

Museum Map



Martyrs' Memorial
(Work of Minamishimabara Sculptor Kitamura Seibo)

The Churches and Christian Sites in Nagasaki are a unique cultural asset which tells the story of the propagation of Christianity, through its arrival and prosperity in Nagasaki, its harsh oppression and 250 year period of hiding, and its subsequent revival. The Remains of Hinoe Castle and Hara Castle in Minamishimabara City are part of 14 cultural asset sites in 6 cities and 2 towns in Nagasaki and Kumamoto Prefectures. In order to share these invaluable heritage collections with people around the world and pass on to future generations, we are working towards a World Heritage listing.

Missionary of the Society of Jesus
Valignano

Christian Feudal Lord Arima Harunobu

Rebellion Leader
Amakusa Shiro

The three key figures
connected with the prosperity and oppression of Christianity

Access Map

By car:
45 min. from Shimabara City
75 min. from Isahaya IC
100 min. from Nagasaki City
100 min. from Nagasaki Airport

By train and bus:
65 min. from Isahaya Stn. on the Shimabara Railway Line to Shimabara Stn. →
60 min. by Shimatetsu Bus to Minamiarima Chosha-mae Bus Stop →
15 min. on foot

By bus:
Bus bound for Kuchinotsu via Obama from the Isahaya Bus Terminal →
Change buses at Kuchinotsu and a 20 min. ride to Minamiarima Chosha-mae Bus Stop →
15 min. on foot

By ferry:
20 min. from Kuchinotsu Port by Shimatetsu Bus →
45 min. from Shimabara Outer Port by Shimatetsu Bus →
65 min. from Taira Port by Shimatetsu Bus



Arima Christian Heritage Museum

Address: 1395 Otsu, Minamiarima-cho, Minamishimabara City, Nagasaki Prefecture 859-2412

Hours: 9 am to 6 pm

Closed: Thursdays, Dec. 29 to Jan. 3

TEL: 0957-85-3217 / FAX: 0957-82-3086

Parking: 100 parking spaces

<http://www.city.minamishimabara.lg.jp/sekaiisan/>

Arima Christian Heritage Museum

Candidate for World Heritage
in Minamishimabara City!



Arima Christian Heritage Museum

The bright and dark side
of Christian history



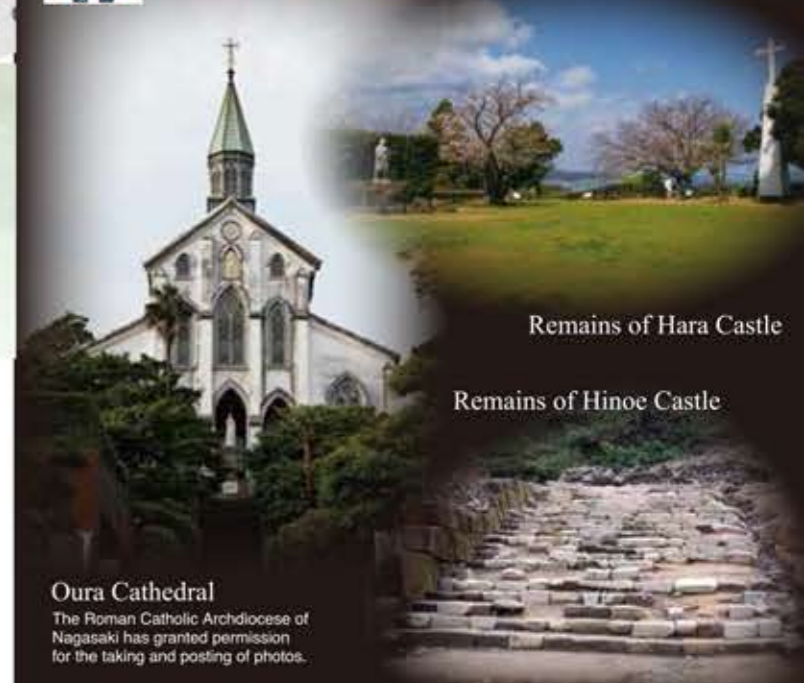
Minamishimabara City,
Nagasaki Prefecture

Arima Christian Heritage Museum

The Arima Christian Heritage Museum is a guidance facility for the Remains of Hinoe Castle and Hara Castle, which are part of the Churches and Christian Sites in Nagasaki aiming to be inscribed as World Heritage Sites. The exhibitions are designed to provide visitors with clear explanations of Minamishimabara's history of Christianity, from how it arrived and prospered to the Shimabara-Amakusa Rebellion. Please come by the Museum before visiting the Remains of Hinoe and Hara Castles. It will enhance your understanding of their history and values.



Candidate for World Heritage
"Churches and Christian Sites in Nagasaki"



Remains of Hara Castle

Remains of Hinoe Castle

Oura Cathedral

The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Nagasaki has granted permission for the taking and posting of photos.

Minamishimabara – Prosperity and Christian Culture



"Valignano" by Kashiwamoto Ryuta



The Tensho Embassy by Hasegawa Roku (Gallery Namban's Collection)



Letterpress Printing Machine

Exhibition Room 1

This exhibition introduces the prosperity of Christianity with Hinoe Castle as its center in the 16th and 17th centuries. The exhibition provides a detailed explanation of the work of the missionary Valignano, the European Seminario (Seminary) education system which was introduced during the Warring States period, the role of the Tenshō Embassy, Hinoe Castle and the unearthed remains of steps. The display is based on the record of a report on the prosperity of Minamishimabara sent to Rome 400 years ago.

- Gilded roof tile
- Wooden statue of Arima Harunobu
- Letterpress Printing Machine (50% scale model)
- Copperplate print "Our Lady of Seville"



Gilded roof tile



European (Namban) Costume



Remains of Hinoe Castle



Copperplate print "Our Lady of Seville"

Exhibition Room 2

Having suffered from famine and heavy taxes, the people of Arima and Amakusa domains exacerbated the discontent, leading to the outbreak of Shimabara-Amakusa Rebellion in 1637. This exhibition room displays historical materials both from the region and overseas, as well as artifacts found through excavation surveys, showing how the Rebellion was provoked. It also features the revival of Christianity after it went into hiding for 250 years following the Shimabara-Amakusa Rebellion.

- Crucifix, Medals, Rosary Beads, Artillery Shells
- Roof tile with Dragon Gargoyles, Roof tile with Flower Cross Design
- Ākāśagarbha statue (mounted as a scroll)
- Replica of the Hara Castle Excavation Site
- The Kuchinotsu Jointly Sealed Covenant
- Model depicting scenes from the Shimabara-Amakusa Rebellion from the uprising to its demise



The Kuchinotsu Jointly Sealed Covenant



Unearthed Artifacts from the Remains of Hara Castle

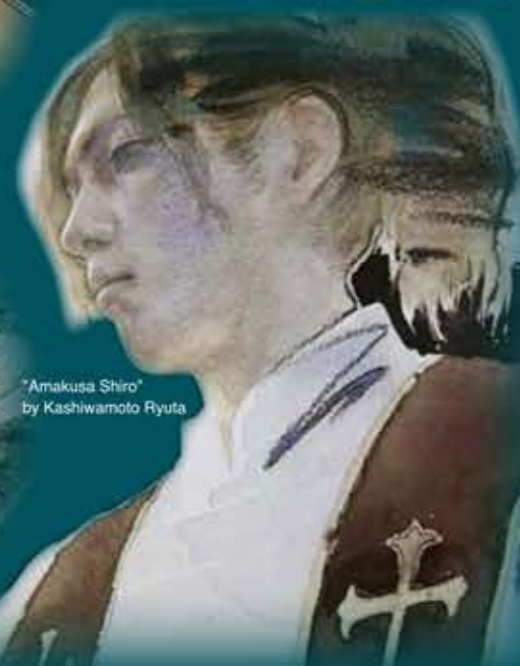


Golden Cross unearthed from the Remains of Hara Castle (Gallery Namban's Collection)



Remains of Hara Castle

Christian Oppression and the Shimabara-Amakusa Rebellion



"Amakusa Shiro" by Kashiwamoto Ryuta