

There's More! Menu of Sightseeing Spots and Experiences

Sontoku Memorial Hall and NINOMIYA, Sontoku's House

This memorial hall is dedicated to home town hero Ninomiya Sontoku (commonly known as Kinjirō). Sontoku studied while working in his boyhood, and he dedicated his life to humanity and society. Information about him, including his many achievements, is presented in displays of his personal effects, reference materials, and dioramas. His old style, thatched roof family house is also on exhibit on the grounds.

Hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (doors close at 4:30 p.m.)

Admission: Adults, ¥200; elementary and junior high school students, ¥100

Closed: December 31 and January 1

Access: A 15-minute walk from Odakyu Line Kayama Station or Tomizu Station

Kanagawa Prefectural Museum of Natural History

The museum is recommended to anyone who wants to get acquainted with the workings of the natural world. Inside the unique exterior are exhibits of dinosaur and ammonite fossils, telling the story of the earth's 4.6 billion-year history.

Hours: 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (doors close at 4 p.m.)

Admission: Visitors 20 or older (except students), ¥510; under 20 and students 20 or older, ¥300; high school students and visitors 65 or older, ¥100; junior high school students or younger, free

Closed: Mondays (the following day if Monday is a public holiday); second Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September, and November; year-end and New Year's holidays; and special holidays

Access: A 3-minute walk from Hakone Tozan Line Iriuda Station

Gyokuho-ji Temple (Gohyakurakan)

Ranging in height from 24 to 60 centimeters, 526 wooden statues of arhats known colloquially as the "Gohyakurakan" line the main temple hall.

Access: A 3-minute walk from Daiyuzan Line Gohyakurakan Station

Colorful Castle Town Events

Odawara Hojo Godai Festival (May 3)

Odawara's biggest event involves a lively, 1,800-member procession through the city that includes Warring States era warriors, bands, and townspeople.

Venue: Castle Park area

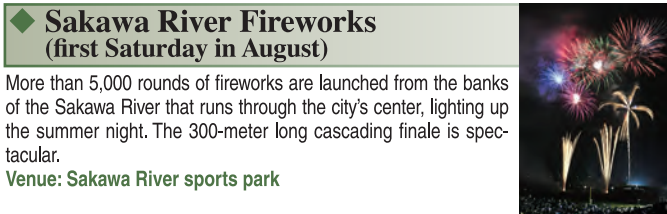
Hojo family crest



Sakawa River Fireworks (first Saturday in August)

More than 5,000 rounds of fireworks are launched from the banks of the Sakawa River that runs through the city's center, lighting up the summer night. The 300-meter long cascading finale is spectacular.

Venue: Sakawa River sports park



Harvest Local Delicacies

Enjoy fresh-picked Odawara delicacies!

Variety	Season	Name	Access	Phone (0465)
Mandarin orange harvesting	Mid-October to mid-December	Yago Mikan-en	A 10-minute walk from Nebukawa Station	29-0755
Strawberry harvesting	January to May	Kinoko-en Oyama no Taisho	A 25-minute walk from Nebukawa Station	29-1393
Shiitake mushroom harvesting	All year	Orangengarten	A 16-minute walk from Nebukawa Station	29-0703
		Agri Ways	A 15-minute walk from Shimo Soga Station	080-3218-4115
		Kinoko-en Oyama no Taisho	A 25-minute walk from Nebukawa Station	29-1393

Hands-on Experiences

Preparing dried fish at a fish drying and processing plant

The plant offers tours on weekday mornings while fish processing is in progress, and visitors who reserve in advance can experience how fish are dried and prepared.

Admission: ¥1,000 per person

Time required: Around 30 to 60 minutes

Reservations: Hayase Kohachi Stolen

Fax: 0465-22-8301

Polishing (woodworking and lathe workshop)

Polish (sand) vermilion lacquered bowls and trays. Polishing brings out natural wood's beautiful texture.

Fee: ¥1,500-2,500 per person

Time required: Approx. an hour

For more information: Okawa Mokkojo

Phone: 0465-22-4630

Odawara Summer Lantern Festival (weekend at late July)

This summer event has the historically famous Odawara lantern as its symbol and features the excitement of the Odawara lantern dance and portable shrine processions. Around 2,500 lanterns made by elementary school students decorate the moat area.

Venue: Castle Park area

Tolling of the Temple Bell (December 31)

On the night of New Year's Eve, a bell that has announced the time in Odawara for about 300 years tolls to wistfully bid the year that is ending farewell.

Venue: Bell tower at site of Ote-mon Gate



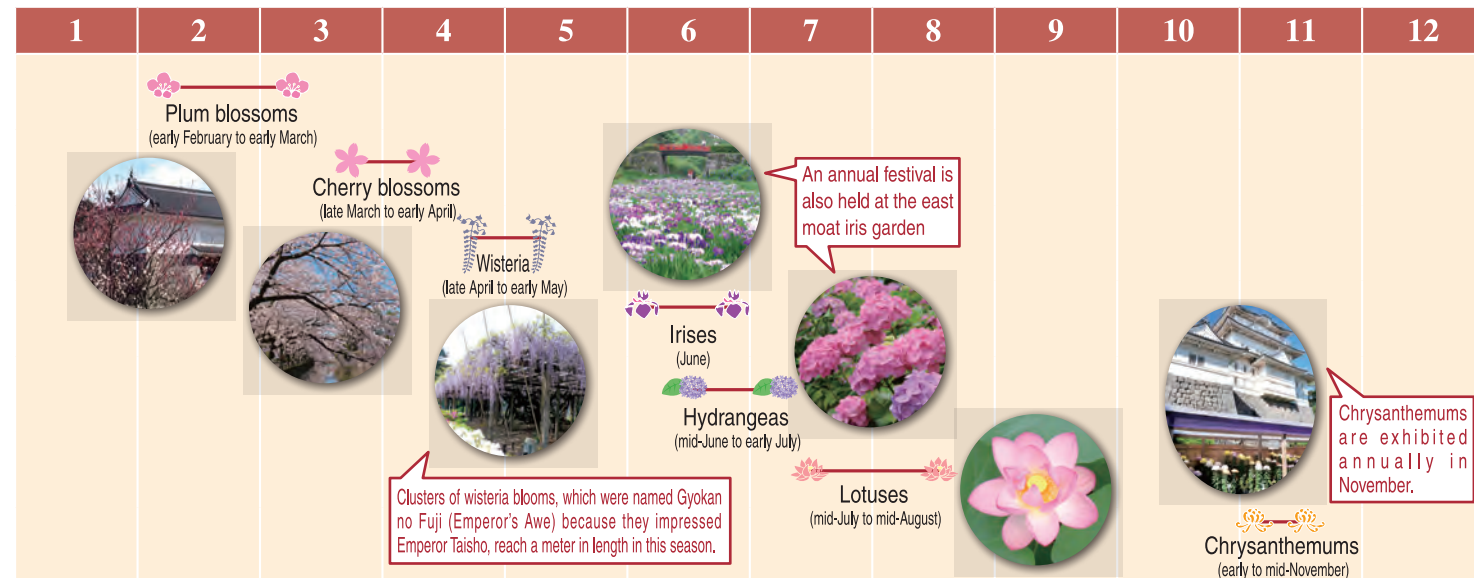
"Yabusame" Horseback Archery at Odawara's Plum Festival (February 11)

At one of the main events of Odawara Plum Festival, arrows are shot from galloping horses at three targets distributed along a 240-meter straightway. Experience the speed and power with the scent of plum blossoms wafting in the air.



Flower Calendar—Colorful Flowers Provide a Sense of the Seasons

Odawara Castle Park's colorful flowers



February Plum Festival tour

Odawara Plum Festival is centered around Soga plum grove and Castle Park. Come out for the day and compare the various different varieties of plum blossoms.

Soga Bairin Plum Orchard

This place has links with the brothers Juro and Goro Soga, famous for the *Tale of the Soga Brothers*, one of Japan's three great vendetta epics. During the Plum Festival held every year in February, around 35,000 white-blossomed plum trees bloom in profusion with Mount Fuji in the background. Various events are staged during the festival, and local products such as dried plums and vegetables are also sold.

Access: A 10-minute walk from JR Gotenba Line Shimo Soga Station



Locations known for Japan's famous cherry blossoms

Odawara Cherry Blossom Festival is held from late March through early April, and cherry blossoms can also be enjoyed at famous locations other than Castle Park throughout the city. Information about distinctive cherry blossom varieties follows below.

The weeping cherry tree on Chokozan Hill (late March to early April)

This famous tree is more than 340 years old, approximately 13 meters tall, and around 4.7 meters wide at its base. With flowers that cascade like a waterfall at the peak of the blooming season, it makes for a magnificent sight.

Access: A 20-minute walk from Hakone Tozan Line Iriuda Station



Odawara Flower Garden

Along with more than 480 trees in some 200 different varieties of plum spread along the mountain stream plum grove, roses, irises, and other flowers can be viewed on strolls through the park throughout the seasons. There are 300 varieties of tropical fruit trees and flowers in the Tropical Dome greenhouse year round.

Hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (doors close at 4:30 p.m.)

Tropical Dome admission: Adults, ¥200; elementary and junior high school students, ¥100 (rest of park is free of charge)

Closed: Mondays (except when Monday is a holiday), day after a public holiday, year-end and New Year's holidays

Access: Take a bus bound for Flower Garden from Odawara Station, and disembark at final stop.

Tsujimura Botanical Park

With western plants obtained from various countries and a plum grove filled with trees around ninety years old, this garden offers views of lovely scenery throughout the seasons.

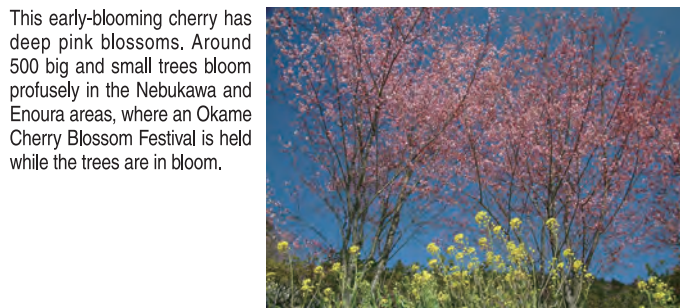
Hours: 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Closed: Mondays (except during Golden Week, summer vacation, and on public holidays), day after public holiday, December 28 to January 3

Access: Take a bus bound for Iko no Mori (Wanpaku Land) from Odawara Station to Tsujimura Shokubutsu Ko-en bus stop.

Nebukawa's Okame cherry trees (late February to late March)

This early-blooming cherry has deep pink blossoms. Around 500 big and small trees bloom profusely in the Nebukawa and Enoura areas, where an Okame Cherry Blossom Festival is held while the trees are in bloom.



Food and Local Specialties—Flavors and Techniques Refined over Long Years in Odawara

Odawara don

We insist on three things when preparing and serving these dishes with the delicious ingredients that are Odawara's pride. Look for this banner!

First, one or more seafood or farm ingredients produced in the Odawara area must be used.

Second, the food must be served in vessels made with traditional folk crafts or in Odawara lacquerware.

Third, hospitality meant to render customers satisfied and make them like Odawara even more must be extended.



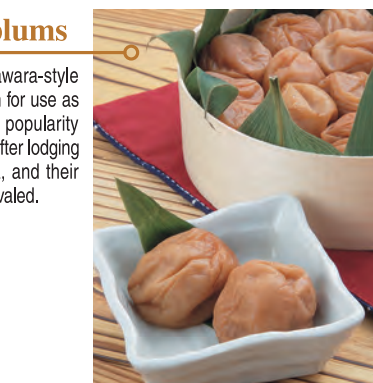
Kamaboko (processed fish paste)

Kamaboko was developed as a preserved food in the late Edo era when the fishing industry was thriving and ground water was plentiful. People who came and went along the Tokaido Road spread the word about it throughout the country. Today, queenfish and other types of fish are used for the basic ingredients to make kamaboko that is colorful, lustrous, and has a springy texture.



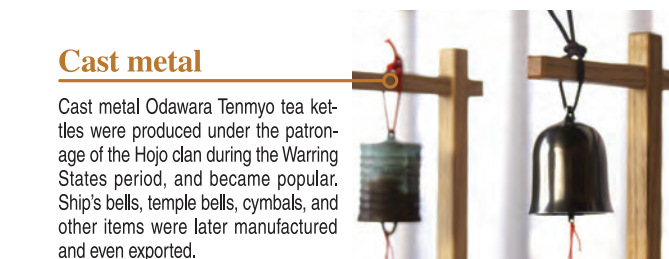
Pickled dried plums

Hojo Soun developed Odawara-style pickled plums, making them for use as battle rations. They gained popularity as souvenirs to take home after lodging in Odawara in the Edo era, and their richly historical flavor is unrivaled.



Japanese confectioneries

The lords of Odawara Castle at the end of the Tokugawa period, the Okubo clan, enjoyed tea ceremony, so talented confectioners gathered in Odawara. The tea ceremony was held throughout the seasons, and confections that could be called works of art were produced.



Cast metal

Cast metal Odawara Tenmyo tea kettles were produced under the patronage of the Hojo clan during the Warring States period, and became popular. Ship's bells, temple bells, cymbals, and other items were later manufactured and even exported.



Odawara oden (Japanese pot-au-feu)

Odawara oden is the product of a fresh way of looking at the dish and incorporating abundant seafood caught in Sagami Bay for use in the fish cakes. Ingredients produced in Odawara are used for the dish, which is eaten with dollops of ume miso, as recommended by the Odawara Oden Society. There is a contest to determine new types of oden ingredients at the Oden Summit held in spring.



Dried fish

Production of dried fish is said to have begun in the Edo era with sales of horse mackerel and barracuda that were split open and sun dried to preserve them. The key to an exquisite taste treat is light salting that brings out the true flavor of the fish.



Pickles

Its expanses of salt pans in the Edo era made Odawara well suited to pickle production. Well-pickled fresh vegetables, pickled perilla leaf, and pickled cherry blossoms are among familiar home town delicacies.



Wine

Planned and developed by Odawara Specialty Product Development Council, the plum, lemon, mandarin orange, and Shonan Gold varieties of Odawara wine are typical Odawara specialties that incorporate local products.



Wood products

The history of woodworking in Odawara started with the Kyoto woodturning masters who came to live here in the Heian period. Traditional artisanal techniques, such as lacquer ware produced with zelkova or other natural wood; marquetry, with its appealing geometric patterns; and the traditional handicraft of wood inlaying, which makes use of wood's texture, still exist today.



山田原

Odawara Guide

See,

Touch,
and Experience

Exhilarating
Odawara

Welcome to Odawara

Located in western Kanagawa Prefecture, Odawara is about 40 minutes by Shinkansen from nearby Tokyo, and serves a role as the gateway to Mount Fuji, Hakone, and Izu. Based on its rich natural environment and temperate climate, it prospered as a castle town where various forms of traditional culture thrived from the days of old, as evidenced by its many historical sites and local products.

Visit Odawara to get to know the city, its people, and its artisanship through its history, culture, noted local specialties, nature, and hands-on experiences.

Population: Approx. 200,000

Size: 114.06 km²

Odawara Castle, Symbol of Odawara

Various resources developed over several eras, centering on Odawara Castle, have given rise to the town of Odawara. Let's cast our thoughts back to antiquity and get a feel for the history that has been passed down to us.

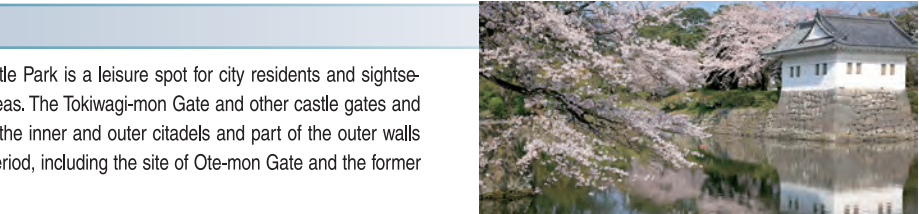
Donjon

The castle's predecessor was a castle built on a hill by the Omori clan in the Muromachi era (1338–1573), and after becoming the seat of Odawara Hojo clan in the Warring States period, it was expanded as a base from which to control the Kanto region. The donjon is a 1960 reproduction of its appearance at the end of the Edo era. The three-tiered, four-story keep is equipped with attached and connecting gallery turrets and suits of armor, swords, and old documents and other historical materials are on exhibit inside. The uppermost floor overlooks Sagami Bay and the city. **Hours:** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (doors close at 4:30 p.m.) **Admission:** Adults, ¥400; elementary and junior high school students, ¥150 (joint admission passes for the Rekishi-Kenbunkan museum are also available) **Closed:** Second Wednesday in December, December 31 and January 1



Odawara Castle Park

With the donjon that stands in the inner citadel as its centerpiece, Castle Park is a leisure spot for city residents and sightseers that is known for its flowers, including plums, cherries, and hydrangeas. The Tokiwagi-mon Gate and other castle gates and Umayu Bailey were rebuilt after the donjon was reconstructed. Most of the inner and outer citadels and part of the outer walls have been designated as national historical sites. Vestiges of the Edo period, including the site of Ote-mon Gate and the former site of Kodaguchi-mon Gate, remain throughout the vicinity.



Castle Gates (Umadashi, Akagane, and Tokiwagi)

Pass through the Umadashi-mon Gate, which serves as Odawara Castle's main entrance, and Akagane-mon Gate, named for the decorative copper fittings on its large doors, is a bit further on. Proceeding on through the second citadel from Akagane-mon Gate, the inner citadel's main gate, Tokiwagi-mon Gate, awaits. As the most important location for the castle's defense, this gate was built solidly and was given the its name, "evergreen," in wishes for prosperity that would be as everlasting as the ever green color of the Old Black Pine Tree next to the gate.



One more castle that was located in Odawara—"one night castle"

Ishigakiyama Ichijajo Historical Park
The site of the castle that served as Toyotomi Hideyoshi's headquarters when he laid siege to Odawara in 1590 is now a historical park. Parts of the stacked stone walls, consisting of simple stacks of unaltered stones, which bring back memories of ancient times, and the area in which the well was located remain. The site overlooks Odawara Castle and also affords a panoramic view that takes in an area stretching from the Miura Peninsula to the Boso Peninsula, as well as Tokyo Skytree if conditions are right. **Access:** A 40-minute walk from JR Hayakawa Station or a 50-minute walk from Hakone Tozan Line Iriuda Station



Enjoy the castle to the fullest, then travel to see even more of Odawara.

Indicates that admission is charged

Recommended Routes and Locations

There are historical sites in the Odawara Castle area, naturally, and the areas around the Tokaido Road that extended from Edo through Hakone still have connections to history and traditions. Let's fully enjoy the livelihoods, gardens, flowers, and culture unique to Odawara.

A Warring States Era Route—Get a Feel for History

Castle 8 minutes

Dress up in armor or kimono 15 minutes

Borrow a suit of armor or kimono at the Hommaru Square and take photos with Odawara Castle as the backdrop. Metamorphose into a hero or heroine and slip back to the Warring States era in spirit. **Hours:** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (costume rentals until 3:30 p.m.)

Nariwai Rest House 12 minutes

This facility is free of charge and can be used to obtain information about historical sites and other places of interest, as well as to rest up while touring the city.

Odawara Station 8 minutes

Five rail companies provide service to and from the city's main train station. The Odawara Lantern, which is 4.5 meters tall and 2.5 meters in diameter and was installed to commemorate the opening of the passageway from the station's west to east side, waits to greet visitors.

Seikantei 15 minutes

Tomb of Hojo, Uji-masa and Ujiteru 10 minutes

Visits to the tomb is said to lead to happy encounters, and making an offering of a bell is customary when one's wish has been fulfilled.

Statue of Hojo, Souen 10 minutes

Located on Odawara Station's west side, this is one of Japan's largest copper statues at 5.7 meters and 7 tons. It depicts Souen's battle strategy of tying torches to oxen's horns to feign a night attack by a large army.

Odawara interactive garden Seikantei 10 minutes

Characterized by the Sukiya-style design, this is an example of pure Japanese architecture with excellent materials and techniques. It is now open to the public as one of the stops on walking tours that have gardens as their theme. Rest for a bit here while enjoying the garden. **Hours:** 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. **Closed:** Tuesdays

B Tour of Machikado Museums—Get a Feel for Professions and People

Castle 7 minutes

Experience making a paper lantern at Nariwai Rest House 15 minutes

Washi paper is spread over a framework of woven bamboo slats and covers fitted on the top and bottom to create an original paper lantern. **Hours:** Second and fourth Sunday of the month, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. **Note:** Different schedules also possible for groups of five or more that make reservations a month or more in advance. **Fee:** ¥1,000 per person **Time required:** Approx. 90 minutes **Reservations:** Odawara Tourism Association **Phone:** 0465-22-5002

Odawara lantern 0 minutes

This type of portable light dates back to the Edo era and is characterized by its small size and collapsibility for ease of carrying.

Experience making kamaboko (fish paste cakes) and chikwua (fish paste tubes) at the Kamaboko Museum 7 minutes

A special implement, called a kamaboko spatula, is used to apply the fish paste to slabs and rods, after which it is steamed and cooked to create the finished products. **Fee:** Kamaboko ¥1,575, chikwua ¥525 **Time required:** 50 minutes for kamaboko, 30 minutes for chikwua **Note:** A bit more time is needed before finished products are delivered. **For more information:** Suzuhiro Kamaboko no Salo **Phone:** 0465-24-6262

Machikado Museums 15 minutes

Machikado museums tell the people of today about the industrial culture that has flourished from the past. Detailed exhibits, oral histories, and hands-on demonstrations provide an understanding of the people involved in Odawara's industries, products, and manufacturing. There are currently 18 museums focusing on local industries such as fish paste, pickling, and woodworking.

(Left) Dried Bonito Flake Museum (Kagotsune) (Right) Ume Yozuru Information Center (Rankankishi Chinru)

C Fishing Port and Beach Nature Enjoyment Course—Feel the Ocean, Savor the Food

Castle 13 minutes

Tour Kaneta Maeda Shoten to see dried fish being prepared 2 minutes

Visitors can see the dried fish production process. The company is closed on Sundays, public holidays, and scheduled days off.

Miyuki no Hama beach 20 minutes

The beach's name was changed to Miyuki (imperial visit) no Hama following Emperor Meiji's 1873 visit. People go for a swim on New Year's Day to see the first sunrise of the year and to pray for safety on the sea and good health. The pool and beach are crowded in summer.

Odawara fishing port morning market 3 minutes

Horse mackerel, sardines, and other fresh seafood brought in daily from Sagami Bay can be bought for reasonable prices at the port's Saturday morning market, with tips on how it should be eaten, too. There are numerous eateries popular for the freshness of their fare in the area where you can eat your fill of seafood. The views of the lighthouse modeled after an Odawara lantern on the city and Odawara Blue Way Bridge spanning the harbor with the sea in the background are also appealing. **Port's morning market** **When:** Saturdays and other unscheduled days 7 to 10 a.m.: Dried fish and kamaboko 9 a.m. until sold out. Freshly caught fish

Hayakawa Station 3 minutes

Odawara don (rice bowl with toppings) 3 minutes

29 shops around the city (as of December 2012) Try local food when you get hungry!

Experience making marquetry coasters at Yosegi Gallery 3 minutes

Try out the craft of marquetry, which the national government has designated a traditional industrial art. **Fee:** ¥500 per person **Time required:** Approx. 30 minutes **Reservations:** Gallery Tsuyuki **Phone:** 0465-22-5995

Indicates that admission is charged Indicates "Machikado Museum"

D Garden Tour—Experience Surprising Interaction in the Midst of Tranquility

Castle 8 minutes

Odawara Literature Museum and Hakusho-doyo Museum 10 minutes

This residence was built in 1937 in a southern European architectural style with roofing tiles imported from Spain. It has a western style garden, but offers a blend of Japanese and western aspects, and its beauty can be enjoyed throughout the seasons. Stop by the Hakusho-doyo Museum that is also located here to get in touch with literature from Odawara. **Hours:** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (doors close at 4:30 p.m.) **Admission:** Adults, ¥250; elementary and junior high school students, ¥100 (group discounts available) **Closed:** December 28 to January 3

Kokian Historical House 3 minutes

Meiji era elder statesman Antono Yamagata built this villa in 1907, when he was 70. Currently an insurance company's training center, its garden is open to the public only on Sundays. The marvelous water garden, designated as a civil engineering heritage site and supplied by a dedicated water channel, reminds visitors of days gone by. **Hours:** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. **Admission:** ¥100

Matsunaga Memorial Hall and Roky-so Manor 8 minutes

This residence was built by industrialist Yasuzaemon Matsunaga, known as Japan's king of electric power (he was also a tea master known as Jian). Also on the grounds are Roky-so Manor—an elaborately designed tea house in the modern Sukiya architectural style—and Yo-u-an Teahouse, the relocated villa of one of Odawara's three great tea masters, Koto Nozaki. They offer enjoyment of a stroll through a lovely garden. **Hours:** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. **Closed:** December 28 to January 3, during turn-over (around March)

Hakone Itabashi Station 5 minutes

Kami Itabashi 5 minutes

Morohakukoji 5 minutes

Tofu workshop (Shimoda Tofu Shop)

Travel aids

◆Take a leisurely tour with a guide (interpreter)
☆Odawara Guide Association (prior reservations required)
Guide visitors to famous landmarks, primarily Odawara Castle, and historical sites. Interpreting available only in English. **Phone:** 0465-22-8800 **Website:** <http://www.odawara-gaido.com>

☆Odawara Hakone Systematized Goodwill Guide Club (prior reservations required)
Guide foreign travelers around Odawara, Hakone, and nearby areas. Along with set routes, open to discuss other routes. **Website:** <http://www.ohsgg.com> **Email:** mail@ohsgg.com

◆Move around efficiently!
☆Gururin rental bicycles
Rental bicycles are useful for touring sightseeing locations. **Hours:** 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (last rental 3:30 p.m.) **Fee:** ¥300 per person per use

☆Odawara-juku sightseeing excursion bus
Bus makes stops at sightseeing locations during the spring and fall tourism seasons. Unlimited all day use, accompanied by a guide. **Hours:** Every 30 minutes from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. **Fees:** Adults, ¥200 per day; elementary school students, ¥100 **Bus station:** Bus depot 1, Odawara Station east exit



Access

KANAGAWA

JR Tokaido Shinkansen
JR Tokaido Main Line
Odakyu Line
Hakone Tozan Line

Odawara

Rail

Shin Osaka
Tokyo
Shinjuku
Odawara

Car

Tokyo Interchange
Tomei Expressway
Odawara-Atsugi Road
Odawara

Information Sources

Odawara Station Sightseeing Information Center (assistance available in English)

Odawara City Tourism Section
Website: <http://www.city.odawara.kanagawa.jp/>

Odawara Tourism Association
Website: <http://www.odawara-kankou.com/>

Phone: 0465-22-2339
Phone: 0465-33-1521
Phone: 0465-22-5002