

Long, long ago
Nanban ships
tossed by a storm
drifted ashore
on a bay here in
Kawaura, Amakusa.

Kawaura -
the birthplace of
Amakusa's unique
history and culture.

Knowing the
history of that time,
feeling the emotions
of those people -
maybe you will
discover something new.

This map was made
by the people of Kawaura
who would like you
to learn about this town
and fall in love.

We love Kawaura

Amakusa

Kawaura

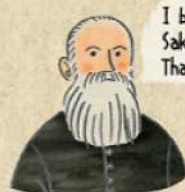
History & Culture

Discovery Map

The Kawaura region of Amakusa
surrounds a horn-shaped bay
in a corner of Shimoshima Island.
About 450 years ago, Nanban ships
came from far-away western lands
carrying new cultures...



A shrine that split off from Aso Shrine in Higo
in 1705. A crackdown on Imatomi village's
hidden Christians took place here.



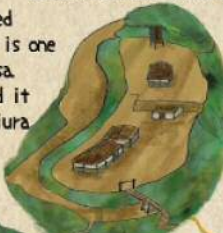
I built the former
Sakitsu Church.
That was in 1888.

Father Ferriér

Father Ferriér rented a local
home to care for orphans. In
1887 he cleared Mt. Nebiki
to open a new orphanage.

A Pure Land Buddhist Temple founded
by Shigenari Suzuki in 1645, this is one
of the four main temples in Amakusa.
The temple grounds and hill behind it
are the site of the former Kawachiura
Castle. The Lords Amakusa shared
meals with Father Valignano and
members of the Tensho Embassy
at the nearby Collegio.

Lords Shigehisa and Hisatane Amakusa
ruled from Kawachiura Castle on
Shimoshima Island in the middle ages,
a time when Christian traditions and
western culture flourished in Amakusa.



I was
called Miguel.



Shigehisa Amakusa

(City-Designated Building)
Todoroki Bridge

(City Natural Monument) 25
Nagi Tree at Yakushi Temple



Something
like this??

Thought to be the site of a missionary
academy, Luis Frois's "History of Japan"
describes the Collegio as "built linked to
a house." Other churches in Amakusa are
built on the site of old temples. It's very
likely that the Collegio stood here.

Fondo
To Hondo



I crossed the
mountains to visit
the churches in
both Sakitsu and
Ooe villages.



Father Garnier

Father Garnier worked at
Ooe Church, in the next
town over. The mountain
pass he traveled became
known as "Priest Road."

5 Priest Road

4 Nebiki Orphanage

(National Cultural Landscape)
Sakitsu and Imatomi, Amakusa

21

Imatomi Shrine

3

Sakitsu Suwa Shrine

2

Sakitsu Church

1

Statue of the Virgin Mary

7

Ryukyu Kingdom
Envoy Landing Point

8

Watchtower Ruins

6

Saxinocchi

Made in Kawaura

Safe journey!

Father Valignano
Jesuit Missionary

11

Furue Grand Shrine

11

On full moons, there was
a festival for men and women
to pray together.

How nice

26

Ubushima Bungalows

12

Ubushima Hachim Shrine

12

I gave birth to a prince
here, on Ubushima in
Miyano-Kawachi village.

Empress Jingu

21~30 Many more cultural properties are located around Kawaura.

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