

自然に
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Nature

When you are standing in the heart of the nature's bounty, one can let go and relax. Feeling nature can heal one's heart. Just be in the real nature and held gently by it.

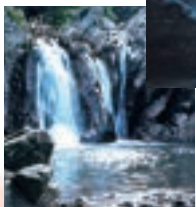
Weeping Cherry Tree (Mid-April)

This 400 year old 'Edo Higan Cherry Tree' on top of a small hill is surrounded by tea fields. Designated as a natural monument of the Shigaraki town, the beauty always attracts many people.

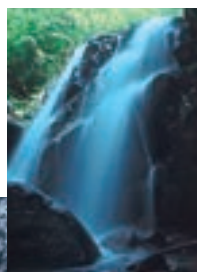


Tea Field

Asamiya- tea is a famous tea with 1200 years of tradition.You can see lush green tea fields on the slope.



Misuji Waterfall



Keimei Waterfall

Misuji Waterfall & Keimei Waterfall

The sound of the stream from Misuji Waterfall rings pleasantly in Tashiro river. There are three resting spots along Tokai Nature Trail. Keimei Waterfall has its name after the tradition of the 'Golden Bird'. Many people seek cool air here in the summer.

Autumn Leaves

Located on a plateau, autumn leaves covering mountains and fields turn red when cool air comes.

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History

By taking a trip, let's gather the pieces of romance made by the long history of Shigaraki.

Shigaraki no miya ato (Miyamachi remains)

In Tempyo 14 (A.D 742), Emperor Shomu started to build the royal palace in Shigaraki. As Shigaraki capital only lasted for a few years and because no trace of it has ever been found, it has long been called the capital of illusion. In the year 2000, ruins of the palace were discovered. Excavations are ongoing at the site and hopefully we will learn more.



Main Hall of Hando Shrine (Iimichi Shrine)

The shrine was built in early Nara period. After the Heian period, it prospered as a sacred place of mountain worship and mountaineering training. The main hall was built in 1650 and decorated with rich colors. In 1976, the main hall had underground repairs.

Atago Shrine / Toki Shrine

This shrine locates on the top of Mt. Atago where you can see the whole of Shigaraki town. Clay Deity and Fire Deity are worshipped there. A gate and a pair of guardian dogs made of ceramic can be seen.



Ruins of Koka Temple

Frame of the big Buddha was built in this temple following the order of the emperor Shomu.

Senzenji Ato Magaibutu (Buddha of Senzenji-temple)

Senzenji temple was destroyed by fire in the Middle Ages of Japan. In the back of the house, 3-statute Buddha from Kamakura period was engraved on the rock.



Stone tablet of Matsuo Basho

Matsuo Basho was a famous Haiku poet of the Edo period. His Haiku poem is carved on the stone tablet.



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Culture

Cultural traditions have been kept over generations. Cultural challenges have been created over time. By meeting, touching, blending and creating nature, you can find the nature which gets into your heart.

Shigaraki Traditional Craft Center (Information Center)

Exhibit shows Shigaraki potteries from Kamakura period (A.D 1185-1333) to present time. Visitors can understand the history of Shigaraki potteries there. There are permanent exhibitions of modern potteries and visitors can find detailed information about the life and culture of local people. You are recommended to get information here before you visit Shigaraki.



You can rent bicycles here or at the train station.



Fire Festival
700 torches are carried through the streets and up to Mt. Atago as a dedication to Toki Shrine.



Pottery Festival

Pottery exhibition and sale is held and attended by many pottery fans.

Taiko Drum Dance

During the Autumn Festival, people dance to pray for rain and bumper crop. These dances are held at Higumo Shrine in Maki or Satomiya Shrine in Tarao.



Shigaraki Craft Exhibition Pavilion

This is an exhibition hall which shows many kinds of Shigaraki potteries.

The Shigaraki Ceramic Cultural Park

This is a theme park which shows Shigaraki pottery and worldwide ceramic art. Visitors enjoy going for walks here through all seasons.



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Downtown

Come and have fun with clay, nature and time. Shigaraki is full of nature, history and culture. Everyone can retrieve their childish innocence here.

Kamamoto Sansakuro Street

This ancient street continues stretches from Shigaraki station square to Tosei-cho and Yakiya-cho. It is believed that pottery first began in this area at Tosei-cho. The name Tosei-cho literally means 'pottery came from here' in Japanese. The name Yakiya-cho refers to the kilns used to make the pottery.



Mark of Ceramic



Many kilns in this area are still in use today, and you can buy potteries along this street. Name of the town indicate the long history Shigaraki has with ceramic pottery.

Tanuki is shown smiling at the Shigaraki Station Square. This Tanuki is a public phone box.



Fortune Tanuki (raccoon dog)

When people speak of Shigaraki, Tanuki comes to mind first. Tanuki gives the town a sense of happiness and warmth. Everybody smiles at this humorous and lovely figure.

Miho Museum

You can see excellent treasures of ancient culture and traditional Japanese artworks here. The architecture, designed by Dr. I.M. Pei harmonizes with nature beautifully.



Golf Links

People feel refreshed and rejuvenated here when interacted with nature.



Hinomi Street

This street takes you to the river by the station. Cherry trees and azaleas color the path, which leads to Suemi Street surrounded by Shigaraki ceramics.



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