

White Porcelain World of Artisans

Amakusa Porcelain: Generations of Enchantment

Amakusa Porcelain: the Highest of Quality

The western coast of Amakusa is Japan's top producer of kaolin in both quality and volume. Amakusa produces 80% of the nation's output (20,000 tonnes per year) and ships not only to the famous porcelain producers of Kyushu, but also to the Kansai and Chukyo regions. Hiraga Gennai, the famous pharmacologist, physician, author, painter, ceramicist, and inventor of the Edo Period, praised it as being of "matchless quality in the world".

Traditional, Beautiful, Amakusa Porcelain - Generations of Art and Skill

Items made from the high-quality kaolin of Amakusa are renowned for their strength and beautiful translucency when fired. Amakusa porcelain is a nationally recognized traditional craft, and many artisans have located their kilns throughout the area.

●Amakusa Grand Pottery Fair



Both local and outside artisans come together here to display and sell their wares. During the fair you can try your own hand at throwing a pot or two on a wheel. There is also a ceramics exhibition of the works of selected applicants.



■Time: End of October~beginning of November

■Tel: 0969-23-1111 (Amakusa City Div. of Commerce, Industry, and Tourism)

●Amakusa West Coast Spring Pottery Market, Amakusa West Coast Pottery Fair



Pottery fairs are held in Reihoku-machi and Amakusa-machi along the west coast of Amakusa. Visit the shops with their displays of the newest pottery works and demonstrations of glazing techniques. Have fun at the fairs while enjoying the fantastic views along the west coast of Amakusa.



■Time: May/Golden Week; Autumn: First half of October

■Tel: 0969-42-1111 (of Business & Construction Div., Amakusa Branch)

Tel: 0969-35-1111 (Reihoku-Machi Business Promotion Div.)



① Takahama Pottery Juho Kiln

Tel: 0969-42-1115

Famous for its thin, white, translucent products.



③ Uchida Sarayama Pottery

Tel: 0969-35-0222

The style is rough and simple yet elegant - resembling the ceramics of previous eras found in this area. The products complement a diversity of tastes and lifestyles.



② Maruo Pottery

Tel: 0969-23-9522

Though the Maruo Kiln was established in 1845, the seemingly modern designs of its products are suited for today's lifestyles and has won many fans.



④ Mizunodaira Pottery

Tel: 0969-22-2440

The fifth generation Genshiro invented the famous aka-namako-Yuu 'Red sea-cucumber glaze' which is still the signature of the Mizunodaira kiln.



⑤ Ikoï-Toge Gama Kiln

Tel: 0969-32-1525

Using natural local materials as much as possible, the pottery of Ikoï-Toge Gama Kiln presents a heavy, natural feel and quality.



⑥ Tokyu-Kobo

Tel: 0969-32-2502

Opening on a small hilltop in 1999, the products of the kiln reflect the warm and gentle nature of the potter.



⑦ Amakusa Soji Hisashi Gama Kiln

Tel: 0969-42-0287

All pieces are hand-made using such local Amakusa materials as kaolin, clay, glazing, and ash - working together to maximize the qualities of each component.



⑧ Amakusa Hakuji Tobo Yasu

Tel: 0969-42-0545

In the tradition of Takahana Pottery, Amakusa Hakuji Tobo Yasu continually experiments with new glazes in its creation of new ceramic styles.



⑨ Zozo Gama Kiln

Tel: 0964-58-0975

To best describe the designs of Zozo Gama Kiln, think Innovative and Original.



⑩ Yoyo Gama Kiln

Tel: 0964-56-4601

With clay from Shigaraki and Amakusa, this kiln produces a contemporary playful design for everyday use.

Amakusa Pottery Hands-On Programs



●Try the Wheel

Trickier than it looks? See if you can handle a spin with the wheel!
■Fee: ¥1,000~ (*Shipping fees not included)
■Try at: ①②③④⑤



●Decorate it

Set your own design on unglazed pottery. You'll hardly be able to wait to receive your pottery after it's been fired and sent directly to you.
■Fee: ¥600~ (*Shipping fee not included)
Try at: ①②③④⑤⑥⑦⑧⑨



●Try a Hand-Built Pot

Make your own unique cup, mug, or plate: the only one in the world!
■Fee: ¥1,500~ (*Shipping fees not included)
■Try at: ①②③④⑤⑥⑦⑧⑨⑩⑪⑫⑬⑭⑮⑯⑰⑱⑲⑳㉑㉒㉓



●Make Your Own Azulejo

Azulejo is a decorated tile often used in Portuguese-style buildings. What special designs will make the tiles your own?
■Fee: ¥1,000~
■Try at: ①②③

[List of Potters and Kilns]

① Jonan Kiln	Tel: 0969-22-3513	⑳ Gyoryu-monki	Tel: 090-9588-5155
② Hamanajara Kiln	Tel: 0969-23-3915	㉑ Oni-ike Pottery Hikari Kiln	Tel: 0969-32-1371
③ Kobo 'Kiki'	Tel: 0969-24-2833	㉒ Rei-kobo	Tel: 0969-23-9389
④ Rakuten Kiln	Tel: 0969-23-6887	㉓ Utsugi Kiln	Tel: 0969-72-6482
⑤ Junto Kiln	Tel: 0969-23-8122	㉔ Ichiyama Kujiraya	Tel: 0969-34-1156
⑥ Yamano-kuchi Pottery	Tel: 0969-24-2072	㉕ Unnshu Kiln	Tel: 0969-35-0945
⑦ Asaniji Kiln	Tel: 0969-24-4946	㉖ Amakusa Karatsu Gosanki Kiln	Tel: 0969-36-0868
⑧ Suke Kobo	Tel: 090-7389-7811	㉗ Kameyama Sanae	Tel: 0969-36-0868
⑨ Reinan Kiln	Tel: 0969-22-3393	㉘ Kobo Kaze	Tel: 0969-35-2041
⑩ Reizan Pottery	Tel: 0969-22-5339	㉙ Mugen Kiln	Tel: 0969-35-0940
⑪ Amayo Kiln	Tel: 0969-23-0141	㉚ Tenjiku Kiln	Tel: 0969-36-0860
⑫ Potter Yuko Okada	Tel: 0969-23-3815		

