

Map of Wazuka Chagenkyo

ISSUE :
Wazuka town Society of Commerce and Industry
Wazuka town hall



1 Prince Asaka's Imperial Mausoleum (安積親王陵墓)

Prince Asaka, the son of Emperor Shomu died at the age of 17. It is said that this tomb was built for the prince, who loved the road connecting Heijo-kyo, Kuni-kyo and Shigaraki Palace. Also known as Taikoyama, the scenery of the tomb surrounded by tea fields is magnificent.



2 Towering Kitayama Cedar Tree in Yasaka Shrine (八坂神社の大杉)

This Kitayama cedar tree of 12.8 meters around and 31 meters high is believed to be more than 1300 years old. It is said that, after the main trunk had fallen down in the past, eight saplings grew from the stump into one large tree. There is no other Kitayama cedar tree in the town, and it is not known who planted it. It is designated as a prefectural natural treasure.



3 Miroku Magai-butsu (弥勒磨崖仏)

The standing image of Miroku-bosatsu, Mytreya, in the cliff is looking down upon the Wazuka River. It was carved on a gigantic granite stone with the inscription of April, 1300.



4 Shoho-ji Temple (正法寺)

Gyoki opened this Zen temple to pray for the repose of Prince Asaka, the son of Emperor Shomu. The autumn leaves are splendid.



5 Fudo-no-taki (不動の滝)

This waterfall used to be a training place where the ascetics of Mountain Buddhism performed cold water ablutions for their spiritual training. Fudo-myoo, Acala, is enshrined in its basin, and it is believed to have miraculous power. The waterfall is also called "Ogon-no-taki", Golden Waterfall.



6 Jubu-san Kontai-ji Temple (鷲峰山金胎寺)

It is said that this temple was founded by En-no-Ozunu, a famous mystic in Nara era, around the end of 7th century and, later, Emperor Shomu reconstructed it as a Royal temple in order to protect Kimon, the devil's gate, of Heijo-kyo.

7 Gyo-ba (行場)

Mountain Buddhism regarded high mountains as sacred and did their spiritual training deep in steep mountains. Kontai-ji Temple was founded as one of such spiritual training places, and it still has Gyo-ba, a site for spiritual practice. The area around Gyo-ba in the mountain is designated as a historic natural conservation area of Kyoto Prefecture.

8 Kyoto Wazukaso (京都和東荘)

Renewed in July 2016 with the concept of "Inn to savor tea using all five senses," is an accommodation where you can enjoy tea-infused kaiseki cuisine, a big bath in which tea leaves are soaked, and more.
Tel: 0774-78-2603

9 Wazuka Tenmangu Shrine (和東天満宮)

This shrine was founded in the year 983 when the painted image of Lord Sugawara Michizane was enshrined. The main hall of the shrine presents the architectural style of Muromachi era in the 15th century, and it is designated as an important cultural treasure.

10 Hyakuju-iwa (百丈岩)

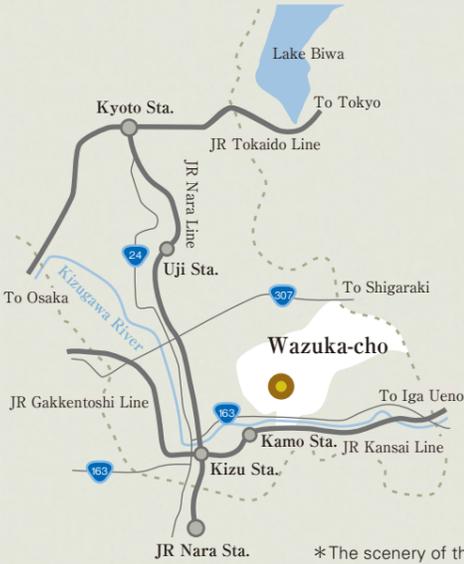
A massive granite rock in a beautiful ravine called Kamakura-dani. It is also called Hachijo-iwa, and its view is among 200 selected natural scenes of Kyoto.

11 Nagomi-no-ko (なごみの湖)

An artificial lake in the Yubune Forest Park, which was made by blocking a feeder stream to the Wazuka River. You can enjoy sportfishing here.

12 Yubune Forest Park (湯船森林公園)

It has a hexagonal gazebo, nature trails, and more. Barbecuing is popular in summer and mountain bikers flock here throughout the year.



*The scenery of the four areas on the below was acknowledged as the first of the Kyoto Scenic Asset.

Wazuka-cho town, which is located at the southern edge of Kyoto Prefecture, about midway between Heijo-kyo ruins in Nara and Byodo-in temple in Uji, is the main production area of Uji-cha tea. Well-organized tea plantations stretch out on the green hillsides surrounding the town.

Wazuka-cha, tea produced in Wazuka-cho, is famous for its sencha-tea shining greenish golden yellow. Its savory flavor is the gift of the morning mist due to large temperature difference, arising from the Wazuka River running through the town from east to west.

As the landscape in Wazuka-cho has been made over many years by tea-production and their scenic view is incomparably beautiful, it was designated and registered as the first of the Scenic Property of Kyoto Prefecture. It was also selected as the Cultural Scenery of Kyoto by Kyoto Prefectural Government.

Wazuka-cha Cafe

A cafe & shop located in "Chagenkyo" Wazuka, the main production area of Uji Tea. You can enjoy both Wazuka Tea sold directly from local farmers and the sweets made with Wazuka Tea.

Business hours : 10 a.m.—5 p.m.
Telephone number : 0774-78-4180

Access to Wazuka-cho

By public transportation

From JR Kamo station, Take Nara Kotsu bus bound for Wazuka Kosugi and get off at "Wazuka Yamano-ie" (about 15 minutes)

By car

From Osaka, Nara or Kyoto, take Route 24, Route 163, then Prefectural Route 5 to Wazuka. From Otsu or Shigaraki, take Route 307 then Prefectural Route 5 to Wazuka

A Tea Plantations in Shirasu & Ishitera



In spring, Wazuka becomes increasingly warmer from the West to the East. This area is located in the West where tea picking starts at the end of April, and is called Hayaba (place of early harvest). Modern farm development has been accomplished here, creating the illusion that these tea plantations reach to the sky.

B Tea Plantations in Erihara



As the tea plantations in Wazuka-cho stretch out on steep hills, you cannot imagine how large they are by just looking up from the riverside. In this area, the ridges of tea bushes cover every slope of the hills and make patchwork-like elaborately-wrought patterns.

C Tea Plantations in Kamatsuka



All the tea plantations on Mt. Kamatsuka-yama were cultivated by our ancestors with hand spades. The pleasant scenery where the residence of the farmers and their tea plantations lie side by side is that typical landscape made by tea production which Wazuka-cho is proud of.

D Tea Plantations in Harayama



It is said that, in Wazuka-cho, the first tea trees were planted at Harayama in the 12th century, in Kamakura era. As the tea bushes in Wazuka-cho are trimmed and taken care of many times throughout the year, much more frequently than in any other tea production areas, the tea plantations in Wazuka-cho present very artistic views.

