Ancient castle "Yashima-no-ki"

Crushing defeat

In 663, Battle of Baekgang (Battle of Hakusonko) took place in Korea between Baekje restoration forces and their ally, Yamato Japan, against the allied forces of Silla and Tang Dynasty of China. The Silla-Tang forces won the Baekje restoration.

Defending fortress

Due to the severity of their defeat, the Yamato court feared invasion from Silla-Tang forces and built a huge network of 12 shore fortifications from Kyushu through Seto Inland Sea to Yamato region. In 667, Yashima, the table-top hill surrounded with andesite precipice was chosen for the fortifications. Ramparts were constructed only at gullies where the cliff was collapsed. At last, their forces didn't appear at all.





Ramparts of Yashima-no-ki (upper left) were built at gullies where the andesite cliff (arrow) was collapsed.

Korean-style fortress

The strongholds constructed in this age are often called Korean-style fortress due to the high probabilities of Korean influences. Baekie refugees likely instructed to built the fortress. This type of fortress was totally different from Japanese-origin castle mostly built in the late 16th century.

Takamatsu-jo castle

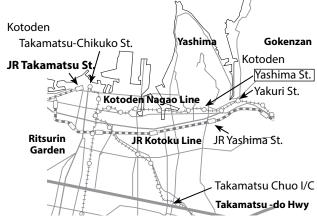
This typical Japanese-style castle founded in 1590 owns the keep at the top of massive stone wall. Compare with Yashima-no-ki.



Mesa, table-top hill

The table-top form of Yashima was shaped by weathering and collapse by earthquake as hard caprock (andesite of volcanic rocks, photo A of cover) overlies a layer of less resistant rock (volcanic tuff, B) that is worn away. Basal layer is decomposed granite (**C**). The caprock protects the less resistant rock below from wind abrasion which leaves it standing isolated. As the table-top rock forms precipice that blocks climbers, ancient castle was built on the top of Yashima.

Access map



From JR Takamatsu Station - 20 min. by train Kotoden Nagao Line: To Kotoden-Yashima St. JR Kotoku Line: To Yashima St. From Takamatsu Chuo Highway I/C - 20 min. by car

N C

Shikoku Gakuin University, Kukai Cafe2

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1-2-3 Bunkyo-cho, Zentsuji, Kagawa 760-8505 JAPAN http://www.shigakuweb.com Printed by Koeisha Inc. (株式会社 弘栄社)



屋島

Yashima Day Out



1. Explore Mesa, table-top hill





Discover Ancient Japan

South ridge



1 Yashimaj-ji temple

The 84th temple of Shikoku 88-temple pilgrimage. A Buddhist stature of Senju Kannon has been worshiped since ancient time.



1-2 Yashima Tasaburo

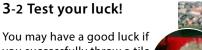
"Yashima tasaburo" tanuki (racoon dog) is believed to be the best using a magic of metamorphosis, and is enshrined as guardian deity of the temple.



3 Shishi-no-reigan cliff

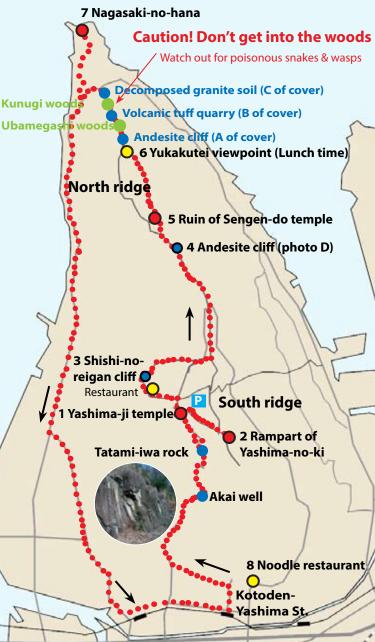
(Lion head holly rock cliff)

This view spot was named after a rock shaped like a guardian-lion head roaring. Nice for sunset & night view.



you successfully throw a tile into the wire circle. Tile: 200 yen for 10.





Seto Inland Sea was designated as the first national park in 1934. The north sea of Yashima with many islands scattered is called as the Aegean Sea in Japan. Yashima which was once an island geographically stands out among them.

North ridge





There used to be a small temple called Sengen-do, the origin of Yashima-ji temple. It was built in 754 by the chinese monk, Jianzen (or Ganzin), who is famous of having spread Buddhism in Japan. This temple was said to be moved to the current place by Kukai.

7 Nagasaki-no-hana promontory

A cape of called Nagasakino-hana is located on the northern end of Yashima. In the early 1900s, the cape was a military place of holding artillery batteries. Today, you can enjoy the breathtaking view of Seto Inland Sea!

Try Sanuki Cuisines!



Undon noodles are local cuisine of Sanuki, old name of Kagawa Pref. Out of all kinds of udon noodles, Kama-age Udon are the most popular.

8 Kama-age Udon

Kama-age Udon are served in hot water, accompanied by special dipping soy sauce. Slurping is Japanese style!



Rampart of Yashima-no-ki (2 in map)