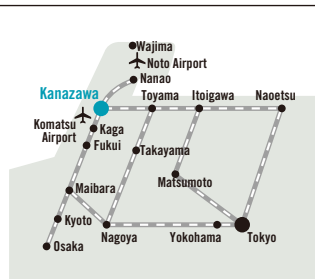


About Kanazawa City

Ishikawa is located right in the middle of Honshu (the main island of Japan), on the coast next to the Sea of Japan. It is the prefectural capital of Ishikawa. Many tourists stay in Kanazawa and then explore the surrounding area. Kanazawa has a population of about 462,500 and is one of the core cities in Chubu (Central Japan).



Access

By air: 1 h from Tokyo / **By train:** 3-4 hours from Tokyo; 2 h 30 min from Osaka; 3 hours from Nagoya / **By express bus:** 7 h 30 min from Tokyo; 4 h from Kyoto; 2 hours from Takayama

What to say in Japanese? *Phonetic transcription: "Hepburn".

on the Street	for Shopping	at Restaurant
Where is Nagamachi? <i>Nagamachi wa doko desuka?</i> 長町はどこですか？	What's is this? <i>Kore wa nan desuka?</i> これは何ですか？	Do I need a reservation? <i>Yoyaku ga irimasuka?</i> 予約が要りますか？
Is it close from here? <i>Koko kara chikai desuka?</i> ここから近いですか？	What's it made of? <i>Kore wa nani de dekiteimasuka?</i> これは何でできていますか？	Can I see the menu? <i>Menyu o misete kudasai.</i> メニューを見せてください。
Is it walkable? <i>Aruite ikemasuka?</i> 歩いて行けますか？	How much is this? <i>Kore wa ikura desuka?</i> これはいくらですか？	Do you have an English menu? <i>Eigo-menyu wa arimasuka?</i> 英語メニューはありますか？
Can you speak English? <i>Eigo ga hanasemasuka?</i> 英語が話せますか？	Can I see that one? <i>Are o misete kudasai.</i> あれを見せてください。	I'm a vegetarian. <i>Watashi wa bejitarian desu.</i> 私はベジタリアンです
[Taxi] To the station please! <i>Eki made onegai shimasu.</i> 駅までお願いします。	Are there different colors? <i>Hoka no iro wa arimasuka?</i> 他の色はありますか？	I'll have this one! <i>Kore o kudasai.</i> これをください。
I'm looking for a bus stop. <i>Basutei o sagashiteimasu.</i> バス停を探しています。	Can I try this on? <i>Shichaku shite ii desuka?</i> 試着していいですか？	The meal was very good! <i>Totemo oishikatta.</i> とてもおいしかった。
Does this bus go to the station? <i>Kono basu wa eki e ikimasuka?</i> このバスは駅へ行きますか？	Can I use credit card? <i>Kurejitto kaado wa tsukaemasuka?</i> クレジットカードは使えますか？	Check please! <i>Okanjo o onegai shimasu.</i> お勘定をお願いします。

Digging Deeper Into Kanazawa

「訪日外国人旅行者の受入環境整備に係る外客受入地方拠点整備事業」
Published by Gurunavi, Inc. [株式会社ぐるなび]
Directed by Artex Inc. / ©2011 Gurunavi, Inc. / Printed in Japan

Cover Photo: Denbei's armor owned by Nomura family.

The Jewel of Japan

Digging Deeper Into Kanazawa

Kanazawa has been called "Little Kyoto", though court nobles never lived here. Kanazawa prospered and grew because of the Samurai who lived here. Locals still revere the first lord Toshie Maeda who reigned over the Kaga feudal clan. Even in modern times, much remains that is connected to Lord Maeda, the families, and the vassals. Why are there canals everywhere? What secrets do the shrines hold? Let's dig deeper.



Japan. Endless Discovery.

To urist Map of Kanazawa

It's all up to you!

Depending on your schedule, here are four areas we recommend you check out. If you are in Kanazawa for just one night, pick one or two areas to visit. If you have enough time, visit all four areas. Check the app times below. You can easily walk from area to area, but if you want to speed things up, take the loop bus! It's easy even for tourists to use.

One day Walking tour (app. 7 hours)

Kanazawa is not so big that you can't walk to all the main areas. It's nice to move from a quaint street to a bustling one through the castle park!

Higashi Chayagai District

▼ 20-min-walk

Ohmicho Marke

30-min-walk

▼ 10 min walk

▼ 10-min-walk

**Nagamachi
Bukeyashiki District**


— **1999**, **2000**, **2001**, **2002**, **2003**, **2004**, **2005**, **2006**, **2007**, **2008**, **2009**, **2010**, **2011**, **2012**, **2013**, **2014**, **2015**, **2016**, **2017**, **2018**, **2019**, **2020**, **2021**, **2022**, **2023**, **2024**, **2025**, **2026**, **2027**, **2028**, **2029**, **2030**, **2031**, **2032**, **2033**, **2034**, **2035**, **2036**, **2037**, **2038**, **2039**, **2040**, **2041**, **2042**, **2043**, **2044**, **2045**, **2046**, **2047**, **2048**, **2049**, **2050**, **2051**, **2052**, **2053**, **2054**, **2055**, **2056**, **2057**, **2058**, **2059**, **2060**, **2061**, **2062**, **2063**, **2064**, **2065**, **2066**, **2067**, **2068**, **2069**, **2070**, **2071**, **2072**, **2073**, **2074**, **2075**, **2076**, **2077**, **2078**, **2079**, **2080**, **2081**, **2082**, **2083**, **2084**, **2085**, **2086**, **2087**, **2088**, **2089**, **2090**, **2091**, **2092**, **2093**, **2094**, **2095**, **2096**, **2097**, **2098**, **2099**, **2100**, **2101**, **2102**, **2103**, **2104**, **2105**, **2106**, **2107**, **2108**, **2109**, **2110**, **2111**, **2112**, **2113**, **2114**, **2115**, **2116**, **2117**, **2118**, **2119**, **2120**, **2121**, **2122**, **2123**, **2124**, **2125**, **2126**, **2127**, **2128**, **2129**, **2130**, **2131**, **2132**, **2133**, **2134**, **2135**, **2136**, **2137**, **2138**, **2139**, **2140**, **2141**, **2142**, **2143**, **2144**, **2145**, **2146**, **2147**, **2148**, **2149**, **2150**, **2151**, **2152**, **2153**, **2154**, **2155**, **2156**, **2157**, **2158**, **2159**, **2160**, **2161**, **2162**, **2163**, **2164**, **2165**, **2166**, **2167**, **2168**, **2169**, **2170**, **2171**, **2172**, **2173**, **2174**, **2175**, **2176**, **2177**, **2178**, **2179**, **2180**, **2181**, **2182**, **2183**, **2184**, **2185**, **2186**, **2187**, **2188**, **2189**, **2190**, **2191**, **2192**, **2193**, **2194**, **2195**, **2196**, **2197**, **2198**, **2199**, **2200**, **2201**, **2202**, **2203**, **2204**, **2205**, **2206**, **2207**, **2208**, **2209**, **2210**, **2211**, **2212**, **2213**, **2214**, **2215**, **2216**, **2217**, **2218**, **2219**, **2220**, **2221**, **2222**, **2223**, **2224**, **2225**, **2226**, **2227**, **2228**, **2229**, **2230**, **2231**, **2232**, **2233**, **2234**, **2235**, **2236**, **2237**, **2238**, **2239**, **2240**, **2241**, **2242**, **2243**, **2244**, **2245**, **2246**, **2247**, **2248**, **2249**, **2250**, **2251**, **2252**, **2253**, **2254**, **2255**, **2256**, **2257**, **2258**, **2259**, **2260**, **2261**, **2262**, **2263**, **2264**, **2265**, **2266**, **2267**, **2268**, **2269**, **2270**, **2271**, **2272**, **2273**, **2274**, **2275**, **2276**, **2277**, **2278**, **2279**, **2280**, **2281**, **2282**, **2283**, **2284**, **2285**, **2286**, **2287**, **2288**, **2289**, **2290**, **2291**, **2292**, **2293**, **2294**, **2295**, **2296**, **2297**, **2298**, **2299**, **2300**, **2301**, **2302**, **2303**, **2304**, **2305**, **2306**, **2307**, **2308**, **2309**, **2310**, **2311**, **2312**, **2313**, **2314**, **2315**, **2316**, **2317**, **2318**, **2319**, **2320**, **2321**, **2322**, **2323**, **2324**, **2325**, **2326**, **2327**, **2328**, **2329**, **2330**, **2331**, **2332**, **2333**, **2334**, **2335**, **2336**, **2337**, **2338**, **2339**, **2340**, **2341**, **2342**, **2343**, **2344**, **2345**, **2346**, **2347**, **2348**, **2349**, **2350**, **2351**, **2352**, **2353**, **2354**, **2355**, **2356**, **2357**, **2358**, **2359**, **2360**, **2361**, **2362**, **2363**, **2364**, **2365**, **2366**, **2367**, **2368**, **2369**, **2370**, **2371**, **2372**, **2373**, **2374**, **2375**, **2376**, **2377**, **2378**, **2379**, **2380**, **2381**, **2382**, **2383**, **2384**, **2385**, **2386**, **2387**, **2388**, **2389**, **2390**, **2391**, **2392**, **2393**, **2394**, **2395**, **2396**, **2397**, **2398**, **2399**, **2400**, **2401**, **2402**, **2403**, **2404**, **2405**, **2406**, **2407**,

**Get A 500-Yen-Day-Pass!
It's A Great Deal!**

LOOP BUS DAY PASS:

- Adult: ¥500
- Child (7-12): ¥250

WHERE TO BUY A DAY PASS:

 • Hokutetsu Ekimae Center (Map: A1)
(Kanazawa Station East Gate Bus Terminal)
* See the bus route on the left (page 2)!

LOOP BUS FARE FOR A RIDE:

- Adult: ¥200 • Child (7-12): ¥100
- Infant (under 6): Free with an adult

* Charge for 2nd infant.



The Jewel of Japan

Digging Deeper Into Kanazawa

Let's learn about this samurai town and then take a closer look at some of the different areas. What fascinates you? Elegant and mysterious geisha? Japanese handicrafts? Or the samurai? We visited several areas of Kanazawa with the writers. We talked with local volunteer guides to get some interesting stories that you will never find in other guide books! We will help you dig deeper as your read these articles while walking through Kanazawa.

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Kanazawa is a city steeped in tradition and culture, and at its core are the Maeda family and the samurai that lived here.

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12 Area Guide with Detailed Map

Each area is introduced with a detailed map. In addition, Ohmicho Market has been added with some dining recommendations. Let's get started on your stroll!

Samurai Town Kanazawa

Kanazawa is a city steeped in tradition and culture, and at its core are the Maeda family and the samurai that lived here. From their discipline and spirit, Kanazawa was shaped into a city full of culture and life.

Starting in the 1600s, Kanazawa was one of the richest areas outside of the shogunate being led by a powerful feudal lord. Kanazawa's wealth grew substantially, and as a result the shogunate started to think of Kanazawa as a political and military rival. Much of the historic areas of Kanazawa were originally built with defense in mind. The castle is probably the best example in Kanazawa of military necessity combined with the grace and beauty of traditional Japanese architecture. Even though much of the original castle has burned down, there are some original structures, like the Ishikawa-Mon gate, that still remain. Recently, much of the castle grounds have been painstakingly renovated back to their

original design. On every shingle you can see the Maeda family crest, and that is not the only place they've left their mark around Kanazawa.

Kanazawa castle was not the only structure built for the defense of the city. There are also many historic temples and shrines, from Oyama shrine to the Ninja temple, that were also used in defense of Kanazawa. Ninja temple was specifically designed to repel an invading army with its many hidden passageways and booby traps. Walking through Ninja temple you will find many surprises built into the building itself. Seeing all of the intricate detail that went into its construction gives you a sense of the seriousness and the imagination that went into the designs of these buildings.

Nagamachi, which is the samurai District, is another lasting reminder of the impact the samurai had on Kanazawa. The layout of the roads that run through this historic district have not changed in 350 years. Walking around Nagamachi you can still see the houses where samurai used to live. Each samurai house has very distinct ridge-end tiles that are supposed to resemble the top-knot hair style they wore, which differentiates their houses from other houses from the same period.

The Maeda family ultimately thought art would be the best way to defend Kanazawa. In response to the growing threat from the shogunate Toshitsune Maeda decided to use

his family's influence and fortune not just in military endeavors, but primarily in developing culture and encouraging the arts. Even now Kanazawa is famous for its gold leaf, partly due to the fact that Kanazawa produces 99% of all the gold leaf made in Japan, and partly because of the high quality art and lacquerware that the gold leaf is often used in. Kanazawa also developed an expensive and much sought after style of kimo called Kagayuzen. The Maeda family were patrons of the arts. They spent money on developing the arts in their domain to prove they were not military rivals to the shogunate.

The Maeda family ruled over this area for 300 years, and through their foresight and determination Kanazawa grew strong. By not using only samurai and military might to defend Kanazawa but also art, Kanazawa has not only survived and thrived but become a valuable cultural asset.

Even though the samurai are now gone, what is left behind is a modern city with small winding roads filled with restaurants, shops, and a lot of history waiting to be discovered. Getting lost walking down the winding streets is not only okay but highly recommended. So while in Kanazawa please enjoy the culture, the art, the food, and the people, because here is truly one of the few places to experience the complex and layered relationship Japan has with its past, present, and future.

Dustin Keeling, originally from America, is a small business owner in Kanazawa. He moved here six years ago for a one-year working holiday and loved it so much he stayed. He really enjoys introducing people to everything Kanazawa has to offer, and even after 6 years he is still finding new shops and restaurants.

Photo: Denbei's armor owned by the Nomura family.

SAMURAI

The Japanese Warriors

Higashi Chayagai

【ひがし茶屋街】

The cobblestone streets, *kimusuko* lattices, mud walls that absorb humidity, lovely bamboo blinds... Higashi Chayagai is a museum of traditional architecture! There are still many local geisha called Geiko-san who perform dance and music in the quaint district.

Geisha house Kaikaro
in the Higashi Chayagai district

The Traditional Architecture of Geisha Houses

When people hear the word "geisha" they think of beautiful and romanticized images of Japan. Many travelers to Japan however, are unfamiliar with the reality of the geisha and are unaware that the practice is still very much alive today.

By Dustin Keeling



**It's not only the past
but also a vibrant part of the present
with no signs of fading away anytime soon.**

Any trip to Kanazawa must have Higashi Chayagai on the itinerary. From the cobblestone streets to the historic buildings, Kanazawa's geisha district is right out of the pages of a novel. The traditional arts practiced by the geisha are still sought after by people of power and wealth here in Japan, frequented by politicians and successful businessmen. Much like other parts of Japanese culture, Kanazawa's Higashi Chayagai is not only the past but also a vibrant part of the present with no signs of fading away anytime soon. When you make it to Higashi Chayagai you must visit Shima Tea House. Shima is a traditional geisha house that is open to the public. Inside

you will be able to see what living conditions were like for the average geisha. Shima geisha house has a common layout that was shared by many other tea houses from that period. This style of geisha house had three stair cases so customers would not run into each other as they were coming and going. The three entertaining rooms on the second floor would each be divided into a guest room, an alcove, and a waiting area. The guest room was where the clients would sit and be entertained by geisha who would pour drinks, play drinking games, and engage in conversation. The alcove would be an area of the guest room that the Mamma, or owner, would decorate with different kinds of flowers and art work depending on the season. The waiting area was used by the preforming geisha as a stage for music and dancing. Most geisha parties would

last an hour and a half. Since this was an era before watches and time pieces were readily available, the geisha would keep track of the time by burning incense. Once the incense had burned out, it was time to go. Even hundreds of years ago, geisha parties were quite expensive, and successful businessmen from the emerging merchant class would use these parties as a way to show off their wealth.

The first floor of Shima was where the kitchen and the area for the owner of the house to do the bookkeeping was located. Now there is also a tea shop in the back of the house that overlooks the centrally located garden. The tea shop is a great place to take a break and relax. From the tea and the traditional sweets to the beautiful garden and serene atmosphere, it really is a special moment that can be found in few other places.

Like many other aspects of Japanese life, the garden served several purposes. The obvious reason was to enjoy the garden while drinking tea or to observe the changing seasons. Another more practical reason was for snow storage. Kanazawa gets lots of heavy snow in the winter. People were not allowed to shovel snow into the road so residents would move the snow to the garden, where it could act as a refrigerator.

While visiting the merchant house, try talking with some of the volunteers wearing yellow jackets that work there.

Higashi Chayagai does not only have historic geisha houses, but several other historic buildings that you should take time to check out. One of which is Higashi Chaya Kyukei-Kan, a wonderful example of a merchant house from around 1868. To make such houses it took twelve types of skilled workers, and each building is considered a work of art. While visiting the merchant house, try talking with some of the volunteers wearing yellow jackets that work there. They are passionate and exciting and will try and explain things even if there is a bit of a language barrier. While walking through Higashi Chayagai you will notice that this part of Kanazawa is still alive with residents and many shops and restaurants. There are many small stores selling everything from traditional tea, to the gold leaf that Kanazawa is famous for, to beautiful wall hangings and art. Many of the small shops sell items that have been made locally by artists from the area. This is a great place to find something special and take a piece of Higashi Chayagai home for yourself or for someone you care about.



Shima [志摩]

1-13-21, Higashiyama, Kanazawa
Phone 076-252-5675 / Fax 076-252-0777
Admission: adult ¥400; child (7-15) ¥300
Open: everyday (9:00-18:00)



Higashi Chaya Kyukei-Kan
[ひがし茶屋休隠館]

1-5-14, Higashiyama, Kanazawa
Phone 076-253-0087 / Admission: free
Open: everyday (9:00-17:00 / winter 9:30-17:00)

[see map on the page 12](#)



Kenrokuen / Hirosaka [兼六園 / 広坂]

The area surrounding Kanazawa's Kenrokuen and the 21st Century Museum epitomizes Kanazawa. Its rich past, its modern backdrop, and its bright future all combine it up in a celebration of art and culture.

Kenrokuen in winter

Kenrokuen Garden and the Street of Art

Kanazawa is a city in Japan that embraces its history, enjoys its present, and is continually expanding on its art and culture. With Kenrokuen facing the 21st Century Museum, the old seamlessly blends with the new, adding to the richness of both.

By Dustin Keeling



Nowhere is the idea of "ichigo ichie" more apparent than in Kenrokuen. Every season brings something new.

Kenrokuen means "the 6 perfect attributes" in English. The attributes that all true Japanese gardens must have are spaciousness, seclusion, antiquity, artificiality, panoramic views and waterways. It's a park of contradictions. Each of these points represent features that are usually impossible to find together. The depth and subtlety of the park have it ranked in the top three most beautiful in all of Japan. There is a phrase in Japanese, "ichigo ichie," that translates to "this time only" or "never again." It's a philosophy of living in the moment and cherishing the present because you will never be able to relive this exact moment again. Nowhere is this idea more apparent than in Kenrokuen. Every season brings something new. Every section of the park is constantly changing, but staying true to the idea of contrasting ideas, some things have not changed for hundreds of years. As you slowly walk through the park you will find yourself looking over Kanazawa and the surrounding mountains. Then as you travel farther you will find yourself surrounded by trees and feel completely alone. With the waterfalls and blooming flowers it is easily one of the most picturesque places in all of Kanazawa.

Right next to Kenrokuen is Edo town, a wonderfully colorful area full of small shops selling everything from food to antiques. If you come during the spring you should definitely try the *dango*, which is a sweet round dessert popular during the cherry blossom season. Or you could also try *kaki gori*, which is like a snow cone, and perfect on a hot summer day. With so much to take in, a guide is highly recommended. Next to the Ishikawa-Mon gate of Kanazawa castle there is a tourist information office that gives free tours of Kenrokuen. The tour guides can speak English and they really make the park's history come alive. Their personal stories of the garden and of Kanazawa are also highly enjoyable.

Installation pieces surround the museum and the museum itself features new artists on a regular basis.

After finishing a tour of Kenrokuen, you can transition to the 21st Century Museum. This modern art museum concentrates on works of art produced since the 1980s. The 21st Century Museum also likes artists to make works specifically for their museum. Installation pieces surround the museum and the museum itself features new artists on a regular basis.

Following in the tradition of the Maeda family, the 21st Century Museum is pioneering the future history of the art and culture of Kanazawa.

A road lined with cherry trees and filled with shops featuring locally produced art and handicrafts.

Leaving the 21st Century Museum is Hirosaka art street, a road lined with cherry trees and filled with shops filled with locally produced art and handicrafts. You could spend hours walking through all the small shops and trying to figure out what each object is used for, or for what you could use it. You are only limited by your imagination and your budget. One of the most famous shops on Hirosaka street is Nosaku, which has been making lacquerware since the 1780s. Originally providing lacquerware to the Maeda family, they now sell to the public. They have shows displaying their wares internationally with pieces going to collectors and enthusiasts all over the world.

The area surrounding Kanazawa's Kenrokuen and the 21st Century Museum epitomizes Kanazawa. Its rich past, its modern backdrop, and its bright future all combine it up in a celebration of art and culture. Whatever you are interested in you will find something that will get your attention here.



Kenrokuen Garden [兼六園]

Kenrokumachi / Phone 076-234-3800
Open: 7:00-18:00 (March 1 - October 15);
8:00-17:00 (October 16 - February)
Admission: adult ¥300; child (6-17) ¥100



21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa [金沢21世紀美術館]

1-2-1, Hirosaka / Phone 076-220-2800
Museum Hours: Check the website!
<http://www.kanazawa21.jp/en>
Admission: free
*Exhibitions held at the Museum are ticketed.

see map on the page 13



Nagamachi Bukeyashiki

【長町武家屋敷跡】

Even though the samurai are now gone, the canals, houses, and old mud walls still remain. Feel the nostalgia of old Japan while getting lost in the maze-like streets.

Old houses samurai used to live in

A Glimpse into the Lifestyles of the Samurai

If Kanazawa Castle and Kenrokuen are the souls of Kanazawa, then the heart would have to be Nagamachi, the samurai district. It is not only famous for the samurai residents who lived here, but also because it is a great glimpse into the lives of the people from feudal Japan.

By Dustin Keeling



The canals helped with everything from protecting houses from fire to acting like moats for the castle.

In English, Nagamachi means “long town.” It gets its name from the fact that it was built along one of the many canals that run through Kanazawa. In fact, out of all the canals in Kanazawa, the one winding its way through Nagamachi is the oldest. The beauty of Japanese design is not only in the aesthetics but also in the functionality. The canals are a serene setting for everyday life, but they were also the workhorses of historic Kanazawa. These canals helped with everything from protecting houses from fire, to acting like moats for the castle to bringing goods like timber from the port into the city. As you wander along the canal, you will notice small bridges leading into the private

residences. Traditionally one property would be from one bridge to the next.

Nothing epitomizes the golden age of the samurai more than the Nomura-Ke house. This is the crown jewel of Nagamachi. The Nomura family lived in the house for 11 generations. This house represents how high-ranking samurai would have lived. As you walk through the house, which still has the original glass panes in its windows, it opens up to a breathtaking garden. As with most houses from the feudal period, centrally located gardens were quite common, but there is nothing common about this garden. The scale and size is what strikes you first. Then all of the small details, at first blending together, pop out at you as your eyes adjust. This small private garden competes against much larger gardens and is still ranked one of the best in Japan. Making your way to

the second floor is a tea room that overlooks the garden where you can relax and let your mind wander. The strongest connection to the past in the Nomura-Ke house is in the back of the house where the Nomura family's personal belongings are displayed. Seeing the swords and weapons they would have carried into battle has a chilling effect and really highlights the reality of the times. There are documents from the battles they fought in detailing their exploits and rewards.

Nagamachi encapsulates what it must have been like to live during the golden age of the samurai.

A stark contrast to the Nomura-Ke house is the Ashigaru house. Ashigaru translates to “light feet.” These were the foot soldiers with no horses; they were the lowest rank. Walking through the Ashigaru house shows the disparity in which the different classes were treated. What is interesting is that the Ashigaru houses in Kanazawa are quite nice when compared to other Ashigaru houses from other parts of Japan. The Maeda family treated them better than most other lords from the feudal period.

Nagamachi does not only hold the history of the

samurai but also of the merchant class. A place that offers a snapshot of what business was like during the feudal period is the Kanazawa Shinise Memorial Hall. This old building was originally called Nakaya Pharmacy. It is a great example of an average pharmacy from the feudal period. The building itself sucks you into a different time. With Kanazawa's rich history, there are many families and businesses that have been working here for hundreds of years. The Nakaya family established their pharmacy in 1579. On the second floor of Shinise Memorial Hall, 55 traditional stores throughout Kanazawa belonging to an association of traditional merchant houses display their traditional tools and crafts. These artifacts have been handed down through the generations and are now being displayed on a rotating basis, so each local business can show their connection with the growth of Kanazawa's culture.

Nagamachi encapsulates what it must have been like to live during the golden age of the samurai. Winding canals and historic buildings alongside shops that are still open after so many years is truly something special. Nagamachi is what living history should be: accessible, interesting, and most of all, memorable.



Kanazawa Shinise Kinen-Kan

【金沢市老舗記念館】

2-2-45, Nagamachi / Phone 076-220-2524

Open: everyday (9:30-17:00)

Admission: ¥100



Nomura-Ke 野村家

1-3-32, Nagamachi / Phone 076-221-3553

Open: 8:30-17:30 (winter 8:30-16:30)

Closed: Dec 26-31

Admission: adult ¥500; child (16-18) ¥400

[see map on the page 14](#)

Higashi Chayagai District

Route for walk
30min / 2km

Loop Bus ⑥ Bus stop
Hashibacho Koban-mae

• From JR Kanazawa station: 1.9km / 24-min-walk
• From Ohmicho Market: 1.0km / 12-min-walk
• From Kenrokuen Garden: 1.1km / 14-min-walk
• From Nagamachi Bukeyashiki: 2.3km / 28-min-walk



Shopping
Guide

Find a heart of gold in the quaint Geisha district



The 350-year-history still
creates something new!

Gold Leaf Hand Mirror: 7,350 yen



Hakuichi [箔一 東山店]
1-15-4 Higashi-yama
Phone 076-253-0891
Open: 10:00-18:00
Credit cards: Most accepted
*English speaking staff
available.

Kanazawa is the only major center of *kinpaku* (gold leaf) in Japan, producing 99% of all gold leaf used domestically. Commonly called "Kanazawa-Haku", this extremely thin product with a beautiful shiny texture is widely used for traditional crafts such as lacquerware and Buddhist altar-pieces. It is also used to repair some of Japan's most important national treasures including Kinkaku-ji temple and Konjiki-do of Chuson-ji temple. Some of the reasons Kanazawa has dominated *kinpaku* production is that the humid climate is ideal for gold beating and the soft water that flows from the Asanogawa and the Saigawa rivers is essential in the manufacturing process.

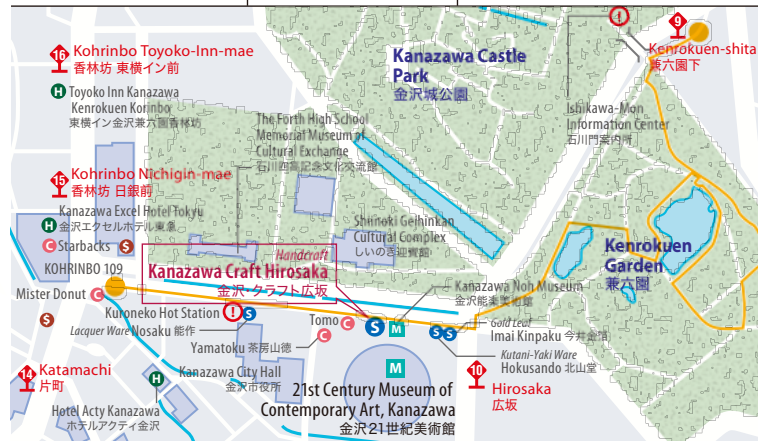
The production of *kinpaku* is said to have started at the end of the 16th century in Kanazawa. Although the shogunate tried to control the production of *kinpaku* by issuing an order prohibiting the art, the Kaga clan (present-day Ishikawa and Toyama) kept producing *kinpaku* in secret. Kanazawa-Haku is still painstakingly made by hand one sheet at a time in the same traditional method that was used hundreds of years ago. There are some *kinpaku* craft shops around the Higashi Chayagai District where *kinpaku* craftsmen used to live, including Hakuichi, which sells a variety of *kinpaku* products like hand mirrors, woodenware, and accessories.

Kenrokuen Garden / Hirosaka

Route for walk
60min / 4km

Loop Bus ⑨ Bus stop
Kenrokuen-shita

• From Higashi Chayagai District: 1.1km / 14-min-walk
• From Ohmicho Market: 1.2km / 14-min-walk
• From Nagamachi Bukeyashiki: 1.0km / 13-min-walk
• From JR Kanazawa Station: 2.3km / 29-min-walk



Shopping
Guide

Between the garden and the shopping district



Enjoy treasure hunt feeling
Kanazawa's craftsmen spirit

Kaga Yubinuki - The Traditional Thimble(1 piece): 3,800 yen



Kanazawa Craft Hirosaka
[金沢・クラフト広坂]
1-2-25 Hirosaka
Phone 076-265-3320
Open: 10:00-18:00;
closed Mondays
Credit cards: Most accepted

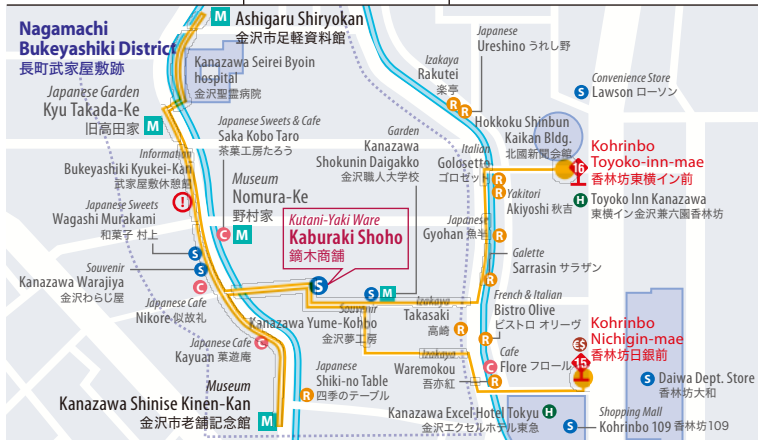
With various craft shops, galleries and museums, including the 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, this street between Kenrokuen Garden and bustling shopping area is nicknamed "Art Street". Walking down this street you can see examples of traditional and contemporary art and handicrafts, and how Kanazawa embraces the style of both. It may be difficult to decide where to go after the 21st Century Museum. If you want to buy local handmade crafts, we recommend Kanazawa crafts Hirosaka next to the museum. There has been a wealth of traditional handicrafts techniques that have been handed down since the feudal time in Kanazawa. As well as the nationally famous *kinpaku*, there is also Kutani ceramicware and Kaga Yuzen dyeing. Kanazawa, however, doesn't cling to its heritage. It actually draws on its rich legacy to inspire new creations. That is why Kanazawa has been registered as a city of crafts by UNESCO's Creative Cities Network. The pieces Kanazawa Craft Hirosaka sells are rare traditional handicrafts such as Kaga inlay, tea ceremony pots, paulownia crafts, bamboo crafts, and *washi* paper. The item pictured is an example of embroidered thimbles called Kaga Yubinuki, which are wonderful accessories. These handmade crafts have a simple beauty and warmth that will add charm and culture to your day-to-day life.

Nagamachi Bukeyashiki District

Route for walk
30min / 2km

Loop Bus ⑬ Bus stop
Kohrinbo Nichigin-mae

- From Kenrokuen Garden: 1.0km /13-min-walk
- From Ohmicho Market: 1.3km /15-min-walk
- From JR Kanazawa station: 1.9km /23-min-walk
- From Higashi Cyayagai District: 2.3km /28-min-walk



Shopping Guide

Feel the humble spirits of Kanazawa's samurai and craftsmen



Meet traditional and colorful ceramic ware

Kutani-yaki 5 dishes (#3) : 4,620 yen



Kaburaki [鍋木商舗]
1-3-16 Nagamachi
Phone 076-221-6666
Open: 9:00-22:00 (Mon-Sat),
9:00-18:00 (Sundays and
national holidays)
Credit cards: Most accepted

With wood and clay houses and narrow cobblestone streets, it's clear that the Nagamachi Bukeyashiki District isn't an area that changes needlessly. Most visitors will be struck by how the district still has the feeling of the samurai that lived here so many years ago. Even though many of the houses in this district are old, they are actually from the Meiji period and not samurai houses at all. Kaburaki Shoho is an elegant townhouse in the heart of Nagamachi that exhibits and sells Kutani ceramicware.

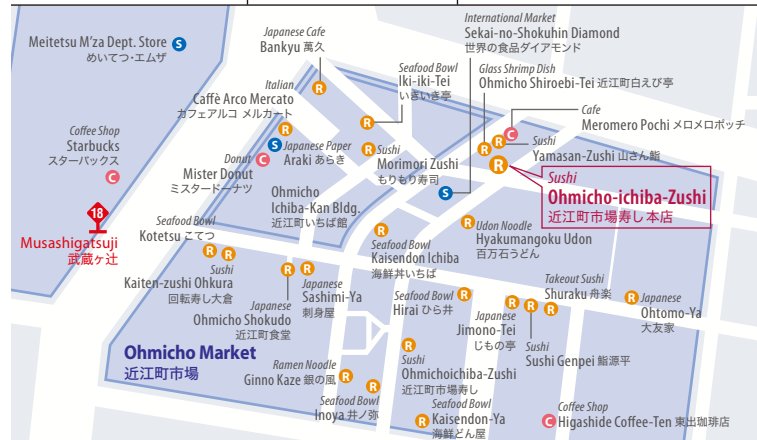
Kutani Ceramic is a signature craftwork of Ishikawa but is still surrounded in mystery. In the mid 1600s the first kilns were built under the patronage of the Maeda Family. It produced the distinctive pottery with bold composition and brushwork that people today call "Ko-Kutani" (literally old Kutani). In 1710 the kiln abruptly closed down, the reason is unknown. About 100 years later the kiln was reopened and run by the Kaga clan. Since then, various styles of Kutani have been produced. The typical Kutani style features flowers and birds with seasonal elements usually applied in five Kutani colors (green, yellow, red, purple, and dark blue). These are functional, beautiful pieces of art that will stand the test of time.

Ohmicho Market

Route for walk
15min / 1km

Loop Bus ⑬ Bus stop
Musashigatsuji

- From JR Kanazawa Station: 1.0km /12-min-walk
- From Higashi Cyayagai District: 1.0km /12-min-walk
- From Kenrokuen Garden: 1.2km /14-min-walk
- From Nagamachi Bukeyashiki: 1.3km /15-min-walk



Shopping Guide

The market is the center of Kanazawa's food culture



Eat Sushi in the "Kanazawa's kitchen"

Nigiri-sushi: 120 yen ~ / one dish (2 pieces)



Omicho-Ichiba-Zushi
[近江町市場寿司本店]
28-1 Shimo-Ohmicho
Phone 076-261-9330
Open: 10:30-20:00
Credit cards: Not accepted
*English menu available.

Ohmicho Market is a sensory overload, a riot of colors and aromas jostling shoppers about. No sightseeing trip is complete without a visit here! This open-air market was established around the middle of the 18th century and served Kanazawa castle for years as the "Lord's Kitchen." In the Meiji period, the market became public as the "Citizen's Kitchen." There are as many as 170 stalls in the market, all close together, selling everything from fresh fish, vegetables, fruit, meat, dried and pickled food to everyday items like clothes. If you visit in the winter you'll see a ton of fresh snow crab (some still alive) being sold everywhere. It is fun to just hang out and listen to stall keepers calling out trying to convince people to buy their wares, but it is even more fun to buy something to eat such as grilled seafood, barbecued chicken, or a Japanese croquette. There are also numerous restaurants serving seafood. If you want to eat sushi, why not visit one of the Kaiten-Zushi (conveyor belt sushi) restaurants? As you sit, pieces of sushi are constantly traveling around the conveyor belt. When you see one that looks delicious, just grab it and eat it. The different plates represent the different prices for each type of sushi. The restaurant will usually post what each plate costs so there will be no surprises with your bill. Kaiten-Zushi is cheaper than traditional sushi bars, but with the quality of the seafood at Ohmicho, the taste is still amazing.