


高知県  
黒潮町  
砂浜美術館

# KURO SHIO SUNABI MUSEUM

There is no museum in our town, the beautiful sandy beach is our museum.







## The art museum in this town, which began as a 4km sandy beach, has lead to this town itself becoming an art museum.

Kuroshio Town, in Southwest Kochi, is a one of a kind small town with a population of less than 12,000 people. Although it is a small town, it has perhaps the largest museum in the world, a 4km long sandy beach called Irino Beach. This sandy beach, just as it is in nature, is our art museum.

The Sandy Beach Art Museum is a place where visitors will find the works of nature. Under the infinite blue sky and spreading before the unparalleled Kuroshio Sea there are no limitations to the number of works that one can experience. This is no brightly lit glittering metropolis and it's not as convenient as the big city, but we have the rich sea and the beautiful sandy beach.

The people of Kuroshio Town live with the rich natural blessings of the Kuroshio. The peoples' culture and wisdom have evolved to live in accordance with nature. From the daily life in this small town to the natural landscape, visitors can experience many precious works at the Sandy Beach Art Museum.

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# KURO SHIO SUNABI MUSEUM



# 1 KUROSHIO SHIO SUNABI MUSEUM

[Sunabi Museum]



## T-shirt Art Exhibition ~ The Town that Flutters in the Wind ~

In 1989, at the height of the bubble economy, rural areas embarked upon resort developments and regional revitalization. In this period, Sunabi Museum began with a t-shirt art exhibition. Paintings and pictures printed on t-shirts were arranged on the sandy beach to dry like laundry. 1000's of t-shirts were swaying in the ocean breeze against the backdrop of deep blue sky and sea. For the townspeople, this was the moment when the familiar sandy beach became an art museum.

All the t-shirts on exhibition are designed by the public. This art exhibition is created by peoples' imaginations. When the exhibition is over, the t-shirts will return to their creators along with the scent of the sea breeze. With new designs every year, and the amazing natural scenery, it is a once-in-a-lifetime experience. The people and the nature create a spectacular fluttering landscape that you will never get tired of seeing. Since the beginning of Sunabi Museum, it is the biggest event in Kuroshio Town and expresses the concept of the art museum the most.

## Sandy Beach Stroll

~ Flotsam Exhibition and Beach Combing ~

Kuroshio has brought many things to this place since ancient times. Plants and animals, culture and technology, and perhaps the human beings that were our ancestors as well. Many things flow unto this beach even now. Unfortunately, most of it is treated as garbage. But here at Sunabi Museum, let us change our points of view. If you have a sense of the journeys that the things that have flowed here have



taken so far, you will see countless stories.

Every February, the Flotsam Exhibition that displays drift items is held. We also help you to experience the beach combing for yourself, which gathers the flotsam that will become works of art.

## Sea Breeze Quilt Exhibition

~ With Leek Flowers ~

In autumn, Shimotsuki (November), the leek fields spreading out in front of the pine groves on Irino are covered with small purple flowers, and the Sea Breeze Quilt Exhibition is held. On the carpet of leek flowers surrounded by the pine groves, unique patchwork quilts made by people from all over the country are displayed. With the sun shining through the leaves, the patchwork quilts, made thoughtfully stitch by stitch, flutter in the sea breeze. The Quilt Exhibition at Sunabi Museum is something that could never be appreciated if you only stayed indoors.



Contact

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# KUROSHIO 2 SUNABI MUSEUM

[The Town to Meet Whales]



## A Chance Meeting ~ Whale Watching ~

Have you ever met a whale? People say that "When you meet a whale your life will change." Is it true? 50 million years ago, evolving from the land to the sea, having the largest bodies on Earth, whales are not only enormous, but have mysterious abilities, behaviors, and intelligence comparable to humans. We can't help but be interested in them. Will your life really change? Why don't you come and see?

## The Lady of the Sea

~ Bryde's Whale ~

In the Tosa Bay, on the south side of Kuroshio Town, lives a type of baleen whale, Bryde's whale, a species of the Rorqual family. Bryde Whale is known as nitari-kujira, the look-a-like whale. It's a odd name. It came to be confused with rorqual(nagasu-kujira) and that's how it came to be called nitari-kujira, the look-a-like whale. In addition, it often swims with schools of katsuo (bonito) and it is also called katsuo-kujira (bonito whale). It is also known as the "sea lady" for its graceful appearance.



## Kuroshio Adventure

~ To the Center of the Kuroshio Current ~

Tosa Bay fosters many creatures besides whales, such as the short-beaked common dolphin, the bottlenose dolphin, and the Risso's dolphin. Your guide is a real fisherman who knows all about Tosa Bay. In a fishing boat rushing out into the ocean spreading as far as the eye can see, you can feel the immensity of the world. Suck in a chest full of freedom like you could never taste on land. You should come experience Tosa Bay and meet its inhabitants at least once in your life.



Contact

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<http://www.nitarikujira.com/>



# 3 KUROSHIO SUNABI MUSEUM

[The Paper that Protects World Cultural Heritage]



## Mulberry Village ~ Japan's Original Landscape ~

Although the main image of Kochi Prefecture is of its oceans, the proportion of forested land is 84%\*, and it's the prefecture with the most mountains in Japan (\*the national average forested land ratio is 67%). Kuroshio Town is nearly 80% mountainous area. A little off the coastal roads, Satoyama, harkening back to the original landscape of Japan, appears out of dark green mountains. This scene is also a valuable work of art for Kuroshio Town's Sandy Beach Art Museum. Let's have a look at an area of Satoyama called "Sagatani Sanri."

Sagatani Sanri is on the path of Shikoku's 88 Temple Pilgrimage. From the 37th temple in Shimanto Town, Iwamoto Temple, to the 38th Buddhist temple at Cape Ashizuri, Kanji Fukushima, it is approximately 88km. It is the longest section between two temples on the pilgrim's trail. In this area academic research was conducted that was the last confirmation of river otters in Japan. The original landscape of Japan can still be seen along the winding Iyoki River. It is a treasure trove of folk tales, as compiled in Sagatani Mukashibanashi, The Tales of Sagatani.



## Wakayama Mulberry ~ A Tale of Paper Making ~

In this area, mulberry cultivation has been thriving since the late 1800s (the Meiji era) and in particular a variety called Wakayama Mulberry, which is produced in the Kobushino River area, came to be regarded as the best source for paper production in Japan. After that, however, with the spread of machine produced paper and the changing of the era, Wakayama Mulberry paper production ceased. However, local 6th graders in elementary school made papers for their diplomas with their own hands.



The enthusiasm of locals wishing to keep and continue their culture bore fruit in due course. Washi (Japanese paper) is a valuable cultural asset that must be renewed and preserved. In 2009, to renew and preserve the tradition of excellent quality paper making, with the cooperation of the General Incorporated Foundations World Paper Heritage Support Foundation, Kamimori was established, and full-scale cultivation of Wakayama Mulberry resumed. Currently, in this area, using only the renowned Wakayama Mulberry and natural materials, you can experience traditional paper making, and not just simply making paper, but also the traditional methods of chiritori and dakai, dust removal and solution.

Contact | **Wakayama mulberry Paper Making**  
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# KUROSHIO SUNABI MUSEUM

[Katsuo]



## Kuroshio Ichibanchi ~ The No.1 Katsuo Pole-and-line fishing Town in Japan ~

Kuroshio has brought numerous benefits to this town since long ago. The katsuo (bonito) coming in on the Kuroshio Current are at the center of food and culture in this town. The katsuo fishery in Kuroshio Town boasts a history of over 400 years, and the katsuo pole-and-line fishing votive pictures (1865) in the town show katsuo fishing at the time of oar-powered ships.

Tosa's pole-and-line fishing method, the method of catching katsuo with a single rod, is still handed down generation to generation. In the Saga area of Kuroshio Town there is a landing that boasts the top katsuo pole-and-line fishing fleet in Japan. The katsuo caught that day is branded as "Tosa Saga Katsuo", locally known as "birigatsuo," and boasts a special flavor. Wonderfully chewy and rich, you can experience a completely different taste and texture from any other katsuo.

## Katsuo no tataki (bonito straw-grilling)

~ Kuroshio Traditional Dishes ~

Let's try making straw-grilled katsuo in the no.1 Katsuo pole-and-line fishing town in Japan! You'll grill one whole fish over a strong-burning straw fire. After that we'll eat salted katsuo no tataki using local sun-dried salt, just like the fishermen do. Next, we'll try Kuroshio Ichibanchi's special katsuo sauce. Finally, we'll put the katsuo on top of the rice and stir it together with hot water. From the cleaning of the fish and along the way to its arrangement and seasoning, we'll listen to the fishing tales of the town's aunts and uncles.



### Contact

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374-9 Saga Kuroshio-town, Hata-gun, Kochi 789-1720

Tel 0880-55-3680 Fax 0880-55-3755  
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# 5 KUROSHIO SUNABI MUSEUM

[Marine Activities]



## Experience the Kuroshio ~ Enjoy the Sea ~

Kuroshio Town has 36km of coastline, and it varies from long sandy beaches to rock shelves, rocky reefs and cliffs. Also, the Kuroshio, for which the town is named, is the world's largest warm water current, and even in winter the sea is surprisingly warm.

The rich Kuroshio Sea is the pinnacle work at the Sandy Beach Art Museum and is the pride of the town. Come to Kuroshio Town and experience the marvels of the sea.

Kuroshio Town is one of the most popular surfing spots in the country, and you can rent boards and take surfing classes at the many surf shops in our town. You can also enjoy sea kayaking and snorkeling at Shioya beach

Across the varied coastline, it is possible for you to go sea fishing by chartered fishing boat, and you can expect a good catch any time throughout the year. Get out there and catch some fish!

On the Ukitsu Coast, Irino Beach is open for swimming in summer, and according to annual surveys has the highest ranked water quality in Japan. The rich and brightly shining Kuroshio Sea is the greatest work of the Kuroshio Sunabi Museum and the pride of the town.



### Contact

#### Hata Surf Dojo

3570-1 Ukibuchi Kuroshio-town, Hata-gun, Kochi 789-1931

Tel 0880-43-3309

<http://www.hatasurfdjo.com/>

#### Sea Kayak 9640 (Kuroshio)

471-3 Ukibuchi Kuroshio-town, Hata-gun, Kochi 789-1720

Tel 090-7105-8447

<http://www.town.kuroshio.lg.jp/pb/cont/kuronavi-asobu/1167>

#### Suzu Port Fishing Boat

Suzu Kuroshio-town, Hata-gun, Kochi 789-1708

Tel 090-3461-3386

<http://www.town.kuroshio.lg.jp/pb/cont/kuronavi-asobu/666>

#### Kamikawaguchi Port Fishing Boat

721 Kamikawaguchi Kuroshio-town, Hata-gun, Kochi 789-1901

Tel 0880-44-1124

<http://www.iwk.ne.jp/~kamikawaguchishisyo/>





## Sa-shi-su-se-so ~ The Town Where All Natural Seasonings are Gathered ~

Kuroshio town is rich in nature, surrounded by green mountains and the deep blue sea. It is a rare town that naturally has *sa-shi-su-se-so*. *Sa-shi-su-se-so* is the basis of Japanese seasoning, *Sato-shio-su-shoyu-miso* (sugar, salt, vinegar, soy sauce, and miso). These are the blessings of nature. The seasonings are made by hand, manipulating the ingredients as little as possible, just enough to bring out their amazing taste. These ingredients also have a vital role in keeping people healthy. These natural seasonings are used every day. This is part Kuroshio Town's natural treasures. Enjoy the unique Kuroshio regional climate and discover the richness of everyday life through seasonings. Kuroshio Town is promoting "The *Sa-shi-su-se-so* Plan."

### Sa – Sato (sugar)

Organic sugarcane is grown by the Kuroshio Town Irino Sugar Research Group, making brown sugar in a firewood kiln using methods passed down since the Edo period. Unpurified brown sugar is rich in nutrients such as potassium, calcium, magnesium and other minerals, vitamins B1 and B2, and has a special sweetness.

### Shi – shio

Taken from the ocean, Kuroshio Town's special salt is made from solar and wind power alone. There are several salt-making places in the town where the mineral-rich sun-dried salt is made. It also goes perfectly with katsuo no tataki taken from the same Kuroshio Current.

### Su – su (vinegar)

Kochi Prefecture is the Citrus Kingdom. In Kuroshio Town, starting from early spring buntan (pomelo), followed by the summer Bushukan, coming into the autumn sutachibana (sudachi), and finishing with yuzu (Citrus junos) in winter, there is no shortage of vinegar and natural fruit juices.

### Se – seuyu

(seuyu is an old local word for shoyu, soy sauce)

Traditionally, in the houses of the fishermen in Kuroshio Town a fish sauce was made. The homemade sauce is aged and fermented for over half a year by immersing kibinago (silver-stripe round herring) and iwashi (sardines) in sun-dried salt. Its elegant taste has earned it a high reputation in the gourmet world.

### So – miso (miso)

Miso has been made in many homes throughout the past. In Kuroshio Town, making miso is still popular now. The flavor of homemade miso varies from house to house. Please find your favorite miso.



### Contact

#### [Salt Making] Salty Bu LLC

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#### [Salt Making] Salt Bee Business Union

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Tel 0880-55-2040

#### [Sugarcane Brown Sugar Making] Sandy Beach Art Museum NPO

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# 7 KUROSHIO SUNABI MUSEUM

[Sports Tourism]



## Train in Southwestern Nangoku Tosa ~ Sports Facilities in Kuroshio Town ~

In Kuroshio Town the average annual temperature is 17 degrees and the annual rainfall is around 2,800mm. It is blessed with a temperate climate and abundant nature, with a beautiful sandy beach spreading along the coastline and all around are deep green mountains. Additionally, there is plenty of fresh seafood, such as katsuo, and many goods to be had in the mountains.

Southwestern Tosa has a large sports zone in the town, with various exercise facilities such as natural and artificial turf soccer fields, baseball fields, athletics fields, tennis courts, a gymnasium, and a park golf course, etc. All are within a walking distance of 5 minutes. It's a wonderful sports environment and provides a place for athletes of various generations to gather and deepen their exchanges. In addition, Kuroshio Town boasts a 4 km beach, Irino Beach, where you can also incorporate "sandy beach training." You'll be surprised at the benefits of running on sand.

Sunabi Sports serves as the point of contact for the NPO Sandy Beach Art Museum, where we arrange sports facilities and lodging, as well as training camps and conference planning, management, etc. We support many kinds of activities to help you enjoy sports in Kuroshio Town. Also in our town, to support sports projects, we have prepared a subsidy system for amateur sports camps. Supporting sports is very important in us.



Contact

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# KUROSHIO 8 SUNABI MUSEUM

[Kanbayashi Akatsuki and  
the Literature and  
Culture of Kuroshio]

## I think the flowers scattered upon the ground are more beautiful than the flowers blooming in the treetops.

Kochi Prefecture, which was introduced in Ki Tsurayuki's Tosa Diary, has produced many literary people. Kanbayashi Akatsuki, one of the principal writers of Kochi prefecture and born in Kuroshio Town, was said to be the last I-novelist. The I-novel is a uniquely Japanese development in modern novels, and in particular Kanbayashi Akatsuki expresses the spiritual nature of a Japanese writer in his works. Naoki Matayoshi, who was awarded the 153rd Akutagawa Prize, is also a fan of Kanbayashi's work and as fate would have it he visited this place in the autumn of 2015.

In the Irino pine groves, based on the works of Yasunari Kawabata, the first Nobel Prize winner for literature in Japan, is a monument to the land of Kanbayashi's birth, and the Ogata Akatsukikan, which honors Kanbayashi's literature. There in the literature monument you can find an inscription that sums up the essence of Kanbayashi's literary thought; I think the flowers scattered upon the ground are more beautiful than the flowers blooming in the treetops. Those who grew up in this town have received much spiritual guidance from these words. The flowers that are blooming spectacularly far above our heads are of course beautiful, but we should never neglect the beauty of the flowers that are scattered around our feet. With that in mind, the idea that in this town there is no museum per se, but that the beautiful sandy beach is our art museum, was born.

## Kanbayashi Akatsuki      Real Name Tokuhiro Iwaki



Born in 1902, in what is present day Shimoda Noguchi, Kuroshio Town, he aspired to become a writer from the time he was a student at the Third Prefectural Junior High School (present day Nakamura High School). Through war and poverty to his wife's illness and eventual death, he would never lose his will to write. He repeatedly suffered from bad luck, and was struck with two major diseases and half paralysis which left him bedridden for 18 years. Yet he had the indomitable soul of a writer and with patience, effort, and the dedication of his family, he was able to write his novels, though it seemed as difficult as carving them in stone.

Of his writings, his masterpiece was Hijiri Yohane Byōin Nite, a tale depicting his wife's battle with illness. His other works include No, which describes his unease relating to his wife's nursing care, Haru no Saka, set on the Karito slope Ukibuchi area of Kuroshio Town, and more. In addition, Shiroy Yakatabune, which he wrote in his sickbed, won the Yomiuri Prize and Buronzo no Kubi received the 1st Kawabata Yasunari Prize for Literature.

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## Kuroshio Town

— The Town Bearing the Name of the Ocean River —



The name Kuroshio, while being known as Japan's largest current, is also the world's largest ocean current.

Far from the equator, coming off of the Philippines and washing from south to north along the Japanese Archipelago, it then heads east, into the central part of the Pacific Ocean.

It has a width of about 100km, a depth of 1,000

to 2,000m, and the flow rate that reaches about 4 knots (2m per second, 7.4 km/h). Just like black flowing ink, the great meandering current rises up to the North Western Pacific Ocean like a great river. The flow rate is 40-50 million tons per second. It is 200 times larger than the world's biggest river, the Amazon (flow rate of about 20 t/s). It is one big ocean river.

In the old days it was called Kurose River, and fishermen were afraid of being trapped in it. John Manjiro, who was born in Hatagun, present day Tosashimizu City, was carried along by the Kurose River and went on to experience many outlandish adventures.

Kuroshio Town is a small town located at the western end of Shikoku/Tosa running along the Kuroshio. Even though it was named for the large Ocean River, truly it is a small town.

<http://www.sunabi-experi.com>

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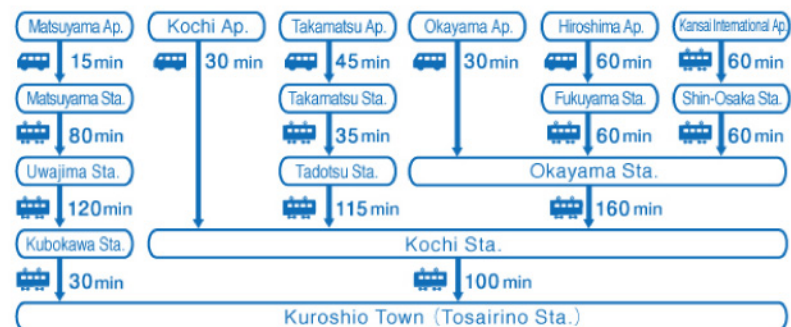
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