

Facilities/Parks

Hashima Folk History Museum/Hashima Movie Museum

Inside this building, locally produced art such as Enkū Buddhist carvings and woven textiles, and historical documents on things like wajū (dike creation) are on display. This building now also houses the Hashima Movie Museum with its rare public collection of national movie memorabilia. Immediately in front of this building stands a memorial for the Takegahana Castle ruins.



The last Lord of Takegahana Castle, Shigekatsu Sugiura

Shigekatsu Sugiura was the Lord of Takegahana Castle during the battle bearing its name, which preceded the Battle of Sekigahara. He was betrayed by a subordinate and his castle was surrounded by the Eastern forces. He rallied his spearmen and valiantly defended the castle. His bravery shook the enemy forces, but in the end he had the castle burned to the ground, after which he died on his own sword.

Location: 2624-1 Takehana-cho, Hashima ☎058-391-2234



Hashima Hot Springs

The water at this hot spring has a high iron content with a salubrious affect on neural pain and sore muscles. The water in this natural hot spring bath is changed daily, so that its rich mineral components can be fully enjoyed.

Location: 1038-1 Kuwabara-cho Uminami, Hashima ☎058-398-8868

Textile Material Center

The Textile Museum contains the largest collection in Japan of fashion clothing materials from all over the country. In its displayed collection of top-notch material developed in Japan are materials from as far back as 40 years and as recent as those used in the most up-to-date trends. The museum has acquired a very high reputation in Japan. (Please call ahead for admission.)



Location: 448 Takehana-cho Hachijiri, Hashima ☎058-391-8511

Fuji Hashima Culture Center

Naming authority: Fuji Shōji, Ltd.



excellent music and stage performances, as well as for exhibiting all types of educational activities.

Location: 6-7 Takehana-cho Marunouchi, Hashima ☎058-393-2231

Cosmo Park Hashima

Naming authority: Maruei Concrete Industry Co., Ltd.

In this park spanning approximately two hectares of land are slides, playground equipment, fountains and facilities capable of holding large outdoor events. In the months of March and April, the cherry trees and camellias brighten the city of Hashima with the colors of spring.



Location: 6-1 Takehana-cho Marunouchi, Hashima (south of Hashima Culture Center)

Gurutto Hashima, the Hashima tourist center,



This facility is equipped as a new base for tourists in Hashima. There is a lounge, the tourist rest area, where tourists can relax. The hands-on area and tourist information desk are decorated in a Meiji period motif. There is a large cotton loom here named 'Mino-Jima' from the Edo period that can actually be tried out. There is also a souvenir and locally special product shop and tourist information desk with information about the city.

Open everyday except for New Year's holidays
Hours of Operation : 9:00 - 17:00
Location : 2614 Takehana-cho, Hashima ☎058-322-2303

Taikentō (hands-on area), 1st floor

Souvenir and gift shop

In addition to Hashima Brand/locally produced special products, a wide range of things are displayed for sale such as locally produced Japanese sweets, etc.



Taikentō, 2nd floor Mino-Jima loom, hands-on corner



Open times

Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays - 10:00 to 15:00
*Please note this area may be closed without notice.
*Reservations are required on weekdays.
(contact information shown below)

Mino-Jima, a cotton loom used in Hashima since the Edo period, has been placed here. You can try your hand at weaving on this now uncommon loom.

Food/Local Products & Souvenirs

Renkon (lotus root) cuisine

Over half of the renkon produced in the prefecture is produced in Hashima as one of its specialties. Renkon is loaded with vitamin C, contains many other vitamins and minerals, and is recognized as a healthy dietary ingredient. You can taste vitamin-packed renkon in many uncommon dishes at shops belonging to the Renkon Association.



Misogi dango (sweet rice dumplings)



Since ancient times in Hashima, there has been a rare, rustic snack named misogi dango. These simple but popular dango are made with rice flour mixed with miso (fermented red bean paste), giving them an indescribable salty-sweet flavor. They are sold at mochi and Japanese sweet shops, particularly on days like June 30th, Misogi Day and at the Daidai Festival on July 1st and 15th.

Catfish and river fish cuisine

Hashima, surrounded by two large rivers, the Kiso and the Nagara, has always been troubled by floods, which gave rise to the development of wajū (Japanese dikes). By the same token, these rivers gave rise to a culture of river fishing. As a result, there are a plethora of shops in Hashima where you can taste cuisine prepared with unusual but delicious river fish like catfish, eel, and carp.



Hashima Brand

These are a diverse group of delicacies selected as "Hashima Brand recommended products" to represent the city. These include jam made with the huge "Beautiful Princess" strawberries that Okuda farm is famous for, and gourmet eggs from the specially fed Yoshikawa Poultry.



Access

to Gifu-Hashima Station by Shinkansen

- from Nagoya - 10 minutes
- from Tōkyō - 1 hour 56 minutes
- from Ōsaka - 52 minutes

to Gifu-Hashima Interchange by highway

- from Nagoya Interchange - 26 minutes
- from Tōkyō - 3 hours 42 minutes
- from Ōsaka - 1 hour 50 minutes

to Shinhashima Station on the Meitetsu Takehana Line

- from Gifu - 27 minutes
- from Nagoya - 46 minutes

via normal roads

- from Gifu - 20 minutes

Taxi

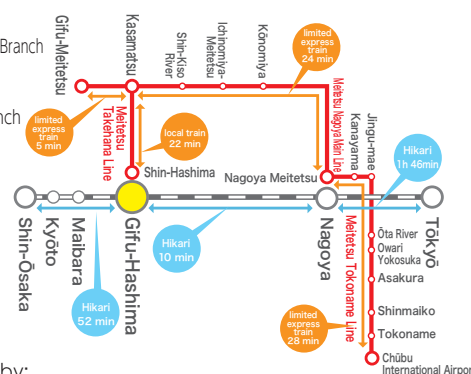
- Gifu-Hashima Bus Taxi, Ltd.
 - Main Office ☎0120-058-341
 - Gifu Kōtsū Tōbu, Ltd. ☎058-268-2101
- Suito Taxi Hashima Office ☎0584-78-3155
- Nihon Taxi Hashima Office ☎058-391-5634

Parking garages

- Hashima Kōka Parking Garage East Parking Garage ☎058-391-4761
- West Parking Garage ☎058-392-1091

Car Rentals

- Toyota Rent-a-Car, Hashima Shinkansen Station Branch ☎058-394-0580
- J-net Rent-a-car, Gifu-Hashima Station Branch ☎058-391-0154



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☎058-322-2303 FAX058-392-7360



The Colors of the Four Seasons

Hashima Tourist Guide Map

Events

Sewaritei Sakura Festival in Hashima, late March to early April

This event is held in the Sakurazutsumi Sub-center of Kiso Sansen Park, a National Government Park, from late March to early April. This coincides with the blooming of the cherry and rapeseed blossoms, a declaration that spring has returned to Hashima. Along with booths selling food and drink, there are many events like fishing that anybody can participate in.

Location : Koyabu Kuwabara-cho, Hashima (Sakurazutsumi Sub-center of Kiso Sansen National Park)



The Ōga Lotus Garden mid-June to mid-July



The Ōga lotus originally germinated from 2000 year old seeds, which were recognized as the world's oldest lotus seeds. Large crowds visit the Ōga Lotus Garden, the best time to see the beautiful, pale crimson flowers.

Location : Maeno Kuwabara-cho, Hashima (On the east side of Hashima Hot Spring)

Gifu Hashima Ekimae Festival November

This festival, held around autumn, is open for participation to everyone. This is a new, enjoyable festival aimed at invigorating the city, with a wide range of events associated with food, culture, and industry.

Location : The area around JR Gifu-Hashima Station



Hashima Mino Chrysanthemum Exhibition November



The Mino chrysanthemum, the city flower, is famous for its large, dignified blossoms with unusual circular petals. There are many admirers of this flower which is particular to the Tokai region, making the Hashima Mino Chrysanthemum Exhibition, held every year in November, a very lively event.

Location : 6-7 Takehana-cho Marunouchi, Hashima (Hashima Culture Center)

Overview of the Mino chrysanthemum

Shōgo Ōta was the man who bred the gentle large round flowers of the Mino chrysanthemum, bequeathing it to the world. He died at the age of 92, having spent 76 years of his life dedicated to this pursuit of selective breeding. The Mino chrysanthemum, perfected with its elegant circular flowers and rare round petals have become famous and are now frequently given as gifts to the emperor, his family, and other high-ranking dignitaries such as the prime minister.



Mino Takehana Fuji (Wisteria) Festival Takehana Festival

These festivals represents spring in Hashima. They feature the more than 300 year old Takehana Temple Wisteria, designated by Gifu Prefecture as a Natural Monument, and the gorgeous dashi (festival cars) of Takehana, themselves also designated by Gifu Prefecture as Important Tangible Folk Cultural Assets.

Mino Takehana Fuji Festival late April

When the beautiful, light purple flowers of the Takehana Temple Wisteria bloom in profusion, many kinds of activities are available, including drinking green tea under the wisteria trellis and stamp rallies for the temples and shrines around the Takehana shopping arcade.



Location: 2802 Takehana-cho, Hashima (Takehana Betsuin)

Takehana Festival May 3rd



The Takehana Festival is a religious festival held every year on the third of May at the Hakken Shrine at which gorgeous dashi (festival cars) are paraded about. About half of these thirteen dashi are pulled around each year (alternating years with the other half). These dashi are adorned with glittering ōmaku and miokurimaku (banners), a fabulously artistic sight that everyone should see at least once.

Location : Hakken Shrine (3298-1 Takehana-cho, Hashima) and the area around the Takehana shopping arcade

Other temples and shrines

Hakken Shrine

In 1581, the lord of Takegahana Castle, Hirotsuna Fuwagenroku, relocated the shrine to this location. On May 3rd (the main festival day) every year, dashi (festival cars on which performances are given), are pulled around in an annual festival of the Hakken Shrine. On June 30th, a Shinto ritual called misogi-shinji is performed to cleanse the last half year of sins away and to ask for deliverance from sickness and suffering.

Location : 3298-1 Takehana-cho, Hashima ☎058-392-3958



Eishō Temple

In 1873 during the Edo period, a Han school relocated here. The main temple building is built entirely from the wood of keyaki (a type of elm tree), has an irimoya-tsumairi (hip-and-gable roof) and a karahafu-gohai (cusped gable over the stairs). The prefecture designated this temple, one of a few remaining sacred buildings, as a prefectural cultural asset.

Location: 1372 Fukuju-cho Hirakata, Hashima ☎058-398-2063



Takehana Betsuin

Within the grounds of this temple grows the famous Takehana Betsuin Wisteria, more than 300-years old. The Mino Takehana Fuji (Wisteria) Festival is held here from late April to early May. Also here is the gravesite (a prefectural cultural property) of Denroku Takenaka, an assistant to the superintendent officer who committed suicide in protest during the Horeki River Improvement Incident during the Edo period.

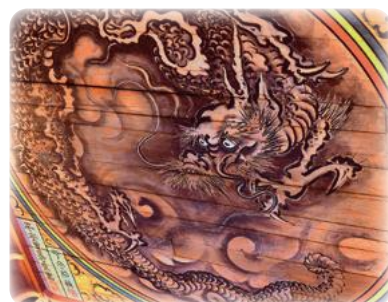
Location: 2802 Takehana-cho, Hashima ☎058-392-2379



Hongaku Temple

This was the bodai temple for the succession of Takegahana Castle lords. Unryū, the painted ceiling of the main temple building, has been designated an important cultural asset by the prefecture. The Yamato painter, Ikkei Ukita, painted this towards the end of the Tokugawa Shogunate while in hiding due to his support for the emperor over the shogunate.

Location: 2434-1 Takehana-cho, Hashima ☎058-391-5453



Seikō Temple (the Satsuma samurai graves)

Within the temple grounds lay the graves of three Satsuma samurai, Ishisuke Setoyama, Makiemon Hirayama, and Ichibeï Oyama. These samurai committed ritual suicide to take responsibility for failures during the Horeki River Improvement Incident. This has been designated as a historical landmark by the prefecture. It is said that their deaths were greatly mourned.

Location: 451 Egira-cho, Hashima ☎058-392-8006



Mino Takehana shrine and temple stamp rally

Enjoy walking while absorbing the history of Takehana-cho. The Mino Takehana shrine and temple stamp rally route consists of shrines and temples in Takehana-cho. Anyone who collects a stamp from each of these locations will be eligible for specials in participating stores around the city.



Stamp rally cards are 100 yen each and can be purchased at: Gurutto Hashima, the Hashima tourist center, open from 9:00-17:00

Hirakata Kioijishi

On the second Sunday of every October, a festival is held at the Hachiman Shrine in Fukuju-cho Hirakata. This festival is meant to pray for tranquility, good harvests, and safety for one's family, and to offer blessings and thanks for the peace and comfort of spring and autumn. Since the early part of the Edo period, this has been done by the villagers own hands through the Hirakata kioijishi (designated as an intangible folk cultural property by the prefecture). These rustic kioijishi dance wildly around the shrine in either a humorous or courageous fashion.

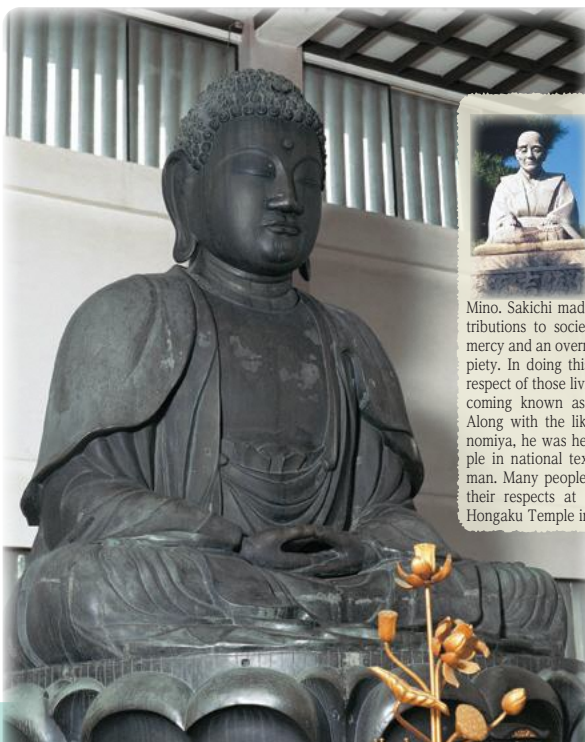
Location: 182 Fukuju-cho Hirakata, Hashima (Hachiman Shrine)



Sakichi Great Buddha

The Sakichi Great Buddha stands about five meters tall and was built in 1759 by Sakichi Nagata, also known as 'the Mino Saint.' This bronze statue of Shakamuni Buddha was erected to show Sakichi's gratitude to Buddha for answering his prayers and completely curing him of a serious disease he contracted while traveling on a pilgrimage to various countries.

Location: 209 Takehana-cho, Hashima (Daibutsu Temple) ☎058-391-5032



About Nagata Sakichi
Sakichi was born in the middle of the Edo period in the village of Takegahana in Haguri-gun, Mino. Sakichi made anonymous contributions to society in the spirit of mercy and an overriding sense of filial piety. In doing this, he garnered the respect of those living in the area, becoming known as 'the Mino Saint.' Along with the likes of Sontoku Ni-nomiya, he was held up as an example in national textbooks as a great man. Many people still travel to pay their respects at Sakichi's grave in Hongaku Temple in Takehana-cho.



Nakakannonō /Hashima Enkū Museum

The 2.22 meter tall Eleven-Faced Kannon Statue and sixteen other Enkū Buddhist carvings can be seen up close here. In addition, the well from which water was taken to wash the holy monk Enkū as a newborn is nearby.

Location: 526 Kaminaka-cho Naka, Hashima ☎058-398-6264
Open from 9:00 to 17:00
Closed Mondays
Entrance fee: 300 yen per adult (for groups of 30 or more, 150 yen per adult)



A legend of Nakakannonō

When the holy monk Enkū was preparing to carve the principle statue of Nakamura-kannonō, he obtained the wood from a place upstream on the Nagara River. He then wrote "Nakamura," the name of the village he was sending it to, on the wood and sent it downstream. It soon floated close to the village of Hirakata (now Fukuju-cho Hirakata, Hashima) where it was discovered by the people of Anpachi-gun Nakamura (now named Anpachi-cho). A large crowd tried to pull it up to their village, but they found it so heavy that they couldn't move it at all. After a time, word got to the people of Nakashima-gun Nakamura (now Kaminaka-cho Naka). When the villagers ran down and tried to pull it up themselves, it came up as light as a feather. The people from Anpachi-gun Nakamura on the opposite shore then left without saying a word.



Nagamayakushi Temple

Beginning with the principal image, The Medicine Buddha, nine of Enkū's statues are on display here. Inside, the guardian Buddhist statue, a picture of which is painted on the wall of the Hashima Civic Center as well as other places, is one of the Enkū Buddhist images representing Hashima.



Location: 893 Kaminaka-cho Nagama, Hashima ☎058-392-3210 reservation required

A legend of Nakakannonō

It is said that the principle image of Nagamayakushi Temple, Yakushinyōrai, was given by the holy monk Enkū to an old beggar for whom he felt pity. The beggar carried the statue around on her back every day, until one day she disappeared. At the same time the woman disappeared, a rumor began to spread about a ghostly light being seen every night in the brush of the Indian rice growing along the nearby Gyaku River. When the village sent out a group of young people to investigate, they discovered the body of the old beggar in the brush still holding the yakushi statue, from which the light was emanating. The villagers were surprised and immediately built this temple where they enshrined the statue. The temple was initially given the sangō (another name given to temples) Hōkōzan (radiant light), but later moved and renamed Jyōkōzan (purifying light).

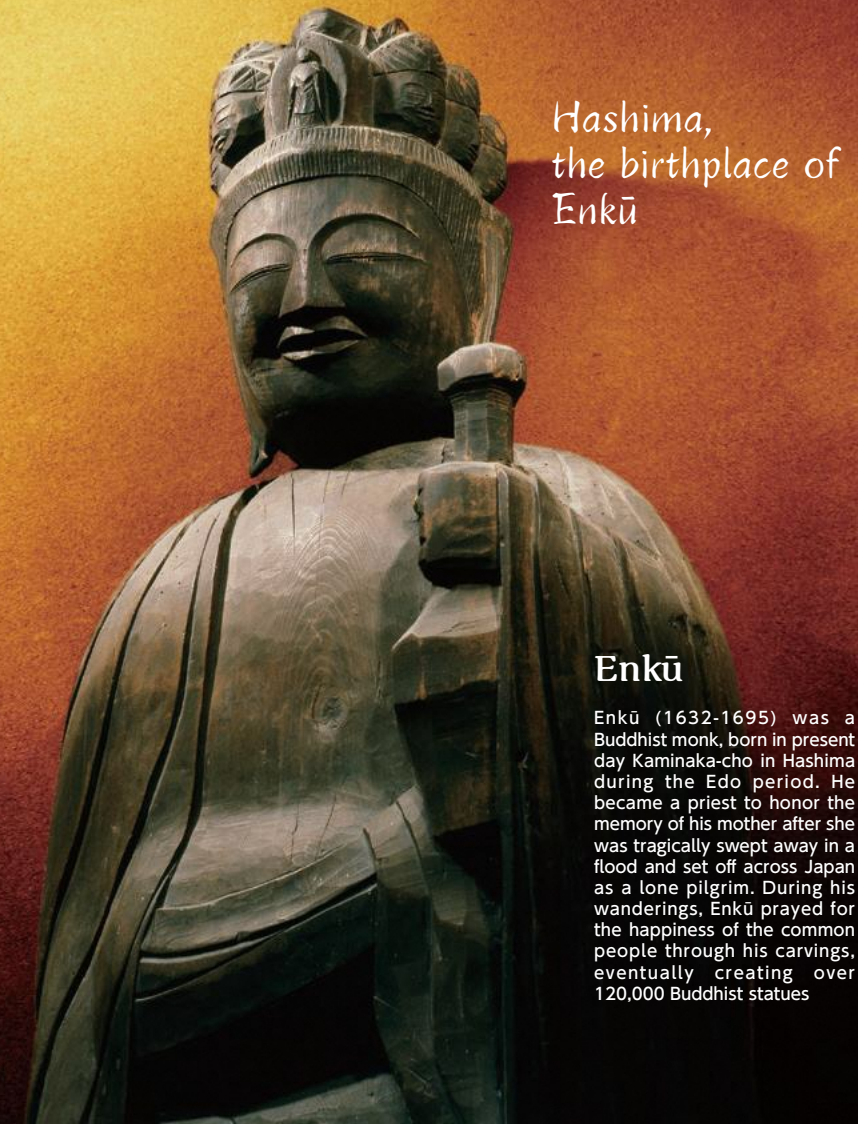


Year	Age	Event	Year	Age	Event
1632		Born in Mino (Kaminaka-cho, Hashima).	1680	49	Carved Buddhist images in places like Ibaraki Castle and Gunma.
1661	30	Believed to have finished his training on Mount Ibuki and descended from the mountain around this time.	1684	53	Stayed in Kōka Shrine in Horado.
1663	32	Had begun carving statues by this time, including one in Shinmei Shrine in Minami-cho, Gujō. This statue is the earliest known Enkū carving.	1685	54	Believed to be in Hida around this time.
1666	35	Carved many statues of Buddha in his travels through Hokkaido via Aomori.	1686	55	Carved theshintai at Inari Shrine in Kitsuuneya, Hashima. Carved the Buddhist statue at Tōgaku Temple in Kiso-ku, Nagano Prefecture.
1671	40	Received a kechimyaku (lineage record of succession) from the Buddhist high priest at Hōryū Temple in Nara.	1689	58	Carved many Buddhist sculptures while traveling around places like Mount Ibuki in Shiga Prefecture and Nikkō in Tochigi Prefecture. Restored Miroku Temple in Ikejiri, Seki. Received a kechimyaku from the high priest of Onjō Temple in Otsu. Miroku Temple became a branch temple of Onjō Temple.
1674	43	Restored 600 scrolls of the Daihannyakyo (Great Perfection of Wisdom Sutra) at Sanzō Temple in Shima-cho, Shima in Mie Prefecture and added pictures to the temple door.	1690	59	Carved a statue of the reigning emperor at the Kannon Hall in Kamikazara-cho, Takayama and wrote "100,000 Buddhist works completed" on the back.
1675	44	Climbed Mount Omine and made a carving of Ennyōjōja.	1691	60	Carved the Shōmenkōgō statue in Kanayama-cho, Gero.
1676	45	Stayed at Arako Kannon Temple in Nakagawa-ku, Nagoya around this time, carving well over a thousand Buddhist images.	1692	61	Prayed for rain at Kōka Shrine in Horado. Wrote the Collected Songs of Enkū.
1679	48	Received a kechimyaku from the high priest of Onjō Temple in Otsu. Carved the Gohōshin statue at Nakakannonō in Hashima.	1695	64	Gave a kechimyaku to his disciple, Enchō in July. Passed away on July 15th in Ikejiri, Seki on the banks of the Nagara river.

Hashima, the birthplace of Enkū

Enkū

Enkū (1632-1695) was a Buddhist monk, born in present day Kaminaka-cho in Hashima during the Edo period. He became a priest to honor the memory of his mother after she was tragically swept away in a flood and set off across Japan as a lone pilgrim. During his wanderings, Enkū prayed for the happiness of the common people through his carvings, eventually creating over 120,000 Buddhist statues



Guide to the Mino Road and surrounding area

Okoshitosenba Stone Lighthouse

According to legend, this stone lighthouse engraved with a Chinese poem, was donated (along with 20 acres of rice fields as payment for fuel) by a sumo wrestler from Takehana, who had had a difficult time during a passage on a ship at night.



Daijingū and Akihasha

Along the river bank on the right-hand side are a large row of trees which are especially beautiful in the fall. Beneath these trees can be found Daijingū, engraved stone lanterns, and Akihasha.



Saihō Temple

This temple, the oldest in Hashima, was originally dedicated to the cult of Prince Shōtoku Taishi, but later consecrated to the Tendai sect, and still later, in the beginning of the thirteenth century, consecrated to the Jōdoshin sect.



The Minoji Kaidō (or Mino Road)

The Mino Road runs from Miya-juku (Atsuta, Nagoya) on the Tōkaidō Road to Taru-juku on the Nakasendo, for a distance of about 57.5 kilometers. Ieyasu Tokugawa traveled this road on his triumphant return from the Battle of Sekigahara, which resulted in the road also being called the Kichirei Highway. This heavily traveled road was an important branch road, used by processions of daimyō (feudal lords), royal embassies from Korea, and envoys from the Ryūkyū Kingdom. The historical and romantic Mino Road goes through Hashima from east to west. The rows of cherry trees on the Sakai River embankment running along the northern border of Hashima (Oguma-cho and Ajika-cho) are particularly beautiful. Furthermore, in December of 2004, the Mino Road in Hashima was selected as one of "500 Beautiful Walking Roads" by the Japan Walking Association (supported by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, and Transport).

