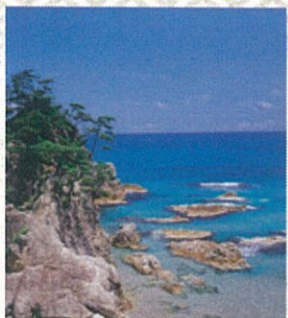
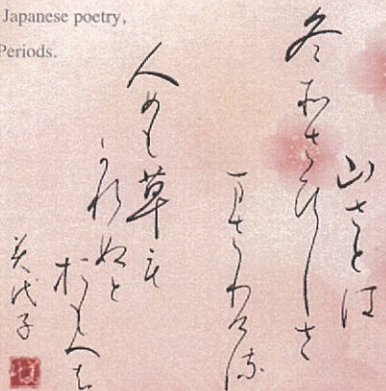


## MORE EVOCATIVE OF JAPAN

The Man-Yo-Shu is the oldest existing collection of Japanese poetry, compiled in the late 8th century during Nara-Heian Periods.

This particularly unique Japanese work might introduce you to the essence of beautiful nature in four seasons, traditions and customs inherited in daily life and anything more evocative of Japan.



Sanin Kaigan Global Geopark



Mt. Daisen



Lake Shinji



Iwami Kagura

The spots were the sea of blue clean water, the sunset above the horizon, mountain landscapes with seasonal changes in colors, or the fishermen's boats gathering clams with a rake in the lake that moved the 'waka' poets such as Hitomaro, Kadobe-no Okimi, Okura and Yakamochi to write poems.

People appreciate their old traditions like Iwami Kagura, a sacred dance and music dedicated to deities, and regional myths. They often visit shrines and temples on their milestones in life.

There are many time-honored Japanese-style inns, homestays, and hotels available with heartfelt hospitality. You are very welcome to our San-in Area with distinct culture and atmosphere.

### SANIN MAN-YO SOCIETY

山陰万葉を歩く会

OFFICE : The Tourism Promotion Section, the Department of Commerce-Industry & Tourism, Gotsu City Hall  
E-mail: shokokanko@city.gotsu.lg.jp

Special thanks to Christopher Powers, College of Europe

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# 万葉

## INVITATION TO THE PLACES AND POETS OF A JAPANESE CLASSIC, "MAN-YO-SHU"

石見国  
The Province of Iwami



Kakinomoto-no Hitomaro

出雲国  
The Province of Izumo



Kadobe-no Okimi

伯耆国  
The Province of Hoki



Yamanoue-no Okura

因幡国  
The Province of Inaba



Ōtomo-no Yakamochi

ViVid  
万葉

### SANIN MAN-YO SOCIETY

山陰万葉を歩く会

# 伯耆国

The Province of Houki

銀も 金も玉も  
何せむに 勝れる宝  
子にしかめやも  
山上憶良  
(巻五・八〇三)

Shirokanemo Kuganemotamamo Nanisenni  
Masarerutakara Konishikameyamo — Yamanoue-no Okura

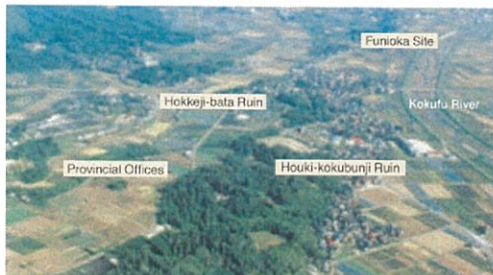
# 因幡国

The Province of Inaba

◆万葉の最後を断る歌  
あたら  
新しき  
年の始の  
初春の  
今日降る雪の  
いや重け吉事  
大伴家持  
(巻二十・四五六)

Aratashiki Toshinohajimeno Hatsuharuno  
kyōfuruyukino Iyashikeyogoto — Otomo-no Yakamochi

## The Province of Houki and Yamanoue-no Okura



**Sainō Temple Ruin**  
Ruins from between the late Asuka period and the Nara Era.



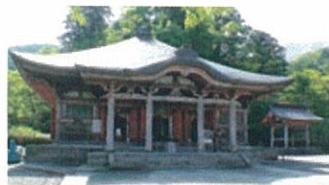
Hōdōji  
Kyoto National Museum

### Mt. Mitokusan

Regarded as a sacred mountain opened in the Nara Era. The entire mountain is the precincts of three temples.

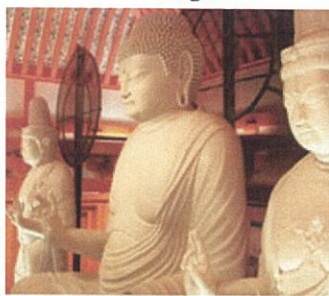


**Houki-kokufu Ruins (Ruins of the Houki Provincial Government Office)**  
Located on the hills in the west of Kurayoshi City, there is still some ambience of the days of 'Man-Yo' in the scenery.



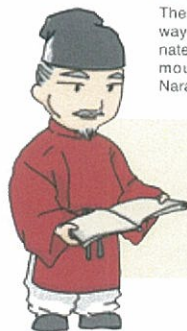
### Daisenji Temple

The temple is located half-way up Mt. Daisen. It originated as a sacred place for mountain worship in the Nara Era.



### Kamiyodo Temple Ruin

The ruins are supposed to have been a temple erected in the late period of the Asuka Era. The biggest finding there was the temple mural in the remains of the Golden Hall, which is said to be as old as that of Horyuji Temple.



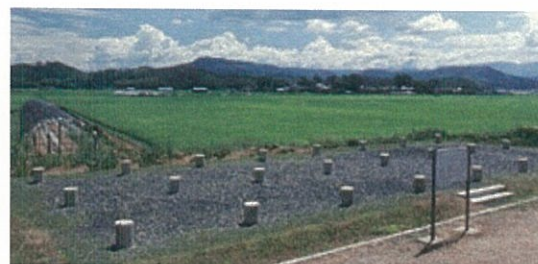
### Yamanoue-no Okura (716~721 Governor of the Province of Houki)

Waka poet in the middle period of Nara. He was a Japanese envoy to China. He was well versed in Buddhism, and chosen as instructor for the Crown Prince Shomu.

The Province of Houki



## The Province of Inaba and Otomo-no Yakamochi



**Inaba Kokucho Ruins (Ruins of the Inaba Provincial Government Office)**  
The site of the office that governed the Province during the Nara, Heian, and Kamakura periods.



**Three mountains of Inaba**  
Mountains referred to in waka poems.



### Inaba Man-Yo History Museum

A museum full of the atmosphere of the Man-Yo world. There are seasonal Man-Yo plants growing in the special garden.



### Ube Shrine

The most important Shrine in the Province of Inaba.



### Aoya Washi Workshop (Handmade paper)

Washi making has a very long history. The oldest Aoya Washi has been kept in Shosoin, Nara, with a record of year 721.



### Otomo-no Yakamochi (758~ Governor of the Province of Inaba)

Son of a 'waka' poet, Otomo-no Tabito. He was from a family of a powerful clan. He compiled the Man-Yo-Shu. As a provincial government official, he stayed in Inaba for three years and a half.

The Province of Inaba



# 石見国

The Province of Iwami

石見のや  
高角山の  
木の間より  
我が振る袖を  
妹見つらむか  
柿本人麻呂  
(巻四・一三三)

Iwaminoya Takatsunoyamano Konomayori  
Wagafurusodewo Imomitsuramuka — Kakinomoto-no Hitomaro

# 出雲国

The Province of Izumo

飢宇の海の  
潮干の潟の  
片思に  
思ひや行かむ  
道の長手を  
門部王  
(巻四・五三六)

Oinoumino Shiohinokatano Katamoini  
Omoiayukamu Michinogatewo — Kadobe-no Okimi

## The Province of Iwami and Kakinomoto-no Hitomaro



**Takatsu Kakinomoto Shrine**

The original Kakinomoto Shrine used to be on an island called Kamoshima, but it was sunk under the sea by a strong earthquake in 1026. The present shrine was rebuilt in a different place instead.



**Ikan Shrine**

The shrine is said to have been built at the site of the ancient provincial government office where Kakinomoto-no Hitomaro was sent to take office. There still remains an atmosphere of his days in the surroundings.



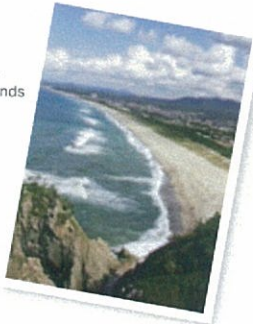
**Mononobe Shrine**

This shrine was the most important shrine in the Province of Iwami. The shrine building in Kasuga style is said to be the largest in Japan.



### Ōsakibana

A beautiful stretch of beach that reminds us of Hitomaro's romantic poems.



**Era-no Sato**

It is said that this was the birthplace of a young girl, called Yosami-no-Otome, whom Hitomaro fell in love with and with whom he would live.



**Kamoyama Memorial for Mokich Saito**

Saito argued that Hitomaro spent his last days at Kamoyama. There are his enthusiastic writings displayed.



### Kakinomoto-no Hitomaro (approx. 700~ Governor of the Province of Iwami)

Though he was respected as a genius of poetry, his whole life is wrapped in mystery. Many of his poems were made while he was accompanying the Emperor on trips. From this fact, he is thought to have worked as an official in the Imperial Court. He was nicknamed Hitomaro-san and lived in the Iwami Area.



## The Province of Izumo and Kadobe-no Ōkimi



**Ruins of the Izumo Provincial Government Office**

The area was the central part of the Province. There have been many historic artifacts excavated from there and displayed at the nearby Prefectural Museum called "Yakumo-tatsu Fudokino-oka Museum".



**Izumo Grand Shrine**

This shrine is one of the most important Shinto shrines in Japan. The ancient main shrine building is said to have been 48m high about 1100 years ago.. Some parts of the huge wooden pillars that had supported the high-rise shrine building were discovered under the shrine grounds in 2000, making sensational news all over Japan.



Holding Izumo Grand Shrine  
Photo  
Shrine Museum  
of Ancient Izumo



**O-u-no Umi**

It is an inlet located near the Izumo Provincial Government Office where Kadobe-no Ōkimi worked. The balmy scenery there may have been soothing to him. He wrote a poem beginning with 'O-u-no Umi', longing for his home back in Nara.



**Sada Shrine**

The description of the shrine appears in the Izumo-no-kuni Fudoki, published in 733. World Heritage.



**Nogi Shrine**

The description of the shrine appears in the Izumo-no-kuni Fudoki. Deity of the Nogi Plain.



**Suga Shrine**

It is said that this place was where the God Susanō and his wife Kushinada started their life as newlyweds. He composed 'waka' poems here, which is said to have marked the origin of waka poetry.



**Mt. Sentsuzan**

The River Hiikawa rises in this mountain. On top of the mountain is a tiny shrine dedicated to the God Susanō who is said to have descended from the heavens. The mountain is closely related to Izumo Mythology.



### Kadobe-no Ōkimi (720~ Governor of the Province of Izumo)

Great-grandson of the Emperor Tenmu. He was one of the high-ranking officials in the central government. At the time of compiling the Izumo Fudoki, he is said to have been sent to Izumo to govern the area.





# INVITATION TO THE PLACES AND POETS OF A JAPANESE CLASSIC, "MAN-YO-SHU"

Those Provinces are closely related to the collection of 'waka' poems called Man-Yo-Shu. Man-Yo-Shu is the oldest remaining collection of 'waka' poems. It includes 4,500 poems, beginning with the one by the Empress Nintoku in the 5th century through to a celebration of the New Year in 759 by Otomo-no Yakamochi, who is said to be the compiler of the collection.

The collection contains sad poems by a soldier who was sent to Kyushu to guard the area, those of hard work by common people, or romantic poems, all of which are reflections of people's sincere attitude of life.

In those times, the provinces were also gateways to Japan from the Eastern countries of Asia. They must have been regarded as important areas by the then central government of Japan. For that reason, the government officials sent there were carefully selected.

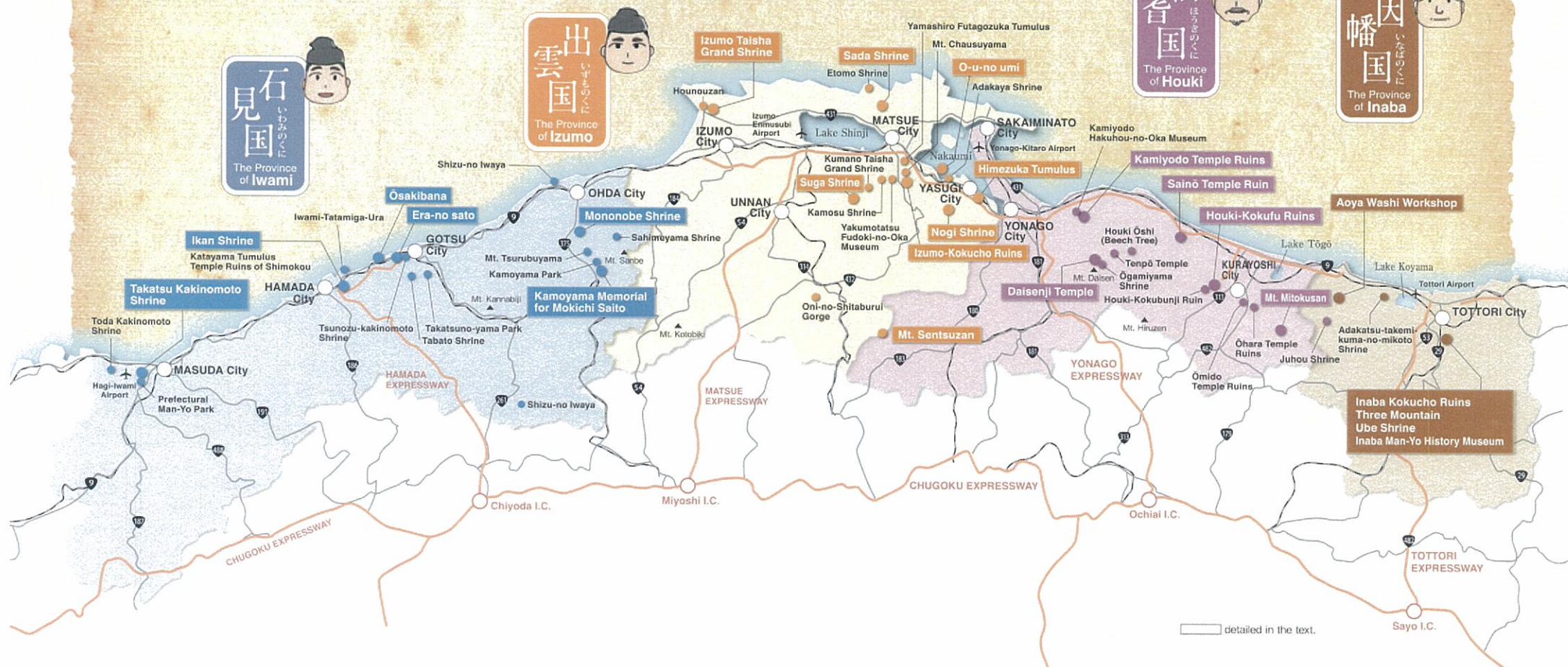
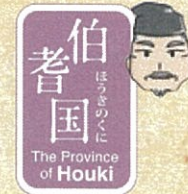
Some of them assigned for the job were poets noted for their fine pieces in the Man-Yo-Shu, such as Otomo-no Yakamochi for the Province of Inaba, Yamanoue-no Okura for the Province of Houki, Kadobe-no Okimi for the Province of Izumo, and Kakinomoto-no Hitomaro for the Province of Iwami. While they were in office there, they wrote 'waka' poems of the areas and the people included in the Man-Yo-Shu.

Why not visit the places of the old spirit of Japan and feel the literary ambience of the Man-Yo-Shu?



OKI ISLANDS

Sea of Japan



□ detailed in the text.