

Old Post Town on Nakasen-do Road
Tsumago-juku
Guide Map



Historic Preservation Area with Important Traditional Buildings
Tsumago-juku

Old Post Town with Historic Memories

The Nakasen-do linked Edo and Kyoto, and it was also called the Kiso-kaido or Kiso Road as it goes through the mountainous Kiso region. Tsumago was the 42nd post town, counted from Edo, of the 69 posts town on the Nakasen-do Road and was a prosperous town because of its important location at the crossroad of the Nakasen-do and the Ina-do.

Start of Efforts to Preserve the Town

Tsumago began to decline because it no longer functioned as a post town where now railroads and other roads were constructed in the new Meiji era. However during the period of economic growth in the Showa era, the town was re-evaluated due to its historic value as a post town of the Edo era. It was one of the earliest movements to preserve historic towns. People of Tsumago made the three basic rules, "Do not sell, lend, or demolish houses" and they try to preserve the precious historic town of the Edo era while leading their daily lives.

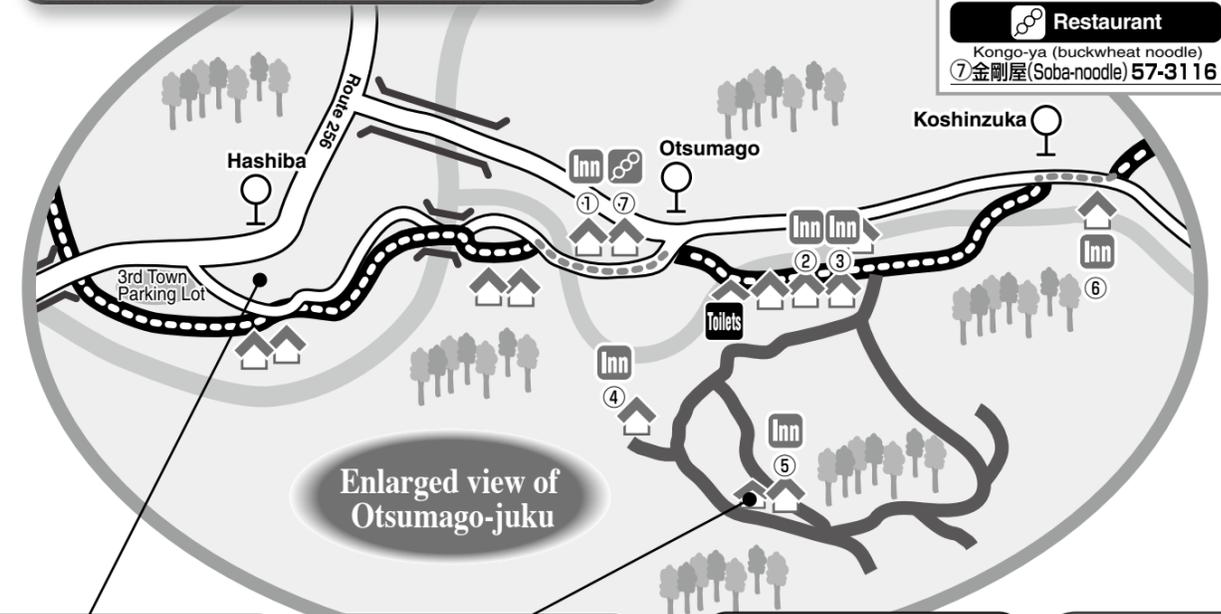
For more information

The Nagiso Tourism Association
The Commerce and Tourism Section of Nagiso-machi
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zip code 399-5301
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Website: http://www.tumago.jp/
Email: info@tumago.jp

Let's Walk Historic Nakasen-do Road
Kiso-ji is completely surrounded by mountains.

Otsumago to Magome Pass



- Inn & Hatago or Historic Inn**
- Hana-ya
① 波奈屋(Ryokan) 57-3106
 - Maru-ya
② まるや(Minshuku) 57-3117
 - Tsutamura-ya
③ つたむら屋(Minshuku) 57-3235
 - Kameyama
④ かめやま(Minshuku) 57-3187
 - Shimomura
⑤ 下村(Minshuku) 57-3158
 - Koshinzuka
⑥ こしんづか(Minshuku) 57-3029
- Restaurant**
- Kongo-ya (buckwheat noodle)
 - ⑦ 金剛屋(Soba-noodle) 57-3116

Enlarged view of Otsumago-juku

Stone Signpost

Tsumago was a prosperous town at the crossroad of the Nakasen-do and the Iida-kaido. This signpost was built by merchants from Iida, Omi, and local towns in 1881.

Fujiwara Family House
(prefecture treasure/open to public)

Research found that the layout, structure and finish date is back to the mid-1600s, although some major remodeling has been conducted.

Kurashina Memorial Shrine

This is a memorial for the retainer Kurashina and 30 servants, who were all killed by local warriors in 1586. Kurashina was a major retainer of Lord Ogasawara of Matsumoto Castle. The festival is held on April 3rd every year.

Odaki & Medaki

Famous as a scene of a well-known novel "Miyamoto Musashi" by Eiji Yoshikawa. There was a legend about a golden rooster flying into the fall. It is also associated with the retainer Kurashina.

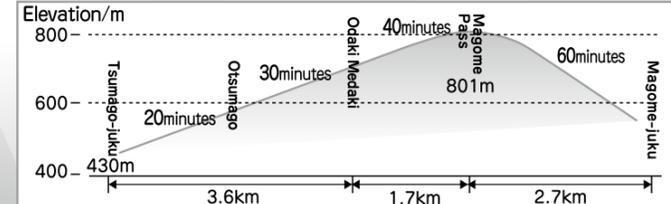
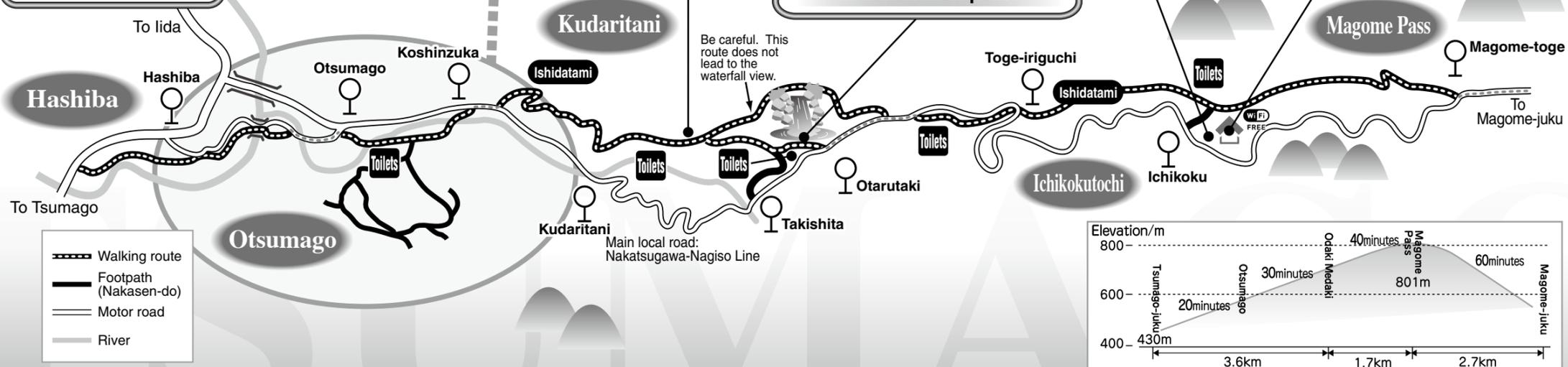
Waterfall view point

Koyasu Kannon

It is said that villages around here have never had difficult births thanks to this deity of mercy. Many people visit here to pray for easy births.

Tateba Tea House
(Shiraki Aratame-bansho)

This was an inspection station to prevent the prohibited transportation of the five most important trees of this region including hinoki or Japanese cypress and other trees. The inspection station was originally in a different place and transferred here in 1749, in operation until 1869. There was also a rest house between post towns.



Festivals of Tsumago

The Parade of Bunka-Bunsei Times of Edo Period
Held on November 23rd
The parade starts at 10:30 from Watashima and proceeds from the northern area through the post town at noon to Otsumago, reproducing people walking along the Nakasen-do Road in the Edo era. The parade includes samurai warriors, palanquin bearers, monks, bird-chasing women, wedding processions, and so on.



Wachino Shrine Festivals
Held on July 23rd and 24th
Wachino Shrine is the Tsumago area's village shrine. Young people carry a small portable shrine on their shoulders and walk through the post town.



Taimatsu Torch Festivals
Held on the fourth Saturday of August
People gather at Tsumago-juku Friendship Hall to hold a fire festival and enjoy kiso dancing.

