

## Overview of Hashima City

### Nature

Hashima is in the southern area of Gifu Prefecture, separated from Aichi Prefecture to the east by the Kiso River, bordering Gifu City and Hashima-gun to the north and separated from Kaizu City and Anpachi-gun by the Nagara River to the west. Hashima which is endowed with water and greenery is warm climate and colored through the four seasons. That encircles living people and coming people kindly and pleases them.

### Industry

It is known as a big production center of the textiles together with Ichinomiya City in Aichi Prefecture and supports the national apparel industry including Gifu City. Also, rice, vegetable, tree fruit and flower cultivation flourish in this area. In recent years, the advance of the physical distribution-related company is remarkable, which comes from a superior geographical condition as the transportation hub. Also in the city's industrial organization the ratio of service sector has grown rapidly.

### History

Although in the distant past this area lay at the bottom of the Ise Bay, tectonic movement made the shape of Hashima that we see today. Flooding by the Kiso, Nagara and Ibi Rivers plagued this lowland belt continuously in the past. During the Edo period, construction of dike on the three rivers took place under the supervision of the Samurai of Satsuma by order of the shogunate between 1751 and 1764. After the dike construction was completed, this area became an abundant granary belt, and from the Meiji period onward, it developed into a trade center for agricultural products and Mino Kimonos. On April 1st 1954, one town and nine villages of the south region of the once Hashima-Gun amalgamated to create Hashima City, the ninth city in the prefecture. This city has grown to be the hub of a high-speed transportation network, including the Gifu-Hashima Shinkansen Station and the Meishin Expressway Gifu-Hashima Interchange.

### Population

- 69,185  
(34,039 males, 35,156 females)
- 23,929 households  
(as of January 1st 2010)

### Area

- 53.64sq.km.  
(East to west 8.77km / North to south 12.86km)

### Location

- Longitude:  
136°45'24" East to  
136°39'36" East
- Latitude:  
35°14'22" North to  
35°21'12" North



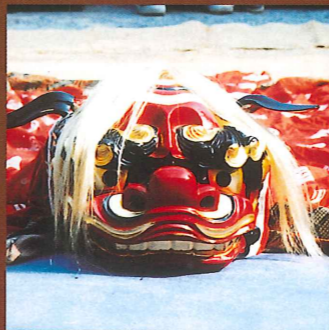
By shinkansen: 10 minutes to Nagoya,  
2 hours 7 minutes to Tokyo,  
52 minutes to Osaka.  
By car(highway): 31 minutes to Nagoya,  
4 hours 36 minutes to Tokyo,  
1 hour 50 minutes to Osaka.  
By train(Meitetsu Takehana Line):  
20 minutes to Gifu City.



Gifu Hashima Interchange(Meishin Expressway)



Gifu Hashima station(Tokaido Shinkansen)



# HASHIMA FOUR SEASONS STORY

A City raising hearts and people  
A healthy, happy city  
A City full of energy and vitality  
A Comfortable and Elegant City  
A City that's safe to live in  
A City moving forwards with the co-operation of its citizens  
An efficient and open government and city administration system

## Hashima floral calender

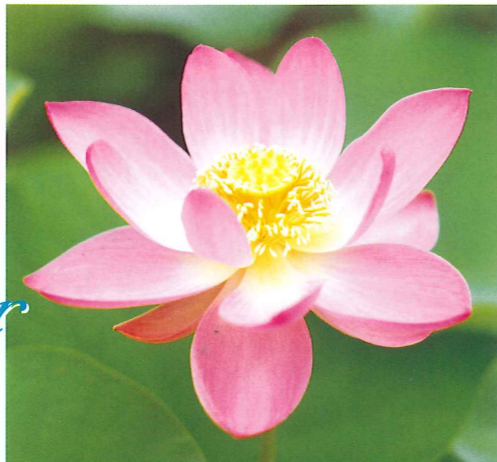


### Spring

**Wisteria Tree at the Takehana Betsuin**  
Prefectural designated natural treasure with a 300 year-old wisteria tree

### Summer

**Oga Lotus**  
A flower full of ancient romance excavated by the Jomon remains



### Autumn

**Mino Chrysanthemum**  
The chrysanthemum of a city special product with elegant round shape(city designated flower)

### Winter

**Winter Camellia**  
160 kinds in camellias are grown such as camellia of Izu Ooshima at Shimin no Mori



## The Life of Enku Shonin



A carving of Kannon image with eleven faces.

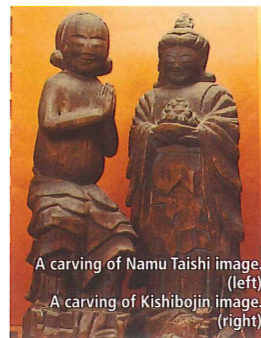
### Naka Kannondou and Enku Museum

There is in a place of Enku birth in Naka in Kaminaka-cho, where 17 Enku sculptures in all including a carving of Kannon image with eleven faces are enshrined.



### Nagama Yakushi Temple

There are nine Enku carvings including a carving of Yakushi Nyorai. It is said that a carving of Yakushi Sanzon image and a carving of Gohojin image are the most superior among early works.



A carving of Namu Taishi image. (left)  
A carving of Kishibojin image. (right)



A carving of Fudomyoo image.



A Carving of Yakushi Sanzon image.

## Festivals of Hashima City

Feel person's warmth and the vigor of the town with the mind and the body



### Hashima Camellia and Cherry Blossom Festival

[From the middle in March to early April]

This festival is to celebrate the camellia and cherry blossoms at places such as the Shimin no Mori. One can relax among the beautiful blossoming flowers during this spring festival.



### Mino Takehana Wisteria Festival

[From late April to May 5th]  
This festival is to pay tribute to the spectacular 300 year-old wisteria tree with brilliance light purple flowers(prefectural designated natural treasure). Tea ceremony and refreshment stands are performed for the period, which are very popular among people.



### Mino Takehana Festival

[May 2nd and 3rd]  
The gorgeousness floats of 13 carriages parade through the old streets of Takehana by half every year. Clockwork dolls and children perform in front of public.

### Takehana Daidai(Generational)Festival

[July 1st and 15th]  
After performing ablutions to pray for good health and forgiveness for half a year's sins, participants decorate lanterns for the 1st and 15th of July. Vendors sell 'Misogi Dango', an unusual sweet, during this summer festival.

### Oga Lotus Festival

[July 1st to 31st]  
Crowds flock to see the bright pale pink blossoms of the Oga lotus plants that are awakened after 2000 years of dormancy.



### Mino Takehana Tanabata Festival (the Star Festival)

[late July]  
Hashima's traditional industry is fabric making, and this festival gives one the opportunity to pray for and be thankful for one's own welfare to the star Festival Vega. Please, by all means come out to enjoy this festival in a traditional yukata.



### Noubi Fireworks Festival

[August 14th]  
In the total 5,000 fireworks including the magnificent 20 size (2 Shaku), which is outstanding in Tokai area,co-star with the sound at the banks of the Kiso River. That are popular among people as summer things.

### Enku Festival

[August 18th]  
This festival celebrates the life of Enku Shonin at Naka kannondou, the place known as Enku's birthplace. Enku was enshrined here and the Enku Museum was built here in his honour.



### Hirakata Lion Festival

[Second Sunday of October]  
This festival proud of tradition of 500 years, and it dedicates seven dances to pray for peace, bountiful harvest, and the family safety.



### Mino Takehana Catfish Festival (Namazu Matsuri)

[Late October]  
Hashima City is famous for 'catfish'. This novel festival hosts various events, including the 'Catfish Mikoshi (portable shrine) Contest', and is part of the city's revitalization campaign.

### Chrysanthemum Show

[early November]  
The city's flower, the 'Mino Chrysanthemum', is famous for its elegant large petals and rare round shape. There are many local admirers of this flower, and Chrysanthemum Show takes place at this season.