

# Experience Fukuoka,

## A Sustainable Seaside City Surrounded by Nature



**Food, Culture,  
Nature, Art**




Issued by Fukuoka City



Life is Wonderful in Fukuoka City





# Experience Fukuoka, A Sustainable Seaside City Surrounded by Nature

Food, Culture,  
Nature, Art

## Creating a sustainable cycle between visitors and local life

Fukuoka is recognized as one of the world's leading compact cities where moving through the city leaves a remarkably small environmental footprint.

Within minutes you can travel from the airport to the urban core and from there to mountains or open sea.

Shared bicycles and electric mobility are not trends but part of daily life.

As night falls, red lanterns glow along the yatai street stalls. In addition to the famous Hakata tonkotsu ramen, you'll find local favorites like yakiramen, oden and yakitori skewers. Yet what truly defines this food culture is not only flavor, but proximity — the closeness between chef and guest and even between strangers seated side by side. Conversations unfold naturally and warmth is shared as freely as the dishes themselves.

Across the city, tradition and innovation coexist. Historic crafts are being reimaged, connecting cultural heritage with the current modernity. Environmentally conscious architecture, such as the newly developed One Fukuoka Building, signals a broader ambition: the city itself has become a living laboratory for a sustainable future.

To travel in Fukuoka is to experience a quiet yet powerful vision for tomorrow. Beyond convenience and comfort lies something deeper — Fukuoka is a place that values renewal over consumption, where residents and visitors alike share the high quality of life that makes Fukuoka special.

Perhaps your own perspective will help color Fukuoka's future. Why not begin that journey here?

# Where Urban Energy Meets Untamed Nature

Recognized as one of Japan's most efficient urban environments, Fukuoka City brings together airport, downtown, coastline, and mountains within an astonishingly small radius. From Fukuoka Airport, it takes just ten minutes by subway to reach the heart of the city — one of the fastest airport-to-center connections in the country.

Tenjin, Hakata, and Nakasu — Fukuoka's major districts — sit side by side, allowing visitors to move effortlessly on foot or by public transport. This seamless accessibility has earned Fukuoka its reputation as a true "compact city."

Yet what makes Fukuoka exceptional is not only efficiency — it is proximity to nature. Moments after leaving the urban core, you can find yourself beside the sea or surrounded by forest. Because travel distances are short, carbon emissions are naturally reduced. Here, sustainability is not an imposed concept — it is built into the city's very structure.

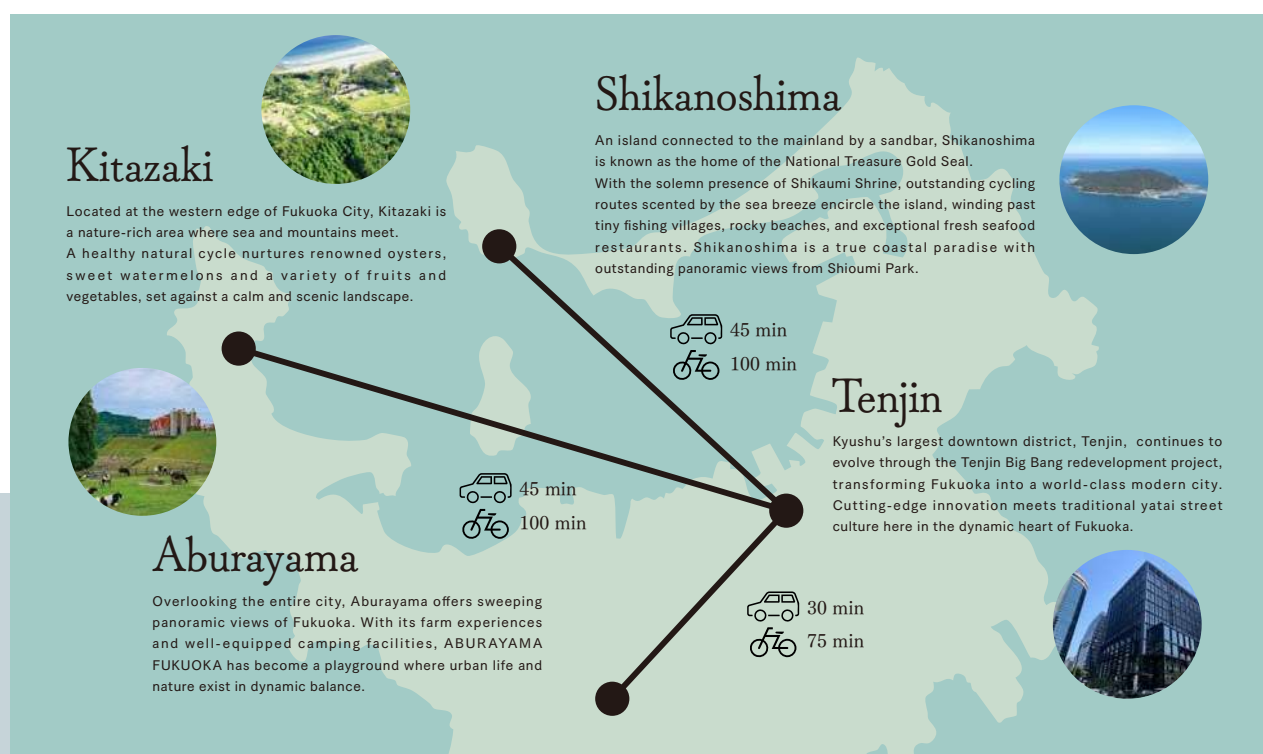
To the east, Shikanoshima Island offers quiet beaches and fresh seafood with panoramic ocean views. To the west, Kitazaki's coastline invites you to slow down, breathe deeply, and rediscover the rhythm of the tides.

In the hills of Aburayama, seasonal landscapes unfold throughout the year — ideal for hiking, camping, or simply stepping away from the noise of modern life.

History, too, remains close at hand. Sacred sites such as Kushida Shrine and Tochoji Temple are woven into the cityscape, preserving centuries of spiritual and cultural heritage. The Hakata Gion Yamakasa festival — with nearly 800 years of tradition — continues to energize the city each summer with powerful devotion and community spirit.

And then there is the food. Fukuoka is widely celebrated as one of Japan's great culinary cities. From tonkotsu ramen — first developed in the 1930s — to more than one hundred open-air yatai stalls scattered across the city, street-level gastronomy is part of everyday life. Dining here is immersive, spontaneous, and deeply local.

Few cities balance convenience, nature, history, culture, and cuisine with such natural harmony. In Fukuoka, sustainable tourism is not a slogan — It is an experience shaped by closeness.



# Where Culture Endures

## A Compact City



A thousand years of history live on in Hakata's old town. Walking past Kushida Shrine and centuries-old temples is the ultimate form of low-carbon travel.

Experiencing the strong community spirit seen in the Yamakasa festival and the continuation of traditional crafts carries it all into the future. With visitors respecting the lives and pride of local residents, a meaningful exchange emerges — enriching both guests and community alike.

### Kushida Shrine

櫛田神社

Affectionately known as “Okushida-san,” this is Hakata’s guardian shrine. As the spiritual home of the Yamakasa festival, it features a permanently displayed decorative float and a grand ginkgo tree that quietly tells the story of centuries past.



MAP



### Tochoji Temple

東長寺

Tochoji is the oldest Shingon esoteric Buddhist temple in Japan, founded in the year 806 AD.

Highlights include the Fukuoka Daibutsu inside, one of the largest wooden seated Buddha statues in Japan, and the striking vermilion five-story pagoda on the temple grounds.



MAP

### Karo no Uron

かろのうどん



MAP

Founded in 1882, this long-established Hakata eatery takes its name from the local dialect for “corner udon.”

A symbol of Hakata’s food culture, it preserves the tradition of soft noodles and delicate broth. In its quiet, photography-free space, guests can savor Hakata’s history with all five senses.



## Fukuoka's Traditional Crafts and Street Food Culture



### Hakata Machiya Furusato-kan

MAP

「博多町家」ふるさと館

This museum recreates daily life in Hakata during the Meiji and Taisho periods. Live demonstrations of Hakata-ori weaving highlight the preservation of local tradition.

Step inside a traditional machiya townhouse to feel its atmosphere and discover the roots of Hakata through a sustainable cultural experience.



MAP

### Kawabata Shopping Arcade

「博多町家」ふるさと館

The oldest shopping street in Hakata, where long-established shops and new boutiques coexist side by side. Traditional crafts and local specialties can all be found here.

Filled with warmth and character, this lively arcade is a classic stop for exploring the city on foot.



### ACROS Fukuoka

アクロス

Tenjin's iconic "Step Garden" is a vast green slope that cools the city like an urban forest.

A landmark that embodies harmony between architecture and nature, it stands as a symbol of Fukuoka's sustainability.



MAP



yataimap



### Yatai Street Stalls

屋台

Hopping between yatai under the evening breeze is the Fukuoka way. Easily accessible by subway or on foot, the food stalls offer everything from traditional local flavors to international dishes.

Encounters with stall owners and fellow diners turn each stop into a memory, a uniquely mobile dining experience found only in Fukuoka.



Hakata Yatai Barakamon Owner

"The greatest charm of yatai is the incredible closeness — conversations naturally unfold between the chef/owner and other guests.

Sharing a single counter creates a sense of unity, and enjoying hot dishes and drinks in the open air brings a special feeling of freedom and the true spirit of travel."

In Hakata, I love the contrast between the buzz of the station and the quiet streets of Old Town, home to historic temples — including Japan's first Zen temple. Just across the river, Tenjin feels younger, lively by day and glowing with yatai at night.

American, Living in Fukuoka for 40+ Years / Yatai Expert & Guide



# Where Nature and Art Coexist Beauty in all forms



Ohori Park is a waterside park that symbolizes urban regeneration, created by repurposing the outer moat of Fukuoka Castle. The 2-kilometer path encircling the pond serves as a wellness hub, for walking, cycling, and picnicking, supporting the health of local residents. Together with neighboring Maizuru Park, the area preserves historic heritage while nurturing a rich ecosystem. Easily accessible by public transportation and best explored on foot, it offers a truly sustainable way to experience both nature and culture.



## Fukuoka Castle Ruins

福岡城跡

MAP

Built by samurai and daimyo (feudal lords), Kanbei Kuroda, and his son, Nagamasa, these castle ruins preserve grand stone walls across expansive grounds.

An urban oasis where historic heritage and lush greenery coexist, it is a place to celebrate the seasons and carry Fukuoka's history into the future.



MAP

## Fukuoka Art Museum

福岡市美術館

A landmark designed by architect Kunio Maekawa, seamlessly integrated into Ohori Park.

From masterpieces by Dalí and Yayoi Kusama to treasured local works, its collection spans cultures and eras — where nature and art exist in harmony.





## Ohori Park Japanese Garden

大濠公園日本庭園

MAP

Created to mark the 50th anniversary of Ohori Park, this traditional strolling garden features artificial hills, ponds, a waterfall, and a dry landscape garden.

Across its spacious grounds, visitors can enjoy seasonal beauty and rare moments of tranquility in the heart of the city.



MAP

## Kogeifuko

工藝風向

A MINGEI shop located in Akasaka, Chuo Ward. It offers beautifully made Japanese handicrafts designed for long, lasting use. Connecting makers and users, the shop introduces thoughtful tools that enrich everyday life.



## Tojinmachi Area

唐人町エリア

Just minutes from Ohori by bike share. Explore its nostalgic shopping street and quiet back alleys in an eco-friendly way, then continue on to the seaside. Tojinmachi is built on land reclaimed from the sea, with a rich history dating back to the Edo period or earlier.

A neighborhood where warmth and convenience coexist — perfectly suited to life on two wheels.

## Ropponmatsu Area

六本松エリア

A redeveloped district on the site of the former Kyushu University campus. A science museum, bookstores, cafes, and independent shops tucked along side streets coexist here. While preserving the atmosphere of the city, it is a walkable neighborhood shaped by a rich culture of everyday living.



Kogeifuko  
Owner

Invited by our neighbor, Café Bimi, we moved to this location nearly 20 years ago. From this place, where we can feel the changing seasons every day, we present carefully selected Japanese crafts inspired by the rhythm of nature and local life, introducing different pieces throughout the year.

I live near Ohori Park, so I often go there for a walk or a bike ride whenever I have a day off. Even though it's right in the center of the city, the park feels calm and peaceful, surrounded by nature and art. It's one of Fukuoka's most beautiful places, and a great spot for a picnic.

Chinese, Living in Fukuoka  
for 28+ Years / International  
Badminton Coach





# Where History and Culture Intersect

The town of Hakozaeki, centered around Hakozaeki Shrine, is a district where history and a lively shopping street coexist — a place of cultural continuity. Renovated traditional houses now host bakeries, secondhand bookstores, and long-established shops, creating a local economy rooted in the community. Walking here reveals a harmony of tradition and new sensibilities — a destination that connects visitors to everyday life in Fukuoka.



## Hakozaeki Shrine

管崎宮

One of Japan's three great Hachiman shrines, Hakozaeki Shrine is revered as a deity of victory and holds deep ties to the Mongol invasions of the Kamakura period. Its autumn Hojoya festival honors the sanctity of all life, symbolizing a spirit of coexistence. Here, historical weight and prayers for peace exist side by side. A monthly flea market along the approach also offers encounters with traditional Japanese antiques.



MAP



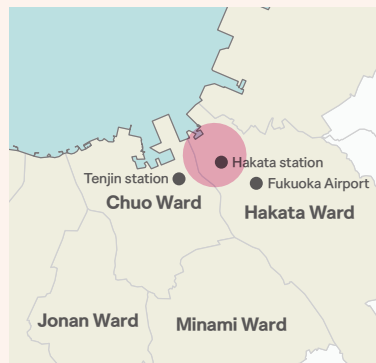
MAP

## Hakozaeki Shrine Hanateien Garden

管崎宮花庭園

Adjacent to Hakozaeki Shrine, this authentic dry landscape garden features seasonal blooms — from spring peonies to early summer hydrangeas — set against a serene stone garden.

Blending traditional landscaping with natural beauty, it offers a tranquil retreat in the city, where visitors can reset and experience the changing seasons.





## A Town Where You Can Experience The True Spirit of Fukuoka



### Nagata Pan

ナガタパン

A bakery set in a renovated Showa-era townhouse. Its nostalgic over-the-counter service and simple, comforting flavors preserve the memory of the neighborhood. A beloved spot where you can experience everyday life in Hakozaki.

MAP



### Yakitori Ramen Hanayama

焼鳥・ラーメン 花山

A long-standing yatai on the approach to Hakozaki Shrine. Its signature shiro skewers and ramen, prepared with flavors preserved since its founding, remain local favorites. A warm gathering place that embodies the spirit and continuity of yatai culture.



MAP



### The Streets of Hakozaki

箱崎のまち

Many shops here are located in revitalized old buildings and traditional townhouses, preserving the character of a historic shopping district. With long-standing fishmongers and butcher shops still in operation, the area offers a nostalgic glimpse into everyday life of the past.



Hakozaki Shrine  
Assistant Chief Priest

"Hakozaki Shrine is a sacred site with over 1,000 years of history. Its grand torii gate and spacious grounds create a refreshing atmosphere, and visitors can relax and enjoy seasonal flowers and festivals throughout the year."

I have lived in several parts of the city, each with its own charm. Hakozaki is one of the quieter areas, with a slower pace and meandering streets surrounding the train and subway stations. The shrine hosts one of the 3 main city festivals and many ceremonies throughout the year so every day, every season you can witness the local people "doing their thing" and find a tranquil, meditative space as well.

American, Living in Fukuoka  
for 40+ Years /  
English Teacher



# Enjoying Fukuoka in Two Days: From City Streets to Ocean Views



Day 1 | Lively Local Market → Island Escape → Yatai Night

## Yanagibashi Market

Start the day with a stroll through this traditional fresh food market; enjoy the lively morning atmosphere with a cup of coffee.



## Shikanoshima

Head by car, train, or ferry to this scenic island for beautiful ocean views and a fresh seafood lunch by the coast.



## Hakata / Tenjin

Return to the city for dinner at the yatai food stalls and spend the night in the vibrant downtown area.



Day 2 | Beautiful Coastline → A Lakeside City Park → Hakata Old Town

## Futamigaura

Travel by train and/or bicycle to this famous coastal spot and enjoy lunch by the sea.



## Ohori Park

Relax with an afternoon stroll around the park; stop for coffee or tea by the water.



## Hakata area

Explore the historic old town and finish the day with dinner at a local izakaya.

**Fukuoka is a compact city where vibrant urban life and beautiful nature are always within reach.**

With excellent transportation and easy access to the coast, visitors can explore local markets, historic districts, and scenic seaside landscapes all in a short trip.

This two-day route takes you from the lively streets of Hakata and Tenjin to the coastal beauty of Shikanoshima and Futamigaura. Along the way, enjoy fresh seafood, ocean views, and relaxed moments in parks and seaside cafés — a perfect way to experience the unique rhythm of Fukuoka.

# Fukuoka-Style Sustainable Tourism Initiative

Fukuoka City promotes “Fukuoka-style sustainable tourism,” leveraging its unique proximity between urban areas and nature.

This initiative supports hotels across the city in visualizing and reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, while communicating these efforts in English and other languages.

Through these actions, Fukuoka aims to become a sustainable urban destination chosen by travelers worldwide. (Implemented from 2022 to 2025)



## A Growing Number of Internationally Certified Hotels

In Fukuoka, nine hotels — including Nishitetsu Grand Hotel, Hotel Okura Fukuoka, and Hotel JAL City Fukuoka Tenjin — have obtained international environmental certifications such as Sakura Quality. These certifications reflect concrete efforts, including reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, improving energy efficiency, minimizing waste, and contributing to local communities.

By balancing environmental responsibility with high-quality hospitality, Fukuoka’s hotels are shaping a new model for sustainable urban tourism.

Travelers can choose accommodations aligned with their values while contributing to a more sustainable future.



## Initiatives by Hotel Okura Fukuoka

This program, developed in collaboration with local hotels, offers a new form of urban tourism that combines sustainability with cultural experience.

Guests can wear traditional kimono and take a relaxed boat cruise along the Hakata River, experiencing historic scenery and atmosphere within the city. This is complemented by a Japanese dining experience at the hotel, allowing visitors to enjoy both cuisine and hospitality together.

Designed to utilize existing local resources and minimize travel distance, the program helps reduce environmental impact. Guided narration on the boat also deepens understanding of Hakata’s history and culture, creating an experience that fosters connection rather than simple sightseeing.

Led by local hotels, the program delivers both high-quality service and a sustainable approach that carries regional culture into the future.

## Initiatives by Hotel Great Morning

Hotel Great Morning is designed to offer stays with minimal environmental and social impact.

The hotel uses electricity derived from renewable energy. Based on its annual energy consumption (2019 data), it is estimated to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions equivalent to approximately 2,900 cedar trees per year.

Food waste is composted on-site, and the resulting soil is used to grow herbs such as mint, which are then served in welcome drinks and breakfast — creating a visible “food cycle.”

It offers a stay where guests can experience environmental awareness in an urban setting.

## Initiatives by LIVELY HOTELS

At THE LIVELY Fukuoka Hakata, filtered water systems connected directly to the water supply have been introduced to reduce plastic waste.

This reduces the use of plastic bottles, cutting both waste and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions associated with transportation. Guests are encouraged to use reusable bottles, making environmentally conscious behavior a natural part of their stay.

This initiative represents a forward-thinking approach that integrates sustainability into an urban lifestyle, while also achieving measurable CO<sub>2</sub> and cost reductions.

