

Title Yumihama Gasuri with 250-year-old tradition~Discover the world of Kasuri online

Story

The Yumihama Kasuri, which has been passed down for 250 years, is a traditional Japanese weave made from cotton by women in the village who put their heart and soul into making it for their families.

While it is difficult to visit the site due to Corona virus, you can connect with the traditional Yumihama Kasuri workshop online to watch their production process as well as craftsmanship. This online platform allows us to communicate with the craftsmen directly in real-time.

After having fun, you can also choose your favourite design and shape in the workshop and buy the product online.

History of the region and experience

Yumihama-Gasuri

Women farmers in the western Tottori have been weaving cotton Kasuri (splashed pattern) with their families in mind since the middle of Edo period (1603-1867).

It was designated as a national traditional craft in 1975, and an intangible cultural asset of Tottori Prefecture in 1978.

Originating as the clothing for farmer's personal consumption, this Kasuri is characterised by its simple patterns and strong, warm texture.

Kimonos with prawn patterns that wishes for a long life until the waist bends when getting old; futons with hawk and tiger design that wishes for the thriving of baby boys; and the desire for the happiness of family are expressed in beautiful, picturesque white curves on indigo blue.

There are hundreds of various designs like stylized characters of "civilisation and enlightenment", patterns of cannon during wartime, that have been handed down to the present day, giving a glimpse into the period and social conditions of Japan.



Hakushu-men Cotton

Hakushu-men cotton, the raw material for Yumigahama Kasuri is a Japanese cotton that has been cultivated in Hoki Province since ancient times.

The well-drained sandy soil and sea breeze peculiar to Yumigahama peninsula are suitable for cotton cultivation, therefore the home to good-quality cotton with excellent elasticity and heat retention.

It used to be a major industry in the Hoki region with a national reputation. However, with the modernization during the Meiji period (1868-1912), Hakushu-men cotton with thick and short fibres, was difficult to spin into yarn by machine, and gradually declined with the rise of foreign spun yarn.

Even so, on the ground that the softness of hand-spun cloth made from Hakushu-men cotton and the warmth of bedding cannot be replaced by any other cotton, the industry survived and has continued to produce cotton in small quantities without interruption.



Itinerary



Start time End time

Contents of tour

You will receive zoom information once applied.

9:00 - 10:00

Kasuri shops (Goto-Kasuri-ten, Yumihamagasuri-Kobo-B, Itono Aya)

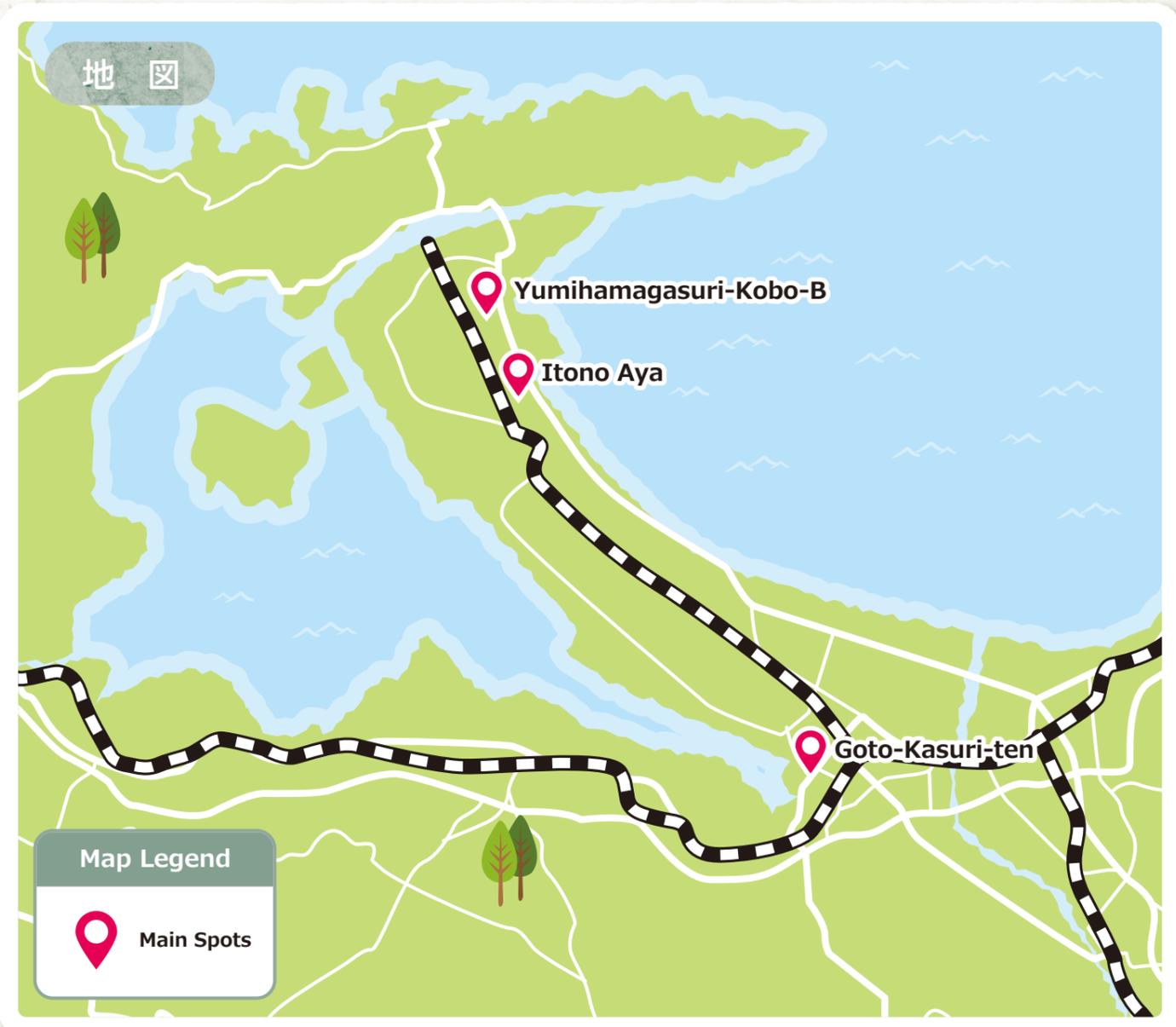
13:00 - 14:00

Introduction to **Yumihama-Gasuri & Hakushu-men Cotton**

17:00 - 18:00

Description of the production procedure, and an opportunity to see the yarn being spun and woven by hand.

Design creation per your request



Amazing experiences

Production procedure

(※Yumihamagasaki-Kobo-B)

The traditional production procedure involves about 30 steps, all done by hand. Here are some most iconic parts.

Order the products

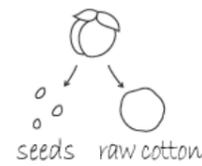
- Choose your favourite pattern and shape
- The semi-custom product will be made.

#01 Cotton cultivation



Grow Hakushu-men cotton, the raw material, in the field. Seeds are sown every May and harvested in the fall. No chemical fertilizers or pesticides are used.

#02 Scutching



Use a cotton spinning machine to take the seeds after removing dust and debris from harvested raw cotton.

#03 Spinning (Ito-Tsumugi)



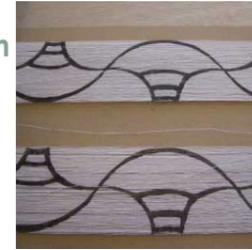
Spin the Hakushu-men cotton on a spinning wheel after the seeds removed and cotton beaten, with the aim of a yarn which is even and durable while with the softness of hand-spun.

#04 Pattern drafting



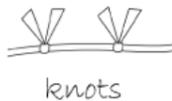
Design the pattern. Both the traditional cranes, turtles, pine, bamboo and plum patterns as well as new, contemporary patterns are available. You can also order your favourite patterns.

#05 Pattern transcription



Copy the pattern onto stretched yarn. Make it as the basis for bundling.

#06 Bundling



Tie the yarn along the pattern. The bundling yarn will be dyed while the tied part remains white, so the pattern appears when weaving.

#07 Dyeing



Dye the yarn with indigo, a deep navy blue, to make it strong.

#08 Warping preparation



The warp yarn will be put on the loom after various processes such as warping, hedding and reeding.

#09 Weaving



Weave the dyed yarn on a loom. The weaving process alone takes about 2 weeks, just for 1 Kimono.

Completion



Kimono

Package Description

Facilities	Yumihama gasuri-Kobo-B		Address	5473 Nakano, Sakaiminato, Tottori			TEL	0859-21-5939	Website	https://kououb.jp/
	Wi-Fi	Avaiable	Multilingual support	NA	Reservation	Required	Max reservable number	Up to 6	Cancellation fee	6~4days before→50% 3days before~on the day→100%
	Restroom	Western style	Language	NA	Reservation deadline	14 days in advance (MUST)	How to reserve	Mail/online	Payment method	Credit card (payment on the travel day: NA)
Travel price	¥10,000~		What is not included in the price	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production costs and shipping for semi/full custom made orders • Purchase and shipping for ready-made products 			Note	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Min number of participants: 2 • Max number of participants: 6 		
Contact us	Osewasan Centre	Address	2F Imai Shoten, 63 Tonomachi, Matsue, Shimane			TEL	0852-61-8015 (9:00~18:00)			