

NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

# KATSUYAMA CASTLE

-Japan's Northernmost Castle  
Situated On The Holy Mountain-



## **Kaminokuni Town Board Of Education**

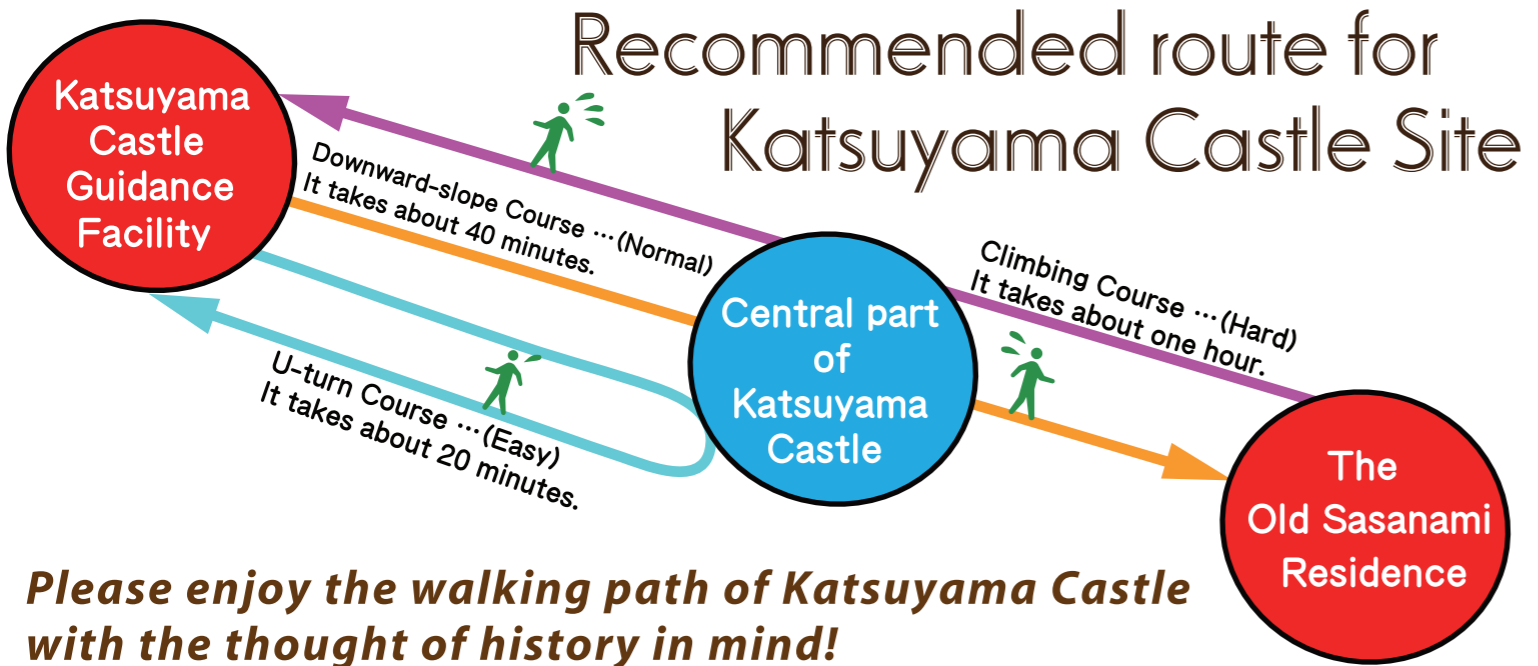
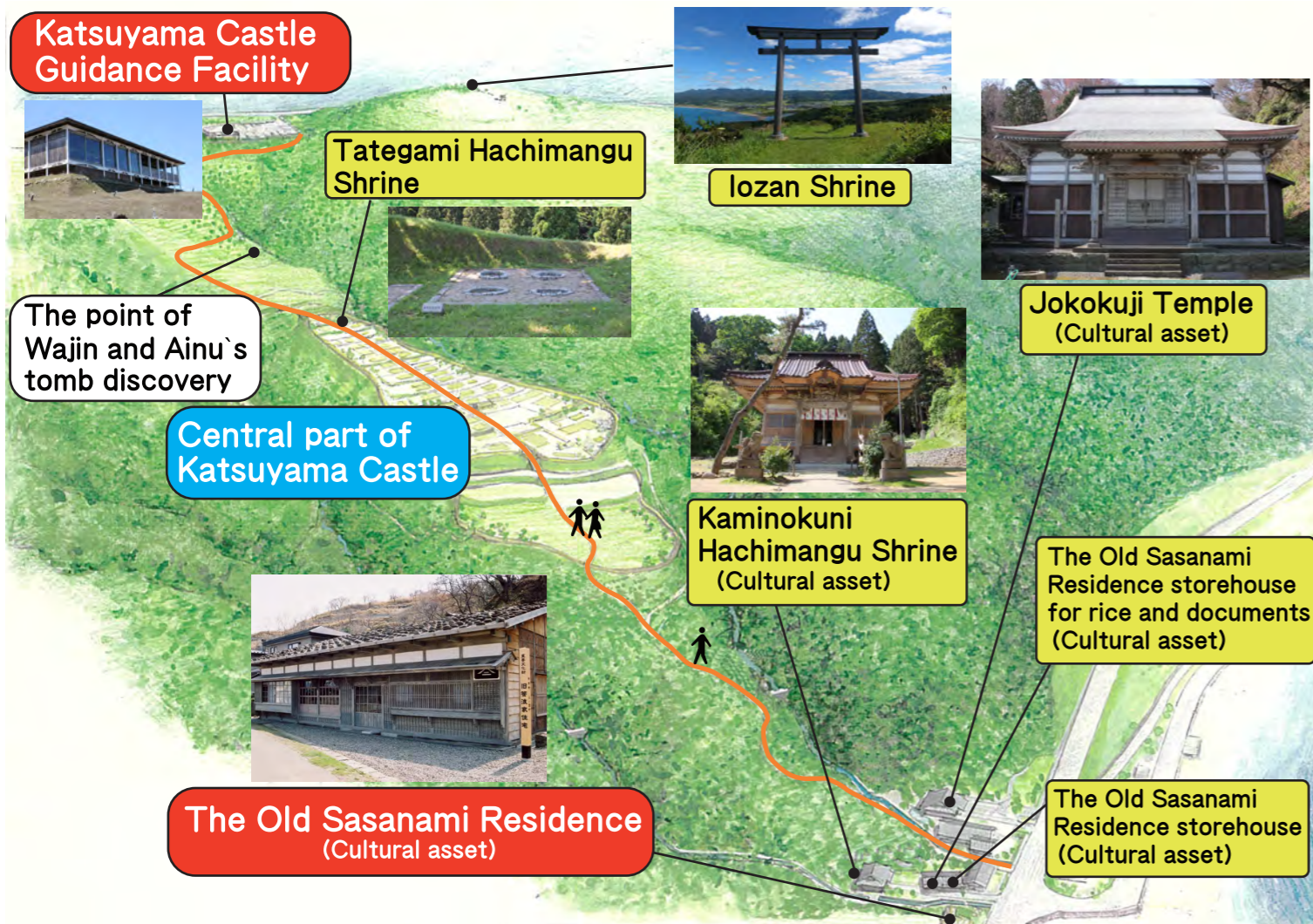
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# THE WALK ~ IT HAS BEEN WATCHED OVER BY THE GODS ~

Please follow the recommended route to enjoy Katsuyama Castle at its fullest. You can choose between three courses. The amount of walking time it takes to complete the course differs between the three courses.



Please enjoy the walking path of Katsuyama Castle with the thought of history in mind!

## Nobuhiro Takeda

He was a samurai who successively held various posts to develop **Wajin** and **Ainu** culture in Hokkaido.

- "Wajin" = People from the main island of Japan
- "Ainu" = People who lived in Hokkaido originally

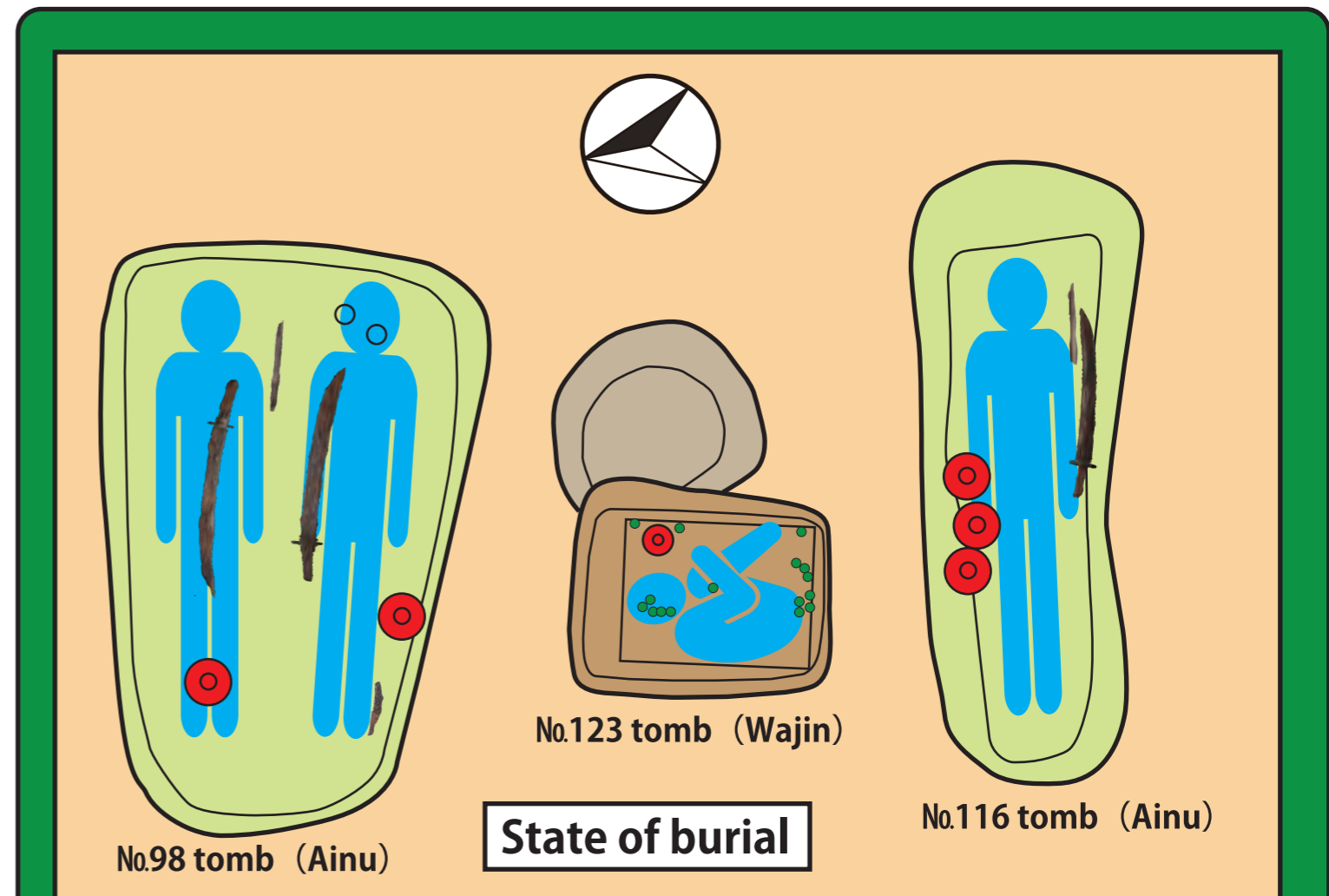
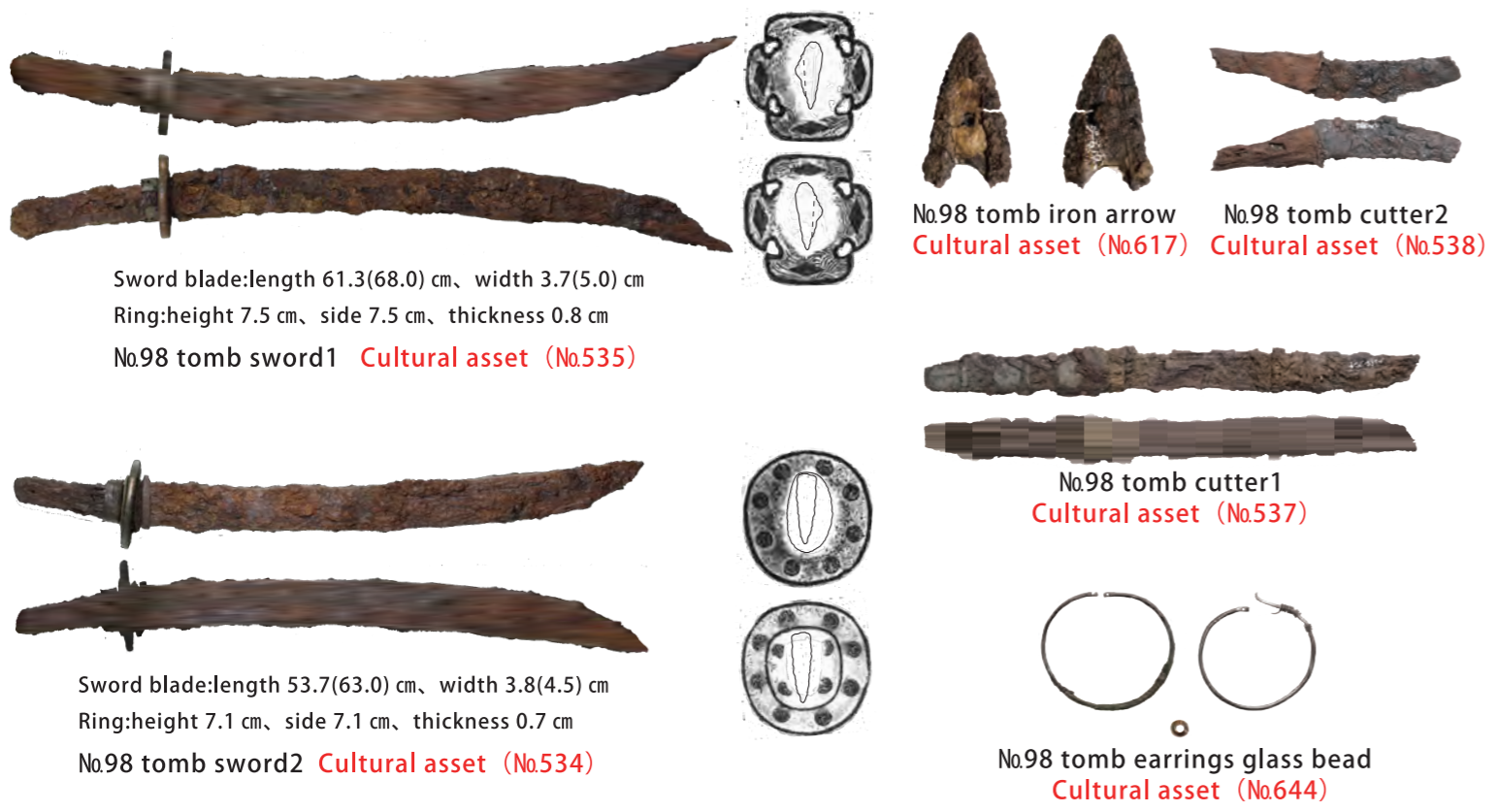
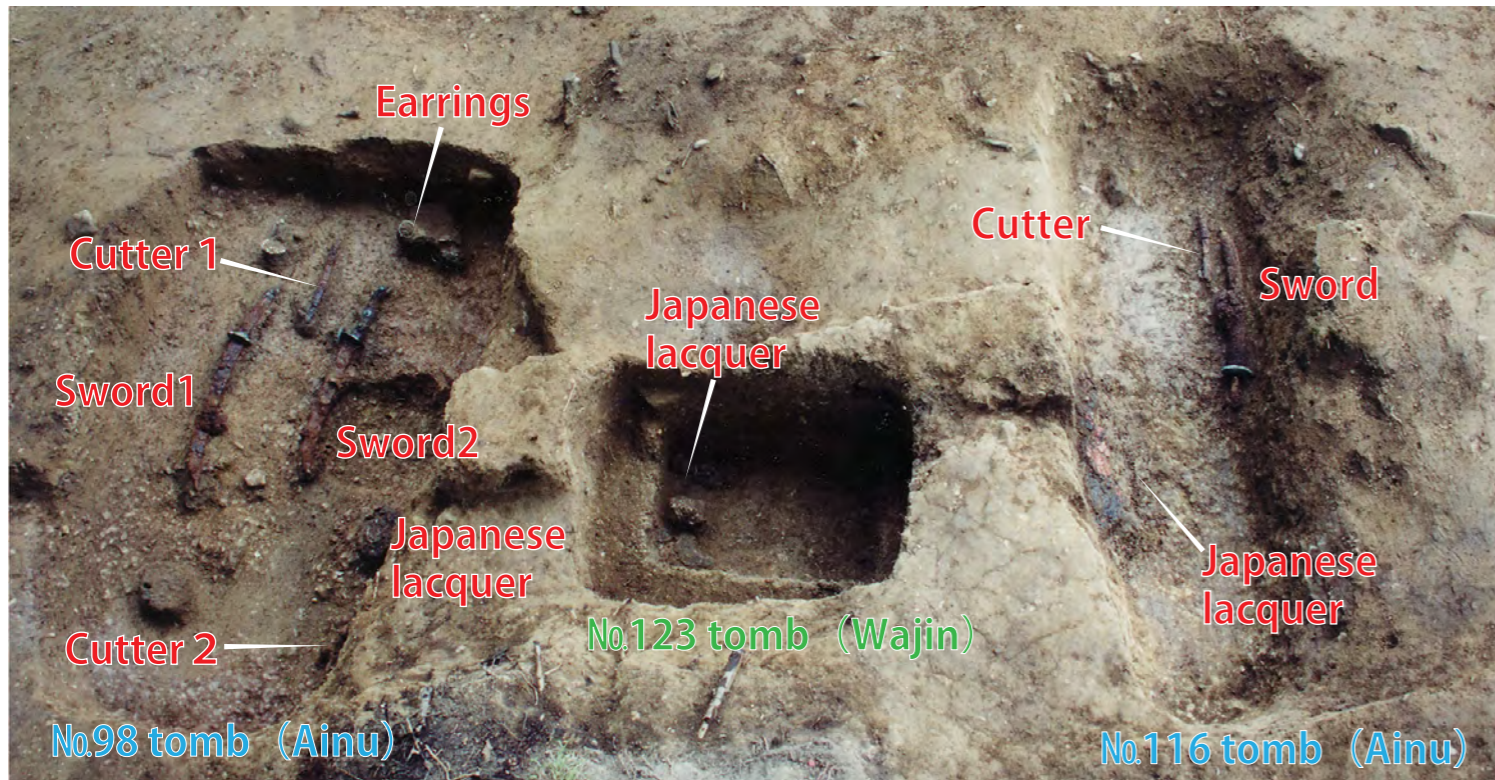


函館市中央図書館所蔵「北海道旧築図絵」

YEAR	<i>Katsuyama Castle and Nobuhiro Chronology</i>
1431	Nobuhiro Takeda was born in Fukui prefecture.
1454	He moved to Hokkaido. The war between "Ainu" and "Wajin" broke out in Hokkaido (Koshamain War). He was active in the war as a leader of the "Wajin" and built Suzaki Castle in 1457.
1473	He built Tategami Hachimangu Shrine in Katsuyama Castle.
1494	He died in Katsuyama Castle.
1514	His son moved to Matsumae and put the castle keeper in Katsuyama Castle.
1529	Ainu from Setana attacked Katsuyama Castle, but the Wajin did not lose Katsuyama Castle.
1536	Ainu from Setana attacked Katsuyama Castle again, but the Wajin did not lose Katsuyama Castle.
1558	Iozan Shrine was built to worship Nobuhiro Takeda.
1604	They received the approval to establish the Matsumae Clan from Hideyoshi Toyotomi in 1593 and Ieyasu Tokuwaga in 1604. Therefore, it is said that Nobuhiro was the founder of the Matsumae Clan. (A clan is one of the Shogunate government's clans.)

# The great discovery from reseaching AINU and Wajin

Katsuyama Castle was built to protect against the attack of the AINU (=people who originally lived in Hokkaido). Yet, we found tombs that were Wajin between tombs of AINU. We also found that Wajin (people who came from Honshu (=the main island) believed in Buddhism. The AINU people lived and cooperated together with the Wajin in Katsuyama Castle. This is the first discovery from researching AINU and Wajin culture in the world !



The people buried in Wajin tombs were found in a crouched position and their heads faced to the north. It is said that the Buddha's head faced to the north when he died. Therefore, they imitated Buddha so that they could follow the Buddha. Buddhists believed that they could travel to paradise.

In contrast, the buried people in AINU tombs remained lying on their back with their head facing to the east. The AINU believed that there was an afterlife in the west. For this reason, they faced their head to the east so that they could travel to the west.

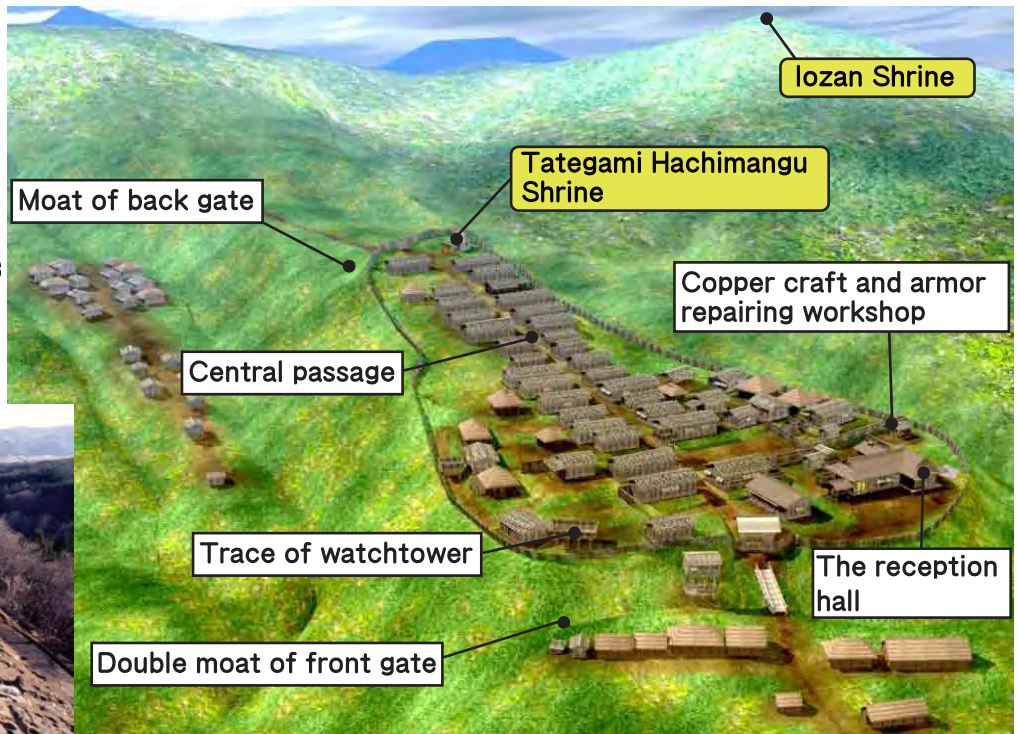
# The high grade culture of Katsuyama Castle

One hundred thousand relics were excavated from Katsuyama Castle.

These were from the main island of Japan, China, Korea, Vietnam and so on.

We found many holes dug for the purpose of raising pillars from the ground.

We believe that there were about 200 buildings there.



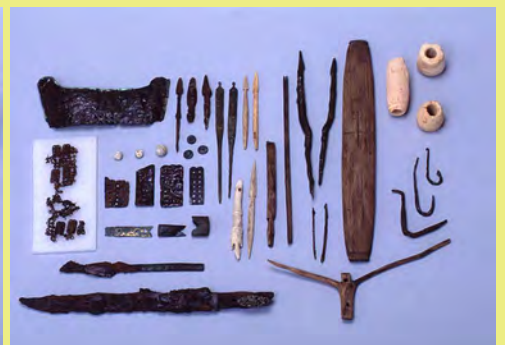
Chinese and Japanese Ceramics



Toilet set / Geta (foot wear)



Armors / Fishing tools



Cooking tools



Tea ceremony goods



Bone tools (Tools made from deer and whales)



# Recommended historical sites in Kaminokuni

## The Katsuyama Castle Guidance Facility



The replicas of tombs and the resources in the history of Katsuyama Castle are shown in this Guidance Facility.

This is the only place where you can understand and experience 15th–16th century of Hokkaido.

《Address》 427 Aza-Katsuyama, Kaminokuni

## The Old Sasanami Residence



The Sasanami family had run the fishing industry from generation to generation. This house was said to be built by the fifth generation (early 1800s). It is one of the oldest houses in Hokkaido.

In 1992, the main building and the storehouse were recognized as an important cultural property of Japan.

《Address》 236 Aza-Kaminokuni, Kaminokuni

Open : 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Closed : Every Monday (Tuesday if the Monday is a national holiday) and on holidays

We are open from the first Saturday of April to the second Sunday of November every year.

Fee	Person		Group(over20)	
	General	Students	General	Students
Guidance Facility	200yen	100yen	160yen	80yen
Old Sasanami Residence	300yen	100yen	240yen	80yen
Combo ticket	400yen	100yen	360yen	90yen

## Kaminokuni Historical Museum



You can learn about the history of Kaminokuni and experience the ancient living style.

《Address》 45-4 Aza-Odome, Kaminokuni

Open : 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Closed : Saturday, Sunday, National holidays

Fee : Free

# MAP



## Access to Kaminokuni

### From Sapporo City

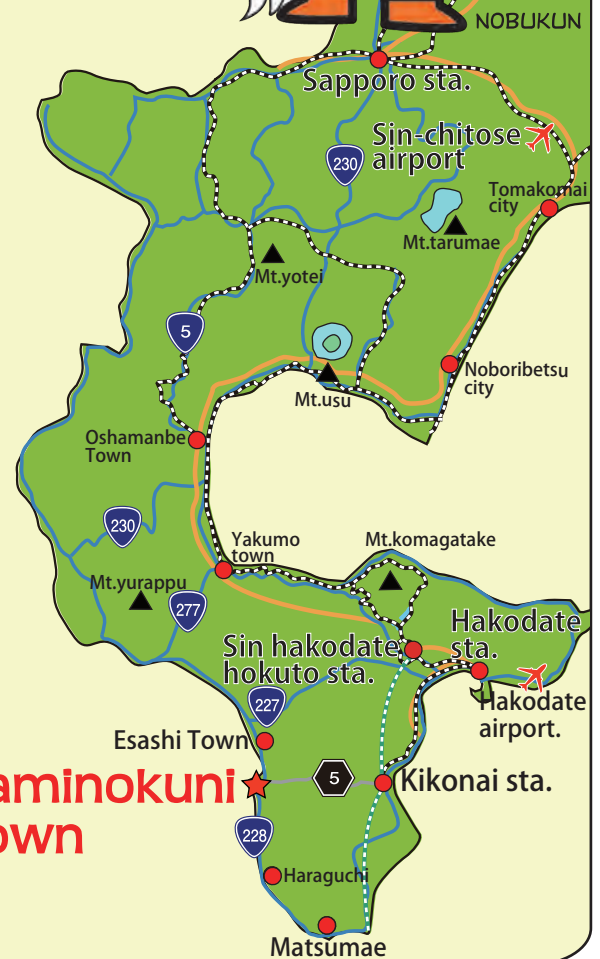
- (by train)/ It takes about five hours.  
JR Sapporo Station (three hours and 30 minutes)  
→Shin-Hakodate Hokuto Station  
→(Change trains 12 minutes)  
→Kikonai Station(one hour and 10 minutes)  
→Kaminokuni (by bus)
- (by car)/ It takes about five hours.

### From Hakodate City

- (by train)/ It takes about two hours.  
Hakodate Station(one hour)  
→Kikonai Station(one hour and 10 minutes by bus)  
→Kaminokuni
- (by car)/ It takes about two hours.

### From Kikonai Station

- (by bus)/ It takes about one hour and 10 minutes.  
Please get on the Hakodate bus "Esashi-Kikonai line" to Esashi and get off at "Odome". Then go to "Kaminokuni Ekimae" bus stop on foot and get on the bus to Matsumae and get off at "Kaminokuni". You'll get to the historical site area.
- (by car)/ It takes about 50 minutes.



**Kaminokuni  
Town**