



San'in Kaigan UNESCO Global Geopark Map



Travel to a UNESCO Global Geopark in Kinosaki Onsen!
Experience the San'in Kaigan UNESCO Global Geopark at these hidden gems in
Kinosaki Onsen and Toyooka City:

[Kinosaki Onsen - Hachigoro Toshima Wetlands](#)

This wetland is a 30-minute walk from central Kinosaki Onsen or 15 minutes by rental bicycle. Not only is the Hachigoro Toshima Wetlands part of the San'in Kaigan UNESCO Global Geopark, but this natural treasure was also designated as a wetland of international importance by the Ramsar Convention for its biodiversity. Observe the storks in their natural habitat, coexisting peacefully amongst humans and fellow organisms that call these wetlands home.



[Takeno Beach - Nekozaiki Peninsula](#)



From front to back: Takeno Beach and
Nekozaiki Peninsula

Takeno Beach is a peaceful sandbar located one train stop from Kinosaki Onsen Station. This majestic peninsula was formed gradually during the creation of the Sea of Japan, and the slow passage of time is evident if visitors trek across the rugged coastline just to the left of the peninsula's entrance. Fossilized footprints of deer and elephants from the Asian continent, potholes, and a petrified tree are easy to spot during a walk across the rocky seaside.

Kannabe Highlands - Mount Kannabe

Mount Kannabe is one of the area's many inactive volcanoes, last erupting 20,000-10,000 years ago. Stroll up to the top via a gently winding path around the mountain. Enjoy a panoramic view of the town below along the 750-meter walk around Mount Kannabe's crater. The mighty eruptions of the past now provide a natural bounty unique to the region—hardened magma flows and dramatic hilly landscapes provide stunning scenery all around.



Kirihama Beach - Hasakari Rock



Kirihama beach is located near Takeno Station, 10 minutes away from Kinosaki Onsen Station. Along with kayaking and paddling tours of the coast, Kirihama Beach is home to Hasakari Rock, a natural wonder steeped in local legend and geology. An impressive natural formation with a diameter of 3~4 meters, Hasakari Rock remains wedged in between two stone slabs above the ocean waves. Local dialects use the word "hasakari" to describe something "stuck."

Coastal Kinosaki - Dragon Palace

Just a quick bicycle ride from central Kinosaki Onsen lies the dramatic, tranquil coastline of Hiyoriyama, also known as Coastal Kinosaki. Coastal Kinosaki's curious geological traits were formed during the birth of the Sea of Japan, when what is now the Japanese Archipelago began its migration away from the Asian continent. One especially interesting remnant of this ancient move is Nochigashima Island, home to the Dragon Palace. It has been said that the island resembles the Dragon Palace from the Japanese folktale Urashima Tarō.



Visit Kinosaki
Onsen town 2.5 hours from Kyoto



[Kinosaki Onsen](#) is a town of time-honored tradition dating back 1300 years ago. It is home to seven tattoo-friendly public hot springs, all within walking distance. Guests wear yukata and geta, stroll through the town, and enjoy onsen-hopping.

[Toyooka](#) is home to the Oriental White Stork, a national natural treasure that was revived from extinction in this very city. Toyooka's efforts restored the Oriental White Stork population, and now over 400 fly the skies of Japan. Toyooka is also known as one of Japan's largest producers of handbags.



[Izushi](#) is a residential castle town, popular for its nostalgic atmosphere of samurai-era Japan. It is home to many interesting attractions such as castle ruins, a samurai house, a kabuki theater, and a Japanese-style clock tower. The town's specialty is Izushi Sara Soba, buckwheat noodles served in small portions on five plates.

[Kannabe](#) is a mountainous area with outdoor activities year-round and a perfect destination for adventure travelers. In the winter, visitors go skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing, and sledding, and during the green season, hiking, paragliding, fishing, and tree climbing are popular pastimes.



[Takeno](#) is a quaint fishing and beach town with landscapes part of the UNESCO San'in Kaigan Geopark. Takeno beach has clear, blue waters while the surrounding mountains offer great hiking opportunities. Visitors stroll through the peaceful town, discovering small shops and traditional cedar wood homes.

[Tanto](#) is a quiet countryside town with magnificent nature including hot springs, a giant field of tulips in the spring, brilliant red-leaved trees in the fall, and waterfall meditation.

