



Indulge in recreation.

TAKAHAMA

Complete
Guide Map
included



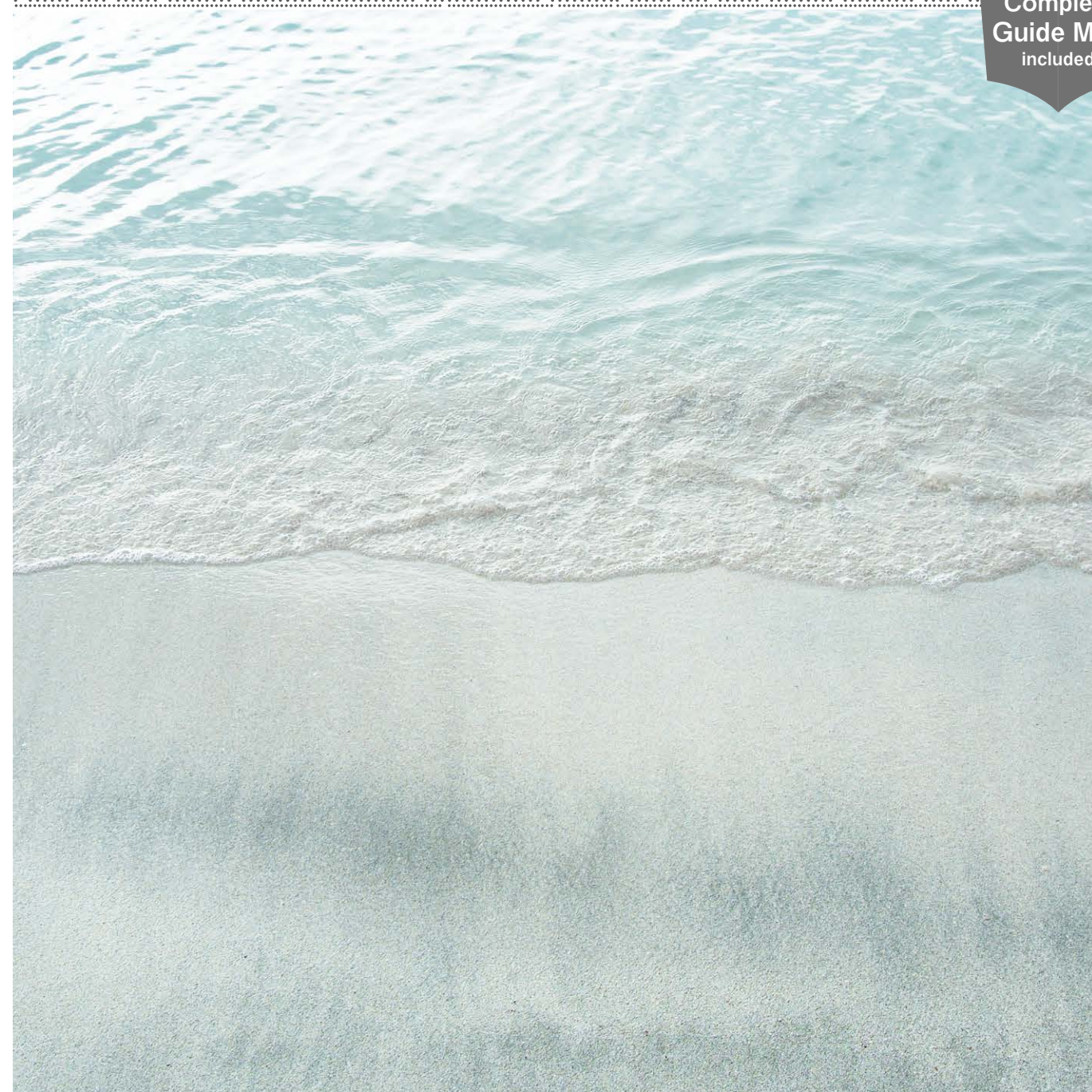
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Encounters in a new town

You are in the far west of Fukui Prefecture, in a town you're visiting for the first time.

You begin to notice certain things when you slow down.

The color of the sky when the sun sets on Mt. Aoba. The white of the sand.

The shy smiles of the townsfolk. The cozy passing of time in the back streets.

The sudden rush of energy during a festival.

This is why you'll love this town and want to come again.



Welcome to Takahama.



View of Mt. Aoba from the beach

The many faces of the ocean

Some days it feels like the sea is laughing.
Some days it feels like the sea is staying silent.
In this town of pristine nature,
nature's moods are easy to gauge.
And now for the region's eight beaches,
with their pure-white sand made of crushed
seashells unique to the Wakasa region.



Summer in Takahama: the shallow waters and expansive sandy beach of a town renowned and loved by many as a resort since olden times



The lively town beach of **Nabae** is perfect for water sports, as cars can drive right onto the beach.



Ebisuhama Park is a laid-back beach for more mature tastes, where you might read a book and enjoy the peace and quiet.



Hamanasu Park is a panoramic beach with a commanding view of Mt. Aoba from the foreshore.



Wakamiya is a family beach with a nearby fishing pier where parents and children can have fun together.



The gentle waves of the mellow beach of **Shiroyama** make it a relaxing place to spend time until the sun goes down.



With its shallow clear blue waters, **Toriihama** is a beach-lover's beach, and especially popular with surfers.



You don't need shoes on the pure white sands of **Shirahama**, the perfect beach to enjoy barefoot.



Wakasa Wada Beach, always full of smiles, is the area's most popular beach, and garnered Blue Flag status in April 2016.

Living with Mt. Aoba

Terraced fields of swaying rice plants.
The pink of Japanese beach rose against the green.
Mt. Aoba, at the heart of Takahama.
Walk the mountain trails, close your eyes,
take a deep breath.
You're sure to feel an invisible power here.



Panoramic view of Takahama: a veritable microcosm of Japan with its combination of sea and mountain



Rice harvesting at dusk: a scene that deserves to be preserved



The Hibiki Rice Terraces, chosen as one of Japan's top 100 terraced rice fields



Mt. Aoba, affectionately known as Aoba-san by the locals



The raging waters of the Sea of Japan crash against the spectacular Otomi Daidangai cliffs



The blooms and fruit of the Japanese beach rose, flower of Takahama

Awe-inspiring discoveries

Take in the sea views from the ruins of Takahama Castle and Shiroyama Park. Look out over a strange gaping hole in the cliffs. The horizon behind it is singularly charming, like a glossy mirror image.



The blue sea extending beyond the green of **Shiroyama Park**, where you can enjoy seasonal activities like cherry blossom-viewing in spring, swimming in summer, and picnics in the fall.



A magical sunset behind **Meikyodo Cave**

Hidden treasures

Takahama is dotted with important cultural assets. Japan's celebrated historical heritage is found in Takahama's quiet and secluded temples. Enjoy the peace.



The grandeur and history of **Nakayama-dera temple's main hall**, a nationally-designated natural Important Cultural Property.



The **Sakichi-jinja shrine**, known as the focus of the Shichinen Matsuri festival



Magoji temple, said to be founded by Prince Shōtoku



Nakayamadera temple's statue of the horse-head-wearing **Kannon Bosatsu**, a nationally-designated Important Cultural Property only put on display once every 33 years

Lose yourself in the backstreets

When you enter the narrow streets with their old houses standing shoulder-to-shoulder, you feel like you're lost in a nostalgic era. Coming out of the backstreets and seeing the ocean beyond coming into view is a thrilling moment.



Life is cozy and unchanged in the narrow backstreets of Wada



The museum of fishing village culture and tradition conveys the history of the local fishing industry



A beautiful sunset paints a calm sea and fishing boat



The former Kyoto Dento Takahama Sales Office, designated as a national registered tangible cultural property



Vestiges of the town's trading past remain in the traditional townhouses, storehouses and tiled roofs of the old Tango Highway



Discoveries and encounters at every corner in the backstreets of Inari

Wakasa's delicious bounty

Wakasa's famous fugu (blowfish), crab and seasonal fish. Sushi is said to originate here. Wherever you eat, portions are on the generous side: the townspeople don't talk much, but go out of their way to extend hospitality.



Wakasa fugu: firm-fleshed fugu, fresh from the Sea of Japan



Piping-hot nabe hotpot full of plump crab is just the thing for a cold winter



The fish market is full of fish found only in Wakasa Bay. Auction of Wakasa-guji (red tilefish)



The discovery of 1300-year-old wooden writing tablets suggests sushi has long been associated with Takahama. The rich variety of sushi from Wakasa-Takahama: (from left) pickled flame-grilled mackerel, pressed oshizushi, traditional chirashi-zushi



Mouth-watering summer vegetables grown on Mt. Aoba and chilled in river water

Locals love their festivals

The people of Takahama love festivals so much so that when summer comes around, there always seems to be a festival happening somewhere. The normally sedate town goes wild on festival days, which range from the excitement of creative firework displays to eco-friendly fun in nature.



Countless carefully-made candles look lovely lit everywhere from the beach right into town, as part of the magical **Isaribiso** festival.



The creative fireworks display started by young local festival lovers and called **Yagura Dragon** gets Isaribiso going with wild light and sound.



The town's impressive annual **fireworks display** takes place on August 1. Your body will thrill to the bang and crash of all kinds of fireworks including over-water displays.



The **Wakasa Takahama Hamanasu Marathon** is held every fall. Children and adults alike take in the beach views as they run energetically around the coastline.



Excitement runs high at Wakasa region's largest summer festival, the **Wakasa Shichinen Matsuri festival**. It is only held once every seven years, and attracts plenty of visitors from out of town.



The people of Takahama want to look after the natural world they live in. The town's beaches were the first in Japan to get international **Blue Flag** status.



With the annual arrival of spring, local businesses and homes along **Hinamatsuri (Doll Festival) Road** display their Hina dolls, including some that date back to the Edo period.



Visitors can see the sights of Takahama on the **"Dokoiko! Nanishiyō!" mini-tours**, conducted by townspeople in a show of local hospitality.



Fireworks over the water add a rainbow dazzle to memories of summer