

**ROUTE 1**

**Exploring Hibaku Buildings and the Legacy of Hiroshima**

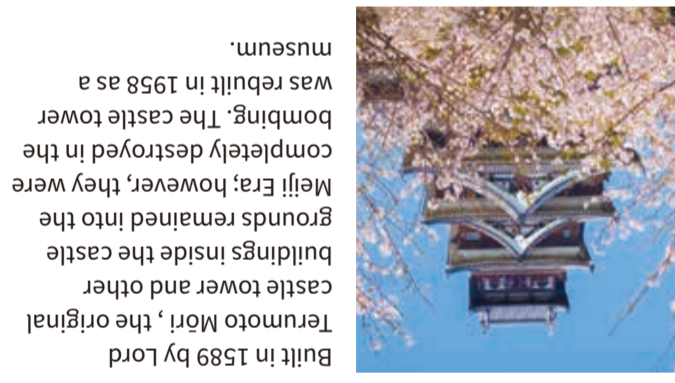
An introductory look at Peace Tourism

Hibaku buildings are buildings which survived the atomic bombing. Hiroshima is home to a variety of these hibaku buildings, each with its own unique story and historical significance. Preserved for posterity, each of the six buildings highlighted in this self-guided walking tour are among the most iconic hibaku buildings that stand as lasting, physical testaments to the destructive ability of the atomic bomb.

**The Atomic Bomb Dome**

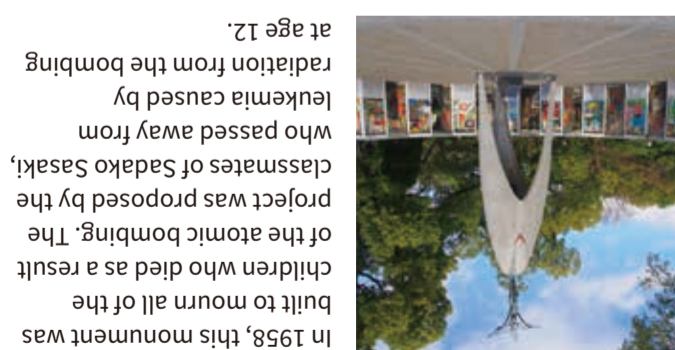


Completed in April 1915, the Hiroshima Prefectural Commerce Exhibition Hall was an architectural masterpiece adorned with an oval-shaped copper dome. At 160 meters from the hypocenter, the building was severely impacted by both the initial blast and heat rays which melted the copper covering the dome.



**Hiroshima Castle**  
Built in 1589 by Lord Terunoto Mori, the original castle tower and other buildings inside the castle grounds remained into the Meiji Era; however, they were completely destroyed in the bombing. The castle tower was rebuilt in 1958 as a museum.

**The Hypocenter**



The very first atomic bomb to be used in human warfare exploded 600 meters in the air above this very spot, on August 6, 1945 at 8:15 am.

**The Children's Peace Monument**

In 1958, this monument was built to mourn all of the children who died as a result of the atomic bombing. The project was proposed by the classmates of Sadako Sasaki, who passed away from leukemia caused by radiation from the bombing at age 12.

**Genotaph for the Victims of the Atomic Bomb (Memorial Monument for Hiroshima, City of Peace)**

Designed by Kenzo Tange in 1952, this cenotaph houses a registry of the names of deceased victims of the atomic bomb, and is inscribed with the words, "Let all the souls here rest in peace, for we shall not repeat the evil."

**Honkawa Elementary School Peace Museum**



The building was the closest school to the hypocenter at a distance of only 410 meters. The basement and part of the original hibaku school building were preserved and in May 1988, these became the Honkawa Elementary School Peace Museum.

**Hibaku Gravestone (Jisenji Temple)**



Dating back to the 1600s, Jinsenji Temple was a flourishing Pure Land Buddhist temple. Located 200 meters from the hypocenter, the blast leveled all the buildings in the complex, leaving only this gravestone built in 1689 for Kunai Okamoto.

**The Rest House**



Built in 1929 as the Taisho-ya Kimono Shop and located just 170 meters from the hypocenter, the roof was crushed by the blast and the interior destroyed before it went up in flames, leaving only the outer walls of the basement intact.

Located 460 meters from the hypocenter, only the reinforced concrete shell of the West Wing survived the bombing. In 2000, messages written on the walls by survivors (*hibaku dengon*) were discovered and the Fukuro-machi Elementary School Peace Museum was opened in April 2002 to preserve these messages.



**Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum**

Opened in 1955 in hopes to convey the realities of the atomic bombing to visitors from inside and outside of Japan, the Museum is home to an extensive collection of artifacts and exhibits about the history of Hiroshima pre- and post-WWII.



**Honkawa Elementary School Peace Museum**

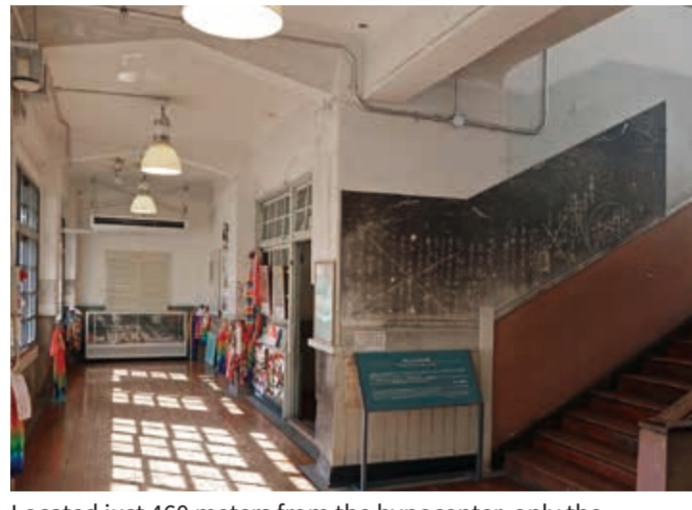
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**The Former Hiroshima Branch of the Bank of Japan**



A mere 380 meters from the hypocenter, the blast gutted the entire top floor of the building. Designated as an Important Cultural Property in 2000, the former bank now serves as a historical learning space, and as a space for cultural and art events.

**Fukuro-machi Elementary School Peace Museum**



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Created in 1620 as a villa for the Asano Clan by renowned tea master and high-ranking Asano clan retainer Sokyo Ueda, Shukkeien Garden is said to have been modeled after the famed Xi Hu (lit. West Lake) in China.



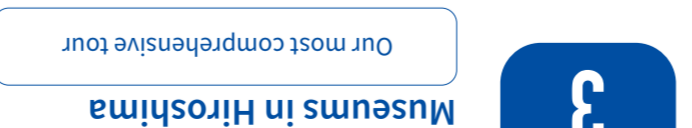
**Hall for the Atomic Bomb Victims**

Opened in August 2002, the Peace Memorial Hall is home to the Hall of Remembrance, which recreates a 360 degree view of *hibakusha* memoirs, pictures, and testimony videos, as well as messages written on the walls by survivors (*hibaku dengon*).



**Memorial Cathedral for World Peace**

Constructed to pray for world peace and in memorial of the victims of the atomic bomb and WWII, the Memorial Cathedral for World Peace (also known as the Nobori-machi Catholic Church) began with Father Lassalle Enomya.



**Lessons from the Past: An In-Depth Look at Peace Museums in Hiroshima**

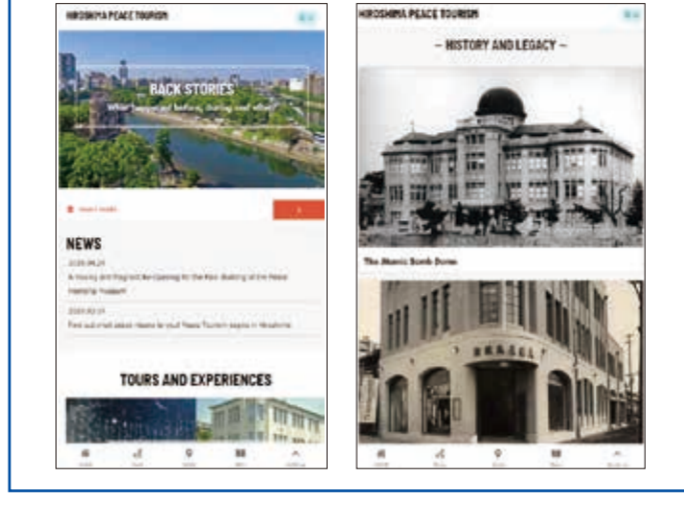
This self-guided walking tour covers the very best of peace museums in Hiroshima, all located in the heart of downtown. Ideal for those who want an in-depth look at pre-war and post-war Hiroshima.

**For the complete experience, visit our mobile site!**

Our mobile site acts like an app and is full of interactive maps, AR views, historical information, and more.

**Hiroshima Peace Tourism Official Mobile Site**

Scan the QR code to the right for your own personal guide to Peace Tourism!



**Instagram**  
Follow us on Instagram (@hiroshima\_peace\_tourism) and be sure to tag us in your photos of Hiroshima

**Twitter**  
Follow us on Twitter (@tourism\_peace) for the latest news about peace-related events and more

**Hiroshima Free Wi-Fi**  
Stay connected with free wi-fi around the city!

**About Hiroshima Peace Tourism**

On August 6, 1945, Hiroshima became the very first city to experience an atomic bomb in human warfare. This single nuclear weapon had a definitive impact not just on the city itself, but also on the environment, and the very cultural fabric of the city. Through Peace Tourism, you will gain an in-depth understanding of the past, present, and future of Hiroshima through visits to the most well-known landmarks in the city, peace museums, modern downtown Hiroshima, and more. This guide map is only the beginning: visit our official website for a more comprehensive look at the history of each landmark, self-guided tour routes, and other useful information for making the most of your time in Hiroshima.

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**Hiroshima Peace Tourism Guide Map**



The Saigoku Kaido was the name of the road which stretched from Kyoto to Shimonoesaki during the Edo Period, and since then, Hondori has served as the main thoroughfare and bustling commercial hub of the Saigoku Kaido, a role which continues to this day.



**Former Hiroshima Municipal Stadium**

Once the site of the very first baseball stadium in Hiroshima, this convenient downtown space located across from Peace Memorial Park now serves as a venue for gourmet fairs, international sports competitions, and more.

Hiroshima's thriving modern culture, shopping arcade and features the best of take you down Hiroshima's most iconic ashes. This self-guided walking tour will like the proverbial phoenix from the domestic community, rebuild their city in support of the international and Hiroshima and her people, with the

Highlighting post-war Hiroshima

**From the Ashes: A Look at Modern Hiroshima**

At the time of the bombing, the interior was completely lost to the blast winds and concentrated heat rays, leaving only the shell of the exterior. After the bombing, the building was used as a temporary medical station.

**Fukuya Department Store**

Okonomimura is home to over 20 okonomiyaki grills. This *yatai-mura* is where Hiroshima soul food, okonomiyaki, was born. Okonomimura is home to over 20 okonomiyaki grills.



**Okonomimura**

victim to the firestorm.

Originally built as the Hiroshima Branch of Mitsui Bank, at the time of the bombing, it served as the Hiroshima Branch of the Imperial Bank. The building faced the brunt of the blast winds and the wall facing the hypocenter crumbled before falling

**Branch of the Imperial Bank**

Hiroshima Andersen (Former Hiroshima)



**ROUTE 2**



**ROUTE 3**