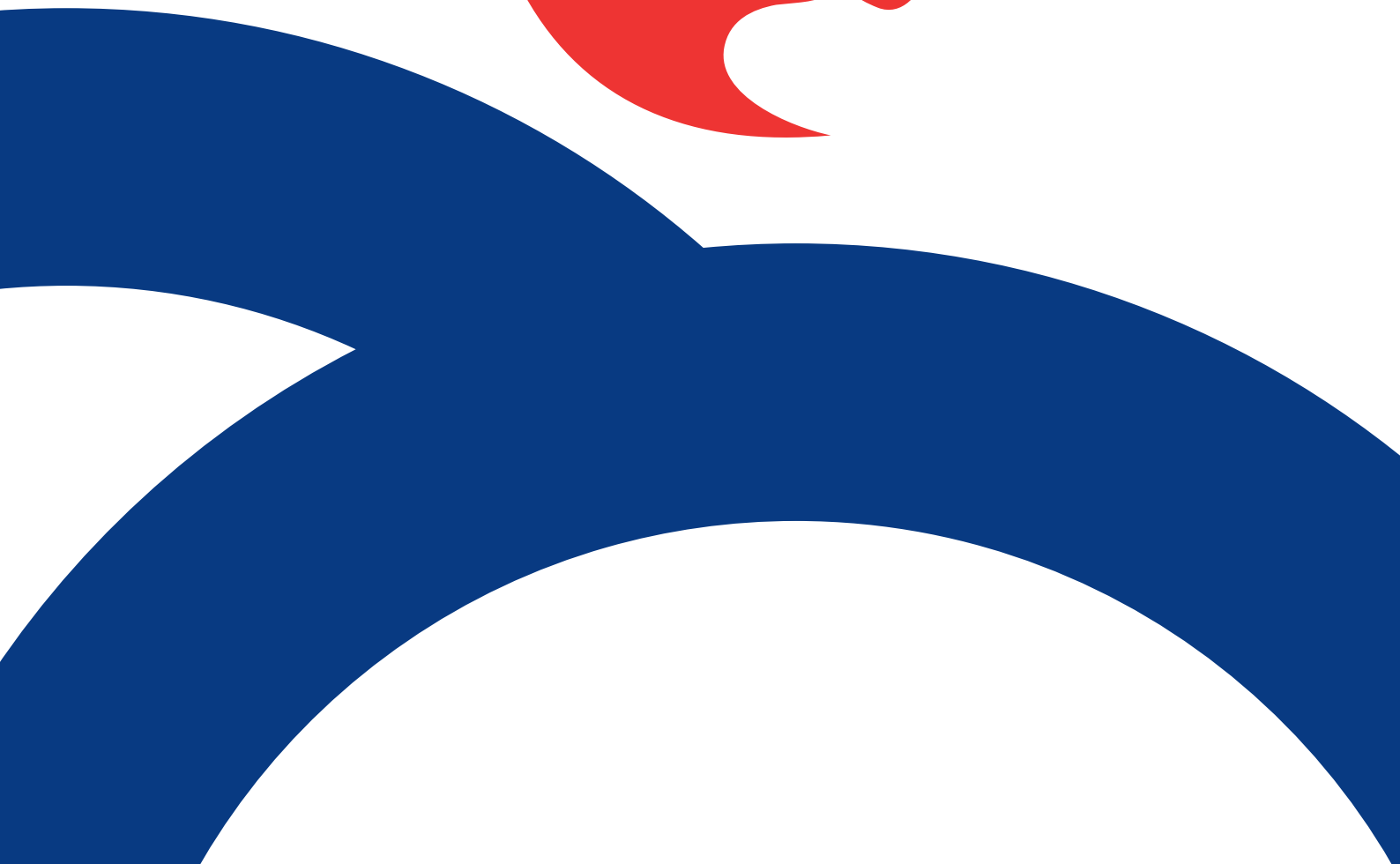
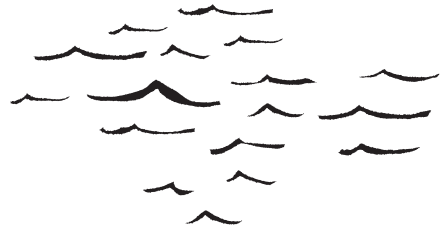


Nagasaki Meguri

A Guidebook to Nagasaki



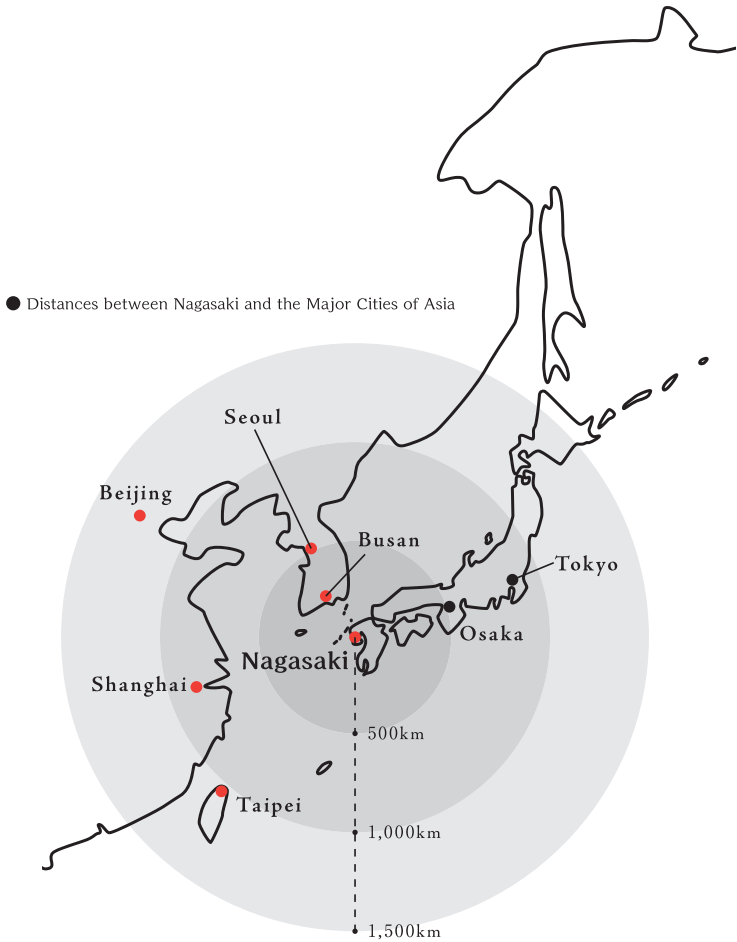


Kengo Oishi Governor of Nagasaki Prefecture

Nagasaki Prefecture is blessed with an abundance of beautiful natural scenery and tourism resources. With many outlying islands, approximately 40% of Nagasaki Prefecture's total area is made up of islands, and it also has the second-longest coastline of any prefecture in Japan. Nagasaki Prefecture, which was on the center stage of history, has two World Cultural Heritage Sites, which have been handed down from the past to the present and will be further passed on to future generations. The first is “Sites of Japan's Meiji Industrial Revolution” , and the second is “Hidden Christian Sites in the Nagasaki and Amakusa Regions” . Nagasaki is also full of many attractions, including the “Border Islands: Iki, Tsushima, Goto” registered in the first group of Japan Heritage Sites, and the night view of Nagasaki City, which is one of the New Three Great Night Views of the World. In addition, the West Kyushu Shinkansen line opened in 2022, and new town development is progressing in the areas around the stations along the line. We are also moving towards new key industries such as robotics, IT, semiconductors, and aircraft-related industries. We see these major changes as an opportunity for a “once-in-a-century transformation” and are working to “create a new Nagasaki Prefecture” and “create a Nagasaki Prefecture that is chosen by people” . I hope that this guidebook will give you a sense of the various charms that make Nagasaki so special. I also hope that you choose to visit our prefecture. We look forward to warmly welcoming you.

Nagasaki in Figures

- Population
Total population: 1,312,317
Number of households: 558,230
[As of October 1st, 2020]
- Geography
Length of coastline: 4,166 km
[As of March 31st, 2021]
- Area
Total Area: 4,130.98 square km
[Statistical reports on the land area by prefectures and municipalities in Japan]
[As of October 1st, 2021]
- Number of Islands
72 inhabited islands
(islands with confirmed populations in the 2020 census)
[As of October 2nd, 2020]



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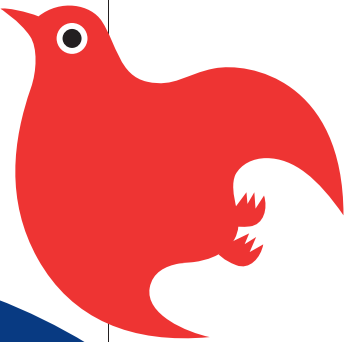


About the Cover

● Among Nagasaki’ s traditional events is a kite-flying festival known as the *Hata-Age*. This event involves a game where participants use kite-strings coated with powdered glass to try to cut their opponent's kite-strings. The kites are characterized by boldly-stylized designs that feature white, red and blue colors, as well as scenic features, birds, beasts and the like. The cover of this brochure features a “Nami ni Chidori” (Plover on the Waves) motif, which is one of the designs that can be seen during the event.

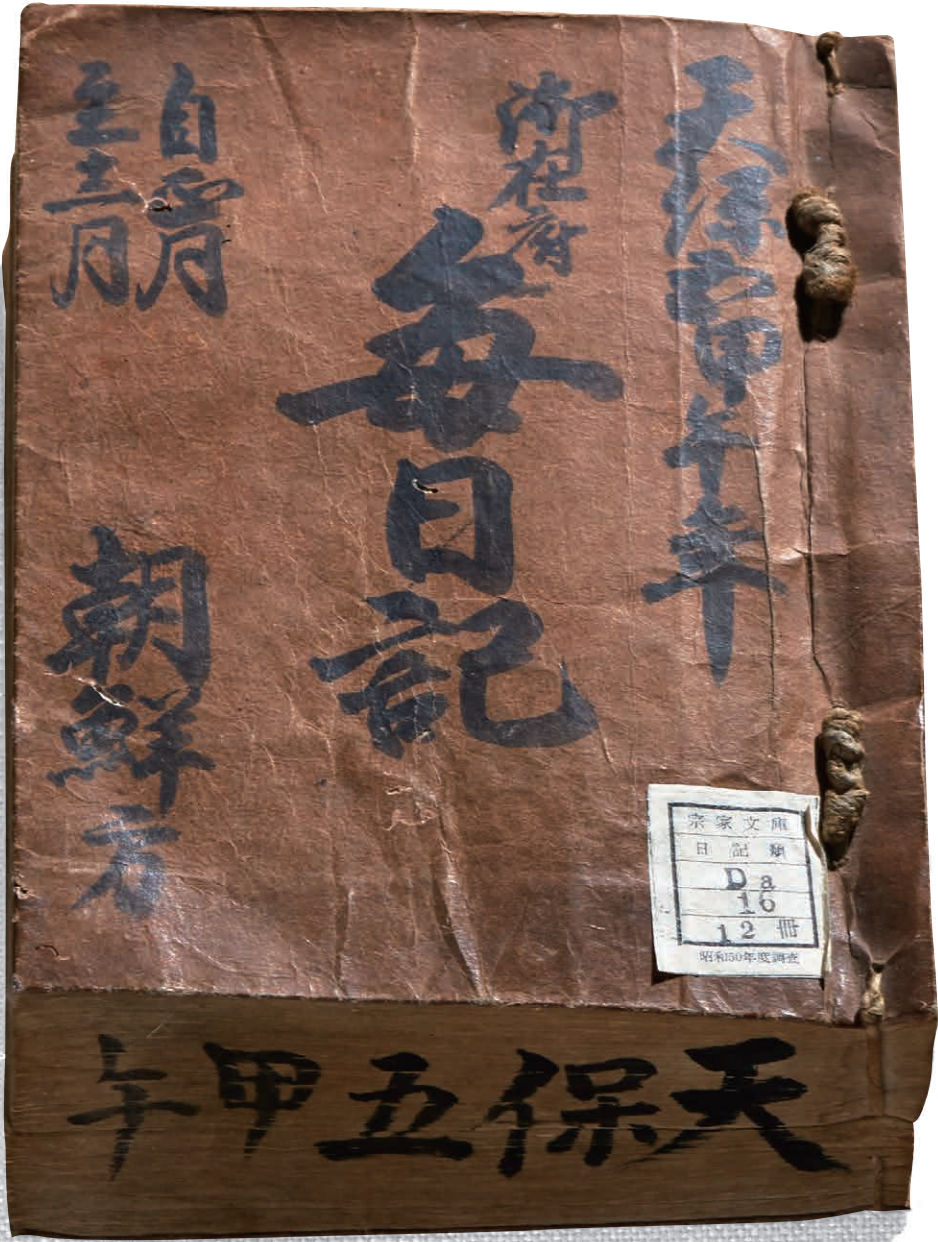
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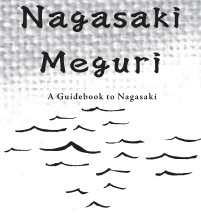
The History of Nagasaki: Rooted in Exchange with the Outside World

Nagasaki is located at the western edge of Japan. As such, it has acted as a link to the Asian continent since ancient times. Also, during the Edo period, Nagasaki was the only gateway to the West, and prospered through the acceptance of foreign culture and mutual exchange with a great many people. To this day, numerous cultural assets that tell the story of this history of international exchange remain across the prefecture.



The History of Nagasaki ❶

Cultural Exchange



●Historial documents related to the domain duties of the Tsushima Domain's So Clan, who facilitated ties between Japan and Joseon (Korea) over approximately 240 years, from the Kan'ei period (1624 to 1644) through to the end of the Edo Period (Bakumatsu). The library of historic records of the diplomatic relations between Japan and Joseon during the Edo period amounts to around 80,000 documents. [Property of the Nagasaki Prefectural Research Center for History of Tsushima]



Exchange with the Joseon (Korean) Peninsula

The islands of Iki and Tsushima lie to the west of Nagasaki Prefecture. Exchange with the Joseon Peninsula had flourished since ancient times, making these islands the point through which culture and technology from the Asian continent would make its way into Japan. The Harunotsuji Ruins on the island of Iki make an appearance in the Chinese history book "Gishiwaajinden" as the imperial capital of Ikioku, and are what remains of a *kango shuraku* (a type of village built with a surrounding moat) from the Yayoi period (300 BCE to 300 CE). Much material has been excavated, including the remnants of the oldest docking area found within Japan. These relics tell the story of the vibrant exchange that took place between Japan and the rest of Asia. Meanwhile, the border island of Tsushima, located just 50 kilometers from the Korean Peninsula, was for a time the destination of missions from Joseon (Korea). These were halted in the late 16th century when Toyotomi Hideyoshi dispatched Japanese troops to the peninsula. However, the Tsushima Domain's So Clan created an opportunity for their reestablishment, giving Tsushima an important role in escorting the missions to Edo and effectively an exclusive role in diplomacy between Japan and Joseon.



The Fragrance of Chinese Culture Aloft in Nagasaki

Starting in around the year 600, Japanese envoys were dispatched to Sui and later Tang China in order to learn about the advanced technologies and expertise developing on the continent. The envoys made their way to China via islands like Iki, Tsushima and Goto. Later, around the end of the Kamakura Period (late 13th century), troops from Yuan China attempted to invade Japan in the Mongol invasions. However, large numbers of their ships were sunk by violent storms, dubbed "Kamikaze" (Divine Wind). There are many traces of this history that remain, including the Takashima Seabed Ruins in Matsuura City. Going into the Edo period, trade between Japan and China greatly increased. Goods were not the only things brought to Nagasaki from across the seas: culturally-refined and educated Chinese people who made their way to Japan also brought with them architectural and brushwork techniques, food culture and much more. The imprints of Chinese culture can be seen around Nagasaki City, from Sofuku-ji and the Obaku School temples which contain structures designated as national treasures, to Megane-bashi, the country's oldest stone arch bridge, and the Confucius Shrine which is the only Confucian shrine in Japan to have been built by people from China. Traditional festivities such as dragon-boat racing and the Spirit Boat Procession (Shoro Nagashi) bring to life the deep connection that Nagasaki shares with China.



1. Shown here is a model recreation of the docking area excavated from the west side of the Harunotsuji Ruins. In order to preserve the ruins, the excavated dirt was returned to the site after the end of the archeological survey. [Iki City] 2. This stone face was discovered at the Harunotsuji Ruins and is the only one to have been found in Japan thus far. It is thought to be an ancestral worship icon that was used to pray for fertility and so on. [Property of the Iki City Ikioku Museum] 3. The Joseon missions to Japan began during the Muromachi period (1336 to 1573). The missions were suspended for a time but recommenced during the Edo period (1603 to 1867) and saw groups of envoys up to 300 strong crossing to Japan 12 times over a period of around 200 years. [Property of the Nagasaki Prefectural Research Center for History of Tsushima]



4. Mongol Invasions: Islands like Tsushima, Iki and Takashima became the frontlines of the Mongolian invasions and battles, turning into bloody battlefields as many island residents were massacred. [Property of the Kyushu University Library] 5. Megane-bashi: This was the first arch-shaped stone bridge in the country and is one of the Three Famous Bridges of Japan, alongside Nihonbashi and Kintai-kyo. The reflection of the arches in the river creates two half-circles and makes the overall appearance resemble a pair of glasses, which is where the bridge is said to have gotten its name (as "megane" means glasses in Japanese). [Nagasaki City] 6. Confucius Shrine: Although damaged by the atomic bombing, the shrine was repaired after the war and reconstructed in 1967. In 1983, with cooperation from the Chinese government, renovations were carried out with stone statues also being installed. [Nagasaki City] 7. Sofuku-ji: This temple was constructed in 1629 by Chinese residents of Nagasaki who were originally from Fujian. Of the three national treasures found in Nagasaki, two of them are located at Sofuku-ji. [Nagasaki City]



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Dejima: Japan's Only Gateway to the West

The Fan-Shaped Artificial Island that Connected Japan with the World

With the arrival of Portuguese ships in Hirado in 1550, the full-fledged interaction between Japan and the West began. Constructed in 1636, Dejima would later become a place where the Dutch East India Company would install a trading post, allowing the transport into Japan of both Western goods and the latest news of overseas current affairs. At the same time, Japanese goods, along with information about Japan, would be relayed to the West. In that sense, Dejima played an historic role in acting as the only link bringing together Edo-era Japan and the West. In 1823, Philipp Franz von Siebold came to Japan for the first time to serve as a doctor at the trading post on Dejima. With permission from the office of the magistrate, he opened "Narutaki Juku", an establishment comprising both a medical clinic and a classroom for the study of medicine.

A Time of Transformation in Japan: A Series of Important Figures and Events on Nagasaki Soil

In 1858, after the arrival of the Black Ships under the command of Matthew C. Perry brought about the opening up of Japan to the rest of the world, a treaty was signed in which four ports, including those at Shimoda and Hakodate, as well as Nagasaki, would be opened. Enclaves for foreigners were constructed after the signing, and foreign merchants began to move in. In the midst of this, the British merchant Thomas Blake Glover arrived in Nagasaki in 1859, and two years later founded a firm in the Oura area. While selling the latest items from Western Europe to the *Bakufu* (Shogunate) and to the clans around Japan, he also made successful business ventures in coalmining and ship repairs. In his later years, he cooperated with Yataro Iwasaki, who laid the foundations of the Mitsubishi Group. Sakamoto Ryoma, who formed what is said to have been the first commercial firm in Japan, the Kameyama Company, in Nagasaki in 1865, purchased weapons and steamships from Mr. Glover on behalf of the Satsuma Clan. Serving as a mediator in transactions with the Choshu Domain, he provided momentum in Nagasaki for the Satsuma-Choshu alliance, which would become the driving force behind the downfall of the Bakufu.

The History of Nagasaki ②

Dejima & the End of the Edo Period



1. Photo on the left: "Folding screens depicting Nagasaki in the Kanbun Era" (partial)
The painting on the screen shows Nagasaki as it was in 1673. "Dejima", the fan-shaped artificial island that was the only gateway to the West, is also depicted. [Property of the Nagasaki Museum of History and Culture]

2. Sakamoto Ryoma
Sakamoto Ryoma was a samurai and politician living at the end of the Edo period who exerted great efforts during his short, 33-year life, in the name of bringing about the beginnings of a modern Japan. He established the "Kameyama Shachu" ("Kameyama Company") taking the name "Kameyama" from the place in Nagasaki City where he made his first base. [Property of the Nagasaki Museum of History and Culture]



3. The *Kaientai*
An association created for the purpose of trading and shipping. The association was preceded by the Kameyama Company founded by Sakamoto Ryoma in Nagasaki. Sakamoto would become the commander of this group and exert himself with respect to state affairs while producing profit through deals made with such entities as Glover & Co. Also a part of this group were individuals such as the father of the Mitsubishi Group, Iwasaki Yataro, and Mutsu Munemitsu (later Minister for Foreign Affairs).

4. Thomas Blake Glover
Developing a variety of enterprises across areas such as shipbuilding and mining in Nagasaki, from the end of the Bakufu to the beginning of the Meiji Era, he contributed greatly to the modernization of Japan. [Property of the Nagasaki Museum of History and Culture]

5. Philipp Franz von Siebold
A doctor whose vast expertise and knowledge with respect to medicine was highly regarded, Siebold was allowed to leave Dejima to hold lectures and perform medical examinations. He married a Japanese woman and they had a daughter, but was eventually expelled from the country after being found with materials that were forbidden to be taken abroad. [Property of the Nagasaki Museum of History and Culture]