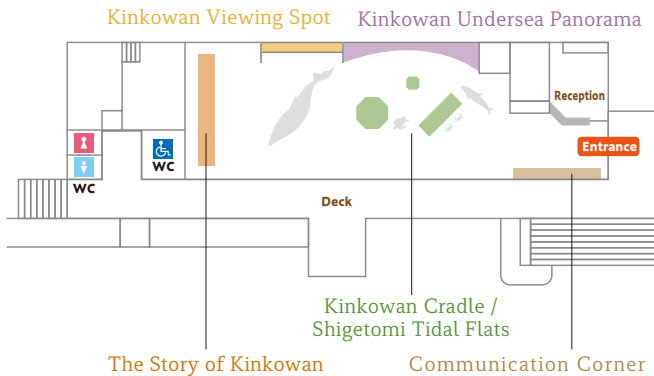


Welcome to the Shigetomi Beach Nature House Nagisa Museum!

The Nagisa Museum is located on Shigetomi Beach, overlooking Kinkowan Bay and Sakurajima Island, and is a facility for interacting with the nature of Kinkowan Bay. It introduces the creatures and natural characteristics of Kinkowan and the Shigetomi Tidal Flat.



Let's Play at Shigetomi Beach ♪

Many creatures live on the Shigetomi beach and tidal flats where the Nagisa Museum is located, and you can observe these various creatures at low tide. You can also enjoy swimming in the sea during summer vacation.



Free Wi-Fi is available



SSID:National_Park_Wi-Fi
You will need to register your email address, or, log in via SNS.

Information

Shigetomi Beach Nature House Nagisa Museum

〒899-5652 7675 Hiramatsu, Aira City, Kagoshima Prefecture

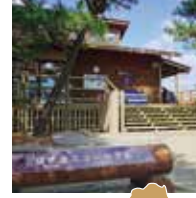
Opening Hours
9:00~17:00
summer 9:00~18:00

Free Admission

Closing day
Tuesdays (the next day if Tuesday is a holiday)
Year-End Holidays
※Open every day during summer vacation

Inquiries
0995-73-3146

<https://www.nagisa-museum.com/en/>

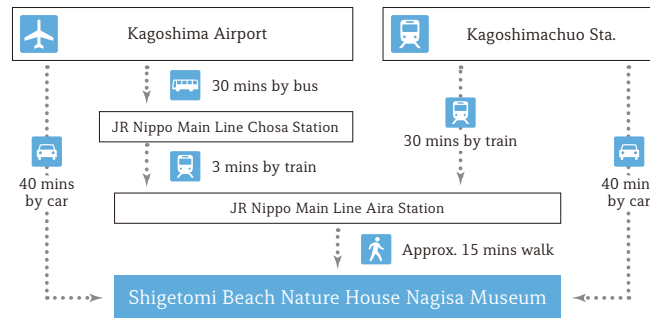


Access



Parking Lot Information

- Higata Parking Lot (open every day from 9:00 to 18:00 / until 19:00 in summer)
 - Ikoi Parking Lot (only open during crowded times)
 - Nagisa Parking Lot (open every day from 9:00 to 18:00 / until 19:00 in summer)
- ※Please use the Nagisa Parking Lot if you are coming via a large bus.



Access from Expressway IC

- Access from the direction of Miyazaki / Kumamoto: Approx. 20 min. by car from the Kajiki Interchange
- Access from the direction of Kagoshima City: Approx. 15 min. by car from the Aira Interchange



Kirishima-Kinkowan National Park



Shigetomi Beach Nature House Nagisa Museum

Kinkowan





A Sea of Calderas, Created by Volcanos Kinkowan



©Akira Omura

Shigetomi Beach

There are more than just water sports on offer along this 600-meter expanse of sandy beach, which is also the largest tidal flat in the bay. An abundance of small sea life makes it a popular destination for finding clams, crabs, and other sea creatures. There are excellent views of Sakurajima all year long. The pine forest provides welcome shade in the summer.



Shirakanezaka

Designated a historic national road, this ancient cobbled roadway traverses the hills between Wakimoto in Aira City and Muregaoka in Kagoshima City. Deviating from the main route takes you to an observation deck where you can enjoy sweeping views of Sakurajima and Kinkowan Bay, as well as the 20-meter-high Nunobiki Waterfall.



Terayama

Located 400 meters above sea level, the Terayama observatory offers stunning views of the area's sights. With the panorama of Sakurajima in front of you, the Kirishima Mountain Range to the north and the waters of Kinkowan Bay below, it is a destination not to be missed.

Shigetomi Beach Nature House
Nagisa Museum



Origin of Aira Caldera

Approximately 29,000 years ago, a massive volcanic eruption occurred in what is now Kagoshima, ejecting a huge amount of volcanic material into the air. The volcano's walls collapsed into the emptied inner chamber, and the vast Aira Caldera, 22 kilometers across and 200 meters deep, was formed. Sea water then flowed into this volcanic crater caldera, creating Kinkowan Bay—the local name for Kagoshima Bay.



Kamitsukuri Islands

The Kamitsukuri Islands is the collective term for three small islands in Kinkowan Bay: Hetakojima, Bentenjima, and Okikojima. The islands are made of rhyolite, a volcanic rock, which has eroded over thousands of years, leaving them riddled with intriguing geological formations.



Wakamikobana

This coastal route appears to jut into Kinkowan Bay and is famous for its ties to the legendary Yamato Takeru, a prince charged with subduing the Kumaso, an ancient people of southern Kyushu. A small shrine stands where Yamato is said to have embarked on his journey.



©JAMSTEC

Tagiri

In the northeast corner of Kinkowan Bay, another smaller caldera called Wakamiko was created by a separate eruption some 29,000 years ago. Deep in this underwater caldera, gas escaping from the submarine volcano beneath makes the water appear to boil. This phenomenon is caused by volcanic fume activity on the seafloor, and is known locally as tagiri from the Japanese word tagiru meaning "to boil."



Mt. Takatoge

For 360-degree views of Sakurajima, Kinkowan Bay and surrounding sights, visit Mt. Takatoge and its 722-meter-high observation platform. From the coast the mountain can be seen to the northeast of Taramizumi City. Every spring it erupts in color thanks to the thousands of wild azaleas on its slopes.



Kanze (God's Shoal)

A white lighthouse looks out over the bay towards Kanze, a shoal between Sakurajima and Kagoshima City. At low tide, the sandy beach expands, and in the surrounding waters there are coral reefs, seaweed beds and abundant fish.

Wildlife

The unique topography of the Aira Caldera and the extraordinary ecosystem it fosters is home to a wide assortment of animal life. Crustaceans, mollusks, and various birds including the endangered black-faced spoonbill can be found on Shigetomi Beach. In the bay, keep your eyes peeled for dolphins.



©Kagoshima City Aquarium

Indo-Pacific Bottlenose Dolphin (All Year)

Dolphins have settled in Kinkowan Bay and may be visible from the coast or from the road along Kinkowan Bay.



Western Osprey (All Year)

A kind of white-breasted hawks, these birds dive into the sea to catch fish.



Black-Faced Spoonbill (October to May)

An endangered bird with only approx. 4,463 birds remaining worldwide (surveyed in 2019), it features a spatula-like beak.



Common Kingfisher (All Year)

A bird with a beautiful, gem-like blue color, kingfishers can be seen around at the water's edge.



Whimbrel

(March to May, September to November)

A rare sandpiper that stops at the tidal flats in spring and autumn. Its call sounds like a resounding, whistling voice.



Mamekobushi Crab

(March to November)

A round crab often found in tidal flats, they can walk in any direction, backwards, forwards, left, and right.



Fiddler Crab (April to November)

In Japanese this crab is known as the *Hakushiomaneki*, or Dancing with a White Fan to Bring In the Tide.



Sentinel Crab (May to October)

This rare crab can only live on wide, sandy tidal flats, and is only encountered infrequently.



Straw Worm (All Year)

Part of their nest sticks up on the tidal flats like a straw, and they spend most of their time in their nest.



Sea Snail (All Year)

There are many snails on Shigetomi Beach, but their habitats are decreasing nationwide.