

English



Highlights of Koedo Kawagoe

1 Kurazukuri Zone

蔵造りの町並み一番街 Kura no machi (Old Town Ichibangai Street) MAP C-3

Japanese homes once had strong buildings called "Kura" for on-property storage of household tools. Since these buildings were very fire-resistant, they developed into residential buildings and stores in Kawagoe. This zone is a culturally significant area where the atmosphere of a town about 120 years ago can be experienced.



川越まつり会館 Kawagoe Festival Museum MAP C-2

① Apr. – Sept. 9:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. (entry until 6:00 p.m.)
② Oct. – Mar. 9:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. (entry until 5:00 p.m.)
③ General ¥300 Elementary/middle school students ¥100
Closed: Every 2nd and 4th Wed. (the day after a holiday) / Dec. 29th – Jan. 1st



This museum displays various materials, photographs, and actual floats used for the Kawagoe Festival, a festival with more than 370 years of history. You can experience the liveliness and exciting atmosphere of the festival through video and audio.

川越まつり Kawagoe Festival 3rd Sat./Sun. of Oct.



Huge, elaborate figures on top of majestic floats are paraded throughout the central Kawagoe. The floats coming close, facing each other, then competing as a Japanese orchestra (flute, taiko drum, gong, dancing) is a must-see event, especially the exciting climax in the evening.

時の鐘 Toki no kane (Time Bell Tower) MAP D-3

A building where a bell has been rung to announce the time since the early Edo Period (1627–1634). The current tower is the fourth version after the tower was re-built immediately after the Great Fire of Kawagoe (1893). Its towering presence over the kurazukuri (storehouse) town has become a symbol of Little Edo, Kawagoe.



The bell is rung four times daily (6:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m.), and its sound has been selected as one of "100 Soundscapes of Japan: Preserving Our Heritage" by the Ministry of the Environment.

大沢家住宅 Osawa House MAP C-2



Built by a wealthy kimono merchant in 1792 in the middle of the Edo period, this is the oldest storehouse in Kawagoe. It survived a major fire during the Meiji era, after which Kawagoe's merchants banded together to build storehouses. Folk crafts can be purchased on the first floor.

旧山崎家別邸 Yamazaki House MAP D-3

① Apr. – Sept. 9:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. (entry until 6:00 p.m.)
② Oct. – Mar. 9:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. (entry until 5:00 p.m.)
③ General ¥100 High school/college students ¥50 Free for middle school students and younger
Closed: Every 1st and 3rd Wed. / Dec. 29th – Jan. 3rd



Constructed in 1925, this building served as the residence of the retired fifth-generation master (known as Kashichi) of the old-and-renowned Kameya sweets shop. The building itself, which was designed by the architect Katsuya Yasuoka and is decorated in a blend of Japanese and western styles, and the scenic garden, are both very impressive.

菓子屋横丁 Kashiya Yokochi (Penny Candy Lane) MAP C-2

Kashiya Yokochi consists of traditional sweet shops, hard candy shops, and senbei (rice cracker) shops along a narrow street nearly 80 meters long. Hard candy, fugashi (wheat gluten sweets), senbei, dango (skewered rice flour dumplings) and other inexpensive, traditional sweets well-known to the Japanese can be bought. While you are trying the sweets, enjoy a stroll along a street with many old shops.



Penny candy
Enjoy sampling traditional and inexpensive Japanese sweets and snacks.

Dango (skewered rice flour dumplings)
Grilled dango topped with a sweetened soy sauce glaze are a popular specialty.

Fugashi
(wheat gluten snacks)
Share a giant black-sugar fugashi snack measuring 95 cm.



Traffic Guidance in Kawagoe

Co-Edo Loop Bus (departs from No. 2 stop, West exit of Kawagoe Station)

This popular retro-style bus fits right in with Kawagoe's historic streets and makes a loop around the main sightseeing spots. Departing from the West exit of Kawagoe Station, stops include Honkawagoe Station, Kita-in Temple, Honmaru Goten of Kawagoe Castle, Hikawa Shrine, Kura no machi (Old Town), Kashiya Yokochi (Penny Candy Lane) and Kawagoe-shi Station. There are two routes, one that runs in the direction of Kita-in Temple and one that runs in the direction of Kura no machi.



Eagle Bus (Group) TEL.049-226-0111 *TEL (Sat./Sun./holidays): 049-233-3711

Tobu Koedo Loop Bus
(departs from No. 3 stop, East exit of Kawagoe Station)
Also good all day on Tobu buses within the designated zone (downtown area).

Tobu Bus West Kawagoe sales office TEL.049-222-0671

Hotels / Ryokan Information

Name	Location	Website	Matsumuraya Ryokan	Hotel Sanko
			1-11 Moto-machi	1-9-1 Shintomi-cho
			049-222-0107 D-2	049-226-2641 D-5
Kawagoe Prince Hotel	1-22 Shintomi-cho	049-227-1111 C-6	Kawagoe Dai-Ichi Hotel	Daily Hotel Kawagoe
			7-34 Sugawara-machi	22-5 Renjaku-cho
			049-226-3711 D-8	049-222-1100 D-4
Super Hotel Saitama/Kawagoe	2-31-5 Shintomi-cho	049-290-9000 C-6	Kawagoe Tobu Hotel	Hatago COEDOYA
			8-1 Wakita-honcho	8-1 Renjaku-cho
			049-241-0111 C-8	049-277-4901 D-4

2 Central Zone

蓮馨寺 Renkei-ji Temple MAP C-4

This temple has ties to the Tokugawa Shogunate and enshrines the monk Donryu. Many people come here to pray for the safety of their family, safe childbirth and child rearing. A statue of Obinzuru-sama is also enshrined here and is said to have the power to cure the illnesses of people who touch it.



小江戸蔵里 Koedo Kurari MAP D-5

① Meiji Storehouse 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
② Taisho Storehouse 11:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. (weekdays 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.)
③ Showa Storehouse 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
④ Entry is free Closed: None

A sake brewery founded in 1875 at the beginning of the Meiji era was renovated to create this popular commercial complex. Four brewery buildings make up the complex and offer dining and shopping attractions.



大正浪漫夢通り Taisho Roman Yume Dori Street MAP D-4

Lined with distinctive shops, this street evokes the feel of the Taisho era. TV shows and movies often film on this street seeking to capture the romantic charm of the era.



4 Kita-in Temple

喜多院 Kita-in Temple MAP E-4

① Mar. 1st – Nov. 23rd Weekdays 8:50 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. / Weekends 8:50 a.m. – 4:50 p.m.
② Nov. 24th – The last day of Feb. Weekdays 8:50 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. / Weekends 8:50 a.m. – 4:20 p.m.
③ General ¥400 Elementary/middle school students ¥200
Closed: Dec. 25th – Jan. 8th, Feb. 2nd & 3rd, Apr. 2nd – 5th



Founded about 1,200 years ago, Kita-in Temple has ties to the Tokugawa Shogunate. During the Edo period, a drawing room and reception hall were moved from the Edo Castle grounds to the temple. On January 3, the first Darumaichi (Good-luck Market) of the year is held along with Buddhist fire rites to pray for good luck, protection from misfortune, family safety and traffic safety.



"Iemitsu Tanjo-no-ma" & "Gohyaku rakan"
The birthplace of the third generation Shogun, the "Iemitsu Tanjo-no-ma" room was moved here from Edo Castle. The Gohyaku Rakan (500 Disciples of Buddha) with a collection of 538 total stone Buddha statues is also popular with tourists.



成田山川越別院 Naritasan Kawagoe Betsu-in Temple MAP E-4

An antique market is held on the 28th of every month at Naritasan Kawagoe Betsu-in Temple. Here many people come to find clothes, tableware, books, old coins, and other antique items. Since many items from daily necessities to valuables are sold, it is a popular event for finding bargains and rare items.



3 Kawagoe Castle

川越城本丸御殿 HONMARU GOTEN of Kawagoe Castle MAP F-2

① 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (entry until 4:30 p.m.)
② General ¥100 High school/college students ¥50 Free for middle school students and younger
Closed: Mondays (the day after a holiday) *excluding the day after the Kawagoe Festival / Every 4th Fri. (excluding holidays) / Dec. 29th – Jan. 3rd

Kawagoe was considered by the Tokugawa Shogunate to be an important place for protecting the northern region. The Shogun therefore dispatched his trusted chief vassal to Kawagoe Castle for greater protection. The primary hall section of the castle remains to the present day, and you can catch a glimpse of the work performed.



川越市立美術館 Kawagoe City Art Museum MAP F-2

① 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (entry until 4:30 p.m.)
② Permanent exhibits, general ¥200
High school/college students ¥100
Free for middle school students and younger (additional fee for special exhibits)
Closed: Mondays (the day after a holiday)
*excluding the day after the Kawagoe Festival / Dec. 29th – Jan. 3rd

An art museum that displays works by artists with ties to Kawagoe. The museum building exterior is also very reminiscent of Kawagoe since it resembles a kurazukuri (old storehouse).



川越市立博物館 Kawagoe City Museum MAP F-2

① 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (entry until 4:30 p.m.)
② General ¥200
High school/college students ¥100
Free for middle school students and younger
Closed: Mondays (the day after a holiday)
*excluding the day after the Kawagoe Festival / Every 4th Fri. (excluding holidays) / Dec. 29th – Jan. 3rd

Many materials on the history and traditions of Kawagoe are on display at the Kawagoe City Museum, located on the former site of Kawagoe Castle. The video displays at each exhibit allow for fun learning experiences.

