

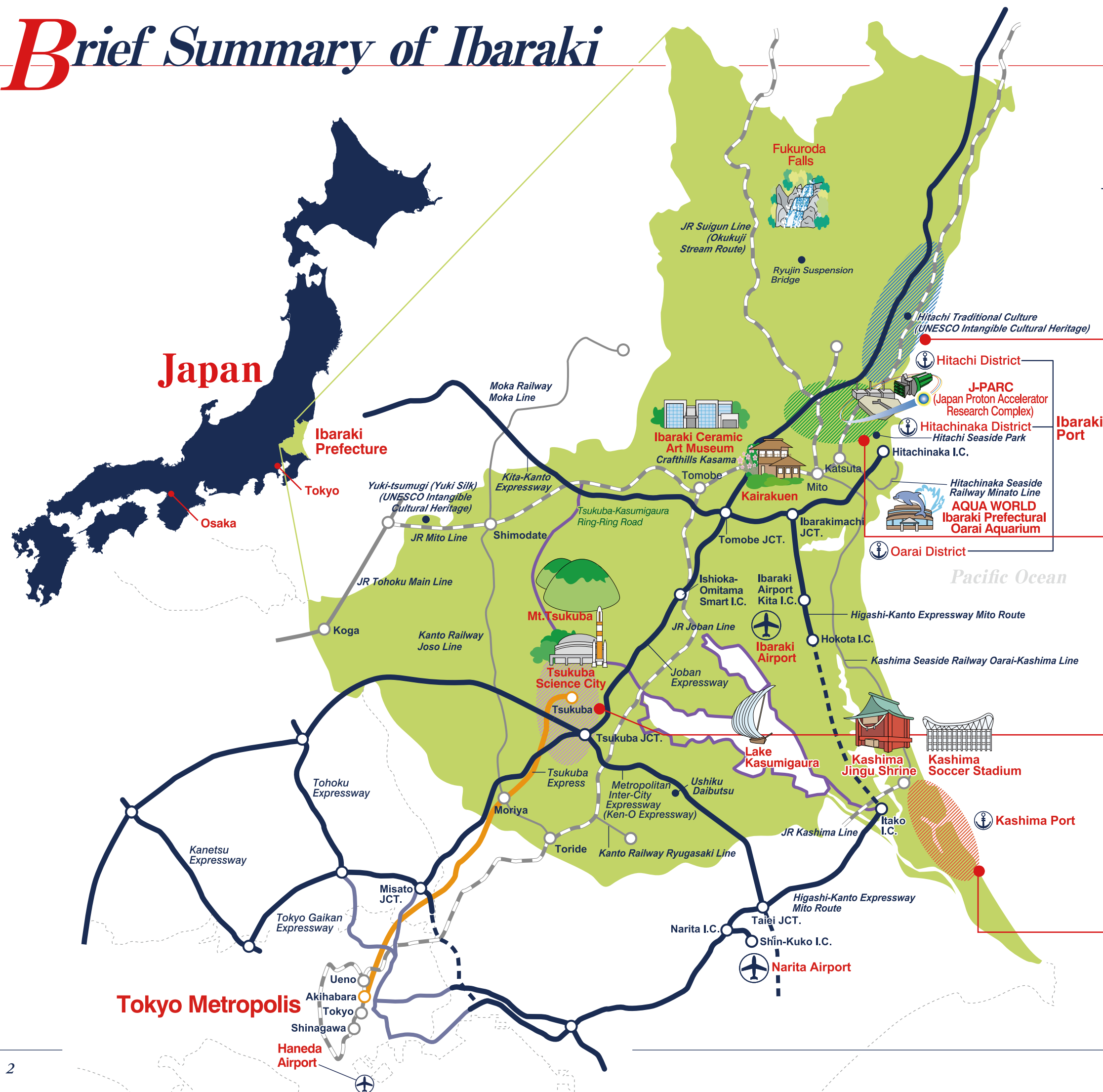


IBARAKI PREFECTURE INFORMATION



Brief Summary of Ibaraki

Ibaraki Prefecture
Information



Various industrial centers

Hitachi Area

Concentration of electrical and other machinery manufacturers

- Approximately 664 companies, mainly partner companies of Hitachi, Ltd.

Tokai Area

Concentration of nuclear power research institutions

- Japan Atomic Energy Agency
- Tokyo University, Ibaraki University, and other universities
- Japan Proton Accelerator Research Complex (J-PARC) opened in Dec. 2008
- Leading the world in neutrino, materials, and life science research
- Ibaraki has laboratory equipment for material and life science research

Tsukuba Area

Concentration of research institutions

- More than 100 national and private research institutions are located here.
- Designation as the Tsukuba International Strategic Zone (December 22, 2011). It promotes the practical application of next-generation cancer treatments and life-support robots

Kashima Area

Industrial materials manufacturing hub

- Around 170 iron, steel, and petrochemical manufacturing companies

Distinguishing Features of Ibaraki

Rankings are among Japan's 47 Prefectures.
\$1 USD = 153 JPY (2025 November.)

 Population 2.806 million (October 1st 2024) Ranked 11th	 Number of Foreign Residents 102,549 (late June 2024) Ranked 10th	 Total Area 6,097.56 km² (October 1st 2023) Ranked 24th	 Habitable Area 3,888.92 km² (October 1st 2023) Ranked 4th	 Agricultural Production Output \$ 2.96 billion (2023) Ranked 3rd
 Gross Prefectural Production \$95.33 billion (2021) Ranked 11th	 Prefectural Income Per Capita \$22,471 (2021) Ranked 3th	 Product Shipment Value \$97.12 billion (2022) Ranked 7th	 Factory Surface Area (10-year cumulative total) 1,231 ha (2015~2024) Ranked 1st	 Coastal Fishery Output 259,496 metric tons (2023) Ranked 3rd



Ibara Hiyori
Ibaraki Prefecture certified Vtuber

Transportation in Ibaraki



Ibaraki Airport

The Tokyo Metropolitan Area's 3rd major airport, shouldering the Kita-Kanto region's flight demands as well as being designed for LCCs.

Tsukuba Express

A high-speed railway that can take you from Tsukuba to Akihabara (Tokyo) in just 45 minutes.



Ibaraki Port (Hitachinaka District)

A port being developed as an international logistics hub directly connected to the expressway.



Metropolitan Inter-City Expressway

Under the ongoing maintenance as one of the Metropolitan Three Ring Highways, the Expressway connects cities such as Tsukuba, Yokohama and Narita. (The Ibaraki Section has opened in Feb. of 2017)



Tsukuba Science City

Tsukuba, with its large number of research institutes and researchers, is the largest science and technology center of its type in Japan. Researchers and exchange students from overseas make it a truly international city.

Number of Researchers in Tsukuba

17,084 (2023)

(with doctoral-level qualifications: 8,488)

Number of Foreign Researchers in Tsukuba

4,015 (2023)

National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST)

AIST carries out comprehensive research and development into all facets of industrial technology and is one of Japan's largest research institutions. AIST is also focused on new industries through cooperative partnerships with university and industry players.

National Institute for Material Science (NIMS)

The institute focuses mainly on the fundamental and prioritized R&D of materials and substance. In particular, promotional measures are put forward for innovation in the nanotechnology and materials fields.

Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)

Japan's national institution of aerospace exploration R&D responsible for all space related policies. The Tsukuba Space Center is the central hub taking on the task of space development.

Key Companies with Factories in Ibaraki

In addition to factories of global companies that represent Japan, there are also many small and medium-sized enterprises led by unique corporate managers, and foreign-founded R&D centers, which are supporting Japan's basic technology and local economy.

Hitachi Ltd. / Electrical machinery

Nippon Steel Corporation / Steel

Hino Motors / Truck and bus manufacturing

Komatsu Ltd. / Construction machinery manufacturing

Hitachi Construction Machinery / Construction machinery manufacturing

Fanuc / Industrial robot manufacturing

Astellas Pharma Inc. / pharmaceutical

Ibasei Ltd. / Portable hydroelectric generator

GLIT / Collaboration of manufacture enterprises

Cyberdyne Inc. / Medical welfare equipment

Doog Inc. / Development of mobile robots

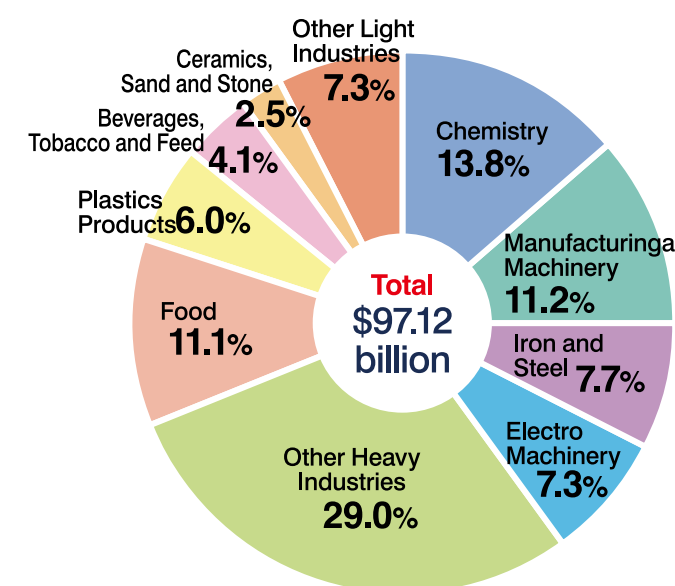
WarpSpace / Design and Development of satellites

IRDA / Collaboration of R&D companies

Autoliv / R&D of automobile safety parts

Valeo Japan / R&D of automobile-related system

Product Shipment
Value Percentage
by Industry (2022)



Holding International Conferences

Ibaraki Prefecture is also the stage for many important international conference, such as the G7 Ibaraki-Tsukuba Ministerial Meeting on Science and Technology (May 2016), the G20 Ibaraki-Tsukuba Ministerial Meeting on Trade and Digital Economy (June 2019), and the "G7 Ibaraki-Mito Ministerial Meeting on Internal Affairs and Security Meeting (December 2023)". Convention facilities are located throughout the prefecture, including the Tsukuba International Conference Center and the newly opened Mito Civic Center in 2023, and are available for events such as international conferences, conventions, and corporate training.



Rich Lands and the Bounty of the Sea



Ibaraki has a mild climate, and is comprised of vast plains as well as natural environments rich in water and greenery such as Lake Kasumigaura and Mt. Tsukuba. Blessed with these ideal conditions, it is one of Japan's biggest agricultural and marine production areas, and plays an important role in the supply of food to the Greater Tokyo Area.



Melon

Ibaraki Prefecture is a major producer of melons, boasting the largest production volume in Japan. A wide variety of netted melons are grown in Ibaraki, and shipping season ranges from April through October, allowing you to taste melons in season for a long period.



Hitachi -Wagyu- Beef

Ibaraki Prefecture boasts Hitachi Wagyu-Beef as its high-quality brand of Wagyu, ranking 4 to 5 according to the meat grading system's A and B categories. Japanese Black cattle are raised for 30 months through polished breeding management technology and with carefully selected feeds by its designated breeders.



Sweet Potato

Ibaraki Prefecture is one of the top producers of sweet potatoes in Japan, both in terms of area and production. The most widely grown variety in the prefecture is "Beniazuma", which is known for its flaky texture. "Benimasari", characterized by its moist texture, is also recommended as its cultivation area has been increasing in recent years.



Asian Pears

Ibaraki Prefecture is one of the top producers of pears in Japan, and their deliciousness can be enjoyed from the beginning of July until early October starting with Kousui, followed by Housui, Akizuki, and Ibaraki's original varieties ranging from Keisui, Niitaka and Nikkori pears.

Major Agricultural Products (2023)

Ranked 1st Nationally

Sweet Potato, Melon, Dried Sliced Sweet Potato, Green Pepper, Lotus Root, Plant Cuttings, Mizuna, Japanese Mustard Spinach, Lawn, Bok Choy, and Chestnut.

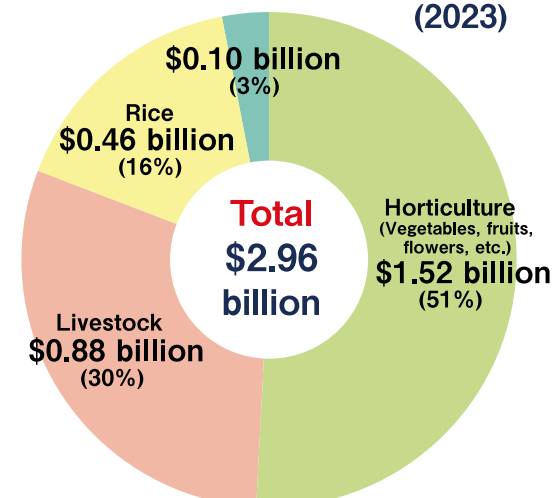
Ranked 2nd Nationally

Eggs, Green Onion, Lettuce, Chinese Scallion, Japanese Pear, Peanuts, Mitsuba, Bean Sprouts, and Soba.

Ranked 3rd Nationally

Spinach, Chinese Chive, Sweet Corn, Mushroom, Konnyaku Potato, and Japanese Ginger.

Agricultural Production Output (2023)



Ibaraki's Sake

Although Ibaraki Prefecture neighbors the Tokyo metropolitan area, the rich nature of the prefecture is home to about 40 sake breweries, the largest in the Kanto region. Each brewery makes their own unique iconic sake and exports to all over the world.



Tourism in Ibaraki

Hitachi Seaside Park Hitachinaka City



The park is known as “flower paradise” and is famous for its enormously gorgeous flower field. It is listed by CNN as one of Japan's 31 Most Beautiful Places. The Nemophila covered hills are a must-see scenery in Japan.

Access: 15 minutes by bus from Katsuta Station of the JR Joban Line



Kairakuen Mito City

One of Japan's Three Great Gardens, Kairakuen is most attractive during the plum blossom season, which usually takes place from late February until late March. During this time, the garden hosts the Plum Blossom Festival, where around 3,000 plum tree of approximately 100 varieties bloom spectacularly, attracting many visitors. It was recognized as a Japan Heritage site in 2015.

Access: 20 minutes by bus from Mito Station of the JR Joban Line.



Mt. Tsukuba Tsukuba City

One of the most famous mountains in Japan known as “Fuji of the West, Tsukuba of the East”. During sunset, the granite rocks change color, and therefore the mountain is also called the “purple mountain”. It is the smallest in height among the 100 Famous Japanese Mountains. One can enjoy the beautiful scenery at the peak of the mountain summit by hiking, ropeway, or cable car.

Access: 40 minutes by bus from TX Tsukuba station of the Tsukuba express Line



Oarai Isosaki Jinja, Kamiiso-no-Torii-gate Oarai Town

The torii-gate marks the spot where two Gods were said to have once descended from heaven in the early Heian era, attracting many visitors to come and admire the sun rise seen from this Torii-gate. Lord Tokugawa Mitsukuni, struck by its beauty, once composed a poem to praise this scenery.

Access: 5 minutes by taxi from Oarai Station of the Kashima Seaside Railway Oarai-Kashima Line

Fukuroda Falls

Daigo Town

Fukuroda Falls is one of the three great waterfalls of Japan with a width of 73 meters and a height of 120 meters divided into four tiers. According to record remained from the famous Heian period poet Saigyō Hoshi, he praised the Fukuroda Falls by saying “One will not understand its beauty if he doesn't visit here at least once during each season.” Therefore the falls are also called “Four Visit Falls” in literary works.

Access: 10 minutes by bus from Fukuroda Station of the JR Suigun Line.



Ryujin Big Suspension Bridge

Hitachiota City

Ryujin suspension bridge is a giant suspension bridge over the V-shaped Ryujin Gorge in Okukuji Prefectural Natural Park. Its length reaches 375 meters, making it one of the longest pedestrian bridges in Japan, and is 100 meters above the dam lake surface, offering a panoramic view of the four seasons.

Access: 45 minutes by car from Hitachi Minami Ota IC of the Joban Expressway

Kasama Pottery Kasama City



Currently having over 200 kilns, Kasama Pottery boasts a history of over 200 years dating back to the Edo period. While there are skilled craftsmen that have inherited the traditional craft, there are also many ceramists with a modern sense creating various works from everyday items to accessories and works of art.



Hitachi Cherry-Blossom Festival Hitachi City

With beautiful cherry blossoms along the Heiwa street in Hitachi City, this area is selected as one of Japan's 100 Cherry Blossom Scenic Spots.

The biggest highlight of the festival is the parade floats also known as “Hitachi Furyumono”. This was designated as both a National important Tangible and Intangible Folk Cultural property as well as an Important Intangible Cultural Property, and is also inscribed on the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage List. (Held from early to mid-April)

Access: One minute walk from Hitachi Station of the JR Joban Line



AQUA WORLD Ibaraki Prefectural Oarai Aquarium Oarai Town

One of the biggest aquariums in Japan, taking place as “No. 1 in Japan” for two different categories. One is for having the highest number of shark varieties in the aquarium and the other is the largest tank dedicated for sunfishes. The aquarium is home to about 580 kinds of 68,000 sea animals.

Access: 15 minutes by bus from Oarai Station of the Kashima Seaside Railway Oarai-Kashima Line



Ushiku Daibutsu Ushiku City

Stands an impressive 120 meters in height and is registered as the largest bronze statue in the world by the Guinness Book of Records. One can observe the beautiful landscape from within the statue as well as enjoy participating in sutra-copying.

Access: 20-30 minutes by bus from Ushiku Station of the JR Joban Line



Kashima Jingu Shrine Kashima City

Enshrined here is the deity of Takemikazuchi-no-Okami, revered as a deity of the martial arts. The shrine was built in 660 BC, and is the head shrine for more than 600 Kashima shrines all over Japan. Surrounded by the spiritual forest, it is considered one of the most sacred places in Ibaraki.

Access: 10 minute-walk from Kashima-Jingu Station of the JR Kashima Line



Ibaraki Flower Park Ishioka City

A theme park of flowers and greenery located in the plain below Mt. Tsukuba. The park is as wide as 30 hectares with terraces of roses inside. The rose is the iconic flower of Ibaraki Prefecture and there are about 900 different kinds of roses here. There are rose festivals in spring and autumn, and in winter the park is decorated with lights.

Access: 30 minutes by bus from Ishioka Station of the JR Joban Line



Tsukuba-Kasumigaura Ring-Ring Road

Surrounding area of Mt. Tsukuba and Lake Kasumigaura

Tsukuba-Kasumigaura Ring-Ring Road is a cycling course with a total length of 180 km, where visitors can enjoy a wide variety of regional attractions, such as the lakeside landscape of Kasumigaura, a part of the Waterside Tsukuba National Park, the rich natural scenery of Mt. Tsukuba, as well as historical and cultural assets represented by the Kashima Jingu Shrine.

Traditional Crafts of Ibaraki



Yuki-tsumugi (Yuki Silk)

Yuki City

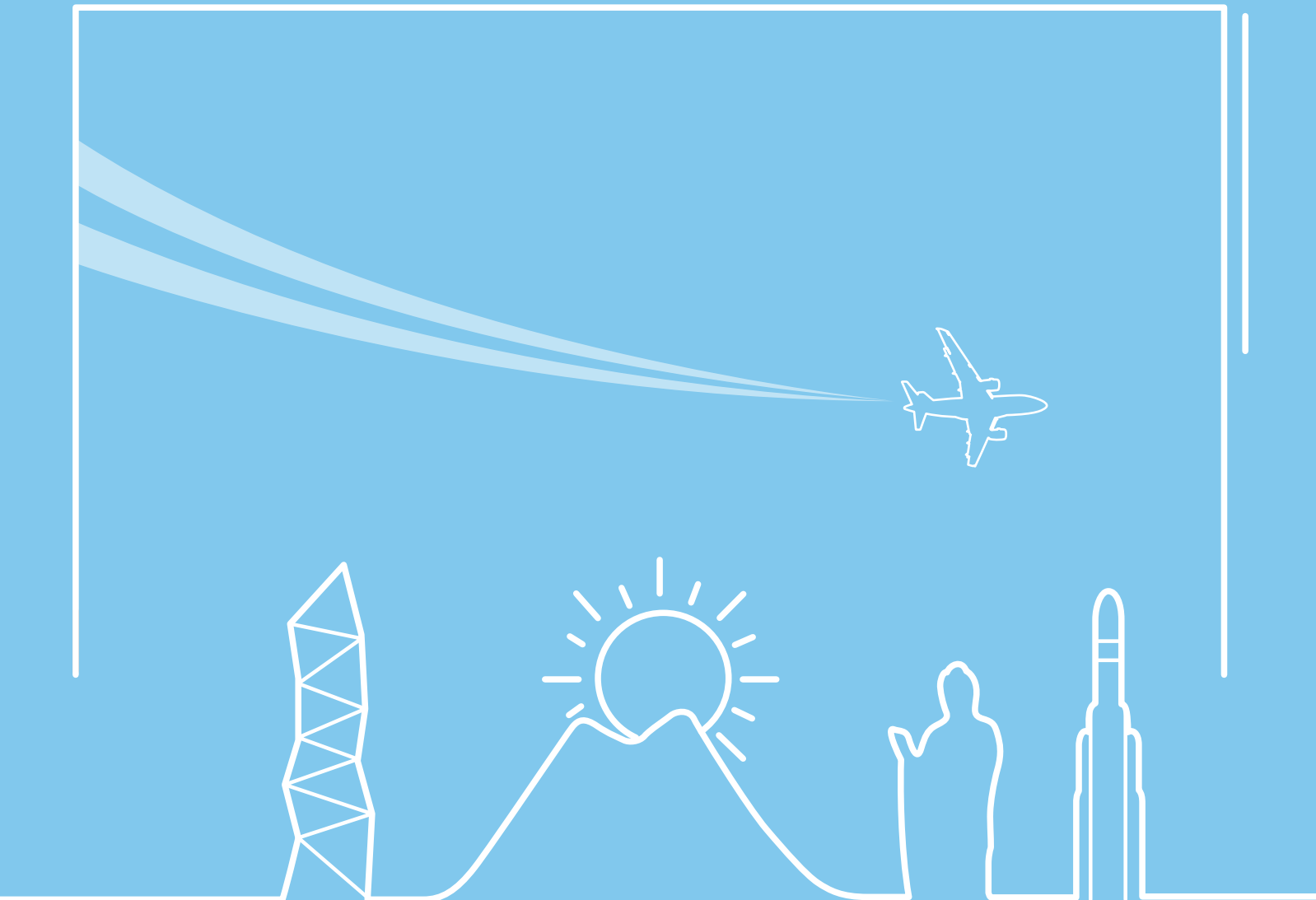
Having a history of over 1000 years, Yuki Silk is produced entirely by hand, and can take over one year to complete. The production process was designated as a National Important Intangible Cultural Heritage in 1956, and registered as a UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage in November, 2010.



Makabe Stone Lanterns

Sakuragawa City

The Makabe region of Sakuragawa City has long been a producer of stone and when Makabe stone lanterns started being given to temples and shrines as offerings in the middle of the Edo period, they became the basic form for stone lanterns. In order to produce a single lantern, 18 different traditional techniques and methods are used. The durability, sense of weight, and delicate carvings add a hint of elegance to any garden.



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