

# 1 day tour of TAKASAKI Kotto Kaikan & KOEDO Kawagoe

(by chartered coach)

## High Lights

- Kotto Kaikan (Antique Shop) in Takasaki City
- Jigen-in Temple Byakui Daikan'on
- Takasaki Pasta (Lunch)
- KOEDO district in Kawagoe City including old wooden warehouses, classic bell tower, old-fashioned candy shops...etc.
- The tour can be modified to 1N2D including Kusatsu or Minakami hot springs.



# Itinerary

08:30 Departure for **Takasaki City** via Kan-etsu Expressway by chartered coach.

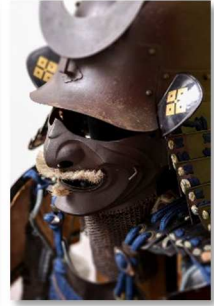
10:30-11:30 Visit **Takasaki Kotto Kaikan** 高崎骨董会館 (Antique shop)



Located on the northern tip of the Kanto Plain, about 100km northwest of Tokyo, Takasaki city is one of Gunma prefecture's major cities and its largest with a population of 370,000.



**Takasaki Kotto Kaikan** is one of the most reputable antique shops in 'Kanto' area and has many valuable antiques and art objects not only from Japan but also from all over the world. Beginning with a reception desk immediately after entering the entrance, there is a corner of works of the famous artists, tea ceremony equipment, and kimono, the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor is for a beautiful and rare domestic and foreign goods and some of them are the same quality as that of the museum exhibit. You can also find rare items from China and Asian countries on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. The first time visitors will be overwhelmed by the number of items and the variety. When advice is needed, the shop staff respond at any time. You can actually pick up any items in which you're interested and check the quality carefully. The shop will be a relaxing space where you can fully enjoy each display at your own pace.



11:35  
11:45-12:15

After the antique shop, the tour goes to **Jigenin Temple** 慈眼院.  
Enjoy the view of Takasaki Byakui Daikan'on and Takasaki city



A symbol of Takasaki City, the **Takasaki Byakui Daikannon** 高崎白衣大観音像 is a giant reinforced concrete statue of the Buddhist bodhisattva Kannon (Guanyin) which was erected in 1936. The white gown the statue is wearing represents the pure heart that is needed to attain enlightenment. 41.8 meters tall and approximately six thousand tons in weight, the statue was the biggest of its kind in Asia when it was first constructed. The interior of the statue is lined with 20 figures of the Buddha and high priests; visitors can also climb up to the statue's ninth floor (shoulder height). In recent years, the statue has come to be popularly known for providing luck in finding love and marriage, and on Valentine's Day, the Red Thread Prayer Festival is held at the statue, referencing the invisible red thread of fate said to tie true lovers together. This is the best place where you can enjoy a magnificent view of Takasaki City.



12:20  
12:30-13:30

Leave for the city center  
Lunch at a local restaurant. Enjoy '**Takasaki Pasta**'.

**Takasaki Pasta** 高崎パスタ

Gumma prefecture is one of the country's leading wheat producing areas. 'Kona-mono' cuisine using flour has been deeply tied to the

living of Takasaki citizens since long ago.

Pasta dishes, as one of '**Kona-mono** (flour)' **dishes**, are also widely loved by Takasaki citizens regardless of age and sex. In recent years, it has been frequently featured in newspapers and TVs as 'a town of pasta'.



### **King of Pasta**

Every November all the Italian restaurants in the city compete in the "King of Pasta" ompetition to see who has the best pasta noodles of all. All competitors show off their best menu items using locally produced ingredients, and the audience votes to determine who the "King" is.



13:35

After lunch, leave for Kawagoe City

14:50-16:40

Enjoy Edo-period townscape at your own pace.



### **KOEDO KAWAGOE** 小江戸川越

#### **Popular Edo-period townscape close to Tokyo**

Kawagoe isn't far from Tokyo, but it feels like a totally different world. Koedo, which means "Little Edo," is a great place to experience Japan of the Edo era. Its old wooden warehouses, classic bell tower, old-fashioned candy shops, castle and temple offer a glimpse of what life was like several centuries ago when the area prospered as a transportation and commerce hub.



Kawagoe is most famous for its Little Edo district, or Koedo as it is known, a part of town lined with Edo-style buildings and museums. With its many sights, traditional shops, and popular seasonal events, the area truly comes alive on the weekend, making it a great day trip from the heart of Tokyo.



Koedo Kawagoe offers a wide selection of delicious sweets and cuisine made using local specialties as well as time-honored traditional crafts. Enjoy looking for unique souvenirs to remember your visit to Kawagoe.

16:45                      Leave for Tokyo via Shuto-ko Expressway  
18:00                      Arrival at your hotel in Tokyo

#### Remarks

- Itinerary order is subject to change depending on traffic, weather and operation.
- The time and order of itinerary may change due to weather and traffic condition on the day.
- If any place is closed, we will try to attend alternative place. Also if we cannot arrange any place, we will try to attend alternative place.
- Tour conductors may not accompany on the tour. However, a tour assistant on the bus has all contact details for the tour and our operation office.

For bookings, please contact us.

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