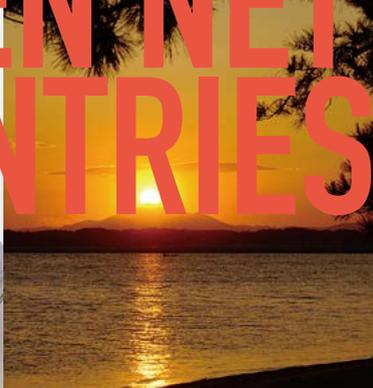
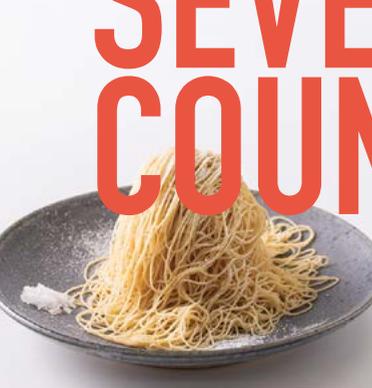




THE SEVEN NET COUNTRIES

A Journey Through Seven Towns



Ishioka / Kasama / Kasumigaura / Namegata / Hokota / Omitama / Ibaraki

01

Town where you can find the history from 1300 years ago as well as the traditional and nostalgic village culture



Ishioka City Tourism Association



Ishioka City

In Ishioka City, there are various attractive spots with different characteristics, such as the urban area with many historical sites and billboard architecture reminiscent of the Showa Period(1926-1989), the Yasato area where you can connect with the rich nature of the satoyama (woodland in a village), and the Takahama district on the shore of Lake Kasumigaura!

A Ikedaya Confectionery

5-1-34 Fuchu, Ishioka City
TEL.0299-22-2083
Open 9:00-17:00 / Closed on Sundays

Monaka type of wafer sandwich, formed in the shape of a lion mask, which is the symbol of Ishioka, containing two kinds of sweet bean paste; mashed red bean paste and white bean paste. An 'Ishioka Select' certified product.

C Ishiokasand

1-1-1 Ishioka, Ishioka City (Ishioka City Commerce and Tourism Division)
TEL.0299-23-1111

Ishioka's specialty sweets made by confectionery stores in the city using local produce. Please enjoy different flavors unique to each store.

An Ishiokasand using refreshing blueberries. This is a European style pastry using rice flour and blueberries produced in Ishioka City.

F The Ishioka Festival



D Kura+Katsu yasato Restaurant

200 Shimoaoyagi, Ishioka City(Within parking area of Ibaraki Flower Park)
TEL. 0299-42-4822
Open Monday, Wednesday through Friday, 11:00 -15:00(last order 14:30)
Closed on Tuesdays(Open if a public holiday and closed on the following day)

The Tonkatsu (pork cutlets) made with locally grown pork and sake yeast from the Daiginjo sake from their own brewery has crispy surface with juicy texture inside.

The Great Autumn Festival, one of the Hitachinokuni Soshagu Annual Festivals, is held in every year over the three days with ending on Respect for the Aged Day as the last day in September. Prestigious 'Mikoshi' (portable shrines), 'Dashi' (decorated floats) and 'Horjishi' (lion dance troupes) parade through the streets of the city.

B Ibaraki Flower Park

200 Shimoaoyagi, Ishioka City
TEL. 0299-42-4111
Open 9:00-17:00**Times may change depending on the season.
Closed on Tuesdays(Open if a public holiday and closed on the following day)

You can enjoy more than 900 kinds of roses, the Prefectural Flower, and seasonal flowers throughout the year. Not just watching but you can 'experience' flowers, greenery and the charm of Ibaraki with 100 activities to stimulate all of your senses!

Experience



E Asahi Satoyama School

630 Shibauchi, Ishioka City
TEL.0299-51-3117
Open 9:00-17:00 (Reservations required)
Closed on Mondays

This is an experiential learning and sightseeing facility using the abolished elementary school that was built in 1955. There are many kinds of experience-based programs that make use of nature around the school.



G Hitachinokuni Soshagu (The Grand Shrine of Hitachi Province)

2-8-1 Soja, Ishioka City TEL.0299-22-2233

A historical shrine in which the gods of Hitachi Province were enshrined together by the Kokufu Government about 1000 years ago. In the precincts, there is a legendary stone upon which Yamato Takeru no Mikoto is said to have sat.



Ibaraki Flower Park offers activities and programs that stimulates all of one's senses. You can also stay at the adjacent accommodation, HANAYASATOYAMA, where you can enjoy the rich nature of satoyama forest.

Sweets



Gourmet



02

A city of history and art marked by rich nature



Kasama Tourist Association



Kasama City

Kasama City is located in the center of Ibaraki Prefecture, about 100 km from Tokyo, and is full of charms, including rich nature, historic shrines and temples, unique Kasama pottery ware, beautiful seasonal flowers, and the autumn taste of chestnuts.

A Ochibo Guri

[Gruyere] 285 Shimoichike, Kasama City
TEL.0296-72-6557
Open 9:00-18:00

A cookie made from flour combined with the powder of chestnuts, a specialty of Kasama City. It is a sweet with a nice texture that is moist and melts in your mouth.

B La Kuri

22-1 Tegoshi, Kasama City (within Roadside Station Kasama)
TEL. 0296-73-6439
Open 9:30-18:00(Last order 17:30)
Closed in conjunction with Roadside Station Kasama.

Shop and cafe specializing in 'Chestnuts of Kasama.' You can enjoy sweets with the taste of chestnuts, starting with 'La Kuri Filo' for which the chestnut paste is made immediately after ordering.



'La Kuri Filo' is an exquisite sweet with freshly made chestnut paste on top of fresh cream filled with chestnuts.

Gourmet



C Kasama Inari Sushi

Available on Kasama Inari Monzen-dori Street and at other places

A local gourmet product in Kasama City named after the Kasama Inari-jinja Shrine. These inari sushi feature a variety of fillings made with ingredients such as soba, walnuts and maitake mushrooms.



F Kasama Himatsuri (Kasama Pottery Festival)

2345 Kasama, Kasama City (Kasama Art Forest Park)
TEL.0296-73-0058 (Kasama Pottery Association)

The largest pottery market in Kasama, approximately 200 kms and individual potters gather and set up booths to display to sell their works.



Nature



D Kasama Tsutsuji (Azalea) Park

616-7 Kasama, Kasama City
TEL.0296-72-9222 (Kasama Tourist Association)

Approximately 7 hectares in the Kasama Tsutsuji Park are dyed a bright red when the Azaleas are in bloom. During Golden Week, various events are held at the top of the hill in the park.

Experience



E Craffhills Kasama [Pottery Experience]

2388-1 Kasama, Kasama City
TEL.0296-70-1313
Open 10:00-17:00 / Closed on Mondays (Open if a public holiday and closed on the following day)

You can experience making a ceramic work with a potter's wheel or by hand-twisting. There are plenty of cafe lounges, exhibition rooms and souvenir corners.

G Kasama Inari-jinja Shrine

1 Kasama, Kasama City
TEL.0296-73-0001

The guardian deity of new industries are enshrined here, and many people from throughout the country visit this shrine as one of the three major Inari shrines in Japan. The shrine was constructed in 651.



There are about 40 restaurants and souvenir shops in front of the gate, including the 'naka-mise' stalls within the precinct of the shrine.

03

Sparkling lakes and mountains A city of smiles and vibrancy

This is a blissful dish of custard cream crispy brûlée with vanilla ice cream.



A Grilled Sweet Potato Brûlée

1F Hotori Station Kohan, 4784 Saka, Kasumigaura City (Kasumigaura City Exchange Center)/TEL. 029-840-9010 /Open 10:00-16:00 every day (Dec.-Feb.)10:00-16:00 weekdays, 9:00-17:00 Sat., Sun. & public holidays (Mar.-Nov.)

The latest sweet "Grilled Sweet Potato Brûlée" uses the Beniharuka type of sweet potato, which is characterized by its smooth texture, and goes well with vanilla ice cream.



B Chozen-ji Temple (Hozaki Kannon)

921 Saka, Kasumigaura City
TEL.029-896-0012

Built on a hill in Hozaki, one of Ibaraki's 100 views, the main image of an 11-faced Kannon has been worshipped as the guardian deity for safe childbirth and for safety on the water for fishermen.

C Yukiiri Fureainosato Park

452-1 Yukiire, Kasumigaura City
TEL. 0299-59-7000
Open 9:00-16:30

Closed Mondays (open if a public holiday and closed on the following day) and over the new year's holiday (Dec. 28 -Jan. 4)

You can enjoy the magnificent and quiet natural scenery around the park in every season while refreshing yourself by hiking.



Kasumigaura City

Surrounded by the heights of the Tsukuba Mountains and Kasumigaura, the second largest lake in Japan, this rural city is rich in nature. Fruit tree cultivation utilizing the blessings of nature and fishing for icefish and smelt in Lake Kasumigaura are popular.



Kasumigaura City
Tourist Association

Gourmet



Omiyage



Experience



D Kasumi Kitchen (sale of food)

Hotori Station Kohan, 4784 Saka, Kasumigaura City (Kasumigaura City Exchange Center) TEL. 029-896-1227
Open 11:00 - 14:00 weekdays, 11:00 - 16:00 Sat., Sun. & public holidays
Closed on Mondays (Open if a public holiday and closed on the following day)

The Kasumi Kitchen offers cuisine that takes advantage of the city's products, such as icefish rice bowls, carp and lake puffer fish hamburgers.

E Kasumi Marché (sale of local products)

1F Hotori Station Kohan, 4784 Saka, Kasumigaura City (Kasumigaura City Exchange Center) TEL. 029-840-9010
Open 10:00-16:00 every day (Dec.-Feb.)10:00-16:00 weekdays, 9:00-17:00 Sat., Sun. & public holidays (Mar. - Nov.)

The Kasumi Marché carries many of the city's recommended "Kozan no Takara" certified products and serves as a base for introducing local products.

F Fishing Sailboats for Sightseeing

Reception in front of Hotori Station Kohan, 4784 Saka, Kasumigaura City (Kasumigaura City Exchange Center) TEL: 029-897-1111 (Kasumigaura City Tourist Association)
Open Sundays, sailings at 13:00 & 14:15 (late July - October)
Sundays, sailing at 16:00 (November)
NB: Advance reservations required

From an accompanying boat, you can see the powerful sailing boat sailing through the magnificent Lake Kasumigaura with its white sails raised high.

G Cycling for Sightseeing

Rental reception at 1F Hotori Station Kohan, 4784 Saka, Kasumigaura City (Kasumigaura City Exchange Center)
TEL. 029-840-9010
Open 9:00-16:00 (Dec.-Feb.) 9:00-17:00 (Mar.-Nov.)

Bicycle rental and support station. Anyone can enjoy cycling easily!



Kasuiichi, Tsukuichi and Koyamaichi, the city's original three major round-trip courses, arrive at and depart from Kasumigaura City.



04

The bounty of water and a healing landscape A city where history and culture coexist



Namegata City
Tourism Association

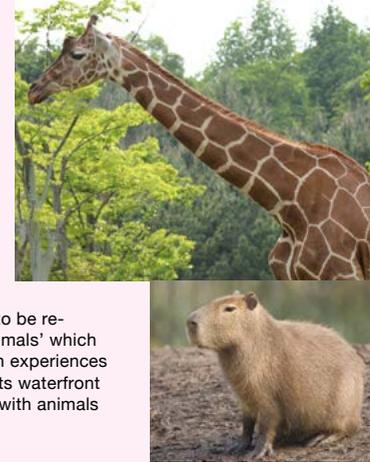


Namegata City

Namegata City is located between two lakes, Lake Kitaura to the east and Lake Kasumigaura to the west. One can enjoy fishing, agriculture, animal husbandry, history and culture with the bounty of the water and the earth. Why not enjoy the many water activities in this city?



A Kasumigaura Fureai Land
-- The place for everyone and the animals --
1234 Tamatsukuri Ko, Namegata City-
TEL.0299-55-3927
Open 9:30-16:30(Last entry 16:00)
Closed on Mondays(Open if a public holiday and closed on the following day)



Kasumigaura Fureai Land is scheduled to be re-opened as a 'place for everyone and animals' which aims to revitalize the community through experiences and learning while taking advantage of its waterfront location. You can also enjoy interacting with animals such as giraffes and capybaras.

Superb fresh cream is an art! The shortcake and really good strawberry daifuku are highly recommended!

Sweets



B Kashin Matsuya -Le Coeur du Gâteau
3010-5 Yamada, Namegata City
TEL.0291-35-2646
Open 9:00-19:00
Closed on Wednesdays

Kashin Matsuya is a long-established confectionery that has been loved since 1958. It is a store with a stylish exterior based on Japanese esthetics with a wide repertoire of products.

Experience

C Lapoppo Namegata Farmers Village
1561 Uzaki, Namegata City
TEL.0299-87-1130
Open 10:00-17:00
Closed on Tuesdays

A hands-on agricultural theme park where you can eat, play and learn about nature. It is a facility where you can actually touch the soil and enjoy agriculture and food in a place full of nature.

Omiyage

D Namegata Tourist & Produce Center Koikoi
Tamatsukuri Ko, Namegata City
TEL.0299-36-2781
Open 9:00-18:00
Open all year round

Located at the foot of Kasumigaura Bridge is Koikoi, a produce display hall where you can enjoy the magnificent views of Kasumigaura. The famous 'Namegata Burger' is superb!!

E Fishing Sailboats for Sightseeing
3282-10 Yamada, Namegata City
TEL.0299-32-7561
Open every Saturday and Sunday from October to November

These sailboats are breathtakingly beautiful, dynamic and heroic as they sail with their full white sails in the wind crossing the surface of the lake.



F Sairen-ji Temple
504 Sairen-ji, Namegata City TEL. 0299-56-0107

Sairen-ji is an ancient temple that is said to have been founded in 782 and has many cultural properties. It is commonly called the Mt. Koya of Hitachi.

The large Ginkgo tree in the temple precincts which is estimated to be over 1,000 years old, is designated as a prefectural natural monument. Its yellow carpet of leaves in autumn is very beautiful.





Hokota City Tourist and Products Association



A Melon
 [Nadaro]
 537-1 Iina, Hokota City
 TEL. 0291-34-8888
 Open 9:30-17:30
 [Sun Green Asahi]
 602-6 Momiya, Hokota City
 TEL. 0291-37-4147
 Open 9:00-18:00 (Apr.-Sept.)
 9:00-17:00 (Oct.-Mar.)
 Closed on Wednesdays

A farm stand operated by the agricultural cooperative. You can buy seasonal and fresh local produce such as melons and sweet potatoes.

Hokota City

Hokota City, the city that produces the most vegetables in Japan, is located along the Kashimanada Coast to the east. It is known as one of the leading producers of fruits such as melons and strawberries, as well as vegetables such as tomatoes and sweet potatoes.



The park roads which lead to the seaside, give superb views which have been used for filming many times, such as for dramas and commercials. Lay down on the lawn listening to the sound of the waves to refresh yourself!

B Kashimanada Seaside Park

390 Otake, Hokota City
 TEL.0291-34-1010
 Open 9:00-18:00 (Farm stand, until 17:30 Oct.-Mar.)
 10:30-17:30 (Restaurant, until 17:00 Oct.-Mar.)
 Both closed on Wednesdays(Open if a public holiday and closed on the following day)

A park that takes advantage of rich nature. The site covers 20.7 hectares. There are also multi-purpose playground equipment, farm stands, and restaurants where families can enjoy their time.

Gourmet



C Santé Kitchen

1342-3 Kamihataki, Hokota City
 TEL.0291-34-5500
 Open 10:00-15:00
 Open on weekends and public holidays

The Santé Kitchen offers sweets, drinks and lunch boxes using vegetables and fruits from Hokota City. There is a Farm stand that sells seasonal fresh vegetables harvested locally.

F Clam Festival

[Yamada Shop]
 1326-4 Otake, Hokota City
 TEL.050-3395-3964
 Open 9:00 - 14:00 (mid-April to late June)

An annual clam digging event held by the seaside stall Yamada Shop. Even small children can enjoy safely participating because the clams are released in advance into the sea at a sandy beach where there are no waves.



Sweets



D FARM PÂTISSERIE LE FUKASAKU

157 Dainigorizawa, Hokota City
 TEL.0291-32-8732
 Open 9:30~18:00(Cafe last order 17:00)
 Open every day Dec.-Sept.
 Closed on Wednesdays Oct.-Nov.

This 100 year old farmhouse cafe and sweet shop features special dishes using home-grown melons, strawberries and tomatoes. You can have the luxury of a parfait made with seasonal ingredients that only a farmer can provide is especially recommended.



This is a luxurious parfait that uses lots of seasonal ingredients grown by Fukasaku Farm. Strawberry (December to May), Melon (late May to August), Sweet Potato (September to November)

Experience



E Forest Park Melon-no-Mori (Pick your own melons)

1623-1 Anbo, Hokota City
 TEL.0291-33-2858
 Open 9:00 - 17:00 (Early May to early July, mid September to late October)

Melon-no-Mori are proud of their fresh and ripe melons. You can find the melon you like best from the melon field. You can also enjoy the finest Hitachi beef barbecue without having to bring any equipment.



G Itsukushima-jinja Shrine (Konaji Benzaiten)

877 Konaji, Hokota City
 This shrine was founded with a spirit brought from the Itsukushima-jinja Shrine of Aki Province. It is said that there are benefits for fertility and safe childbirth, and the main shrine above the water is designated as a prefectural cultural property.

The Air gateway for the northern Kanto region with beautiful views



Omitama Prefectural
Tourism Federation



Omitama City

Omitama City, located in the center of Ibaraki Prefecture of a thriving city of dairy farming and agriculture. The city has many facilities including Ibaraki Airport, the Air Self-Defense and Force's Hyakuri Base the magnificent Lake Kasumigaura, and calls itself as Diamond City.

A Omitama Yogurt

[Sky Station Sorara]
1628-44 Yamano, Omitama City
TEL.0299-56-5677
Open 9:00~18:00 / all year round

This yogurt is a specialty of Omitama City. It is a drink yogurt that uses plenty of raw milk and is smooth to drink with a perfect balance of acidity and richness. Seasonal variations are also popular.

B A rural area with the fragrance of flowers

[Kibogaoka Hill Park]
559 Nakadai, Omitama City
[Lake Kasumigaura] 2508-1 Shimo-tamari,
Omitama City / TEL.0299-48-1111

Seasonal flowers (rape blossoms and cosmos) bloom all over Kibogaoka Hill Park and along the shores of Lake Kasumigaura. It is familiar to residents as one of the features of Omitama City.



Rape blossoms: Early April to early May, Cosmos: Late September to late October

Gourmet



C Akane Farm

1376-37 Iisaki, Omitama City
TEL.0299-53-0466 / Open 11:30-15:00
Closed on Sundays, Mondays &
Wednesdays (some unscheduled
closures possible)
NB: Reservations necessary

Akane Farm serves lunch dishes made with lots of fresh vegetables grown in Omitama City and by their own company.

Many people come to receive a stamped print depicting the deity enshrined, a rarity nationwide. Stamped prints for the Hyakuri-jinja Shrine and Mimimori-jinja Shrine can also be received here.



F Soga-jinja Shrine

1658-1Ogawa, Omitama City
TEL.0299-58-0846

This shrine was founded in 1529. The Gion Festival, held every summer over 3 days, has a history of approximately 500 years. Stamped prints, which is a sign showing that one has visited to worship, is also popular.

Sweets



D Atelier Petit Bois

1887-1 Kitahara, Koiwato, Omitama City / TEL.0299-56-2577 / Open 10:00-18:00 / Closed on Wednesdays

The Atelier Petit Bois is a workshop surrounded by the nature of Omitama City, that bakes Baumkuchen and other sweets using homemade powdered rice flour. They make seasonal products that use ingredients of Ibaraki. There is also a cafe inside.

Minoriz is a soft type Baumkuchen made with Koshihikari rice from Omitama City, Ibaraki Prefecture.



G First sunrise of the year and Diamond Tsukuba

[Near Lake Kasumigaura]
2508-1 Shimo-tamari, Omitama City
TEL.0299-48-1111

A variation of scenery can be enjoyed around Lake Kasumigaura depending on the season. On January 1, the first sunrise event is held, and Diamond Tsukuba, when the sun rises from behind Mt. Tsukuba, can be seen in May and July.



First Sunrise Event: January 1, Diamond Tsukuba: Mid-May and Late July

Experience



E Shuzen-in [Sutra copying experience]

631 Shimo-yoshikage, Omitama City
TEL.0299-53-0412
NB: Please contact us in advance for Sutra copying experience.

The temple was founded in 1444. The 21st of each month is designated as the Day of the Grand Master, and on this day you can experience sutra copying and learn the rituals of worship.

A comfortably rural locality, Ibaraki Town

A Pocket Farm Dokidoki

1945 Shimohaji, Ibaraki Town
TEL.029-240-7777 / Open 9:30-17:30 / Closed on Wednesdays

Pocket Farm Dokidoki is a leisure facility that provides agricultural experiences based on the themes of nature, agriculture and food. There is a wide selection of vegetables, fruits and processed products from local producers.



Ibaraki Town

Located almost in the center of Ibaraki Prefecture, Ibaraki Town is blessed with a natural environment rich in water and greenery, including Lake Hinuma, and a pleasant lifestyle environment adjacent to Mito City, the capital of the prefecture, and continues to develop as a city where urban and rural areas are in harmony.



Ibaraki Town
Tourism Association

B Hinuma Nature Park

2263 Naka-ishizaki, Ibaraki Town / TEL. 029-293-7441
Open 9:00-17:00 / Closed on Mondays (Nov. -Mar.)

You can enjoy the seasonal flowers in the park while feeling nature up close. In early summer, 10,000 hydrangeas of about 30 species bloom all through the valley.

The adjacent campsite has 56 sites for auto camping as well as a tent sites with a maximum capacity for 250 tents.



Gourmet



C Daikokuya Restaurant

47-3 Okunoya, Ibaraki Town
TEL.029-292-0070
Open 11:00-14:00 / Days closed irregular

A variety of dishes such as Yashijimi ramen, which uses local ingredients such as Hitachi beef and Wanoka pork, which are specialties of Ibaraki Town.

Sweets



D Patisserie Boulogne

1847-6 Odo, Ibaraki Town
TEL.029-246-6026
Open 9:00-19:00 / Closed on Mondays

Using carefully selected ingredients, Patisserie Boulogne offers European style sweets that will both make you happy and impress you. The 'horseshoe' eclairs and daily variations of crepes are also popular.

Experience



E Oyazawa Park

4144-4 Kami-ishizaki, Ibaraki Town
TEL.029-240-7124

Oyazawa Park is a scenic spot famous for its many pine trees. There is also a monument of a haiku written by Mitsukuni Tokugawa 'The Sole Pine of Oyazawa,' and the view of Mt. Tsukuba in the distance with the sun setting over Lake Hinuma is superb.

F Ibaraki Festival

1037-1 Ozutsumi, Ibaraki Town
TEL. 029-240-7124

Held every November. This is the largest event in the town where booths for sales of goods, local gourmet food, fun activities and promotions come together.



Lake Hinuma, a brackish-water lake, is one of the most famous production areas in Japan where good quality freshwater basket clams can be found. They are large, meaty, and have a rich taste. They are also popular to take home as gifts.



G Enpuku-ji Temple

656 Torihata, Ibaraki Town / TEL. 029-240-7122

Enpuku-ji is a temple of the Tendai sect. It possesses a nationally designated Important Cultural Property, the 'Wooden Seated Statue of Amida Nyorai (Amitabha)' and the prefectural designated Cultural Property 'Wooden Triad Statue of Amida Nyorai.'

