

17 Kakegawa Shuku the Castle Town of the Kakegawa Clan

Motomura-bashi Intersection, Kakegawa City – JR Aino Station, Fukuroi City

Introduction

The 26th shukuba was a castle town. The castle was built by Yamanouchi Kazutoyo who is famous for help from his wife and was reputed to be “the magnificent castle of Tokai area” which we can still see. Kakegawa Shuku was located at the crossing point of Shio-no-Michi (Salt Road) also known as Akiha Road connecting Sagara (Makinohara City) and Shinano Province (Nagano Prefecture) passing along Mt. Akiha (Haruno-cho, Tenryu ward, Hamamatsu City).

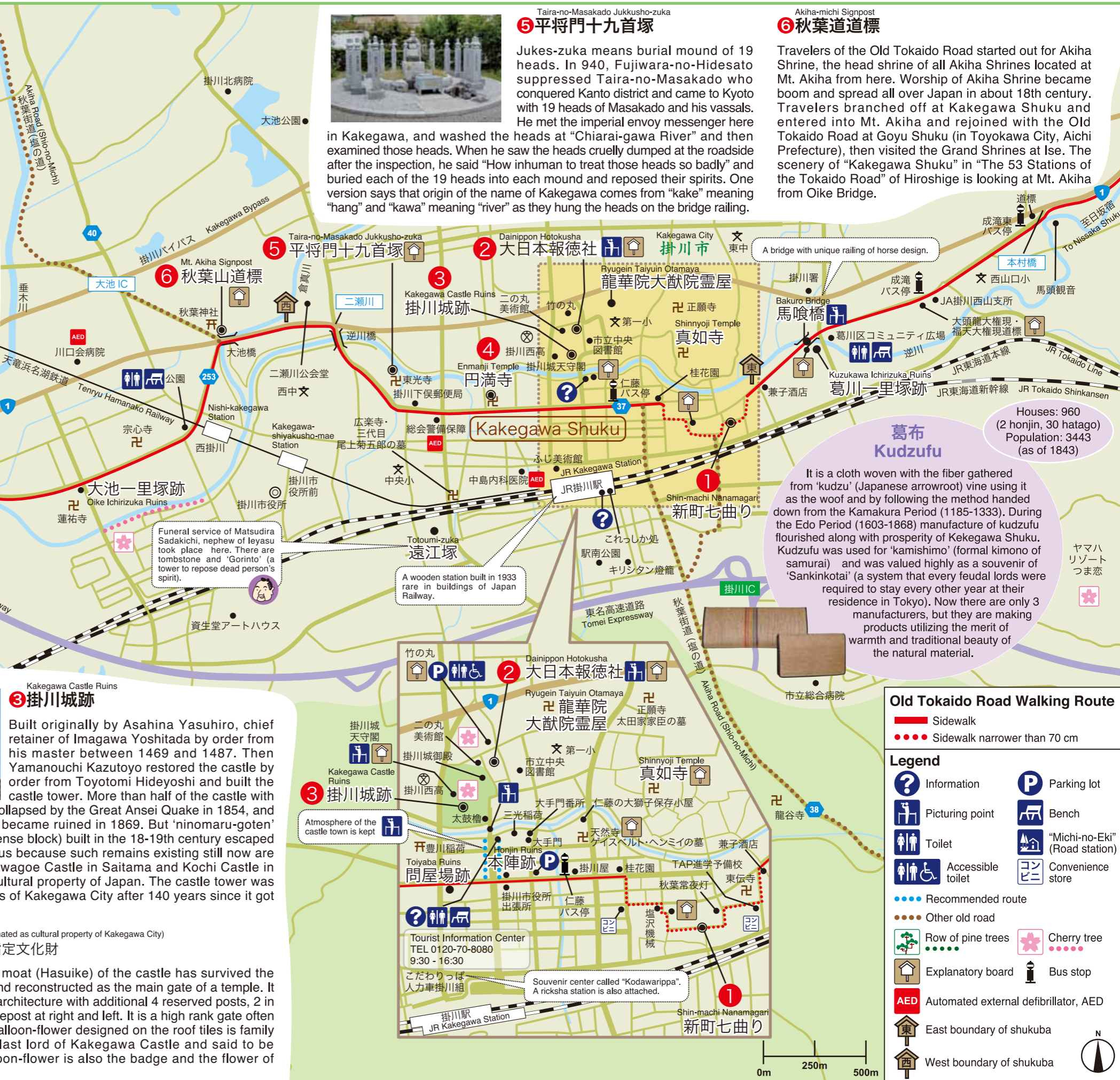
1 新町七曲り

During the Edo Period (1603-1868), there was a gate after the bridge at ‘Horiwari’. From this gate, the Old Tokaido Road turned south then hooked many times (called ‘nanamagari’) to defend against incursion of the enemy. After this nanamagari there were ‘kido’ (gate of shukuba) and ‘bansho’ (watch house) to control people and goods entering into town. Some of the places still carry those names.



2 大日本報徳社

Headquarter of Hotokusha of over 100 branch offices throughout Japan, propagating “Hotoku Shiso”, philosophy of Ninomiya Sontoku to become wealthy and open minded by diligence and morality. Auditorium is an important cultural property of Japan and cultural property of Shizuoka Prefecture. Main gate and library are cultural properties of Shizuoka Prefecture. Memorial hall and school are cultural properties of Kakegawa City.



5 平将門十九首塚

Jukes-zuka means burial mound of 19 heads. In 940, Fujiwara-no-Hidesato suppressed Taira-no-Masakado who conquered Kanto district and came to Kyoto with 19 heads of Masakado and his vassals. He met the imperial envoy messenger here in Kakegawa, and washed the heads at “Chiarai-gawa River” and then examined those heads. When he saw the heads cruelly dumped at the roadside after the inspection, he said “How inhuman to treat those heads so badly” and buried each of the 19 heads into each mound and reposed their spirits. One version says that origin of the name of Kakegawa comes from “kake” meaning “hang” and “kawa” meaning “river” as they hung the heads on the bridge railing.

6 秋葉道道標

Travelers of the Old Tokaido Road started out for Akiha Shrine, the head shrine of all Akiha Shrines located at Mt. Akiha from here. Worship of Akiha Shrine became boom and spread all over Japan in about 18th century. Travelers branched off at Kakegawa Shuku and entered into Mt. Akiha and rejoined with the Old Tokaido Road at Goyu Shuku (in Toyokawa City, Aichi Prefecture), then visited the Grand Shrines at Ise. The scenery of “Kakegawa Shuku” in “The 53 Stations of the Tokaido Road” of Hiroshige is looking at Mt. Akiha from Oike Bridge.



3 掛川城跡

Built originally by Asahina Yasuhiro, chief retainer of Imagawa Yoshitada by order from his master between 1469 and 1487. Then Yamanouchi Kazutoyo restored the castle by order from Toyotomi Hideyoshi and built the castle tower. More than half of the castle with aristocratic appearance was collapsed by the Great Ansei Quake in 1854, and it was not reconstructed and became ruined in 1869. But ‘ninomaru-goten’ (residence inside the 2nd defense block) built in the 18-19th century escaped from the collapse. It is precious because such remains existing still now are only Nijo Castle in Kyoto, Kawagoe Castle in Saitama and Kochi Castle in Kochi. So it is an important cultural property of Japan. The castle tower was reconstructed by the residents of Kakegawa City after 140 years since it got collapsed.

4 円満寺・路の門

The gate built near the inner moat (Hasuike) of the castle has survived the earthquake and was moved and reconstructed as the main gate of a temple. It is one of ‘Shikyakumon’ style architecture with additional 4 reserved posts, 2 in front and 2 in back of each gatepost at right and left. It is a high rank gate often used as the main gate. The balloon-flower designed on the roof tiles is family crest of the Ota family, the last lord of Kakegawa Castle and said to be ancestor of Ota Dokan. Balloon-flower is also the badge and the flower of Kakegawa City.

葛布 Kudzufu

It is a cloth woven with the fiber gathered from ‘kudzu’ (Japanese arrowroot) vine using it as the wool and by following the method handed down from the Kamakura Period (1185-1333). During the Edo Period (1603-1868) manufacture of kudzufu flourished along with prosperity of Kakegawa Shuku. Kudzufu was used for ‘kamishimo’ (formal kimono of samurai) and was valued highly as a souvenir of ‘Sankinkotai’ (a system that every feudal lords were required to stay every other year at their residence in Tokyo). Now there are only 3 manufacturers, but they are making products utilizing the merit of warmth and traditional beauty of the natural material.

Houses: 960
(2 honjin, 30 hatago)
Population: 3443
(as of 1843)

Old Tokaido Road Walking Route

Legend

- Red line: Sidewalk
- Red dotted line: Sidewalk narrower than 70 cm
- Blue circle with question mark: Information
- Blue circle with P: Parking lot
- Blue circle with camera: Picturing point
- Blue circle with bench: Bench
- Blue circle with toilet: Toilet
- Blue circle with wheelchair: Accessible toilet
- Blue circle with house: “Michi-no-Eki” (Road station)
- Blue circle with store: Convenience store
- Blue circle with arrow: Recommended route
- Blue circle with star: Other old road
- Green circle with pine trees: Row of pine trees
- Pink circle with cherry: Cherry tree
- Blue circle with board: Explanatory board
- Blue circle with bus: Bus stop
- Red circle with AED: Automated external defibrillator, AED
- Blue circle with arrow: East boundary of shukuba
- Blue circle with arrow: West boundary of shukuba