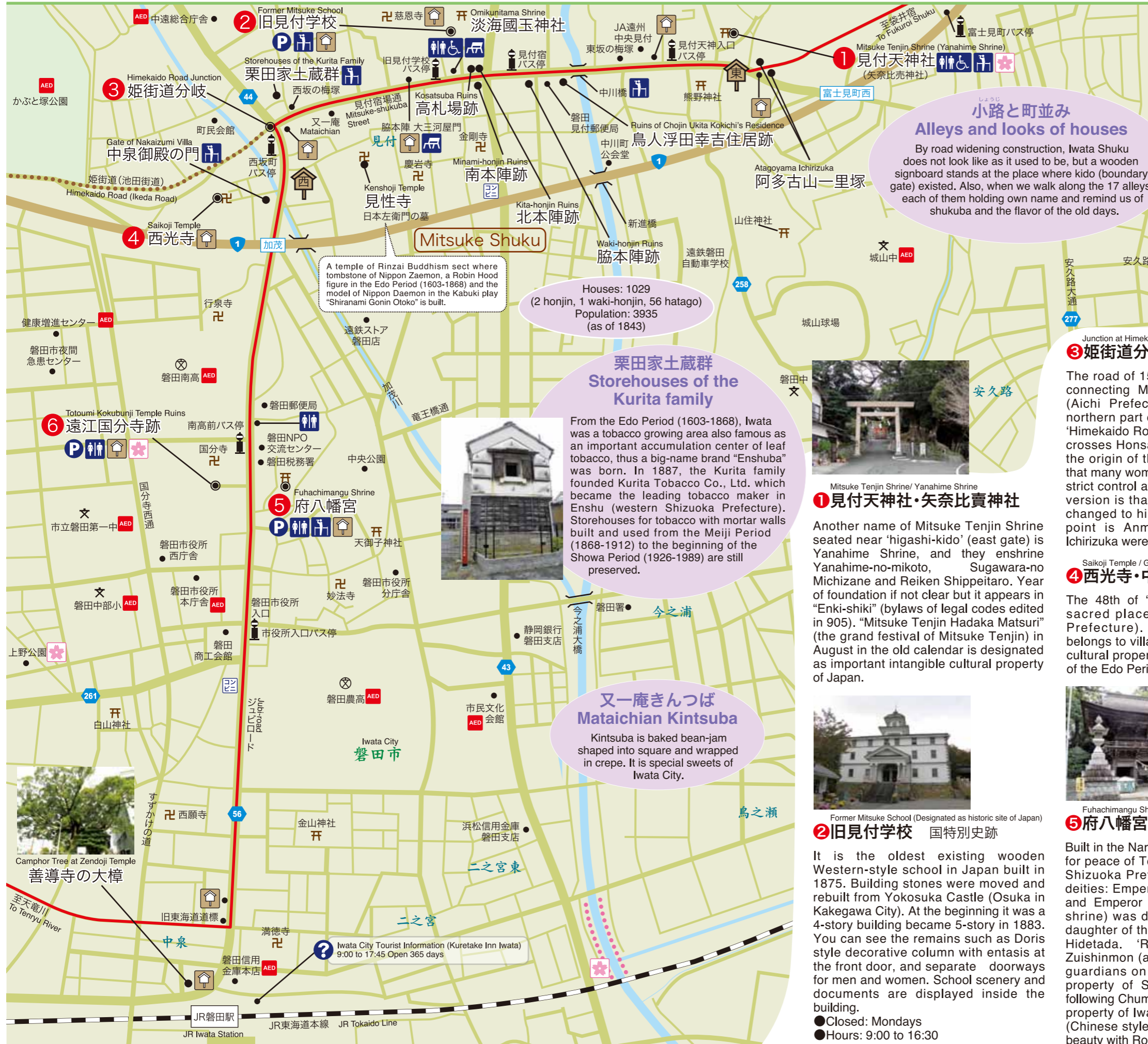


19 Iwata Mitsuke Shuku The Seat of the Ancient Provincial Government

Mitsuke Tenjin Shrine, Iwata City – JR Iwata Station, Iwata City



Introduction
 The 28th is a large shukuba. The name comes from the word “mitsukeru” (find) as it is located where travelers from Kyoto find Mt. Fuji for the first time. Mitsuke Shuku flourished as the seat of provincial government in the Nara Period (710-784), prospered as an outstanding shukuba of the Old Tokaido Road in the Kamakura Period (1185-1333) and thrived as town built in front of Kokubunji Temple (temples built at the Emperor’s behest) and Mitsuke-tenjin Shrine and also by offering lodgings to travelers when the crossing of Tenryu River was interrupted in the Edo Period (1603-1868).

**小路と町並み
 Alleys and looks of houses**

By road widening construction, Iwata Shuku does not look like as it used to be, but a wooden signboard stands at the place where kido (boundary gate) existed. Also, when we walk along the 17 alleys, each of them holding own name and remind us of shukuba and the flavor of the old days.



Ruins of Kokubunji Temple in Totoumi Province (Special historic site of Japan)

Houses: 1029
 (2 honjin, 1 waki-honjin, 56 hatago)
 Population: 3935
 (as of 1843)

**栗田家土蔵群
 Storehouses of the Kurita family**

From the Edo Period (1603-1868), Iwata was a tobacco growing area also famous as an important accumulation center of leaf tobacco, thus a big-name brand “Enshuba” was born. In 1887, the Kurita family founded Kurita Tobacco Co., Ltd. which became the leading tobacco maker in Enshu (western Shizuoka Prefecture). Storehouses for tobacco with mortar walls built and used from the Meiji Period (1868-1912) to the beginning of the Showa Period (1926-1989) are still preserved.



Mitsuke Tenjin Shrine/ Yanahime Shrine
1 見付天神社・矢奈比賣神社

Another name of Mitsuke Tenjin Shrine seated near ‘higashi-kido’ (east gate) is Yanahime Shrine, and they enshrine Yanahime-no-mikoto, Sugawara-no Michizane and Reiken Shippeitaro. Year of foundation if not clear but it appears in “Enki-shiki” (bylaws of legal codes edited in 905). “Mitsuke Tenjin Hadaka Matsuri” (the grand festival of Mitsuke Tenjin) in August in the old calendar is designated as important intangible cultural property of Japan.



Former Mitsuke School (Designated as historic site of Japan)
2 旧見付学校 国特別史跡

It is the oldest existing wooden Western-style school in Japan built in 1875. Building stones were moved and rebuilt from Yokosuka Castle (Osuka in Kakegawa City). At the beginning it was a 4-story building became 5-story in 1883. You can see the remains such as Doris style decorative column with entasis at the front door, and separate doorways for men and women. School scenery and documents are displayed inside the building.
 ● Closed: Mondays
 ● Hours: 9:00 to 16:30

3 姫街道分岐

The road of 15 ri (about 60 kilometers) connecting Mitsuke Shuku and Goyu (Aichi Prefecture) going around the northern part of Lake Hamana is called ‘Himekaido Road’ or Honsaka-michi as it crosses Honsaka Pass. One version of the origin of the name of Himekaido is that many women used this road to avoid strict control at the Arai Barrier. Another version is that “hine” meaning old has changed to hime. It is said the starting point is Anma in Hamamatsu City. Ichirizuka were also built.

4 西光寺・中泉御殿の門

The 48th of ‘Totoumi 49 Yakushi’ (49 sacred places in western Shizuoka Prefecture). The gate of the temple belongs to villa of Ieyasu, designated as cultural property of Iwata City as remain of the Edo Period (1603-1868) in the city.

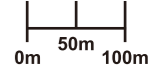


Fuhachimangu Shrine
5 府八幡宮

Built in the Nara Period (710-784) praying for peace of Totoumi Province (Western Shizuoka Prefecture) and enshrined 3 deities: Emperor Chuai, Empress Jingu and Emperor Ojin. ‘Honden’ (the inner shrine) was donated by Tofukumonin, daughter of the 2nd Tokugawa Shogun, Hidetada. ‘Romon’ (tower gate) is Zuishinmon (a gate protected by pair of guardians on both sides) and cultural property of Shizuoka Prefecture. The following Chumon (middle gate) is cultural property of Iwata City, built in Zenshuoyo (Chinese style) and showing contrastive beauty with Romon.

6 遠江国分寺跡 国特別史跡

It is said that in the Nara Period (710-784), Kokubunji (temple built at the Emperor’s behest) and Kokubunniji (nunnery built at the Emperor’s behest) were built at about 60 sites throughout Japan, but excavations are limited only to foundation stones for most of them. Ruins of the main temple such as 7-storied pagoda were discovered by an excavation investigation from 1952, they are designated as special historic sites of Japan equivalent importance to the national treasure.



Old Tokaido Road Walking Route

- Red line: Sidewalk
- Red dotted line: Sidewalk narrower than 70 cm
- Red double line: Stone pavement

Legend

- Information icon
- Parking lot icon
- Picturing point icon
- Bench icon
- Toilet icon
- Accessible toilet icon
- Other old road icon
- Convenience store icon
- Cherry tree icon
- Explanatory board icon
- Bus stop icon
- Automated external defibrillator, AED icon
- East boundary of shukuba icon
- West boundary of shukuba icon