

Soul-soothing three museums in Mino



Mino City, Gifu Prefecture

Three Museums Tour

Former Imaike Residence / Mino History Museum

Mino Washi Akari Art Gallery

MINO-WASHI Museum

Admission pass to all three museums
Adult (high school students and above) 800 yen

Soul-soothing three museums in Mino

“Udatsu-lined old streets,” a Nationally-Selected Preservation District for Groups of Traditional Buildings, and “Mino Washi,” a registered regional collective trademark.



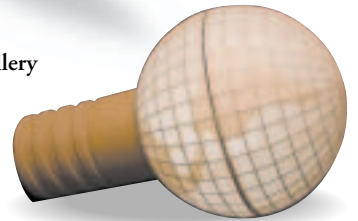
旧今井家住宅・美濃史料館
**Former Imaike Residence /
Mino History Museum**

Sit on the veranda to listen attentively and you can hear the melody of the water dripping in Suikinkutsu (water harp) echoes in the tranquility.



美濃和紙あかりアート館
Mino Washi Akari Art Gallery

Lights wrapped in Washi paper color everything around.
A fantastic world of infinity.



美濃和紙の里会館
Mino-Washi Museum

Carefully, patiently and painstakingly.
An integrated art of skills and spirit.
A masterpiece of Washi paper that has continued for 1,300 years.



旧今井家住宅・美濃史料館 
Former Imai Residence /
Mino History Museum

A serene space filled with dignified air.



Mind-soothing quaint atmosphere





問屋 (Whole Saler) The Former Imaike Residence has the oldest Udatsu roofing architecture. This is where the Washi paper wholesaler served as the village headsman (taxation and administrative work for public office) from the end of Edo period (the 1850's and 60's) to 1941.

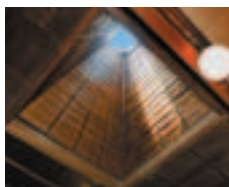
Magnificent Washi Wholesaler Former Imaike Residence

旧今井家



● 帳場
Choba (Front Office)

Enter the entrance and there is a front office or, as it was called in the olden days, Choba. When the Imai Family was running the paper wholesale business, this space was used as its office.



● 明かり取り
Skylight

A skylight, created by cutting a space on the ceiling toward the sky, was installed in the Meiji Period (1868-1912) during renovation.



● 2階納戸
Second Floor Storeroom

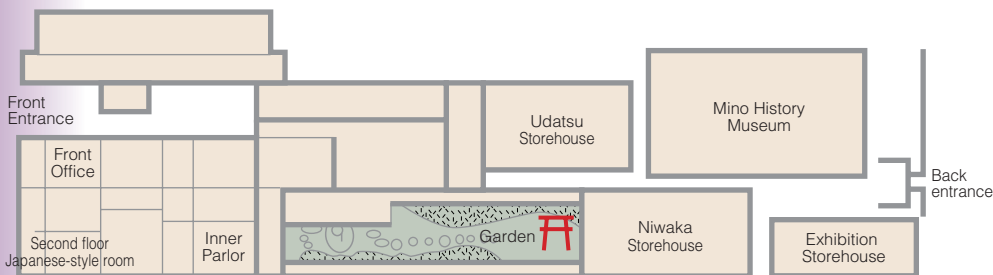
This 50m² room, equivalent to present day attic, was used as a storage space or a room for employees.



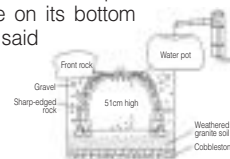
● 奥座敷
Inner Parlor

This guestroom allows you to overlook the alcove and inner courtyard, reminding you the glorious days of a wealthy merchant.

■ Floor Plan



水琴窟 (Water harp) The atmospheric courtyard with Suikinkutsu (water harp) is one of the unique features of the Former Imaike Residence. Suikinkutsu, which is composed of an earthen pot with a small hole on its bottom being buried upside down, is said to be invented somewhere between 1818 and 1830.



This garden is chosen as one of the 100 Sound Sceneries of Japan by the Ministry of the Environment.



● 美濃史料館
Mino History Museum

● Mino History Museum,
Udatsu Storehouse,
Niwaka Storehouse

The museum exhibits historical documents regarding old history, culture, and buildings of Mino City.



● うだつ蔵
Udatsu Storehouse



● にわか蔵
Niwaka Storehouse

Data

1883 Izumi-cho, Mino City, Gifu ☎0575-33-0021

Opening Hours:

April ~ September: 9:00am ~ 4:30pm
October ~ March: 9:00am ~ 4:00pm
*Last admission: 15 minutes before closing

Closed: Tuesdays from December to February (open everyday from March to November) / Days following holidays *If a holiday falls on a Tuesday, closed on the following day / December 29 ~ January 3

Admission: Adults (high school students and above) 300 yen, Groups (20 persons or more) 250 yen

Two museum pass for this museum and Mino-Washi Akari Art Hall: Adults (high school students and above) 400 yen
Three museum pass including this museum, Mino-Washi Akari Art Hall, and MINO-WASHI Museum: Adults (high school students and above) 800 yen

Merchant Town of Edo Period created by Nagachika Kanamori

美濃
(Mino)

Mino City is known nationally for its sophisticated paper-making skill that has been handed down for 1,300 years. Its outstanding quality can be seen from the fact that the government had set up a branch of the directly-managed Paper Agency (paper-making factory) in Mino. In the Edo Period, Nagachika Kanamori, who was controlling the land of Hida became the ruler of the area. Nagachika established a river port on the riverside of the Nagara

River, as the water front strategic fort and built Ogura-yama Castle and castle town. However, the town built on the hill to avoid floods suffered a lack of water resources and thus Udatsu roofing (eaves between two houses), was set up to prevent fire and to control its spread. As time goes by, the eaves became a means to compete in showing off wealth, and still remain along the streets of Mino, amusing the visitors with unique designs.



●うだつのあがる街並
Udatsu-lined old streets



●帳場
Choba Front Office



●土間にしつらえた台所
Kitchen on a dirt floor



●屋号の入った傘
Umbrella with shop name



●昔の鬼瓦
Ogre ridge-end tile



●中庭
Courtyard

Udatsu roofing as a symbol of wealth and reward for efforts

卯建
(Udatsu)

Udatsu roofing is the fire prevention eaves on both sides of the roof. During the Edo Period, when fire occurred frequently, Udatsu roofing was installed as a device to prevent the spread of fire and protect the town built through hard work. However, in order to set up this Udatsu roofing, the home owner had to

establish a successful business. This Udatsu roofing was once found in all areas of Japan, but the number has declined year by year, and the largest number of Udatsu roofing remains in the towns of Tokiwa, Aioi, Motozumi, and Izumi in Mino City.

Types of Udatsu roofing Decorations

●旧今井家
Former Imaike
Residence (West)

This is the oldest form of Udatsu roofing decoration. The most significant feature is that the gable roof tile is made up of two tiles each on the right and left.



●松久家
Matsuhisake
Residence

Eave decoration is slightly more developed than the Imai residence. There is a splendid ridge-end tile on which the store name is inscribed and two gable roof tiles that curved upward.



●小坂家(国重文指定)
Kosakake Residence
(important cultural property)

The residence is of a sake brewery, which has continued from the Edo Period and was designated as an important cultural property.



●加藤家
Katoke
Residence

This residence possesses old Udatsu roofing at the back half of the building. The Udatsu roofing decoration with a small ridge-end tile is thought to be created during the mid-18th century.



●平田家
Hiratake
Residence

This house was built after the huge fire that broke out in 1868. The building is taller and there is a formal Japanese room on the second floor.



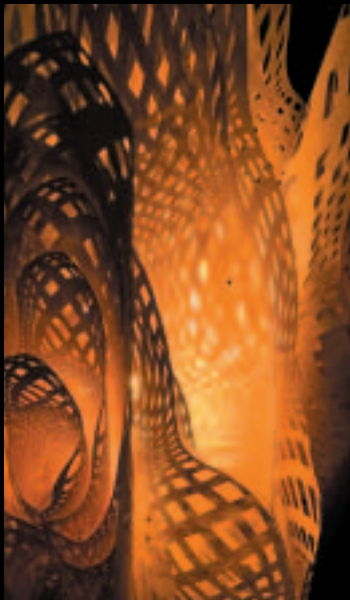
美濃和紙あかりアート館 灯

Mino Washi Akari Art Gallery

Soft light in the dark
Gentle light dressed in Washi paper
lures you into an enchanted world.



Banquet of Lights that Excites Your Mind





芸術
(Art) Mino Washi Lantern Festival, autumn night event in a fantastic exhibition space. The Udatu roofing Streetscape is illuminated with lights filtered through washi paper.



建築
(Building) Former Mino Town Industrial Hall, built in 1941, former Meitetsu Mino Town Line Mino Station building, and former Meitetsu Mino Town Line Mino Station platform and railways are designated as national tangible cultural properties.

美濃和紙あかりアート館

Mino Washi Akari Art Gallery

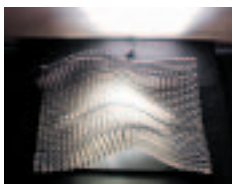
Gently illuminating



● The 13th Grand Prize:
white breath



● The 14th Grand Prize:
Gathering of Angels



● The 15th Grand Prize:
obob



● The 9th Grand Prize:
HOUZUKI (holding moon).



● The 5th Grand Prize:
Light of Hometown



● Museum Shop / Free Lounge

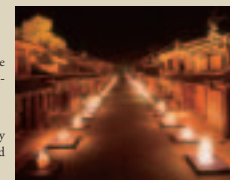
The first floor is a shop, selling creative lighting products made with washi paper. Feel free to use the free lounge.

● Mino Wshi Lantern Festival

Diverse Mino Washi light artworks are exhibited on the main street of the Udatu-lined old streets.

[Date / Time]

Weekend before the Health and Sport Day in every October, from evening to around 9:00pm.



Data

1901-3 Motozumi-cho, Mino City, Gifu ☎0575-33-3772

Opening Hours:

April ~ September: 9:00am ~ 4:30pm

October ~ March: 9:00am ~ 4:00pm

Closed: Tuesdays / Days following holidays /

December 29 ~ January 3

*If a holiday falls on a Tuesday, closed on the following day

Admission: Adults 200 yen /

Junior high school students and younger are free

Groups (20 persons or more) Adults 150 yen

Two museum pass for this museum and the Former Imai Family

Residence: Adults (high school students and above) 400 yen

Three museum pass including this museum, the Former Imai

Family Residence, and MINNO-WASHI Museum: Adults (high

school students and above) 800 yen

美濃和紙の里会館 
Mino-Washi Museum

World of Washi continues into the future



Edifice of Washi that enriches your heart





職人 (Professional) Mino washi paper has been created in the homes of upland valley in Mino for 1,300 years. The museum introduces its history and technique, the splendor of washi, and possibilities for the future from diverse perspectives.



技法 (Technique) Mino washi paper, made by using top-quality Kozo and clear water from Nagara River and Itadori River, is strong and beautiful. Today about 30 washi makers make paper meticulously, following the technique from the past.

Transmitting to the world Mino Washi Museum

美濃和紙の里会館



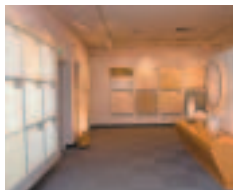
● Exhibition Room 1

From the harvesting of Kozo plant to the paper mill to drying under the sun are introduced step by step.



● Exhibition Room 1

Tools used by washi makers and their refined technologies are introduced.



● Exhibition Room 2

Washi offers calming color to modern life.



● Hi-Vision Hall

The world of Mino paper such as its magnificent paper-making technique and the scene of washi being dried under the sun can be seen here.



● Showroom



● Restaurant HANA-MIKOSHI

Data

1851-3 Warabi, Mino City, Gifu ☎0575-34-8111

Opening Hours: 9:00am ~ 5:00pm

Closed: Tuesdays / Days following holidays /
December 29 ~ January 3

*If a holiday falls on a Tuesday, closed on the following day

Admission: Adults 500 yen /

Junior high school and elementary school students 250 yen

Groups (20 persons or more) Adults 450 yen / Junior high school and elementary school students 200 yen

Three museum pass including this museum, the Former Imai Family Residence, and Mino Washi Akari Art Hall: Adults (High school students and above) 800 yen

Unique exhibition programs seeking artistry and possibilities

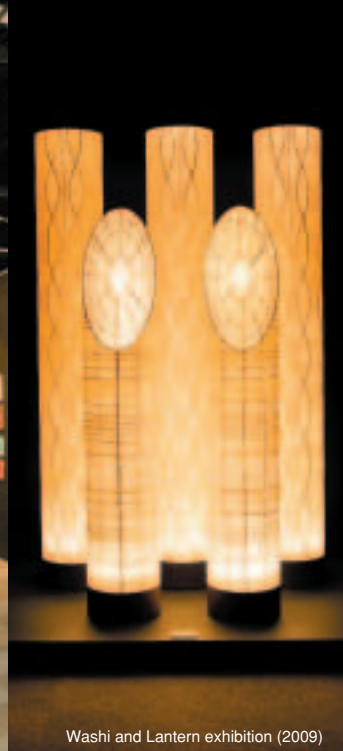
紙 (Paper) Paper possesses a lot of possibilities. A single piece of paper can be changed to convenient living ware or artwork, depending on the person who handles it.



Toilet paper workshop (2009)



Paper workshop exhibition (2009)



Washi and Lantern exhibition (2009)

Workshop to experience the depth and the joy of paper making



Visitors are able to experience making their own paper, using tools used by the professionals and natural raw materials. Small tools are used so even small children will be able to enjoy making their own paper.

Paper-making Process

- **Squeezing**
Minute dust and foreign particles attached to the boiled raw material are removed manually.
- **Beating**
Paper material is pounded with a wooden hammer to ravel out fiber.
- **Scopping**
Raw material, water and viscous fluid are adjusted and placed in the papermaking tray and rolled back and forth to make sheet even.
- **Draining of water**
Paper board is put on the presser to drain water.
- **Drying**
Paper is removed from the paper board and pasted onto the drying board to dry.

Experience Courses Information

*Please inquire for detail.

*Separate admission fee is required to participate in any of the courses.

● Minohan Course

Making washi paper in the size of Minohan (approx.33cm x 45cm) by traditional Nagashizuki method

Time/ Approx. 20 min.

Fee / 500 yen

● Rakusui Course

After making Minohan size paper, shower to add pattern

Time/ Approx. 30 min.

Fee / 500 yen

● Lighting and Partition Course

Making a light art or a partition

Time/ Please inquire

Fee / For paper making 500 yen, Mino-washi light kit 2,000 yen, Mini-partition kit 1,500 yen

● Postcard Course

Making original postcards

Time/ Approx. 40 min.

Fee / 500 yen

● Diploma Course

Making diplomas and certificates for schools and clubs.

Time/ Please inquire

Fee / 700 yen

● One-Hour Course for Challenging the Work of Professional Paper Maker

Experience paper making from the squeezing, pounding, material processing, preparation for scopping trays and scopping (reservation required)

Time/ 1 hr.

Fee / 800 yen

● One-Day Course for Challenging the Work of Professional Paper Maker

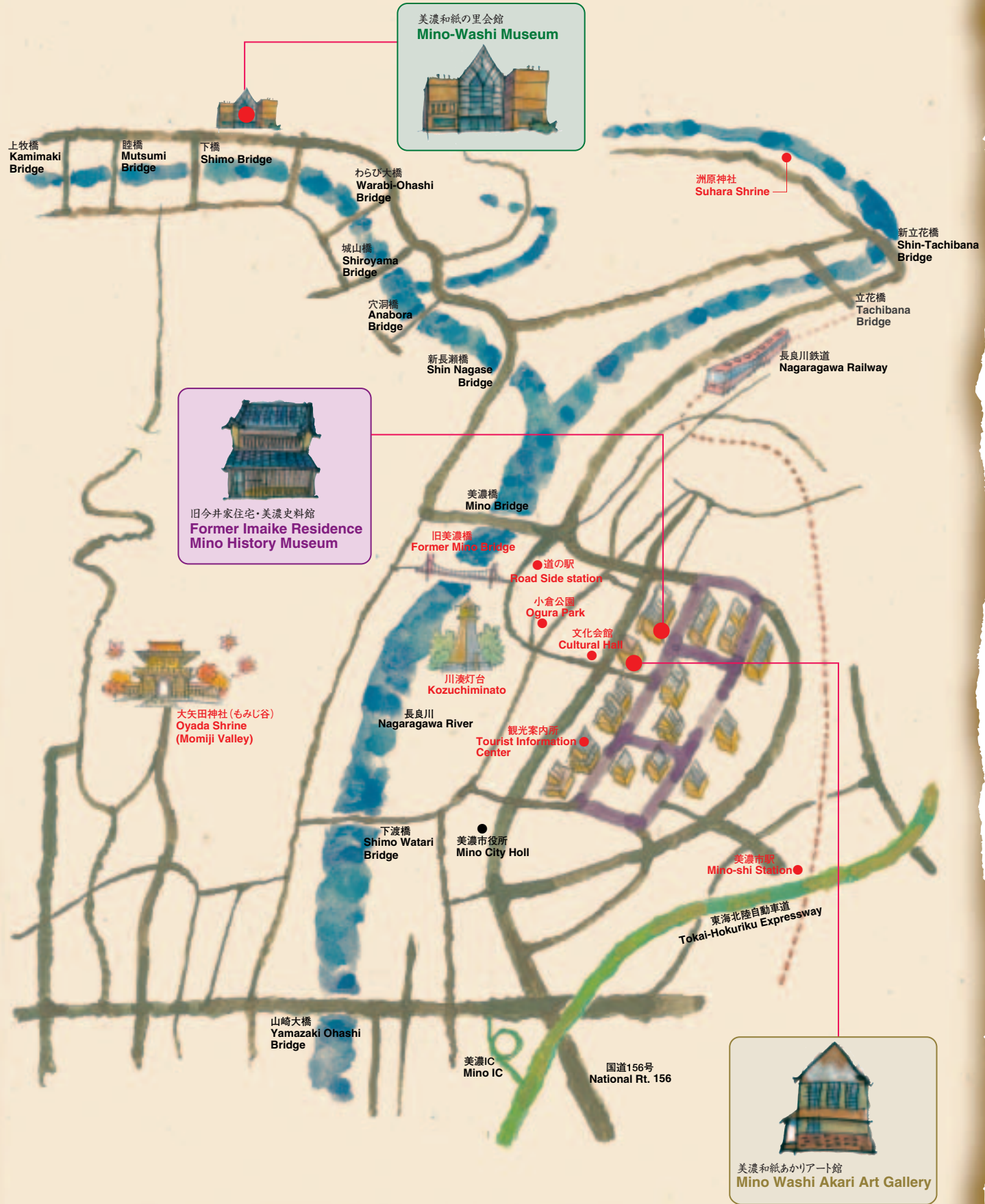
Experience paper making from the squeezing, beating, pressing, material adjustment, scopping and drying (reservation required)

Open / 10:00am to 3:00pm on weekdays

Fee / 3,000 yen

“Udatsu-lined old streets” Pictorial Map of a Three Museum Course

Former Imaike Residence / Mino History Museum : 2.5km from Mino IC
 Mino Washi Akari Art Gallery: 2.5km from Mino IC
 MINO-WASHI Museum : 11.5km from Mino IC



旧今井家住宅・美濃史料館
Former Imaike Residence / Mino History Museum
 1883 Izumi-cho, Mino City, Gifu TEL: 0575-33-0021

美濃和紙あかりアート館
Mino Washi Akari Art Gallery
 1901-3 Motozumi-cho, Mino City, Gifu TEL: 0575-33-3772

美濃和紙の里会館
Mino-Washi Museum
 1851-3 Warabi, Mino City, Gifu TEL: 0575-34-8111