

# 23 Maisaka Shuku and Arai Shuku Imagire Ferry Boat and Sea Barrier

JR Maisaka Station, Hamamatsu City – Hamana, Arai-cho, Kosai City

## Introduction

Lake Hamana became connected with the open sea by the earthquake in 1498 and by the rainstorm the year after. The place is called "Imagire" meaning 'cut now', the 30th Maisaka Shuku and the 31st Arai Shuku were the important points of "Imagire-no-Watashi" (Imagire ferry boat). However, Arai Shuku with the barrier monopolized the right.

### 1 見付石垣

'Gange', the landing place of ferry boat was the west entrance of Maisaka Shuku. There was a stone wall at 'higashi mitsuke', the east entrance and a guard stood to watch people and horses come in and go out. Although its construction time is unclear, it appears on the 1709s map. Used stones were the serpentinites unique colored came from the Kosai Mountain Range.



### 2 脇本陣跡 市文化財

The only waki-honjin existed in Maisaka Shuku was built in 1838, the drawing room is preserved. The original building was restored in 1998.

●Open: 9:00 to 16:00 (Closed on Mondays)

## 海苔の養殖 Laver Farming

Moritaya Hikonojo, a dried laver merchant of Omori in Tokyo and dried laver artisan Omori Sanjiro advised the owner on laver farming at tasting excellent natural dried laver served at hatago in Maisaka. With an environment suited for laver and eager guidance of the advisors, they succeeded in laver cultivation in 1820 and difficult shukuba economy became healthy. Dried laver is specialty of Maisaka still now.



## Attention

No public transportation to Shirasuka Shuku and Futagawa Shuku

**Arai Shuku**  
Houses: 797 (3 honjin, 26 hatago)  
Population: 3474 (as of 1843)

**Maisaka Shuku**  
Houses: 541 (2 honjin, 1 waki-honjin, 28 hatago)  
Population: 2475 (as of 1843)

### 5 八郎兵衛本陣跡

Hachirobe Honjin Ruins

### 5 武兵衛本陣跡

Yagosuke Honjin Ruins

## 新居町の町歩き Strolling in Arai-cho

Five of the 26 hatago ranging from west side of the barrier served as waki-honjin. Kinokuniya was the usual hatago of the Kishu clan (feudal clan having son of Ieyasu as ancestor) also intermediated shichiri-bikyaku (express messenger set up by feudal clan to communicate with Tokyo it was restored and now opens to public. Komatsuro, a geisha house built at the end of the Meiji Period (1868-1912) keeps atmosphere of old days with unique layout and red ochre wall. It is open to public as "Komatsuro Town Promotion and Exchange Hall".

### 6 諏訪神社

Suwa Shrine

## 岐佐神社 Kisa Shrine and Akaiishi

Guardian deity of marine and fishing industry also believed to have miraculous efficacy on burns and illness. World's largest class drum about 2.4 meters in diameter is donated at "Maisaka Great Drum Festival" in September in the old calendar.

### 3 雁木

The 3 ferry landing places at Maisaka Shuku were called 'gange'. Gange had stairs and the north gange was used mainly by daimyo (feudal lord) and shogunate officials, the center gange was used by samurai and the south gange was used by the ordinary travelers, horses and loading and unloading of goods. The most used south gange was also called 'tokaba'.

to the present place after 3 months by a full speed construction. The shogunate set up barrier at 53 sites throughout Japan. Arai Barrier was under direct control of the shogunate during 100 years. Various kinds of IDs were required at barriers especially women going to Tokyo had to carry a special ID called "Iri-onna-tegata". Built in 1855, it is the only barrier remains and designated as special historical site of Japan.



### 4 新居の宿と新居関所

In 1600, Arai Shuku was located near the entrance of Lake Hamana, but relocated because of high waves in 1699. It was destroyed by the great earthquake and tsunami in 1707, but relocated

●Open: 9:00 to 17:00 (Closed on Mondays)  
●Admission: ¥300 for adults, ¥400 including admission to Kinokuniya

### 6 諏訪神社

More than 300 years, since the Edo Period (1603-1868), "tezutsu-hanabi" (fireworks set off by holding in arms) is dedicated to the deity of this shrine. Stone lantern donated by Doi Magobe (designated as cultural property of Kosai City) is preserved in the hall of worship and name of the ship and the ship owner are curved on the stone wall restored in 1886. Sacred zelkova tree became 450 years old.

### 5 3軒の本陣

There were 3 honjin in Arai Shuku: 'Yagosuke' (621 square meters), 'Buhe' (648 square meters) and 'Hachirobe' (638 square meters). Feudal lords, Imperial messengers, court nobles, high priests, vassal of shogun and officials of the shogunate stayed at honjin. Each honjin is said to have had from 60 to 90 daimyo, Imperial family, court nobles as regular guests. Buhe Honjin is still preserved.

## Old Tokaido Road Walking Route

- Red line: Sidewalk
- Red dotted line: Sidewalk narrower than 70 cm

### Legend

- Information
- Parking lot
- Picturing point
- Bench
- Toilet
- Accessible toilet
- Convenience store
- Recommended route
- Row of pine trees
- Cherry tree
- Explanatory board
- Bus stop
- AED Automated external defibrillator, AED
- View point of Mt. Fuji
- East boundary of shukuba
- West boundary of shukuba

