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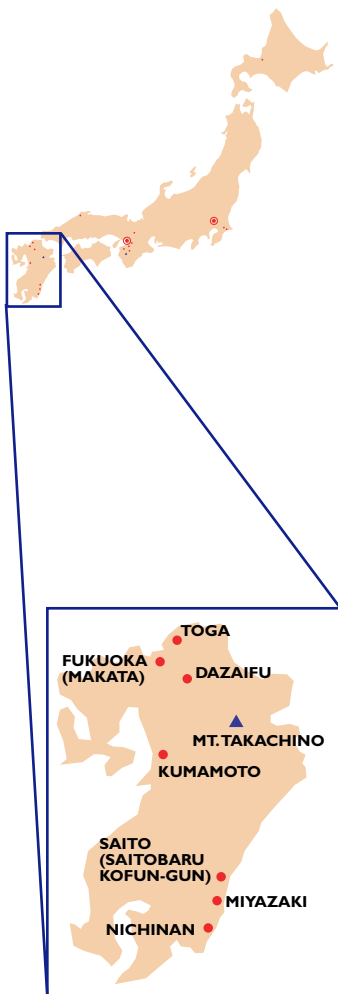
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UNEARTHING JAPAN'S ARCHEOLOGICAL PAST

The earliest traces of man in Japan go back into the Stone Age, some 100,000 years ago. It all began on Kyushu, the southernmost, westernmost of Japan's main islands, closest to the Asian mainland, where successive waves of immigrants, Mongol, Chinese, Korean, Ainu-like Caucasians, squabbled, fought, and finally banded together and intermarried, eventually coalescing into a people uniquely "Japanese."

According to myth, Amaterasu, the supreme Sun Goddess, sent her grandson Ninigi down to earth to rule over Japan, then populated by immortals, demi-gods and minor deities. After landing on Mt. Takachiho, he ran into the local god's favorite daughter, the lovely Blossoms-on-the-tree-Princess (Konohanasakuya-hime), and married her. But according to the customs of the Kyushu when you married one daughter, you got any of her unwed sisters as well. In this case, that included Blossoms-on-the-tree's very ugly older sister. After Ninigi refused, the girls' father put a curse on him and Konohanasakuya-hime: their children would not be immortal, but short-lived as "blossoms on the tree"-- a cruel play on his younger daughter's name. These children, these all-too-human disowned deities, were the ancestors of today's Japanese, according to the legends.

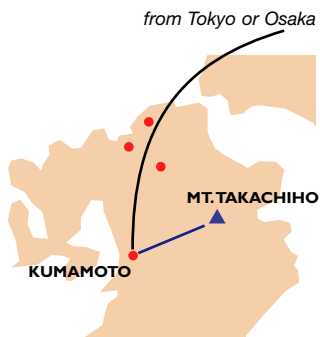
By 10,000 B.C., this new race of people was making ceramics (arguably the first anywhere on earth), both utilitarian and ornamental. This Jomon Pottery (named after its rope-patterned surfaces, decorated by pressing ropes into the still-wet clay) became more and more sophisticated and unique, with its flame-shaped sculptural decorations. By 300 BC the Kyushu people had progressed from hunting-and-gathering to rice-farming; around the same time a new pottery style, called Yayoi, appeared, along with bronze artifacts indicative of growing Chinese influence on Japanese styles and technologies. Other artifacts imported from mainland Asia signified Kyushu's growing political and military power – swords, armor, and cavalry equipment – while graceful bronze implements showed a growing artistic sophistication. The tribes and small kingdoms of Kyushu were becoming a force to be reckoned with. Inevitably, these feisty Kyushu people pushed north onto Japan's main island Honshu, where the mythical Ninigi's grandson, Jimmu, set himself on the



fertile Yamato Plains (also known as the Asuka Plains and the Kinki region, now the outlying areas of Nara Prefecture) as the first Emperor of Japan.

Meanwhile, homegrown Japanese culture was developing rapidly in the Kyushu-southern Honshu territory. At Izumo, on the Japan Sea, the first formal Shinto shrines were being built. By the 7th century, Soga no Umako, using the newly-introduced Buddhist religion as an organizing force, put the finishing touches on Imperial Japan. Near his great kofun is a temple containing the Great Bronze Buddha of Asuka-dera, the very first Buddha made in Japan.

Days 1 & 2 – KYUSHU



From **Tokyo** or **Osaka**, fly to Kumamoto, on Kyushu's west coast or take the Shinkansen bullet train to the end of the line at Hakata and take a JR express train to Kumamoto. From there, take an express bus to **Mt. Takachiho**, where it all began – where the Sun Goddess's grandson Ninigi first landed on earth. Here also is **Ama no Iwato Jinja**, "The Boulder Door of Heaven," where Amaterasu hid after being offended by another mischievous god, causing eternal darkness and winter to descend upon the earth. She had to be lured out by a ribald comic dance performed by one of the other goddesses. Today, this ancient piece of sacred vaudeville forms the basis for the Iwato Kagura, a series of 33 folk dances performed by the local villagers. Tourists, too, can attend the dances, most of which are performed during the period from late November to early February. Have a Japanese speaker call the **Ama no Iwato Jinja** shrine at tel. 092/74-8239 (6:00 a.m.–5:30 p.m.) a day or two before, to arrange the appropriate gift of saké or money. These dances are a fascinating piece of living pre-history. They are performed at local farmhouses, and last from afternoon through the night until noon the next day.



View of Kumamoto City

Other Related Attractions:

- Short 1-hour versions of the Iwato Kagura are performed nightly at the lovely **Takachiho Jinja** shrine, 10 minutes from the bus terminal.
- At the primeval-styled **Ama no Iwato Jinja**, facing **Amaterasu's cave** and 20 minutes from the bus terminal, you can watch worshipers perform their ceremonies or, if you want, pay 18,000 yen to have your own private performance of the Iwato Kagura performed here.
- Another holy cave, **Ama no Yasugawara**, a short walk upstream from Ama no Iwato Jinja, is the spot where the other deities met and plotted to lure Amaterasu out into the daylight.
- You can stay at **Kagurayado**, old-fashioned farmhouses made into restaurant-inns, while you're at **Yakachiho**. Local tour busses are the best way to get around.

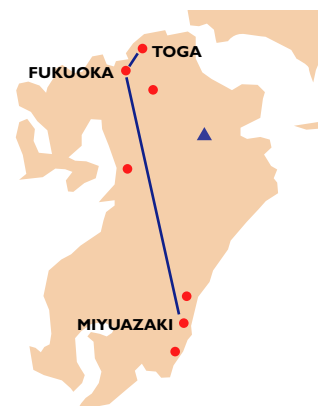
Day 3 – KYUSHU: MIYAZAKI area



Travel by bus or JR Train to **Miyazaki**, on Kyushu's eastern coast. An hour and 10 minutes inland and north from Miyazaki is one of Japan's premiere archeological sites, **Saitobaru Kofun-Gun** (ancient burial mounds). Here are over 300 burial mounds dating back to the 5th century, surrounded by moody, mystical gardens. Two of the tombs are open to visitors, and there is a museum that is open Tuesday – Sunday, 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Like many of Kyushu's early sites, a number of the tombs contained ornamental horse trappings, more evidence that the horse as a military weapon was one of the key imports to Kyushu from the mainland that fostered the Kyushu clans' rise to power.

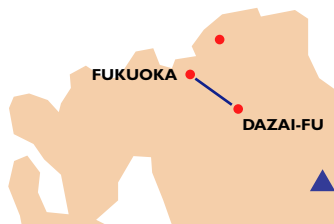
A relatively easy 1-hour-and-20 minute bus ride south of Miyazaki, in **Nichinan City**, is the important **Udo Jingu** shrine, dedicated to Ninigi's grandson who, after being raised by a Crocodile Goddess, became the father of Japan's first emperor, Jimmu. This enchanting cavern-by-the-sea is still very popular with Japanese, many of whom come to throw rocks at the sacred Turtle Stone below: to hit it is good fortune.

Day 4 – KYUSHU: FUKUOKA



Take the JR train from Miyazaki to **Fukuoka**. In Fukuoka, take the JR Kagoshima line to **Togo**, a half-hour ride, and then taxi or bus to **Jinja-mae**. Here, you will find **Munakata Taisha Shrine** (8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. daily). Munakata Taisha is spiritually connected to the sacred island of **Okinoshima**, 30 miles off the coast. Mariners on the Japan-China/Korea voyage left offerings on the island to ensure their safety; in the 1950s, archeologists salvaged these priceless relics, which include 315 National Treasures-- stone images of men, horses and boats, gold and bronze horse accoutrements, a gold ring, a bronze loom. etc. It's a dramatic display of the cultural riches that flowed into and out of Kyushu 1500 years ago, leaving a lasting impression on Japan as a whole. Every October 1st, 2nd and 3rd, the shrine's **Kaito Jinko-sai** (Praying for the Safety of Sailors) festival is held. The first day, with its massive festive flotilla, is the best.

Day 5 – KYUSHU / DAZAI - FU



A half-hour from Nishitetsu-Fukuoka station on the Nishitetsu train line, **Dazai-fu** was the southern capital of the Nara Kingdom after the seat of power moved from Kyushu up to the Yamato Plains. It later became a place to exile troublesome officials and nobles. Rent a bicycle from the Tourist Office to get around more easily.

Ten minutes from the train station, the **Dazaifu Tenman-gu Shrine** is sacred to the demigod of learning, Tenjin, in the form of famed exiled scholar Sugawara no Michizane, and the head priest claims to be a direct descendant of Michizane himself.



Dazaifu Tenman-gu Shrine

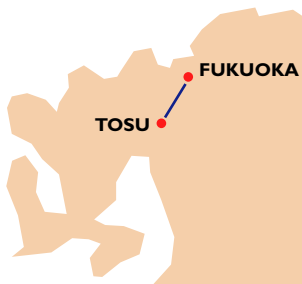
The Treasure Hall at the 7th century **Kanzeon-ji Temple** (9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.), also a short walk from the station, contains fascinating evidence of the foreign cultures imported into Japan via Kyushu, including a Central Asian-style statue of the god Daikoku and a dramatic Bugaku mask with obvious Indonesian elements. You must visit the Historical Museum, **Kyushu Rekishi Shiriyokan** (9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., except Monday). Their collection of Jomon and Yayoi pottery is as good as you'll find anywhere, and there is also a display of early Buddhist art from the local area.

Kaidan-in Sub-Temple, next door to **Kanzeon-ji**, is another important early Buddhist site. In the 8th century, the blind Chinese missionary Ganjin arrived in Kyushu, invited by the Nara Emperor Shomu to reform the somewhat lax and laissez-faire Buddhism of the day. Ganjin conducted his first ordination of monks and disciples at this temple. This is interesting evidence of how Kyushu continued to serve as a conduit for Chinese and Korean culture entering into Japan.

Another Fukuoka side trip:

Take the JR bus to Fukumaru, then travel 5 more minutes on the Shimiziguchi bus and get off at Wakamiya-cho. Here you'll find a marvelously painted 6th century tomb designated a National Historic Relic (9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday – Sunday). One of its famed murals shows a man leading a horse, demonstrating, again, the influence of Chinese culture.

Day 6 – YOSHINIGARI

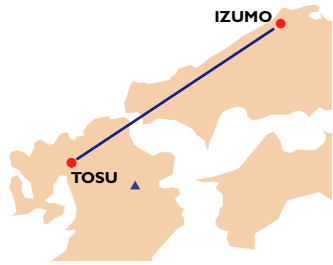


The Yayoi era (300 B.C.) site, **Yoshinigari**, is easily accessible from Fukuoka: take the JR “Kagoshima” limited express train from Hakata Station to **Tosu** (a half-hour ride), then take the JR “Nagasaki-honen” rapid train 14 minutes to Yoshinogari-koen. This is one of the key prehistoric sites in Japan, with close to 400 excavated dwellings and 2,500 graves. There are reconstructed pit houses, a watchtower, and the remains of a defensive moat. The museum (9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. October – March: 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. April – September) contains first-rate pottery, armor and weapons. Consider this the “Camelot” of ancient Kyushu. According to Chinese records, its last ruler was a shamaness-queen, Himiko, a sun priestess probably associated with Amaterasu. The Chinese chronicles indicate that after her death, Himiko was buried in a vast kofun, along with a hundred of her male and female courtiers.

Near Yoshinigari is the little pottery town of **Onda**, nestled in the rugged mountains. Potters there still use the Korean-style water-driven mortars called kara-usu – another living link to the ancient Kyushu trade ties with mainland Asia. To get to Onda from Tosu, take the JR “Yufu” limited express train to Hita, and catch the Hita Bus Onda Route (45-minute ride) to Onda Bus Stop. (Service is 3 times daily.)

Kyushu continued to serve as a conduit between the rest of Japan and mainland Asia over the centuries. Sometimes the Japanese used it as a launching pad for yet another invasion of Korea; other times, Mongols or other expansionist mainland Asians tried (unsuccessfully) to use it as a beachhead from which to conquer Japan. And always, culture came flowing in, to energize the Japanese way of life: painting, pottery, metallurgy, literature, and, of course, Buddhism.

Day 7 – IZUMO



From Tosu take the JR “Kaisoku” rapid train north to **Hakata** station (28 minutes). Switch to the JR “Hikari” Shinkansen and take this train farther north onto **Honshu** Island to **Ogori** (43 minutes). At Ogori Station, Switch to the JR “Super Oki” limited express train (3 hours – 15 minutes) and travel until you arrive at **Izumo**, on the Sea of Japan. The 4 1/2-hour trip is worth it. This seminal Shinto site dates back in legend to the days before the imperial line began. Amaterasu’s delinquent brother, Susano-o was exiled here, and later his grandson Okuninushi became ruler of Japan. Okuninushi voluntarily ceded power to Ninigi, Amaterasu’s grandson, who himself became the grandfather of Japan’s first emperor, Jimmu. This probably reflects an actual, historic division of power among the Kyushu tribes who moved north and established Imperial Japan.

The great **Izumo Taisha** shrine was built in Okuninushi’s honor; it’s half an hour by bus from Izumo-chi Station. Some parts of the temple complex are closed to visitors, but you can see the great torii (entry gates), Treasure House (8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. daily), and **Shokokan**, the sacred Treasure Hall (8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.). The Sacred Hall is spectacular even from the outside; supposedly 8 million kami or demi-gods gather there every 10th lunar month. Many rituals are held in this area, most notably the Kamiari-sai the 11th–17th of every tenth lunar month, when the 8 million kami land at the **Inasa no Hama beach** and are greeted by crowds of priests, pilgrims and tourists. Other colorful rites are held May 14 – 16th and January 3rd. Izumo is interesting in that it shows how the Kyushu tribes, even as they embraced Buddhism imported from Korea and China and used it as a unifying force, made sure to also base their reign in the native myths of Shintoism. Ever since then, of course, Buddhism and Shintoism together have served as Japan’s “official” faith.

Days 8 & 9 – NARA

Take the JR limited express “Super Yakumo” train south from Izumo to **Okayama**. Switch at Okayama for the JR Shinkansen to **Kyoto**, and then take either the Kintetsu Nara train or the JR Express train to **Nara**, into the heart of the **Asuka Plains**. You’ll be following the same path the early Kyushu kings took when they moved northeast onto Honshu and established their new center of power there.



Nara was Japan's first real capital city, from 710 to 784. As the imperial culture on the nearby Asuka Plains grew more and more powerful and centralized, largely due to the unifying force of Buddhism imported from mainland Asia, it eventually coalesced in this grand center of architecture and arts. Laid out on plans imported from Tang Dynasty China (China was supplanting Korea as the main cultural influence on Japan at this time), this new city, really the first authentic urban center in Japan, covered an area of approximately 15 square miles. In place of the crude, wooden, thatch-roofed buildings were tile roofs, painted columns, avenues and walls.

Kokufu-ji Temple (9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.) was the first great building in Nara, commissioned by the capital's founder, Emperor Fujiwara no Fuhito. The temple complex was burned in the 12th century civil war, but the North Octagonal Hall and Eastern Golden Hall, among others, were rebuilt soon thereafter on their original lines. Two pagodas added in the 15th century are also notable. The best of Kokufu-ji's art is exhibited in the **Kokuhokan**, or Treasure Hall (also 9:00a.m. – 5:00 p.m.)

The **Kasuga Taisha shrine**, founded in 709, a Shinto-Buddhist complex also built by Emperor Fuhito, has a dramatic 1,300 yard approach lined with stone lanterns. Among the shrine's protective deities are deer, whose corporeal representatives still wander Nara Park. The shrine's Treasure Hall is open 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. April – October; 9:00 a.m. – 4 p.m. November – March.

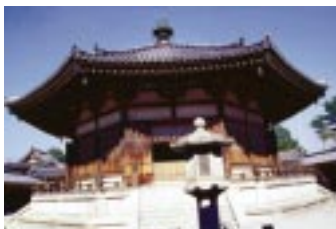
Between **Kasuga Taisha** and Tokufu-ji is the **Nara National Museum** (9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., except Monday) with an extensive collection of Asuka and Nara art.



Todai-ji Temple

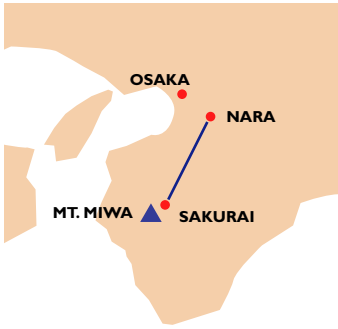
Fuhito's grandson Shomu continued the temple building and city expanding tradition with **Todai-ji Temple**, completed in 751. Hours vary according to season: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. in March, 7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. April through September, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. in October, and 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. November – February. Todai-ji is the largest wooden building in the world. Its central attraction is the **Great Buddha Hall**, which contains the **Great Daibutsu Buddha**. Other notable structures include: **Shoso-in**, the Imperial Repository; the Shoro or belfry, whose giant bell still tolls every evening; the **Hokke-do** with its exquisite lacquer and fired-clay statuary, and Kaidan-in, the Ordination Hall, with its four life-sized guardian deities.

Shomu also built the **Toshodai-ji Temple** (8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.), to house the blind Chinese monk Ganjin, whom Shomu brought to Japan to reform Japanese Buddhism. The Kondo or Main Hall contains more than a thousand different Buddha in different forms: Ganjin's Buddhism was a complex, esoteric affair, similar in some ways to Tibetan Tantrism. The temple's museum, **Shin-Hozo**, is open May 18 – 20 and September 15 – November 5, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.



Horyu-ji Temple

In the hills outlying Nara City is **Horyu-ji Temple** (8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., closing at 4:20 p.m. November 20 – March 10). You can get there by bus from Kinetsu-Nara station, or train from JR Nara. Founded in 607 by Emperor Yomu's grandson Shotoku Taishi, this temple was the center of the movement to make Buddhism the



state religion of Japan. Horyu-ji's marvelous structures include: the West Temple, the First and Middle Gates, Pagoda, Treasure Hall, and **Yumedono** or Hall of Dreams, where it is said Shotoku Taishi received revelations from the phantom figure of a gold-hued old man.

Also in the hills outside Nara are two of the oldest shrines in Japan. To get to the first, **Miwa Myojin**, take the JR Sakurai line from Nara a half hour to the town of **Sakurai**. From Sakurai, it's a 5 minute bus ride to sacred **Mt. Miwa**. The shrine here dates back to 200 B.C., thus predating the arrival of the Yamato imperial line from Kyushu by centuries. Five minutes further on is **Sai Jinja**, a shrine commemorating the site of the palace of the first Emperor, Jimmu. Ask at the shrine office for permission to climb on to the rugged summit of the sacred mountain itself, an hour away (hiking one-way).

On Mt. Miwa, you are way, way back, in the earliest realms of Shinto. The very rocks and trees of the mountain, as well as the spring in the shrine courtyard, are said to be kami or "god" possessed. Here is the animistic, earth-bound core of Japanese culture, that lies beneath all the princes and palaces, Buddha and imperial cities.

If you have more time:

Visit West Nara, an area of great historical significance. To get there either rent a bicycle or take Kintetsu Railways to Saidai-ji. In this area you will find:

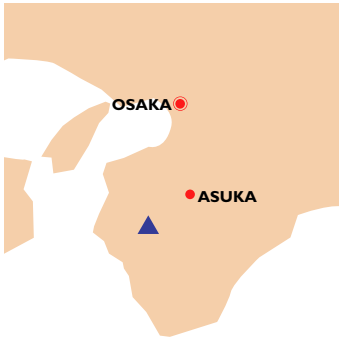
- **Hokke-ji Nunnery**, founded in 745
- **Saidai-ji Temple**
- **Akishino-dera Temple** founded in 780, shortly before the court left Nara,
- **Yakushi-ji Temple**, one stop farther on the Kintetsu line, to Nishinokyo Station; it was founded in 690 and contains some of the most important Buddhist art in Japan.

Also of interest as a day trip from Nara:

Koriyama, 5 minutes from Nara via JR train. Here is **Yata-dera**, a rustic temple dating back to 673 with a wonderful Jizo statue and reasonably priced temple lodging (tel. 0743/53-1445).

Day 10 – KASHIHARA / ASUKA

Travel by train from Nara to Kyoto and then from Kyoto to Kashihara Jingu-Mae, another 50 minute JR train ride. This is a convenient base for exploring the Asuka area, with reasonable food and lodging. Bicycling is the best way to travel around, and you can rent bicycles at Kashihara Jingu-Mae and drop them off in the town of Asuka without any problems.



A 5 minute bike ride from the railway station is the **Kenritsu Kashihara Koko Hakubutsukan**, the Nara Archeological Museum (9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., except Monday). It houses a major collection of 7th century artifacts excavated in the neighborhood, including bronzes, pottery and the clay burial figures called Haniwa.

Nearby is the **Kashihara Jingu** shrine, built a century ago to honor the first emperor, Jimmu. It is one of the most important Shinto shrines, and a link between modern Japan and the imperial line founded in Kyushu so long ago. Emperor Jimmu is reportedly buried in the kofun behind the shrine.

In **Asuka**, the 7th or 8th century **Takamatsuzuka Kofun** (9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. April – May and October – November) shows the continuing flow of influence from China and Korea even as Jimmu's heirs continued to strengthen the Japanese imperial line. Paintings inside depict the starry cosmos as well as ritually symbolic animals: snake, turtle, bird, tiger and dragon.

The 6th century **Asuka-dera** is the first Buddhist temple in Japan; craftsmen from Japan's allied Paekche Kingdom in Korea helped build it. It contains a thirteen foot high Great Bronze Buddha, cast in 1609 – the oldest existing Buddha in Japan.

The National Center for Asuka Material (9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., except Monday), a short bike ride north and west of Asuka-dera, contains many of the finest artifacts excavated from the area. The entire Asuka area is studded with historic sites and archeological digs. This quiet countryside is perfect for cycling, especially in spring and autumn. By all means, spend two days here.

This nascent imperial era was characterized by growing social stratification: nobles practiced polygamy, lower class folk squatted down before their superiors to show respect, and deceased rulers were buried in huge earthen mounds called kofun, often accompanied by mass human sacrifices. The **kofun of Nintoku**, near **Osaka**, exceeds the Great Pyramid of Egypt in sheer volume. Empress Jingu, another semi-mythical figure, conquered Korea during the 4th century and left it for her equally warlike son Ojin, later deified as the God of War, to govern. Ojin himself was so war-minded that he reputedly advised his mother on military tactics during the Korean invasion while he was still in the womb! He too is commemorated by a giant kofun near Osaka. If you are flying out of Osaka, end your journey here. In 794, the Japanese capital moved from Nara to Kyoto: a good time and place to mark the end of Japan's "Early History".

If you have more time and more days – NARITA area:



Especially if you are flying out of **Narita Airport**, you may wish to visit several more significant archeological sites near **Narita City** outside Tokyo (near Narita Airport).

The **Prefectural Hill of Boso Topology** (closed Monday), is a 1,300 year-old burial mound site northwest of town, with a museum. As many as 78 ancient tombs are preserved, and the museum exhibits numerous artifacts. Surrounded by scenic forests, this archeological center also includes several

more recent traditional buildings, carefully preserved. The site is most beautiful at the end of September to the beginning of October when more than 100,000 Cosmos flowers are in bloom. It's just 5 minutes on the JR Narita Line bus from Ajiki Station.

Southwest of Narita is another important archeological site, **Shibayama**: more tombs, whose Haniwa clay figures, of horsemen, courtiers, and nobles, were originally arranged in formation around the tomb complex. They are now housed in the **Shibayama Haniwa Museum** (closed Monday). You can also visit a couple of the excavated tombs; it's just 45 minutes by bus from Keisei Narita Station.

Also near Narita is the **Kasori Shell Mound Site and Museum**. Accessible via a 20 minute bus ride from Chiba Station, itself a quick train ride on the JR Sobu Honsen Line from Narita, this is Japan's largest shell mound, dating back thousands of years before the first emperors in Kyushu. Excavated pit houses and a cross-section of the mountainous shell mound itself reveals a rich tidal culture based on the abundant tidal marine life in the area. A museum exhibits artifacts found on the site. This is a fascinating insight into the oldest roots of Japanese culture, and its ongoing connections with the sea.

Another side-trip – HOKKAIDO:



If you still have time to explore the AINU culture, on Japan's northernmost island, **Hokkaido**. **Sapporo**, Hokkaido's capital is 16 hours by JR sleeper train from Tokyo's Ueno Station, or an-hour and-a-half flight on JAL, ANA, JAS or Air Do (a discount carrier).

Though ethnically different from the Japanese, the Ainu preserve many of the oldest folkways of the Japanese islands, long extinct everywhere else in Japan. In Sapporo itself, visit the **Hoppo Minzoku Shiryoshitsu** (9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., except Monday) with its superb collection of Ainu artifacts and old photographs.

One-hour-and-40 minutes northeast from Sapporo by JR Limited Express is **Ashikawa**, where there is a good museum of Ainu culture, **Kawamura Ainu Hakubutsukan**. It's 15 minutes by bus from the terminal – virtually next door to Ashikawa RR Station.

At **Abashiri**, 5 1/2 hours northeast of Sapporo by JR Sekihoku Limited Express that are two museums worth visiting: the **Jakka Dofuni** (9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., except Sunday), focusing on the pre-Ainu Hokkaido peoples, and **Abashiri Kyodo Hakubutsukan** (9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m., except Monday), covering local archeology.

Next, travel an-hour-and-a half southwest from Sapporo, and onward by bus to **Noboribetsu Onsen** (hot springs). Continue another 10 minutes by tramway to the **Ainu Cultural Center of Kumayama** (Bear Mountain).

Open daily April 29 – October 30, for a 1900 yen admission charge, you can see Ainu elders demonstrate ancient crafts and saké and bear rituals. Most of Hokkaido's 25,000 Ainu live in the seldom-visited south-central **Hidaka District**.

On August 20th, the Ainu ceremonies Funamatsuri, take place about two hours from the town of **Tomakomai**, itself less than an hour by JR train from Sapporo. Also near Tomakomai, at **Shakushain**, annual celebrations honor the 17th century Ainu chief Shakushain.

Finally, it's important to note that although Kyoto and its successor as Japan's capital, Edo or Tokyo as we know it today, are both essentially post-archeological, both have impressive museums containing some of Japan's best archeological relics and artifacts.

RESOURCES

Books

Sacred Texts and Buried Treasures: Issues in the Historical Archaeology of Ancient Japan

By William Wayne Farris (University of Hawaii Press, July 1998)

The Historic City of Nara, An Archaeological Approach (1990)

By Tsuboi Kiyotari and Tanaka Migaku, from the Center for East Asian Cultural Studies.

Online Information

Essay by Noboru Ogata, Kyoto University . . . “Kofun: Ancient Burial Mounds in Japan”:

<http://www.nara-wu.ac.jp/bungaku/soramitsu/kofun.html>

Prof. Charles T. Keally, Sofia University, Tokyo . . . Essays, research, fieldwork, and courses in Japanese archaeology:

<http://www.fcc.sophia.ac.jp/Faculty/Keally/japarch.html>

About.com's Archaeology Guide to Japan:

<http://archaeology.about.com/library/atlas/bljapan.htm>