

Inami — a town with
more than 600 years of history and culture

井波

INAMI
Nanto City, Toyama
Inami, Nanto City,
Toyama Prefecture

From Mt. Yaotome, enjoy the beautiful seasonal panoramic view of sankyoson dispersed villages.



View of Tonami Plain from Kanjoji Park (prefectural park)



Echū Ichinomiya Takase Shrine



Takase Community Facility "Azumadachi Takase"



Yokamachi-dori Street (in front of Zuisenji Temple)



Machi-no-eki "Yoitoko Inami" (community center), "Ikenami Shotaro Fureai-kan" (museum)

A town with a major temple and the largest woodcarving industry in Japan

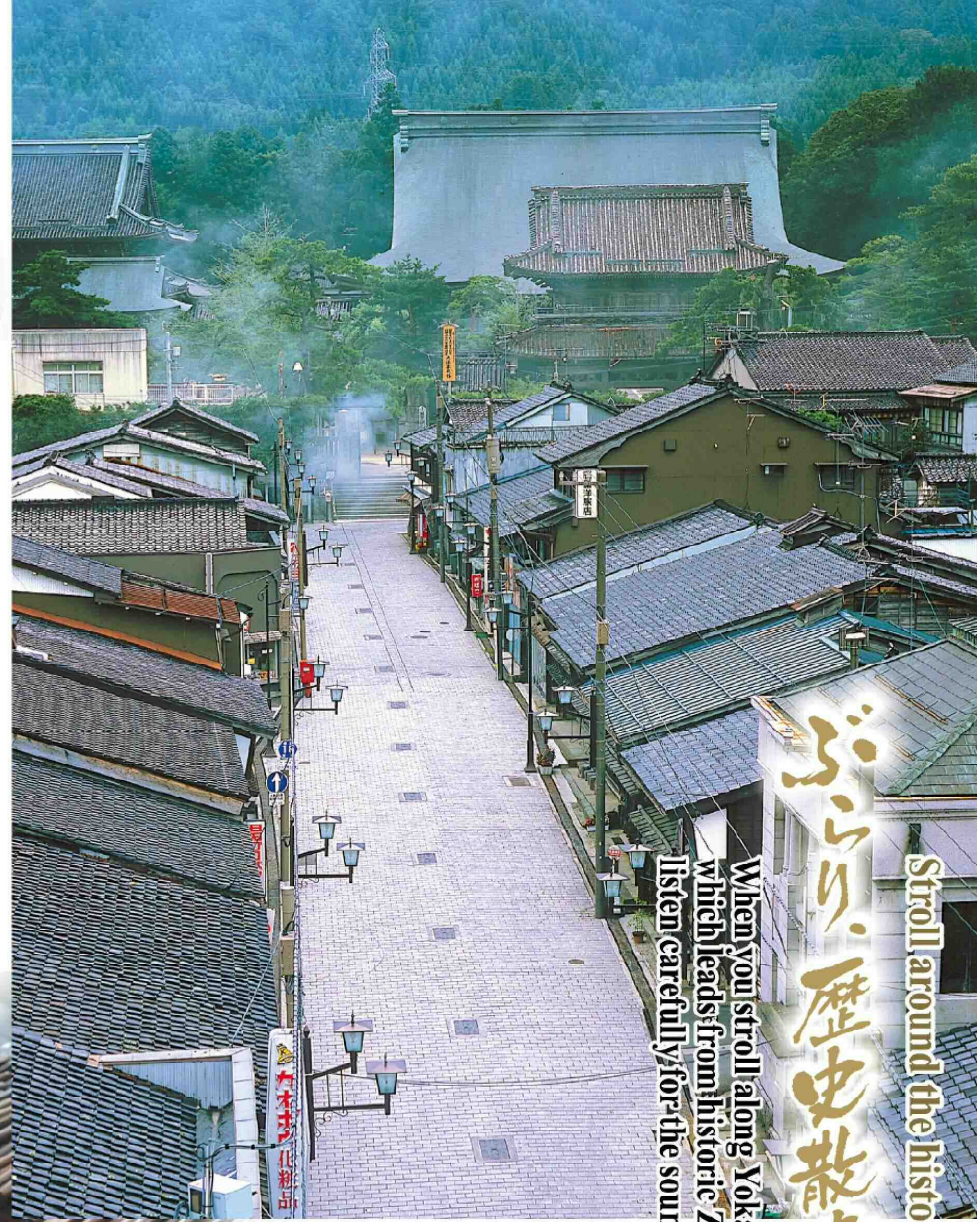
Zuisenji Temple—a tangible cultural property of Nanto City and one of the largest temples in the Hokuriku region—possesses two important cultural properties of Japan and two important cultural properties of Toyama Prefecture.

[Shinshu Otani-ha Branch Inami Betsuin **Zuisenji Temple**]

Zuisenji Temple was built in 1390, as a major temple of the Jodo Shinshu sect in the Hokuriku region, by Shakunyo, the fifth chief priest of Honganji Temple, under the approval of Emperor Gokomatsu. Its main hall has been destroyed by fire several times; it was most recently reconstructed in 1885. The hall is one of the largest wooden buildings in the Hokuriku region. Excellent Inami woodcarving craftsmanship can be seen in various of the temple's woodcarvings, including: "Shishi-no-Kotoshi (Lion pushing its cub off a cliff)," which decorates Chokushi-mon Gate, Sumiryu (dragons at corners), carved at corners of the main hall; Tabasami ornaments and Baku Kibana (finial in the form of baku—an imaginary dream-devouring creature) in Taishi-do Hall.

Skills inherited from an artisan dispatched by Higashi Honganji Temple in Kyoto [Inami Wood Carving]

The history of Inami woodcarving dates back to 1763, when local carpenters learned skills from Sanshiro Maekawa, a woodcarving artisan dispatched by Higashi Honganji Temple in Kyoto, at the time of the reconstruction of Zuisenji Temple, which had burned down. Inami woodcarving is represented by ranma (transom windows), screens, shishigashira (lion heads) and tenjinsama (the god of learning), which are made of high-quality natural woods, such as camphor laurel, zelkova and paulownia. It takes highly advanced skills and more than 200 different types of chisels and woodcarving knives to complete the Inami woodcarving process, from the arabori (rough carving) stage to shiage (finish carving) stage. Inami woodcarving has been designated a national traditional handicraft.



When you stroll along Yokamachi-dori Street, which leads from historic Zuisenji Temple, listen carefully for the sound of wooden mallets.

ぶらり歴史散歩井波

Stroll around the historic town of Inami

Inami Betsuin Zuisenji Temple (Left: Taishi-do Hall, Right: Main Hall)



Inami Rest Area Inami Kibinosato Soyukan



Inami Wood Carving Composite Hall



Zuisenji Temple has a history of more than 600 years as a major Buddhist temple of the Jodo Shinshu sect in the Hokuriku region. Inami has flourished as a monzenmachi—a town formed around a temple. Gently sloped, cobbled Yokamachi-dori Street, which runs through the town, provides a relaxing atmosphere with its surrounding traditional townscape. When you stroll along this street, where many woodcarving studios are located, you can hear artisans striking their chisels with their wooden mallets.

Access to Inami

Major tourist spots within 1 hr of Inami

- ◆ **Gokayama** approx. 30 min. (via expwy)
- ◆ **Himi** approx. 30 min. (via expwy)
- ◆ **Tateyama** approx. 60 min. (via expwy)
- ◆ **Kanazawa** approx. 40 min. (via expwy)

Expressway

- Tokyo ▶ Tonami I.C.** Kan-Etsu & Hokuriku Expwys (via Joetsu)
- Osaka ▶ Tonami I.C.** Meishin & Hokuriku Expwys
- Nagoya ▶ Tonami I.C.** Meishin & Hokuriku Expwys
- Nagoya ▶ Fukumitsu I.C.** Meishin & Tokai-Hokuriku Expwys
- ▷ Tonami I.C. to Inami (National Route 156): 10 min.
- ▷ Gokayama I.C. to Inami (National Route 156): 45 min.
- ▷ Fukumitsu I.C. to Inami (local road): 15 min.

Plane

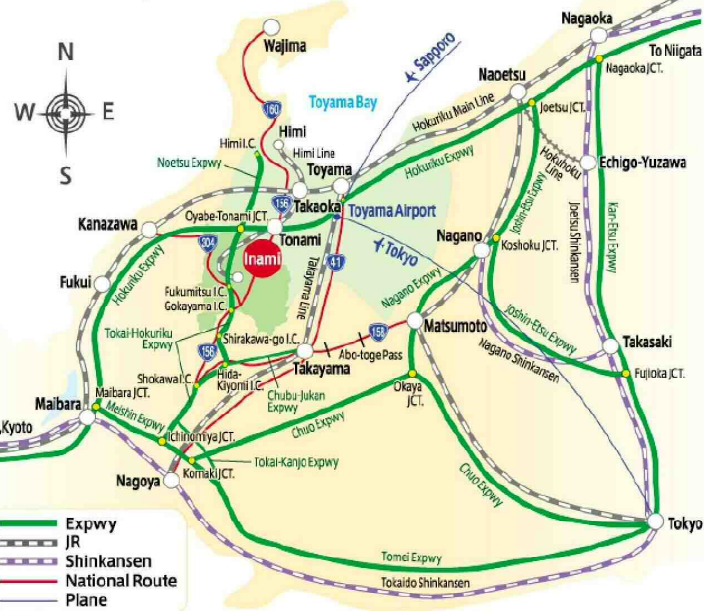
- Shinchitose Airport (Sapporo) ▶ Toyama Airport**
- Haneda Airport (Tokyo) ▶ Toyama Airport**

- ▷ Toyama Airport via Hokuriku Expwy (Toyama I.C. ~ Tonami I.C.): 30 min.
- ▷ Tonami I.C. to Inami via National Route 156: 10 min.
- ▷ 40 min. by airport shuttle bus from Toyama Airport to Takaoka Station

JR

- Tokyo ▶ Takaoka Station** Joetsu Shinkansen (Ueno ~ Echigo-Yuzawa)
Hokuhoku Line-Hokuriku Main Line (Echigo-Yuzawa ~ Takaoka)
- Osaka ▶ Takaoka Station** Hokuriku Main Line
- Nagoya ▶ Takaoka Station** Tokaido Main Line-Hokuriku Main Line

- ▷ Takaoka Stn. to Inami via Kaetsunou Bus: 60 min.
- ▷ 20 min. on the Johana Line from Takaoka Station to Tonami Station
- ▷ 10 min. by taxi from Tonami Station to Inami



Contact

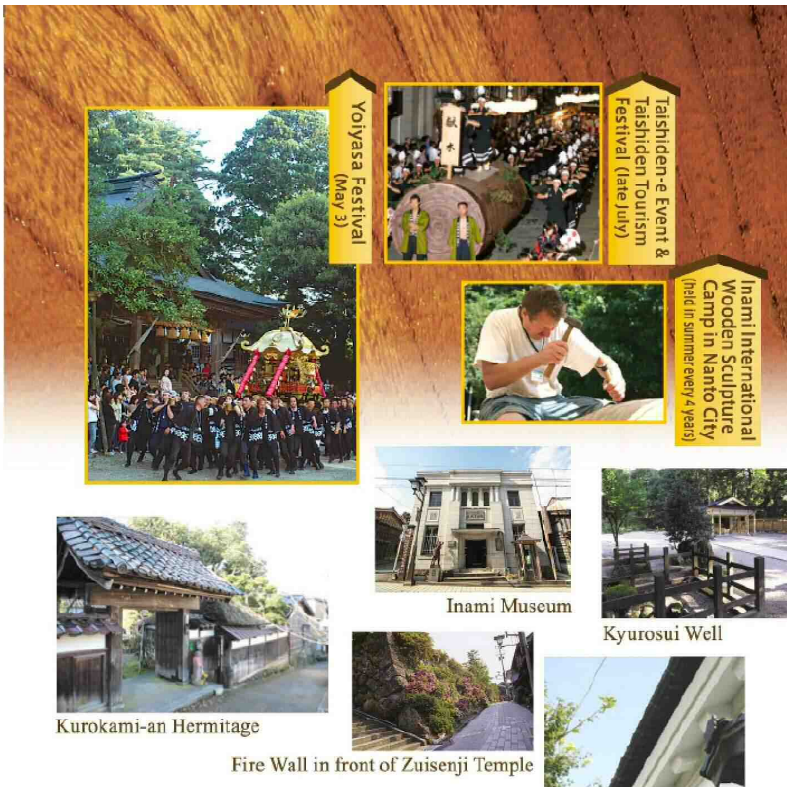
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<http://inami-kankou.group.nanto-e.com/>
(Japanese)



Inami Bussan Tenjikan
(National tangible cultural property)



Yoiyasa Festival (May 3)

Taishiden-e-Event & Taishiden Tourism Festival (late July)

Inami International Wooden Sculpture Camp in Nanto City (held in summer every 4 years)

Inami Museum

Kyurosui Well

Kurokami-an Hermitage

Fire Wall in front of Zuisenji Temple



Inami Hachimangu Shrine



Enjoy a somewhat nostalgic, comfortable landscape while strolling through the historic town.

The town of Inami, surrounded by rich water and greenery, has many historic tourist attractions, including Kyurosui Well, located in an alley extending east from Zuisenji Temple, which is said to be the site where a supernatural spring bubbled up; Inami Hachimangu Shrine, with its beautiful grove of trees; the Site of Inami Castle and Daimongawa Kasen Park, which are surrounded by rich nature; and Kurokami-an Hermitage, a thatch-roof house located behind Yokamachi-dori Street. Why not stroll through the town of Inami and visit these places? Also recommended is Inami Art Museum, which exhibits many works of prizewinners of the Japan Fine Arts Exhibition and artisans of the fine arts of Inami.