

Kanmon “Nostalgic” Straits



日本遺産



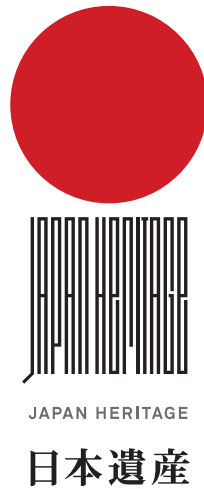
Kanmon “Nostalgic” Straits
Official Web Site

Japan Heritage

Kanmon “Nostalgic” Straits

- Memories of Japan’s modernization frozen in time -

GUIDEBOOK



About the Japan Heritage logo

The Japan Heritage logo was designed by Taku Sato. The red circle symbolizes Japan, and the group of thin lines that appear as a vertical lattice, spell out the word Japan Heritage. This group of lines creates a surface and expresses a shift of perspective towards a connectivity of the narratives and cultural properties that lead to Japan Heritage.

Outline of Japan Heritage

The Mission of Japan Heritage

Heritage is a connection to our past: a legacy of our cultural and natural history, and an invaluable source of inspiration to pass on to future generations.

The Agency for Cultural Affairs' Japan Heritage aims to promote our unique cultural traditions, encourage use of our national cultural properties, and to revitalize regional economies.

Japan's tangible and intangible cultural properties have been preserved through narratives based on unique regional histories and traditions.

By recognizing these stories as Japan Heritage, the Agency plans to promote these historical legacies

and to provide comprehensive support so that this heritage may be effectively preserved and maintained.

While the emphasis in registering for World Heritage or for designation as a cultural property is focused on evaluating values of the cultural properties to be registered or designated and to ensure preservation thereof, Japan Heritage has a different focus. Japan Heritage does not aim to evaluate value or establish new regulations for preservation of cultural properties, but to perceive legacies scattered about in a region as a cohesive story. The objective is to publicize such stories and utilize the stories to promote revitalization of the local communities.





Kanmon “Nostalgic” Straits Story

- Memories of Japan’s modernization frozen in time -



Prologue

Look down on the Kanmon region from above and you’ll see the islands of Honshu and Kyushu reaching towards one another, nearly connecting. There are mountains facing one another across the banks of the Kanmon Straits, as if jutting out into the sea. From there, you can look out onto a streetscape of retro-modern buildings and a view of the straits plied by a steady stream of large tankers and passenger ships. Both shores of the Kanmon Straits rapidly developed from the Meiji period (1868–1912) to the early Showa era (1926–1989), and the modern buildings constructed at that time using state-of-the-art designs and techniques still stand carefully preserved on the streets today. Ferries and undersea tunnels can be used to readily explore the port towns on both banks of the straits, which are connected by a closely linked transportation network.

The historical geographic location of the Kanmon Straits

Since ancient times, the Kanmon region has linked government roads and major highways travelled by many people and goods. The Kanmon Straits is the juncture between the Seto Inland Sea and the Sea of Japan, and forms a crossroad between land and sea routes. At the end of the Edo period (1603–1868), ships from Western countries also began passing through the straits due to pressure to allow foreign diplomacy and trade. Loyal subjects of the Choshu Domain who understood the importance of this sealed the straits and expelled foreigners. This caused the Shimonoseki War, which resulted in Japan changing direction and opening up of the country to foreign trade. It became a turning point that altered the course of history.





Kanmon “Nostalgic” Straits Story

- Memories of Japan’s modernization frozen in time -

An International Port City: The opening and development of Kanmon Port

The Choshu Domain, which suffered a crushing defeat in the Shimonoseki War, appointed Shinsaku Takasugi as an envoy to establish peace, and effectively opened Shimonoseki Port in 1864. In accordance with the Osaka Treaty (1867) concluded between the shogunate government and Britain, Western-style lighthouses were built in the Kanmon Straits, which became a gateway to the outside world. A group of British technical experts led by Richard Henry Brunton designed Mutsurejima Lighthouse on the western side of the straits and Hesaki Lighthouse on the eastern side. Both were first lit in 1872 and became guiding lights for the Kanmon Straits and Japan’s civilization and enlightenment. Guarded by the light of these twin Western-style lighthouses, Shimonoseki Port and Moji Port were both designated as special ports of export and ports of call for regular shipping services to the Continent. Shimonoseki Port had been a port of call for the kitamae-bune cargo ships since the Edo period (1603–1868), and Moji Port was bolstered by the large supply district of Chikuho Coalfields and the coal stopover of Wakamatsu. The area began garnering attention as an international port city. It all began with regular services between Yokohama/Kobe and Shanghai in 1875. Later, after being designated a trading port with Korea, the recently established Osaka Shosen Kaisha (Osaka Mercantile Steamship Co., Ltd.) and Nippon Yusen Kabushiki Kaisha entered the market. In 1889, Moji Station (present-day Mojiko Station) was established along with the opening of Kyushu Railway, and Kanmon Port became a bustling trading center for land and sea cargo. A British Consulate was set up in Shimonoseki in 1901 based on a proposal by Ernest Mason Sato, the British Minister Plenipotentiary to Japan, who early on recognized the international importance of the Kanmon region. Five years later, the brick British Consulate in Shimonoseki was built.

From the late Meiji period (1868–1912) to the Taisho era (1912–1926), financial entities such as the Bank of Japan, trading companies such as Mitsubishi and Mitsui, and a cluster of food factories through capital provided by Suzuki Shoten (Suzuki & Co.) successively established bases along the Kanmon Straits. Streetscapes began to feature rows of modern buildings with stately structures and state-of-the-art design. In addition, after Hirobumi Ito lifted the ban on eating fugu (pufferfish) at the Japanese-style restaurant, Shunpanro, the local area came to be known and loved for pufferfish cuisine, which is said to bring good luck. Pufferfish is eaten in a variety of ways, including raw, in a hot pot dish, deep fried, as soft roe, and in hot sake flavored with grilled pufferfish fins. Furthermore, as overseas ship routes expanded, the tatakuri auctions of bananas imported in large quantities from Taiwan became famous in this area. These have been handed down to modern times.

Completion of Kaikyo Shichiro

In the Showa era (1926–1989), plans were made to construct the Kanmon Railway Tunnel, the world’s first undersea tunnel, that would connect both shores of the straits through the seabed. The outbound line opened in 1942, and the inbound line in 1944. The two characters for kanmon mean “barrier” and “gate”, and now there was a land route that broke through the barrier and threw the gates wide open.. A car tunnel and pedestrian tunnel were opened later, and the completion of the Kanmon Bridge created a diverse transportation network across the Kanmon Straits called Kaikyo Shichiro. The Kanmon region that until then had undertaken the role of a juncture for land and sea traffic became a passage point between Honshu and Kyushu, and stately modern clusters of buildings constructed from the Meiji period (1868–1912) to the early Showa era (1926–1989) still remain, frozen in time.

Kanmon “Nostalgic” Straits - Memories of Japan’s modernization frozen in time -

In the Kanmon Straits, imported cultures brought by foreign ships took root, and groups of period buildings from the age when Japan launched into the modernization of its nation are still carefully preserved today amid a landscape of foreign ships coming and going on the narrow straits. If you explore both banks using the Kaikyo Shichiro, you’ll discover a nostalgic streetscape that seems as if it belongs to a movie set.



Former Akita Shokai Bldg. (Shimonoseki City)

Former Moji Customs Bldg. (Kitakyushu City)

Hesaki Lighthouse (Kitakyushu City)



Kanmon “Nostalgic” Straits List of individual cultural assets

- Memories of Japan’s modernization frozen in time -



Enjoy with audio guide!



Check details of individual cultural assets here!



1 Mojiko Station (former Moji Station) Main Building

Designated National Important Cultural Properties (Building)

The wooden building coated in mortar was founded in 1914 as the second-generation Moji Station building.

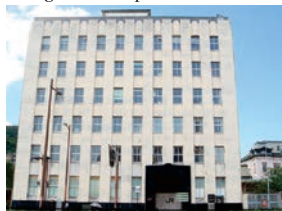


1-5-31 Nishikaigan, Moji-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture

2 Former JR Kyushu Headquarters Building

Undesignated (Building)

The building was the third-generation office building of Mitsui & Co., Ltd. as the trading company expanded business in Moji Port area. Designed on rationalism, the building epitomizes the modernization of Moji area. The building was completed in 1937.



1-6-2 Nishikaigan, Moji-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture

Exterior viewing only

3 Moji Yusen Building (Nippon Yusen Moji Branch)

Undesignated (Building)

The office building standing right in front of Mojiko Station (former Moji Station) was initially founded as the branch office of Nippon Yusen. The four-story, reinforced concrete building was completed in 1927. Presently, it functions as Moji Yusen Building.



7-8 Minato-machi, Moji-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture

4 Kitakyushu City Former Osaka Shosen Building

Designated National Tangible Cultural Property (Building)

The wooden (partially brick mold) building was completed in 1917.

The two-story reinforced concrete office building belonged to Osaka Shosen.

The merchant ship company used Moji Port as the central hub of the continental sea routes.



7-18 Minato-machi, Moji-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture

5 Former Moji Mitsui Club

Main Building & Annex - Designated National Important Cultural Properties (Building)

The Moji branch of Mitsui & Co., Ltd., the trading company setting a foothold in Moji, built it to entertain clients and as accommodation.

The two-story wooden building was completed in 1921. It represents the modernization of Kitakyushu area during Taisho era.



7-1 Minato-machi, Moji-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture

Exterior viewing only

6 Holme Ringer Company

Undesignated (Building)

The building characteristically coated in pale colors is the heritage of Holme Ringer Company, originally established by a British merchant who made a significant contribution to the development of trades involving Japan during Meiji era. The building was completed in 1962.



9-9 Minato-machi, Moji-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture

List of individual cultural assets

7 Former Dalian Route Terminal

Undesignated (Building)

The passenger terminal was built for international routes connecting Japan with Dalian (China) and other ports across the world. The facility was completed in 1929.



1-3-5 Nishikaigan, Moji-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture

Exterior viewing only

8 Kitakyushu Bank Moji Branch (Former Yokohama Specie Bank Moji Branch)

Undesignated (Building)

The two-story reinforced concrete building was the branch office of Yokohama Specie Bank specialized in trade loans and foreign exchange. The building was completed in 1934.



2-3-4 Kiyotake, Moji-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture

9 Sankiro

Undesignated (Building)

The large-scale guesthouse was synonymous with the economic boom of Moji Port. The three-story wooden structure is the largest existing building for a restaurant in Kyushu. The construction was completed in 1931.



3-6-8 Kiyotake, Moji-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture

10 Kyushu Railway History Museum (Former Kyushu Railway Headquarters)

Designated National Tangible Cultural Property (Building)

The building served as the headquarters of Kyushu Railway established in 1888. The building was completed in 1891.



2-3-29 Kiyotake, Moji-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture

11 Moji Ward Office (Former Moji City Hall)

Designated National Tangible Cultural Property (Building)

The modern exterior adorns the building, which formerly served as Moji City Hall. The three-story reinforced concrete building was completed in 1930.



1-1-1 Kiyotake, Moji-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture

12 Former Moji Customs House

Undesignated (Building)

The office was built in 1912 for the operation of newly opened Moji Customs House. The two-story brick building with tile roofing was used as the customs office until early Showa era.



1-24 Higashiminato-machi, Moji-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture

Exterior viewing only

13 Iwata Residence – Main House and Earthen Storehouse

Kitakyushu City Designated Tangible Cultural Property (Building)

The shop-cum-residence belonged to Iwata Family, who sold alcohol products in Moji Port area since 1899. The framework of two-story wooden building was completed in 1921.



2-6-24 Higashihon-machi, Moji-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture

14 World Peace Pagoda

Undesignated (Building)

In 1958, the only Myanmar-style pagoda in Japan was erected in Mekari Park, Moji. The pagoda is dedicated to the memory of the victims of the Second World War, as well as for the friendship of Myanmar and Japan and for the world peace.



3251-4 Moji, Moji-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture

Normally not open to public

15 Nikka Whisky Distilling Co., Ltd Moji Distillery (Former Dairi Shochu Spirit Distillery)

Undesignated (Building)

Suzuki Shoten built the factory as a shochu (distilled spirit) distillery in 1914. The factory made shochu mainly for export to Korea and China.



2-1 Osato Motomachi, Moji-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture

Exterior viewing only

16 Nikka Whiskey Co., Ltd Moji Distillery Warehouse (Former Dairi Milling Warehouse)

Undesignated (Building)

The warehouse belonged to Dairi Flour Milling Company founded by Suzuki Shoten in Meiji era. The warehouse is still used today as Nikka Whisky warehouse.



2-1 Osato Motomachi, Moji-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture

17 Former Sapporo Beer Kyushu Plant Office Building, Brewery, Union Building, and Warehouse

Designated National Tangible Cultural Property (Building)

The plant was originally built for Teikoku Beer Company, established in 1912. The Office Building and Brewery were completed in 1913.



3-6-1 Osato Motomachi, Moji-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture

18 Hesaki Lighthouse

Undesignated (Building)

The lighthouse was first lit in March 1872. Its design is almost identical to Mutsureshima Lighthouse located at the west side of Kanmon Straits. The twin lighthouses were erected during the same period.



Shirano, Moji-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture

List of individual cultural assets

19 Wakamatsu Coal Hall

Undesignated (Building)

The oldest Western style building in Wakamatsu Ward used to serve as the state guest house and conference hall.



1-13-15 Honmachi, Wakamatsu-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture

20 Former Furukawa Mining Wakamatsu Building

Designated National Tangible Cultural Property (Building)

The modern structure symbolizes the economic boom of Wakamatsu as a trading hub of coals produced in Chikuho Coalfield. The two-story brick building was completed in 1919.



1-11-18 Honmachi, Wakamatsu-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture

21 Ueno Building (Former Mitsubishi Limited Partnership Company, Wakamatsu Branch) Main Building, Warehouse, Former Analysis Lab, etc.

Designated National Tangible Cultural Property (Building)

The company building of Mitsubishi Limited Partnership Company was where coals produced in Chikuho were sold and shipped. The Main Building is a three-story brick building, and the Warehouse is a two-story brick building. Former Analysis Lab is a single-story wooden building. The facility was completed in 1913.



1-10-17 Honmachi, Wakamatsu-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture

Exterior viewing only

22 Tochiki Building Undesignated (Building)

Undesignated (Building)

The building served as the headquarters of Tochiki Trading Company, a shipbuilder and a ship agent. The three-story reinforced concrete building is equipped with features unusual for the time, such as a semibasement and a private septic tank. The building was completed in 1920.



1-15-10 Honmachi, Wakamatsu-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture

23 Restaurant Kinnabe – Main Building and Front Gate

Designated National Tangible Cultural Property (Building)

The restaurant operating business in downtown Wakamatsu throughout Meiji and Taisho eras has been one of the most popular shops among numerous eateries in town. The Main Building has a three-story wooden structure. The present building was completed around 1917.



2-4-22 Honmachi, Wakamatsu-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture

24 Shimonoseki Station Handbell

JR West Designated Railway Cultural Property

The large handbell, used since the initial opening of the station, was thought to have been lost in a fire.



(Inside Shimonoseki Station) 4-3-1 Takezaki-cho, Shimonoseki City, Yamaguchi Prefecture

Exterior viewing only

25 Hachiya Building (Former Toyo Whaling Company Shimonoseki Branch)

Designated National Tangible Cultural Property (Building)

The building was erected in 1926 as the former Toyo Whaling Company Shimonoseki Branch and functioned as a foothold of the whaling industry.



13-7 Hanano-cho, Shimonoseki City, Yamaguchi Prefecture

26 Former Yamaguchi Bank Head Office

Yamaguchi Prefecture Designated Tangible Cultural Property (Building)

The building was initially founded in 1920 as the Shimonoseki Branch of Mitsui Bank, which started operation in the Kanmon area in 1876. After temporarily serving as the head office of The 110th Bank in 1933, the building was used as Yamaguchi Bank Head Office from 1944 to 1965.



10-6 Kannonzaki-cho, Shimonoseki City, Yamaguchi Prefecture

27 Chugoku Rokin Shimonoseki Branch (Former Fudo Chokin Bank Shimonoseki Branch)

Undesignated (Building)

Former Fudo Chokin Bank Shimonoseki Branch, built in the bank street of Shimonoseki side of the straits, has an innovative quakeproof structure. The three-story reinforced concrete building was completed in 1934.



21-23 Nabe-cho, Shimonoseki City, Yamaguchi Prefecture

28 Shimonoseki Nabecho Post Office (Former Akamagasaki Post and Telegram Office)

Designated National Tangible Cultural Property (Building)

The 2-story brick building founded in 1900 is the oldest functioning post office in Japan. Together with the banking industry flourished in Kanmon area, the facility witnesses how the area was one of the first to introduce the telecommunication services in Japan.



22-8 Nabe-cho, Shimonoseki City, Yamaguchi Prefecture

29 Former Akita Shokai Building

Shimonoseki City Designated Tangible Cultural Property (Building)

The building served as an office-cum-residence of a trading company specialized in exporting timber, food, firewood, charcoal, etc. The building, completed in 1915, is characterized by the domed penthouse and the rooftop garden.



23-11 Nabe-cho, Shimonoseki City, Yamaguchi Prefecture

Exterior viewing only

30 Kanmon Building (Former Kanmon Kisen Co., Ltd.)

Undesignated (Building)

The office building was founded in 1931 by Kanmon Kisen Co., Ltd., the operator of ferry connecting Moji - Karato ports.



6-2 Karato-cho, Shimonoseki City, Yamaguchi

List of individual cultural assets

31 Shimonoseki Former British Consulate

Designated National Important Cultural Properties (Building)
The brick building was erected in 1906 as the facility of British Consulate.



4-11 Karato-cho, Shimonoseki City, Yamaguchi

Exterior viewing only

32 Former Miyazaki Trading House

Designated National Tangible Cultural Property (Building)
The trading house dedicated to coal export business was established in 1907.



4-10 Tanaka-machi, Shimonoseki City, Yamaguchi Prefecture

33 Former Ministry of Communications Shimonoseki Postal Telephone Services Building (Shimonoseki City Hall of Modern History / Tanaka Kinuyo Bunka-kan)

Shimonoseki City Designated Tangible Cultural Property (Building)
The building was founded by Ministry of Communication in 1924 in response to the growing demand for telephones.



5-7 Tanaka-machi, Shimonoseki City, Yamaguchi Prefecture

34 Fujiwara Yoshie Memorial Hall (Former Ringer Residence)

Designated National Tangible Cultural Property (Building)
It was a residence built in 1936 for M. Ringer, the son of the owner of Uryu Trading Company.



3-14 Amidajji-cho, Shimonoseki City, Yamaguchi Prefecture

35 Nisshin Kowa Memorial Hall

Designated National Tangible Cultural Property (Building)
The hall was erected by Shimonoseki City in 1937 to commemorate the Sino-Japanese Peace Conference and Treaty of Shimonoseki. (It is now a branch of Shimonoseki City Museum of History).



4-3 Amidajji-cho, Shimonoseki City, Yamaguchi Prefecture

36 Choshu Domain Shimonoseki Maeda Battery Site

Designated National Historical Site
The battery built by the Choshu Domain at the end of Edo era became one of the battlefields where Shimonoseki Incident (bombardment of Shimonoseki by the combined fleet of four countries) took place.



1-17 Maeda, Shimonoseki City, Yamaguchi Prefecture

Normally not open to public

37 Normally closed to public Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Shimonoseki Shipyard Docks No. 3 & No. 4

Undesignated (Building)

The shipyard was founded in Hikoshima Island, Shimonoseki City, Yamaguchi in 1914. Dock No. 3 was built in 1922, and Dock No. 4 was built in 1916. Both are stone architectures.



6-16-1 Enoura-cho, Hikoshima, Shimonoseki City, Yamaguchi Prefecture

Normally not open to public

38 Former Kanenotsuru Misaki Lighthouse

Shimonoseki City Designated Tangible Cultural Property (Building)

The lighthouse, originally established in 1871 to mark a reef in Kanmon Straits, was relocated to the present position in 1920. Until abandoned in 2000, the lighthouse guided ships cruising along the Kanmon route.



Kanenotsuru Misaki, Hikoshima, Shimonoseki City, Yamaguchi Prefecture

Exterior viewing only

39 Mutsureshima Lighthouse

Shimonoseki City Designated Tangible Cultural Property (Building)

Based on the provisions of Osaka Treaty, the Western-style lighthouse, designed by R. H. Brunton, was erected at the westernmost point of Kanmon Straits. It was lit for the first time in November 1872.



Mutsureshima, Shimonoseki City, Yamaguchi Prefecture

Normally not open to public

40 Kanmon Tunnel Outbound Lane / Kanmon Tunnel Inbound Lane

Undesignated (Building)

The world's first undersea tunnel was the top priority project of the Japanese Army during the war.



Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture / Shimonoseki City, Yamaguchi Prefecture

41 Banana Vendors

Undesignated (Intangible Folklore Cultural Asset)

Bananas started to arrive in bulks at ports of Kanmon after companies like Osaka Shosen Kaisha Lines and Nippon Yusen established the Taiwan route. The witty sales pitch became known as "Banana Bargain (banana-no-tatakiuri)" and remain today as Kanmon area's popular street scene.



Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture / Shimonoseki City, Yamaguchi Prefecture

42 Fugu (Puffer Fish) Cuisine

Undesignated (Intangible Folklore Cultural Asset)

Since the removal of ban in 1888 by then Prime Minister Hirobumi Ito, fugu (puffer fish) cuisine has developed together with the modernization of the area and became integral to the locality's diverse food culture. In Shimonoseki, the fish is called "fuku (happiness)" and loved by locals who see the fish as the bringer of happiness.



Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture / Shimonoseki City, Yamaguchi Prefecture

Kanmon “Nostalgic” Straits Moji Round Tour Course

- Memories of Japan’s modernization frozen in time -



Former Moji Mitsui Club Individual cultural assets 5

In 1921, Mitsui & Co., Ltd. founded the facility as the company’s social arena. In 1922, it hosted Dr. Albert Einstein, the renowned physicist of the theory of relativity. Today, the building also serves as tourist center and as a memorial room of novelist Fumiko Hayashi, whose birthplace is now thought to be Moji. Try the fugu full course set and grilled curry at Restaurant Mitsui Club on the first floor.

DATA

- 7-1 Minato-machi, Moji-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture
- ☎093-321-4151 (Moji Port Retro General Information)
- 9:00~17:00
- Closed None



Kaikyo Plaza

Kaikyo Plaza forms the central piece of Moji Port Retro Area. In addition to local seafood and souvenir markets, the facility has restaurants offering Moji Port’s signature grilled curry, banana-themed sweets celebrating the banana vendor culture, and other local delicacies. Don’t miss nostalgic variety stores selling music boxes and glass ornaments.

DATA

- 5-1 Minato-machi, Moji-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture
- ☎093-332-3121
- Shops/10:00~20:00
- Restaurants/11:00~22:00 (opening hours may vary depending on shops)
- Closed None



Kitakyushu City Former Osaka Shosen Building Individual cultural assets 4

The building was erected as the branch office of Osaka Shosen in 1917. The elegant exterior featuring red tiles on outer wall, white stone belt, and the octagonal penthouse was praised as the “Beauty of the Port”.

DATA

- 7-18 Minato-machi, Moji-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture
- ☎093-321-4151
- 9:00~17:00
- Admission Free
- *Fees charged only for Watase Seizo Gallery 100 yen (adults) & 50 yen (children)
- Closed None



Former Moji Customs House Individual cultural assets 12

The building was originally founded in 1912 and later repaired and restored in 1994, using authentic red bricks.

The first floor features a resting room and a café, Frui Factory Moon de Retro. The viewing room on the second floor offers a sweeping view of Moji Port Retro Area.

DATA

- 1-24 Higashiminato-machi, Moji-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture
- ☎093-321-4151
- 9:00~17:00
- Closed None



Blue Wing Moji

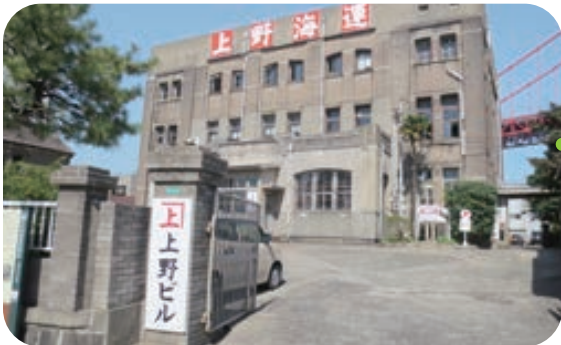
At the length of 108m in total, Blue Wing Moji is one of the nation’s longest pedestrian drawbridges. Six times a day, the wings go up to the sound of music. The bridge has been designated as a “lovers’ sanctuary” due to an urban legend that the first couple to cross the bridge after the wings come down will remain united forever.

DATA

- 4-1 Minato-machi, Moji-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture
- Bridges raised at 10:00 / 11:00 / 13:00 / 14:00 / 15:00 / 16:00
- Bridges lowered at 10:20 / 11:20 / 13:20 / 14:20 / 15:20 / 16:20

Kanmon “Nostalgic” Straits Wakamatsu Round Tour Course

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Ueno Building (Former Mitsubishi Limited Partnership Company Wakamatsu Branch)

Individual cultural assets 21

Main Building, Warehouse, Former Analysis Lab, and other brick structures were constructed by Mitsubishi Limited Partnership Company in 1913. Look for stained glasses embedded in the ceilings and handrail decors. Relax at nostalgic and elegant Asa Café on the third floor.

DATA

Ueno Building

■ 1 Chome, Honmachi, Wakamatsu-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture
☎093-761-4321 ■ Free ■ None

Asa Café

■ 3 Floor, 1 Chome, Honmachi, Wakamatsu-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture
☎093-771-8700
■ 11:00~18:00 (Last call 17:00)
■ Closed on Thursdays



Former Furukawa Mining Wakamatsu Building

Individual cultural assets 20

The two-story brick building was founded in 1919. Bricked walls, antique staircases and other features of the building embellished with renaissance-themed designs fully reserves the atmosphere of the olden days. Try the popular Natural Yeast Red Bean Buns sold at the office on the first floor.

DATA

■ 1-11-18 Honmachi, Wakamatsu-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture
☎093-752-3387
■ 9:00~17:00
■ Admission Free
■ Closed on Tuesdays and new year holiday season



Mikadukiya

The croissant bakery is operating on the first floor of Coal Hall. Go through the nostalgic door to discover lines of croissants and rusks carefully made by skilled bakers. The rich aroma of butter and crispy texture are winning the hearts of both locals and tourists.

■ 1 Floor, 1-13-15 Honmachi, Wakamatsu-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture
☎093-771-7979
■ 9:30~19:00
■ Closed None



Wakamatsu Coal Hall

Individual cultural assets 19

The oldest Western style building in Wakamatsu area was initially established to entertain businesspeople in the coal industry. The initial exterior with intricate decorations has been lost, but the grandeur of the olden days is still visible in the office on the second floor.

DATA

■ 1-13-15 Honmachi, Wakamatsu-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture
■ Admission Free



Restaurant Kinnabe Main Building

Individual cultural assets 23

The old-established restaurant turns 123 this year. Its signature menu since the foundation is Beef Hotpot (Gyunabe), featuring Imari Beef sirloin cooked in Hatcho miso paste. Lunch Kaiseki (traditional multi-course meal), served in the atmosphere reminiscent of Meiji era, is also recommended.

DATA

■ 2-4-22 Honmachi, Wakamatsu-ku, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka Prefecture
☎093-761-4531
■ 11:00~15:00, 17:00~22:00
■ Irregular holidays

Kanmon “Nostalgic” Straits Shimonoseki Round Tour Course

- Memories of Japan’s modernization frozen in time -



Shimonoseki Former British Consulate Individual cultural assets 31

The brick building was founded in 1906 as British Consulate. Today, the first floor has turned into exhibition space and a shop selling British variety goods and sweets. The café restaurant on the second floor offers a luxurious afternoon tea themed on Peter Rabbit.

DATA

- 4-11 Karatomachi, Shimonoseki City, Yamaguchi Prefecture
☎083-235-1906
- 9:00~17:00
- Closed on Tuesdays
(Open on National holidays)



Karato Market

Every weekend and in holidays, “Iki-iki Bakangai” opens to host 19 seafood stalls, dedicated fugu (fuku) and tuna shops offering sushi, fugu dishes, seafood bowls, and many other recipes featuring fresh sea ingredients. Enjoy the delicacy at the tables on the second floor, rooftop plaza, or alfresco wood deck overlooking the view of Kanmon Straits.

DATA

- 5-50 Karatomachi, Shimonoseki City, Yamaguchi Prefecture
☎083-231-0001
(Karato Market Trader Union Cooperatives)
- Market opening hours
5:00~15:00 (Mon - Sat)
8:00~15:00 (Sun & Holiday)
- Iki-iki Bakangai
10:00~15:00 (Fri & Sat)
8:00~15:00 (Sun & Holiday)
- * Business hours may vary depending on shops.
- Irregular holidays



Shimonoseki Nabecho Post Office Individual cultural assets 28

The building is Japan’s oldest surviving post office building still in use and one of the most historical Western style architectures in Shimonoseki. The building has an exhibition corner, café & gallery, courtyard, and an event space equipped for concerts and wedding ceremonies.

DATA

- 22-8 Nabe-cho, Shimonoseki City, Yamaguchi Prefecture
☎083-222-0161



Former Akita Shokai Building Individual cultural assets 29

The building is one of Japan’s symbolic modern architectures completed in 1915. The first floor features a genuine Western style office, while the residential area on the second and third floors adopt Japan’s traditional shoin-zukuri style. The Japanese and Western combination is complete with the rooftop Japanese garden.

DATA

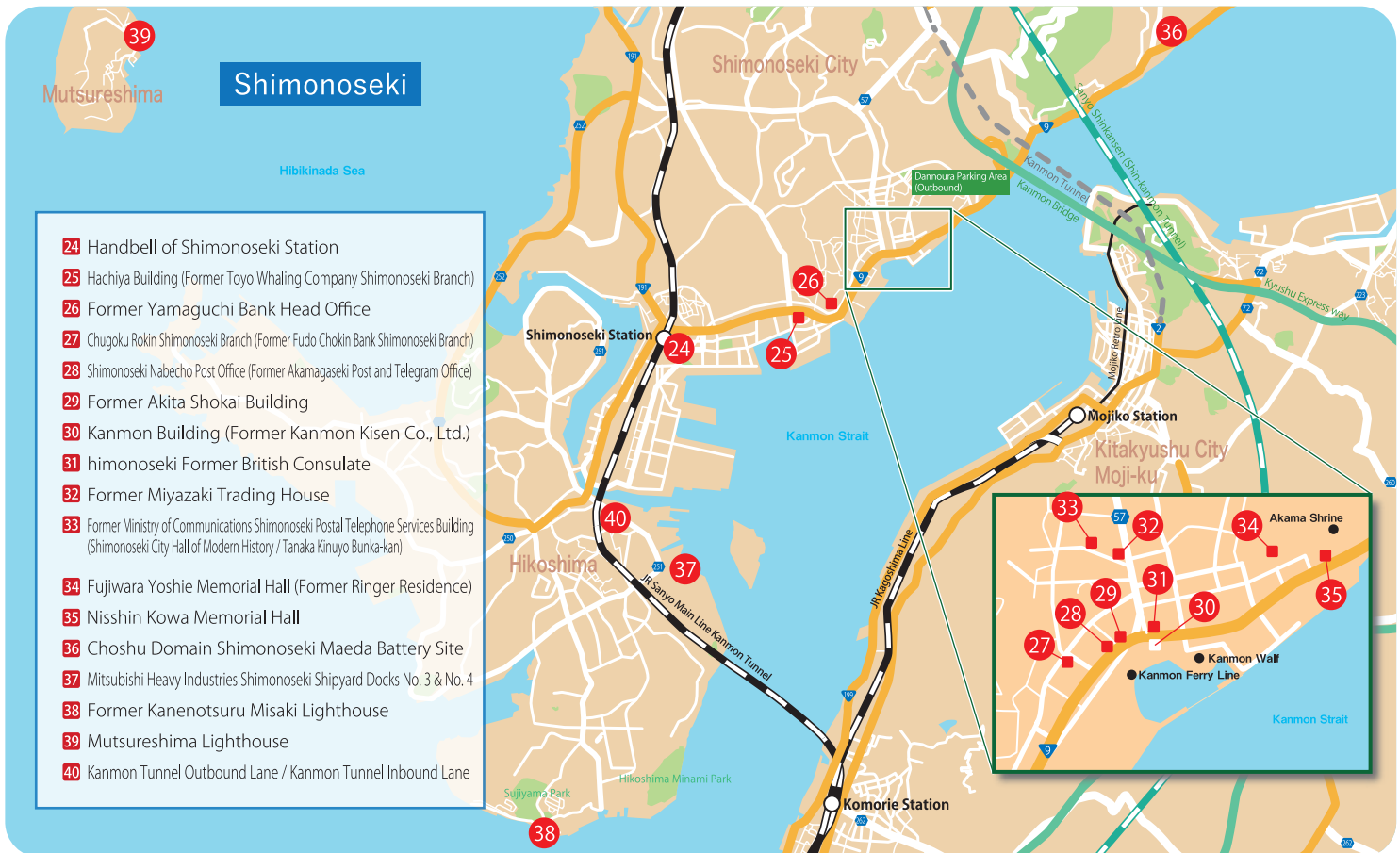
- 23-11 Nabe-cho, Shimonoseki City, Yamaguchi Prefecture
☎083-231-4141
- 10:30~15:00
- Closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays



Kanmon “Nostalgic” Straits Area Map



- 1 Mojiko Station (former Moji Station) Main Building
- 2 Former JR Kyushu Headquarters Building
- 3 Moji Yusen Building (Nippon Yusen Moji Branch)
- 4 Kitakyushu City Former Osaka Shosen Building
- 5 Former Moji Mitsui Club Main Building & Annex
- 6 Holme Ringer Company
- 7 Former Dalian Route Terminal
- 8 Kitakyushu Bank Moji Branch (Former Yokohama Specie Bank Moji Branch)
- 9 Sankiro
- 11 Moji Ward Office (Former Moji City Hall)
- 10 Kyushu Railway History Museum (Former Kyushu Railway Headquarters)
- 12 Former Moji Customs House
- 13 Iwata Residence - Main House and Earthen Storehouse
- 14 World Peace Pagoda
- 15 Nikka Whisky Distilling Co., Ltd Moji Distillery (Former Dairi Shochu Spirit Distillery)
- 16 Nikka Whiskey Co., Ltd Moji Distillery Warehouse (Former Dairi Milling Warehouse)
- 17 Former Sapporo Beer Kyushu Plant - Office Building, Brewery, Union Building, and Warehouse
- 18 Hesaki Lighthouse
- 19 Wakamatsu Coal Hall
- 20 Former Furukawa Mining Wakamatsu Building
- 21 Ueno Building (Former Mitsubishi Limited Partnership Company, Wakamatsu Branch)
- 22 Tochiki Building
- 23 Restaurant Kinnabe - Main Building and Front Gate



- 24 Handbell of Shimonoseki Station
- 25 Hachiya Building (Former Toyo Whaling Company Shimonoseki Branch)
- 26 Former Yamaguchi Bank Head Office
- 27 Chugoku Rokin Shimonoseki Branch (Former Fudo Chokin Bank Shimonoseki Branch)
- 28 Shimonoseki Nabecho Post Office (Former Akamagasaki Post and Telegram Office)
- 29 Former Akita Shokai Building
- 30 Kanmon Building (Former Kanmon Kisen Co., Ltd.)
- 31 Shimonoseki Former British Consulate
- 32 Former Miyazaki Trading House
- 33 Former Ministry of Communications Shimonoseki Postal Telephone Services Building (Shimonoseki City Hall of Modern History / Tanaka Kinuyo Bunka-kan)
- 34 Fujiwara Yoshie Memorial Hall (Former Ringer Residence)
- 35 Nisshin Kowa Memorial Hall
- 36 Choshu Domain Shimonoseki Maeda Battery Site
- 37 Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Shimonoseki Shipyard Docks No. 3 & No. 4
- 38 Former Kanenotsuru Misaki Lighthouse
- 39 Mutsureshima Lighthouse
- 40 Kanmon Tunnel Outbound Lane / Kanmon Tunnel Inbound Lane



Production: Kanmon Strait Japan Heritage Association

Secretariat

**Kitakyushu City - Culture and Planning Division of Citizen Services,
Culture and Sports Bureau** 0 9 3 - 5 8 2 - 2 3 9 1

**Shimonoseki City - Protection of Cultural Properties Division of
Shimonoseki Board of education** 0 8 3 - 2 5 4 - 4 6 9 7

