

# The History of NIKKOU ONARIMICHI

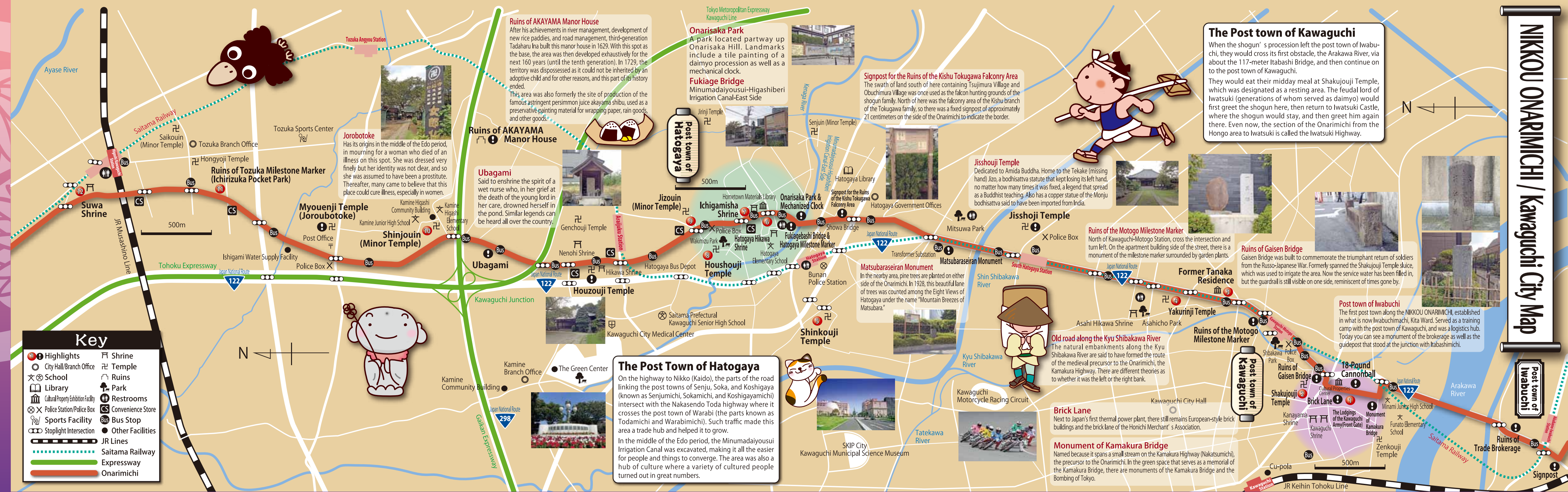
- 1400s** Established by Doukan Oota as a road linking Edo Castle and Iwatsuki Castle (the birth of the Iwatsuki Castle Highway).
- 1590** Masakatsu Abe receives a stipend of 5,000 koku for the land of Hatogaya from Ieyasu Tokugawa.
- 1600** Ieyasu leaves to conquer Aizu (Kagekatsu Uesugi).
- 1603** Ieyasu becomes commander-in-chief and shogun, and establishes the Edo Bakufu military government.
- 1616** Death of Shogun Ieyasu. Hatogaya comes under the direct rule of the Bakufu and is controlled by the magistrate of the Ina clan.
- 1617** Ieyasu (now deified with the name Toshogu Daigongen) is relocated from Kunouzuan to Nikkouzan, and Toshogu Shrine is established. Development of NIKKOU ONARIMICHI begins. April: Pilgrimage by Shogun Hidetada Tokugawa to Nikko, where Shogun Ieyasu is enshrined, via Nikkoumichi.
- 1622** April: Pilgrimage by Shogun Hidetada.
- 1625** July: Pilgrimage by Shogun Iemitsu.
- 1628** April: Pilgrimage by Ogoshō Hidetada.
- 1628** April: Pilgrimage by Shogun Iemitsu. An about 20-km square area centering around Edo is designated as a falconry area for use by the shogun family.
- 1629** April: Pilgrimage by Shogun Iemitsu.
- 1632** April: Pilgrimage by Shogun Iemitsu (worshiping from afar due to mourning).
- 1633** The outer part of the shogun family falconry area is given to the Tokugawa Gosanke (the noblest three branches of the family).
- 1634** September: Pilgrimage by Shogun Iemitsu.
- 1636** April: Pilgrimage by Shogun Iemitsu. The post town of Hatogaya is established and the army lodgings are built. Toshogu Shrine is rebuilt, and Nikko Toshogu Shrine is completed.
- 1640** April: Pilgrimage by Shogun Iemitsu via NIKKOU ONARIMICHI. From this point onward, pilgrimages would stop for a midday meal at Shakujoji Temple.
- 1642** April: Pilgrimage by Shogun Iemitsu.
- 1648** April: Pilgrimage by Shogun Iemitsu.
- 1649** April: Pilgrimage by Chief Councillor of State, Ietsuna Tokugawa.
- 1652-1654** Gonnojo Yoshida, founder of Angyo Gardens, begins cultivation of garden plants and saplings.
- 1657** After the city's burning in the Great Fire of Meireki, garden plants and flowering plants are brought to Edo and spread.
- 1663** April: Pilgrimage by Shogun Ietsuna Tokugawa.
- 1716-1735** The Minuma Rice Paddies are built by Yasobei Izawa. The Minumadaiyousui Irrigation Canal is excavated, allowing maintenance to be performed by water or land transport.
- 1728** April: Pilgrimage by Shogun Yoshimune Tokugawa.
- 1775** Survey of the roadside conducted along with pilgrimage.
- 1776** April: Pilgrimage by Shogun Ieharu Tokugawa.
- 1843** April: Pilgrimage by Shogun Ieyoshi Tokugawa.
- 1867** Shogun Yoshinobu Tokugawa reports to the throne about the return of power to the Emperor.
- 1868** Meiji government established.
- 1928** New Arakawa Ohashi Bridge completed.
- 1960** Onarimichi becomes Japan National Route 122 within the current city limits of Kawaguchi City.

● Pilgrimage via Onarimichi.  
○ Pilgrimage via other route.  
※ Months are given according to the old calendar.


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The related video is this 

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**11 Ichirizuka Pocket Park** =Address: Tozuka 4-20



**The sixth milestone marker from Edo**  
Called Ichirizuka (Milestone Marker) Pocket Park as there was once a milestone marker at the corner of the intersection where it is located. It was the NIKKOU ONARIMICHI's sixth milestone. In one corner, you can find an inconspicuous statue of Batou (horse-headed) Kannon.

**12 Suwa Shrine** =Address: Higashi Kawaguchi 1-10



**A resting stop on a plateau of green**  
A shrine located behind the Ippongi Community Building. Formerly part of the Enjuin Temple, it was designated as a resting spot during shogun pilgrimages, despite being only a short distance from the neighboring post town of Daimon. Therefore it is surmised that it must have had good views at the time, as it is located on a green plateau.

**9 Jizouin (Minor Temple)** =Address: Sakuracho 5-5-39



**Cultural properties dating to the Kamakura period**  
Dedicated to the Jizo bodhisattva. Also houses a wooden statue of the immovable deity Fudou Myo-o (registered as a tangible cultural property of Saitama Prefecture) that was carved in the middle of the Kamakura period. The temple grounds also contain an enormous laurel tree (machihi) thought to be 600 years old, as well as the grave of Sanshi Kodani, founder of the Fujidou teachings of Buddhism. There is also a Jizo of greenery enshrined here, on the right-hand side once you go through the gate, as well as a guidepost to the side of the entrance.

**10 Shinjouin (Minor Temple)** =Address: Ishigami 1253



**An 800-year-old Japanese umbrella pine**  
A temple for the immovable deity Fudo Myo-o. The Japanese umbrella pine tree in front of the main temple building, designated as a natural monument of Kawaguchi City, is thought to be 800 years old. In the Enmadou Hall are installed images of Enma (the god of death) and the old woman Datsueba (a figure of the Buddhist underworld). During his pilgrimage in 1728, Shogun Yoshimune took a short rest at this temple.

**7 Ichigamisha Shrine** =Address: Hatogaya Hommachi 2-2-2



**Shrine deifying Enshrined images of the city**  
Located around the middle of the post town of Hatogaya, the enshrined images face out onto Onarimichi. During the reign of eighth-generation Shogun Yoshimune Tokugawa, the Minumadai Waterway was excavated and water transport flourished, as did circulation of resources, leading to the opening of a market. Ultimately, the third and eighth of the month became market days, and it came to be called San-Pachi (Three-Eight) Market.

**8 Houshouji Temple** =Address: Sakuracho 1-11-51




**Furusato no Mori Forest, beloved by locals**  
A Tendai sect Buddhist temple built by Doukan Oota. Said to have been founded in 1498 by the monk Kasumiryu, to save the people of Hatogaya from suffering. Dedicated to Shakyamuni, the historical Buddha. The temple gate was built toward the end of the Ashikaga period, and the garden is famous for its quiet stillness and abundance of springs. The entirety of the premises is designated by Saitama Prefecture as Furusato no Mori Forest.

**5 Shinkouji Temple** =Address: Sato 1306



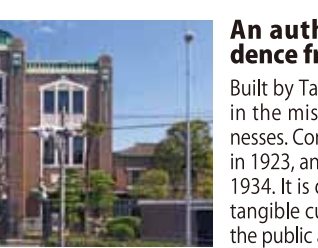
**Remaining troop lodging for the Hatogaya army**  
Dedicated to Shakyamuni, the historical Buddha. The main temple building once served as lodging for the Hatogaya army. It was originally built in the early Showa period, and was transferred here from the Funatozuka residence. There are several parts to be repaired, however, it is valuable as the construction in the Edo period.

**6 Hatogaya Hikawa Shrine** =Address: Hatogaya Hommachi 1-6-2



**Shogun Ieyasu rested in the premises**  
Thought to have been built in 1394, the first year of the Oei period. A historical shrine where Shogun Ieyasu Tokugawa stopped and rested on his march for Oshu in 1600. It has valuable statues of lion dogs with their offspring. Many gods are enshrined here, as well as the spirits of those who died at war.

**3 Former Tanaka Residence** =Address: Suehiro 1-7-2



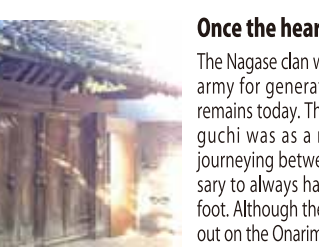
**An authentic Western-style residence from the Taisho period**  
Built by Tanaka Tokubei, who made his fortune in the miso manufacturing and lumber businesses. Comprises a Western-style building, built in 1923, and a Japanese-style building, added in 1934. It is designated as a nationally registered tangible cultural asset, and is currently open to the public and used as a municipal facility.

**4 Yakurinji Temple** =Address: Asahi 1-4-33




**Feel the passage of history at this temple established in 1460**  
Dedicated to Amida Buddha, and established in 1460 (the first year of the Kansho period). The Koushin statue near the temple gate draws so many believers that the crowds stand cheek to cheek. The temple contains a Kannon hall, where an image of an eleven-headed Kannon is installed.

**1 The Lodgings of the Kawaguchi Army (Front Gate)** =Address: Hommachi 1-6



**Once the heart of the city, now hidden away**  
The Nagase clan worked in the lodgings of the Kawaguchi army for generations, and the gate to this house still remains today. The main work of the post town of Kawaguchi was as a relay station for people and horses journeying between Edo and Hatogaya, so it was necessary to always have laborers both on horseback and on foot. Although the building is now hidden away, it looked out on the Onarimichi at the time.

**2 Shakujoji Temple** =Address: Hommachi 2-4-37



**A rest station during the Tokugawa Shogunate's pilgrimages to Nikko**  
Designated as a rest station when the Tokugawa Shogunate would make pilgrimages to Nikko. Starting with the second-generation shogun, Hidetada Tokugawa, there are records of every shogun having their midday meal here. The temple received permission to use the Tokugawa family crest, and you can see the wild ginger flower trefoil all over, including on roof tiles. It is also the location of the grave of Takiyama, the first among the members of the last inner palace who spent the late years of her life in Kawaguchi, and of her aunt, Somejima.

NIKKOU ONARIMICHI / Kawaguchi City Map

Check out the major highlights!

Post town of Kawaguchi

Post town of Hatogaya

Post town of Iwabuchi

**NIKKOU ONARIMICHI**

**SIGHTSEEING**

**ROUTE MAP**

Human progress, a living city: Onarimichi

Enjoy your walk through history!