

Beautification of the Yodogawa River Landscape



Osaka Prefectural Government
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Introduction

The *Osaka Metropolitan Area Grand Design* represents the broadscale direction for urban space creation in the Osaka metropolitan area. As an example of urban space creation based on a cooperative structure covering a wide area, associated organizations in the Yodogawa area actively cooperate to utilize the unique potentials that cities along rivers possess to beautify urban spaces and attract more visitors.

Additionally, in the Osaka Prefectural landscape vision, attention is given to areas including the harmony and relationship with nearby historical and cultural heritages of river axes, landscaping that actively utilizes the relationship with rivers while striving for coexistence with regional characteristics and nature, creation of hydrophilic spaces that take safety into consideration, and preserving greenery along the rivers.

Furthermore, with the aim of making the Yodogawa riverside an attractive urban space, a platform (see p.11) was established as a place where community developers can exchange their opinions freely. Through this platform, a community development design was created to pursue the formation of an attractive landscape.

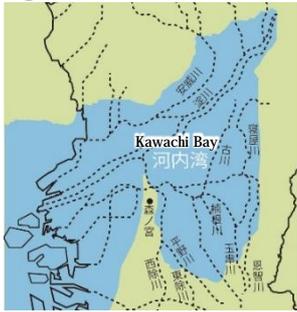
With this in mind, this leaflet introduces the nature, history/culture, and activities taking place along the riverside from a diverse perspective, and also summarizes the fundamental goals and efforts that those partaking in the development all share in order to promote the making of an attractive landscape of the Yodogawa River.

The upcoming Osaka- Kansai Expo 2025 is a great opportunity to share the beauty of the Yodogawa landscape to the world. We hope that by taking our initiatives in consideration, everyone coming into contact with the Yodogawa River will help participate in its further beautification.

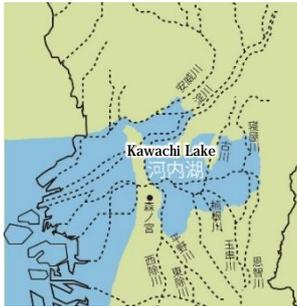
We also hope that our efforts to create an attractive Yodogawa River landscape contributes to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015.

1. Transformation of the Yodogawa River

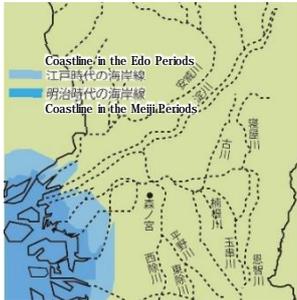
Since its formation, the Yodogawa River has been an active center for politics, the economy and culture since ancient times, serving as a network connecting Lake Biwa to the Seto Inland Sea in order to transport people and goods.



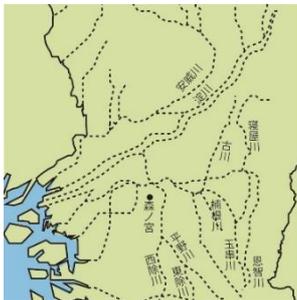
Early Jomon Period
about 7000~8000 years ago



Late Yayoi~Early Kofun
Periods
about 1800~1600 years ago



Edo~Meiji Periods
about 400~120 years ago



Modern Day

○ Ancient Times

Osaka had a lower sea level about 20,000 years ago, and the Osaka Bay and the Seto Inland Sea were land. A coastline was formed after a rise in sea level, creating Kawachi Bay to the east. From the mid-Jomon Period, Kawachi Bay was gradually filled with sedimentation flowing from the Yodo and Yamato Rivers to the northeast and southeast respectively. In the late Jomon Period, Kawachi Bay separated from Osaka Bay and became a freshwater lake, Kawachi Lake, in the mid-Yayoi Period.

Trade with the Chinese mainland and the Korean peninsula began during the Kofun (Tomb) Period, and a canal (Namba Horie) was excavated between Kawachi Lake and the Seto Inland Sea where the Yodo River joined. Nambatsu was built in the middle of this canal and served as the gateway to ancient Japan, making Osaka the center of diplomacy and traffic.

○ Medieval Period

Many rivers flowed in all directions in the Osaka plains during the middle ages and the Yodogawa River played an important role in linking the Seto Inland Sea, the west, and Kyoto from around the Heian Period. Osaka continued to develop as the “Water Capital,” at the same time suffering greatly from frequent floods.

The Yodogawa River at the time had some shallow waters resulting from sediment that accumulated from upstream, making it unstable for ship routes. For this reason, many residents worked together to remove the accumulated sediment and move it elsewhere. The water from the river was also an important resource for farming.

○ Early Modern Period

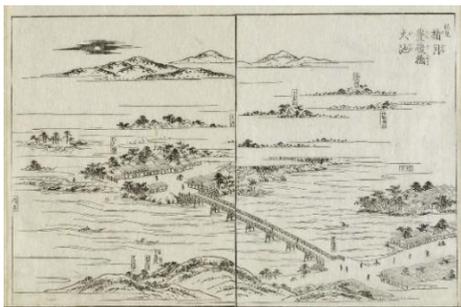
The Osaka plains served as one of the centers for the nation’s politics, economy and culture, and the Yodogawa River was an important foundation for its development.

In 1594, Toyotomi Hideyoshi built the Taiko embankment as he was building Fushimi Castle to help the Fushimi port flourish and prevent the flooding of Ogura Lake.

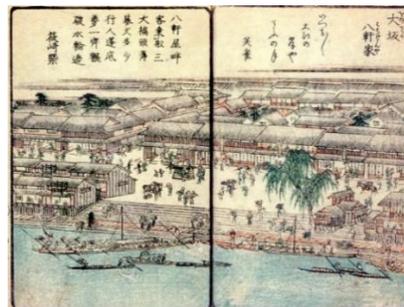
Hideyoshi also built the Bunroku embankment that extended from Hirakata to Nagara. Until then, there hadn’t been a continuous embankment on the left bank of the Yodogawa River. The Kawachi plains were now protected from flooding and the Kyokaido road above the embankment became the shortest, well traveled, stable route between Osaka and Kyoto. Along with the Saigokukaido road on the right bank, the roadside areas developed as post towns.

Osaka flourished as the “nation’s kitchen” during the Edo Period and the rivers that flowed in all directions functioned as a vital distribution network for the economy. The location which is now Nakanoshima, Okawa was lined with warehouses of various feudal clans, and the passenger boats that sailed between Hachikenya, Osaka and Fushimi, Kyoto delivered goods that arrived from all over Japan.

The riverside towns thus flourished and benefited from the Yodogawa River.



Oike (Ogura Lake) Drawings of Famous Locations
in the Capital (courtesy of International Research
Center for Japanese Studies)



(Hachikenya)
View of Yodogawa Riverbanks (Drawings of Famous Locations, 1861)



(Hashiramoto)

○ Meiji Period

In the Meiji Period, the Yodogawa River could not function as a channel because the riverbed rose due to sedimentation.

The Dutch engineer, Johannis de Rijke, led Japan's first waterworks construction project from 1875 to meander the waterway for a gentler flow in order to solve this problem. Water flowed to the center of the river as a result, securing the depth needed for steamboats. Sediment also accumulated in the waterway, coincidentally forming a swamp that became a friendly habitat for aquatic life.

The great damage from the flood in 1885 influenced the enactment of a river law in 1896, and a large-scale construction project to renovate the entire Yodogawa River basin began. This included the excavation of the Shinyodogawa River and the building of Kema Lock Gate and Kemaarazeki dam.

Until the waterworks were completed in Osaka City in 1895, residents drank water from the Yodogawa River. The need to secure water for daily life, responding to fires and the prevention of infectious diseases called for the establishment of waterworks using the Yodogawa River as a source.

○ Showa Period - Present

The quality of the Yodogawa River deteriorated rapidly from the mid-1950s due to household and industrial wastewater. However, household wastewater was cleaned with the improvement of sewage systems in the 1960s and the water quality recovered. As a result, fishing resumed in the estuaries and continues to support Osaka's food culture to this day.

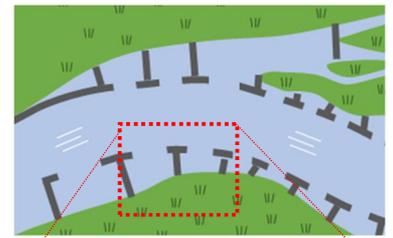
In addition, the Yodogawa River with meandered water (Picture A) has been widened and straightened in order to protect Osaka from flooding (Picture B). As a result, damage caused by flooding has been greatly reduced. Although the wetland environment important for wildlife has decreased, the environment is gradually improving with the effort of dedicated residents.

With the development of cars, railways and infrastructures such as bridges, the once abundant water transportation declined. Recently however, regular sightseeing cruises have been revived and further development of the Yodogawa riverside is anticipated.

Sand that collects at the bottom of the river is also regularly removed for maintenance and to secure space for ship routes. The sand is used as material for concrete, playing an important role in helping to build infrastructures from the high-growth period.

Currently, there are areas with diverse characteristics including rich, natural areas to parks that are filled with activity. The mudflats and coves are inhabited by many species of wildlife, including endemic and rare species of the Biwako Lake and Yodogawa River water systems.

The Yodogawa River helps us in various ways while remaining very close to the people's lives. The history of the Yodogawa, however, can be said to be a history of repeated struggles with floods.



Aerial View of Waterworks Layout

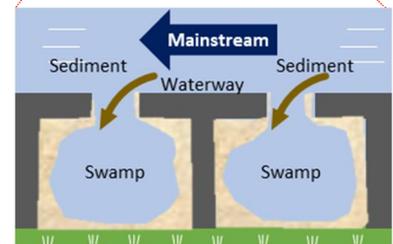


Diagram of Coves Resulting From Waterworks Construction



Picture A: Yodogawa River (1971)
(Mod. from Geospatial Info. Authority Photo)



Picture B: Yodogawa River (2006)
(Mod. from Geospatial Info. Authority Photo)



Ihasenpara (*acheilognathus longipinnis*)
(rare species of the Yodogawa)

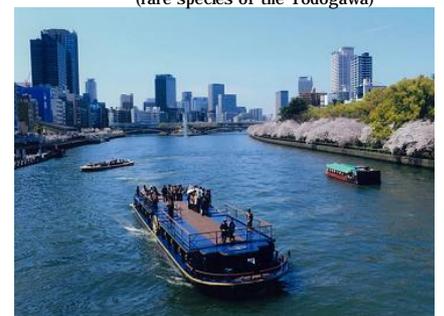


Shijimi (clam) Fishing

(Photo Credit: Osaka City Fisherman's Coop. Assoc.)



Work of Dedicated Residents



Okawa Sightseeing Boat

2. Yodogawa River Landscape

Yodogawa River is rich in nature throughout the seasons, various historical and cultural resources, and infrastructures that have different facades depending on the time of day.

In addition to these tranquil landscapes, it is important to consider the conservation of nature, bustling activities, and daily movement of bicycles, people, ships and railways in thinking about the Yodogawa landscape.

All “things” related to the Yodogawa River thus contribute to its landscape creation, and we present our view of the Yodogawa landscape in hope that it will become a reference for those participating in activities in the Yodogawa area.

2- 1 Selected Areas

The selected area is from the estuary (Yodogawa distance 0.00km mark) to Fushimi (near Misu Lock Gate) and part of the Okawa River which is the former Yodogawa (Hachikenyahama-Kema Lock Gate), where the water transportation is currently in service.



2- 2 Capturing the Landscape

In capturing the landscape, it is important to consider not only what is visible, but also the social background of its history and culture, as well as its origin, based on the natural environment of Yodogawa.

It is also important to capture the landscape after understanding the functions of the Yodogawa River's flood control and water supply, and the fact that it is a place for living organisms.

The Yodogawa River landscape resources are thus categorized into the following four types.

- ① Nature/Life: sunset/sunrise, river surface, coves, mudflats, reed beds, wild birds, wild grass, etc.
- ② Cities/Infrastructure: bridges, buildings, docks, etc.
- ③ History/Culture: Monuments for boat crossing sites and floods, historic buildings, etc.
- ④ Activities: Events utilizing river spaces, water transportation, etc.



Furthermore, landscapes are composed by combining multiple elements (sky, mountains, infrastructure, etc.). It is important to organize the attractiveness of landscape resources (night view, sunset, cherry blossoms, events, etc.) by taking the relationships of the elements into account (shape, color, combination, etc.) and the time period, including seasons and time of day.

Yodogawa River's Main Landscape Resources

	Nature/Life	Cities/Infrastructure	History/Culture	Activities/Liveliness
Distant	<input type="checkbox"/> Sky (blue sky, stars, moon) <input type="checkbox"/> Mountains <input type="checkbox"/> Coast <input type="checkbox"/> Sunset/Sunrise <input type="checkbox"/> Disasters (water increase, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Weather (sunny, rain, snow, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> River fog <input type="checkbox"/> River surface (reflections, waves, clean water, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Yodogawa Riverside Park <input type="checkbox"/> Hillside flowers, green spaces <input type="checkbox"/> Coves <input type="checkbox"/> Reed beds <input type="checkbox"/> Mudflats <input type="checkbox"/> Sewaritei embankments <input type="checkbox"/> Cherry blossoms (fall leaves) <input type="checkbox"/> Leisure walking routes <input type="checkbox"/> Wild birds <input type="checkbox"/> Wild grasses (pampas grass, equinox flower) <input type="checkbox"/> Insects <input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic life (crabs, clams, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> High-rise buildings <input type="checkbox"/> Large-scale buildings ・Sakishima Cosmo Tower (<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ・Umeda Sky Building ・Grand Front Osaka ・Redhorse OSAKA WHEEL ・High voltage towers, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Hirakata Park (giant ferris wheel) <input type="checkbox"/> Yodogawa Riverside Park <input type="checkbox"/> Water purification plant <input type="checkbox"/> Bridges <input type="checkbox"/> Water pipe bridges <input type="checkbox"/> Yodogawa-ozeki Weir <input type="checkbox"/> Water locks・ water gates・ drainage pumping stations <input type="checkbox"/> Water intake facilities <input type="checkbox"/> Chimneys <input type="checkbox"/> Sakura-deai Visitor Center <input type="checkbox"/> Water level observation station <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency wharfs <input type="checkbox"/> Craftworks (Signboards, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> View of Yodogawa River banks <input type="checkbox"/> City landmarks <input type="checkbox"/> Hirakata Park (giant ferris wheel) <input type="checkbox"/> Embankments <input type="checkbox"/> Bridge illuminations <input type="checkbox"/> Temples and shrines (Iwashimizu Hachimangu, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Old Kema No.1 Lock Gate <input type="checkbox"/> Japan Mint <input type="checkbox"/> Misu Lock Gate <input type="checkbox"/> Boat crossing monuments <input type="checkbox"/> Kurawanka Hasshochihi monument <input type="checkbox"/> Flood monuments <input type="checkbox"/> Bomb ponds (<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Sanjikkokubune song))	<input type="checkbox"/> Airplanes <input type="checkbox"/> Naniwa Yodogawa Hanabitaikai Fireworks Festival <input type="checkbox"/> Railways <input type="checkbox"/> Sports (<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ・Cycling ・Jogging ・Baseball ・Walking etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Coves/reed beds conservation activities <input type="checkbox"/> Ship transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Water activities (Canoeing, SUP, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Flood control activities <input type="checkbox"/> Events using the riverside open spaces (<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ・Yodogawa Urban Camp ・Yodogawa Waiwai Gayagaya Matsuri Festival ・Reiwa OSAKA Amanogawa Densetsu, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Fisheries (shijimi clam fishing, eel fishing, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing
Near				

3. Fundamental Goal and Policies for Landscape Creation

In order to promote the creation of an attractive landscape, it is important that all people who utilize the Yodogawa area take pride and care to protect, nurture and utilize the diverse and attractive resources along the riverside.

The following are therefore the fundamental goal and policies for riverside residents, community development organizations and companies involved in landscape creation.

3- 1 Fundamental Goal

Conservation and creation of various benefits that can be enjoyed by many people, by beautifying the landscape of the Yodogawa and other major rivers



Sugahara Shirokita Ohashi Bridge Area



Cherry Blossoms at Sewaritei

3- 2 Fundamental Policies

1 Sharing awareness of the conservation and restoration of the rich, natural environment and promoting initiatives that take advantage of regional characteristics

In addition to relaying information on the role of coves and mudflats, and the importance of conservation activities, we will foster interest and attachment to the Yodogawa by promoting activities where people can feel closer to nature.



Shirokita Cove



Cleaning Activities

(Photo Credit: Neyagawa Mizube Club)

2 Promoting efforts that improve the attractiveness of the landscape resources by making it possible to enjoy the stories of Yodogawa's history and culture

We will create a mechanism that attracts the interest of diverse people by relaying information about the historical background and origin of the landscape resources and by making good use of their characteristics.



Misu Lock Gate



Yodogawa Ryogan Ichiran

3 Promoting community development that integrates rivers and regions while effectively utilizing the diverse landscape resources along the Yodogawa in cooperation with various organizations

With various organizations working together to participate in continuous activities that connect the rivers and people, new landscapes will be created to promote cities with beautiful scenery.



Yodogawa Riverside Park, Hirakata Area



Using Emergency Wharfs for Exchanges with Community Development Organizations

4 Disseminating information on the attractive scenery of Yodogawa through various organizations

With various organizations effectively disseminating information on the attractiveness of the Yodogawa landscape and activities that take place, it is possible to promote community development in accordance with the other policies.



Sakura-deai Visitor Center
(Photo Credit: Yawata City)



Information Booths of Community Development Organizations

4. Various Efforts to Beautify the Scenery of the Yodogawa

Many residents, community development organizations and companies are engaged in activities to create an attractive landscape. For further improvements in the future, the following are efforts that various organizations can take part in to help continue to beautify the landscape.

When implementing activities, it is important to ensure safety by taking into account the worsening of weather and increases in river water levels.

4-1 Maintaining and Preserving the Rich Natural Landscape of the Yodogawa

- In order to maintain and preserve the natural landscape, it is important for riverside residents and companies to play a leading role in nature conservation activities. We therefore promote efforts that raise awareness of nature conservation to increase interest and fondness for the Yodogawa area.
 - River education, such as nature conservation, through schools and community activities
 - Cleaning activities in collaboration with companies, etc.
- We promote efforts that increase interest in the Yodogawa's natural scenery and awareness of nature conservation, such as activities to enjoy the natural scenery and to use the river space as a daily living space.
 - Creating a mechanism for local residents to use rivers as daily living spaces
 - Creating new viewpoints to feel the magnificence of nature, such as viewing natural sceneries from hot-air balloons, etc.



Nature education activities by local organizations



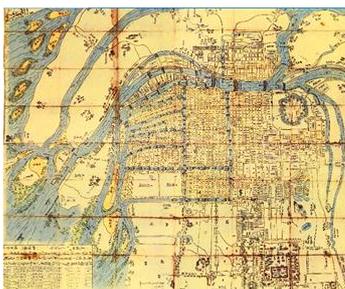
Cleaning activities by organizations
(Photo Credit: Neyagawa Mizube Club)



Viewing nature from hot-air balloons
(Photo Credit: Yodogawa Riverside Park Administration Center)

4-2 Utilizing the Historical and Cultural Features of the Landscape Resources

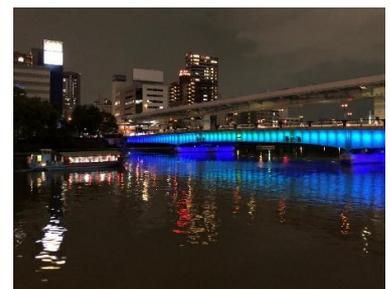
- Relaying not only what is visible now, but the scenery of the past also enhances the attractiveness of the landscape resources and helps to increase awareness.
 - Creating a map that describes the historical and cultural features of the landscape resources
 - Enriching information on boats by digitizing old maps
 - Increasing sightseeing cruises along the old passenger boat routes, etc.
- Promoting efforts to create new landscapes by adding new attractions to landscape resources.
 - Creating new night views by illuminating infrastructures such as bridges



Shinsen-zohō Osaka Oezu (1691)
(Map Credit: Osaka Municipal Library)



Water Transportation
(Photo Credit: Ipponmatsu Shipping Co.)



Temmabashi (Okawa) Illumination

4-3 Creating Activities and Liveliness to Enjoy the Yodogawa Landscape

- By continuing to offer sports or leisure activities while feeling the beauty of the landscape, the activities of people themselves will become a new scene of the Yodogawa.
 - ・ Having sporting competitions or camping while experiencing the magnificent nature of the river space
 - ・ Having events to experience the attractiveness of the Yodogawa and nearby rivers, etc.



Marathon in the river space
(Photo Credit: Osaka Yodo- River Citizens Marathon)



Making reed boats and boating activities
(Photo Credit: Suitonokai)



Yodogawa cruises
(Photo Credit: Yodogawa Waiwai Gayagaya Matsuri Organizing Committee)

- By promoting liveliness in collaboration with community development activities around the Yodogawa area, new sceneries will be created in addition to the community development of surrounding areas.
Example: Collaboration between Kurawanka Gorokuichi and Minato Gorokuichi at Hirakatashuku



Minato Gorokuichi



Hirakatashuku Minato Gorokuichi Map
(Photo Credit: Yodo River Office)



Kurawanka Gorokuichi

4-4 Organizations Effectively Transmit Information About Attractive Landscapes

- Municipalities, community development organizations and companies actively transmit information about the features of the landscape, and seasons and times that are best to see them. We also welcome the spread of information by riverside residents and visitors through such means as SNS.
- Information is transmitted through people, objects, media and places, depending on the purpose.
 - People: through environment and disaster prevention classes, etc.
 - Objects: printing attractive points of the riverside on the backside of packaging, etc.
 - Media: websites, SNS, etc.
 - Places: at tourist attractions, events, in trains, etc.



River classes



Information through SNS

- We collaborate with community development organizations and those who care about the Yodogawa, in addition to those who are knowledgeable about transmitting information. Landscape resource information specific to the area is transmitted to the public to share the attractiveness of the Yodogawa landscape.

Conclusion

We hope that the members of the Yodogawa Riverside Community Development Platform^{※1}, who are engaged in various activities along the Yodogawa River, will lead initiatives according to these policies to create landscapes, and influence other companies and community development organizations to follow.

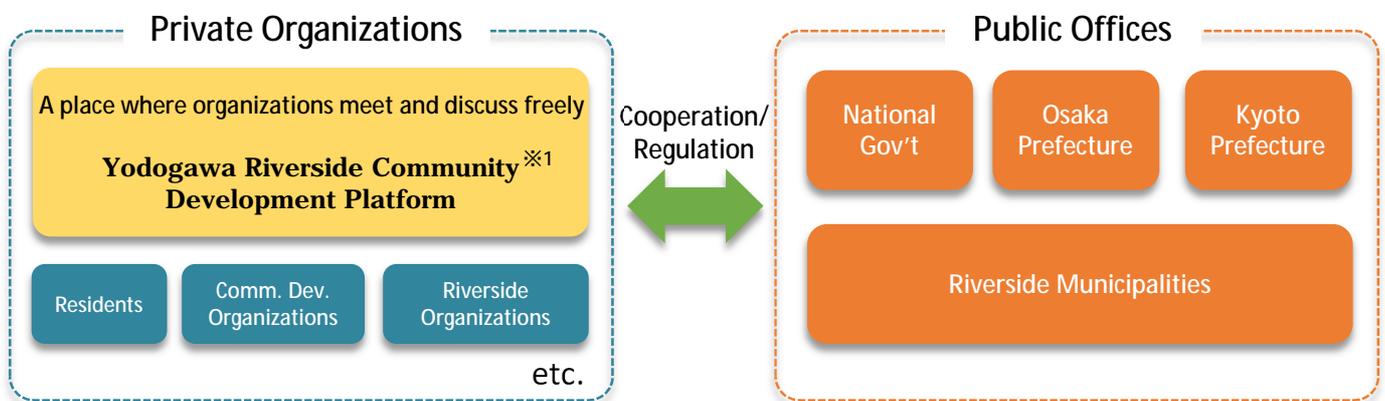
Osaka Prefecture, in cooperation with the national government and local municipalities along the Yodogawa River, coordinates the conservation of the natural environment/landscape, consideration for urban infrastructure/landscapes of buildings, and mutual exchanges of initiatives in each region. We support these efforts and will continue to promote the creation of a wide-area landscape.

In regard to the descriptions of these policies, we will continue to discover more attractive landscape resources of the Yodogawa River and update the descriptions as necessary.

In addition, Osaka Prefecture and other public landscape organizations^{※2} are working on the creation of good landscapes based on the landscape law. For details, please refer to the landscape plans, regulations and policies of each organization.

<Image of Landscape Creation>

Everyone is a Team Player in the Yodogawa's Landscape Creation



- ※1 The Yodogawa Riverside Community Development Platform is made up of riverside community development organizations and was established in August 2017 with the revival of boat transportation from Hachikenyahama- Hirakata to cooperate in the future vision of the Yodogawa riverside. Utilizing the regional resources of the riverside and improving their worth, the platform aims to develop the community by creating attractive urban spaces over a wide area by periodically exchanging ideas and conducting joint projects.

[Members]

- Fushimi City Tourism Association
- Shimamoto Town Volunteer Information Center
- Yodogawa Waiwai Gayagaya Matsuri Committee
- Naniwa Yodogawa Hanabitaikai Committee
- Osaka Tenjin Matsuri Committee
- Osaka Aqua Bus Co., Ltd.
- Keihan Holdings Co., Ltd.
- Yawata City Tourism Association
- Takatsuki City Tourist Association
- Neyagawa Mizube Club
- Washimizu Natsukashi Miraisozo Group
- Ipponmatsu Shipping Co.
- Tabi Tomo- planning
- Oyamazaki Furusato Guide Association
- Hirakata Culture Tourist Association
- Moriguchi/Kadoma Rekishikaido Promotion Association
- Kyokaido Nigiwaizukuri Liaison Group
- Ban PR Inc.

[Observers]

- Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism; Kinki Regional Development Bureau, Yodogawa River Office
- Yodogawa Riverside Park Administration Center
- Hirakata City
- Neyagawa City
- Moriguchi City
- Shimamoto Town
- Takatsuki City
- Settsu City
- Osaka City
- Suito Osaka Consortium
- Hankyu Corporation
- Setsunan University
- Kyoto Prefecture
- Osaka Prefecture
- Kyoto City
- Yawata City
- Oyamazaki Town

[Secretariat]

- Osaka Prefectural Government Department of Housing and City Development Urban Space Creation Office

- ※2 Among the municipalities within the area, the public landscape offices are Osaka City, Neyagawa City, Hirakata City, Takatsuki City, and Kyoto City. The other riverside municipalities are under the landscape administration under Osaka Prefecture's landscape plans and measures.

References

- MLIT Kinki Regional Development Bureau, Yodogawa River Office
(<http://www.kkr.mlit.go.jp/yodogawa/index.html>)
- Suito Osaka Consortium
(<https://www.suito-osaka.jp/index.php>)
- General Contractors Association of Osaka
(<https://www.o-wave.or.jp/public/history/history01.html>)
- Sumiyoshi Rekishi Tanken Map, P9
(<http://www.city.osaka.lg.jp/sumiyoshi/page/0000078996.html>)

Examples of Landscape Resource Usage



<Yodogawa Examples>

- Yodogawa Suikei Bika Action
- Yodogawa Suikei Itasenpara
Hozen Shimin Network
- Yodogawa Marugoto Taikenkai
- Introducing the Sunset Hour
- Yodogawa Romantic Tour
- Osaka Yodo- River Citizens
Marathon
- Yodogawa Urban Camp
- Yodogawa Waiwai Gayagaya
Matsuri

<Examples of Other Rivers>

- Suzuka Balloon Festival
/Suzuka River [Class A River]
(Mie Prefecture)
- Illumination/Sumida River
[Class A River] (Tokyo Prefecture)
- Shichijo Ohashi o Kireinisurukai
Activities/Kamogawa River
[Class A River] (Kyoto Prefecture)
- Kentoshisen Race/Kasegawa River
[Class A River] (Saga Prefecture)
- Koinobori Festa 1000
/Akutagawa River
[Class A River] (Osaka Prefecture)
- Yasuragitei/Shinano River
[Class A River] (Niigata Prefecture)

Efforts to Maintain and Preserve the Rich Natural Scenery of the Yodogawa

Example: Yodogawa Suikei Bika Action

A major problem in river management, waterside usage, river landscape and public health is the illegal dumping of garbage into the river. The Yodogawa Suikei Bika Action Liaison Committee was created in 2016 to deal with these matters in cooperation with local municipalities and residents.

Working together with residents to clean the rivers along the Yodogawa (Yodogawa, Katsura, Uji, Kizugawa) from upstream to downstream helps beautify and preserve the waterside environment. An additional goal is to encourage participants to become aware of and practice manners such as taking garbage home.

In FY2018, Yodogawa had about 51 tons and 1000 bags (45L/bag) of trash collected by 5,311 participants in 7 areas of the Yodogawa basin from February to March to maintain and preserve the natural landscape.



Photo Credits: Yodogawa River Office

<Main Organizations>

○ Sponsoring Organizations:

- Yodogawa Suikei Issei Bika Action Liaison Committee
 - Organizers of beatification activities in the 7 Yodogawa basin areas
 - MLIF Yodogawa River Office (Secretariat)
 - River Rangers

○ Supporting Organizations:

- Union of Kansai Governments, Osaka Prefecture, Kyoto Prefecture, Kyoto City, Asahi Shimbun Co., Kyoto Shimbun Co., Sankei Shimbun Co., Mainichi Newspapers Co., Yomiuri Shimbun Co.

Example: Yodogawa Suikei Itasenpara Hozen Shimin Network

The Yodogawa Suikei Itasenpara Hozen Shimin Network (called Itasennet) is a partnership between Yodogawa citizens groups, research institutes and governments that cooperate under the motto, “let the Itasenpara, a natural monument of Japan, swim in the Yodogawa River again.” The network was created in August 2011 with the aim to revive the natural environment and increase biodiversity. Starting with 17, there are currently 43 organizations that are active in the Shirokita and Niwakubo cove areas.

From the early 1970s to 2000s, there was an increase in the number of exotic fish, particularly the largemouth bass and bluegill, that impacted native fish in the Shirokita coves. Native fish decreased and the itasenpara was no longer seen after 2005. For this reason, periodical extermination of exotic fish started in April 2012. The extermination of carnivorous exotic fish has been successful and native fish have increased in several coves. The itasenpara was reintroduced to the area in 2013 and the numbers are steadily increasing. By periodically exterminating exotic fish, the natural landscape of the Yodogawa is being maintained and preserved.

<Activity Details>

Periodical extermination (exotic fish/plants), fishing contests for exotic fish, cleaning activities, publicity and education activities regarding Yodogawa’s biodiversity, etc.



Photo Credits: Yodogawa Suikei Itasenpara Hozen Shimin Network

Example: Yodogawa Marugoto Taikenkai

With the completion of Sesaragi Park in front of Neyagawashi Station, the Neyagawa Revitalization Workshop activities expanded to revitalizing the city waterways. They started their activities in the Shimeno area with hopes to revitalize the Yodogawa in consideration of life and culture.

The Yodogawa Marugoto Taikenkai is one of those activities and has been held once every summer since 2008. There are about 100 participants and including staff, about 150- 200 people. Participating organizations fund the event and materials are provided by citizens organizations, municipalities and the MLIT. However, there are issues such as sponsoring organizations, aging organizers and financing.

It was hoped that the Shimeno area will be developed as a center for daily life, so activities to involve the residents were considered from the start of the project. These dedicated efforts have been recognized by the MLIT, and out of all the Yodogawa Riverside areas, it is the only one to be selected as a model area for redevelopment.

<Main Organizations>

○ Sponsoring Organizations:

- Yodogawa Marugoto Taikenkai Committee
- Neyagawa Mizube Club
- Setsunan Univ. Dept. of Civil and Env. Engineering, Ishida Seminar
- Osaka Pref. "Watashino Mizube" Contest Kitakawachi Committee
- Neyagawa Youthnet
- Setsunan Univ./Osaka Electro-Comm. Univ./Neyagawa Mizube Club Jr.
- Osaka Prefecture University College of Technology,
- Osaka Prefecture Nishineyagawa High School Biology Club
- Yodogawa River Rangers

○ Partner Organizations:

- Mizubeni Shitashimukai
- Yodogawa Sagan Suibo Office Shimeno Branch
- Neyagawa City Shizen o Manabukai
- Yodogawa Riverside Park Administration Center
- EXEDY Corporation

○ Supporting Organizations:

- MLIT Yodogawa River Office · Osaka Prefecture · Neyagawa City

<Programs>

- E-boat, canoeing, stand up paddleboard (SUP) · sandbag wall making
- brick arch making · reed coaster making · cleaning activities, etc.



Example: Introducing the Sunset Hour

To let people experience the natural beauty of the sunset on the Yodogawa River, we introduce the time of the sunset and allow viewing in our company facilities. This activity was started out of our hope to share the magnificent beauty of the setting sun on the Yodogawa.

Since we introduced a bulletin board with the time of the sunset, there has been a gradual increase in the number of people who visit. Recently, we have also seen more visitors from abroad. We continue this activity with hopes to spread the beauty of this natural landmark of Osaka to the world.

<Main Organization>

Sekisui House Umeda Operation Co.



Umeda Sky Bldg. Kuchu Teien Observatory

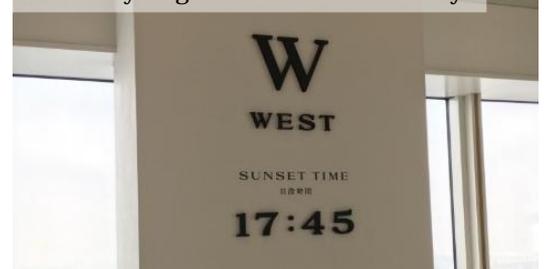


Photo Credits: Sekisui House Umeda Operation Co.

Efforts to Improve the Yodogawa's Attractiveness by Using the Historical/Cultural Features of its Resources

Example: Yodogawa Romantic Tour

The reason for restoring the ship route was the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake. Road and railway functions may not work when a large-scale earthquake occurs, and water traffic is very useful for rescue activities and transportation of equipment. The route had been investigated since 2006, and the Yodogawa Romantic Tour cruise started in September 2017.

The characteristic ship was modeled after a steamboat that traveled the Yodogawa River during the Meiji period.

The route is operated with the aim of helping to rediscover the nature and history around Yodogawa riverside while being prepared for natural disasters.

<Main Organizations>

- Sponsoring Organization: Osaka Aqua Bus Co., Ltd.
- Supporting Organization:
 - ・MLIT Kinki Regional Development Bureau Yodogawa River Office
 - ・Osaka Prefecture ·Hirakata City ·Hirakata Culture Tourist Association
 - ・Yodogawa Shuun Seibi Suishin Council
 - ・Kitaosaka Chamber of Commerce & Industry
- Cooperating Organizations: Maruman Sushi and Kappo Fuji restaurants

<Programs Onboard>

- ・Narrated stories about the history of the region by storytellers
- ・Musical performance of the sanjikkoku ship song, etc.



Photo Credits: Osaka Aqua Bus Ltd.

Efforts to Create Liveliness and Activities to Enjoy the Yodogawa Landscape

Example: Osaka Yodo- River Citizens Marathon

The Osaka Yodo- River Citizens Marathon has been held every year in November since its start in 1997, marking its 22nd year in 2018. It is a marathon created for the goal of having citizens participate and complete the race. This is the first marathon started by citizens for citizens in Japan, to be easily enjoyed by anyone regardless of age, gender, winning or running fast. It is also the first marathon to have its entire route along the riverside.

There were less than 2,000 participants in the first race, but since its 14th year, there have been more than 10,000 participants every year. One of the reasons for the race's popularity is being able to pass through the Yodogawa-ozeki Weir, which is normally closed to the public.

In addition, all participants are designated a Yodogawa beautification committee member for the day to ensure that no garbage is left on the riverside.

By setting the course through Yodogawa Riverside Park, we have an opportunity to reflect on the natural environment of the river basin and hope to provide an eco-oriented marathon that is considerate of the health of the runners and the environment.

<Main Organization>

- Sponsoring Organization: Osaka Yodo- River Citizens Marathon Committee Volunteer Staff

<Programs>

- ・Full marathon ·Half marathon
- ・Group full marathon ·Group half marathon

※Groups are 5 runners per team. The average time of the 5 members will be used.



Photo Credits: Osaka Yodo- River Citizens Marathon Committee

Example: Yodogawa Urban Camp

The Yodogawa Urban Camp was created in response to the proposal for revitalizing the Yodogawa River (Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry) and has been held every year since September 2015.

Utilizing the Yodogawa Riverside Park Nishinakajima area, the attractiveness of the area is being improved.

These are activities to enjoy nature in an urban area. In 2018, the first activity to stay overnight in the river space was held.

<Main Organizations>

○Sponsoring Organizations:

MLIT Kinki Regional Development Bureau Yodogawa River Office · Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry

○Co- Organizer:

First year only - MLIT Kinki Regional Development Bureau Yodogawa River Office

<Programs>

- Growing Up Camp
- No Equipment Select Camps
- Canoeing
- Stand Up Paddleboard (SUP)
- E-boat (10-seater row boat)
- Paraglider floating, etc.

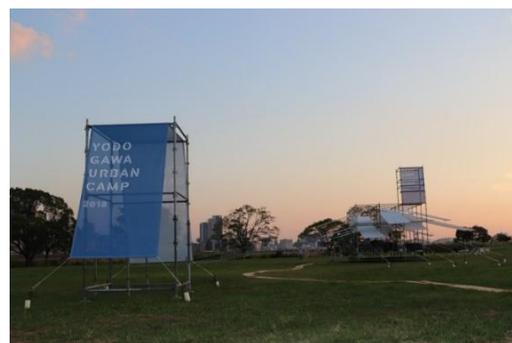


Photo Credits: Yodogawa River Office

Example: Yodogawa Waiwai Gayagaya Matsuri

The festival has been held every year since 2012 for the purpose of nurturing youth through sports. The Yodogawa riverside is used to educate children and create a place parents to interact.

The event is funded by donations from businesses, and in the 8th year, there were approximately 6,500 participants.

As a place for enjoyment and deepening of ties between businesses, groups and residents of the Yodogawa right bank, the festival aims to hold events to create opportunities to think about disaster prevention, safety, environment, history, culture and welfare. It also contributes to the development and revitalization of the local culture of the right bank area.

<Main Organizations>

○Sponsoring Organization: Yodogawa Waiwai Gayagaya Matsuri Committee

○Co- Organizer: Yodogawa Riverside Park

○Supporting Organizations:

- MLIT Kinki Regional Development Bureau Yodogawa River Office
- Ministry of the Environment Kinki Regional Environment Office
- Osaka Prefecture · Settsu City
- Settsu City Board of Education · Settsu City Jichirengokai
- Settsu City Rojin Club Rengokai
- Settsu City Society of Commerce and Industry
- Settsu Rotary Club · Settsu Lions Club
- Settsu City PTA Council · Junior Chamber International Settsu
- Japan Bousaisi Society Osaka Branch Settsu District
- Settsu Association for International Exchanges

○Cooperating Organizations:

- Research Institute of Environment, Agriculture and Fisheries, Osaka Prefecture, Seibutsu Tayousei Center Support Staff
- Japan Self Defense Force Osaka Provincial Cooperation Office
- Osaka Meiboku Danchi · Osaka Meiboku Seinenkai
- Various Residents Associations: Torikai · Torikai Kita · Torikai Nishi · Torikai Higashi · Ajifu · Befu

<Programs>

- Events related to the Yodogawa (Yodogawa cruises, raft-making, etc.)
- Disaster prevention corner
- Youth education, play area (mini-trains, woodshop class, etc.)
- Sports corner (Futsal, etc.)
- Performance, dance, entertainment (street performers, picture shows), etc.



Photo Credits: Yodogawa Waiwai Gayagaya Matsuri Committee

Efforts to Maintain and Preserve the Rich Natural Scenery of the Rivers

Example: Suzuka Balloon Festival/Suzuka River [Class A River] (Mie Prefecture)

The Suzuka Balloon Festival was first held in 1992 and welcomed its 27th year in 2018. When searching for a place where hot air balloons could fly in the Chubu region, Suzuka City became a candidate because there is was a good balance between nature and urban areas. Since then, the Suzuka Balloon Festival attracts pilots from all over the country and the colorful balloons decorate the autumn sky.

The main venue is the river ryokuchi (green area) where many enjoyable events are held for visitors including boarding a hot air balloon. To let as many people experience the view, there are 5 balloons stationed to allow visitors to enjoy the natural landscape from the sky.

In 2018, there were approximately 166 thousand visitors who came to the river ryokuchi or Suzuka Circuit areas to view the hot air balloons and competitions over 3 days.

Together with residents, we continue our activities in hopes that many people will enjoy the hot air balloons and beauty of the natural landscape.

<Main Organization>

Suzuka Balloon Festival Committee

<Usage Information>

- Fees: 2,000 Yen (JHS students and up),
1,000 Yen (elementary school students),
2 children free per parent (kindergarten and under)
- Boarding Numbers: 3- 4 people/flight
- Flight Time: 5- 6 minutes

<Anchored Flight Conditions>

- Each balloon is flown in a 50m×50m open area (no obstacles on the ground or in the sky)
- Anchor vehicles can enter the flight area (3- 4 vehicles per balloon)



Photo Credits: Suzuka Balloon Festival Committee

Efforts to Improve Landscape Attractiveness by Using the Historical/Cultural Features of its Resources

Example: Illumination/Sumida River [Class A River] (Tokyo Prefecture)

Tobu Railway has designated four priority areas for concentrated investment in the Tobu Group Medium- Term Management Plan growth strategy. One area is the Asakusa/Tokyo Skytree area. With the aim of creating a lively area and attracting more people, we have started illuminating the Sumida River Bridge from 2018 with the support of Tokyo Prefecture under the concept of “a colorful bridge that connects Asakusa and the Tokyo Skytree® year round.”

The illumination can be seen from various places in the Asakusa/Tokyo Skytree area such as the Tokyo Skytree and cruise ships along the Sumida River, and contributes to improving the attractiveness of the railway line and improving the night view.

In addition, illuminations in collaboration with seasonal events such as the Tokyo Skytree illuminations or sakura festival are ways in which the landscape attractiveness is improved.

<Main Organization>

Tobu Railway Co., Ltd.

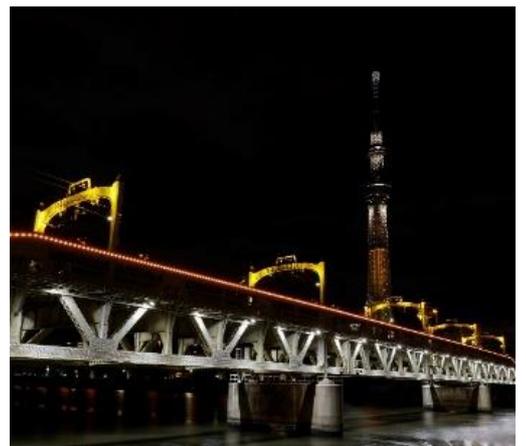


Photo Credits: Tobu Railway Co., Ltd.

Example: Shichijo Ohashi o Kireinisurukai Activities/Kamogawa River [Class A River] (Kyoto Prefecture)

The Kyoto Keikan Forum and local residents celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Shichijo Ohashi Bridge in 2013. However, interest in Shichijo Ohashi did not increase and for a time, it was ridden with grass and garbage. On July 7, 2015, 12 resident volunteers started activities to clean up Shichijo Ohashi.

Since then, cleaning activities have taken place at 9:00am on the 7th of every month for the aim of making as many people aware of the attractiveness of Shichijo Ohashi. Currently, about 50 participants from neighboring areas, businesses, local governments and fans from afar participate every month. Those who participate originally came for differing reasons, but through this mutual connection of Shichijo Ohashi, new collaboration projects have been created as well.

The activities were initially subsidized by the city, but gradually the group has been able to acquire their own funds. In 2018, donations were raised through the illumination event.

Shichijo Ohashi was not well recognized at the start of the activities, but as the number of supporters grew, it was designated as one of Japan's tangible cultural properties with the assistance of the city in November 2018.

<Main Organization>

- Shichijo o Kireinisurukai

<Activity Details>

- Cleaning and exchange activities from 9am on the 7th of every month
- Publicity activities: making leaflets, providing information on Facebook, making postcards, pin badges, tenugui towels, having mini- lectures, and various other events such as illuminations, etc.



Photo Credits: Shichijo Ohashi o Kireinisurukai

Example: Kentoshisen Race/Kasegawa River [Class A River] (Saga Prefecture)

This is a rowing boat race that connects the river and people, making use of the history and culture of the Kasegawa River, where Jianzhen arrived from China. The race has been held every August since 1997 and welcomed its 22nd year in 2018. The boats are modeled after the Tang dynasty ships (kentoshisen), and each team consists of 12- 16 people, with 45- 50 teams participating. The event is funded by sponsoring organizations.

The day before the tournament, cleanup activities are carried out at the race venue and the Kasegawa embankment under the motto, "keep the river clean," which is the foundation of hydrophilic programs.

Every year, there are veteran and first-timer teams that participate from inside and outside the prefecture, in addition to foreign teams. The entire venue is filled with lively cheering, and serves as a place for families, friends, officials and residents to cooperate and interact with one another.

The activities are being carried out with the hope that volunteer activities will flourish and history will be passed down to future generations.

<Main Organization>

- Sponsoring Organization:

Saga Ganjin Wajo Matsuri Kentoshisen Race Promotion Committee
(Staff consists of industry, government and resident members)

<Program>

- Kentoshisen race



Photo Credit: Saga City Tourist Association

<Participation Information.

- 10,000 Yen/team
- 12~16 members/team
- Course length=500m(250m one way)

Efforts to Create Liveliness and Activities to Enjoy the River Landscape

Example: Koinobori Festa 1000/Akutagawa River [Class A River] (Osaka Prefecture)

Every year for two weeks near Golden Week, 1000 koinobori (carp windsocks) are raised in hopes that children will grow up in good health and as a way to promote the Akutagawa River, which is symbol of the city. The windsocks are donations from the residents or handmade windsocks made by preschoolers in the city.

This event has been held for more than a quarter of a century since 1992 and has taken root as a familiar event among residents. Currently, it is run by the Koinobori Festa 1000 Promotion Council, which is formed by 12 local organizations including neighborhood community associations and the Junior Chamber International Takatsuki. The event received the support of about 120 businesses and organizations in 2018, making it an event that has grown to receive the support of the local community.

At the event on April 29th (holiday), stage events such as dance performances and open-air stores are held as events for children to enjoy, and the venue is bustling with many people.

<Main Organization>

- Sponsoring Organization: Koinobori Festa 1000 Promotion Council



Photo Credits: Takatsuki City

Example: Yasuragitei/Shinano River [Class A River] (Niigata Prefecture)

On the left and right riverbanks, there are areas for dining and promoting health. Residents, businesses and local governments work together to create a beautiful landscape and new liveliness.

The area has been managed by Snow Peak Inc. since 2017, and the secretariat is regularly staffed by two members, with additional support during business hours from Niigata City Hall and vendors (10+ stores). The activities are made possible with the cooperation and support of many people.

The 2018 business period was from July 1st to October 14th. Business plans are made continuously from the end of the previous year with careful coordination with the related organizations.

In addition, on-site response during bad weather is a major consideration during the business period.

Thanks to these efforts, more than 30,000 people visit every year and the visitors seem to be satisfied based on the results of the questionnaires.

<Main Organizations>

- Sponsoring Organizations:
Niigata City, Snow Peak Inc.
- Supporting Organization:
Mizbering Yasuragitei Kenkyukai

<Programs>

- No equipment BBQ
- Food booths, etc.

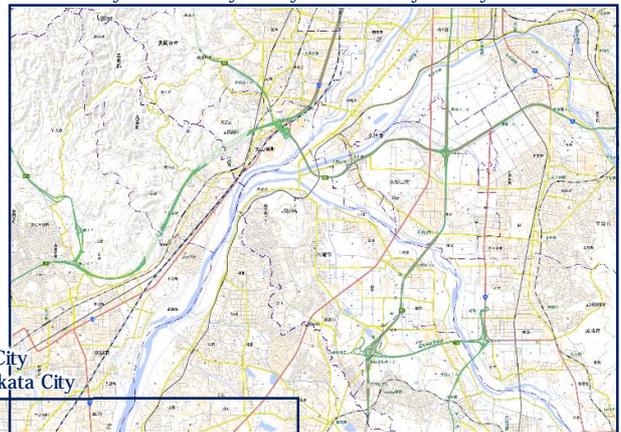


Photo Credits: Snow Peak Inc.

Attractive Yodogawa River Landscape Maps

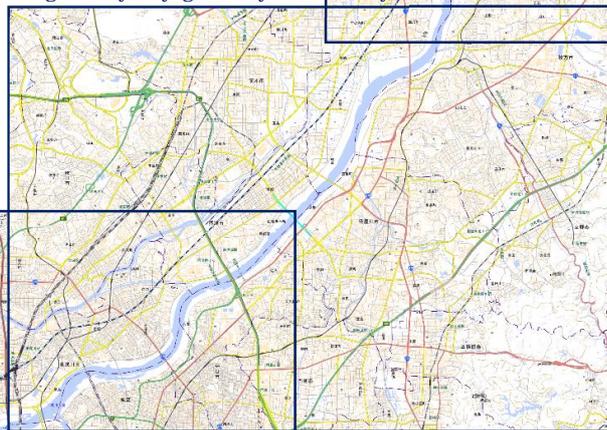


Area of Landscape Map 3
Takatsuki City, Shimamoto Town, Oyamazaki Town,
Hirakata City, Yawata City, Kumiya Town, Kyoto City



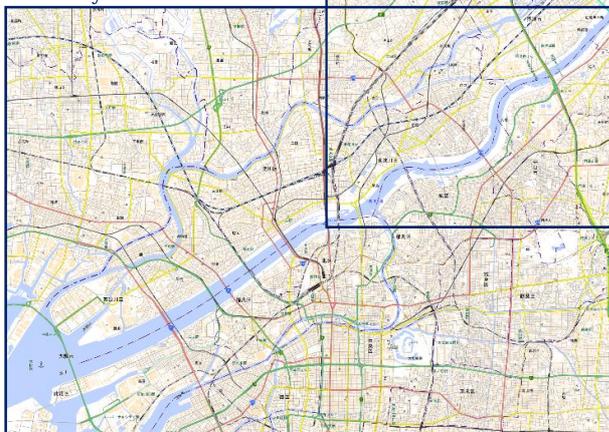
P25-P26

Area of Landscape Map 2
Osaka City, Settsu City, Takatsuki City
Moriguchi City, Neyagawa City, Hirakata City



P23-P24

Area of Landscape Map 1
Osaka City



P21-P22



Guide of Map Areas

Attractive Yodogawa River Landscape Map 1

<p>1 Shin-Denpo Ohashi Bridge</p> <p>Completed in 1969 (L=about 860m)</p>	<p>10 Shin-Kitano Emergency Wharf</p> <p>Near the 6.3 km mark on the right bank. Berth length about 60m/apron length about 7.0m</p>	<p>16 Nakatsu Reed Beds</p>
<p>2 Denpo Ohashi Bridge</p> <p>Completed in 1942 (L=about 765m)</p>	<p>11 Shin-Juso Ohashi Bridge</p> <p>Completed in 1966 (L=about 792m)</p>	
<p>3 Otsuka Gire Flood Monument</p>  <p>In 1917, the embankment broke in Otsuka, Takatsuki City, causing serious damage downstream to Osaka City. In order to drain the flooded water, a cut was made in the embankment in Nishiyodogawa Ward.</p> <p><small>Photo Credit: Osaka City Nishiyodogawa Ward Office</small></p>	<p>12 Juso no Watashi Boat Route</p>	
<p>4 Ebie Mudflat</p>	<p>13 Shin-Juso Ohashi Bridge</p> <p>Completed in 1932 (L=about 681m)</p>	<p>Yodogawa Fishing</p>
<p>5 Yodogawa Ohashi Bridge</p> <p>Completed in 1926 (L=about 724m)</p>	<p>14 14 Umeda Sky Building</p>   <p><small>Photo Credit: Sekisui House Umeda Operation Co., Ltd. Taken on: 2018/5/16 at 10:58am</small></p>	
<p>6 Ebie Emergency Wharf</p> <p>Near the 5.1 km mark on the left bank. Berth length about 70m/apron length about 13.0m</p>	<p>The sunset seen from the observatory has become a familiar view. Inside, there are features to enjoy the natural scenery such as the posting the sunset time. The building itself has become a landmark due to its characteristic design.</p>	
<p>7 Hanakawa Mudflat</p>	<p>15 Skyscrapers</p>  <p><small>Taken on: 2017/12/23 at 6:49pm</small></p>	
<p>8 Oyodo Mudflat</p>	<p>The Umekita 2nd phase development is taking place in the center of Osaka city. The landscape seen from the opposite bank is unique to the Yodogawa, where the contrast between the quiet water surface and the liveliness of the big city is beautiful.</p>	
<p>9 Naniwa Yodogawa Fireworks Festival</p> <p>Since 1989. Name changed from Heisei Fireworks Festival in 2006</p>  <p>In the beginning of August, viewing is held at the Yodogawa Riverside Park Nishinakajima, Juso and Oyodo grass areas. The festival is planned and executed by the Naniwa Yodogawa Fireworks Organizing Committee, and is funded by donations from local businesses and residents.</p> <p><small>Photo Credit: Naniwa Yodogawa Fireworks Organizing Committee</small></p>		

※This is a copy of the electronic topographic map (Geographical Institute Map Zoom Level 14 Standard Map) with the approval of the Director of the Geospatial Information Authority of Japan. (Approval number: Heisei 30, No. 1242)
 ※This map was created with the approval of the Director of the Geospatial Information Authority of Japan. To reproduce it in any way, permission from the Director of the Geospatial Information Authority of Japan is required.

Mudflats

Reed beds slow water flow in addition to providing a place for creatures to live and hide from predators. Reed also absorbs phosphorus and nitrogen, which cause water to become dirty. They help keep the water clean and protect the natural environment of the Yodogawa.

Photo Credit: Osaka-city Fisherman's Cooperative Association



Fishing in the Yodogawa estuary area still takes place at mudflats such as the Juso Mudflat. The eels, freshwater clams and bass fished here help sustain Osaka's food culture.

Mudflats are places where sand appears after a tide has receded. Seawater and freshwater mix and many creatures live in the nutrient rich sand. There used to be many mudflats along the Yodogawa, but most of them are gone due to development of the river and its surroundings. In recent years, they have been reinstated to conserve conservation. → See: 4 7 8 17 20

17 Juso Mudflat

Juso Mudflat is the largest natural mudflat on the Yodogawa and many people come to dig for freshwater clams.



Photo Credit: Osaka City Yodogawa Ward Office

18 Yodogawa Urban Camp (since 2015)

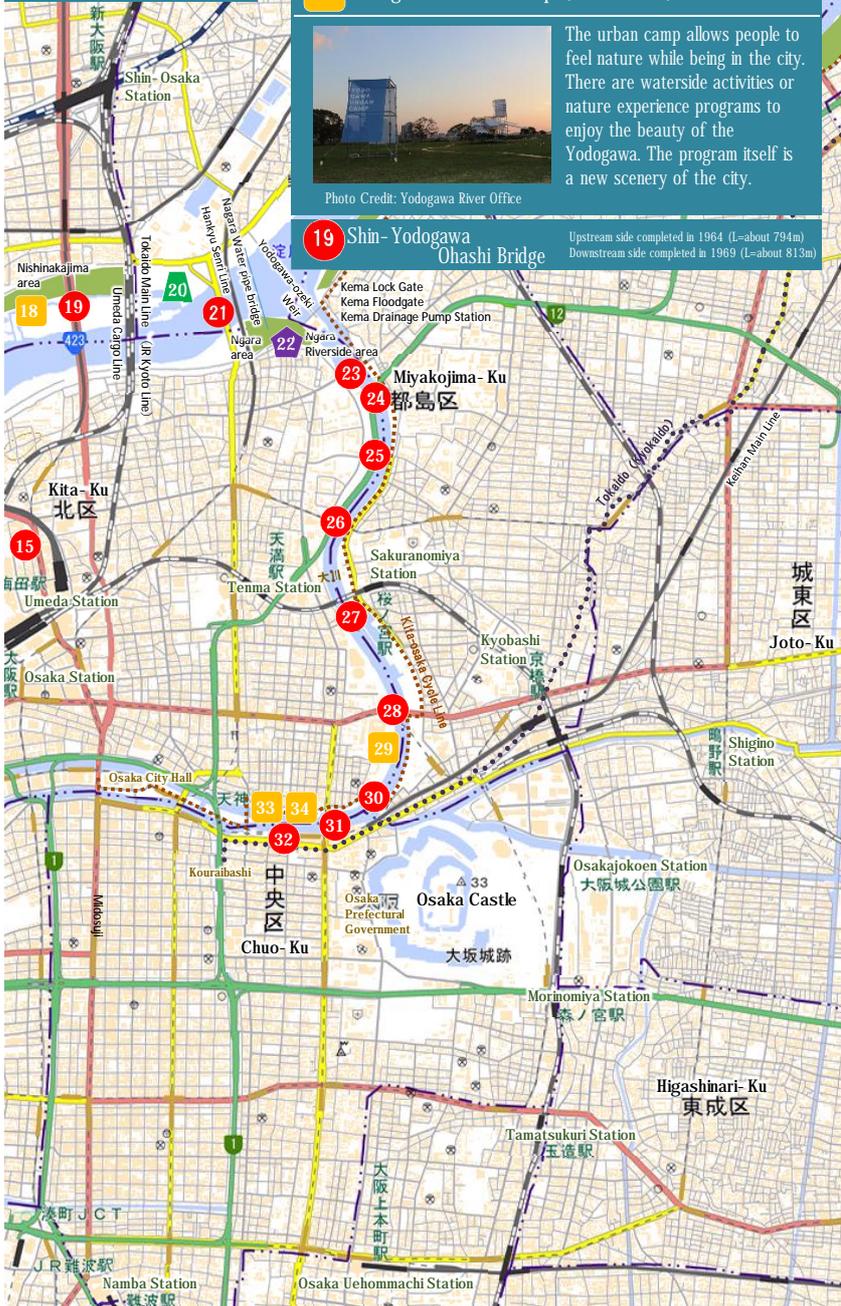


Photo Credit: Yodogawa River Office

The urban camp allows people to feel nature while being in the city. There are waterside activities or nature experience programs to enjoy the beauty of the Yodogawa. The program itself is a new scenery of the city.

19 Shin-Yodogawa Ohashi Bridge

Upstream side completed in 1964 (L=about 794m)
Downstream side completed in 1969 (L=about 813m)



20 Kunijima Mudflat

21 Nagarabashi Bridge

Completed in 1983 (L=about 656m)



Photo Credit: Osaka City Construction Bureau

The center has arch shape and is called a Nielsen Lohse bridge. It has been selected as one of the 50 best Naniwa bridges. Illuminated at night, the bridge matches the vast Yodogawa landscape.

22 Old Kema No.1 Lock Gate

Completed in 1907



Taken on: 2018/9/24 at 1:15pm

The lock was built during the flood control works in the Meiji period to secure traffic between the former and new Yodogawa rivers. It is a historical and important cultural property. Comparing it to the airplanes that fly overhead to Itami Airport is an interesting way to enjoy this gap.

23 Kemabashi Bridge

Completed in 1960, expanded in 1979 (L=about 150m)

24 Harukazebashi Bridge

Completed in 1981 (L=about 105m)

25 Hishobashi Bridge

Completed in 1984 (L=about 103m)

26 Miyakojimbashi Bridge

Completed in 1956, expanded in 1979 (L=about 145m)

27 Genpachibashi Bridge

Completed in 1936, expanded in 1971 (L=about 201m)

28 Sakuranomiyabashi Bridge

Completed in 1930 (L=about 189m)

29 Azaleas Around the Mint

With the decline in the early Meiji Period, Toshimichi Okubo is said to have made part of his residence into a Mint in order to help revitalize Osaka. The famous cherry blossoms can be viewed even today.



Taken on: 2017/4/30 at 10:36am

The riverside along the Okawa (old Yodogawa) is famous for the Mint and its cherry blossoms, but during the azalea season (spring-rainy season), it is perfect for taking walks to enjoy the riverside atmosphere.

30 Kawasakibashi Bridge

Completed in 1978 (L=about 129m)

31 Temmabashi Bridge

Completed in 1935 (L=about 151m)

32 Hachikenyahama Emergency Wharf/Hachikenya River Station

33 Sightseeing Ship (Hachikenyahama Emergency Wharf area)



Taken on: 2018/4/1 at 11:00am

The Hachikenyahama ship terminal flourished as a base for connecting the Setouchi Bay and Yodogawa during the Heian period, and a port for passenger ships that connected Kyoto and Osaka in the Edo period. Even today, it is very lively as a base for Osaka, the water capital.

34 Reiwa Osaka Amanogawa Legend (since 2009)



Taken on: 2017/7/7 at 7:53pm

The Okawa River which flows west through Osaka City is called "Temmagawa," starlight reflected on the water surface gave the name of "the milky way on earth." An event is held on the night of Tanabata to recreate this fantastic imagery.

Attractive Yodogawa River Landscape Map 2

1 Kema Lock Gate/Kema Floodgate/Kema Drainage Pump Station



The water of the Yodogawa usually flows from the floodgate to Okawa River. The water level rises during high tides and floods, so the Drainage Pump Station is designed to drain water downstream from the Yodogawa-ozeki Weir. It is one of the sightseeing highlights of the Yodogawa cruise.

2 Yodogawa-ozeki Weir Completed in 1984



Taken on: 2015/4/28 at 7:05pm

The dam is usually closed to prevent salt water from going upstream and to secure household water. During floods, water is released directly downstream. The silhouette of the towers reflected on the water are beautiful and can be enjoyed at various times of the day.

3 Kema Emergency Wharf Near the 10.5 km mark on the left bank. Berth length about 60m/apron length about 7.5m

4 Yodogawa Riverside Park (Kema Area)



The city buildings seen in the far distance from the vast Yodogawa open spaces seem as if they are touching the sky.

5 Kunijima Emergency Wharf Near the 10.3 km mark on the right bank. Berth length about 70m/apron length about 10m

6 Kunijima Water Treatment Plant

7 Akagawa Cove Near the 11.0-11.4km mark on the left bank.

8 Osaka Higashi Line Yodogawa Bridge Completed in 1929 (L=about 615m)



The bridge survived WWII and was used as a road for local residents until the Osaka Higashi railway lines started in 2013. It is called "Akagawa Tekkyo" by the locals.

9 Toyosato Cove Near the 11.8-12.0km mark on the right bank.

10 Sugahara Shirokita Ohashi Bridge Completed in 1989, toll-free since 2014 (L=about 1,356m)

11 Shirokita Cove Near the 11.4-13.0km mark on the left bank.



Taken on: 2018/6/9 at around 12 noon

Located near Shirokita Park, the cove has a diverse ecosystem and is a habitat for the natural treasure, Itasenpara. There are various activities to protect the cove's environment.

12 Heita no Watashi Boat Route (stopped in 1970)

13 Toyosato Ohashi Bridge

14 Daido Cove Near the 14.6km mark on the right bank.

15 Shimoshima Cove Near the 14.8km mark on the left bank.

16 Intake Tower (Hitotsuya Intake Facility)



The intake tower takes water from the Yodogawa and supplies it to the water treatment plant. The facility helps us realize that we live with the water from the Yodogawa.

17 Miyanoshta Watashi Boat Route (stopped in 1954)

18 Niwakubo Cove Near the 16.4-17.2km mark on the left bank.

19 Niwakubo Water Treatment Plant

20 Torikai Ohashi Bridge



Consisting of 4 bridges including 2 prefectural roads, the Kinki Expressway and the Osaka Monorail, it serves as a transportation hub. The reeds that grow in the vicinity change color in the autumn, allowing visitors to feel the seasons of the Yodogawa.

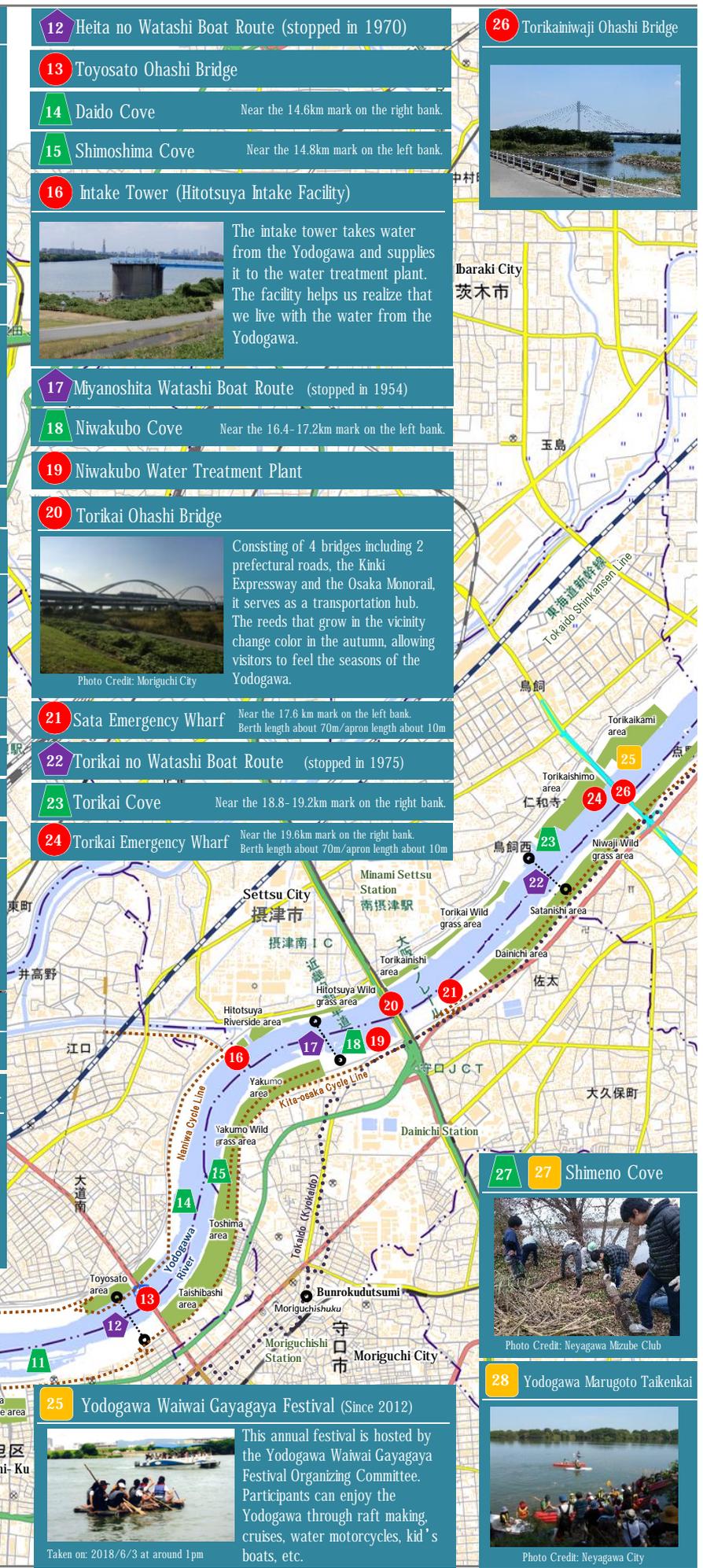
21 Sata Emergency Wharf Near the 17.6 km mark on the left bank. Berth length about 70m/apron length about 10m

22 Torikai no Watashi Boat Route (stopped in 1975)

23 Torikai Cove Near the 18.8-19.2km mark on the right bank.

24 Torikai Emergency Wharf Near the 19.6km mark on the right bank. Berth length about 70m/apron length about 10m

26 Torikainiwaji Ohashi Bridge



27 Shimeno Cove



Photo Credit: Neyagawa Mizube Club

25 Yodogawa Waiwai Gayagaya Festival (Since 2012)



Taken on: 2018/6/3 at around 1pm

This annual festival is hosted by the Yodogawa Waiwai Gayagaya Festival Organizing Committee. Participants can enjoy the Yodogawa through raft making, cruises, water motorcycles, kid's boats, etc.

28 Yodogawa Marugoto Taikenai



Photo Credit: Neyagawa City

Completed in 1987 (L=688m)
 ※Toll for bicycles is 10 yen

This cable-stayed bridge blends in well with the surrounding landscape. Completed as a toll road, it is popularly called the "100 yen bridge" by the locals.

29 Shimeno Emergency Wharf Near the 21.3km mark on the left bank.
Berth length about 70m/apron length about 10m

30 Yodogawa Shimbashi Bridge Completed in 1973

38 Hirakata Water Level Observatory

The Hirakata Water Level Observatory is a new symbol of the Yodogawa. It is designed to extend straight up to the sky, similar to the reeds that have grown along the riverside from ancient times. Water levels are observed here and evacuation information is provided to help protect the lives of residents.



Taken on: 2018/9/23 at around 12 noon



39 Canoeing

The Hirakata area of the Yodogawa Riverside Park has a large grass area where it is possible to take a walk while experiencing the Yodogawa River. There are events unique to this area such as canoeing.



Taken on: 2017/9/10 at 10 am

⇒ See: 41

■ Yodogawa Water Transportation

In the age where there were no automobiles or railroads, ships were the most important means of transporting goods and people. In the Edo period, Hachikenya in Osaka and Fushimi in Kyoto were connected by small passenger boat ships called sanjikkokubune. This scene is drawn in the "Myakomeishozue." The sanjikkokubune song was sung to inform passengers where the landing was. The song is designated as an intangible folk cultural property of Osaka.



◀ Left figure :
 Myakomeishozue Yodo
 (International Research Center for Japanese Studies)

■ Yodogawa no Watashi Boat Route

Until the usage of automobiles and the building of bridges, residents mainly used boats to cross the Yodogawa River at various locations.

⇒ See: 12 17 22 40

40 Hirakata (Otsuka) no Watashi Boat Route (Yubinya no Watashi) (stopped in 1930)



In Mitsuya in Hirakata, the most popularly used boat crossing route was also used to deliver mail to Takatsuki train station on the other side of the river.

31 Kurawankabune Birthplace Monument

Kurawankabune were small boats that rowed close to the sanjikkokubune to sell food or drinks. A monument was erected on the Yodogawa embankment in Hashiramoto where the boats originated. Currently, water transportation on the Yodogawa is active with regular tour boats between Hachikenya and Hirakata.



41 Hirakatahuku Minato Gorokuichi (since 2017)

At the location of the old Hirakatahuku, the Hirakatahuku Kurawanka Gorokuichi market is held on the second Sunday of every month. There is also a Minato Gorokuichi market that is held in the Yodogawa Riverside Park on the same day.




32 Mishimae Cove The 23.2km mark on the right bank.

33 Akutagawa River Junction

This is the view of the junction from a boat. The Akutagawa can be enjoyed by looking at the beautiful contrast of the blue sky, mountains, greenery and water surface.



42 Hirakata Emergency Wharf

Near the 26.0 km mark on the left bank.
Berth length about 70m/apron length about 1.2- 5.2m

Emergency wharfs are facilities that can be used for restoration of rivers and alternative transportation routes for emergency supplies when a disaster such as a large-scale earthquake occurs.

⇒ See: 3 5 21 24 36 42



Since September 2017, regular ship routes are also available (Hachikenyama to Hirakata) using the ship landings.

Near the 20.6km-20.8km mark on the left bank.

Citizens groups conduct cleaning activities to conserve the natural environment. Elementary schools in the area also conduct nature education activities.

34 Flood Control Activities

The flood control group actively practices to protect lives and property from floods due to heavy rain and high tides. The largest training organized by the Yodogawa Sagan Suibou Jimukumiai is the "Yodogawasuji/Bochosuji Joint Flood Control Drill" held in Sanya, where about 400 people participate.



Photo Credit: Yodogawa Sagan Suibou Jimukumiai

43 43 Kagiya Bekkan

The Kagiya Bekkan, located next to the Kagiya Museum, is a 4-story building that has cafés and stores. Visitors can enjoy the view of the Yodogawa natural landscape from the top floor.



Photo Credit: Hirakata City

35 Hirakata Ohashi Bridge Completed in 1930 (L=689m)

36 Otsuka Emergency Wharf Near the 26.0km mark on the right bank.
Berth length about 70m/apron length about 10m

37 Otsukagire

The water level of the Yodogawa increased during a storm in 1917, and the Akutagawa river embankment and Otsuka embankment of the Yodogawa main river collapsed. The muddy waters swallowed towns, causing great damage.



Photo Credit: Takatsuki City

44 44 Hirakata Park Ferris Wheel

This popular landmark is 80m tall, and one can enjoy the vast landscape of the Yodogawa while riding it. The Ferris wheel can also be seen from the river boat tours.



Attractive Yodogawa River Landscape Map 3

1 Yodogawa Riverside Park (Otsuka Area)



Photo Credit: Takatsuki City

A spacious park where you can relax both physically and mentally, it is especially recommended during the spring when cute wild grasses such as the white clover cover the ground. There are also beautiful sandy banks that worthy of a sightseeing spot.

2 Ioshima Shusuiko Intake

3 Karasaki Cove

Near the 24.2 km mark on the right bank

4 Maeshima no Norimen



Photo Credit: Takatsuki City

Every spring, yellow mustard flowers bloom from Kanmaki to Hashiramoto along the Yodogawa riverbed. People take walks and cycle along the riverbed, take pictures, and enjoy the calm spring weather.

5 Maeshima Watashi Boat Route

6 Makino Cove

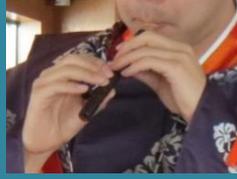
Near the 30.8 km mark on the left bank.

7 Udono no Yoshihara Reed bed



Photo Credit: Takatsuki City

The largest reed bed along the Yodogawa river, the field is burned in early spring in order to eliminate harmful grasses/pests and to prevent accidental fires. Many tourists visit to see the yoshiyaki (reed burning).



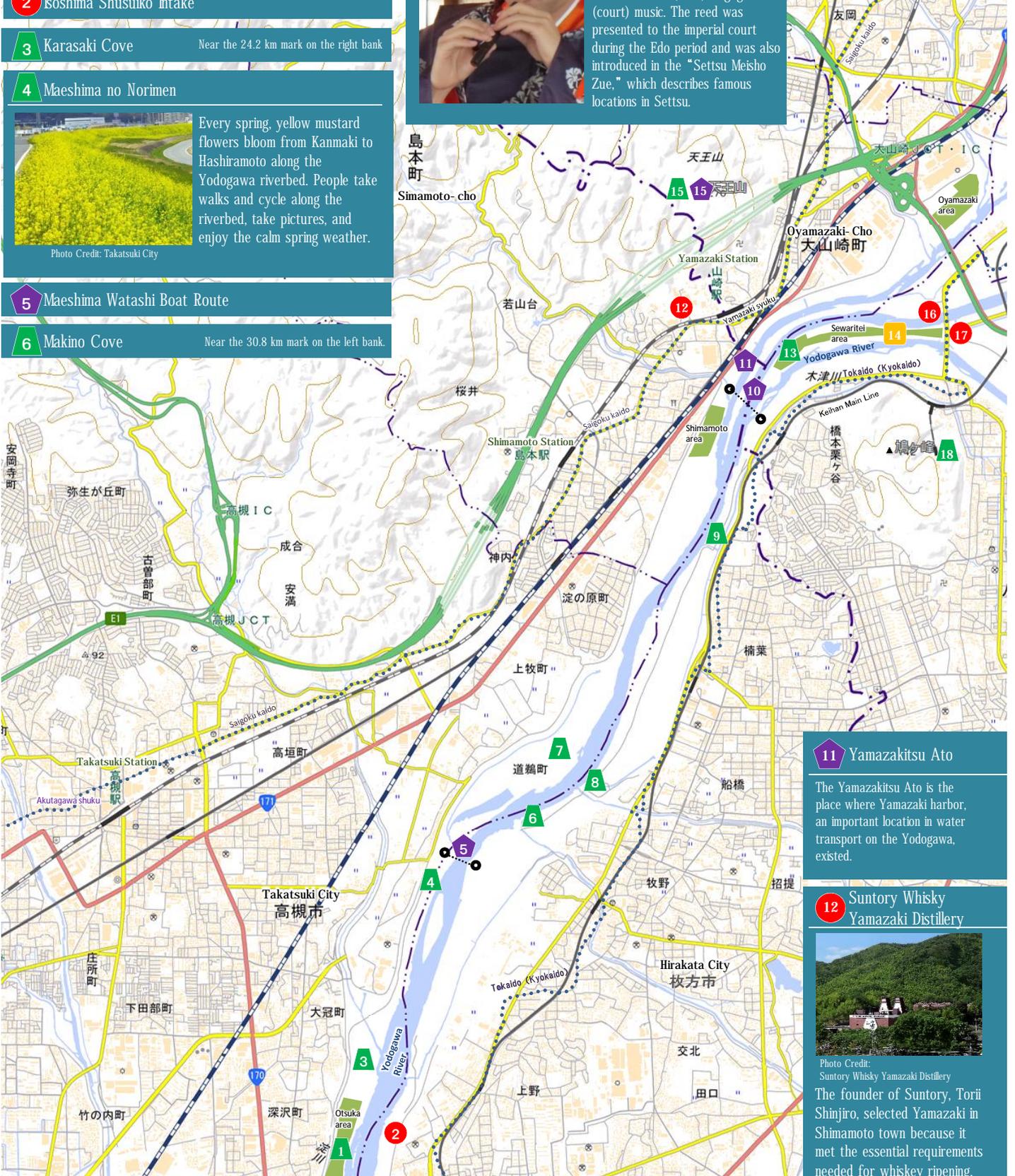
Udono reed was invaluable as it was used to make the mouthpiece of the hichiriki (flute) in gagaku (court) music. The reed was presented to the imperial court during the Edo period and was also introduced in the "Settsu Meisho Zue," which describes famous locations in Settsu.

8 Hinoue Cove

9 Kuzuha Cove

10 Yamazaki (Hashimoto)

Toyotomi Hideyoshi had constructed Yamazaki Bridge but it was not maintained. This boat route connected the present day Yawata city and Shimamoto town areas.



11 Yamazakitsu Ato

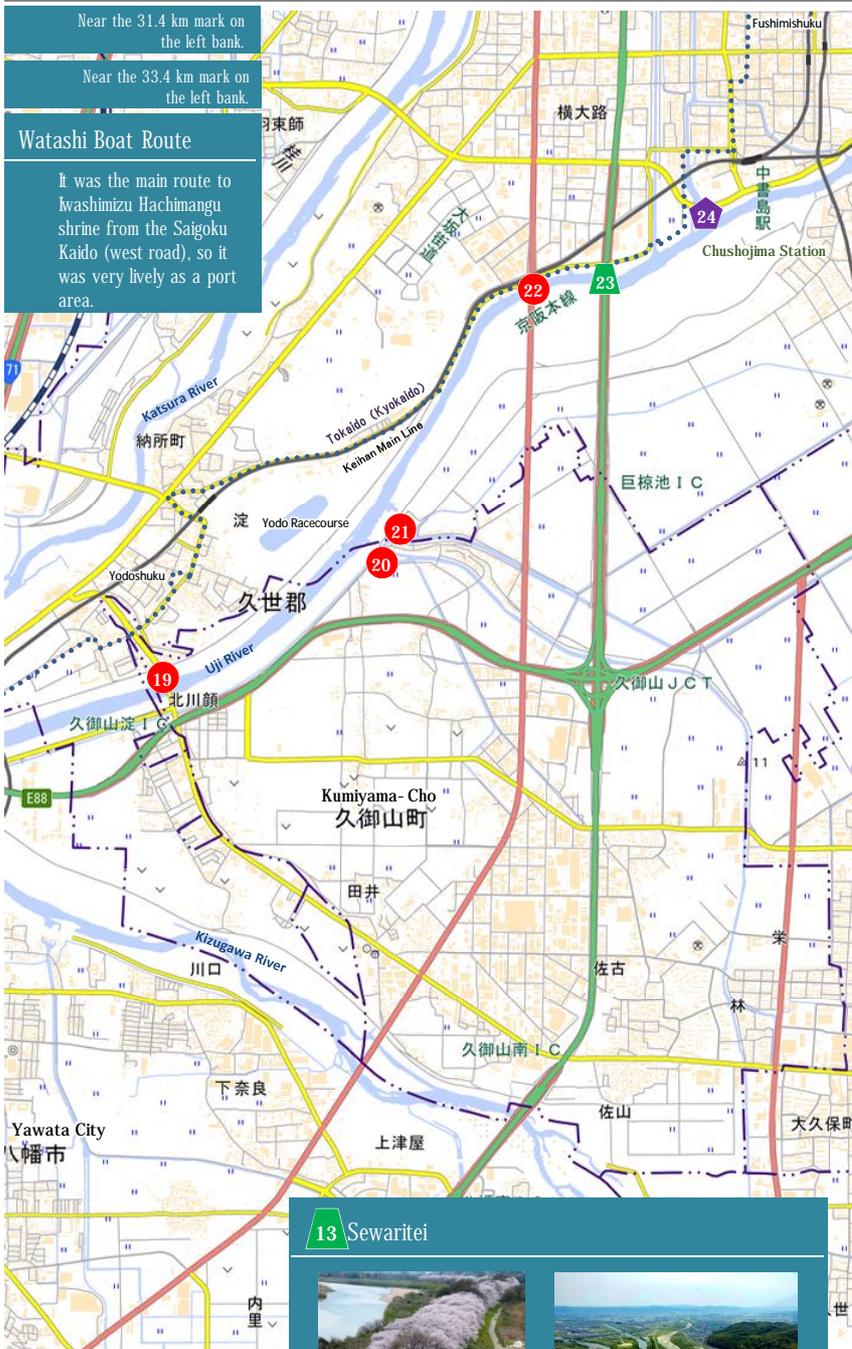
The Yamazakitsu Ato is the place where Yamazaki harbor, an important location in water transport on the Yodogawa, existed.

12 Suntory Whisky Yamazaki Distillery



Photo Credit: Suntory Whisky Yamazaki Distillery

The founder of Suntory, Torii Shinjiro, selected Yamazaki in Shimamoto town because it met the essential requirements needed for whiskey ripening.



Near the 31.4 km mark on the left bank.
Near the 33.4 km mark on the left bank.

Watashi Boat Route

It was the main route to Iwashimizu Hachimangu shrine from the Saigoku Kaido (west road), so it was very lively as a port area.

15 View from Tennozan Mountain



The Yodogawa (three river confluence) can be seen from Tennozan, the closest mountain to the Yodogawa, in addition to the old battlefield where Akechi Mitsuhide was defeated by Hashiba Hideyoshi on June 2, 1582, eleven days after Akechi caused the Honnoji Incident.

Photo Credit: Oyamazaki Town

16 Gokobashi Bridge

First completed in 1913
Rebuilt and completed in 1930
Yodogawa Gokobashi Bridge completed in 2003.
Kizugawa Gokobashi Bridge completed in 2010.

17 Sakura-deai Visitor Center Completed in 2017




Photo Credit: Yawata City
Photo Credit: Yodogawa Riverside Park Administration Center

The Sakura-deai Visitor Center at the Yodogawa Riverside Park Sewaritei Service Center is located in the region where three rivers meet. At a height of 25m, it is possible to get a view of the surrounding landscape. Many people stop by to rest while cycling or to enjoy and event.

18 View from Iwashimizu Hachimangu Shrine



One of the three major Hachiman shrines in Japan, Iwashimizu Hachimangu has an observation deck where you can see the Sewaritei or Sakura-deai Visitor Center. The main hall was built in the middle of the Edo period and was designated a national treasure in February 2016.

19 Yodoohashi Bridge Completed in 1932 (L=about 267)

20 Kumiya Drainage Pumping Station

21 Ogura Drainage Pumping Station

22 Uji River Ohashi Bridge Completed in 1966 (L= about 546m)

23 View from Ogura Ohashi Bridge (morning river fog)



Uji's riverbeds look different depending on the season and time. Underneath the river fog, one can almost imagine the once existing Oguraike pond.

Taken on: 2017/11/27 at 7:30am

24 Misu Lock Gate Completed in 1929 Closed in 1964



The lock gate was built to adjust the water level difference between the Uji and Horikawa rivers resulting from the embankment between the gate and Kangetsukyo Bridge, and contributed greatly to economic and cultural development. Jikkokubune boats have been revived since 1998 and the area is lively particularly in the cherry blossom season.

Taken on: 2018/3/30 at 11:21am

13 Sewaritei



Photo Credit: Yawata City Tourism Association

This levee is part of the right bank of the Kizu River, which was reconstructed in the Taisho period. There is a splendid view of cherry blossom trees that extend for 1.4km. Originally, pine trees were planted and it was called Yamashiro Hashidate, but they were replaced with cherry blossom trees in 1978 due to problems with pests. During the cherry blossom season, festivals are held and the area is crowded with tourists.

⇒ See: **14**

14 Sewaritei Cherry Blossom Festival Name changed from Yawata Cherry Blossom Festival in 2018.



Photo Credit: Kyoto Prefecture

People can walk or sit down to enjoy the cherry blossom lined paths from various angles. The area is lively with tourists in cherry blossom season.

Since the Heian period, "Yodo" and "Yamazaki" have been important gateways to the south and west, transporting various supplies to the capital.

The construction of the distillery started in 1923. This area is rich in high-quality groundwater suitable for whiskey making, and has a humid climate that is important for aging whiskey. The Yamazaki distillery is known as the home of Japanese whiskey.

English translation: Uchida Shunsuke and Kawai Hinako, under supervision of Prof. L.Honda, Faculty of International Studies, Kindai University, December 2019.



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