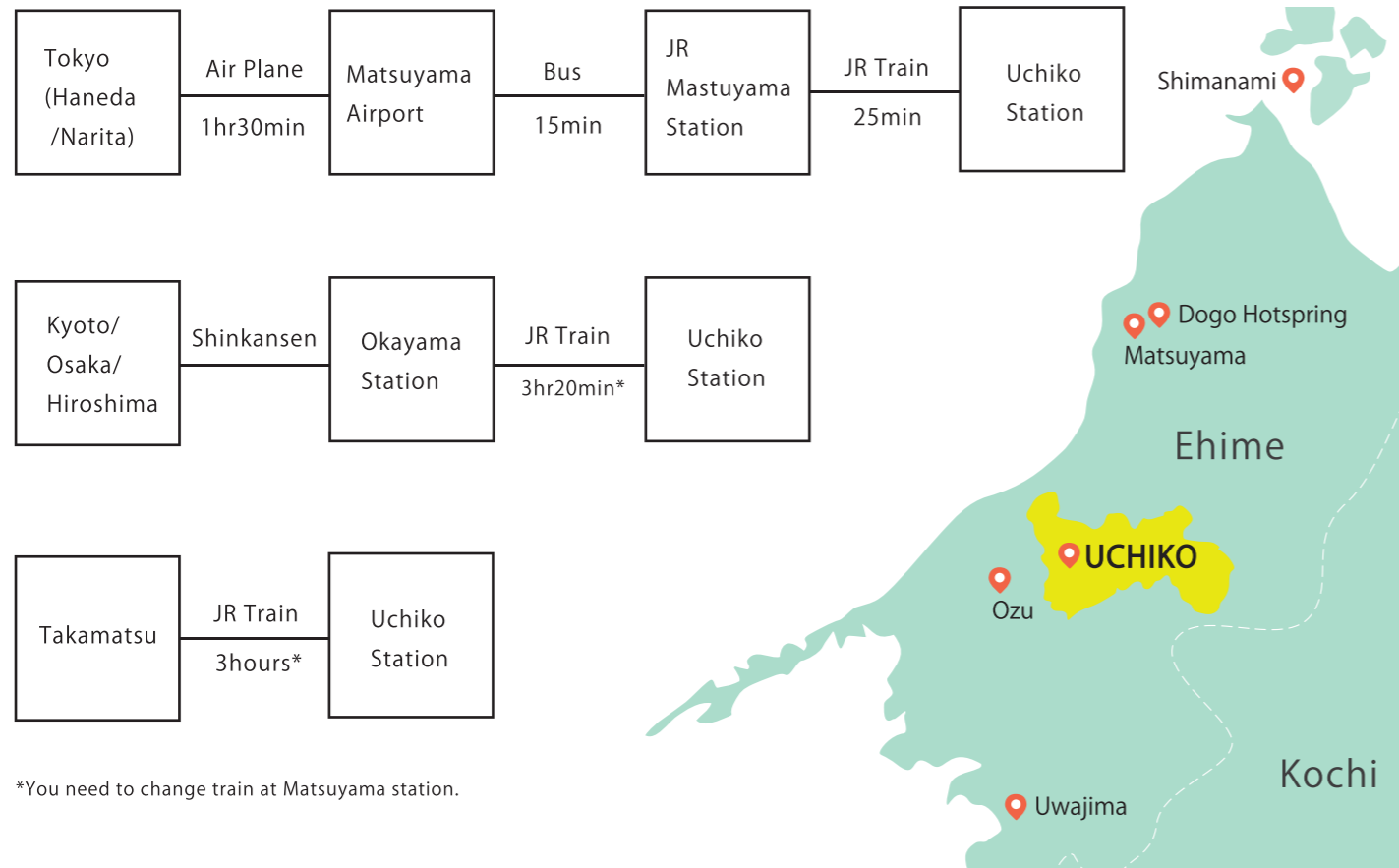


Access



UCHIKO

SHIKOKU. JAPAN

Where you find "My Japan Hideaway"



Rental bicycle

A great way to get around in Uchiko Town is riding bike. You can rent various types of bicycles including E-bikes.

Where to rent?

- Tabirian (Information centre at JR Uchiko station)
- Uchiko Town Visitors' Centre

Guided Tours

Explore Uchiko with a local guide!
We offer various guided tours for foreign guests. Washi craft tours, charcoal kiln tours and more!
Please check out our tour selection on our website.

Tourist Informations

To find out more about Uchiko Town, please visit our official website. Latest news are post on our Instagram.

Website

Instagram



Uchiko Tourism Association
2020 Uchiko, Uchiko Town, Kita-gun, Ehime, Japan
Officail Website <https://uchikogenic.com/en/>



Uchiko Town

A classical townscape, true craftsmanship, rich agriculture and deep green forests. Uchiko Town is small, but it has many unique charms that big cities don't have. Every experience you have will be unforgettable. Once you visit Uchiko, you will want to come back again.

Story of Uchiko Town

The charming, traditional town Uchiko is located in the heart of Ehime prefecture. Uchiko Town has few flat lands and about 77% of its land is forest. Agriculture, especially the cultivation of persimmons, chestnuts, shiitake mushrooms, grapes, Japanese pears and peaches, is widespread. Forestry is also a major industry. Uchiko takes great care in maintaining its high-class residences constructed between the Edo period (1603 -1867) and the Meiji period (1868-1912) at the Historic District Preservation Zone. In 2005, the three towns of Uchiko, Ikazaki and Oda merged, and the current population is approximately 15,000.



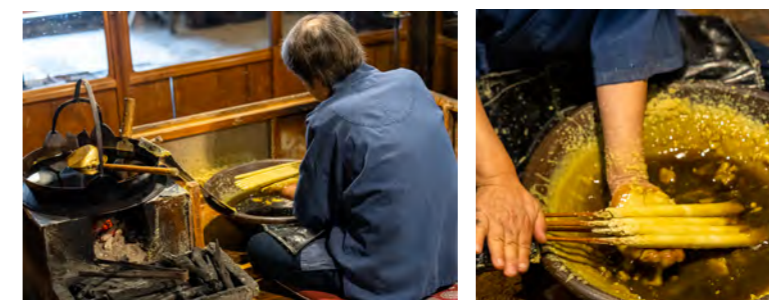


Uchiko Town prospered through the production of Japanese vegetable wax from the late Edo to Meiji period (the latter half of the 19th century). The townscape of Yōkaichi & Gokoku is well preserved and still exactly as it was in former times. Traditional townhouses and mansions of wealthy merchants stand side by side over a length of about 600m as they were in old times. When walking slowly through the streets, you will notice the pale yellow wattle-and-daub mud walls. Those walls are plastered with local mud. The yellow mud walls, interwoven with white plaster create a unique impression. In particular, the houses appear differently in the morning sun and at sunset.

Kimono Wearing Experience
Why don't you try putting on a kimono and stroll the historic townscape? Local staff will dress you in a kimono, which are donated by locals of Uchiko Town. Please book at least one week ahead. To book or see details, please visit our website.

4 Japanese Candles ~ Oomori Japanese Candle Maker ~

Oomori Japanese candle maker is the only handmade Japanese candle workshop in the prefecture. Wax squeezed from the fruits of the Haze tree is smeared in layers around wick-like tree rings. With the cut top showing the ring pattern, these are simple traditional candles without color or decorations. The big flame is bright and warm and does not drip any wax. Please try this cozy light to illuminate your home.



1 Yokaichi & Gokoku Historic District Preservation Zone



Moon Watching Yokaichi

For the annual mid-autumn moon viewing event, the streets are lined with bamboo and paper lanterns, which light up the historic district and create a magical atmosphere. The experience of this truly Japanese moonlit event would be incomplete without a variety of traditional music performances and the chance to enjoy some Japanese dumplings under the moonlight. The date of this event will be two consecutive days during full moon in mid-autumn.



Tradition and Culture



2 Japanese Wax Museum & Kamihaga Residence

This is the residence of the Kamihaga family, the top branch of the Haga family, which was one of Japan's largest wax producers. When the Kamihaga family became a separate family branch at the end of the Edo period, they opened a branch warehouse, and later, during the most prosperous period, built the main house, the attached buildings and others. All these (in total 10) buildings have been designated as important cultural property. The museum introduces the wax-making process and offers a great deal of information about wax production in Uchiko Town.



6 Japanese "Washi" Paper ~ Tenjin-sanshi Paper Factory ~

Using the clear water of the Oda River, Washi is made with the traditional technique of "Nagashi-zuki" (scoop & drain). "Ōzu Washi" is said to have been manufactured since the Heian period (794-1185) and still now local traditional craftsmen make it carefully by hand. It is used for calligraphy paper, shoji sliding door screens, etc. but also for special application like for the Ikazaki Kite Battle kites. In the factory tours you can watch the papermaking process or learn how to make Washi by yourself*. Since craftsmen will teach you step by step, even beginners will be able to make authentic Washi paper. *Reservation required.



5 Gilding ~ Ikazaki Shachu ~

A combination of Japanese paper and gilding, a French gold leafing technique, makes new products. Postcard-making workshops are available upon request.

3 Uchiko-za Theatre

The Uchiko-za Theatre was built in 1916 to celebrate the enthronement of Emperor Taisho. The wooden two-story building with a shingle covered Dutch gable roof, was built as a full-fledged theater and playhouse of pure Japanese style. With a revolving stage, a runway next to the audience, seating boxes, actors' dressing rooms, etc., this impressive building represented the technological and artistic state of the art at that time.

※Uchiko-za Theatre is closed for earthquake resistance consutoruction from September in 2024 for 4 to 5 years.



7 Ikazaki Kite Museum

The Ikazaki Kite Museum has an exhibition of kites from all over Japan and the world. To provide an insight into the Japanese tradition of kites, a variety of exhibits detailing how kites are created from Japanese paper and bamboo are on display. Visitors are welcome to borrow a kite, fly it at riverside right next to the museum. Mondays are closed.



TheIkazaki Kite Festival is held on May 5th every year, now approaching its 400th year. You can observe battling kites and one large kite flown by pulling it with the hands of 100 people.



※Image is for illustration purposes. Subject to change.



14 Aino-no Hana



12 Weeping Cherry Tree of Ishidatami Higashi



8 Momijigataki Waterfall

This beautiful waterfall appears when you stroll down the promenade surrounded by untouched nature. Enjoy the fresh green in spring, and the autumn leaves in fall. To really feel the mysterious spectacle that nature created, you may go very close to the water coming down.



13 Yuge Shrine

Yuge shrine was reportedly built in the Muromachi era (1336–1573). The covered bridge across the pond that surrounds Yuge shrine is known as "Arched Bridge". The reflection of the bridge in the pond contributes to the picturesque scenery. The bridge serves as access to the shrine, and the parishioners still continue the local "Himairi-shinko" custom of praying every day alternatively for good harvest.

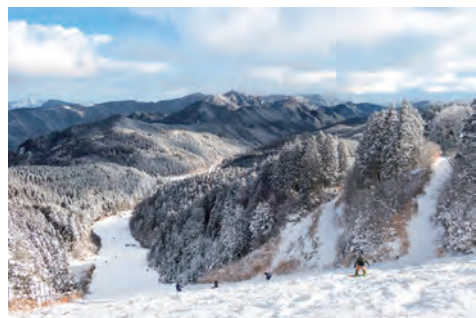


11 Seiryuen Watermill Park



9 Izumidani Terraced Rice Fields

10 Tamaru Covered Bridge



16 SOLFA ODA Ski Resort

15 Odamiyama Valley

The Odamiyama Valley is located in the eastern corner of Uchiko. In these treasured mountains you can find an incredibly pristine natural environment. The picturesque scenery gives you the chance to feel the Japanese seasons in their purest form with fresh green leaves in early summer and beautiful colored leaves in autumn.



Nature and Scenery

※Image is for illustration purposes.