

B

## Yasuda–Masuda–Nishi-Masuda

- 1 Teahouse remains
- 2 Stupa for the deceased
- 3 Futaba milestone
- 4 Taoyama milestone
- 5 Tatsunokuchi stone pillar
- 6 Mampukuji temple approach
- 7 Fudaba, where public notice board was hanged
- 8 Tsukuezaki Shrine
- 9 Mt Inazumi
- 10 Tada onsen spa
- 11 Grave of Kishi Shizue
- 12 Ogihara barrier ruins
- 13 Yoji rock
- 14 Remains of stone pavement
- 15 Saizenji Temple

## Choshu expedition, battle of Sekishu border

Tokugawa shogunate led 2 military expeditions to Choshu domain of Yamaguchi in 1860s. At the battle of Sekishu border in 1866, the shogunate's forces stationed at Shotatsuji Temple, Mampukuji Temple and Ikoji Temple (5-7) whereas Choshu camped at Tsukuezaki Shrine (8). Choshu's strategist Omura Masujiro is believed to have climbed Mt Inazumi (9) to survey the topography. The casualties, both friend and foe, were brought to Myogiji Temple to be treated. There are also graves of the combatants in this area.

## 13 Yoji rock

Local folklore says about the rock as follows: people rumoured sightings of a monster and feared it. A samurai heard it, went out seeking for it, and, alas, there came the monster. With his sword he sliced it in half. However, he turned back only to find this huge rock torn in 2.

## 11 Grave of Kishi Shizue

## 12 Ogihara barrier ruins

Here was a border between the domains of Tsuwano and Hamada. Border stone-pillars from both domains still remain here. This is also where the battle of Sekishu border started, and Kishi Shizue of Hamada consequently became the first to fall. Choshu pitied him and later raised his grave (11). Saizenji Temple (C Nishi-Masuda 1) holds Kishi's belongings to pray for him and his men.

C

## Nishi-Masuda

- 1 Saizenji Temple
- 2 Village headman's muku tree
- 3 Syakutoji Gongen Shrine approach
- 4 Syakutoji Gongen Shrine
- 5 Funabashi, boat bridge
- 6 Historic row of houses of Yokota
- 7 Memorial for livestock
- 8 Magistrate's office ruins
- 9 Ferry ruins
- 10 Ferry ruins
- 11 Kogi ferry ruins
- 12 Tsurii, Mirroring well

Be careful when crossing the railroad crossing

Difficult passage

6 Historic row of houses of Yokota

## 12 Tsurii, Mirroring well

A folklore says Izumi Shikibu looked at her reflection in the water of this well. Izumi Shikibu (circa 978-?) is a well-known waka composer who, unlike other women of the time, travelled to rural area where her husband was dispatched. Her legends now can be found all over Japan.

## Tour route suggestions and estimated time required

- |   |  |                 |                    |
|---|--|-----------------|--------------------|
| a | Umabashi (bus stop) – Kamate Pass (A8) – Rokusaito (A18) – Iwami Tsuda (rail station)  | with guide 4h   | without guide 2h30 |
| b | Iwami Tsuda (rail station) – Shikata Pass (A20) – Toboji Temple (A23/B1) – Futaba (B3) – Taoyama (B4) – Masuda Hommachi (bus stop) | with guide 3h   | without guide 2h   |
| c | a) + b)  | with guide 7h   | without guide 4h30 |
| d | Masuda Hommachi (bus stop) – Ogihara barrier ruins (B12) – remains of stone pavement (B13) – Hommataga (rail station)              | with guide 2h30 | without guide 2h30 |
| e | Hikimiguchi (bus stop) – Funabashi (C5) – Takagi jinja Shrine (C12) – Iwami Yokota (rail station)                                  | with guide 2h   | without guide 1h30 |
| f | d) + Umetsuki area (C1 – C3) + e)  | with guide 6h   | without guide 3h30 |