

Hida SHIRAKAWA-GO Access Illustrated Map



World Heritage Site!
The gassho style hosoe settlement of Shirakawa-go (Gimphachi, Anokura and Suganuma were registered as the UNESCO World Heritage List in December 1995. UNESCO World Heritage Committee recognized these areas as an outstanding example of a traditional way of life that has perfectly adapted to its environment and local function.

A Hometown Culturally Inherited With Dignity



Shirakawa Village, Gifu Prefecture

"Gassho" mean "hands in prayer"
It represent peaceful living nestled in this village.



Gassho style village seen from the Shirayama Tenshukaku Tenbodai (Observatory).



Gassho house and cherry blossoms reflecting in a rice field. Big sunflowers and gassho style houses under a blue sky. Autumn leaves and gassho style houses.

Kogai Festival
春駒 (はるこま)

The "Kogai Festival" is a silksworm raising festival. Twelve young villagers dress up as the seven gods of good fortune and make the rounds along snowy roads, praying in good spirits in their role of singing messengers of joy, announcing the coming of spring from house to house. The houses they visit greet them with gifts of money and rice wine.

The heavy snow fall will cover the village and buried for whole winter. When the silent night began, lit up the roof of gassho style houses emerge whole village to a magical atmosphere. This illumination occurs mainly on Saturdays and there are traffic regulations to enter the village. So, please contact about the date of illumination days and transport access.

2 February
Light up
ライトアップ

The Rice Planting Festival
田植えまつり

The Rice Planting Festival is an event held in late May of every year that recreates the old style scene of women planting rice in a traditional style of dress called "sadosome sugata" that is no longer seen in modern times. In this village, people gathered to help each other in a communal work system called "結 Yui". And, in old age, rice planting was done by villagers guided by Yui system. There is a song for rice planting which can be heard during this event.

Shirakawa-go as introduced in "Rediscovery of Japanese Beauty" by Bruno Taut

Bruno Taut visited Shirakawa-go in May 1935. In his book, he spoke of a natural environment similar to Switzerland and praised the area as being "architecturally rational and logical." This incredible praise garnered attention from people around the world.

Seasons in Shirakawa-go

The "Doburoku Festival" is dedicated to the mountain god with prayers for good harvests, and the safety of the villagers. Every year, the dates and venue of "Doburoku festival" are scheduled as below.

Shirakawa Hachiman Shrine is on 14-15 October. Hatayama Hachiman Shrine is on 16-17 October. Jijima Hachiman Shrine is on 18-19 October. "Doburoku" is a milky colored rice wine distilled using an old recipe passed down for generations in the village.

10 Doburoku Festival
どぶろく祭

Communal roof thatching work using the cooperative "結 Yui" system

"結 Yui" is a cooperation system seen in roof thatching work in which neighborhoods pitch in to help each other. This cooperative work system plays a big role across the entire spectrum of everyday living and production. It is a strong old village custom that values a feeling of connection between people. Today, this "結 Yui" tradition is being broadcast to the world as an essential principle for protecting a world heritage.

大白川

OSHIRAKAWA

Driving about 13 kilometers along a slightly narrow road by ravine will take you to "Oshirakawa Area of Hakusan National Park." There are hiking trails to Mt. Hakusan and Lake Hakusui in this location. The view of the Hakusan mountain range reflected in the emerald green water is beautiful. This is an ideal location to see various wild plants from primeval groves of large beech trees to small alpine plants. There is also a 72 meter high waterfall named Shiramizu Waterfall nearby, making this area perfect for a nature park stroll. Rest at the lakeside lodge and enjoy an open air bath with great panorama of Lake Hakusui.

Lake Hakusui (Oshira River Dam)

Oshirakawa Open Air Bath

Lake Hakusui Lakeside Lodge

Hakusui Lakeside Lodge / Oshirakawa Open Air Bath

Open from early June to late October
 Open air bath: 8:00-17:00 (18:00 in summer)
 Bathing fee (including support fee): Adults 500 yen / Children 200 yen
 *Lodge reservations and inquiries:
 Before June: Forest Promotional Foundation tel.052-683-9248
 From June onward: (Satellite mobile phone) tel.090-2770-2893

Whitewater "Shiramizu Waterfall"

Designated as a scenic spot by the prefectural government. The milky white color of the falling water has earned this waterfall the name "Shiramizu" (whitewater).

Primalval beech forest

Sanpou-Iwadake

The cliff walls that run up to the sheer summit of Mt. Sanpou (1,736 meters above sea level) are called Hida-awa, Kaga-awa, and Echu-awa, and it is this three sided rock structure that gives the mountain its name (which literally means "three direction rocks"). Walk about thirty minutes one way towards the summit on a trekking course from the Mt. Sanpou parking lot on the Hakusan Shirakawa-go White Road.

There, broadleaf trees like beech trees and conifer trees like Siberian dwarf pine grow indigenously in spite of the wind and snow. The three hundred sixty degree view is spectacular.

Hakusan Shirakawa-go White Road

A 3.3 kilometer road connecting Gifu and Ishikawa prefectures. It is a forest road that spans out above the clouds and cuts through Hakusan National Park. Gifu Management Office: tel.05769-6-1664
 Open Early June to early November
 (In groups of 25 people or more, Adults: 450 yen / Elementary and junior high school children: 250 yen)
 (In groups of 25 people or more, Adults: 450 yen / Elementary and junior high school children: 250 yen)

天生湿原

AMOU-SHITSUGEN Marsh land

"Amo Prefectural Nature Park" treats visitors to a trip through the heart of mother nature's glory with elements like the primeval forest and highland marsh area that extend centering around Amou-etsu Pass on the border between Shirakawa-go and Hida City. This park spends half of the year buried under snow and has a very late spring. Asian skunk cabbage clusters start in June, leading to the blooming of many different kinds of marshland vegetation. Visitors can see the giant trees and the three Amo waterfalls. The autumn leaves from early October are beautiful, and nature walks are fun in all seasons.

Make friends with nature, learn from nature.
 Hida City / Shirakawa-go Nature Guide Association
 Fees for nature strolls and mountain-side trekking
 ● 1 hour course: 2000 yen per person (in group of 2 people or more)
 ● Half day: 2,500 yen per person (in group of 2 people or more)
 ● Whole day: 3,000 yen per person (in group of 2 people or more)
 [Reservations & inquiries]
 Hida City / Shirakawa-go Nature Guide Association tel.057-46-2211
 *Please make reservations at least 3 days in advance.

三方岩岳

SANPOU-IWADAKE

The cliff walls that run up to the sheer summit of Mt. Sanpou (1,736 meters above sea level) are called Hida-awa, Kaga-awa, and Echu-awa, and it is this three sided rock structure that gives the mountain its name (which literally means "three direction rocks"). Walk about thirty minutes one way towards the summit on a trekking course from the Mt. Sanpou parking lot on the Hakusan Shirakawa-go White Road.

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白川郷 Sightseeing point

Sights

- The Folk Museum of the old Toyama Family**
- Wada House**
- Binen-yumeromu museum**
- Nagase House**
- Kanda House**
- Myozenji Temple**
- Gassho-zukuri Minkaen**
- Myozenji museum**

Experience

- Fun with natural Plant Dyes**
- Experience Soba Making**
- Ji-Ba Craft Work Shop**
- Miboro Dam**

平瀬温泉

Near the gassho settlement, famous as a "kodakara no yu".

The Hira-se Hot Spring located close to the Ogimachi World Heritage gassho site where 10 kilometers south on Route 156. It is a small hot spring area made up of 2 "minshuku" and 8 "ryokan" inns. The nostalgic atmosphere of a old-fashioned inn still remains. The spring water contains sulfur-sodium and chloride. This plentiful "kakenshi" (fresh flow without water recycling) hot spring piped right from the source. Enjoy the nostalgic atmosphere of the inn as you enjoy to take a healing dip in the crushing hot spring.

Hirase Hot Spring area streetscape

Oshirakawa Hot Spring Shiramizu no Yu

Its reputation of having positive effects on female health problems since old days and made this famous bath well known as a "kodakara no yu". The neighboring "Michi-no-oka" (Travelers Plaza) Hida Hakusan features special local products on sale.

Shirakawa-go Hirase Hot Spring Campsite

This campsite is on the opposite side of the Shio River from the Hirase hot spring and made this famous bath well known as a "kodakara no yu". The neighboring "Michi-no-oka" (Travelers Plaza) Hida Hakusan features special local products on sale.

Shirayumi Ski Resort

A family oriented ski area looking on the Shio River from the Hirase hot spring and made this famous bath well known as a "kodakara no yu". The neighboring "Michi-no-oka" (Travelers Plaza) Hida Hakusan features special local products on sale.

Hirase Hot Spring inn

HIRASE SPA RYOKAN Japanese-Style Host

Uemine, Kuroyuriso, Tousenoyu Fujiya, Hatago Hakusan, Hakusan, Fujiya Inn, Yunosato, Sansui, Warabi

SHIRAKAWA-GO HIDA Beef Suttate Nabe

Based on a long history, a traditional local specialty, a group of local chefs have perfected this original recipe to be hot pot over a long process of trial and error. This versatile masterpiece with a soup that brings out the wonderful flavor of soy bean, Asa, vegetables and healthy grown kikurage (leaves Ear Fungus) are added for texture of soup. Ladle up with a layer of gilled beef. Try this "Hida Beef Suttate Nabe" at Hirase Hot Spring.

Access to Hida SHIRAKAWA-GO

Access to Shirakawa-go by Air

Access to Shirakawa-go by Car

Access to Shirakawa-go by Fixed-Route Bus

Access to Shirakawa-go by Air

Access to Shirakawa-go by Car

Access to Shirakawa-go by Fixed-Route Bus

Shirakawa Village Information Accommodations - eateries - shops

Inns & hotels

Eateries

Bed & Breakfasts

Rental bungalows

Guest House

Gift shops

Other shops

Let's all pitch in to protect
When you visit Shirakawa-go, world heritages forever please follow these rules.

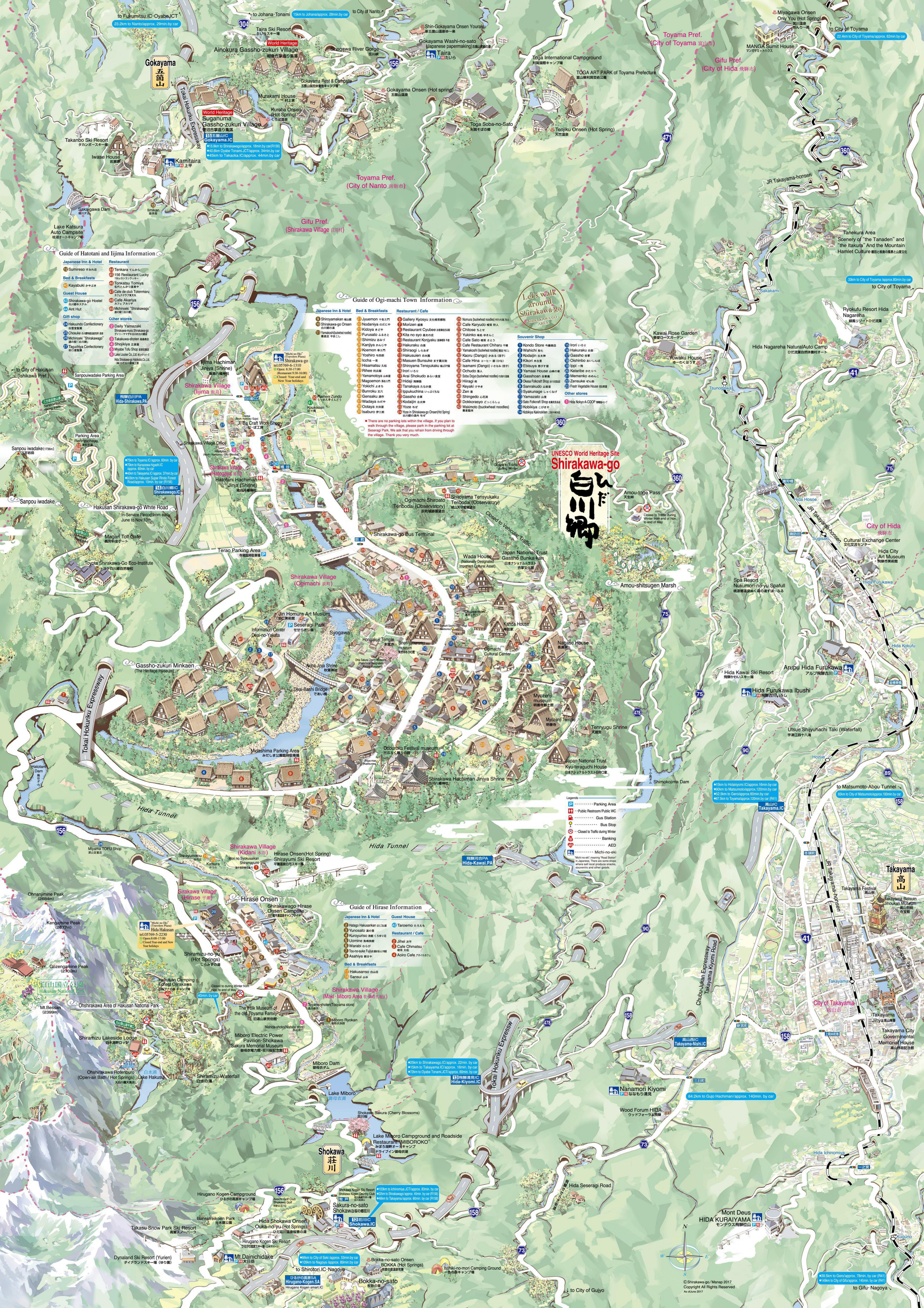
- Because the settlement interior is a conservation area, some streets and footings will not have fences. Be aware of your footing while walking.
- Do not litter. Take garbage back with you. Return empty containers settlement stores that you brought in.
- Gassho" after roof works are very susceptible or throw used cigarette ends on the ground. Please only smoke in designated areas.

Inquiries

Shirakawa-go Tourist Association
 1086 Ogimachi, Shirakawa Village, Ono-gun, Gifu Prefecture 507-8676 (Shirakawa-go Bus Terminal)
 TEL: +81 5769-1311 FAX: +81 5769-6-2016
 URL: http://www.shirakawa-go.jp (Japanese or English)
 E-mail: info@shirakawa-go.jp (Japanese or English)

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Guide of Hatotani and Iijima Information

- | Japanese Inn & Hotel | Restaurant |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| ① Sunreso 太陽里 | ① Tenkara 天てんか |
| ② Bed & Breakfasts | ② 155 Restaurant Lucky |
| ③ Kayabuki かにぶき | ③ Tonkatsu Tomiya |
| ④ Guest House | ④ Cafe de club Totomaru |
| ⑤ Shirakawa-go Hotel | ⑤ Cafe Akariya |
| ⑥ Art Hut | ⑥ Michioka "Shirakawa" |
| ⑦ Gift shop | ⑦ Other stores |
| ⑧ Hakusando Confectionery | ⑧ Daily Yamazaki |
| ⑨ Chosuke Confectionery | ⑨ Shirokawa Shirakawa-go |
| ⑩ Michioka "Shirakawa" | ⑩ Takakawa-otomaru |
| ⑪ Takayama Confectionery | ⑪ Shogaku |
| ⑫ Takayama Confectionery | ⑫ Miyabe Toku Shop |
| | ⑬ Lake Louise Co. Ltd. |
| | ⑭ Hida Shirakawa-go Co. Ltd. |

Guide of Ogi-machi Town Information

- | Japanese Inn & Hotel | Bed & Breakfasts | Restaurant / Cafe |
|----------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| ① Shirakawa-go Onsen | ① Juyumon 十右衛門 | ① Gallery Kyosyu |
| ② Yamanokuchi Onsen | ② Nodariya 野のた | ② Morizen 森 |
| | ③ Kodoya こだや | ③ Restaurant Oyubee |
| | ④ Furusato ふるさと | ④ Kita no sato 北のさと |
| | ⑤ Shimizu しづ | ⑤ Restaurant Konjaku |
| | ⑥ Konomi こんみ | ⑥ Hakuuraku 白 |
| | ⑦ Yoshino よし | ⑦ Shiragaki しら |
| | ⑧ Hisamatsu 久松 | ⑧ Hakuuiken 白 |
| | ⑨ Rihou 静 | ⑨ Masuen Bunsuke |
| | ⑩ Kochi 小 | ⑩ Shirokawa Tenryukaku |
| | ⑪ Magomori まごもり | ⑪ Koyaki 小 |
| | ⑫ Yuki 雪 | ⑫ Aral Shokudo あり |
| | ⑬ Gensaku げん | ⑬ Hidaji 日 |
| | ⑭ Wadaya わだや | ⑭ Tanakaya たな |
| | ⑮ Ohtani 大 | ⑮ Ippukichin い |
| | ⑯ Isaburo い | ⑯ Gassho が |
| | | ⑰ Kodajin こだ |
| | | ⑱ Yozoe よ |
| | | ⑲ Yae in Shirakawa Onsen |

Let's walk around Shirakawa-go!

- | Souvenir Shop | Other stores |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| ① Kondo Store | ① Hida Noto A-COOP |
| ② Washi 和紙 | ② Hida Noto A-COOP |
| ③ Kodajin こだ | |
| ④ Kikori 木 | |
| ⑤ Ebisuya へび | |
| ⑥ Yamashiro House | |
| ⑦ Gasshoan が | |
| ⑧ Oasa Folkart Shop | |
| ⑨ Sannakudo さん | |
| ⑩ Syakunago しゃ | |
| ⑪ Yamazato 山 | |
| ⑫ Sato Folkart Shop | |
| ⑬ Kobayashi 小 | |
| ⑭ Kobayashi Kakikoten | |

白川郷

UNESCO World Heritage Site

Shirakawa-go

- Legends
- ① Parking Area
 - ② Public Restroom/Public WC
 - ③ Bus Station
 - ④ Bus Stop
 - ⑤ Closed to Traffic during Winter
 - ⑥ Banking
 - ⑦ AED
 - ⑧ Michi-no-eki

- ### Guide of Hirase Information
- | Japanese Inn & Hotel | Guest House | Restaurant / Cafe |
|----------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| ① Hatago Hakusanan | ① Taromo たら | ① Uomine う |
| ② Yunosato 雲 | ② Jishi じ | ② Cafe Ohmatsu |
| ③ Kuroyama 黒 | ③ Aoiro Cafe 葵 | |
| ④ Uomine う | | |
| ⑤ Warabi わ | | |
| ⑥ Toyo-no-oka | | |
| ⑦ Asahiya 朝 | | |

- ### Guide of Hatotani and Iijima Information
- | Japanese Inn & Hotel | Bed & Breakfasts | Restaurant / Cafe |
|----------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| ① Hatago Hakusanan | ① Hakusanso 白 | ① Senuu せ |
| ② Yunosato 雲 | | |
| ③ Kuroyama 黒 | | |
| ④ Uomine う | | |
| ⑤ Warabi わ | | |
| ⑥ Toyo-no-oka | | |
| ⑦ Asahiya 朝 | | |

- ### Guide of Shirakawa Village (Maki-Miboro Area)
- | Japanese Inn & Hotel | Bed & Breakfasts | Restaurant / Cafe |
|----------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| ① Hatago Hakusanan | ① Hakusanso 白 | ① Senuu せ |
| ② Yunosato 雲 | | |
| ③ Kuroyama 黒 | | |
| ④ Uomine う | | |
| ⑤ Warabi わ | | |
| ⑥ Toyo-no-oka | | |
| ⑦ Asahiya 朝 | | |

- ### Guide of Shokawa
- | Japanese Inn & Hotel | Bed & Breakfasts | Restaurant / Cafe |
|----------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| ① Hatago Hakusanan | ① Hakusanso 白 | ① Senuu せ |
| ② Yunosato 雲 | | |
| ③ Kuroyama 黒 | | |
| ④ Uomine う | | |
| ⑤ Warabi わ | | |
| ⑥ Toyo-no-oka | | |
| ⑦ Asahiya 朝 | | |

- ### Guide of Bokka-no-sato
- | Japanese Inn & Hotel | Bed & Breakfasts | Restaurant / Cafe |
|----------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| ① Hatago Hakusanan | ① Hakusanso 白 | ① Senuu せ |
| ② Yunosato 雲 | | |
| ③ Kuroyama 黒 | | |
| ④ Uomine う | | |
| ⑤ Warabi わ | | |
| ⑥ Toyo-no-oka | | |
| ⑦ Asahiya 朝 | | |

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