

Solve some mysteries!

The legend of Kibitsu-hiko-no-Mikoto and Ura passed down in Kibi becomes more interesting the more you learn about it. The prosperity of Kibi revealed by the great burial mounds also had a close connection to Ura. Test yourself and see how much you know about the Legend of Ura, said to be the original form of the Legend of Momotaro.

Q.1

In the Legend of Ura, said to be the root of Momotaro, what did Kibitsu-hiko-no-Mikoto change into to chase Ura, who had transformed into a carp and fled in the river?

- ① Great snake ② Cormorant
③ Pheasant ④ Dog

Q.2

Which of the following has no connection to Kibitsu-hiko-no-Mikoto's Legend of Ura?

- ① Yaguinomiya-jinja Shrine ② Chisugawa River
③ Koikui-jinja Shrine ④ Chiarai-no-taki Waterfall

Q.3

A poem* composed about Kibi no Nakayama reads, "How pure the sound / the narrow valley rivulet / makes that winds around / a sash on Nakayama / in true metal-smelting Kibi!" This was written about ancient Kibi, but which of the following was the "true metal" that was the major product of Kibi?

*Poem from the Kokin Wakashu, an anthology of waka (Japanese short poems) created in the 10th century; English based on Edwin A. Cranston's translation in A Waka Anthology: Grasses of Remembrance

- ① Silver ② Iron ③ Copper ④ Lead

Q.4

Which large keyhole-shaped burial mound is around 350 m long, the largest in Okayama Prefecture, and the fourth-largest in Japan?

- ① Tsukuriyama (造山) Burial Mound ② Ryogusan Burial Mound
③ Tsukuriyama (作山) Burial Mound ④ Sumotoriyama Burial Mound

→Answers at the bottom of P14

Access Guide Access to Okayama



Plane

Different locations
(Sapporo, Tokyo, Okinawa)

Okayama Momotaro Airport

↓ (Approx. 30 min by bus)

JR Okayama Station

Undokoen Exit (west exit)

Shinkansen From JR Okayama Station

- From Tokyo 3 hrs 20 min
○ From Nagoya 1 hr 30 min
○ From Shin Osaka 45 min
○ From Hakata 1 hr 45 min

Freeway To Okayama I.C.

- From Osaka (Chugoku-Suita I.C.) 2 hrs 5 min
○ From Hiroshima (Hiroshima I.C.) 1 hr 50 min
○ From Yonago (Yonago I.C.) 1 hr 50 min
○ From Takamatsu (Takamatsu Chuo I.C.) 1 hr 5 min

Okayama, the birthplace of the Legend of Momotaro, a piece of Japan Heritage
– A tale of ogre conquest handed down through ancient Kibi heritage –

Japan Heritage refers to stories recognized by the Agency for Cultural Affairs.

These stories tell us about Japanese culture and tradition through the historic attractions and characteristics of local areas.

Agency for Cultural Affairs Japan Heritage Portal Site <https://japan-heritage.bunka.go.jp/ja/>



Japan Heritage "Okayama, the birthplace of the Legend of Momotaro" Promotion Council
(Okayama City Promotion and MICE Promotion Section) Tel: 086-803-1333
Japan Heritage Promotion Project, 2019

Okayama, the birthplace of the Legend of Momotaro,
a piece of Japan Heritage – A tale of ogre conquest handed down through ancient Kibi heritage – is made up of the four cities of Okayama,
Kurashiki, Soja, and Akiwa.



<https://momotaro-ura.jp/>

Japan Heritage "Legend of Momotaro" 検索

Momotaro,
Find the truth behind the legend

The treasures of Okayama Momotaro Journey to the truth

The legend of Kibitsu-hiko-no-Mikoto and the ogre Ura is a story said to be the original form of the folktale Momotaro passed down in Okayama.

The mysterious remains of a mountain castle, burial mounds, and shrines...

Head on a journey to visit shining treasures, blown by the winds of Kibi.

Experience Okayama hospitality with Ura mythology.

Okayama, the birthplace of the Legend of Momotaro, a piece of Japan Heritage
– A tale of ogre conquest handed down through ancient Kibi heritage –



JAPAN HERITAGE
日本遺産
桃太郎伝説



Recognized as Japan Heritage in May 2018
Okayama, the birthplace of the Legend of Momotaro - A tale of ogre conquest handed down through ancient Kibi heritage -
Find out more!
The legend of the mysterious ogre conquest

The cultural properties
28
that make up the
Legend of Momotaro
[Okayama City
Kurashiki City
Soja City
Akaiwa City]

What is the Legend of Ura, said to be the original form of the Legend of Momotaro?

In ancient times, an ogre named Ura built Kinojo Castle (Ogre Castle) on a mountain in the province of Kibi (Okayama), and committed many evil acts. As a result, Kibitsu-hiko-no-Mikoto, the model for Momotaro, received an order from the king of Yamato to vanquish Ura. He readied a camp in Nakayama in Kibi and went to war. At the end of the hard-fought battle, one of Kibitsu-hiko-no-Mikoto's arrows pierced Ura's left eye. It is said that blood spouted from Ura's eye, running like a river. Ura transformed into a carp and escaped down the river of blood, but

Kibitsu-hiko-no-Mikoto changed into a cormorant and ate the carp, completely vanquishing Ura. Ura received punishment and was beheaded. His head was put on display, but his roaring did not stop for many years afterwards. Kibitsu-hiko-no-Mikoto buried the head deep under the kettle at Kibitsu-jinja Shrine's Okamaden (Kettle Hall), but even this did not end the roaring. Then, one day, Ura appeared to Kibitsu-hiko-no-Mikoto in a dream and told him: "If my wife uses the Okamaden's kettle to cook rice, I will become your servant and tell people's fortunes by making the kettle ring." It is said that when this was done, the roaring stopped.

Even today, a kettle-ringing ritual called the Narukama Shinji and a ritual called the Yatate Shinji, in which arrows are fired at the sky in front of the Yaokiwa stone, take place at Kibitsu-jinja Shrine. Many huge burial mounds from this time period also remain in Okayama, showing the prosperity of Kibi province.

The Legend of Momotaro has been continuously passed down in this area. This grand story, said to be the basis for the widely-known folktale Momotaro, becomes more profound the more you know, and is full of romance.



01 Mt. Kinojo (Kinojo Castle)



02 Oninokama (Ogre's Pot)



03 Tatetsuki Ruins



04 Sentaimonsei Stone at Tatetsuki-jinja Shrine



05 Yaokiwa and Yatate Shrine Ritual



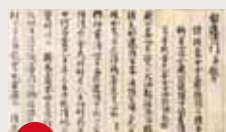
06 Yaguinomiya-jinja Shrine



07 Koikui-jinja Shrine (Koikui-jinja Shrine Ruins)



08 Chisuigawa River



09 Kibitsu-jinja Shrine Solicitation Book



10 Bitchu Province Okibitsu-jinja Brief History



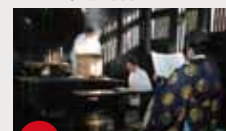
11 Kibi no Nakayama



12 Kibitsu-jinja Shrine



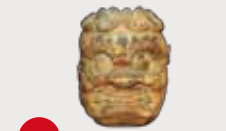
13 Kibitsu-jinja Shrine Okamaden



14 Narukama Shinji Ritual (Kettle-ringing Ritual)



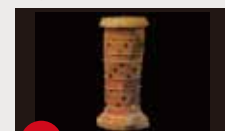
15 Old Kibitsu-jinja Shrine Precinct Map



16 Kibitsu-jinja Shrine Ogre Mask



17 Kibitsu-hiko-jinja Shrine



18 Special Utensil Stand



19 Tsukuriyama (造山) Burial Mound



20 Tsukuriyama (作山) Burial Mound



21 Ryogusan Burial Mound



22 Komori-zuka Burial Mound



23 Musa-otsuka Burial Mound



24 Yata-otsuka Burial Mound



25 Peach Seeds Unearthed from the Joto Ruins



26 Okayama Peaches



27 Kibidango (Millet Dumpling)



28 Hakusan-jinja Shrine Kubizuka (Head Burial Mound)

The model for Momotaro: Tracing the path of Kibitsuuhiko-no-Mikoto



The haiden, a National Treasure. The beauty of the architecture will blow you away!



An approximately 400-meter wooden corridor leads to the Okamaden (Kettle Hall) (a National Important Cultural Property built in 1612).



05 Yaokiiwa

This rock is said to be where Kibitsuuhiko-no-Mikoto placed his arrows when he was firing at Kinojo Castle.



05 Yatate Shrine Ritual

Each year on January 3, six archers fire arrows northeast, southeast, southwest, and northwest from in front of Yaokiiwa. This shrine ritual is performed to pray for sound health and a good harvest for the year.

Kibitsuuhiko-no-Mikoto (Momotaro) punished Ura (the ogre) and subjugated Kibi. First, unravel the legend by touring around sites that are linked to this story's main character. Kibitsujinja Shrine is a must-see if you want to know more about Kibitsuuhiko-no-Mikoto. The Yaokiiwa, the rock on which Kibitsuuhiko-no-Mikoto is said to have placed the arrow that felled Ura, and Narukama Shinji, the kettle-ringing ritual that tells fortunes through the sound of the ringing kettle, have been passed down here. There are also many places located in the area around this shrine, including Kibitsuuhiko-jinja Shrine, where Kibitsuuhiko-no-Mikoto is enshrined, and a historical site said to be the location of the battle with Ura – trace the story, and have a think about this mysterious legend as you travel around.



Goshuin-cho notes with Momotaro designs, fortunes, and protective charms are also popular.

Okibitsuuhiko-no-Mikoto is the main deity enshrined here. The honden and haiden buildings are Japanese National Treasures.

12 Kibitsujinja Shrine

Kibitsujinja Shrine was the chief shrine in Bitchu Province (modern-day western Okayama Prefecture), and its main deity is Okibitsuuhiko-no-Mikoto (Kibitsuuhiko-no-Mikoto). There are many sites linked to the Legend of Ura within the shrine precincts, including Yaokiiwa, the rock on which Okibitsuuhiko-no-Mikoto (Kibitsuuhiko-no-Mikoto) is said to have placed his arrows when battling Ura, and the Okamaden (Kettle Hall), where the ogre's head was buried. The honden and haiden buildings are the only examples in Japan of magnificent Kibitsu-zukuri (also known as hiyoku irimoya-zukuri, a paired wing hip-and-gable roof style) architecture, and are designated National Treasures.

Source: Kibitsujinja Shrine website
931 Kibitsu, Kita-ku, Okayama City Tel: 086-287-4111 Parking available

The model for Momotaro:
Tracing the path of Kibitsuuhiko-no-Mikoto



The chief shrine of Bizen Province (southeastern Okayama Prefecture), dedicated to Okibitsuuhiko-no-Mikoto

17 Kibitsuuhiko-jinja Shrine

This shrine's deity, Okibitsuuhiko-no-Mikoto (Kibitsuuhiko-no-Mikoto), is famous as the god who became the model for Momotaro. Kibitsuuhiko-jinja Shrine is known as the chief shrine in the hometown of the Legend of Momotaro, kagura (sacred ritual dancing), and Bizen swords.

Source: Kibitsuuhiko-jinja Shrine website
1043 Ichinomiya, Kita-ku, Okayama City
Tel: 086-284-0031 Parking available

04 Sentaimonseki Stone at Tatetsuki-jinja Shrine

This stone is the object of worship at Tatetsuki-jinja Shrine, located above the Tatetsuki Ruins. A design depicting a belt-like arch has been carved across the entire surface. In the shrine's records of its origins, it is said that Kibitsuuhiko-no-Mikoto used this stone to fly during the battle with Ura.

Source: Tsukubogun-shi (A Record of Tsukubogun County (Okayama Prefecture))



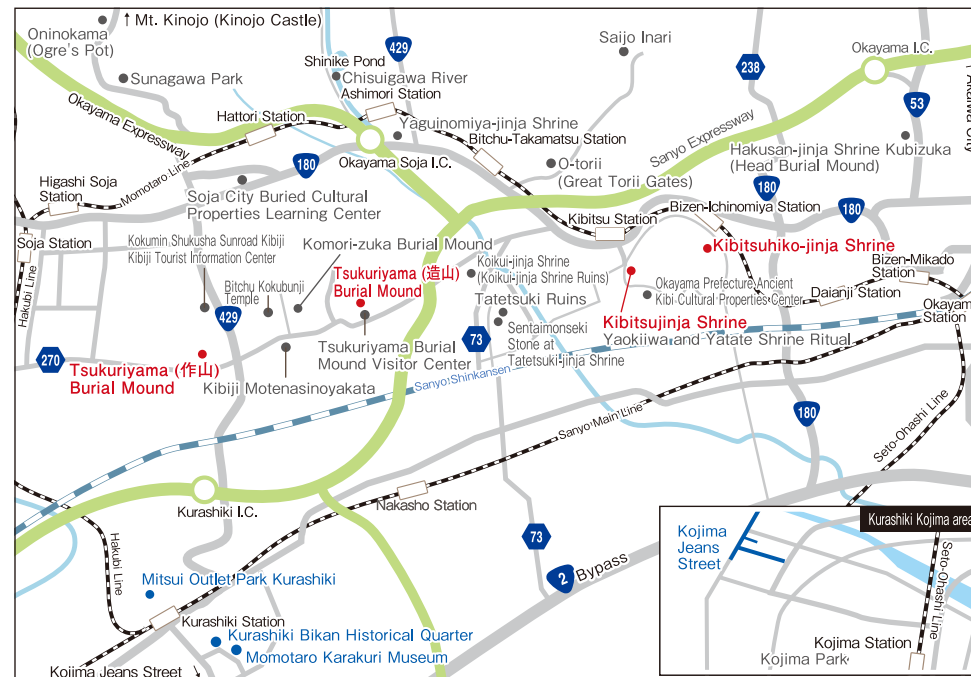
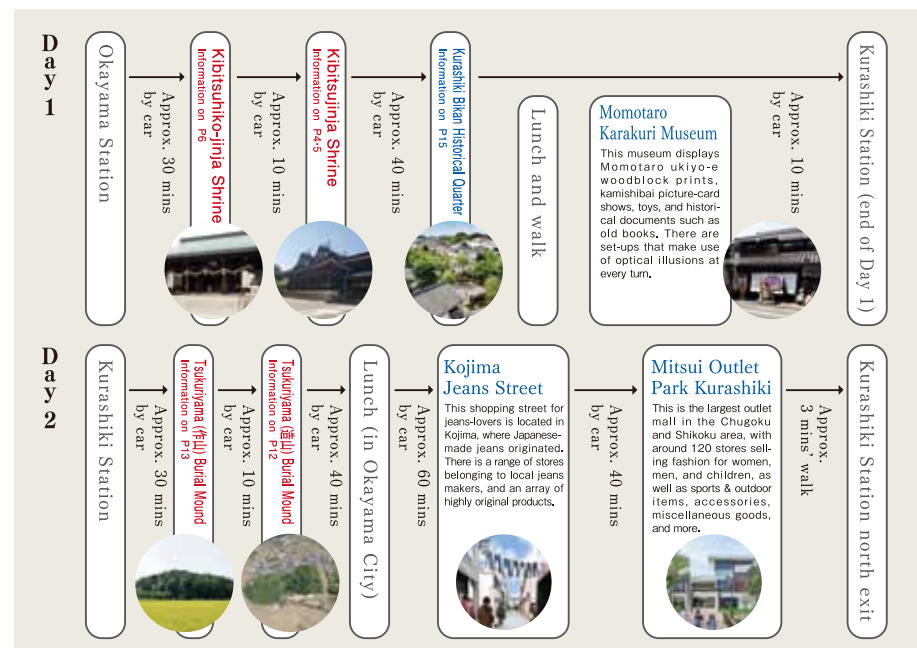
The stones that Kibitsuuhiko-no-Mikoto used as shields to protect himself from Ura's arrows

03 Tatetsuki Ruins

A red-lined coffin, an iron sword, small glass gems, and other items have been excavated from this burial mound from the late Yayoi period (c. 300 BCE to c. 250 CE). In the legend, it is said that Kibitsuuhiko-no-Mikoto raised the five stones as shields to protect himself from Ura's arrows.

Yabe, Kurashiki City
Tel: 086-426-3851
(Kurashiki Board of Education, Cultural Property Protection Section)
Parking available

[Model Course] Trace the path of Kibitsuuhiko-no-Mikoto



Access to Soja/
Kibiji area (Kibitsuujinja Shrine)

[JR] JR Momotaro Line Okayama Station → Alight at Kibitsu Station; approx. 10 mins' walk to Kibitsu-jinja Shrine
[Car] Approx. 15 mins from the Okayama Soja I.C. on the Okayama Expressway

There is one other main character in this legend: Ura. By tracing the shrine rituals related to Ura, the mountain castle in which he lived, and the battlefields that remain from this legend of fierce struggle, we can discover a very different story to that of the folk-tale Momotaro. One theory suggests that Ura, said to have come from the Korean Peninsula, settled in Kibi, and was known as the leader who made the area prosper by using advanced iron-making techniques. This was seen as a threat by the kingdom of Yamato and it was then suppressed by Kibitsu-hiko-no-Mikoto. It is said that the local people, who had loved Ura, mourned him, and after his death Ura continued to roar. This story is also known as the Legend of Ura, and based on this story, Ura plays the lead role in Uraja, a festival that represents summer in Okayama City. The respect and affection for Ura, who guided and supported Kibi, has been passed down through the ages.

Consider eternity in
the residence of an ogre



16 Kibitsujinja Shrine Ogre Mask

This large mask made of Japanese cypress gives us an image of the face of the ogre Ura. It is currently in storage (generally not open to the public) at Okayama Prefectural Museum.



02 Oninokama (Ogre's Pot)

The great Oninokama, said to be the kettle in which Ura boiled people and animals, is located en route to Kinojo Castle.

An ancient mountain castle with superb views,
said to be Ura's seat

01 Mt. Kinojo and Kinojo Castle

The peak of this mountain is approximately 400 m above sea level, a scenic spot with unbroken views of Soja City's urban areas. Lofty Kinojo Castle stands here; the walls of this ancient mountain castle extend around 2.8 km. The steep slopes and towering, bare mountain with exposed rocks means that it's possible to keep a watchful eye on the surroundings without letting anyone get close. If you walk the hiking course from the Iwaya area around 3 km north of Kinojo Castle, you can also see Oni no Sashiage Iwa (Ogre-raised Rock; the Ogre Cave). There is a hollow here said to be the handprint made when Ura picked up the great rock.

Okusaka, Soja City
Tel: 0866-99-8566 Mt. Kinojo Visitor Center

The Okamaden's shrine ritual
in Kibitsujinja Shrine, which
divines fortunes from the
ringing noise of the kettle

The strange bowaa, bowaa sounds
will tell your fortune!

14 Narukama Shinji Ritual (Kettle-ringing Ritual)

This shrine ritual divines fortunes based on the power and length of the sounds of the kettle being rung when hot. It is said that Okibitsu-hiko-no-Mikoto (Kibitsu-hiko-no-Mikoto) buried Ura's decapitated head underneath this kettle, and that Ura's roars continued even after his head was buried in the ground. Then, one day, Ura appeared to Okibitsu-hiko-no-Mikoto (Kibitsu-hiko-no-Mikoto) in a dream and told him: "If my wife uses this kettle to cook rice, I will become your servant and tell people's fortunes by making the kettle ring." When this was done, the roaring stopped, and peace came. It is said that this was the start of the Narukama Shinji ritual (kettle-ringing ritual).

*Anyone wanting to attend the ritual should be present at the shrine office by 14:00. It does not take place on a Friday.



Visit the hidden of Kibitsujinja shrine, and have your prayers accepted at the shrine office.



You can almost hear Ura's roars in the reverberating bowaaaa sounds the heated kettle makes when it is rung. Listen to the power and length of the sounds, and make your own judgement of your fortune based on how you feel.

→ Information about Kibitsujinja Shrine is on P4 & 5



Go around the site of the
hard-fought battle between
Kibitsu-hiko-no-Mikoto and Ura

Place names such as Chisugawa River (“Blood River”) and Kobe (“Head Division”), and small shrines such as Yaguinomiya-jinja Shrine remain in Okayama; this whole area can be seen as the site of the hard-fought battle between Kibitsu-hiko-no-Mikoto and Ura. Head to the battlefield of legend that saw such an epic ending.

Located in the place where Ura's head was displayed,
venerating him as a god of rice

**Hakusan-jinja Shrine Kubizuka
(Head Burial Mound)**

This approximately 1.5 m-high mound within the shrine precincts is a subordinate shrine known as Komekami ("god of rice"); its deity is the fierce god of the Kubizuka, the head burial mound. Tradition has it that Ura's head was put on display. Komekami is said to be Ura: "Bringing treasured iron-making technology from the Korean Peninsula, broadening farmers' agricultural tools, hoes, and plows...making Kibi a place of abundant rice, Ura's achievements were acknowledged and he was the subject of strong gratitude from the farmers; he was venerated as a god of rice" (from Hakusan-jinja Shrine's commentary).

236 Kobe, Kita-ku, Okayama City



Colliding arrows falling to become a great stone

06 Yaguinomiya-jinja Shrine

You can find this shrine between Kinojo Castle and Kibitsujinja Shrine. Kibitsu-hiko-no-Mikoto fought with bow and arrow, and Ura responded in kind from Kinojo Castle. It is said that their arrows collided, fell, and became a great stone.

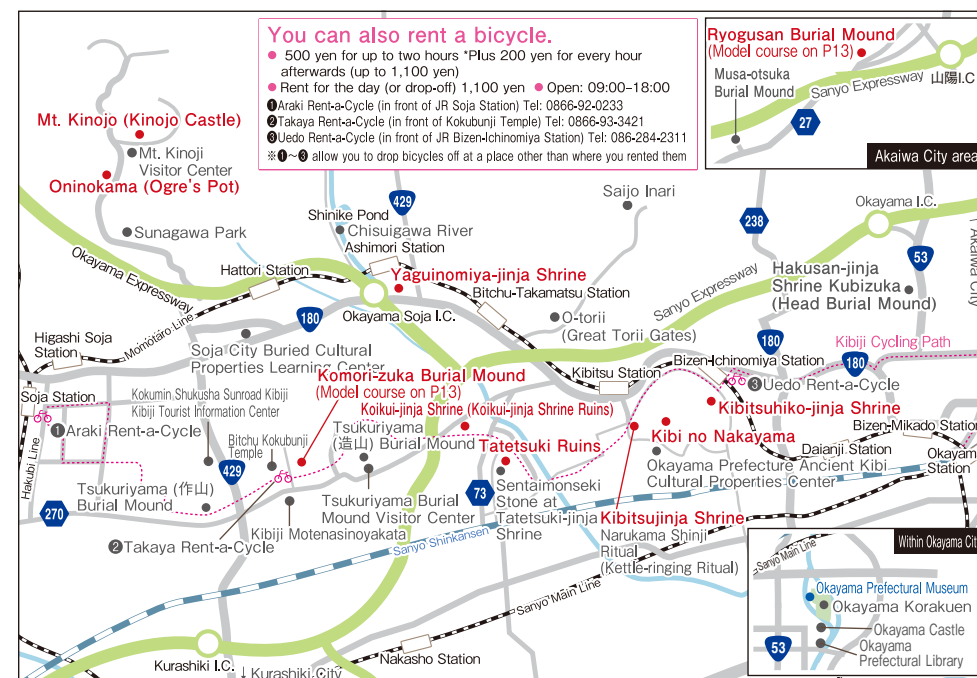
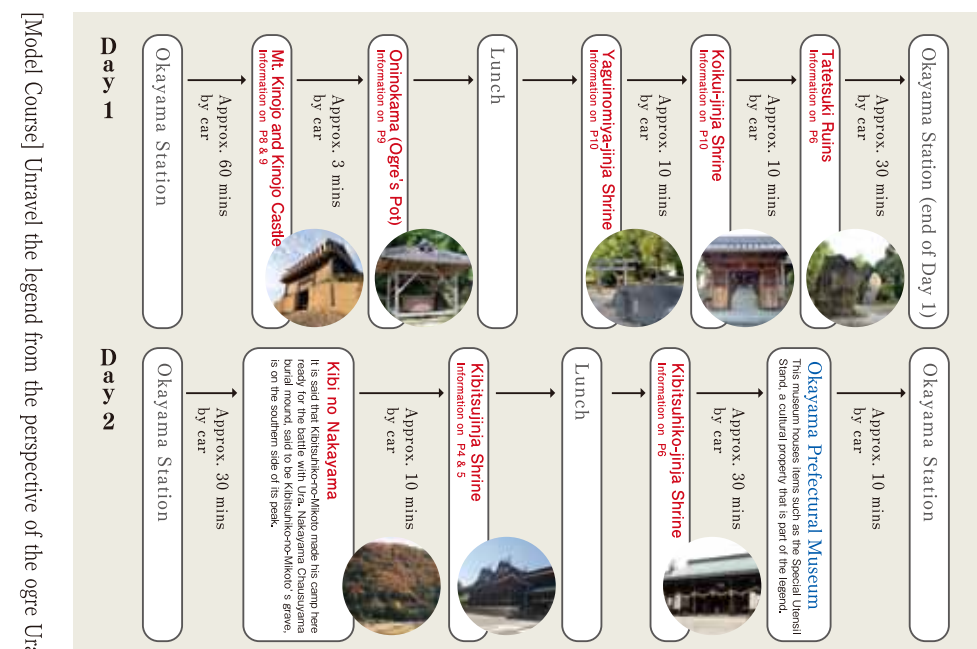
108 Takatsuka, Kita-ku, Okayama City
Tel: 086-803-1332 (Okayama City Tourism Promotion Section)
Parking available



From the site of Ura's capture to a shrine
Koikui-jinja Shrine
 (Koikui-jinja Shrine ruins)

Ura, struck by one of Kibitsuhihiko-no-Mikoto's arrows and wounded, transformed into a carp and tried to go down Chisuigawa River. It is said that Kibitsuhihiko-no-Mikoto turned into a cormorant, captured the carp in his beak, and rose from the river. Tradition has it that the villagers of this area built the shrine on this spot.

109 Yabe, Kurashiki City
Tel: 086-426-3851
(Kurashiki Board of Education, Cultural Property Protection Section)
No parking available



Access to Mt. Kinojo and Kinojo Castle

[JR] JR Momotaro Line Okayama Station → alight at Soja Station; approx. 20 mins by taxi
[Car] Approx. 20 mins from the Okayama Soja I.C. on the Okayama Expressway

A great force that amassed glory Tracing the brilliance and mysteries of ancient Kibi



The fourth-largest burial mound in the country, the largest in Japan when it was built

19 Tsukuriyama (造山) Burial Mound

At approx. 350 m in length, this giant keyhole-shaped burial mound is the fourth-largest in the country. It is a National Designated Historic Site, and the largest burial mound in Japan that you can enter. Climb up, and you will be able to feel for yourself the excellence of the shaping and greatness of the scale.



A keyhole-shaped burial mound that floats in a water-filled moat

21 Ryogusan Burial Mound

With a mound 206 m long, this key-hole shaped burial mound is the third-largest in Okayama Prefecture. It was built in the second half of the fifth century, in the middle of the Kofun period (c. 250 – 538 CE). It is counted as one of the three great burial mounds of Kibi together with Tsukuriyama (造山) Burial Mound and Tsukuriyama (作山) Burial Mound. It is the only burial mound in the Prefecture to be surrounded by a water-filled moat, and originally had a double moat. It is a National Designated Historic Site.

Wada/Hosaki, Akaiwa City
Tel: 086-955-0710
(Akaiwa City Board of Education, Social Education Section) Parking available



The great stone chamber, the longest in the prefecture, is a highlight.

22 Komori-zuka Burial Mound

This keyhole-shaped burial mound built in the second half of the sixth century is thought to be the grave of a great chief of Kibi. A cave-like stone chamber 19.4 m long that contained a coffin is located in the circular part at the back; this is one of the three great stone burial mounds in Okayama Prefecture. It is also the longest. In the center is a house-shaped stone coffin created from shell limestone taken from one large rock. It is a National Designated Historic Site.
Kanbayashi, Soja City
Tel: 0866-93-8071 (Soja City Buried Cultural Properties Learning Center)
Parking available



The largest stone chamber in the Prefecture that you can enter as you please

23 Musa-otsuka Burial Mound

This burial mound from the second half of the sixth century is theorized to be a grave of the Kamitsumichi clan, said to be Kibitsuiko-no-Mikoto's descendants. The mound has a diameter of 30 m, a height of 8.5 m, as well as a cave-like stone chamber 18 m long. It is a National Designated Historic Site.
Musa, Kita-ku, Okayama City
Tel: 086-803-1611 (Okayama City Board of Education, Cultural Property Protection Section) Parking not available



A great keyhole-shaped burial mound constructed next to Tsukuriyama (造山) Burial Mound

20 Tsukuriyama (作山) Burial Mound

This keyhole-shaped burial mound is 282 m in length, and is thought to be the grave of a great chief of ancient Kibi. It is the second-largest in Okayama Prefecture and the tenth-largest in the country, and is a National Designated Historic Site.
Misu, Soja City
Tel: 0866-93-8071 Soja City Buried Cultural Properties Learning Center
Parking available

A burial mound said to be the grave of the descendants of Kibitsuiko-no-Mikoto's younger brother

24 Yata-otsuka Burial Mound

This is theorized to be a grave of the Shimotsumichi clan, said to be descendants of Kibitsuiko-no-Mikoto's younger brother. A set of three stone coffins still remain inside the stone chamber. It is a National Designated Historic Site.

Yata, Mabi-cho, Kurashiki City
Tel: 086-426-3851 (Kurashiki City Board of Education, Cultural Property Protection Section)
Parking available

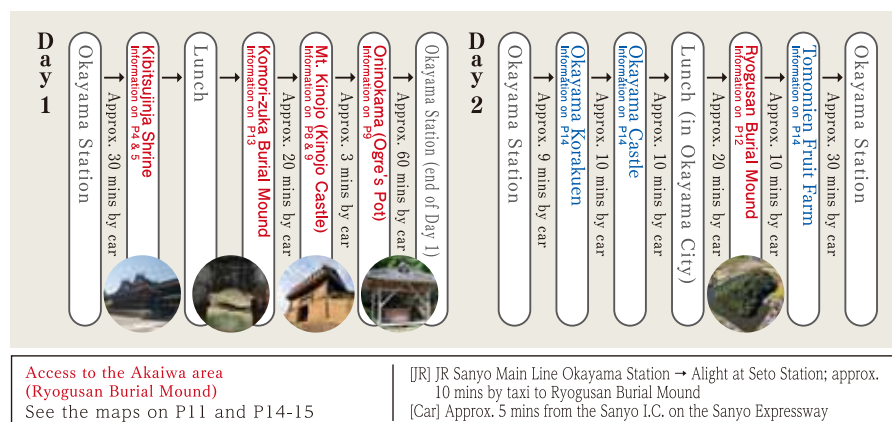


Straddling modern-day Okayama Prefecture and the eastern part of Hiroshima Prefecture, Kibi created a period of prosperity. The phrase “true metal-smelting Kibi” was also used; one theory is that Kibi prospered thanks to the iron and salt-making technologies taught by Ura, who had settled in this area. Some of the largest burial mounds in the country, Tsukuriyama (造山) Burial Mound and Musa-otsuka Burial Mound (one of the Three Great Stone Burial Mounds of Kibi*) are historical sites that represent the prosperity of Kibi. In addition, the peach seeds unearthed from the Joto Ruins (P3) are also an important item linked to the Legend of Momotaro. The seeds are registered as one of the cultural properties that make up this story, a piece of Japan Heritage.

*Three Great Stone Burial Mounds of Kibi **22 23 24**

Among the burial mounds in the Prefecture with large, cave-like stone chambers made of great stones, these three are especially huge.

[Model Course] Tracing the brilliance
and mysteries of ancient Kibi





K Gohanya Saji

A popular dish is the Saji Gohan, which shows off the eatery's attention to detail. The nature-inspired space is also comfortable.
1437-1 Makabe, Soja City
Tel. 080-2924-4933



I Tsunagari Café Sen

This café is run by different people on different days, and it offers a carefully-created menu of Japanese, Western, and Hakka cuisine.
2-5-20 Soja, Soja City
Tel. 080-1925-9379 (Chairperson: Kanemaru)

J Bakery Tongu

As of 2019, this well-established bakery was founded 91 years ago. It offers an array of specialty products, including "jōan," a treat filled with homemade red bean paste.
1-2-3 Ekimae, Soja City
Tel. 0866-92-0236



H Omizuen Garden and Oshokujisho Koan Chaya

This feudal lord's garden belonged to the Kinoshita family, the leaders of Ashimori han (domain). After walking around, enjoy some Ashimori delicacies in the Koan Chaya teahouse.
Omizuen Garden: 803 Ashimori, Kita-ku, Okayama City
Tel. 086-295-0981
Oshokujisho Koan Chaya:
979 Ashimori, Kita-ku, Okayama City
Tel. 086-295-2728

The 100% Ashimori melon juice



D Hacobu Kitchen, a café in a traditional house

Hacobu Kitchen is a café inside a traditional Japanese house next to Kibitsu-hiko-jinja Shrine. They are known for their lovely lunches made with plenty of local vegetables and American-style home-cooking.
572 Ichinomiya, Kita-ku, Okayama City
Tel. 086-259-2888

The kofun (burial mound) cookies make excellent souvenirs



C Tomomien Fruit Farm

A popular example of a tourist farm in Akaiwa City. You can enjoy peach and grape picking in the summer and fall (reserve in advance).
218-1 Kamiichi, Akaiwa City
Tel. 086-955-1928



B Nomaru Engei Akaiwa Noen

This farm shop sells Akaiwa City's specialty peaches and grapes, as well as other great agricultural products. Strawberry picking is also a popular attraction.
175-1 Kamiichi, Akaiwa City
Tel. 086-956-2211



A E-flat

This Italian restaurant makes use of local ingredients for local consumption, while avoiding eggs and dairy products. Enjoy the delights of Akaiwa City, including seasonal vegetables and wild game.
427-1 Komoto, Akaiwa City
Tel. 086-954-4058



O Coffee House Gojitoma

This well-known store has offered jazz and coffee for around 40 years. Have a carefully-brewed cup, and enjoy a moment of peace.
748-4 Yata, Mabi-cho, Kurashiki City
Tel. 086-698-6225



is one of the cultural properties that make up the Legend of Momotaro (See P2&3)

For more details about rental bicycles, see P11



E Okayama Castle and Okayama Korakuen

Be captivated by Okayama Castle, with its beautiful jet-black keep, and Okayama Korakuen, one of the Three Great Gardens of Japan, which is entrancing all year round.
Okayama Castle: 2-3-1 Marunouchi, Kita-ku, Okayama City
Tel. 086-225-2096
Okayama Korakuen: 1-5 Korakuen, Kita-ku, Okayama City
Tel. 086-272-1148



N Sanuki Udon Kawahara

This eatery is known for its bukkake dishes of cool noodles served in chilled broth. Its rich-tasting udon is popular among local residents.
94 Arii, Mabi-cho, Kurashiki City
Tel. 086-698-8286



M Kurashiki Bikan Historical Quarter

This famous tourist area offers historical white-walled buildings and beautiful rows of willow trees. Its cultural facilities and galleries are also charming.
Kurashiki Honmachi/Higashimachi/Kurashiki River area
Tel. 086-422-0542 (Kurashikikan Tourist Information Center)
Tel. 086-425-6039 (Kurashiki City Tourist Rest Area)



L Kibiji Motenasinoyakata and The Peach Boy Coffee Roasters Okayama Japan

Popular for selling meals that are made with local produce for local consumption and local specialties. Take a break with a cup from The Peach Boy Coffee Roasters Okayama Japan and gaze at the five-story pagoda.
Kibiji Motenasinoyakata:
418 Shuku, Soja City
Tel. 0866-94-1048
The Peach Boy Coffee Roasters Okayama Japan (within Kibiji Motenasinoyakata): Tel. 090-9202-5024



G Kokumin Shukusha Sunroad Kibiji / Sanchoku Hiroba Eetokosoja / Kibiji Tsuru no Sato G

This location offers rest from your journey walking along Kibiji. It's popular for its natural hot springs and market with directly-sourced produce, and there is also an attached facility where you can observe red-crowned cranes, which are a Special Natural Treasure.
Kokumin Shukusha Sunroad Kibiji:
825-1 Misu, Soja City
Tel. 0866-90-0550
Sanchoku Hiroba Eetokosoja (Within Kokumin Shukusha Sunroad Kibiji):
Tel. 090-6832-6990
Kibiji Tsuru no Sato:
1430-1 Misu, Soja City
Tel. 0866-90-2431



Places to drop by

F Bitchu Kokubunji Temple

This temple offers wonderful natural scenery that changes with each season, interwoven with a five-story pagoda that is an Important Cultural Property.
1046 Kanbayashi, Soja City
Tel. 0866-94-3155
(Kokubunji Tourist Information Center)

