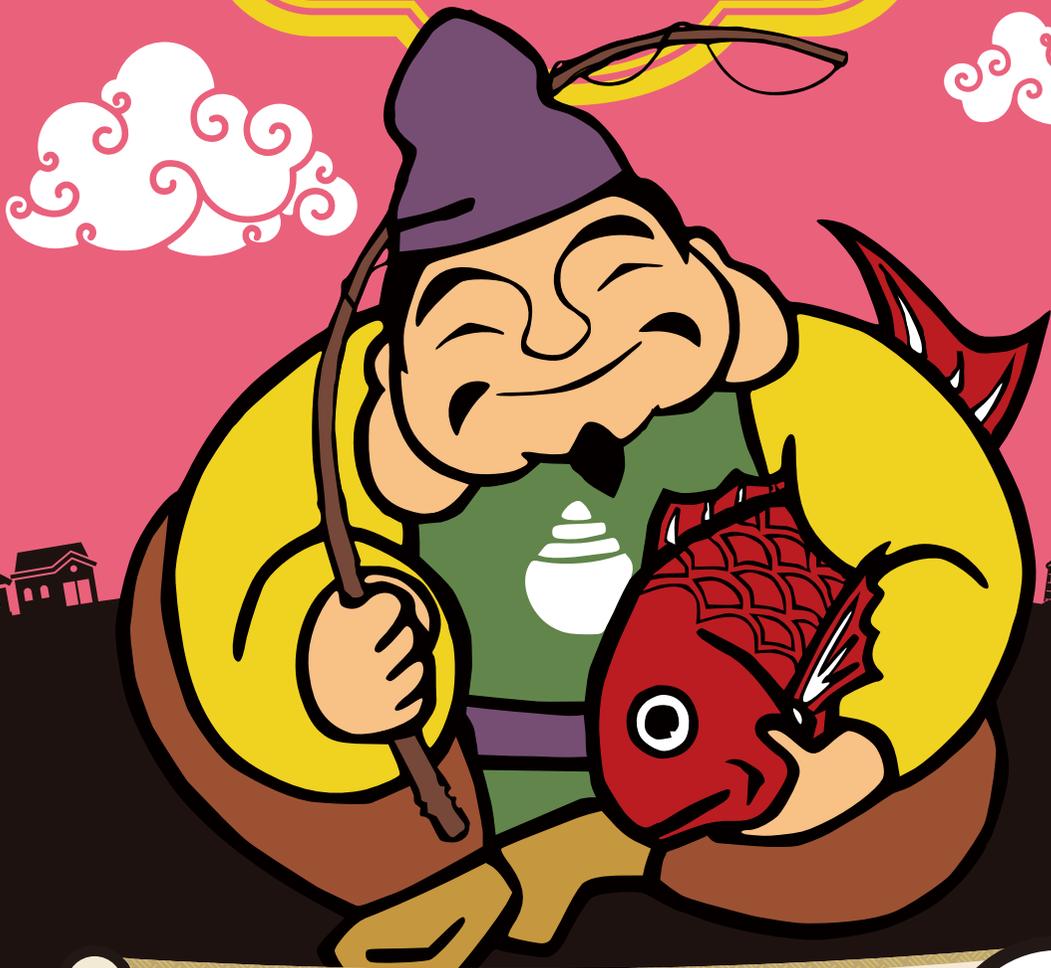


# Saga City EBISU EBISU GUIDE BOOK

English



 Saga Ebisu is Japan's No.1

 Introducing recommended routes to visit Ebisu statues and enjoy sight-seeing and delicious food in Saga!!

# What is Ebisu?

Ebisu is one of the Seven Gods of Fortune who are well-known as gods who bring good fortune. The Seven Gods of Fortune have been familiar in Japan as Gods with different blessings and worshipped since olden times. But in fact, they consist of members with international characters, some of whom are from India and China. Ebisu is the only god to originate from Japan.

 **God of Fortune, Seven Gods of Fortune**

**Ebisu** [ God from Japan ]

**Daikokuten** [ Daikokuten-God from India ]

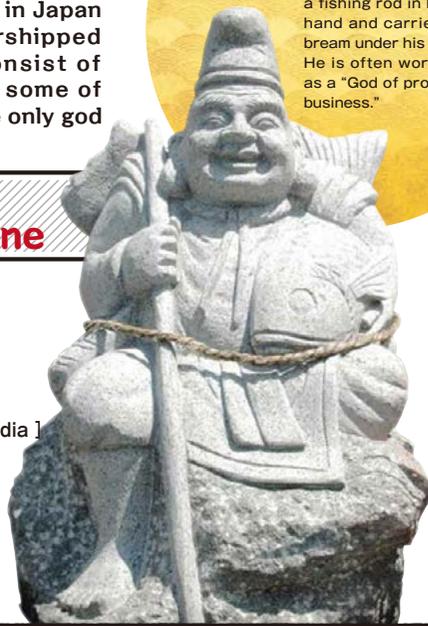
**Benzaiten** [ Benzaiten-God from India ]

**Bishamonten** [ Bishamonten-God from India ]

**Fukurokuju** [ Fukurokuju-God from China ]

**Jurojin** [ Jurojin- Hermit from China ]

**Hoteiosho** [ Hoteiosho-Monk from China ]

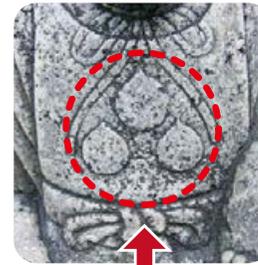


## Ebisu

[ God from Japan ]

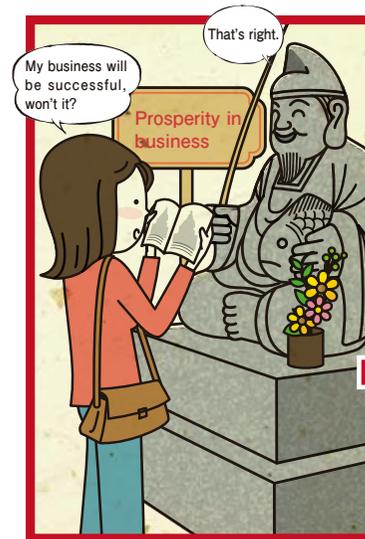
Generally, the Ebisu has a fishing rod in his right hand and carries a sea bream under his left arm. He is often worshipped as a "God of prosperous business."

# How to visit Ebisu



**Make a wish by touching his jewel, Hoju!**

Some Ebisu have chestnut-like Hoju engraved on their chest or tall hat. Hoju is a wish-fulfilling jewel called "Chintamani" in Buddhist terminology. If you meet Ebisu with Hoju and make a wish by touching the Hoju, your wish may come true.



**step 1** Let's check their blessings and touching episodes.

By reading the EBISU GUIDE BOOK and information boards near the Ebisu statues, let's study their features and the blessings that they may offer.



**step 2** Lower your eyes a little and join your palms.

Small-sized Ebisu statues are mostly placed near the ground. So when praying, lower your eyes to avoid looking down on him and join your palms. As many worshippers pass their hand over not only his jewels but also his tall hat and sea bream, some statues have a smooth surface.

# Saga City has the largest number of Ebisu statues in Japan.



The worship of Ebisu has become widespread in Saga and stone statues of Ebisu can be seen everywhere in the city. There are several stories depicting the reasons; it had been widely believed as a god of ocean because marine business using water channels once thrived in Saga or as a god of wealth because there were many merchants who prayed for their business success. The number of statues reaches over 800 only in Saga City! In 2011, Saga was authorized as the city with the largest number of Ebisu statues in Japan by a Nippon-1 organization.



# Ebisu Station



This spot is good for a rest while wandering the town. It exhibits the statues of Ebisu, one of the Seven Gods of Fortune of Saga, who is said to have granted many blessings. Various materials related to Ebisu are collected here including a location map of Ebisu statues in Saga, a register of about 800 Ebisu, tours of 88 sacred Ebisu places, and Ebisu located in the Kyushu region. You can also buy many items related to Ebisu here.

- Opening hours / 10:00~17:00
- Location / 7-39 Gofuku-motomachi, Saga City
- Closed / Mondays (the following day if Monday is a holiday) The day after a national holiday and from late Dec. to early Jan.

**☎0952-40-7137**

<http://www.saga-ebisu.com/>



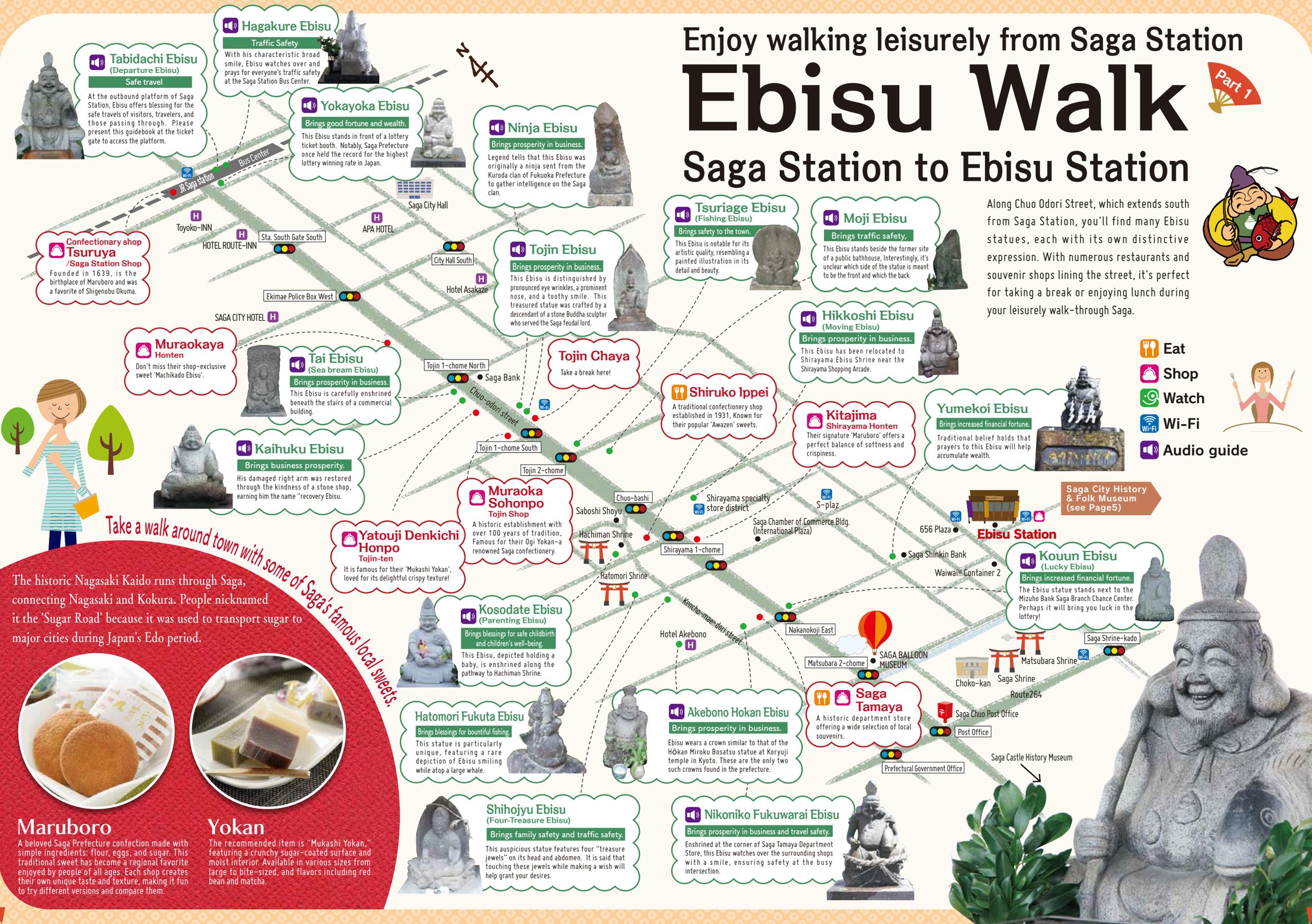
# Enjoy walking leisurely from Saga Station Ebisu Walk Saga Station to Ebisu Station

Part 1



Along Chuo Odori Street, which extends south from Saga Station, you'll find many Ebisu statues, each with its own distinctive expression. With numerous restaurants and souvenir shops lining the street, it's perfect for taking a break or enjoying lunch during your leisurely walk-through Saga.

- Eat
- Shop
- Watch
- Wi-Fi
- Audio guide



Take a walk around town with some of Saga's famous local sweets.

The historic Nagasaki Kaido runs through Saga, connecting Nagasaki and Kokura. People nicknamed it the 'Sugar Road' because it was used to transport sugar to major cities during Japan's Edo period.



**Maruboro**  
A beloved Saga Prefecture confection made with simple ingredients: flour, eggs, and sugar. This traditional sweet has become a regional favorite enjoyed by people of all ages. Each shop creates their own unique taste and texture, making it fun to try different versions and compare them.



**Yokan**  
The recommended item is "Mukashi Yokan," featuring a crunchy sugar-coated surface and moist interior. Available in various sizes from large to bite-sized, and flavors including red bean and matcha.

Along the old Nagasaki Kaido, stroll around this historic route where numerous heritage buildings still stand.

# Ebisu Walk



## Ebisu Station to Yanagimachi

Eat Shop Watch Wi-Fi

Along the way to Yanagimachi, a district steeped in historical atmosphere, numerous Ebisu statues stand enshrined, watching over passersby. The street is lined with historically significant buildings, allowing visitors to experience the legacy of the old Nagasaki Kaido trading route.



▲ A preserved signpost indicates the directions to Nagasaki and Kokura.

### Saga City History and Folklore Museum

This museum complex comprises seven historical buildings, including the former Koga Bank, Koga residence, and Ushijima residence. Each building is designated as an important cultural property of Saga City and a Saga Prefecture heritage site. Many of these buildings are open to the public, with some offering free admission. Several historical buildings are now house cafes and souvenir shops, perfect for taking a break for browsing local goods.



- 1 Daifukucho Ebisu**  
Brings prosperity in business.

This Ebisu is depicted with a "Daikokucho" (an Edo-period accounting book) spread across his knees and a brush in hand. His broad smile reflects his blessings for business success.
- 2 Shamisen Ebisu**  
Brings prosperity in business, arts, and culture.

This unique statue features Ebisu with intricately detailed hands playing the shamisen (a traditional Japanese three-stringed instrument). Legend says visiting this statue may improve your musical abilities.
- 3 Yasaka Joju Ebisu**  
Brings increased financial fortune.

Enshrined within a stone sanctuary in the grounds of Yasaka Shrine, this Ebisu is particularly known for bringing luck in lottery winnings.
- 4 Akachan Ebisu**  
(Baby Ebisu)  
Brings blessings for childbirth.

This Ebisu is characterized by its infantile features. It is believed that worshipping here may be blessed with the birth of a son.
- 5 Fukuten Ebisu**  
Brings prosperity in business.

This well-traveled Ebisu has represented Saga at various events in Tokyo. It is said that good fortune follows in his wake.
- 6 Gofuku Ebisu**  
Brings prosperity in business.

This statue is enshrined at the former Morinaga residence, now part of the Saga City History and Folklore Museum. Its name comes from the Morinaga family's successful kimono business ("gofuku" meaning kimono).
- 7 Tatami Ebisu**  
Brings prosperity in business and traffic safety.

From his position at a tatami shop intersection in Yanagimachi, this Ebisu is depicted sitting on a zabuton (traditional floor cushion) as he watches over passersby.
- 8 Zabuton Ebisu**  
Brings good health and longevity.

This statue is believed to bring good health and longevity. Seated comfortably on a zabuton (traditional floor cushion), this deity benevolently watches over passersby.
- 9 Yanagimachi Soroban**  
(Abacus) Ebisu  
Brings prosperity in business.

Reflecting Yanagimachi's prosperity as a merchant district during the Edo period, this Ebisu holds an abacus in his lap, symbolizing wishes for business success.
- 10 Mojitai Ebisu**  
(character Ebisu with Sea bream)  
Brings good health and longevity.

This historic Ebisu, created in 1822, features beautiful calligraphy with a carved sea bream beneath the characters for Nishinomiya.
- 11 Nakayoshi Ebisu**  
(Good Friendly Ebisu)  
Brings blessings for happy marriages and romantic fulfillment.

This unique installation features two Ebisu statues—husband and wife—with the wife on the left gently holding her husband's hand, symbolizing marital harmony.
- 12 Hidarikiki Ebisu**  
(Left-handed Ebisu)  
Brings traffic safety, and longevity.

This distinctive Ebisu holds a sea bream in his right hand and a fishing rod in his left as he watches over the three-way intersection.
- 13 Okao Ebisu**  
(Face Ebisu)  
Brings prosperity in business.

This unusual statue, showing only Ebisu's face, may surprise visitors at first. His expression is serene and content, reminiscent of someone enjoying a hot spring bath.
- 14 Torikoji Ebisu**  
(Street Alley Ebisu)  
Brings good health and longevity.

From his sturdy shrine house, this Ebisu bestows blessings of health upon those who walk the narrow alleyways.
- 15 Matsukawayu Ebisu**  
Brings prosperity in business.

This elegantly crafted Ebisu stands guard against evil spirits near Matsukawayu. A distinctive feature is the sea bream's tail fin engraved on his halo.
- 16 Yomigaeri Ebisu**  
(Revived Ebisu)  
Brings good health and longevity.

Originally enshrined in an inn's garden, this Ebisu has been relocated to a more public location, hence his name meaning "revived" or "restored."
- 17 Ekubo Ebisu**  
(Dimpled Ebisu)  
Brings fulfillment in love.

This beloved Ebisu is characterized by his bright smile and endearing dimples.
- 18 Ton-san Ebisu**  
Brings prosperity in business.

This impressive statue, over 3 meters in size, dynamically depicts Ebisu.
- 19 Higashi Uomachi Ebisu**  
Brings prosperity in business.

Distinguished by a large jewel on his chest, this Ebisu was recovered from the Urajuken River. A Moji Ebisu Statue stands beside him.
- 20 Sokkuri Ebisu**  
(Look-alike Ebisu)  
Brings prosperity in business.

With his thick eyebrows, drooping earlobes, and plump face, this Ebisu bears a striking resemblance to the second-generation owner of a local kimono shop.
- 21 Owarai Ebisu**  
(laughing Ebisu)  
Brings prosperity in business.

This Ebisu is depicted with a wide, toothy laugh, expressing his wishes for business prosperity.
- 22 Michisirube Ebisu**  
(Signpost Ebisu)  
Brings increased financial fortune and safe travels.

This Ebisu stands beside a 400-year-old signpost along Nagasaki Kaido. The owner of Hizen-Ebisuya tends to him daily.

## Discover Saga's Remarkable Collection of Ebisu Statues.

# The Ebisu 88 Pilgrimage Route

Saga city boasts the largest collection of Ebisu statues in Japan, with over 830 enshrined throughout the city. Among these, 88 special Ebisu statues are known for their fascinating stories and unique blessings. Embark on this "Highway to Happiness" by visiting these selected statues! Collect pilgrim stamps in your passbook (available at the Saga Tourist Information Center and other locations) and receive commemorative gifts based on the number of stamps collected.

### Complete all 88 locations:

Receive a certificate and your choice of Hariko Ebisu (papier-mâché Ebisu) or Ebisu fan.

### Visit 10 locations:

Receive an Ebisu sticker or can badge.



Either One!

### Souvenir Exchange Information:

Location: Kaiun Saga Ebisu Station

Address: 7-39 Gofuku Motomachi, Saga City

Important Notes:

- Closed Mondays and during Year-end/New Year holidays
- Must present your passbook in person for exchange
- No proxy exchanges permitted
- Each passbook must be exchanged separately (for multiple pilgrimages, please make separate visits for each passbook)

"Our family bonded while visiting the statues together."

### Visitor Stories:

People have shared various special moments along their Ebisu pilgrimage:

"He proposed to me as we were visiting the Ebisu statues together"

"After visiting the statues, I passed my exam!"

"I found my dream job!"



There are countless ways to experience and enjoy this unique pilgrimage route.

# The Saga Ebisu Goshuin Pilgrimage

Part 3

### Rules for collecting sacred stamps.

#### ◆ What is Goshuin?

A goshuin is a traditional shrine seal and calligraphy. Originally serving as proof of sutra dedication, it has evolved to become a sacred record of shrine visits.

#### ◆ How to Receive a Goshuin:

1. Visit the shrine
2. Pay respects to Ebisu
3. Request a Goshuin at the shrine office
4. Pay the stamp fee (approximately 300 yen)
5. Express your gratitude

Important Notes:

- Fees may vary by shrine
- Availability depends on chief priest's presence
- Please use the official Ebisu shrine headquarters' Goshuin book (1,200 yen)
- Nishinomiya Goshuin stamps are available at Ebisu Station

### Pilgrimage Completion Rewards:

Visit all 15 shrines to receive:

- A pilgrimage certificate (attached to your Goshuin book)
- A special commemorative gift: A framed giclée print of "Saga Seven Lucky Ebisu" by Japanese artist Kai Ikeda



Goshuin book

Special commemorative gift (image)

Special Social Media Bonus: Share your Ebisu experience on social media:

- Post a photo of yourself with an Ebisu statue
  - Use hashtags #saga\_ebisu and #saga\_city
  - Show your post at Kaiun Saga Ebisu Station
  - Receive exclusive original goods
- Collection Location: Kaiun Saga Ebisu Station



Ryuzouji-Hachiman-Shrine (Shirayama, Saga City)

# Goshuin Pilgrimage Tour Guide to shrine locations



## Hatomori Shrine



Established in 1702 when a divine branch from Hatomori Inari Daimyoin (originally enshrined at the Edo residence in Sakurada-go) was transferred here.

## Hatomori Fukuta Ebisu



Created in 1940, this distinctive statue is uniquely portrayed sitting astride a whale.

**Basic Information**  
**Deity** Nigiri no Mikoto  
**Address** 3-9 Hachiman-koji, Saga City  
**☎** 0952-29-3340  
**Access** 5-minute walk from Nakano-koji bus stop

## Nikita shrine



Established in 586 by Emperor Yomei, the 31st Emperor of Japan, in the northern part of Izumo province to enshrine Susanoo-no-Mikoto. The shrine also has connections to the legend of Jofuku.

## Hanka Ebisu Hoka (Hanka Ebisu and others)



There are 15 statues of Ebisu displayed at the site, including a unique half-seated Ebisu statue. A notable juniper tree, said to be over 2,200 years old, is believed to have been planted by Jofuku.

**Basic Information**  
**Deity** Susanoo  
**Address** 1073 Tameshige, Morodomi-cho, Saga City  
**☎** 0952-47-4848  
**Access** 15 minutes walking from Yamayo bus stop

## Awashima Shrine



The shrine was enriched during the 4th year of the Koan era under Emperor Gouda. The main shrine building was constructed in the year 19 of the Kan'ei period by feudal lord Nabeshima Katsushige.

## Hanka Ebisu Hoka (Half-seated Ebisu and others)



The deity stands at the shrine's roadside entrance, watching over both worshippers and passers-by.

**Basic Information**  
**Deity** Sukunabikona no Mikoto  
**Address** 787 Shingo, Kitakawasoe-machi, Saga City  
**☎** 0952-23-3467  
**Access** 0 minutes walking from Hattagu-mae bus stop

## Nishinomiya Shrine



Established in 1159. In 1672, Lord Katsushige Nabeshima brought a divine branch from the main Nishinomiya Shrine (the principal Ebisu shrine) and established the first Ebisu worship in Saga.

## Stone Ebisu



Constructed in 1731, this is believed to be the oldest inscribed Ebisu statue in Saga City.

**Basic Information**  
**Deity** Hiroko no Kami  
**Address** 1425 Mitsunori Kitakawasoe-machi, Saga City  
**☎** 0952-24-2624 (Hie Shrine)  
**Access** 20-minute walk from Mitsunori Danchi-Mae, Yamato-kiha bus stop

## Ryuzoji Hachimangu



Established in 1187 with a divine branch from Tsurugaoka Hachimangu Shrine. It served as both the guardian shrine of the Ryuzoji clan and their samurai, and as the local deity of Saga.

## Kosodate Ebisu



This Ebisu statue embodies prayers for parents to raise their children with love and care.

**Basic Information**  
**Deity** Emperor Ojin  
**Address** 1-3-2 Shirayama, Saga City  
**☎** 0952-23-6049  
**Access** 5-minute walk from Shirayama Bus Stop

## Kaido Shrine



In 1551, Lord Ryuzoji Takenobu constructed a seawall to protect the shrine from seawater and enshrined three main deities as guardians.

## Manpuku Ebisu



A colored Ebisu statue standing over 1 meter tall, constructed in 1966 with prayers for a bountiful catch.

**Basic Information**  
**Deity** Uwatsumi-watsumi-no-kami  
**Address** 1098 Inuido, Kawasoe-cho, Saga City  
**☎** 0952-45-0547  
**Access** 15 minutes walk from Inuido bus stop

## Konpira Shrine



Established in 764, when a deity was enshrined here at the request of the main Konpira Shrine in Kagawa Prefecture.

## Hanka-Suika Shrine (Half-seated Ebisu and others/drooping Ebisu)



The Hanka-Suika Ebisu statue is known for its memorable plump cheeks and prominent eyebrows.

**Basic Information**  
**Deity** Kamimusubi no Okami, Okuninushi no Okami  
**Address** 3349 Kinryu Daimon, Kinryu-machi, Saga City  
**☎** 0952-98-1237  
**Access** 40 minutes or more walking from Kinryu bus stop (on top of the mountain)

## Ushijima Tenmangu Shrine



Founded in 1151 by Ushijima Norimasa, who was the youngest grandson of Sugawara Michizane. The shrine houses five statues of Gakuyō Manten Ebisu, enshrined in honor of Michizane.

## Manten Ebisu



These Ebisu statues, found in merchant houses and on street corners, are believed to listen to people's wishes and watch over them with a characteristic broad smile.

**Basic Information**  
**Deity** Sugawara no Michizane  
**Address** 15-30 Higashisagamachi, Saga City  
**☎** 0952-24-1014  
**Access** 15 minutes walking from Otakaramae, Gofuku Motomachi bus stop

## Saga Ebisu Shrine (Yoka Shrine)



Founded in 1904 with a branch of the Nishinomiya Shrine. The main hall, Yoga Shrine tower gate, torii gate, and stone bridge, built by imperial order in 564, are designated as Important Cultural Properties of Japan.

## Daichi Fukutoku Ebisu



Donated by the Saga Ebisu Society in 2007, is depicted riding a turtle from Ryugyō Palace to bestow wisdom.

**Basic Information**  
**Deity** Yodohime-Hachiman-shin • Otomiya-shin  
**Address** 2-50 Yokamachi, Saga City  
**☎** 0952-24-9195  
**Access** 10 minutes walking from Tsujinodo bus stop

## Shiga Shrine



Established in 859, built with a branch deity from Shikama Shrine located on Shika Island in Chikuzen.

## Hanka Ebisu Hoka (Half-seated Ebisu and others)



The Hanka Ebisu display features multiple Ebisu figures with varying facial expressions and poses arranged near the shrine.

**Basic Information**  
**Deity** Shiga Okami  
**Address** 399 Hayatsue, Kawasoe-cho, Saga City  
**☎** 0952-45-0968  
**Access** 10 minutes walking from Nakahaya bus stop

## Yodohime Shrine



Founded in the 25th year of Emperor Kimmei's reign. Achieved status as Hizen Ichinomiya during Emperor Ni'yo's Ōho reign. Currently it protects Ebisu inside Aeon shopping mall Saga Yamato.

## Shiawase Ebisu (Happy Ebisu) (It is enshrined inside Aeon shopping mall.)



This unique Ebisu statue depicts a mother holding her child, with a gentle expression symbolizing wishes for everyone's happiness.

**Basic Information**  
**Deity** Yodohime no Mikoto  
**Address** 1-1 Kawakami, Yamato-cho, Saga City  
**☎** 0952-62-5705  
**Access** 3-10 minutes walking from Kawakamishi Youth Pier entrance bus stop

## Matsubara Ebisu Shrine



Enshrined in May 2005, thanks to a donation from Matsuo Tomiyo, a descendant of the Hasuike clan. Features a 2.5m tall Ebisu statue - the largest in Saga Prefecture. (Seals are available at the Saga Shrine Office)

## Ton-san Ebisu



The "Ton-san Ebisu" (Lord Ebisu) was named after the shrine that enshrines the lord of Saga.

**Basic Information**  
**Deity** Ebisu-shin  
**Address** 2-10-43 Matsubara, Saga City  
**☎** 0952-24-9195  
**Access** 3 minutes walking from Saga Shrine bus stop

## Ise Shrine



Established in 1542 after receiving a branch of the Ise Grand Shrine's spirit. Relocated twice before settling at its current location. Holds the distinction of being Japan's only shrine granted permission to receive a branch of the Ise Grand Shrine's spirit.

## Daijingu Ebisu



It was particularly significant during the Edo period when Iseya-cho was a prosperous business district along Nagasaki Kaido, where local parishioners actively worshipped Ebisu.

**Basic Information**  
**Deity** Amaterasu Okami  
**Address** 9-8 Isemachi, Saga City  
**☎** 0952-23-4221  
**Access** 20 minutes walking from Nishitashiro bus stop

## Kashii Shrine



Established in 1177 after receiving a branch spirit from Chikuzen Kashii Shrine. The shrine provides written goshuin stamps.

## Hanka Ebisu Hoka (Half-seated Ebisu and others)



Ebisu is enshrined here, depicted with a bright smile.

**Basic Information**  
**Deity** Empress Jingu, Emperor Ojin, Sumiyoshi Okami  
**Address** 1556 Kubota Tokuman, Saga City  
**☎** 0952-68-2855  
**Access** 5 minutes on walking from Tokuman bus stop

## Hizen Tsusentei



Take a break here!

This location serves as an information center for Saga City's local products and has historical ties to Koyugai Baiso, the founder of Sencha tea. Visitors can obtain special Koyugai Baiso pilgrimage stamps for 200 yen.

## Fukuten Ebisu



This Ebisu statue was relocated from its original location at Fukutoku Real Estate in Ekiminami Honmachi.

**Basic Information**  
**Address** 4-6-18 Matsubara, Saga City  
**☎** 0952-65-2152  
**Access** 5 minutes walking from Gofuku Motomachi bus stop

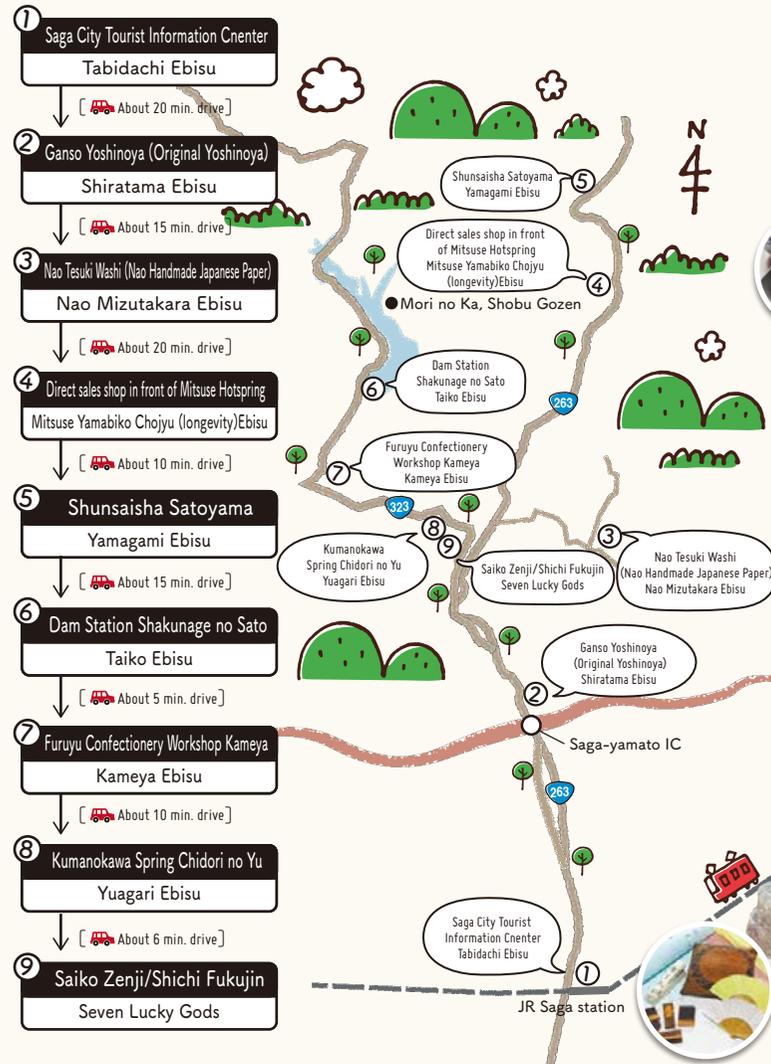
# Discover Mountain Nature and Hot Springs!

## Ebisu Drive ~ Northern Model Course



Venture north from Saga Station for a scenic 20-minute drive, and you'll arrive at the gateway to the serene mountain regions of Yamato, Fuji, and Mitsuse. Along this route, you'll find Ebisu enshrined at various locations, watching over local shops, artisan workshops, and farmers' market stands. Embark on this mountain Ebisu drive to experience rejuvenating hot springs and savor local cuisine while surrounded by nature's seasonal splendor!

### Ebisu Drive Model Courses



**Saga City Tourist Information Center Tabidachi Ebisu**  
1-11-10 Ekimae Chuo, Saga City ☎0952-23-3975  
Ebisu, the first born in the Heisei era.



**Ganso Yoshinoya (Original Yoshinoya) Shiratama Ebisu**  
Umeno, Yamato-cho, Saga City ☎0952-62-0235  
A time-honored establishment crafting Shiratama Manju since 1899, maintaining their traditional manufacturing methods through the generations. The shop also features an adjoining café for visitors.



**Nao Tesuki Washi (Nao Handmade Japanese Paper) Nao Mizutakara Ebisu**  
4754 Nao, Yamato-cho, Saga City ☎0952-63-0334  
Their collection features exquisite cards and lamps crafted from Japanese paper made with Kaji (paper mulberry) as the raw material—perfect choices for memorable souvenirs.



**Direct sales shop in front of Mitsuse Hot Spring Mitsuse Yamabiko Choju (longevity)Ebisu**  
3929-2 Fujiwara Mitsuse-Mura, Saga City ☎0952-56-2250  
Visit their Chokubaijo (direct sales shop) located in front of the Mitsuse hot springs, where you can find freshly harvested local vegetables and steaming hot buns.



**Shunsaisha Satoyama Yamagami Ebisu**  
739-1 Shimoose Yamagami, Fuji-cho, Saga City ☎0952-57-3101  
A farm-to-table mountain restaurant showcasing local vegetables, rice, and other regional ingredients. It also features a direct sales shop where you can purchase local products.



**Dam Station Shakunage no Sato Taiko Ebisu**  
1-31 Hatase, Fuji-cho Saga City ☎0952-58-3200  
At this spot, you'll find Ebisu relaxing on the historic stone where Toyotomi Hideyoshi is said to have rested. This location offers delicious local specialties for sale.



**Saiko Zenji/Shichi Fukujin Seven Lucky Gods**  
231-Uchino, Fuji-cho, Saga City ☎0952-63-0448  
Home to Ebisu statues from various historical periods. The Rokujiizo and Shichi Fukujin (Seven Lucky Gods) statues are must-see attractions at this site.



**Kumanokawa Spring Chidori no Yu Yuagari Ebisu**  
204-8 Kami Kumagawa, Fuji-cho, Saga City ☎0952-64-2388  
A tranquil hot spring facility where guests can unwind in gentle 38°C "tepid waters."



**Furuyu Confectionery Workshop Kameya Kameya Ebisu**  
795 Furuyu, Fuji-cho, Saga City ☎0952-58-2345  
A venerable confectionery store offering an array of Japanese and Western sweets, featuring signature items such as lily sweets, cream puffs, and roll cakes.

### Other places to see

#### Shimoose's Ancient Katsura Tree

This magnificent katsura stands as Japan's second largest tree. An estimated 1,000 years old, it boasts a root circumference of 20 meters, with 25 "hikobae" (secondary growth) trees - each over 1 meter thick - sprouting from its main trunk. (Located 200m west of Hokuzan Kiln, 564-1 Shimoose, Fuji-cho, Saga City.)



#### Mori no Ka, Shobu Gozen

Experience warm hospitality through dishes featuring seasonal edible wildflowers. Savor the pure flavors of wild vegetables prepared to highlight their natural essence.

3798-33 Sekiya, Fuji-cho, Saga City ☎0952-57-2011



#### Mitsuse Soba Road

Throughout the Mitsuse area, you'll discover a collection of excellent soba (buckwheat noodle) restaurants. Each establishment crafts their noodles using pure spring water that flows naturally from underground streams.



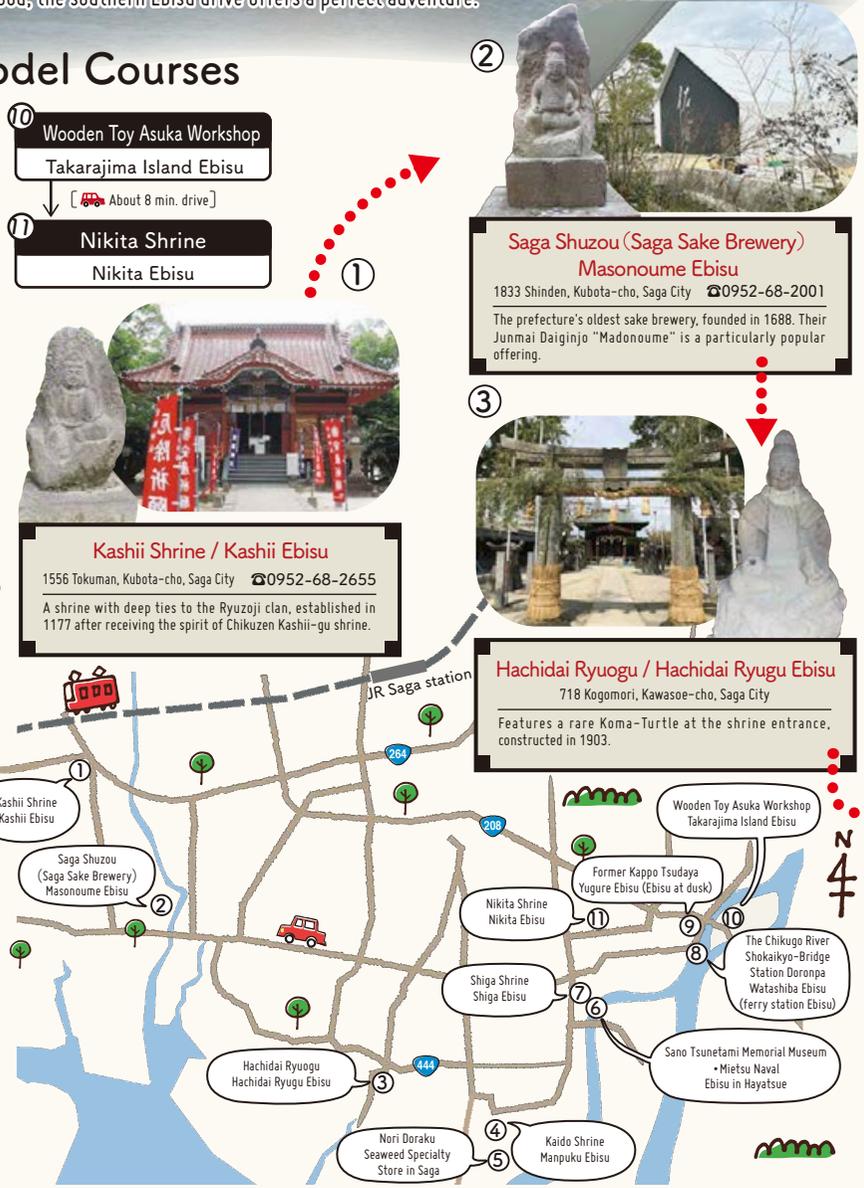
# The vast Saga Plain, The Ariake Sea, and Even World Heritage Sites! Ebisu Drive ~ Southern Model Course



Journey through southern Saga City to witness the expansive countryside of the Saga Plain and the Ariake Sea, famous for Japan's most dramatic tidal changes. In this region, many Ebisu statues are enshrined in historic shrines, where they have silently watched over Saga's landscape and its people through the ages. For those eager to explore the area's rich history and savor the bounty of the Ariake Sea's seafood, the southern Ebisu drive offers a perfect adventure.

## Ebisu Drive Model Courses

- ① **Kashii Shrine**  
Kashii Ebisu  
[ 🚗 About 15 min. drive ]
- ② **Saga Shuzou (Saga Sake Brewery)**  
Masonoume Ebisu  
[ 🚗 About 20 min. drive ]
- ③ **Hachidai Ryuogu**  
Hachidai Ryugu Ebisu  
[ 🚗 About 10 min. drive ]
- ④ **Kaido Shrine**  
Manpuku Ebisu  
[ 🚗 About 5 min. drive ]
- ⑤ **Nori Doraku** *Drop by!*  
Seaweed Specialty Store in Saga  
[ 🚗 About 15 min. drive ]
- ⑥ **Sano Tsunetami Memorial Museum • Mietsu Naval**  
Ebisu in Hayatsue  
[ 🚶 About 5 min. walking ]
- ⑦ **Shiga Shrine**  
Shiga Ebisu  
[ 🚗 About 10 min. drive ]
- ⑧ **The Chikugo River Shokaikyo-Bridge Station Doronpa**  
Watahisha Ebisu (ferry station Ebisu)  
[ 🚗 About 1 min. drive ]
- ⑨ **Former Kappo Tsudaya**  
Yugure Ebisu (Ebisu at dusk)  
[ 🚗 About 3 min. drive ]



**Kashii Shrine / Kashii Ebisu**  
1556 Tokuman, Kubota-cho, Saga City ☎0952-68-2655  
A shrine with deep ties to the Ryuzoji clan, established in 1177 after receiving the spirit of Chikuzen Kashii-gu shrine.



**Saga Shuzou (Saga Sake Brewery) Masonoume Ebisu**  
1833 Shinden, Kubota-cho, Saga City ☎0952-68-2001  
The prefecture's oldest sake brewery, founded in 1688. Their Junmai Daiginjo "Madonoume" is a particularly popular offering.



**Hachidai Ryuogu / Hachidai Ryugu Ebisu**  
718 Kogomori, Kawasoe-cho, Saga City  
Features a rare Koma-Turtle at the shrine entrance, constructed in 1903.



**Kaido Shrine / Manpuku Ebisu**  
1098 Inuido, Kawasoe-cho, Saga City ☎0952-45-0547  
Home to a colored Ebisu statue standing over 1 meter tall on its pedestal, positioned facing Dairokuten.



**Nori Doraku Seaweed Specialty Store in Saga**  
1672 Inuido, Kawasoe-cho, Saga City ☎0952-45-0039  
A specialized shop offering Saga's premium seaweed from the Ariake Sea, renowned as Japan's finest in taste.



**Sano Tsunetami Memorial Museum • Mietsu Naval Ebisu in Hayatsue**  
446-1 Hayatsue Tsu, Kawasoe-cho, Saga City ☎0952-34-9455  
Introducing Sano Tsunetami, the visionary founder of the Japanese Red Cross, alongside the historic Mietsu Naval Arsenal site, which stands as a testament to Japan's Meiji Industrial Revolution Heritage.



**The Chikugo River Shokaikyo-Bridge Station Doronpa Watahisha Ebisu (ferry station Ebisu)**  
214-5 Tameshige, Morodomi-cho, Saga City ☎0952-47-5209  
This movable bridge spans 507meters and is accessible to pedestrians.



**Shiga Shrine / Shiga Ebisu**  
399 Hayatsue Tsu, Kawasoe-cho, Saga City ☎0952-45-0968  
Established in 895, houses a sacred spirit transferred from its namesake on Shiga Island in Chikuzen. The shrine's grounds transform into a breathtaking canvas of crimson maple leaves during autumn.



**Former Kappo Tsudaya Yugure Ebisu (Ebisu at dusk)**  
223-1 Tameshige, Morodomi-cho, Saga City



**Wooden Toy Asuka Workshop Takarajima Island Ebisu**  
112-4 Tokudomi, Morodomi-cho, Saga City ☎0952-47-5697  
This Ebisu is distinctively portrayed astride a whale rather than his traditional mount, the sea bream.



**Nikita Shrine / Nikita Ebisu**  
1073 Tameshige, Morodomi-cho, Saga City ☎0952-47-4848  
A 2,200-year-old juniper tree stands here, connected to the legend of Jofuku. The site is considered a power spot, featuring massive camphor trees that have survived for over 1,500 years.



### Autumn wheat scenery (mid to late May)

The Saga Plains, renowned not only for rice cultivation but also wheat production, transforms during early summer. This period, known as 'Bakushu' (Autumn wheat), sees the southern expanse of Saga City blanketed in golden waves of ripening wheat fields, awaiting harvest.



### Tidal flat landscape

The tidal flats extending through the southern region of Saga City serve as crucial stopover points and wintering grounds for waterfowl, including several endangered species. This wetland is also home to a thriving colony of Shichimenso (Suaeda japonica). Recognized for its international ecological significance, the area is designated as a Ramsar Convention wetland.

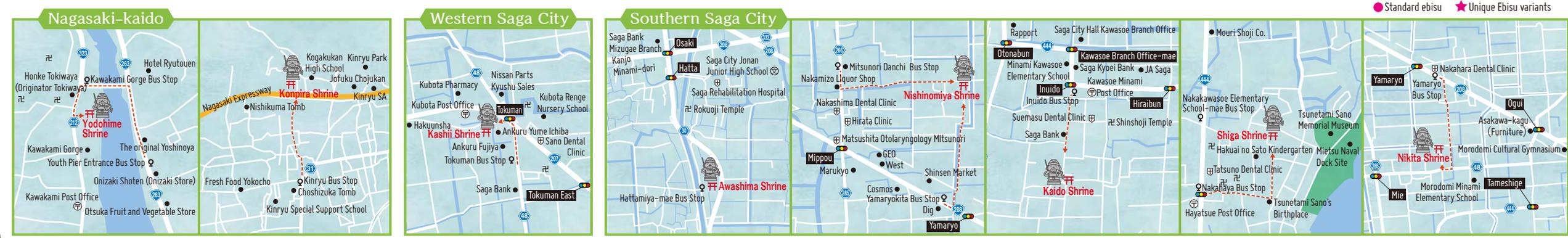


# A taste of history. Let's walk the Castle Town of Nagasaki-kaido



### Gift Selection at Kaiun Saga Ebisu Station:

- Hariko (papier mâché) decorations
- Seven Lucky Gods Ebisu fridge magnets
- Ebisu Senbei (rice crackers) and more local specialties!



● Standard ebisu ★ Unique Ebisu variants

# Castle town stopover spots



**Nagasaki Kaido**

One of the major routes of the Edo period, also known as the Sugar Road for its role in sugar transportation.

**Hizen Tsusentei**

A cultural center showcasing traditional local products and commemorating Koyugai Baiso, Saga's native son and founder of Sencha tea. The center offers popular sencha tea experiences.



**Saga Castle History Museum**

Houses Japan's first restored Honmaru Palace, and at 2,500 square meters, stands as the country's largest wooden restoration project.



**Saga Balloon Museum**

Japan's pioneering museum offering year-round balloon experiences.



**Saga City History and Folklore Museum  
Former Koga Bank Building**

Established in 1885 by Zenpei Koga, a prominent money exchanger.

**Saga City History and Folklore Museum  
Former Fukuda Residence**

A modern Japanese-style house constructed in 1918, featuring exhibitions and experiences of traditional Saga Nishiki craft.



**Saga City History and Folklore Museum  
Former Morinaga Residence**

Houses 'Sagashimono' souvenir shop, traditional Nabeshima Dentsu 'Orimonogatari' crafts, and 'Kureha' Japanese black tea specialty shop.

**Saga City History and Folklore Museum  
Former Hisatomi Residence**

Craft Café 'Konekuriya' 'Yosohohidokoro Futaba' and other shops offer kimono rentals for exploring the historic townscape."



# Ebisu Photo Rally

Let's go to Ebisu Station  
after taking three photos!

After getting this Ebisu  
Guide Book, let's take  
photos with three Ebisu  
statues. If you bring them  
to Ebisu Sta., you can get  
a nice present.



Please stamp at the Ebisu Station.