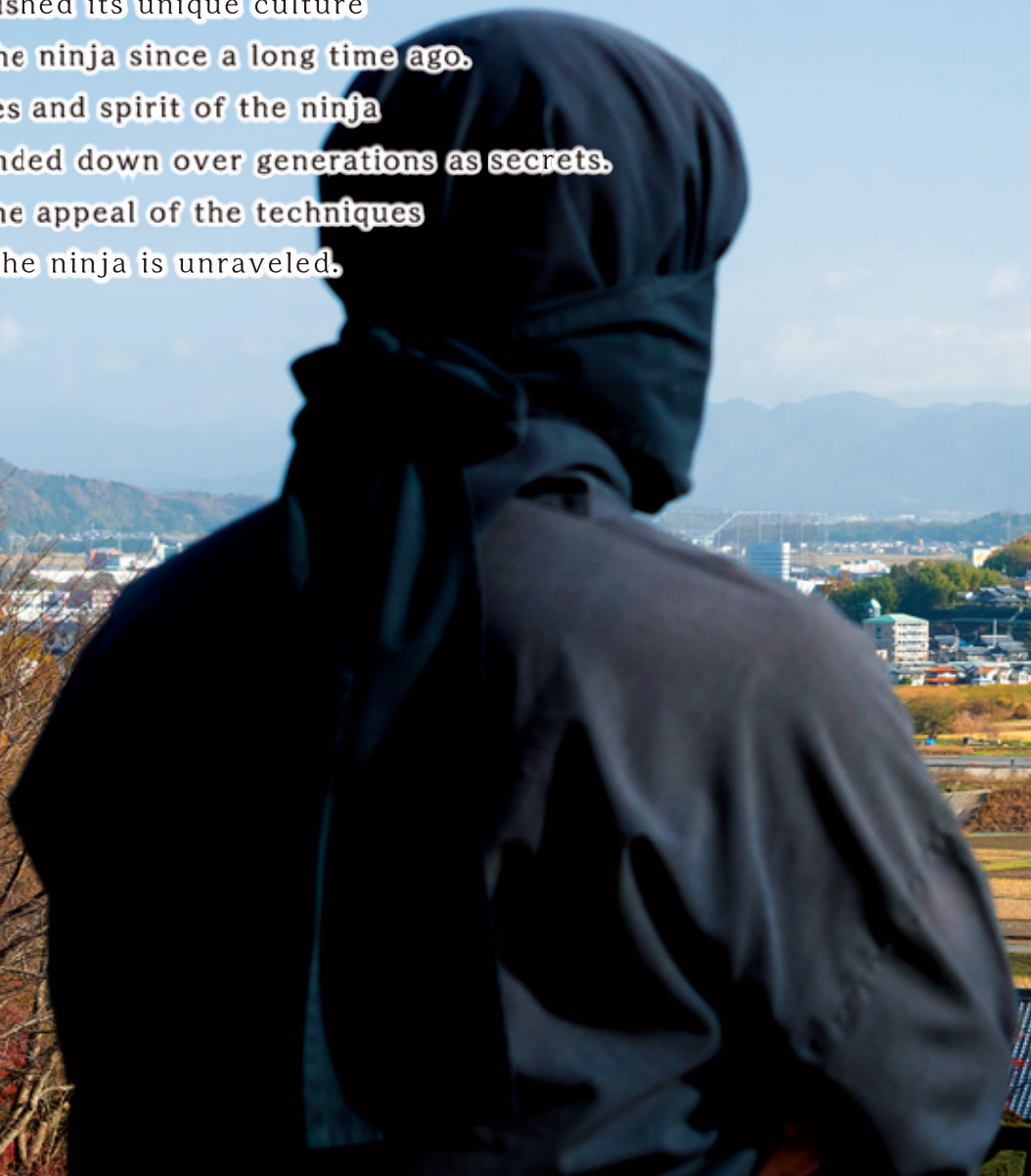


## Secret 1

# Appeal of the Ninja City

伊賀の忍者の地は、古くから秘伝の地として知られている。

Iga has established its unique culture  
as a land of the ninja since a long time ago.  
The techniques and spirit of the ninja  
have been handed down over generations as secrets.  
In Secret 1, the appeal of the techniques  
and spirit of the ninja is unraveled.







## Iga-ryu

1. Jutsu (art) of the Iga Ninja ——— 7
2. Jutsu of Japan Heritage ——— 9
3. Jutsu of Showing Charm ——— 11
4. Jutsu of History ——— 13
5. Jutsu of Traditional Culture ——— 15
6. Jutsu of IGAMONO (Iga products) — 17





# History and Spirit of the Iga Ninja



Bansenshukai,  
a book on ninjutsu

This is a book on ninjutsu written by  
a descendent of the Iga ninja.

## Iga, a hidden village of the shinobi (ninja)

Ninjas conceal themselves and collect information. Iga is one of the home grounds for the ninja. Iga, where information comes in quickly from across the country and as somewhere that provides easy-to-hide places, was the best base for the ninja. Ninjas, who were familiar with the latest intelligence and able to use a variety of tools, had a unique spiritual culture called "seishin" ("the right frame of mind"). The history and spirit of the ninja have been handed down to the current citizens of Iga.



Makibishi

Makibishi are sharp spiked objects that are scattered on the ground to slow down pursuers.



Shuriken

A shuriken is a concealed weapon thrown at the enemy to decrease their fighting power.

## Typical Ninjutsu

Ninjutsu means a variety of techniques created by the ninja in order to remain alive to take information home.

オン・アニチ・  
マリシエイ・  
ソワカ



Jutsu of Marishiten  
(Marici) Ongyo

This is a secret art whereby if one chants "On-Anichi-Marishiei-Sowaka," the person will become invisible.



Jutsu of Izuna

This is an occult art that enables a person to fly if the person seeks divine assistance.



Kuji goshincho (method of  
self-defense using nine syllables)

This is a method to expel evil by removing negative vibes and renouncing worldly desires.



### Kunai

A kunai is a tool used to gouge holes in and climb up walls.



### Iga Ninja

Ninjas headquartered in Iga. They snuck into the enemy's territory using ninjutsu (the art of stealth, camouflage, and sabotage practiced by the ninja).



### Mizugumo

Mizugumo is a water crossing device.

## History of the Ninja

### The Beginning of the Ninja

The Iga Ninja were born during the age of provincial wars when intelligence collection and surprise attacks were regarded as important strategies.



### Ninjas in Action

The Iga Ninja employed tactics that leverage topographical characteristics and played an important role in the battlefields across the country as mercenary soldiers.



### Ninjas in Times of Peace

The Iga Ninja in the Edo period served feudal lords across the country as surveillance agents and bodyguards for important persons.

## The spirit of shinobi that still thrives

### What is seishin ?

Ninjas valued the spirit of seishin, which taught them to maintain the right frame of mind in order to not abuse ninjutsu.

*Jonin is explained as follows:*

*They make no sound,  
emit no smell,  
and have no well-known name  
or fame for bravery,  
but their hidden achievements are endless  
like the workings of the universe.*

*Source: Bansenshukai*



# Japan Heritage and the Iga Ninja

## The Truth about the Ninja

There are many cultural assets designated as Japan Heritage in Iga. By visiting these assets, you can experience what the authentic ninjas were like.

### Tejikara Shrine

This is a shrine where ninjas used to set off fireworks.

## STORY



JAPAN HERITAGE

日本遺産

Ninjas are now widely known in the world through TV programs and anime as persons who do extraordinary things. While the word ninja is well-known, not many people know the truth about the ninja. Iga and Koka have been known as the birthplace of the ninja and the ninjas in these areas have been regarded as typical ninjas. In Iga and Koka, ninjas built many castles by leveraging the complex topography, managed their own land through mutual cooperation, and protected the peace of the region. Iga and Koka-ryu ninjutsu were developed through a rich religious culture and varied lifestyles. You will find out who the ninjas really were by visiting various footprints in these ninja regions. In Iga and Koka, there still exists the tradition of ninjas who lived through the war-torn era.

Source: Japan Heritage portal site





### Ninja Museum of Igaryu

This is a museum that was established using a real ninja house.



### Shinobi-cho

This is a town where the houses of the Iga Ninjas were located.



### Kasuga Shrine

This is a shrine for Iga's low-class samurais who frequently became ninjas.



### Remains on the top of Mt. Reizan

These are the remains of a temple for ascetic practices that are said to be one of the roots of ninjutsu.



### Aekuni Shrine

The shrine holds a festival where participants wear ninja costumes.

360-degree  
virtual reality







Urban development by the ninja city

# NINJA CITY IGA 忍者市伊賀

## The Ninja City Declaration

We, the citizens of Iga City, recognize Iga to be the origin of the Ninja and, as the inheritors of its history, culture, and spirit, pledge our commitment to the creation and promotion of the tourism project, and to the development of our city and its community. Therefore, we hereby proclaim Iga to be the Ninja City.

February 22, 2017 Okamoto Sakae Mayor of Iga City



# Showing the charm of the ninja

Iga City declared itself a ninja city with the aim of attracting tourists and promoting urban development by succeeding and spreading the history, culture, and spirit of the ninja. To that end, we conduct a variety of efforts, such as events and the publication of research findings.



Declaration of the Ninja City by Mayor Okamoto



Iga Football Club Kunoichi



Card with a manhole cover design



New Year's Postcard



## "Shinobi no Sato Iga" Recreation Project

This is a hands-on project where participants can experience the spirit, techniques, and physical strength of the shinobis.

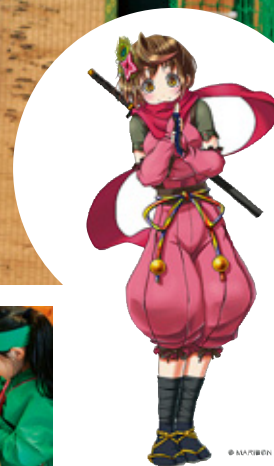


## Iga Ueno Ninja Festa

This is the biggest ninja event in Iga City where a ninja dojo is also held.



Ninja Training



Mai Igarashi, a character authorized by the Ninja Festa Implementation Committee

## Ninja Trail Running Race

This is a race where participants run through a mountain path while imagining that they are ninjas.



## International Ninja Research Center, Mie University

It was established to do ninja research and transmit the findings.



Opening Ceremony



Extension Lecture for Citizens

Task of the Ninja

Let's watch the Ninja City channel!

We are showing the charm of the ninja city via YouTube.



[https://www.youtube.com/c/igacity\\_ninja](https://www.youtube.com/c/igacity_ninja)





Basso's Birthplace

This is the house where Matsuo Basso lived until about the age of 29.



Minomushian

This is a hermitage established by one of the disciples of Matsuo Basso.



Basso Memorial Museum

This is a museum where haikai materials are exhibited.

Haiseiden

This was built in commemoration of the 300th year since Basso's birth.

# The spirit of Iga handed

Samazama na  
koto omoidasu  
sakura kana

さまざまな  
事おもひ出す  
桜哉

He is the greatest master of haiku who refined haiku poetry to an art. While traveling around the country, he created many masterpieces.

Matsuo Basso



Basso Festival

This is an event to bring back the memory of Matsuo Basso.

## Great Figures from the Ninja City

Kan'ami

(1333~1384)

He was a Sarugaku actor in the Northern and Southern Courts period and is said to be from Iga.

Riichi Yokomitsu

(1898~1947)

He was a literary figure from Iga, who introduced a new manner of expression into the modern Japanese literature.

Hakaru Hashimoto

(1881~1934)

He was a physician from Iga, who discovered a goiter named the Hashimoto disease.





# Matsuo Basho and Todo Takatora

Matsuo Basho, a renowned haiku poet, was born in Iga. He created many haiku poems while traveling around the country. However, he always missed Iga as his hometown.

## Iga Ueno Castle

This is an elegant castle also known as the Hakuho Castle.

360-degree  
virtual reality



# down to the community



Iga is a treasured region  
and Ueno is a strategic point.  
We should base ourselves on these two areas.

### Teramachi Street

Along the street are temples  
laid out by Todo Takatora.

**Iga Way** The Iga Way used to be crowded with travelers as a way connecting  
Kyoto and regions in the eastern part of Japan.



Iga Way



Yamato Way



Hatsuse Way

伊賀は秘蔵の国、  
上野は要害の地、  
根拠とすべし。



He is a well-known  
warlord and famous for  
excellence in castle design.  
He consolidated the Iga  
region during the Edo  
period.

## Todo Takatora

### ▣ Tidbits about Iga-Ueno Castle ▣

#### The West Gate

Although it used to be the  
largest of its kind in Japan, it  
was taken down in 1907.



#### One of the highest stone walls in Japan

This is one of the highest stone walls  
in Japan, which was built by Todo  
Takatora.





# Iga Traditional Festival with the Passion of the People in Iga

Traditional events that have been supported by the people in Iga

In Iga City where there are various temples and shrines in each district, unique traditional events have been handed down by the people of the community. Among them, the largest event is the Ueno Tenjin Festival. In 2016, the Danjiri floats event of the Ueno Tenjin Festival was included on the list of UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage.

## Katte Shrine Dancing Ritual

Nationally-designated Important Intangible Folk Cultural Property

This is a festival held in hopes of abundant crops and rainfall and to drive off diseases.



## Omura Shrine Annual Festival

This is a unique festival featuring a unique float of a huge catfish, the god of the earthquake.







## Ueno Tenjin Festival Danjiri Event

### UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage

This is an autumnal festival of the Ueno Tenjin Shrine with approx. 400 years of history.



## Gion Festival at Ueki Shrine

Prefecturally-designate  
Intangible Folk Cultural Property

This glamorous festival features portable shrines, Danjiri floats and many Gionbana, an ornament with a paper flower curtain.



Procession of demons



## Lion Dance of Aekuni Shrine

Prefecturally-designate  
Intangible Folk Cultural Property

This is believed to be the original form of the sacred lion dance in Iga.

## Shogatsudo Shusho-e (New Year's service)

Prefecturally-designate  
Intangible Folk Cultural Property

This is a ritual of expelling evil at Shogatsudo, which was built in the Nara period.





# Long-nurtured Craftsmanship



## Giving instruction in Iga craftsmanship

The museum conducts a variety of activities to disseminate Iga Ware, such as a pottery making class.

360-degree  
virtual reality



Naoto Fujii,  
Iga Ware Traditional  
Industry Museum

## Tell me

### What is the appeal of Koiga ware?



It features a beautiful green color, quaint burn marks, and cracks.



## Tell me

### What are the characteristics of the modern Iga ware?

The modern Iga ware centers on earthen pots and tableware. Some of them reflect the appeal of Koiga ware.





Iga Kumihimo (braided cords)

## Transmitting craftsmanship

In Iga into which lots of information and goods flow, characteristic traditional products have been produced. Currently, efforts to succeed and transmit such craftsmanship are being promoted.



**Let's find out  
about IGAMONO!**

This is a special site  
dedicated to IGAMONO.



<http://www.igamono.org/>



### IGAMONO Certification Criteria

With the theme of "Secretly nurtured attractive IGAMONO," products are selected according to strict criteria.



#### ~Lifestyle~



Cutting Board  
made from cypress grown  
in Iga



Glass Bottles  
SS Heart

#### ~Processed Food~



Yokanzuke aged  
for two years



Kinome (leaf bud)  
Tofu Dengaku

#### ~Craftwork~



Iga ware earthen  
rice cooker,  
Kamado-san



Obijime  
(kimono cord)

#### ~Fresh Food~



Iga Rice Koshihikari



Iga Beef

#### ~Confectionery~



Se-e-kuro Mochi



Katayaki

#### ~Sake and Beverages~



Non-diluted  
Iga Amazake



Ginjoshu  
with no alcohol added,  
Kirigakure Saizo

There are various other certified Prpducts!