

Historic Walking Trail through the cobbled street of Imaichi on Higo Highway

Imaichi was a post town of the Oka Domain, and the Higo Domain also used the cobbled street on their journey to perform their Sankinkotai detail (where feudal lords were required to spend alternate years residing in Edo.) Let's stroll through the historical highway, imagining what things were like back in the day.

② Imaichi Stone Pavement

The street was constructed during the Keicho (1596-1615) period, and 660 cobblestones line the 2.1 meter-wide center of the 8.5 meter-wide street.

To find the starting point of the cobbled street, look for the notice board for the site of Imaichi Post Station!

① Maruyama Shrine (Romon Gate)

It is believed the shrine was built in 1720 and the gate is carved with images of the twelve animals of the Chinese zodiac, the twenty-four T'zai exemplars, and the process of sake-making.

Seisyokoden (Hogo-ji Temple)

Seisyokoden (a hall dedicated to Lord Kiyomasa) in Hogo-ji Temple was built by the Hosokawa family. A festival in remembrance of Lord Kiyomasa is held extravagantly on August 24 each year.

The Goto family residence

The house is characterized by its thatched and yosemune-zukuri (hipped) roof, and it retains a lot of its original features, including the dirt floor and open hearth.

An entry in Kaishu Katsu's diary
民のかまど ゆたけきものを しらぬいの
つくして生てう 野津原のさと
At Notsuharu, April, 1595.

Other landmarks on the map include: Sansuke Kudo's monument, Maruyama Shrine, Romon Gate, Higurashijaya, Oita City Hall Imaichi liaison office, Heisei Shinrin Park, Notsuharu Tenku Plaza, Notsuharu Civic Center, Notsuharu-machi Commerce and Industry Association, Notsuharu Shrine, Notsuharu Elementary School, Kyushu Nyugyo's factory, Midori-no-Oukoku, Lawson's, Hogo-ji Temple, Nanase River, Nanase Dam, Okakura, Ohta Magaibutsu, Roadside Station Notsuharu, To Yufu City, To Nagayu Onsen, To Taketa City, To Bungo-Ono City, and The area around Notsuharu outstation (Notsuharujuku).

Course	① Maruyama Shrine (Romon Gate) → ② Imaichi Stone Pavement (30-60min course) The tour can be catered to the customer and can also include Notsuharujuku, the Magaibutsu of Ota, Sankyo monument, and Nanase Dam.	Book	Notsuharu Volunteer Guides Council Notsuharu Branch Office, 800, Notsuharu, Oita City, Oita Prefecture. TEL: 097-588-1111 (Japanese only) FAX: 097-588-1613 (Japanese only)
When?	As and when needed (Must be booked at least two weeks in advance)		
Times	9:00AM-3:00PM		
Meet-up	In front of the torii gate of Maruyama Shrine Further along 2563-1, Imaichi, Oita City.	Fee	Free

The weeping cherry blossoms are in full blooms from mid-March to early April along the cobbled street of Imaichi.