

Nihon Heso Koen (Japan' s navel park) : Local hometown symbol built in a scenic area



Nishiwaki Keiido Chikyu Kagakukan
(Nishiwaki Longitude and Latitude Earth
Science Observatory (Terra Dome))



Terra Dome



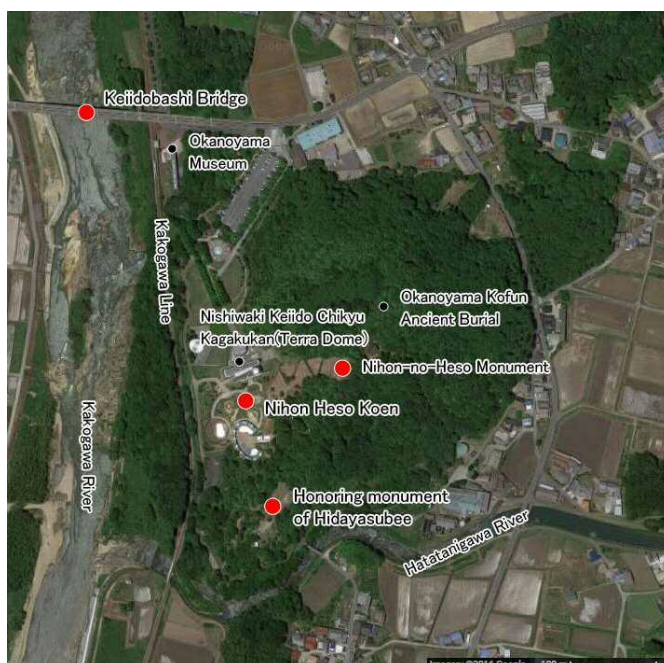
Okanoyama Museum Of
Art Nishiwaki



Ginga-no-Hiroba
(Galaxy Plaza)



Okanoyama Kofun Ancient Burial



Nihon Heso Koen (Japan' s Navel Park) is a local hometown' symbol located at the center of Japan at 135 degrees east longitude and 35 degrees north latitude. The point of intersection coincides with Kakogawa River, and a signpost indicating this intersection point was erected in 1923.

Nihon Heso Koen was built at the foot of Mt. Okanoyama next to this intersection point. This area is a scenic location which has become popularly known as Okanoyama Park, one of eight picturesque sights in Taka District. Ancient burial mounds are constructed at the summit and base of Mt. Okanoyama, and Suisha-no-arui-Teien (Waterwheel Garden) can be found at the southern foot. You can also see Tsumataki Falls on the Kakogawa River. The park is home to Nishiwaki Keiido Chikyu Kagakukan (Nishiwaki Longitude and Latitude Earth Science Observatory) (Terra Dome) which houses an 81cm large telescope, Okanoyama Museum of Art Nishiwaki which displays paintings by the artist Tadanori Yokoo who hails from Nishiwaki City, and a resthouse. Uchukko Land (Kid' s Outer Space Park) includes a Jumbo Slide and Spongy Dome that are favorites among the kids.

Source: Top 100 Landscapes in Hyogo (Hyogo Prefecture), Nishiwaki City website, Nishiwaki City Tourism Association website, Hato-ni-Gutto Kitaharima website

Main sights which make up the hometown of Hyogo <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rich natural landscape <input type="checkbox"/> Rural vistas rich in nature and greenery <input type="checkbox"/> Expressive urban vistas and historic sights handed down through generations <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural sights particular to the area	Location	334-2 Kamihiecho, Nishiwaki City
	Famous sights	Top 100 Landscapes in Hyogo (Hyogo Prefecture)
	Festivals and events	
	Associated parties	
	Organizations	
	Related sights	Okanoyama Park, Okanoyama Kofun Ancient Burial Mound, Kakogawa River, Tsumataki Falls

Old Kishi Family House : Opulent mansion from the Taisho Period



Old Kishi Family House



Garden



Surrounding townscape



The banker Umekichi Kishi built this as his residence in 1918. The main building's overall layout consists of a corridor down the center separating two columns of rooms on the north side and the south side. The south side is for receiving guests, the north side is a family space, and the east end consists of a kitchen and bathroom. While it is middle corridor plan type structure that developed after the Meiji Period, by making the corridor tatami-matted, there is a sense of continuity between the spaces on north and south sides. As can be seen from the main building's tatami covered floor and Yahazubari style ceiling (the ceiling members are joined in a V shaped configuration), elaborate design has been applied even in the details.

The Old Kishi Family House which utilizes the best materials at the time and the highest craftsmanship is an especially superior building even among the many private homes that have been built. Today, acquiring the same materials and reproducing the same level of craftsmanship would be difficult. Prince Asakanomiya and Tsuyoshi Inukai, among others have also stayed at this luxurious home.

It is designated an important building for Hyogo Prefecture's landscape. (2005)

Source: Nishiwaki City website, Nishiwaki City Tourism Association website, Hato-ni-Gutto Kitaharima website

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	Famous sights	
	Festivals and events	
	Associated parties	Umekichi Kishi
	Organizations	
	Related sights	

Mt. Haku-san

: Beautiful sea-of-clouds and majestic views



Sunrise



Autumn leaves of Hakusan



Sea of clouds



Maesaka route entrance



Hakusan peak



Located in the middle of a triangular zone formed by a branch of Kakogawa River, Yamadagawa River, and Monryugawa River, the village of Monryu spreads out from the southern foot of the mountain.

To access the peak of Mt. Haku-san at an elevation of 510m, there are many routes such as the “Kuroda Course,” “Monryu Course,” “Kita-Akitani Course,” and “Maesaka Course.” Of these, the “Maesaka Course” that is maintained by Kurodashocho Outdoor Activities Association has a gentle slope suitable for beginners. Passing through the Otoshi Shrine gateway (Maesaka, Kurodashocho) and climbing the stairs, a signboard on the right-hand side of the shrine precincts indicates the trailhead. It is about 3.5km to the peak which takes about 2 hours walking slowly. If weather conditions permit, one can view Akashi-Kaikyo Ohashi Bridge and Seto Inland Sea.

Source: Furusato Hyogo 50 + 8 Mountains (published by Kobe Shimbun Sogo Shuppan Center), Nishiwaki City website

Main sights which make up the hometown of Hyogo <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rich natural landscape <input type="checkbox"/> Rural vistas rich in nature and greenery <input type="checkbox"/> Expressive urban vistas and historic sights handed down through generations <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural sights particular to the area	Location	Kuroda, Kurodashocho, Nishiwaki City, Hyogo
	Famous sights	Furusato Hyogo 50 + 8 Mountains (Kobe Shimbun)
	Festivals and events	
	Associated parties	
	Organizations	Kurodashocho Outdoor Activities Association
	Related sights	Yamadagawa River, Monryugawa River, Monryu Village, Otoshi Shrine

Hyosu-jinja Shrine

: Shikinai-sha that preserves a precious architectural style



Hyosu-jinja Shrine



Hyosu-jinja Shrine is Shikinai-sha (a shrine listed in Engishiki, a book about laws and customs completed in 927) founded in the middle of the 8th century, commonly referred to locally as “Hyosu-san” and is worshipped as the guardian god of Taishi-go township. It is also one of the many places within the city associated with Kanbei Kuroda. It is said that when Hideyoshi Hashiba attacked Nagaharu Bessho of Miki Castle, his retainer Kanbei Kuroda dedicated a tomyo-den (light offered to a god) as a victory prayer, and the Worship Hall was rebuilt using this contribution money. Judging by the ridge tag, it was rebuilt in 1591.

The Worship Hall is built in the Nagatoko style with a type of roof called Kayabuki Irimoya Zukuri Yane (thatched roof of the Irimoya style). It retains vestiges of the Azuchi-Momoyama Period architectural style and is a precious building in Japan. It was designated an important cultural asset by Hyogo Prefecture in March 1977.

In the Autumn Festival, a “Rekkei” that imitates a daimyo procession is held, and mikoshi (portable shrine) and five futon-yatai (mattress portable shrines), among others are lined up and carried around to present them to the public.

Source: Nishiwaki City website, Nishiwaki City Tourism Association website, Hato-ni-Gutto Kitaharima website

Main sights which make up the hometown of Hyogo <input type="checkbox"/> Rich natural landscape <input type="checkbox"/> Rural vistas rich in nature and greenery <input type="checkbox"/> Expressive urban vistas and historic sights handed down through generations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural sights particular to the area	Location	372-2 Kurodashocho Oka, Nishiwaki City
	Famous sights	Top 100 Landscapes in Hyogo (Hyogo Prefecture)
	Festivals and events	Autumn Festival
	Associated parties	Kanbei Kuroda
	Organizations	
	Related sights	