

Oyabe City is a town full of nature and historical wonder. Its dispersed settlements, an earmark rarely seen in Japan, presents a different landscape for every season. The "Kurikara Pass" is known to be traveled by many visiting writers and artists since ancient times, and now provides a scenic route of lush greens or reddened leaves depending on the time of your visit. The pass is also home to blooming yaezakura cherry blossoms, visited by many in springtime.



Ancient Battlefield of Kurikara (Fire Ox Statue)

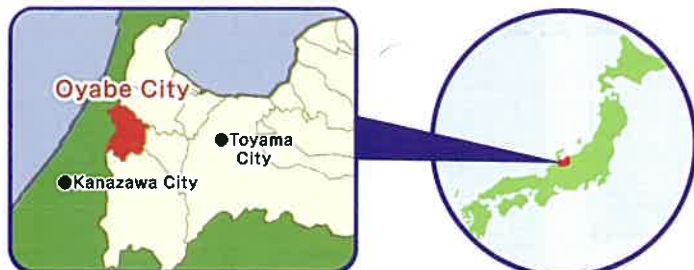


The History Road



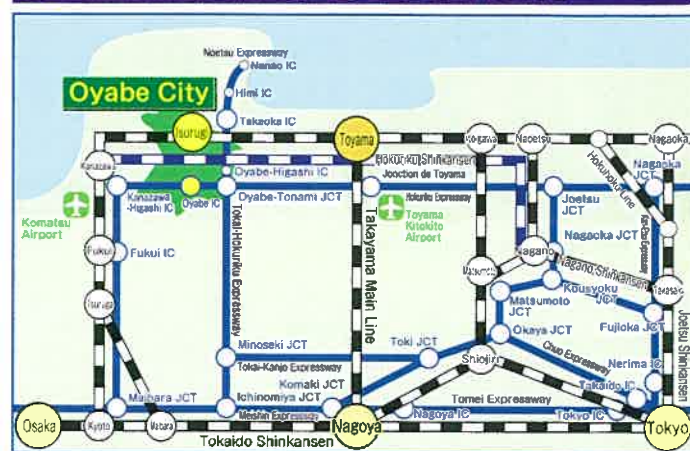
Oyabe City Mascot
Merugyu Merumomo

The Oyabe City Mascots, Merugyu and Merumomo, are descendants of the "Fire Ox," known for its exploits in the Battle of Kurikara. These two characters work to promote tourism for Oyabe, and are loved by people from all over!



● Air route		● Expressway		● Train	
Toyama Kitakita Airport	Approx. 1 hr	Tokyo	Approx. 3 hr	Tokyo	Approx. 3 hr
Haneda airport	Approx. 1 hr	Nagoya	Approx. 2 hr, 30 min	Nagoya	Approx. 3 hr, 30 min
Komatsu Airport	Approx. 1 hr	Maibara	Approx. 2 hr	Osaka	Approx. 3 hr, 30 min

● Location & Directions



Oyabe City Tourism Promotion Division

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The mountain-top observation deck atop Mt. Inaba allows a full view of the Tateyama mountain range and the dispersed settlements, and its lovely night light scenery makes it perfect for a date.



Near the Miyajima Gorge lies a little-known hot springs hotel. Bathe and relax while listening to the sound of a trickling river, enjoying your moment of relief.



Mitsui Outlet Park Hokuriku Oyabe

An all-weather indoor outlet shopping mall. In addition to the shops and services to satisfy your wants for shopping and food, the play area and Ferris wheel lets children have just as much fun.

Come, See, and Experience Meruhen Oyabe Oyabe City, Toyama Prefecture



Isurugi Junior High School



Miyajima Gorge



Shirayama Park

Revitalize Yourself in Nature!

Inabayama and Miyajimakyo Prefecturally Designated Parks

Mt. Inaba provides a wonderful view of its surroundings, such as the majestic sight of the Tateyama mountain range and a look over the dispersed settlements. The Konadegawa River flowing past the base of the mountain is lined with several waterfalls, allowing respite amidst nature.



Miyajima Gorge Ninotaki Fall

This three-level waterfall offers an elegant scenery when viewed from above the road.



Miyajima Gorge Ryugubuchi

At the Ryugubuchi, formerly feared as a place where dragons resided, is the statue of the mermaid princess, watching over the beautiful natural environment.

The Three Big Festivals Worth Seeing

Oyabe City host traditional festivals during the spring and summer seasons. The customary call-outs and accompanying chime-ins, the sounds of taiko drums and hyoshigi clappers echo throughout the town, while the awesome passion brought on by youngsters stirs the hearts of festival goers



The Oyabe Lion Dance Festival

The Lion Dance Festival is passed down in various parts across Oyabe City, which are performed as Shinto rituals between the seasons of spring and autumn. The Isurugi Tenjin Lion Dance Festival is held annually in May in the town of Isurugi, which originally began 400 years ago, where the locals performed the lion dance to greet their lord Toshihide Maeda as he began his reign over Imasurugi Castle. Ever since, children's lion dances from every township are performed all over Oyabe, bringing forth liveliness well into the evening.



The Isurugi Hikiyama Festival

Eleven gorgeously crafted Hanadashi towers, each an embodiment of late 16th century Momoyama period artistry, roam across town. This festival is representative of the Isurugi region, which prospered as a hub along the old Hokuriku Route. The air is filled with call-outs, chime-ins, and the sounds of creaking wheels, with many visitors flocking to witness.



Tsuzawa Yotaka Paper Lamp Festival

A traditional ritual performed in wishing for a full harvest. The sight of massive 7-meter high paper lamps, 12-meters in length, roaming across the evening town is marvelous to watch. And the Kenka Yotaka Paper Lamp Drag-around, where these lamps crash into one another, is something to behold.

Mt. Inaba

The 346-meter Mt. Inaba offers a place of relaxation, with a cow grazing ground, play equipment for children and rest areas.



Fureai Petting Zoo

Let's you interact with rabbits, goats and squirrels being raised to there.

That Feeling of Historic Romanticism...

Kurikara Prefecturally Designated Park

The ancient Kurikara battlefield was where the late 12th century warlord Yoshinaka Minamoto (Kiso) fought the massive 100,000-soldier armies of the Taira clan. This battlefield was the stage for a major shift in Japanese history, and is now a place of respite for the many travelers visiting this place.

Remnants of the Dreams of Warriors.

In 1183, Yoshinaka Minamoto (Kiso) engaged the 100,000-strong army led by Koremori Taira from Kyoto, at Mt. Kurikara. Yoshinaka planned the Flaming Oxen strategy, based off of an ancient Chinese example, and on the evening of May 11, began a full-scale assault with 40,000 troops. With horns blown and drums rolled, his forces unleashed the fire oxen and with a battle cry began its charge. The Taira clan army, already exhausted from the long march, was taken aback by the confusion in the evening darkness with morale lost and no orders given. Soldiers and their horses fell into the so-called "Valley of Hell," filling up this very gorge. The number of troops lost is noted in the Genpei Seisui as 18,000.



Folding screen depicting the Battle of Kurikara during the Genpei War (Stored at Kurikara Shrine, Tsubata Town, Ishikawa Pref.)

Ancient Battlefield of Kurikara

An ancient battlefield where Yoshinaka Kiso defeated the Taira clan armies through the "Flaming Oxen Strategy," strapping torches to oxen's horns to charging them into the enemy. There remain many sites in this area with relevance this battle.



A Dreamy Fairytale World

A town where adults and children alike can encounter a sense of wonder and excitement. Coming, seeing and experiencing "Oyabe, the Meruhen Town" will undoubtedly make your heart flutter!

Meruhen Public Architecture

A series of public buildings resembling famous architectural pieces in and outside Japan. These 35 buildings were each constructed to accommodate their surrounding natural environment, allowing visitors to take a fantastic ("meruhen") walk through town.



Isurugi Junior High School



Yabunami Community Center



Otani Junior High School

An Intersection for the Future



Crossland Oyabe

Crossland Oyabe was created as an amusement and interaction zone, symbolized by the 118 meter-tall tower. Its vast 13-hectare grounds houses grassy fields, fun bikes, a putter golf course and much more. It also includes the Crossland Minitrain, a permanent miniature steam locomotive track that can be enjoyed by adults and children alike.



Hanyu Gokoku Hachiman Shrine

Noted as the location where Yoshinaka Minamoto (Kiso) made his victory prayers. This shrine has a history of approximately 1,300 years, and is a nationally designated cultural heritage.



Horse-mounted Statue of Yoshinaka Minamoto

Yoshinaka Minamoto (Kiso) was an army commander during the Genpei War, known as the "valiant general."