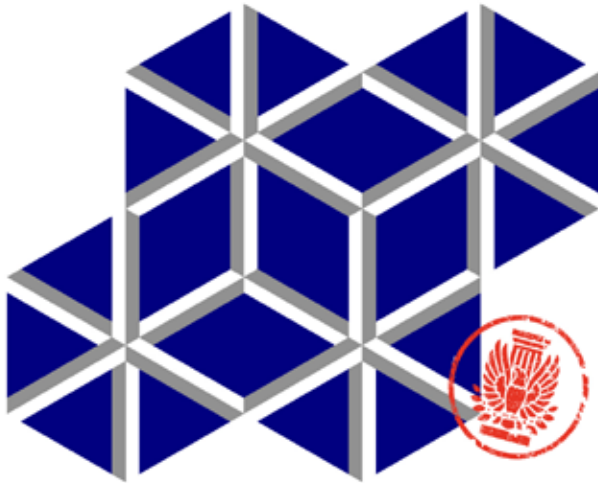


# Crafting the Future

2011 Japan



# CRAFTING THE FUTURE 2011 JAPAN

**Part B : Nagoya, Takayama, Kanazawa**

**A Joint Conference hosted by:**

**AIA Japan**

**AIA Committee on Design**

**AIA Northwest & Pacific Region**

**13-19 November 2011**

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## Crafting the Future

The AIA National Committee on Design 2011 Japan Conference comes at a momentous time in the wake of the 3.11 disaster, with the primacy of the key words recovery and resilience. Japan has long faced the threat of earthquakes and typhoons, resulting in unparalleled building technology and culture of craft that spans the entire modern period. Building on the legacy of traditional guilds, the craft of construction continues to be at the cutting edge enabling the realization of projects almost unimaginable anywhere else. However much has changed in the 19 years since the last COD Japan tour, whereby the excessive projects of the “Economic Bubble” have been eclipsed by a renewed attention to the tectonics of primary materials and livable environments for a shrinking population and economy. For the 2011 AIA COD Japan tour, in complement to the AIA Japan meetings in Tokyo, we trace the temporal and geographical diversity of exemplary contemporary projects and their historic precedents — as we witness a new era emerging.

Within a span of four packed days, we will journey from the city to the country, through diverse landscapes in the mountains to the sea. Traveling by Bullet Train from Tokyo to Nagoya, we start our tour at the JR Nagoya Towers and Station mega-structural complex (KPF, 1989-2000) with views of both Nagoya Castle and the 170-meter high-rise vocational school: Mode Gakuen Spiral Towers (Nikken Sekkei, 2008). We will stay overnight here within the megastructural Nagoya Station complex, where you can have evening cocktails, shop in the department store complex, or dine in one of the many restaurants to sample the distinct character of hearty Nagoya cuisine such as Nagoya kôchin—the local equivalent to Buffalo wings.

Our first morning together begins with an overview lecture over breakfast, followed by Kengo Kuma’s GC Prostho Museum Research Center (2010). The tour continues with visits to Meiji Mura, home of the lobby of Frank Lloyd Wright’s Imperial Hotel (1923) noted for withstanding the devastating forces

of the 1923 Earthquake but succumbing to subsequent real estate development. We will then see in complement the masterful dynamics of contemporary seismic construction in the hung galleries of Arata Isozaki’s Museum of Modern Ceramic Art (1996-2002). We end our first full day with an elaborate Japanese banquet at a traditional hot springs mountain resort at Gero, where we will dress up in traditional cotton yukata robes.

After a restful stay in the mountains, we will see the Japanese mastery of post-and-beam construction and wood joinery in the traditional merchant houses preserved in the mountain area of Takayama, as well as the steep pitched thatched farmhouses at Hida Takayama praised by architect Bruno Taut. Finally our bus tour of the Japanese mountainscapes will be complemented by our two-night stay in Kanazawa on the Japan Sea, home to both a feudal castle and the brand-new Kanazawa Umimirai Library (2011) by Coelocanth K&H Architects. The last full day includes a visit to

the Kenrokuen Garden, considered to be one of the three best in Japan. In the afternoon we will visit Tanaguchi’s recently completed D.T. Suzuki Museum and the tour concludes with a special visit and cocktail reception at the 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art (2004), the glazed masterwork of Pritzker winning architects SANAA.

We are delighted to be able to join all together in this journey through Japan, as we witness the past in the present and the multitude of designers and builders crafting the future -- in what we hope will be an unforgettable experience. Like a progressive meal of contrasting textures and tastes, we hope this cross-section both nourishes your mind and inspires another trip back to this ever-evolving context.

**Ken Tadashi Oshima, Ph.D.**



**Ken Tadashi Oshima, Ph.D.,  
2011 AIA COD Japan  
Conference Chair**

Ken is associate professor in the Department of Architecture at the University of Washington, where he teaches in the areas of trans-national architectural history, theory, representation, and design with a focus on Japan.

He earned an A.B. degree, magna cum laude, in East Asian Studies and Visual & Environmental Studies from Harvard College, M. Arch. degree from U. C. Berkeley and Ph.D. in architectural history and theory from Columbia University.

From 2003-5, he was a Robert and Lisa Sainsbury Fellow at the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures in London. Dr. Oshima’s publications include Arata Isozaki (Phaidon, 2009) and International Architecture in Interwar Japan: Constructing Kokusai Kenchiku (U.W. Press, 2009). He is an author for the Museum of Modern Art Exhibition Home Delivery (2008), curator of the

exhibition SANAA: Beyond Borders (Henry Art Gallery 2007-8), and co-curator of Crafting a Modern World: The Architecture and Design of Antonin and Noémi Raymond. An editor and contributor to Architecture + Urbanism for more than ten years, he co-authored the two-volume special issue, Visions of the Real: Modern Houses in the 20th Century (2000). His articles on the international context of architecture and urbanism in Japan have been published in The Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians, Architectural Theory Review, Kenchiku Bunka, Japan Architect, L’Architecture d’Aujourd’hui, and the AA Files.



**Anne Schopf FAIA**  
2011 AIA Committee on Design Chair

Welcome to Japan. This two-part conference is the product of a remarkable group effort, with tireless dedication by both volunteers and staff.

I would first like to thank the members of AIA Japan for opening their country so generously to us, and ensuring that we experience the best of their complex and beautiful culture. A small, all-volunteer chapter undertaking such an enormous task is awe-inspiring, and I bow deeply in gratitude. To Hisaya Sugiyama and Nicolai Kruger, I would like to share an extra special thank you. Your leadership and dedication is unparalleled.

I would like to extend my appreciation to AIA Northwest and Pacific Region for supporting a joint conference with AIA COD once again. The result is a rich program reflecting greater depth and broader focus than we could have independently realized. Doug Benson, you are our tireless advocate and I thank you again and again.

I am grateful for the assistance of the capable AIA staff in Washington, DC--Bruce Bland, Sharia Barksdale and Tonya Horsley--who deftly led us through a complex maze of contracts and registration. In addition, our logistics have been arranged with great care

and attention to detail by Yoshi Endo and his staff at Kintetsu International. We would not be here without your collective efforts.

And lastly, I want to thank Ken Oshima, our 2011 Japan conference chair, for his knowledge, guidance and wisdom in creating a program of dramatic contrasts highlighting the craft of Japan. I am certain it will leave a lasting impression on all of us.

I hope you enjoy what we have in store for you.

**Anne Schopf FAIA**



**Douglas Benson AIA**  
AIA National Board of Directors  
NWPR Regional Director  
COD Board Knowledge Community Liaison

On behalf of the AIA Northwest & Pacific Region, I am very pleased to welcome all of our conference participants to vibrant, serene and beautiful Japan. In an AIA region that extends from the eastern border of Montana to Japan and Hong Kong, this annual event is a celebration of our geographic, cultural and architectural diversity and the opportunity to share in this rich mix of ideas, conversation and camaraderie.

This year our conference has been expanded to become a collaboration between our region, AIA Japan, as host chapter, and the AIA Committee on Design. The breadth of this collaboration draws upon architects from throughout our AIA family and creates the opportunity for a very lively conversation about design and craft. Those of us who live in the Pacific Northwest appreciate the extent to which we are directly connected to Asia and to the broader context of the Pacific Rim. This linkage of our cultures and our commerce has long informed our architecture. So, rather than traveling many thousands of miles to sit in windowless meeting rooms, it was essential that

the conference focus on the direct experience of recent and important architecture in Japan.

Japan, in November, is a perfect time to experience the essence of the Japanese landscape and its reflection in the country's built environment. Our thanks to each participant for joining us and for your contribution to this diverse and interesting program. And speaking for the entire region membership I want to extend our thanks to AIA Japan and the Committee on Design for their energy and commitment in organizing this exciting and educational event.

**Douglas Benson AIA**

## Social Media During the Conference



[network.aia.org/  
committeeondesign/home](http://network.aia.org/committeeondesign/home)



#AIAcraft



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[www.flickr.com/photos/  
les733/6252990890/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/les733/6252990890/)

## Part B : 2011 AIA COD Japan Conference : At-A-Glance Schedule

	6AM	7	8	9	10	11	12PM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>DAY 7: NOV 16</b>		6:30-9 Part B Register & Luggage Drop 7-8:45 Part A Farewell Breakfast		9-12 AIA NWPR Morning Tours (Refer to Part A Book)			12:00 Subway /Bus	12:45-3:30 Train from Tokyo to Nagoya		3:30-5 JR Central Towers		5-6:30 Check-in: Nagoya Marriott		6:30-10 Optional Tour to Oasis21 6:30-10 Dinner on your own*			
<b>DAY 5: NOV 17</b>	6-6:30 Check-out	6:30-8 Breakfast Opening Lecture: Ken Tadashi Oshima	8:00 Bus	9-10 GC Prosthodontics Museum	10:00 Bus	10:30-1 Meiji Mura & Lunch		1:00 Bus	1:30-3 Museum of Modern Ceramic Art	3:00 Bus		5-7 Check-in: Gifu Gero Spa Hotel		7-10 Japanese Style Banquet Hotel Suimeikan			
<b>DAY 6: NOV 18</b>	6-7 Check-out	7-8 Breakfast	8:00 Bus	9-11:30 Kusakabe Folk Museum & Yoshijima Heritage House		11:30 Bus	12:30 Lunch	1:30-4 Hida Folk Village		4:00 Bus		6-7 Ummirai Library	7:00 Check-in	7:30-10 Dinner on your own**			
<b>DAY 7: NOV 19</b>	6-7 Optional Tour of Omi-cho	7-8 Breakfast	8:00 Walk	8:30-9:30 Nomura- ke Mansion	9:30 Walk	10-1 Kenroku-en & Seisonkaku Villa		1-2 Lunch	2-3:30 D.T. Suzuki Museum	3:30 Crafts/ Shopping	4-6 21st Century Museum	6-7:30 Closing Reception	7:30-10 Dinner on your own**				
<b>DAY 8: NOV 20</b>	6AM	7-12 Depart on your own		9	10	11	12PM										
		7-10 Breakfast															

\* Nagoya Restaurant recommendations on pages 54-55.

\*\* Kanazawa Restaurant recommendations on pages 56-57.

## Conference Registration

The AIA registration desk is open each day.

**First Floor Lobby**  
**ANA InterContinental Tokyo**

1-12-33 Akasaka Minato-ku, Tokyo  
Telephone: 81-3-35051111

Please note that the main hotel reception is on the second floor. Make sure you go down one level for the conference registration desk. AIA Staff will be there to assist you.

Sunday, Nov. 13: 7AM-9PM	Monday, Nov. 14: 7AM-5PM	Tuesday, Nov. 15: 7AM-5PM	Wednesday, Nov. 16: 6:30AM-9AM
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### DAILY SCHEDULE

## Day 4, Wednesday, Nov 16

**6:30-9AM**  
**Luggage Drop**  
All luggage **must be left by 9AM** for the truck transfer to Nagoya at the **First Floor Lobby at ANA InterContinental Tokyo.**

AIA Staff will be there to assist you.

**7-8:45AM**  
**Part A**  
**Farewell Breakfast**  
Ark Hills Cafe

**9AM-12PM**  
**Part A Morning Tours**  
Attendees of Part A morning tours will depart from Ark Hills Cafe.

### DAILY SCHEDULE

## Day 4 (continued)

### Part B Begins

**12:45-3:30PM**  
**Transfer to Nagoya from Tokyo Station**  
1:30PM Train Departure:  
Shinkasen from Tokyo Station to Nagoya Station  
Car 14, Rows 3-19, Seats A, B, C, D & E

Part A morning tour leaders will escort attendees to the **Underground South Marunouchi Ticket Gate** by 12:45. If you are arriving solo, please make sure you arrive at the meeting place by 12:45.

**(See map on page 52 for meeting place.)**

If you do not enter the gates with the group, you will be required to purchase your own ticket.

Boxed lunch will be served on the train.

**3:30-5PM**  
**JR Central Towers**  
(KPF, 2000)  
Tour led by  
JR Central Staff

**5-6:30PM**  
**Check-in and Personal Time at Nagoya Marriott**  
Pick up luggage and room key at AIA reception desk, then enjoy a walk to see Mode Gakuen Spiral Towers (Nikken Sekkei, 2009) and Louis Vuitton Store (Jun Aoki, 1999) just a few blocks away.

**OPTIONAL TOUR**  
**6:30-7PM**  
**Higashiyama Line to Sakae Station**  
Meet at the reception area at 6:30 if you are joining the tour of Oasis21. (The subway is ¥200 each way. Please have your cash ready.)

**OPTIONAL TOUR**  
**7-10PM**  
**Oasis21**  
**(Kasai Hidecki, 2002)**

**6:30-10PM**  
**Dinner on your own**  
A list of Nagoya restaurants within walking distance of the hotel are provided on pages 54-55.

**Local Recommendation**  
Try the regional specialties: Nagoya cochin (fried chicken wings) or miso katsu (miso covered pork cutlets).



DAILY SCHEDULE

Day 5, Thursday, Nov. 17

**6-6:30AM**  
**Check-Out**  
**Prior to Breakfast**  
Put your luggage outside your room at 6:30am (with group tag affixed). Hotel staff will collect the suitcases and load onto the bus.

**6:30-8AM**  
**Buffet Breakfast in Azeria Room: 16th Floor**  
7AM: Opening lecture by Ken Tadashi Oshima  
Presentation by Jeff Kersten, Soladigm

**8-9AM**  
**Bus Transport**  
Transfer to GC Prostho Museum

**9-10AM**  
**GC Prostho Museum Research Center**  
(Kengo Kuma, 2010)  
Tour led by Mr. Shin Ohba, Kengo Kuma and Associates

**10-10:30AM**  
**Bus Transport**  
Transfer to Meiji Mura

**10:30AM-1PM**  
**Meiji Mura**  
Lunch will be provided.

**1-1:30PM**  
**Bus Transport**  
Transfer to Gifu

**1:30-3PM**  
**Museum of Modern Ceramic Art**  
(Arata Isozaki, 2002)

**3-5PM**  
**Bus Transport**  
Transfer to Gifu Gero Spa Hotel Suimeikan

**5-7PM**  
**Check-in to Gifu Gero Spa Hotel Suimeikan**  
Settle into your room and enjoy a sweet treat provided by the hotel. Afterwards, enjoy one of the many baths available. The main public bath of the Rinsenkaku is designed with cypress woods. The bath on the 9th floor of the main wing offers views of Hida’s breathtaking scenery and is open to the stars and cool evening air.

**7-10PM**  
**Japanese Style Banquet at Hotel Suimeikan**  
Please join us for a traditional, multi-course Japanese dinner wearing the yukata provided for you in your room.

DAILY SCHEDULE

Day 6, Friday, Nov. 18

**6:30-7AM**  
**Check-Out**  
**Prior to Breakfast**  
Please bring your luggage to the bus prior to breakfast.

**7-8AM**  
**Japanese Set Menu Breakfast at Hotel Suimeikan**

**8-9AM**  
**Bus Transport**  
Transfer to Takayama

**9-10AM**  
Group A:  
**Kusakabe Folk Museum**  
Group B:  
**Yoshijima Heritage House**

**10-11AM**  
Group A:  
**Yoshijima Heritage House**  
Group B:  
**Kusakabe Folk Museum**

**11:30AM-12:30PM**  
**Bus Transport**  
Transfer to Shirakawa-go

**12:30-1:30PM**  
**Lunch at Tubee**  
Hida Beef Set menu will be served in a traditional manner

**1:30-4PM**  
**Hida Folk Village**

**4-5:30PM**  
**Bus Transport**  
Transfer to Kanazawa (Sweet treats provided)

**6-7PM**  
**Kanazawa Umimirai Library** (Coelacanth K&H Architects, 2011)  
Tour led by Mr. Ishikura, Chief Librarian

**7-7:30PM**  
**Check-in to Kanazawa Excel Tokyu**

**7:30-10PM**  
**Dinner on your own**  
A list of Kanazawa restaurants within walking distance of the hotel are provided on pages 56-57.

There are three traditional Chaya districts in Kanazawa: Nishi, Kazue-machi and Higashi.

Check with Sawa-san for recommendations and information to explore these areas in your free evening time.

DAILY SCHEDULE

Day 7, Saturday, Nov. 19

6-7AM

OPTIONAL AND  
SELF-GUIDED TOUR

Omi-cho Market

Established in the mid-18th century, this market has been supporting the gastronomic culture of Kanazawa ever since. Check with Sawa-san for details and directions.

7-8AM

Buffet Breakfast at  
Kanazawa Excel Tokyu

8-8:30AM

Walk to Nomura-ke  
(Samurai) Museum

TRADITIONAL KANAZAWA

8:30-9:30AM

Nomura-ke  
(Samurai) Museum

9:30-10AM

Walk

10-11:30AM

Group A:

Kenrokuen

Group B:

Seisonkaku Villa

11:30AM-1PM

Group A:

Seisonkaku Villa

Group B:

Kenrokuen

1-2PM

Lunch

Group A:

Sakura-cyaya

Japanese Bento Box

Group B:

Sakura-tei

Kaiseki Bento Box

(Bento boxes contain sashimi, grilled fish, rice and miso soup.)

MODERN KANAZAWA

2-3:30PM

D.T. Suzuki Museum

(Yoshio Taniguchi, 2011)

3:30-4PM

Kanazawa

Crafts Hirosaka

Last minute souvenir shopping

4-6PM

21st Century Museum

(SANAA, 2004)

Tour by curator,

Chieko Kitade

6-7:30PM

Closing Reception

Cafe Restaurant Fusion 21 at 21st Century Museum

7:30-10PM

Dinner on your own

A list of Kanazawa restaurants within walking distance of the hotel are provided on pages 56-57.

DAILY SCHEDULE

Day 8, Sunday, Nov. 20

7-10AM

Buffet Breakfast

7AM-12PM

Check-out from  
Kanazawa Excel Tokyu  
and depart on your own

Please note that hotel check-out time is 12pm.

Refer to directions to the train station and airport on page 53.

## Project Tour Sites



## Nagoya Overview

Nagoya is the third-largest incorporated city and the fourth most populous urban area in Japan. The geographic location and the position of the city in the center of Japan allowed it to develop economically and politically over the centuries.

Nagoya's main industry is the automotive business, as many Japanese automotive companies are based out of Nagoya, akin to how many U.S. automakers are based out of Detroit. Culture runs deep in Nagoya, as it was a major trading city and political seat of the Owari lords, the most important house of the Tokugawa clan.





**JR Central Towers**  
NAGOYA

The JR Central Towers create a dramatic profile that redefined the Nagoya skyline. Two cylindrical towers rise over 50 stories above a 20-story podium that houses the JR Central Station concourse.

The 55-story JR Towers office building totals more than 1.1 million square feet of space. The 59-story, 774-room Nagoya Marriott Associa Hotel is operated by JR Associa Hotels in conjunction with Marriott Corporation. Amenities include

ten restaurants and 50,000 square feet of meeting and function rooms in a state-of-the-art convention center, all capped by a glass-enclosed two-story public “sky-street” on the fifteenth floor connecting the office tower to the hotel tower and providing sweeping views of the city.

(2000) Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates  
Photos:  
Left: Courtesy of KPF  
Right: Nacasa and Partners







## Oasis21

NAGOYA

Nagoya's new bus terminal is more than just a bus station. Oasis21 also includes a park called "Field of Green" with the bus station located directly under the park area. The bottom floor (called "The Milky Way") links the bus station with the subway (Higashiyama Line's Sakae station) and contains over thirty shops and restaurants.

The most unique aspect of Oasis21 is the translucent roof (open to the public). The roof contains a shallow pool with fountains. The water serves both to cool the lower levels of the building as well as recycle rain water for irrigating the green spaces of Oasis21.

(2002) Kasai Hideki, Obayahsi Corporation  
Photo: Rattus Norvegicus  
(<http://www.panoramio.com/photo/6479654>)





## GC Prosth Museum Research Center

NAGOYA

This is architecture that originates from the system of Cidori, an old Japanese toy. Cidori is an assembly of wood sticks with joints having unique shape, which can be extended merely by twisting the sticks, without any nails or metal fittings. The tradition of this toy has been passed on in Hida Takayama, a small town in a mountain, where many skilled craftsmen still exist.

Cidori has a wood 12mm squares as its element, which for this building was transformed into different sizes. Parts are 60mm×60mm×200cm or 60mm×60mm×400cm, and form a grid of 50cm squares. This cubic grid also

becomes the grid on its own for the showcase in the museum.

Jun Sato, structural engineer for the project, conducted a compressive and flexure test to check the strength of this system, and verified that even the device of a toy could be adapted to 'big' buildings. This architecture shows the possibility of creating a universe by combining small units like toys with your own hands. We worked on the project in the hope that the era of machine-made architectures would be over, and human beings would build them again by themselves.

(2010) Kengo Kuma and Associates  
Photos: Daici Ano







## Meiji Mura

AICHI

Meiji Mura (Meiji Village) was opened on March 18, 1965, as an open-air museum for preserving and exhibiting Japanese architecture of the Meiji period (1868-1912).

Beautifully located on a hillside facing Lake Iruka, it occupies an area of 1,000,000m<sup>2</sup>, where currently over sixty Meiji buildings, including Frank Lloyd Wright's Imperial Hotel, have been brought and rebuilt. Meiji was a period in which Japan opened her doors to the outside world and laid the foundation for Modern Japan by absorbing and assimilating Western culture and technology. Along with the Asuka-Nara

period (553-793 A.D.), it is a very important era in the history of the transformation of Japanese culture.

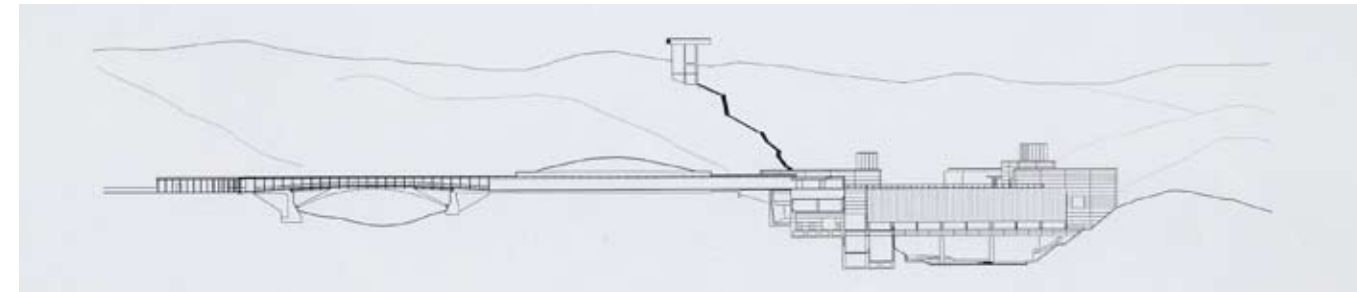
In addition to following the accumulation of excellent traditional wooden architecture from the Yedo period (1615-1867), builders adopted styles, techniques and materials of Western style stone and brick architecture. With the progress of industrial revolution, these adoptions paved the way to modern architecture of steel, concrete and glass. Many of the Meiji-period buildings, including those of the highest artistic and historic value, were lost in earthquake and

war disasters, and, particularly, through the rapid post-war growth of industry, which promoted public and private land development projects, both large and small.

With a vision of saving these cultural properties from destruction, Dr. Yoshiro Taniguchi (1904-1979), the first Director of the Museum Meiji-mura, requested Mr. Moto-o Tsuchikawa (1903-1974), his schoolmate of the former Fourth National High School and then Vice President of the Nagoya Rail Road Company, to cooperate, and together they eventually established the Meiji-mura Museum complex.

(1923) Imperial Hotel by Frank Lloyd Wright





## Museum of Modern Ceramic Art

TAJIMI, GIFU

Located in a region of central Japan famous for the production of Mino-ware ceramics, this museum of modern ceramic art preserves the existing topography and vegetation by spanning a deep green valley. Visitors approach the complex via a bridge and tunnel, within which ceramic fragments from local potteries and factories embedded in the precast concrete ceiling boards in a manner that recalls Antoni Gaudí's Park Güell (1900-14) in Barcelona. The exterior features ceramic capstones, bench seats, and walls composed of black and

sepia colored local stoneware bricks set in precast concrete panels. Further, horizontal ceramic louvers and screens composed of 90-centimeter-square open ceramic blocks modulate light and view. To protect the fragile ceramic contents of the museum, Isozaki employed an unprecedented seismic structure. The exhibition galleries are hung from 14.4-meter-long beams with five-meter columns attached to universal joints in a pendulum-like structure that completely isolates the floor from lateral swings. The upper and lower joints of these suspension pillars form an ideal pin structure.

Outside the galleries, glass curtain walls maximize natural light and views of a waterfall cascading down the central court, a central plaza and a tea-ceremony house. This inward-looking organization focuses on a microcosmic natural world like the inner garden of a Kyoto townhouse. Beyond the central facility, an adjacent ceramic atelier workshop is open to the public and a "T" shape observatory at the top of the mountain provides views of the overall complex and surrounding landscape.

(2002) Arata Isozaki  
Photo and elevation courtesy of the architect





## Takayama Overview

A city nestled in the Japan Alps, Takayama was settled as far back as the Jōmon period (14,000-300BC). Takayama is best known for its inhabitants' expertise in carpentry as seen in the Kusakabe merchant house from the Edo Period (1600-1868). It is believed carpenters from Takayama worked on the Imperial Palace in Kyoto and on many of the temples in Kyoto and Nara.

The town and its culture, as they exist today, took shape at the end of the 16th century, when the Kanamori clan built Takayama Castle. About a hundred years later the city came under the rule of the Tokugawa shogunate. However, the high altitude and separation from other areas of Japan kept the area fairly isolated, allowing Takayama to develop its own culture over a 300-year period.

Photo: Yuri  
([picasaweb.google.com/yurzol/TAKAYAMAJAPAN#](https://picasaweb.google.com/yurzol/TAKAYAMAJAPAN#))



## Kusakabe Mingei-kan & Yoshijima-ke

TAKAYAMA

Sitting next to each other in Takayama’s “old town” are Kusakabe Mingei-kan and Yoshijima-ke, also known as Kusakabe Folk Museum and Yoshijima Heritage House.

The Kusakabe Folk Museum is one of the oldest of several common homes in Takayama that are open to the public. Built in the 1890s, it showcases the striking craftsmanship of traditional Takayama carpenters’ skills. Its former residents, the Kusakabe family, were successful merchants and active in the money lending business.

Standing next to the Kusakabe Folk Museum, the Yoshijima Heritage House is the former residence of the Yoshijima family, and is also open to the public. For generations, the building used to serve as a residence and sake brewery. The original house was destroyed twice by fire, and the present surviving building is a reconstruction to the original structure completed in 1907 of the Meiji Period.

Photo: Interior of Yoshijima Heritage House





## Shirakawa-go

A secluded snowy mountain village inscribed on the UNESCO's World Heritage List in 1995, Shirakawa-go retains the historic landscape with some 150 traditional vernacular farmhouse- style houses called Gassho-zukuri. The Gassho-zukuri style house is 18-m. long and 10-m. wide with four stories inside so that many family members can live together. To withstand the weight of heavy snow, the angle of the roof is sharp, like that of two hands in prayer to God or Buddha; called Gassho in Japanese. The roofs are re-thatched once every 40-50 years with three

or four roofs re-thatched each year with the cooperation of the whole village. The observatory at the Ogimachi Castle ruins is the best point from which to view the whole village.

## Hida Folk Village

Hida Folk Village is an open air museum of close to 30 old farmhouses, ranging from 100 to 500 years in age many brought to this location from their original sites in order to preserve them. Built on a hillside overlooking the Takayama Valley



and surrounding a large pond, the houses illustrate the traditional architectural styles of the mountainous regions of Japan. Many are open to visitors and are filled with artifacts from their respective time periods, including spindles, silk worm raising artifacts, cooking utensils, and clothing. There is also a workshop in the village illustrating how many of Japan's famous handicrafts are made, including wood carving, tie-dying, weaving, and lacquering.

**Photo, left: Bernard Gagnon**  
([en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ File:Ogimachi\\_Village-01.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Ogimachi_Village-01.jpg))

**Photo, above: Yosemite**  
([en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Shirakawago\\_Japanese\\_Old\\_Village\\_003.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Shirakawago_Japanese_Old_Village_003.jpg))



## Kanazawa Overview

Located on the Sea of Japan at the foot of the Japan Alps, this castle town's name of "Kanazawa" literally means "marsh of gold." Kanazawa is the capital of Ishikawa Prefecture and the economic and cultural center of Hokuriku region (Toyama, Ishikawa and Fukui Prefectures). As the second-largest city after Kyoto to have escaped the bombing during World War II, Kanazawa features the pre-modern townscapes of samurai mansions, geisha quarters,

Edo-period canals and tiny narrow streets as remnants of its early incarnation as a castle town. While much of the castle itself burned down in 1888, the Ishikawa Gate and Sanjikken Longhouse remain. They are adjacent to the Kenrokuen Garden, one of the most renowned in all of Japan. Kanazawa is also noted for its craft traditions, including Yuzen silk dyeing, lacquerware, and Kuntani ware ceramics. For visitors who could not visit Tsukiji market in Tokyo, Omi-cho's

Market is bustling with fishmongers, produce sellers and restaurants from early in the morning. In the 21st century, this area has become noted for contemporary design including SANAA's 21st Century Museum, Coelocanth's Umimirai Museum, and Yoshio Taniguchi's D.T. Suzuki Museum. This context will continue to evolve physically and economically as the Hokuriki bullet train from Tokyo to Kanazawa comes into operation in 2014.

Photo: Kanazawa Castle Park in Winter  
([kanazawa-tourism.com](http://kanazawa-tourism.com))





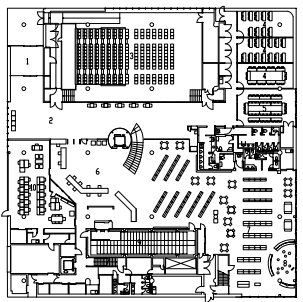
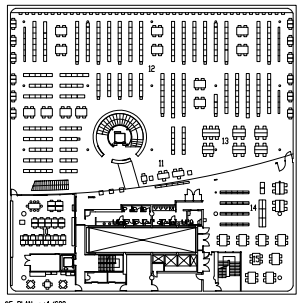
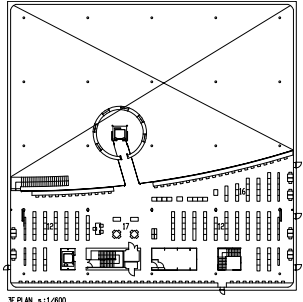
# Umimirai Library KANAZAWA

Reading – for the sake of knowledge or enjoyment, or to explore the world of the human imagination – is one of those experiences that gives you a sense of emotional and spiritual richness quite different from economic or monetary well-being. In this sense, the act of creating a space that surrounds you with books is undoubtedly linked to the creation of a new, enriched sense of public values.

Libraries in Japan are moving towards a model that encourages readers to stay and linger, instead of their original function

as spaces for collecting and lending out books. Reflecting the general trend for libraries to facilitate reading as well as other functions, this library uses compact automated shelves that operate as a closed stack system. This is combined with halls and meeting rooms that promote social exchange between its users, much like a community center. The facility is also expected to serve as a new hub for social life among the local community.

(2011) Kazumi Kudo + Hiroshi Horiba /  
Coelacanth K&H Architects  
Photos: Satoshi Asakawa







## Nomura-ke (1583)

KANAZAWA

Nagamachi was a samurai district located at the foot of the former Kanazawa Castle, where samurai and their families used to reside. The area preserves a historic atmosphere with its remaining samurai residences, earthen walls, private entrance gates, narrow lanes and water canals. Nomura-ke, a restored samurai residence and garden was occupied by 11 generations of the Nomura family for 400 years. This traditional Japanese home contains a drawing room made of Japanese cypress, with elaborate designs in rosewood and shoji screens painted with landscapes, and a tea-ceremony room upstairs.

## Seisonkaku Villa (1863)

KANAZAWA

Seisonkaku is a villa that the 13th lord of the Maeda family built for his mother in Kenrokuen Garden in 1863. Fine techniques in a wide variety are used for the inner pillars and walls of Seisonkaku. These techniques include a wooden panel with openwork carvings of flowers and birds and a coffered ceiling for the guest chamber called “Ekken-no-ma.” From these, visitors will know the status of the then Maeda family. Furthermore, Seisonkaku exhibits articles with a long and distinguished history, such as dolls for the Japanese Girls’ Festival and furniture.







## Kenroku-en (1620-1840) KANAZAWA

According to the ancient Chinese book of gardens, there should be six different sublime qualities to which a garden can aspire. Grouped in their traditional complementary pairs, they are spaciousness & seclusion, artifice & antiquity, water-courses & panoramas. As might be imagined, it is difficult enough to find a garden that is blessed with any three or four of these desirable attributes, let alone five, or even more rarely, all six. Yet that is just the case here, where as the name “Kenroku-en” literally means “garden

that combines six characteristics”, which is named by Sadanobu Matsudaira, a feudal lord from the present-day Tohoku district of northern mainland Japan.

Along with Kairaku-en in Mito and Koraku-en in Okayama, Kenroku-en stands as one of the three most beautiful gardens in Japan. During the Edo period (1603-1868), Kenroku-en was founded, extended and developed to perfection over generations by the feudal lords of Kaga (current southern part of Ishikawa) as a typical Daimyo (feudal lord) garden.

Photos: Kenrokeun Garden ([kanazawa-tourism.com](http://kanazawa-tourism.com))



By introducing the element of the “strolling-style” garden, Kenroku-en is laid out with a variety of gardening techniques from different periods. Unlike the sit-and-view style garden where you enjoy the landscape only from a certain spot of a temple or a palace, the strolling-style garden has large ponds, hills, cottages and tea houses arranged on a spacious ground, allowing you to take a walk through them. Because of the geographic features such as winding streams connecting several ponds and artificially built hills with a variety of trees, this style is also referred to a “strolling-style landscape garden incorporating ponds and hills.”

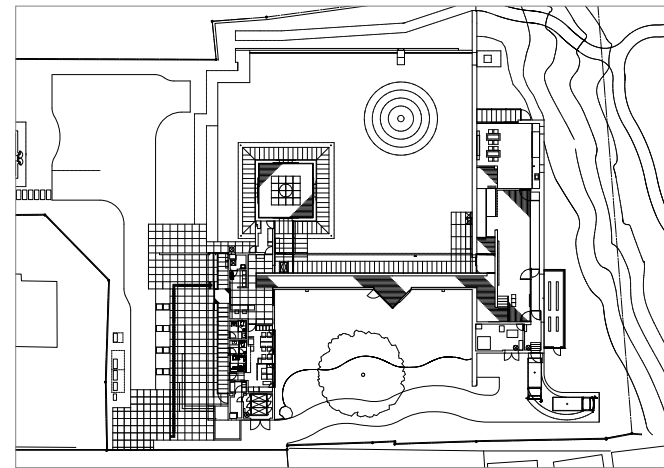




## D.T. Suzuki Museum KANAZAWA

The world of Zen Buddhist scholar and Theosophist Daisetz Suzuki is presented in an idyllic setting that is typical of Kanazawa: landscaped gardens incorporating stone walls and streams set against a background of vivid greenery sloping down from the Kodatsuno plateau. The museum consists of three wings connected by corridors: an Entrance Wing, an Exhibition Wing and a Contemplative Wing, and three gardens: the Vestibule Garden, the Water Mirror Garden and the Roji Garden. This setting presents the philosophy of Daisetz Suzuki to engage visitors in their own contemplation as they move through the wings and gardens.

(2011) Yoshio Taniguchi,  
Taniguchi and Associates  
Photos and plan courtesy  
of the architect





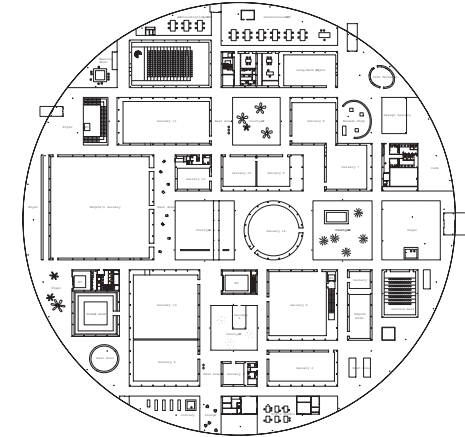
## 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art KANAZAWA

The 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art sits in the center of Kanazawa and in addition to museum spaces includes community gathering spaces, such as a library, lecture hall, and children's workshop. The intertwined public and museum zones are designed to provoke interaction between potential user groups, with the public spaces encircling the museum zones.

The site links together the diverse but equally important municipal functions surrounding it. Circular in form, the building has no front or back, opening it for exploration from all sides. The exhibition

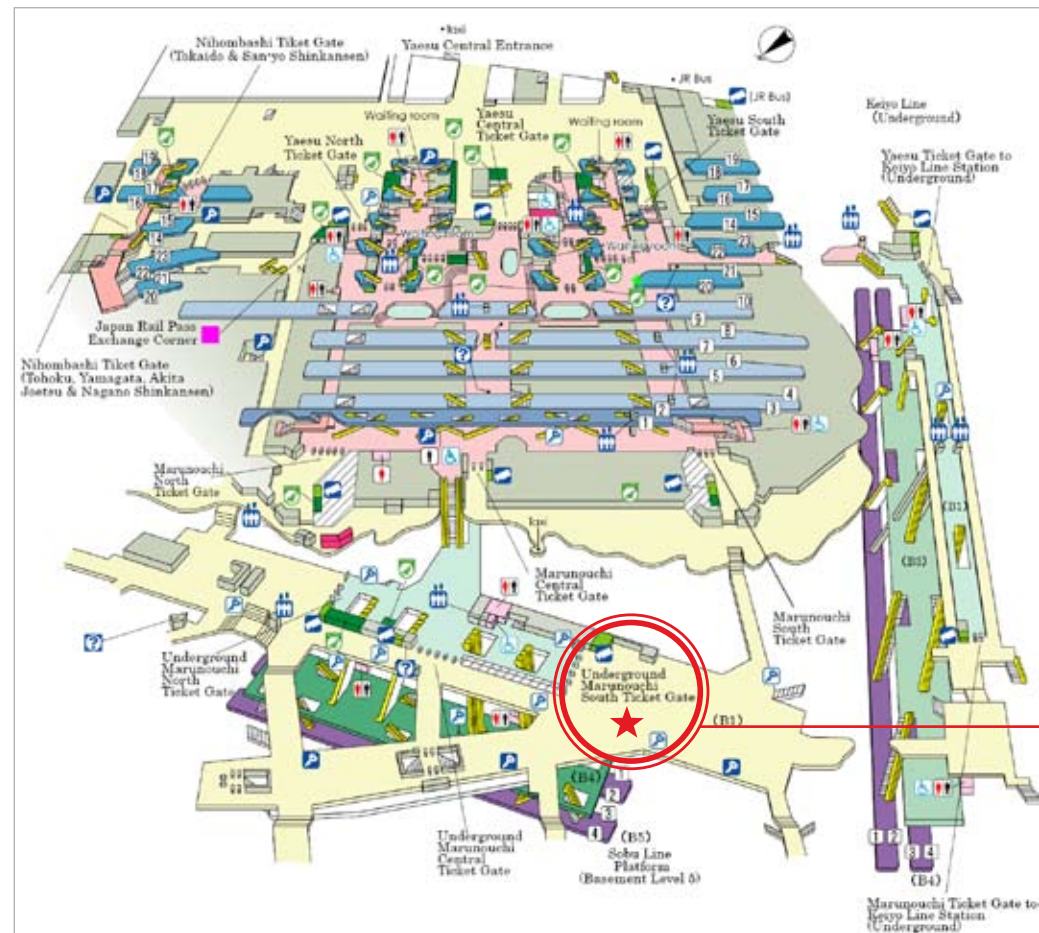
area is fragmented into numerous galleries that are all embedded in a field of circulation space. This approach provides individual gallery spaces with different characteristics while creating flexible museum circulation that allows for a variety of expanded or contracted ticketed areas. The scattered bulk of the galleries also creates transparency and a feeling of openness marked by long vistas through the entire depth of the building. A walk just inside the curved glass of the exterior facade smoothly unfolds a 360 degrees panorama of the site.

(2004) Kazuyo Sejima + Ryue Nishizawa / SANAA  
Photos and plan courtesy of the architect



## Important Information





## Tokyo Station

- JR Reservation Ticket Offices ("Midori-no-madoguchi")
- Ticket Vending Machine
- Elevator
- Information Center
- Coin-Operated Lockers (Extra Large/Large Available)
- Coin-Operated Lockers (Midsize/Standard Only)
- Restroom
- Restroom
- Ticket Gate
- Track (Platform)

Meet here  
Wednesday,  
November 16  
at 12:45pm



Kanazawa Excel  
Tokyu Hotel

## Kanazawa Departure

From Excel Tokyu Hotel  
to Komatsu Airport

### By Airport Shuttle:

Take Airport Limousine

Bus at bus stop **Korinbo #4 Atorio-mae** which is located on the opposite side of Kanazawa Excel Tokyu.

**Price:** ¥1,100 / \$15

(Seats cannot be reserved in advance)

### Time Table

<http://www.hokutetsu.co.jp/bus/airport/e-kanazawa11.html>

From Excel Tokyu Hotel  
to Kanazawa Station

### By Taxi:

Takes about 7 minutes and the cost would be less than ¥1,000 / \$13.50.

### By Public Bus:

Take bus at bus stop

**Korinbo #7 Nippon Ginko - mae** which is located on the same side of Kanazawa Excel Tokyu. (next to the hotel)

**Price:** ¥200 / \$2.75

(Seats cannot be reserved in advance)

Bus departs every 5-10 minutes, and most of them (about 95% of them) will take you to Kanazawa station. Please ask the driver if the bus will stop at Kanazawa station.

## Nagoya Dining Recommendations

(All restaurants are within walking distance of the hotel)

### Sekaino Yamachan

One of Nagoya’s specialty foods is tebasaki: wings that are soy-and-sugar-dipped, salted, peppered, double-fried and served spicy. Locals claim the wings taste a lot better when accompanied with beer.

**Cuisine:**  
Tebasaki (Chicken wings)

**Telephone:**  
052-561-2872

**Address:**  
4-16-27, Mei-eki,  
Nakamura-ku

**Hours:** 5pm-Midnight

**Average Price:** ¥3,000 / \$40  
(Credit cards accepted)

### Torikai So-Honke

Torikai So-Honke is an Izakaya style restaurant near Nagoya station, and very popular to local Japanese people. They specialize in fried wings and numerous chicken dishes.

**Cuisine:**  
Izakaya (Japanese style pub)

**Telephone:** 052-561-7705

**Address:**  
1-17-14, Meiekininami,  
Nakamura-ku

**Hours:** 5pm-Midnight

**Average Price:** ¥4,000 / \$53  
(Credit cards accepted)

### The Kitchen Salvatore Cuomo

A spacious kitchen with working chefs on display opens to the dining area, helping create a lively atmosphere. The menu consists of appetizers, pizzas, pastas, main courses (with meat or seafood) and dessert.

**Cuisine:** Italian

**Telephone:** 052-564-0065

**Address:**  
JR Central Towers 12F, 1-1-4,  
Mei-eki, Nakamura-ku

**Hours:** 11am-11pm

**Average Price:** ¥5,000 / \$66  
(Credit cards accepted)

**Note:** English menu available;  
Vegetarian options available

Photos, L to R:  
Miso Katsu  
(miso covered pork cutlets);  
Cochin / Tebasaki  
(fried chicken wings)



### Yamamoto-ya So-Honten

This noodle shop specializes in miso nikomi udon. Their noodles are handmade and served in a bean paste that's special to Nagoya. Order them plain or with tofu, cochin chicken, or pork. A small dish of vegetables accompanies your meal and is replenished free of charge.

**Cuisine:** Miso nikomi Udon

**Telephone:** 052-581-9625

**Address:**  
JR Central Towers 13F, 1-1-4,  
Mei-eki, Nakamura-ku

**Hours:** 11am-11pm

**Average Price:** ¥1,500 / \$20  
(Credit cards accepted)

**Note:** English menu available

### Yakiniku Toraji

Yakiniku is very popular with Japanese people, and this restaurant is one of most popular chain Yakiniku restaurants in Japan.

**Cuisine:** Yakiniku  
(Korean BBQ)

**Telephone:** 052-564-0065

**Address:**  
Mei-eki S Building B1F, 3-15-8,  
Mei-eki, Nakamura-ku

**Hours:** 5pm-Midnight

**Average Price:** ¥5,000 / \$66  
(Credit cards accepted)

## Kanazawa Dining Recommendations

(All restaurants are within walking distance of the hotel)

### Ippei Sushi

When you walk inside this authentic sushi bar, you will be greeted by a cheerful chef and kimono-clad okamisan. (The thick omelette is a must.)

**Cuisine:** Sushi

**Address:** 1-5-29, Kata-Machi

**Telephone:** 076-261-8674

**Hours:** 11am-2pm-1:00am  
6:00pm-1:00am  
Closed Sundays & Holidays

**Average Price:** ¥3,000 / \$40  
(Credit cards **not** accepted)

### Janome-Zushi

Serving sushi and local dishes since 1931. Open for lunch and dinner, they also have an English speaking sushi chef.

**Cuisine:** Sushi

**Address:** 1-1-12, Kata-Machi

**Telephone:** 0120-31-0093

**Hours:** 11am-2pm & 5-11pm;  
11am-3pm & 5-11pm (Sundays);  
Closed Wednesdays

**Average Price:** ¥3,500 / \$46 US  
(Credit cards accepted)

### Amatsubo

From seafood to local dishes, Amatsubo has served Kanazawa people for 45 years. Make sure you check out all their Oden varieties.

**Cuisine:** Oden

**Address:** 4-7, Kakinokibatake

**Telephone:** 076-221-8491

**Hours:** 11:30am-2:30pm/ 5pm-11pm

**Average Price:** ¥3,000 / \$40  
(Credit cards **not** accepted)

**Note:** English menu available

### a.k.a.

Modern Japanese cuisine with an extensive choice of local sakes and handmade liqueurs.

**Cuisine:** Japanese

**Address:** RENN bldg. 1F, 2-10-42 Kata-Machi

**Telephone:** 076-231-3233

**Hours:** 5:30pm-Midnight

**Average Price:** ¥5,000 / \$66  
(Credit cards accepted)

**Note:** Reservations recommended; Fish stock in most dishes

### Uo-Yaki Itaru

Uo-Yaki Itaru is one of the most hoppin’ pubs in town. Join the locals and enjoy fresh seafood and charcoal roasted chicken.

**Cuisine:** Izakaya (Japanese style pub)

**Address:** 2-8, Kakinokibatake

**Telephone:** 076-233-1147

**Hours:** 5:30pm-11:30pm (Closed Sundays)

**Average Price:** ¥4,000 / \$53  
(Credit cards **not** accepted)

### Itaru Honten

Reminiscent of an old Japanese farmhouse, Itaru Honten serves fresh sashimi and grilled foods with a wide selection of local sakes.

**Cuisine:** Izakaya (Japanese style pub)

**Address:** 3-8, Kakinokibatake

**Telephone:** 076-221-4194

**Hours:** 5pm-11:30pm (Closed Sundays)

**Average Price:** ¥4,000 / \$53  
(Credit cards **not** accepted)

Photos, L to R:  
Charocal roasted chicken;  
Oden (a Japanese winter dish)



### Kyosawa

High quality, domestic beef and an extensive wine list served in private rooms.

**Cuisine:** Yakiniku (Korean BBQ)

**Address:** 2-24-11, Kata-Machi

**Telephone:** 076-231-2915

**Hours:** 5pm-Midnight

**Average Price:** ¥5,000 / \$66  
(Credit cards accepted)

**Note:** Reservations required; Fish is available – please request it day before

### Yoshoku-ya Ryo

Located on a bustling shopping street, a highly skilled chef with 50 years experience cooks classic yoshoku. He is especially known for his hamburg steak.

**Cuisine:** Yosyoku

**Address:** 2-2-9 Kata-Machi

**Telephone:** 076-261-2177

**Hours:** 5pm-10pm (Closed Wednesdays)

**Average Price:** ¥2,000 / \$27  
(Credit cards **not** accepted)

### Full of Beans

This artsy cafe is known for its selection of homemade rice balls and Japanese, Western and Southeast Asian fare. Coffee and tea are available, too.

**Cuisine:** Cafe

**Address:** 41-1, Satomi-cho

**Telephone:** 076-222-3315

**Hours:** 11am-11pm (Closed Wednesdays)

**Average Price:** ¥2,000 / \$27  
(Credit cards **not** accepted)

**Note:** English menu available

### Osteria del Campagne

What looks like an old townhouse turns out to be a chic, Italian restaurant. Dishes are made with local vegetables, fresh seafood and handmade pasta.

**Cuisine:** Italian

**Address:** 2-31-33, Kata-Machi

**Telephone:** 076-261-2156

**Hours:** 5pm-Midnight (Closed Sundays)

**Average Price:** ¥4,000 / \$53  
(Credit cards accepted)

### Zenkai-Kosho

A cozy restaurant where you can enjoy home style cooking and generous servings.

**Cuisine:** Chinese

**Address:** 5-7, Katinokibatake

**Telephone:** 076-222-4262

**Hours:** 11:30am-2pm; 6pm-11pm

**Average Price:** ¥1,500 / \$20  
(Credit cards **not** accepted)

**Note:** Vegetarian menu alternatives available

Hotel Information

**NOV 16-17**  
**Nagoya Marriott Associa Hotel**  
  
1-1-4, Meieki, Nakamura-ku, Nagoya City,  
Aichi, 450-6002, Japan  
  
**Telephone:**  
052-584-1111  
  
**International Dialing:**  
+81-52-584-1111  
  
Free WiFi in all guest rooms.  
  
Wired is ¥1,575/night in guest rooms.  
(24-hour maximum use.)

**NOV 17-18**  
**Gifu Gero Spa Hotel Suimeikan**  
  
1268, Koda, Gero City,  
Gifu, 509-2206, Japan  
  
**Telephone:**  
0576-25-2800  
  
**International Dialing:**  
+81-576-25-2800  
  
Free WiFi in the lobby.

**NOV 18-20**  
**Kanazawa Excel Hotel Tokyu**  
  
2-1-1, Korinbo, Kanazawa-shi,  
Ishikawa, 920-0961, Japan  
  
**Telephone:**  
076-231-2411  
  
**International Dialing:**  
+81-76-231-2411  
  
Free wired in all guest rooms.  
(Maximum of 100Mbps.)

Emergency Contact Information

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**Global Business Management Branch**  
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