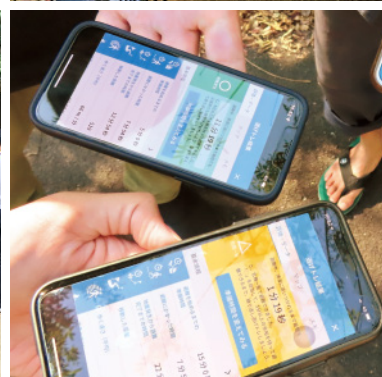




Information on Disaster Prevention Tourism in Kuroshio Town, Kochi Prefecture

Thinking about How People and Nature Interact and Work Together.

Kuroshio Town , Kochi



Learn about the duality of nature's bounty and disasters, and learn how people and nature interact.

Kuroshio Town, which faces the Pacific Ocean, is surrounded by riches of nature brought about by the Kuroshio Current. Marine life such as whales, dolphins, and loggerhead sea turtles live nearby and a rich culture was nurtured along with the bounty of the sea, such as "Ipponzuri" single line bonito fishing industry and natural sun-dried salts. It is also a popular spot for nature experiences such as whale watching, surfing, sea kayaking, beachcombing, and fishing.

On the other hand, Kuroshio Town is expected to experience the largest tsunami in Japan with a height of 34 meters caused by the Nankai Trough mega-earthquake. Aiming for "zero evacuation abandoners and zero victims", all town hall staff are scattered throughout the town as person in charge of disaster prevention areas, and the public and private sectors are working together in holding disaster prevention workshops repeatedly. As a result, evacuation routes and tsunami evacuation towers were constructed based on evacuation charts created for all townspeople affected in the inundated flooding area. Currently, various disaster prevention initiatives including evacuation drills are being developed.

Recently, large scale disasters such as earthquakes, typhoons, landslides, volcano eruptions, floods, and forest fires have occurred not only in Japan but around the world. Maybe nowhere is safe now. However, under such circumstances, what is important is to acquire the ability to think and take action to "protect our own lives by ourselves".

Disaster Prevention Tourism in Kuroshio Town offers a program to understand the duality of nature's bounty and disasters, and learn the culture and wisdom needed to effectively interact with nature. Learn about the thoughts and initiatives of the townspeople with a high awareness of disaster prevention aim to achieve "zero victims", conduct not only evacuation drills but inspect equipment that are indispensable on a daily basis and by exchanging opinions on unanswered problems of every possible situation, flexible thinking is developed that will increase chance of survival.



Disaster Prevention Learning Program

To understand the duality of nature's bounty and disaster, and learn the importance of "protecting our own lives by ourselves".

Kuroshio Town is expected to experience highest waves of Japan's largest tsunami. The ocean which is so closely related to our daily life, provides great bounty but at times, it may cause great disaster. By understanding the two faces of nature, its bounty and disaster, and recognizing that we are part of nature, this program will help realize the importance of "protecting our own lives by ourselves".



Program Flow

《Classroom Lecture》

This program will introduce the mechanism of the Nankai Trough mega-earthquake and Kuroshio Town's Disaster Prevention Initiatives and local resident's efforts in disaster prevention activities implemented immediately after the assumption of Japan's largest tsunami was announced to the present.

《Workshop》

Practice and train how to think and make decision for oneself based on examples of various situation that may occur in the event of a disaster. Furthermore, develop flexible decision-making skills by discussing and sharing opinions expressed within the group sessions.

《Fieldwork》

Visit stone monuments related to past tsunamis and learn about the thoughts and feelings of past tsunami victims; and visualize what the situation was like during tsunami evacuation by actually climbing the tsunami evacuation tower.

Disaster Resistant Canned Food Program and Creative Cooking Program

Through disaster resistant canned food, think about the opportunity to return to normal everyday life from the extraordinary.

One of the problems during disasters is that the people with allergies do not have anything to eat at evacuation centers. To introduce the recommendation of "rolling stock" that can be consumed and stored without it being expired as the "disaster resistant canned food that you want to eat everyday = every day food", the history of how Kuroshio Town's disaster resistant canned food was created and produced until it is sold at major household merchandise stores, and ways in which even people with allergies can consume in times of a disaster. Additionally, learn about the importance of being prepared in daily life by tasting dishes made with disaster resistant canned foods and grasp the opportunity to regain daily life from the extraordinary in an event of an emergency through meals.



Program Flow

《Classroom Lecture》

Introduction and explanation of the Great East Japan Earthquake, the background of how Kuroshio-Cho Cannery was established after the prediction of Japan's largest tsunami of 34 meters in height was announced by the government in 2012, and the commitment to disaster resistant canned food.

《Disaster Resistant Canned Food Creative Cooking • Meals》

Enjoy dishes made with disaster resistant canned food that does not contain any of the 8 major allergens. There are 2 workshop formats to choose from Japanese or Western course meals provided by restaurant chef workshop or participants cooking together at a guest house using disaster resistant canned food workshop.

Community Disaster Prevention Experience Program

Learn from the daily efforts of the local disaster prevention organization, the “Kakarigamashi Association for Disaster Prevention” and apply to your own community.

In the Saga Area of Kuroshio Town, there is a local dialect called “Kakarigamashi”. The word means “caring for others more than necessary” or “meddlesome”. Based on the belief that “Kakarigamashi” connection is necessary in disaster prevention, the disaster prevention in which local residents help each other is described as the “Kakarigamashi Bousai (Disaster Prevention)”. This program will introduce the activities of local disaster prevention organization, “Kakarigamashi Association for Disaster Prevention” of Hamamachi district in Saga, Kuroshio Town and exchange opinions with members who are actually engaged in various daily disaster prevention activities, thereby, contributing to disaster prevention efforts to implement in your community. Additionally, visit the Saga Area Tsunami Evacuation Tower, which is known to be the tallest in Japan.



Program Flow

《Visit to the Saga Area Tsunami Evacuation Tower》

By climbing the Saga Area Tsunami Evacuation Tower, its structure and mechanism, the living quarters inside the tower, and the equipment prepared by local residents will be introduced.

《Introduction of Kakarigamashi Disaster Prevention's Initiatives and Exchange of Opinions》

By introducing the Kakarigamashi Disaster Prevention Association's various daily disaster prevention initiatives and activities, efforts in cooperation with local junior high schools, and their thoughts on the construction of the tsunami evacuation tower, the exchange of opinions will enable you to implement disaster prevention in your own community.

Visit to the Saga Area Tsunami Evacuation Tower

Learn from Japan's largest tsunami evacuation tower

Kuroshio Town where the largest tsunami is expected to reach a height of 34 meters is predicted, 6 tsunami evacuation towers have been constructed. Among the 2 tsunami evacuation towers that are allowed to be visited, the Saga Area Tsunami Evacuation Tower is the tallest in Japan featuring barrier-free design with both stairs and ramps. Learn through exchange of opinions with local residents who have high sense of awareness to the importance of disaster preparedness on a daily basis as they aim to achieve “zero victims” and engage not only in various disaster prevention initiatives but conduct evacuation drills as well as inspect and add new equipment.



Program Flow

《Tour of the Tower》

Introduction of the functions of Kuroshio Town's tsunami evacuation towers, the Saga Area Tsunami Evacuation Tower's living quarters, and equipment prepared by local residents. In addition, the method of disaster prevention that are rooted in daily life will be discussed using actual examples of the local voluntary disaster prevention organization which received the Kochi Prefecture Governor's Commendation for Voluntary Disaster Prevention Organization in 2017.

《“Escape Training” ※Tsunami Evacuation Drill using smartphone APP (optional)》

Practice how to evacuate from Shioya Beach in Saga Area to tsunami evacuation site, which route to take, how fast to evacuate, etc. using smartphone tsunami evacuation support application.

※“Escape Training” – Tsunami evacuation training support application (supervised by Yamori Laboratory, Kyoto University Disaster Prevention Research Institute)

Night Evacuation Drill Program Accommodation Plan

Prepare for major earthquake or tsunami that may occur at anytime, anywhere

You never know when or where an earthquake or tsunami may occur. Unlike evacuation during daytime, there are many things to be aware of when an earthquake occurs at night; such as the fact that paths taken usually by daylight are dark or unable to see into the far distance. By conducting evacuation drills in the night during your accommodation, this program will provide an opportunity to prepare for earthquakes and tsunamis that can occur anywhere and anytime.

Kuroshio Town offers several training programs on disaster prevention to learn and by experiencing other programs beforehand, the actual night evacuation drill will be even more effective.



Program Flow

《Classroom Lecture》

Explanation of the Nankai Trough mega-earthquake, the expected tsunami height of Kuroshio Town, disaster prevention efforts of the accommodation facilities, and the flow of the night time evacuation drills.

《Night Evacuation Drill》

The drill will be conducted under the assumption that a large-scale earthquake has occurred at a requested time, and that the participants will evacuate from their accommodation to a nearby tsunami evacuation tower. The drill will also include an explanation of precautions to be taken after the tsunami evacuation at the tsunami evacuation tower.

Disaster Prevention Program List

※Each program will be accompanied by a guide

Program Name	Duration Time	Price	Capacity	Remarks
Disaster Prevention Learning Program	2 hours	2,000 yen per person	5-100 people	Visit Irino Beach, Tsunami Monument, and Tsunami Evacuation Tower in Hamanomiya Area
Disaster Resistant Canned Food Program and Creative Cooking Program	2 – 3 hours	3,500 yen per person (including meal)	3 – 50 people (negotiable)	Japanese or Western course meal provided by hotel restaurant or cooking together workshop
Community Disaster Prevention Experience Program	2 hours	2,000 yen per person	5 – 50 people (negotiable)	《Free Optional Program》 Tsunami evacuation drill using smartphone
Visit to Saga Area Tsunami Evacuation Tower	45 minutes	500 yen per person	5 – 50 people	※"Escape Training" tsunami evacuation training support application (supervised by Yamori Laboratory, Kyoto University Disaster Prevention Research Institute)
Night Evacuation Drill Program Accommodation Plan	1 hour during stay	Accommodation fee + 1,000 yen per person	5 – 50 people (negotiable due depending on the facility)	There are guesthouses that can be used for small groups or hotels that can accommodate large groups

The rich blessings of nature brought about by the sea of Kuroshio Experience the bounty of the sea

Bounty of the Sea Experience



■ Wara-Yaki (Straw-Grilled) Seared Bonito Experience

Prepare one whole bonito yourself and grill over towering dried rice straw flame at once for seared bonito. Quickly slice into pieces, sprinkle with local Kuroshio Town's natural sun-dried salt, tap it with your hands, and enjoy. The famous katsuo-no-tataki (seared bonito) that can only be tasted here is exquisitely delicious! Enjoy the seared bonito (katsuo-no-tataki) while listening to local fisherman talk about bonito fishing and how to enjoy Tosa Saga style of deliciously eating seared bonito in three different ways. The importance of food is conveyed through eating the whole bonito, which is the bounty of the sea.

■ Natural Sun-Dried Salt Making Experience

Natural Sun-Dried Salt, a specialty of Kuroshio Town, is made from sea water without using fire but by only the natural energy of the "sun" and "wind". Experience the manual part of the process of Natural Sun-Dried Salt making. The mineral-filled salt esthetic experience which is only for those who participate in salt making is very popular among men and women of all of all ages. At the end of the program, the souvenir will be the sun-dried salt that you packed yourself. Please enjoy the bounty of sea of the Kuroshio current at home.



■ Whale Watching

Whale Watching allows you to enjoy the vast nature of the Pacific Ocean. There are Bryde's whale and other marine life such as Risso's dolphin and the common dolphin in the warm waters of Tosa. It is hard to describe the excitement that you experience at the moment of your encounter with a whale while enjoying nature, vast ocean, blue sky and the refreshing sea breeze.

■ Surfing Experience

Practice surfing with ease of mind since the gentle waves are just right even for beginners. Learn surfing that follows the basics and safety rules while riding the beautiful waves of Kuroshio current. Soothe and heal your mind and body while directly feeling the energy of the ocean. Of course, you don't need to bring any surfing gear, please just come empty handed.



■ Sea Kayak Experience

The joy of playing in the sea depends on the high degree of freedom it provides. By putting your sea kayak into the beach and paddling out, you will open a whole new world different from your everyday life. Even if you can't swim, or a beginner, it's okay! If you are worried to experience by yourself, a tandem kayak is available for two people to ride and paddle together. So, let's get in a sea kayak and start paddling into the sea of Kuroshio feeling the sea breeze.

Day Trip Plan

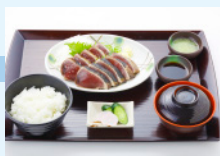
10:00-12:00



Experience:
Disaster Prevention
Learning Program

📍 Furusato Sogo Center,
Iriho Beach

12:30-13:30



Lunch

📍 Roadside Station,
Nabura Tosa Saga

13:45-14:15



Experience:
Visit to Saga Area
Tsunami Evacuation Tower

📍 Saga Tsunami
Evacuation Tower

14:30-16:00

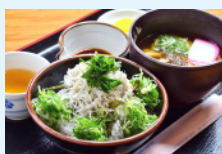


Experience:
Natural Sun-Dried Salt
Making Program

📍 Saltbee

Accommodation Plan

11:30-12:30



Lunch

📍 Roadside Station
Bios Ogata

13:00-15:00



Experience:
Disaster Prevention
Learning Program

📍 Furusato Sogo Center,
Iriho Beach

16:00-18:30



Experience:
Disaster Resistant
Canned Food Program
and Creative
Cooking Program

📍 Kuroshio-no-ke,
a Rental House

19:30-20:30



Experience:
Night Evacuation
Drill Program
Accommodation Plan

📍 From accommodation
facility to evacuation tower

Day1

9:30-11:00



Experience:
Natural Sun-Dried Salt
Making Program

📍 Saltybe

11:30-13:15



Experience:
Wara-Yaki (Straw-Grilled)
Seared Bonito Experience

📍 Bonito Fureai Center,
Kuroshio Ichibankan

13:30-15:30



Experience:
Community Disaster Prevention
Experience Program

📍 Saga Area Tsunami
Evacuation Tower • Friendship
Exchange Center, Mirai

Day2

※The Disaster Prevention Learning Program and the Bounty of Sea Experience Program are combinable during your stay according to your request.

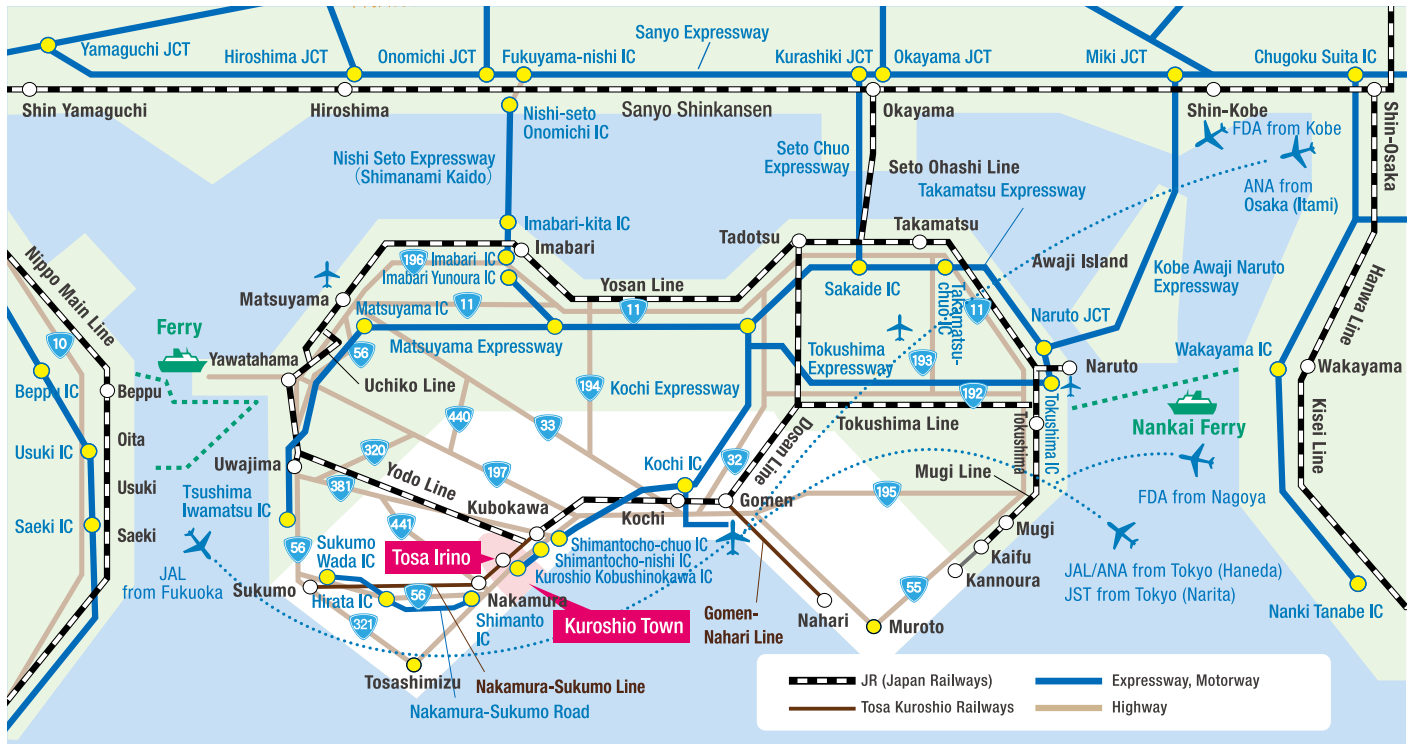
Comments from the Participants

“The work group was interesting. Even if I take things for granted, everyone has their own way of thinking and feeling, I felt that it was not good to be bound to stereotypes. I want to maintain a high awareness of disaster prevention on a daily basis.”
(Female in her 30s, Kagawa Prefecture)

“I understood that nature is an important part of the lives of the local residents, and that is why they place great importance on disaster prevention. Because we learned about disasters, it made me feel grateful for the blessings of nature and made me realize the importance of preparing for disasters.”
(Male in his 20s, Kyoto)

Each year, 80 organizations (approximately 1,000 people) including voluntary disaster prevention organizations nationwide and Overseas trainees and students participate in the disaster prevention program (implemented since 2014.)

Access to Kuroshio Town



Access to each facility in Kuroshio Town



By car

Kochi Airport → Kuroshio-Kobushinokawa Interchange
Approximately 91 km / Approximately 1 hour 30 minutes

Kuroshio-Kobushinokawa Interchange → Roadside Station Nabura Tosa Saga
Approximately 8.4 km / Approximately 12 minutes

Kuroshio-Kobushinokawa Interchange → Roadside Station Bios Ogata
Approximately 22.1 km / Approximately 26 minutes

Roadside Station Nabura Tosa Saga → Roadside Station Bios Ogata
Approximately 14 km / Approximately 19 minutes

Roadside Station Nabura Tosa Saga → Saga Area Tsunami Evacuation Tower
Approximately 1.5 km / Approximately 5 minutes

Roadside Station Nabura Tosa Saga → Saltybe
Approximately 6.2 km / Approximately 9 minutes

Roadside Station Bios Ogata → Saltybe
Approximately 7.8 km / Approximately 11 minutes

Roadside Station Bios Ogata → Furusato Sogo Center
Approximately 2.5 km / Approximately 6 minutes

Roadside Station Bios Ogata → Irino Fishing Port
Approximately 3.5 km / Approximately 9 minutes

For Inquiries / Reservations

Kuroshio Town Tourism Network

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Kuroshio Town
Disaster Prevention
Tourism
Official Site

