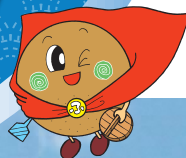


so much charm!/
G Y O D A

Trip Guide

Saitama
Prefecture

行田



All sorts of
history and
nature!

Why not make
a visit to Gyoda?



Recommended!

Historical Gyoda: Sightseeing Spots
Oshi Castle, Sakitama Ancient Tombs,
Ancient Lotus Park

Recommended!

Delicious Gyoda: Food Sampling
Furai / Zeri Furai

Historical Gyoda Sightseeing Spots

Explore the history and ancient stories that fill the streets of Gyoda!!



Castle remnant of the "hundred thousand koku" Oshi domain



Oshi Castle

Gyoda City Museum: 17-23 Honmaru, Gyoda City
Phone: 048-554-5911 / Entrance Fee: Adults 200 yen
University and High School Students 100 yen Middle and Elementary School Students 50 yen
61 parking spaces / Museum Hours: 9:00 - 16:30 (last entry at 16:00); Museum close on: Mondays (except for holidays), the day after national holidays (the museum will be open on Saturdays and Sundays), the fourth Friday of each month (open during themed and planned exhibitions), and New Year's.



Oshi Castle is located in the heart of the city and was built before 1479 in Bunmei period. It's known as the "floating castle" that held out against a flood attack organized by Ishida Mitsunari during Toyotomi Hideyoshi's suppression of Kanto region. Oshi Castle, which is one of the 7 castles of the Kanto region, became a symbol of the castle town of the hundred thousand koku Oshi domain.

The current three-story-tower of the Oshi Castle was rebuilt in 1988 after being torn down in the Meiji Period. The interior has become part of an exhibition room in the Museum. The top floor of the tower offers a view over the city.

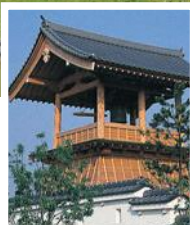
The largest ancient tombs in eastern Japan



Sakitama Ancient Tombs

Saitama Prefectural Museum of the Sakitama Ancient Burial Mounds: 4834 Sakitama, Gyoda City / Phone: 048-559-1111 / Entrance Fee: General 200 yen High School or University Students 100 yen Free for Elementary or Middle School Students /303 normal parking lots, 33 parking lots for large vehicles /Museum Hours: 9:00 - 16:30 (last entry at 16:00). *Hours between July 1st and August 31st: 9:00 - 17:00 (last entry at 16:30). Museum close on: Mondays (excluding national holidays, compensatory holidays, May 2nd, and Saitama Prefectural Day (November 14th)), New Year's. *There may be other temporary closings.

The Sakitama Ancient Tombs are the largest group of ancient tombs in eastern Japan. 9 large tombs are located here, such as the Maruhakayama Kofun (the largest circular burial mound in Japan) and the Inariyama Kofun where the "Kinsakumei Tekken" (Gold-inlaid-iron-sword), a national treasure, was excavated. The Sakitama Kofun Park has been set up around the ancient tombs with popular museums inside the park such as the Saitama Prefectural Museum of the Sakitama Ancient Burial Mounds and the Haniwa Museum where you can experience haniwa making firsthand.



The namesake of Saitama Prefecture



The "Kinsakumei Tekken"
National Treasure

A famous lotus blossom site



Ancient Lotus Park

Ancient Lotus Museum: 2375-1 Kobari, Gyoda City / Phone: 048-559-0770
Entrance Fee: Adults (High School Students and Older) 400 yen Children (Elementary and Middle School Students) 200 yen / 490 parking lots / Hours: General period (end of June to the beginning of August) 9:00 - 16:30 (last entry at 16:00); lotus flowering period (late June to early August) 7:00 - 16:30 (last entry at 16:00). Museum close on: Mondays (except national holidays), the day after national holidays (open on Saturdays and Sundays), and New Year's. *No closings during the lotus flowering period (late June to early August).

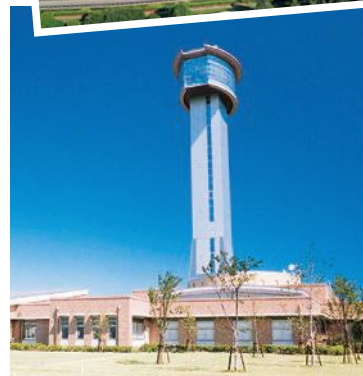
Enjoy the mysterious beauty of the Gyoda Lotuses that have awoken from a long slumber at the Ancient Lotus Park here in Gyoda. In the Ancient Lotus Park you can see some 120,000 lotus blossoms of 42 types between late June to early August. The Gyoda lotuses are a primitive type with few petals and said to be lotus from approximately 1,400 to 3,000 years ago.



Tsubomi-chan
Ancient Lotus Hall Mascot

Between late November and late March there's also giant straw art!!

See a broad
panorama from
50 meters up
Paddy art visible between
June and October



Ancient Lotus Museum

Always packed with things to see ♪

Gyoda City Event Calendar

January

February

March

April

May

June

- First sunrise of the New Year (viewing tower)
- Temple bonfires

- Prince Shōtoku Festival
- Late winter festival beneath Oshi Castle

- Cherry Blossom Lantern Festival
- Tekken Marathon
- Gyoda Spring Festival

- Sakitama Fire Festival
- Wisteria Festival

- Paddy art

Cherry blossoms (March to April)



Japanese irises (June onwards)





Food sampling

Gyoda prides itself on its traditional okonomiyaki style "furai" and potato and okara croquette style "zeri furai".

Furai But it's not fried in oil...?

Gyoda's specialty food is a fried dish called "furai" that is prepared by dissolving wheat flour in water, lightly grilling it on a metal plate, adding ingredients such as green onion, meat, and eggs, and then putting on a Japanese-style worcestershire sauce or soy sauce to taste.

Northern Saitama where Gyoda City is located has long been a site of wheat production and this fried delicacy was originally something like a snack that could be easily made by farmers. At the tabi factories in Gyoda in its Showa period heyday, this dish was a big hit with the female workers and shops selling them established themselves all around. Currently there are more than 30 shops in the city that sell this fried delicacy.



Meet Kozeni-chan and Furabe.



Kozeni-chan is based on Gyoda's zeri furai and Furabe is based on Gyoda's furai. Plans are in the works to make these two into a countrywide brand for the furai and the zeri furai!



It's not sweet!

Zeri furai

Although the name is similar to "furai", the "zeri furai" is a completely different food. The zeri furai resembles an unclothed croquette and its roots are said to be in steam buns brought over from China during the Russo-Japanese War. The zeri furai consists of potato with green onions, carrots, and lots of okara so it's healthy and rich in dietary fiber. The flavor of the sauce and the fragrance are particularly appealing and the springy texture is a favorite of both children and adults.



Gyoda Specialty Products

The History of Tabi

Aojima dye and cotton, the raw material for tabi, are produced in the area around Gyoda and in the late Edo period Gyoda became known as a site famous for the production of tabi.

Sewing machines began to be used in the Meiji period and there was a drastic increase in the production volume of tabi. Banks were also established, capital became stable, sewing machines became motorized, and Gyoda's tabi became the best in Japan both in name and in substance.

In 1938 there were 84 million tabi socks produced here and this accounted for roughly 80% of the national production volume. "Gyoda's tabi production instruments and products" were registered in the National Register of Tangible Folk Culture in March of 2015.



Gyoda still boasts of having the largest market share in Japan.



Tabi and Lifestyle Museum

This museum recreates the appearance of a Gyoda tabi factory in its heyday. Experience tabi making demonstrations on your visit.

1-2 Gyoda, Gyoda City / Phone: 048-552-1010 / Entrance Fee: 200 yen (100 yen for Elementary School Students) /

Museum Hours: 10:00 - 15:00

Days Open: Only Saturdays and Sundays

Hot! Fun!

Gyoda Festivals

Loads of festivals to mark the seasons in Gyoda!



May 4th
Sakitama Fire Festival



End of July
Floating Castle Festival



Mid of November
Gyoda Commerce and Industry Festival / Oshi Castle Period Festival



December 6th
"Torino Iri" Fair at Atago Shrine

July

August

September

October

November

December

■ Lotus Festival

■ Floating Castle Festival

■ Sasara lion dance

■ Chrysanthemum viewing

■ Commerce and Industry

■ Bird Day Fair

■ Salmon go upstream (October to December)

Festival / Oshi Castle Period Festival

■ Gyoda "Dream" Festival

■ Straw art (late December to early March)

ancient lotuses (June to August)

Water hyacinths (August to September)

Limosella (October onward)

Chrysanthemums (October to November)



■ Gyoda: The Year Ending, the Year Coming



Access to Gyoda City



By Car

Tōhoku Expressway

- Hanyū Interchange: 25 min. via the National Route 125 bypass
- Kazo Interchange: 30 min. via National Route 125 from Kazo City

Kan-Etsu Expressway

- Hanazono Interchange: 40 min. by the National Route 17 bypass via Kumagaya from National Route 140
- Higashi-Matsuyama: 30 min. via Fukiage from Namegawa-cho

Ken-O Expressway (Metropolitan Inter-City Expressway)

- Okegawa-Kitamoto Interchange: Approx. 30 min. via National Route 17

By Train or Bus

Joetsu Shinkansen

- Get off at Kumagaya Station, board the JR Takasaki Line, and then get off at Gyoda Station or change to the Chichibu Railway and get off at Gyodashi Station.

JR Takasaki Line

- Kita-Konosu Station: 80 min. walk from the Sakitama Green Path (a sculpture path)
- Fukiage Station: About 15 min. by the Asahi Bus
- Gyoda Station: City bus
- Kumagaya Station: Switch to the Chichibu Railway and get off at Gyodashi Station

Tobu Iseaki Line

- Get off at Hanyū Station, switch to the Chichibu Railway, and get off at Gyodashi Station

Here to help you enjoy your trip to Gyoda City

★★★ Tourism Centers ★★★



Bus Terminal Tourism Information Center

This information center is located right next to the Gyoda City Bus Terminal in the heart of the city. From here you can plan a day of sightseeing with tourism pamphlets and laptops. Please also feel free to make use of the center's rest space.

3-5 Honmaru, Gyoda City / Tel.: 048-554-8820
Open Hours: 9:00 - 16:00
Days Open: Every day (closed between December 29th and January 3rd)



Tourism Information Center

The Tourism Information Center is located near the east entrance of the JR Gyoda Station. Here you will find information on Gyoda tourism, public facilities, and lodging facilities. There is also a waiting room for the city bus. Please feel free to use them together.

12-1 Ichiriyama-cho, Gyoda City / Tel.: 048-550-1611
Open Hours: 9:00 - 16:00
Days Open: Every day (closed between December 29th and January 3rd)



Tourism Information Center Buratto Gyoda

Located on the 1st floor of the Gyoda City Commerce and Industry Center. Provides tourism information about Gyoda City. This center presents and sells some of the city's specialty products and also has a rest area so please feel free to drop in.

2-1-8 Oshi, Gyoda City
(1st floor of the Gyoda City Commerce and Industry Center)
Phone: 048-554-1036 / Open Hours: 9:00 - 16:00
Days Open: Every day (closed between December 29th and January 3rd)



Tourism Guide Station

Provides services and information on tourism and specialty products in the Tabi Warehouse Urban Development Museum within the Tourism Guide Station (operated by the Gyoda Tabi Warehouse Network NPO).

5-15 Gyoda, Gyoda City / Phone: 048-552-1010
Open Hours: 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Days Open: Every day
(closed 12/29-1/3 and 8/13-8/16)

