

Tourist spots

1 Usuki Tourism and Community Plaza (C-2)



Usuki's general tourist information center. Offers well-equipped facilities and a comfortable rest area as a starting point for strolling around the town and sightseeing. Bicycle rentals are also available, so please stop by first.

2 National Historic Site Usuki Castle Ruins (D-2)



During the Sengoku period, the Christian daimyo Sorin Otomo, who ruled six provinces in Kyushu, built a castle (Usuki Castle) around 1556, on Niijima, a naturally fortified island surrounded by the sea on three sides. In spring, it's one of the top cherry blossom spots in the prefecture.

3 National Registered Tangible Cultural Property Former Lower Residence of Inaba Clan (B-2)



It was built in 1902 (Meiji 35) as a residence for the Inaba clan, the former lords of the domain who had relocated to Tokyo following the abolition of the feudal domains and the establishment of prefectures. The building retains strong characteristics of late Edo upper class samurai residences, including a formal entrance (shikidai genkan) and shoin style architecture.

4 Nogami Yaeko Literary Memorial Museum (B-2)



This is the birthplace of Nogami Yaeko, who continued writing until the age of 99. Approximately 200 items, including her handwritten manuscripts and personal belongings, are on display.

5 Kuge-no-Okura (Old Sake Storehouse) (B-2)



This former sake storehouse, originally used in the late Edo period by Kuge Honten, a sake brewery, has been renovated and now serves as a gallery for concerts and exhibitions. The walls are adorned with azulejos, traditional decorative tiles from Portugal.

6 Haccho Oji (Chuo-dori Shopping Street) (B-3)



Historic shopping street dating back to the Edo period.

7 Sala-de-Usuki (C-3)



This building is modeled after the "Noviciate," a training institute said to have existed in Usuki. It includes a cafe where visitors can enjoy local Usuki cuisine. Please feel free to stop by for a break.

8 Nioza Historical Road (C-3)



Nioza is a tuff hill formed from solidified volcanic ash from Mt. Aso, where paths were carved by cutting through the rock in various places. With its stone-paved streets lined with samurai residences and temples, the area retains the distinctive atmosphere of a castle town.

9 Former Shinkoji Temple (B-3)



The former temple has been renovated and opened to the public as a free rest area for town walkers and as a community gallery. From the second floor, visitors can enjoy a panoramic view of the Nioza Historical Road.

10 Prefecturally Designated Tangible Cultural Property Three-story Pagoda (Ryugenji Temple) (B-3)



This wooden three-story pagoda was built in 1858 (Ansei 5) by Danna Takahashi, a master craftsman of Usuki.

11 Usuki City Historical Museum (A-3)



Exhibits themed around History and Culture of Prayer from the Jomon to Edo periods. Exhibits on the theme of "The History and Culture of Prayer" are displayed here, covering materials from the Jomon period through the Edo period. The facility also hosts exhibitions related to the city's historical and cultural heritage.

12 Municipally Designated Tangible Cultural Property Former Inaba Clan Residence Yoshimaru Kazumasa Memorial Museum "House of Early Spring Song" (A-4)



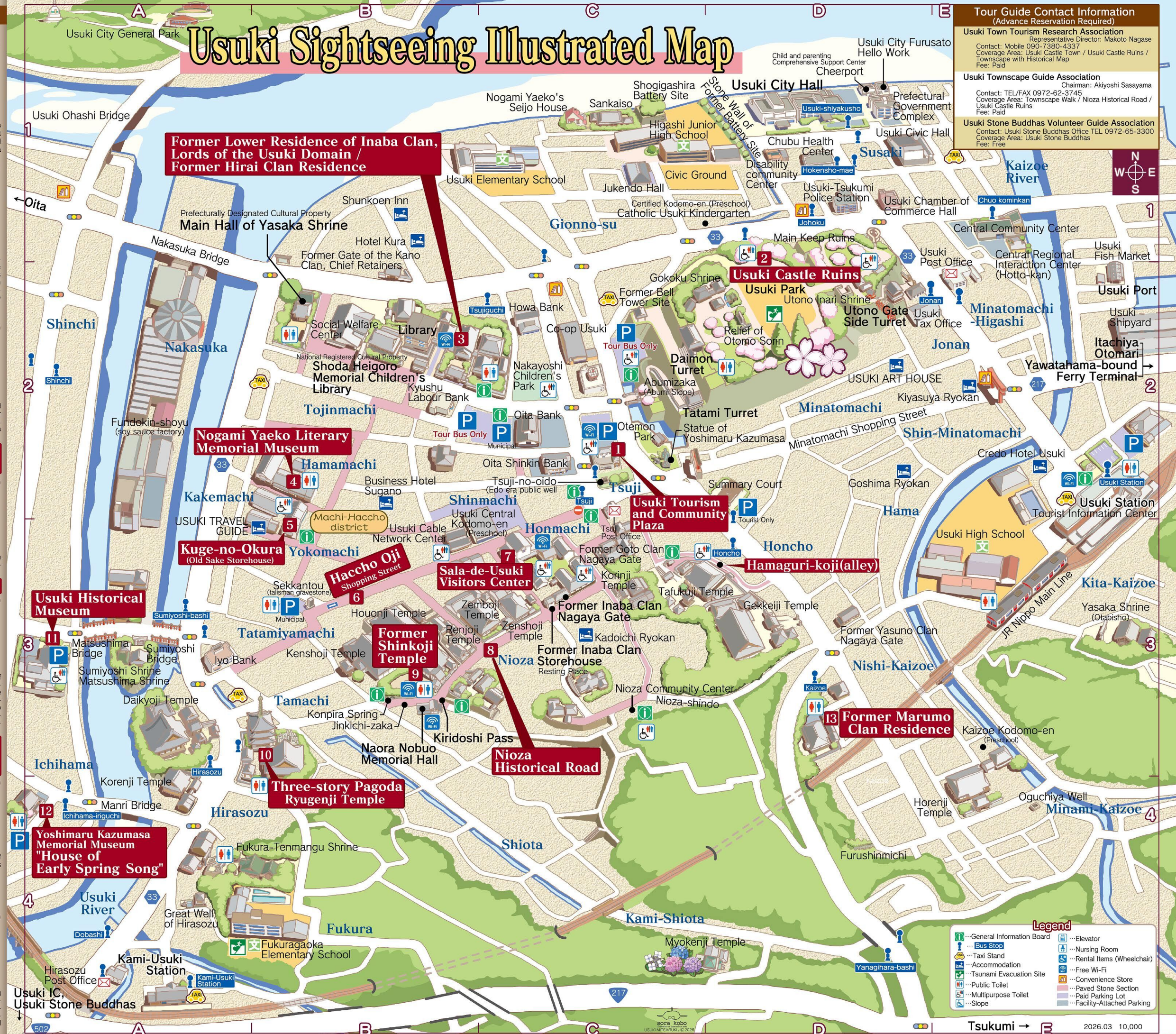
Yoshimaru Kazumasa is the author of "Soshunfu." His wife Yuki's family home has been opened as a memorial museum.

13 Municipally Designated Tangible Cultural Property Former Marumo Clan Residence (D-3)



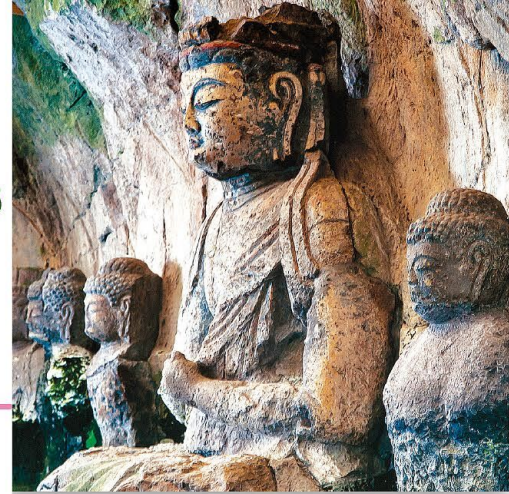
This residence belonged to a high-ranking samurai of the Usuki domain. The building reflects the formal architectural style of the samurai class, with a strong emphasis on entertaining guests and maintaining social standing.

Usuki Sightseeing Illustrated Map



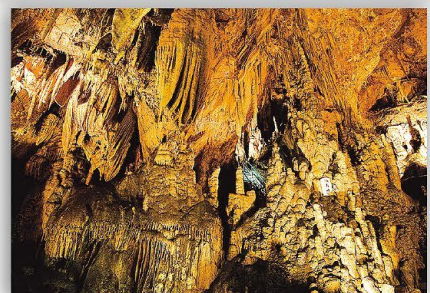
Tour Guide Contact Information (Advance Reservation Required)	
Usuki Town Tourism Research Association	
Representative Director: Makoto Nagase	
Contact: Mobile 090-7380-4337	
Coverage Area: Usuki Castle Town / Usuki Castle Ruins / Townscape with Historical Map	
Fee: Paid	
Usuki Townscape Guide Association	
Chairman: Akiyoshi Sasayama	
Contact: TEL/FAX 0972-62-3745	
Coverage Area: Townscape Walk / Nioza Historical Road / Usuki Castle Ruins	
Fee: Paid	
Usuki Stone Buddhas Volunteer Guide Association	
Contact: Usuki Stone Buddhas Office TEL 0972-65-3300	
Coverage Area: Usuki Stone Buddhas	
Fee: Free	

Legend	
	General Information Board
	Bus Stop
	Taxi Stand
	Accommodation
	Tsunami Evacuation Site
	Public Toilet
	Multipurpose Toilet
	Slope
	Elevator
	Nursing Room
	Rental Items (Wheelchair)
	Free Wi-Fi
	Convenience Store
	Paved Stone Section
	Paid Parking Lot
	Facility-Attached Parking



14 National Treasure, Special Historic Site Usuki Stone Buddhas (G-7)

Usuki's cliff-carved Buddhas, believed to be sculpted from the late Heian to Kamakura periods. Over 60 figures were designated as a Special Historic Site in 1952 and Important Cultural Property in 1962. After many years of conservation and restoration work, the Dainichi Nyorai statue-the principal image of the Furuzono Stone Buddhas, long known only by its head-was returned to its original form. In June 1995, a total of 59 statues across the four groups of the Usuki Stone Buddhas were designated as National Treasures. Later, on September 15, 2017, two additional statues-the standing Kongorikishi guardians-were also designated as National Treasures, bringing the total number of National Treasure statues in the Usuki Stone Buddha complex to 61. With wood-like carving precision, quantity, and quality, this is Japan's most distinguished group of cliff-carved Buddhas.



19 Nationally Designated Natural Monument Furen Limestone Cave (G-9)

Discovered in 1926 by local youth in Tomari, this 500m enclosed cave is a rare formation. With minimal outside air, it remains unweathered, emitting a near-pure white sheen. Its largest stalagmite, Kyoshuhō, stands 10m tall and 16m in circumference.



15 Municipally Designated Scenic Spot Hakuba-kei Valley (H-7)

A gorge upstream of the Usuki River, known for its scenic streams and trees, especially in autumn.



16 Rokkasako Mineral Spring / Rokugasako Onsen (H-5) P

The Rokkasako Valley has long been cherished as a therapeutic spring for both bathing and drinking.



17 Fugenji Temple (G-8) P

The family temple of Kicchomu-san. In autumn, the maple trees are beautifully illuminated.



18 Kicchomu Land (F-8) P

Planted with many cherry trees, it hosts the Kicchomu Festival in spring.

Tourist Facility Admission Fees

※Adults: High School and above, Children: Elementary & Junior High School

A National Treasure Usuki Stone Buddhas TEL 0972-65-3300
Adults: 550 yen / Children: 270 yen
Group discount available for 30 or more
Open: 9:00, 17:00 (Last entry: 16:30)
Closed: Open year-round

B Former Lower Residence of the Inaba Clan, Lords of Usuki Domain / Former Hirai Clan Residence TEL 080-4063-9855
Adults: 330 yen / Children: 160 yen
Group discount available for 20 or more
Open: 9:00, 17:00 (Last entry: 16:30)
Closed: Open year-round

C Nogami Yaeko Literary Memorial Museum TEL 0972-63-4803
Adults: 310 yen / Children: 150 yen
Group discount available for 20 or more
Open: 9:30, 17:00
Closed: Open year-round

D Yoshimaru Kazumasa Memorial Museum "House of Early Spring Song"
TEL: (Weekdays) 0972-63-1111 (Industry & Tourism Division)
(Weekends/Holidays) 0972-63-7999
Adults: 220 yen / Children: 110 yen
Group discount available for 20 or more
Open: 9:00, 17:00
Open only on weekends, holidays, and year-end / New Year (Dec 29-Jan 3)

Usuki City Historical Museum TEL 0972-62-2882
Adults: 330 yen / Children: 160 yen
* Group discount available for 20 or more
Annual Pass: Adults: 660 yen / Children: 330 yen
Open: 9:30, 17:30 (Last entry: 17:00)
Closed: Tuesdays (next day if holiday), year-end/New Year

Former Marumo Clan Residence
Free Admission
Open: 9:00, 17:00
Closed: Tuesdays (next day if holiday)

Usuki Tourism and Community Plaza TEL 0972-63-1715
Free Admission
Open: 9:00, 17:00 (from April 2026)
Open year-round

Furen Limestone Cave TEL 0974-32-2547
Adults: 1,000 yen / Children: 700 yen
Group discount available for 20 or more
Open: Mar-Sep 9:00, 17:00
Oct-Feb 9:00, 16:00
Open year-round
(Closed temporarily during heavy rain or flooding)

A B C D ...4-Facility Combined Ticket (Weekends/Holidays Only)
1,140 yen (Adult) / 560 yen (Child)
A B ...2-Facility Combined Ticket
710 yen (Adult) / 350 yen (Child)

Usuki Festival Schedule

April	Usuki Castle Ruins Cherry Blossom Festival (Late March _ Early April) Kicchomu Festival (On one of the Sundays from late March to early April) Higashi-Kono Fu-ryu Style Cane Dance (Early March)
June	Kuroshima Camp & Beach Opening (Early June)
July	Lotus Festival at Stone Buddha Village (Early July) Usuki Gion Festival (Mid-July) Fukura Tenmangu Summer Festival (Late July) Sumiyoshi Festival (Late July) Kicchomu Village Summer Festival (Late July)
August	Yamauchi-ryu Swimming Competition (Early August) Hometown Bon Dance Festival (Mid-August) National Treasure Usuki Stone Buddha Fire Festival (Last Saturday of August) Notsuichi Hassaku Dance (Late August) O-no-Ji Fire Festival (3 Days from Aug 1 [Lunar Calendar])
November	Usuki Takeyoi Festival (1st Sat & Sun of November) Fugenji Temple Autumn Foliage Light-Up (Late November)
December	Year-End Buddhist Memorial Service (Mid-December)
February	Usuki Hina Doll Tour (Early Feb _ Early Mar)

Transportation Contacts

	Usuki Station Tourist Information Center	0972-63-2366
Bus	Oita Bus General Information Center Kyushin Transportation Co., Ltd.	097-532-7000 0972-63-3153
Ferry	Uwajima Transportation Ferry Kyushi Orange Ferry	0972-63-5118 0972-62-5844
Taxi	Usuki Taxi Fuji Taxi Usuki Taxi (Notsu Office)	0972-63-3311 0972-62-4111 0974-32-3339
Rental Car	Toyota Rent-a-Lease Oita Co., Ltd.	0972-64-0180