



Itoigawa

The Jade Coast

Visit us online: <http://geo-itoigawa.com/eng/>
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Itoigawa is the only source in Japan for gemstone quality jade!

Itoigawa City is in rural Niigata Prefecture, wedged between the **Sea of Japan** and the **Northern Japanese Alps**. The region is characterized by **rugged natural beauty** and **ancient history**. Home of the **world's oldest jade culture** and **Japan's First UNESCO Global Geopark**, Itoigawa is one of Japan's hidden gems and perfect for those looking for something a little different.

Mt. Myojo & Takanami-no-Ike Pond

So Much To Explore!



A truly unique art museum designed by acclaimed architect **Togo Murano** and featuring **Buddhist sculptures** by **Seiko Sawada**. The museum was designed to complement these powerful images perfectly!

Tanimura Art Museum

Hisuien & Gyokusuien Gardens



These **Japanese gardens** are perfect places to **relax**, contemplate and enjoy natural beauty no matter the season. The gardens also feature a **museum of jade artwork** (Hisuien) and a **garden café** (Gyokusuien).

Natural beauty abounds in Itoigawa. The forests and **mountains** blaze with brilliant orange and red in the autumn and rich greens in the spring. Enjoy **hiking** and **bathing** in the summer and **skiing** and **natural hot springs** in the winter! Itoigawa's nature has something for everyone to enjoy.



The Historic Salt Trail

The Jade Coast

Closer Than You Think



The new **Hokuriku Shinkansen** makes it possible to visit Itoigawa and the Jade Coast from Tokyo in only 2 hours! Tired of the crowds? Looking for something new? Escape here and experience a 'hidden gem' along the Sea of Japan!

As little as 2 hours from Tokyo!

2 - 2.5 hours from Tokyo via the Hokuriku Shinkansen

Hokuriku Arch Pass

Save on your trip by using the Hokuriku Arch Pass! Includes 7 days of unlimited travel from Tokyo to Itoigawa, Toyama, Kanazawa, Osaka and more!



7 days
¥25,000!

Easy access to **Toyama, Kanazawa, Nagano, Hakuba** and more!

See the back for a sample visit!

Itoigawa: Wonders of the Land Bounty of the Sea

Download our app [Gururi Itoigawa](#) or visit us online at <http://geo-itoigawa.com/eng/>

Depart Tokyo 8:44
↓
Arrive Itoigawa 11:01

Not sure how to spend your time in Itoigawa? Try this day trip! If you're looking for something different, we're sure you'll love it here!



Itoigawa Station, located in the heart of historic central Itoigawa, is the closest *shinkansen* station to the Sea of Japan. It's less than a 5 minute walk to the sea! Start your visit at the **GeoStation GeoPal** Tourist Information Center at the South Exit!

Downtown Itoigawa (30-45 min)

Guide map in hand, stroll through downtown Itoigawa. An important stop along the ancient Kaga Road which connected Tokyo to Kanazawa, the streets are lined with relics of the past as well as a variety of unique local boutiques, cafes and restaurants. Don't miss a visit to Kaga-no-I Brewery, Niigata's oldest sake maker, and check out the view from the Sea of Japan Lookout Arch next to Kaibo Park!



Itoigawa GeoStation GeoPal (30 min)

This tourist information center is the best place to start your visit! Interactive displays and friendly staff will help you make the best out of your trip. Pick up guide maps and check out the model railroad gallery and children's play areas while you plan your visit!



Walk 2 min

Walk 3 min

Downtown Lunch (45 min)

Itoigawa's restaurant scene is distinguished by its local color. Maybe you won't find our restaurants in any famous travel guides, but the Itoigawa station area is packed with locally-owned restaurants and cafes serving fresh local seafood, rice, meat and vegetables.



From luxurious *kaiseki* banquet meals to simple and cheap diners and noodle shops, there's a bit of something for everyone in Itoigawa! Make sure you try the seafood before you go, it's a completely different experience from the fish in Tokyo!

Not sure where to eat? Ask at **GeoStation GeoPal** or check out our app [Gururi Itoigawa](#) for iOS and Android! (More info below)

Walk 1-5 min

Bus 9 min (13:30)

Fossa Magna Museum (1 hr)

Itoigawa sits atop a massive fault line which splits Japan between the North American & Eurasian continental plates. These two plates collided into each other, forming the Japanese Islands!

Take a bus from Itoigawa Station to the **Fossa Magna Museum**, an award-winning science and natural history museum dedicated to sharing the story of Japan's birth through interactive displays, locally discovered fossil and mineral exhibits and more. The museum's collection of Itoigawa Jade is the best in Japan!



Bus 9 min (14:40)



Itoigawa Sta. Seafood Dinner

Return to Itoigawa Station for dinner at one of the many *izakaya* or other restaurants downtown. Fresh seafood caught from the Sea of Japan pairs perfectly with one (or more!) of Itoigawa's many locally crafted sakes!

Finish your evening with a drink at one of our downtown bars. We recommend trying a **Jade Cocktail**, made with locally crafted sake!

After your dinner and drinks, you can catch a train back to Tokyo, or spend the night out one of our reasonably priced local hotels or bed and breakfasts and have a new adventure the next day!



Itoigawa Onsen (1.5 hr)

Take the Oito Line train from Itoigawa Station to Himekawa Station in front of Itoigawa Onsen, one of Itoigawa's 10 natural hot spring baths. After relaxing in the beautiful indoor and outdoor baths, swim a few laps in the indoor heated pool or just enjoy a refreshing drink at this small hot spring paradise.



Train 5 min (15:16)

Train 5 min (17:16)

Depart Itoigawa 20:35 → Return Tokyo 22:52

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