

1. Iwakuni Kintaikyo-Bridge

A national site of scenic beauty, the Kintaikyo Bridge is one of the most famous wooden bridges in Japan.

In 1673, the lord of Iwakuni Domain, Hiroyoshi Kikkawa built a wooden bridge, which was to serve as the prototype for the bridge that exists today.

The bridge has a surface length of 210 m and a total length of 193.3 m. It is 5 m wide and the piers are 6.6 m tall.

It was constructed using a timberwork technique that employs metal belts and nails.

The unique, sophisticated construction method of the bridge arches is said to be impeccable, even from the perspective of modern bridge engineering.

The continuous five-span structure (with three central arch spans) of the Kintaikyo Bridge, is a structure which is rarely seen in the world, as it is the result of independently developed bridging technology. This structure is the evidence of our predecessors' determination to build a bridge that could not be washed away. Even in today's world, this technique is highly revered.



2. Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum Guided Tour

Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum designed by Mr. Kenzo Tange, opened in 1955, aiming to convey the reality of the damage incurred by an atomic bomb to people around the world, and to contribute to the abolition of nuclear weapons and the realization of everlasting world peace.

At 8:15 a.m. on August 6, 1945, Hiroshima became the world's first city destroyed by an atomic bomb. The bomb destroyed most of the city and claimed many lives. Some victims, who barely survived, also terribly suffered both mentally and physically, and many of these survivors are still suffering.

The Peace Memorial Museum has collected and exhibited victims' mementos and photos as well as materials that show the devastating damage caused by the A-bombing. It introduces the history of Hiroshima before and after the bombing and the situation of the nuclear age.



3. Hiroshima Local Students Exchange Program

Let us introduce you to a hospitality program organized by the City of Hiroshima in cooperation with municipal elementary schools.

This program is intended for participants and their accompanying persons of an international conference. Hiroshima school children and locals offer them an o-mo-te-na-shi (hospitality) and international exchange opportunity that is unique to Hiroshima.

This program consists of 2 main activities.

1 Sharing thoughts on peace

(Visit buildings that survived the A-bomb and see various related materials on display)

Hiroshima children will give you a tour of their school that survived the A-bomb and share with you their important message of peace.



2 Experiencing Japanese culture

(ORIGAMI: art of folding paper, KENDAMA: wooden ball game, OTEDAMA: beanbag game)

Participants can play and interact with Hiroshima school children and experience firsthand traditional Japanese children's games and culture.



We have been receiving positive feedback from past participants saying they were impressed with the warm hospitality extended to them. This peace exchange activity is completely free of charge.

Spending time with Hiroshima children will certainly help you realize how Hiroshima spreads peace to the world. The key to peace may be children's smiling faces!



4. Sake Breweries in Saijo

Saijo, located in the center of Higashihiroshima City, is located at a high place and has a suitable climate and groundwater for the preparation of making sake in winter, and has become the major places for brewing sake, called "the Capital city of Sake, Saijyo" at the beginning of Taisho and Showa. And at the beginning of Showa, a rice-milling machine, which is indispensable for *ginjo*-shu (sake made from highly polished rice using special technique), was developed here. Furthermore, high-quality sake rice is produced on the plateau in the northern part of the city. It is an ideal environment for making high-quality sake rice, such as the differences of temperature between day and night in the summertime and water of good quality.

Many sake breweries are densely packed on the east side of Saijo Station have retro western-style buildings in front of them and a red brick chimney as a signboard. Let's take a walk through a variety of town streets with the beautiful color contrast on the walls of buildings covered in mud between the white plaster and black square tiles jointed with raised plaster and townhouse-buildings surrounded with a thousand-boned bars on their walls.

