

# 10 Connecting Between Ejiri Shuku and Fuchu Shuku

Shizutetsu Sakurabashi Station, Shizuoka City – Shizutetsu Kasugacho Station, Shizuoka City

## Introduction

The route of the Old Tokaido Road between Fuchu Shuku and Ejiri Shuku is a little unclear cut off by railways and national route at many places. The ancient Tokaido Road was discovered between Shizuoka Prefecture Convention & Arts Center (Granship) and JR railway.



### Shimizu-michi Signpost / Shimizu-oiwake Signpost ① 志三つ道道標・清水追分道標

'Oiwake' is the junction where the road leading to Shimizu Port branches off at the Old Tokaido Road. 'Shimizu-michi' is the transportation route between Shimizu Port and the Old Tokaido Road along Tomoe River which is about 4 km long.



### Kusanagi Shrine ② 草薙神社

According to the legend, when Yamato Takeru, the hero in the early Japanese legend was advancing to Kanto district heading for Hokkaido, he was nearly killed by the traitors who set fire on the field here. Yamato Takeru drew Ama-no-mura-kumo-no-tsurugi (a sword) given by Yamato-hime-no-mikoto (his aunt) at Ise Shrine, swang his sword down on the burning grass and overcame the difficulty. Later, people started to call the place Kusanagi (cut down grasses) and the sword changed its name to "Kusanagi-no-tsurugi" (the sword used to cut down grasses). Also, matchlock and gunpowder were transmitted to Japan in 1543 "Noroshi" (signal fire) was invented from "Hiya" (fired arrows) and it has been transmitted only by words. At the Autumn Festival of the shrine every year, Noroshi is fired to pray to gods for good harvest, safety of the family and good business.

## 駿河三大名物 The 3 Best Sweets in Shizuoka

They were 'Abe-kawa-mochi' at the west boundary of Fuchu Shuku, 'Oiwake-yokan' at the junction of the Old Tokaido Road and Shimizu-michi, and 'Usagi-mochi' in Furusho. Usagi-mochi was also read in the tanka poem of Ota Shokusanjin who played an active role in the world of comic tanka in the Edo Period (1603-1868).

This temple was moved from another place to protect Sumpu Castle from its unlucky direction. There is a tower to repose the spirit of Lady Oman, Ieyasu's mistress and real mother of 2 of the 3 Tokugawa branch families in Wakayama Prefecture and in Ibaraki Prefecture. There are also graves of Nobuko, real mother of Katsu Kaishu (statesman of Edo and Meiji Period who played an active role in Bloodless Surrender of Edo Castle in 1868) and also his sister, Jun who married Sakuma Shozan, a scholar of military science in the last days of the Tokugawa shogunate.

Commodities from Shimizu Port were transported along Tomoe River, unloaded at Agetsuchi area then carried to Sumpu Castle by waterway along Kita-kaido (actual Prefectural Road 67).

A rare type of bridge with the river running above the railroad and the sidewalk built above the river.

Oiwake-yokan Sweets shop of bean-jam wrapped in the scale of bamboo shoot and got steamed. A letter written by Yamaoka Tesshu (a vassal of the Tokugawa shogunate) is also displayed.

Attention!  
It is an underpass.

Toeido  
A confectionery selling 50 cm long hand-rolled cake.



### Kusanagi Sports Park ③ 草薙総合運動場

Japan-U.S. baseball match was held in 1934 where Sawamura Eiji, the ace pitcher of team Japan has pitched well against players selected from American Major League. He struck out 9 batters including Babe Ruth in 8 innings and also shut down the team U.S. scoreless until he gave 1 point in the last inning by a home-run of Lou Gehrig. Statues of Sawamura and Ruth are built in front of the baseball stadium. It is a verdure city park loved by the residents.

### Ancient Tokaido Road ④ 古代東海道

The 'posting system' is mentioned in the document after the Taika Reforms (political reform in 645) we can see that the roads were constructed following the plans throughout Japan. Among those roads, the Station road was constructed for the purpose of information transmission between the central government and the local areas. They connected each local base (station) settled every 16 km with the shortest line and relayed horses at the station. In 1994, a station road of the early 8th century, 9 meters wide and 350 meters long was found at the construction site of Granship.



## 日本平は芸術拠点 Nihondaira is an Art Base

Nihondaira, known for its scenic beauty is originally named after the legend of Yamato Takeru. The Prefectural Museum located halfway up the mountain has opened in 1986, dotted with sculptures by noted artists and also having an approach lined with zelkova and cherry trees. Collection is mainly on Japanese and Western landscapes in oil after the 17th century, they also have many sculptures of Rodin. Promenade in the backyard is a noted place for cherry blossom where we can command panoramic view of Shizuoka City. In Shizuoka Prefecture, there is Shizuoka Performing Arts Center (SPAC) who owns theater, practice room, actors and technical staffs. Shizuoka Performing Arts Park is its activity base.

### Old Tokaido Road Walking Route

	Sidewalk		Sidewalk narrower than 70 cm
	Picturing point		Parking lot
	Toilet		Accessible toilet
	Convenience store		Bench
	Other old road		Cherry tree
	Explanatory board		Bus stop
	Automated external defibrillator, AED		View point of Mt. Fuji
	East boundary of shukuba		