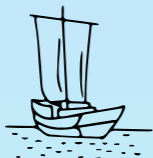


An unusual space spun by the dreams of men who crossed the rough seas

What is Kitamaebune?



An economic artery that connected Osaka and Hokkaido

The kitamaebune (northern-bound ship) was a trading ship that traveled back and forth on the Sea of Japan from the middle of the Edo period to the 1890s. These ships made round trips between Osaka and Hokkaido, buying cheap goods at ports of call and selling them in places where they could be sold at high prices. Various things, including rice, salt produced in the Seto Inland Sea, and bladed tools, passed into people's hands. Things that could only be obtained in limited areas enriched people's lives by playing a major role as a "moving general trading company." The kitamaebune carried not only foodstuffs but also culture. By transporting kombu from Hokkaido to western Japan, they created the foundation of Japanese cuisine, and

sailors brought the songs they learned in various regions to other areas, where they took root and developed into unique folk songs. "An Unusual Space Spun by the Dreams of Men Who Crossed the Rough Seas — Kitamaebune Ports of Call and Shipowner Villages" was certified as a Japan Heritage by the Agency for Cultural Affairs in April 2017. Izumisano City was additionally certified in 2020. The Japan Heritage comprises 52 cities and towns. Since Izumisano City still retains Sano Machiba (formerly Sanoura), a village that produced shipowners and captains, you can learn about the history and traces of the prosperity of the wealthy merchant families, Meshino and Karakane, by visiting Machiba.



Let's collect digital stamps by visiting spots in Izumisano City related to Kitamaebune!



1 Myojo-ji Temple Bell

A bell donated to Kasuga Shrine by the wealthy merchant Karakane family in 1682 to pray for maritime safety. It was moved to Myojo-ji Temple during the separation of Shintoism and Buddhism in the Meiji era, escaped being surrendered during World War II, and remains to this day.



2 Kasuga Shrine Lanterns

The Soja Shrine of Sano Machiba. Estimated to have been founded in the Hoki era (770-781). Lanterns and guardian dogs (called "komainu") donated by Kitamaebune shipowners and merchants to pray for maritime safety remain. Near the entrance, there are stone lanterns donated by the Meshino and Karakane families.



3 Townscape of former Sanoura (Warehouse of the former Kakuno Heizo family)

The warehouse of the former Kakuno Heizo family is one of the rice warehouses of the Kakuno Heizo family, who made a fortune in the shipping industry during the Edo period. It is a large-scale building with Kirizuma-zukuri (a gable roof) and hongawarabuki (traditional Japanese tiled roofing), and was renovated in the early Showa period. It is a Registered Tangible Cultural Property.



4 Nakase Yoseba and Chikaraishi (Power Stones)

A yoseba was where stevedores, who worked for loading and unloading cargo, stayed overnight, rested, and waited for ships. Power stones (called "chikaraishi") are stones that stevedores lifted and used to compete in strength while waiting for ships.



5 Iroha Kura-dori (Iroha Warehouse Street)

A group of warehouses owned by kaisen-donya (shipping merchants) and wealthy merchant families such as the Meshino and Karakane families during the Edo period. In the past, they stood in a row along the entire coastline, boasting a majestic appearance. Even today, several warehouses still exist.



6 Dedicated Lanterns and Komainu (Guardian Dogs)

Located along the old coastline, this site enshrines the god of the sea. Locally, it is called Ryujin-san. Even today, futon-daiko portable shrines enter the site, and the chief priest of Kasuga Shrine performs purification rituals.



7 Generational Tombs of the Meshino and Karakane Families (Node Cemetery)

A communal cemetery for the entire Sano Machiba. Even now, the burial plots of the wealthy merchant families Meshino and Karakane are neatly divided. The Roku-jizo (six statues of Ksitigarbha bodhisattva) and Roku-Kannon (six statues of Avalokitesvara Kannon), standing opposite each other at the cemetery entrance, were erected in 1695 and are designated Tangible Cultural Properties of Izumisano City.



8 Concrete block wall of Sano Junior High School Kitamaebune Ports of Call and Shipowner Villages Picture Scroll

The constituent cultural properties of 52 cities and towns nationwide that are part of the Japan Heritage Kitamaebune are depicted in picture scroll format, totaling approximately 170 meters in length, tracing the Kitamaebune route from Izumisano City (Osaka) to Hokkaido.



9 Monument of the Meshino Residence Site (Site of the Meshino Family Mansion)

The site of the main residence of the wealthy merchant Meshino family, who made a fortune through the Kitamaebune. The site is currently an elementary school. Initially, the building was used as an elementary school. Traces of the mansion site, old pictorial maps, well frames, pine trees, etc., remain.



10 The Never-Opened Gate (Saiho-ji Temple)

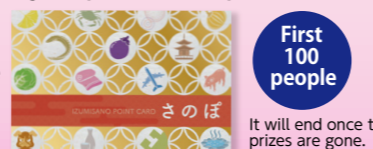
A Jodo Shinshu family temple said to have been established by the wealthy merchant Meshino family. The roof tiles bear the Kikusui (chrysanthemum on water) crest, thought to be related to the Kusunoki clan. The West Drum Tower Gate was a private entrance for the Meshino family for worship.



11 Townscape of former Sanoura

The Former Niigawa Family Residence is a machiya (townhouse) with an irimoya (hip-and-gable roof) and hongawarabuki (traditional Japanese tiled roofing), built in the middle of the Edo period by the second-generation Niigawa Kinai to run a soy sauce business. It features a shikorobuki roof, where the tiles are laid with a step in the middle. It is a Designated Cultural Property of Izumisano City.

Those who collect all the stamps will receive 500 points on the Izumisano regional point card, Sanopo!!



First 100 people

It will end once the prizes are gone.

Precautions for participation in the digital stamp rally (Read before participating)

! Please do not use your smartphone while walking.

It may lead to accidents involving people around you. Please do not use your smartphone while walking.

! Using a smartphone while driving a car, motorcycle, or bicycle is a traffic violation.

Holding and using a smartphone while driving is subject to penalties. It is dangerous, so never do it.

! Be considerate of your surroundings when taking photos in the city.

When taking photos in the city, such as for SNS use, be careful not to include unspecified people in the shot.

! Do not enter schools or private property without permission.

Entering premises without permission constitutes trespassing. Do not touch items on the premises without permission.

北前船

泉佐野市 船主集落周遊 デジタルスタンプラリー

April 1, 2026 - March 31, 2027

Collect stamps using your smartphone by visiting historical spots in Izumisano City related to Kitamaebune!

Collect all the stamps and get a prize!



How to participate Make sure you have the AR app "Aruzou-kun" installed before starting.

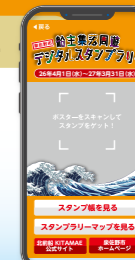
1 Prepare the app



First, download the app!



Start the app and scan this QR code.



The top page of the Izumisano City Shipowner Village Excursion Digital Stamp Rally will launch.

2 Start the digital stamp rally

Open the top page of the Izumisano City Shipowner Village Excursion Digital Stamp Rally.



Scan the posters at historical spots using the top page screen.



Get a stamp!

Get a stamp!

At the same time, you can view explanations of the historical spots.



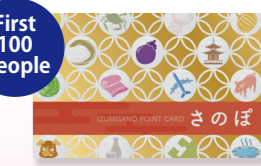
Stamps will accumulate in the stamp book.

A total of 11!



Those who collect all the stamps will receive 500 points on the Izumisano regional point card, Sanopo!!

First 100 people



It will end once the prizes are gone.

After finishing, you can start again from the beginning.

*When using the app for a long time, the operation may become unstable. Close the app or restart your smartphone. *It may not be viewable on some smartphones and tablets. *The viewing period for AR content may be terminated without notice. *Note that if you change your smartphone model or delete the app Aruzou-kun during the digital stamp rally, the collected stamps will be reset.



Cultural Property Division, Izumisano City
TEL:072-447-6766
4-5 Motomachi, Izumisano City, Osaka Prefecture 598-0056

Kitamaebune KITAMAE Official Website
https://www.kitamae-bune.com/
Izumisano City Website
https://www.city.izumisano.lg.jp/



船主集落周遊 デジタルスタンプラリー

Sano Machiba was a shipowner village belonging to the wealthy merchant families of Meshino and Karakane.

Let's collect stamps using the map as a hint.

Even in the familiar townscape you see every day,

You might make discoveries you didn't expect!

Let's walk through historical spots

while observing your surroundings!

8 Rinku Premium Outlets

8 Izumisano City Sano Junior High School

Concrete block wall of Sano Junior High School
Kitamaebune Ports of Call and Shipowner Villages Picture Scroll

Proceed along this route to spot 8

For those who collect all the stamps

Those who collect all the stamps will receive 500 points on the Izumisano regional point card, Sanopo!!

First 100 people
It will end once the prizes are gone.

Prize redemption location

Weekdays (8:45 AM-5:15 PM)
Cultural Property Division, Izumisano City (Former Asahi-ju)
4-5 Motomachi, Izumisano City, Osaka Prefecture

Weekends and Holidays (9:00 AM-4:00 PM)
11 Townscape of former Sanoura: Izumisano Furusato Machiya-kan
5-29 Honmachi, Izumisano City

Regarding the awarding of Sanopo points, fill out the application form. Points will be added to your Sanopo card in the following month.

Model Course

- 1 Myojo-ji Temple Bell
- 2 Kasuga Shrine Lanterns
- 3 Townscape of former Sanoura (Warehouse of the former Kakuno Heizo family)
- 4 Nakase Yoseba and Chikaraishi (Power Stones)
- 5 Iroha Kura-dori (Iroha Warehouse Street)
- 6 Dedicated Lanterns and Komainu (Guardian Dogs)
- 7 Generational Tombs of the Meshino and Karakane Families (Node Cemetery)
- 8 Concrete block wall of Sano Junior High School Kitamaebune Ports of Call and Shipowner Villages Picture Scroll
- 9 Monument of the Meshino Residence Site (Site of the Meshino Family Mansion)
- 10 The Never-Opened Gate
- 11 Townscape of former Sanoura Izumisano Furusato Machiya-kan (Former Niigawa Family Residence)



Scan the posters at historical spots with your smartphone!

GOAL START

Nankai Izumisano Station

63 Nankai Main Line

Mukashin Main Store

SHARE BASE Tsumugiya

Okonomiyaki Bumpuku

Former Wakamiya Shrine

Izumisano-Iwade Line

Former Sogoban Shrine

Daishogunyu Public Bath

Former Imamura Shrine

Monument of the Meshino Residence Site

Hoyaku-ji Temple

Generational Tombs of the Meshino and Karakane Families

Concrete block wall of Sano Junior High School Kitamaebune Ports of Call and Shipowner Villages Picture Scroll

Monument of the Meshino Residence Site (Site of the Meshino Family Mansion)

Monument of the Meshino Residence Site

Former Imamura Shrine

Former Hoyaku-ji Temple

Former Residence of the Nishi-shoya Fujita Family

Sakesho Negoro

Former Hamade Shrine

Former Shinkawa Family Residence

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