninsula. Coming by car from major cities via expressway, Tokyo is 6.5 hours away, Osaka is 5 hours, and Nagoya is 3.5-4 hours.  
From Tokyo and Nagoya, enter via the Nansen Expressway.  
From Osaka: get off at Kanazawa Morimoto IC, then take the Noto Satoyama Kaido.

From Nagoya: Take the Mei Shin Expressway, Tokai-Hokuriku Expressway, Noto Expressway to Nanao byway IC.

### By Air

From Tokyo: There are two flights daily from Haneda to Noto Airport. From Noto Airport, take the Furusato taxi to your destination.  
Alternatively, fly into Komatsu Airport from Haneda or Narita Airport, take the bus to Kanazawa Station, then train to Nanao Station.



You can get more information to get to Nanao by wikitravel or googlemap.

Nanao City

[academy.misogigawa.com](http://academy.misogigawa.com)

## Unesco Intangible Cultural Heritage

# DEKAYAMA

Giant Mountains ~The largest floats of Japan's festivals



MAY 3-5

Dekayama is here!



SEI  
HAKU  
SAI  
FESTIVAL  
青柏祭



御祓川大学

Misogigawa Community College

Dekayama English Guide Project

## The Seihakusai Festival

The festival has roots going back over a thousand years, with the earliest records showing it being declared the main festival in Noto in 981. Since then it has been an event to pray for world peace, good health and a bountiful harvest.

## Dekayama

The three festival floats journey from their hometown shrines to gather at Otokonushi Shrine. Accounts differ of the first use of the deokayama floats in the festival, with dates ranging from the fourteenth to sixteenth centuries. Ever since then they have grown to their current size of over 12 meters and 20 tons.



Odeko



Kiyari

## Dekayama Key Points

### Tsuji-mawashi:

The yama makes tight 90° turns using a fifth wheel.

### Odeko:

Participants maneuver and carefully climb on a giant lever to raise one end of the yama.

### Kiyari:

Songs and chants performed by members riding on the front of the yama.

### Nanao Madara:

Traditional song and dance performed when the yama reaches its destination.

### Dolls on the yama:

Every year a theme is chosen from a kabuki play and new dolls are made by a local craftsman.

### Seihakusai Ceremony:

The main prayer for the Seihakusai festival.

## How to enjoy the festival

Join the crowd pulling the ropes and chanting "*enya!*" as the kiyari and drum keep time. Then run together through the narrow streets ahead of the yama yelling "*washoi!*"

## Safety

- Footware: If pulling the ropes, don't wear high heels, open toe shoes or shoes that easily fall off.
- When running with the crowd, don't stop for dropped items- it's dangerous.
- Be aware of your surroundings.
- For your own safety, quickly follow instructions given by uniformed deokayama members.

## Schedule

May 2 Evening: Doll viewing

May 3 21:00~23:00 ☹️

25:00~7:00 ☹️

Festival begins, deokayama travel to Otokonushi Shrine throughout the night and into the morning.

May 4 8:00~12:30 ☹️

12:30~ Seihakusai Ceremony; deokayama depart from the shrine ☹️☹️☹️

May 5 7:30~23:00 ☹️☹️☹️

Dekayama parade through the center of town and gather by the sea at noon before returning to their home towns. Various performances throughout the day.

