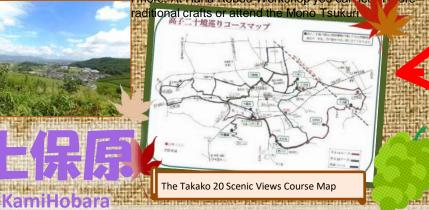


Date City

In 2006, the five towns of Yanagawa, Date, Hobara, Ryozen, and Tsukidate merged to become Date City. However, each town remains entirely unique:

- --> Yanagawa is a former castle town, as featured in Date City's anime "Masamune Date ni Kuru." There, Masamune meets Princess Megohime for the first time at Kameoka Hachimangu Shrine, one of many of the town's historic sites.
- -> Date is split by the Abukuma River. On the East bank is the Hakozaki Atago Shrine on Mt. Atago. Every Spring, locals climb the steep slope to watch the shishimai or "lion dance." The Date City Hall public library is also nearby.
- --> **Hobara** is where Date City Hall is located and also includes Takako in KamiHobara. It is host to the yearly Momo no Sato Marathon and Tsutsukobiki Festival.
- → **Ryozen** is named for Mt. Ryozen, where Kitabatake Akiie stayed before leading his troops West. It is known for *taiko* drumming and the Boulderland Project.
- -» Tsukidate is deep in the mountains, the perfect place to find fresh wasabi,



Grapes are an important product of the KamiHobara area, especially when they are harvested in the Fall. The orchards surround a vast number of shrines and other locally significant sites, including the Takako Twenty Scenic Views. These twenty sites were chosen by the Kumasaka family, who dedicated *kanshi* poems to them.



Takakogaoka Hall

Also referred to as "Tanroban," the first of the Takako Twenty Scenic Views, it is said to be the founding place of the Date Clan, the site of a castle built by Date Tomomune. At the mountain peak, the god of the Klandinnangu Shrine was

worshipped as a god of protection, and is still enshrined there, where the tori gate is as white as when it was first

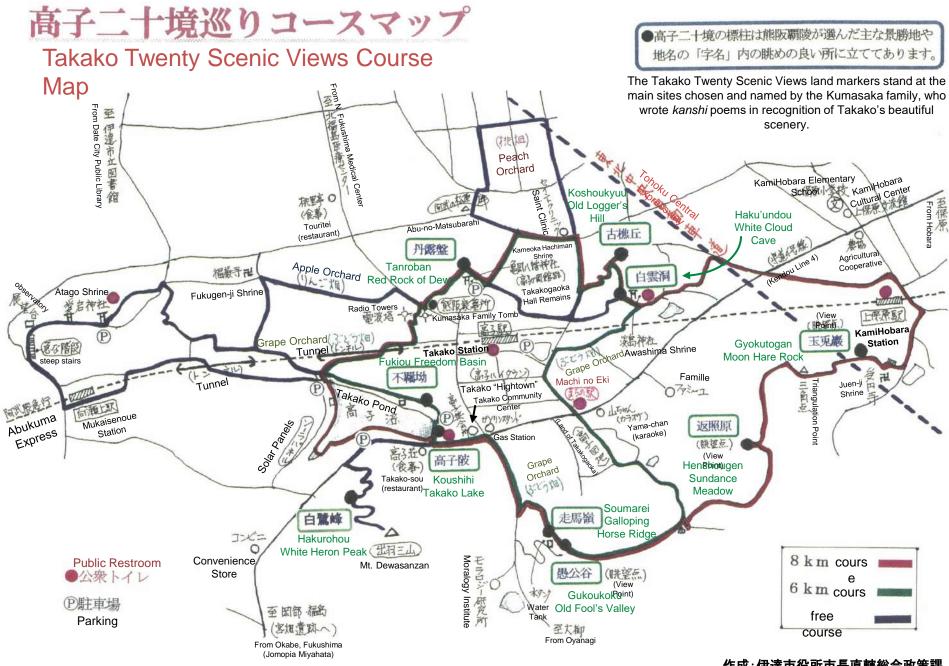
メ伊 An anime produced by Date 。 違 City and Fukushima Gainax. 1 市 7 ト Clan, Masamune prepares Clan, Masamune prepares で his first battle, supported 対 by generations of leaders か yo generations of leaders か who came before him! The stage is right here, in Date タ ク City, Fukushima, "The Home 宗 ス of the Date Clan."





erected.

作成:伊達市役所市長直轄総合政策課 Date City Mayoral Dept. for General Policy



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泣いた赤鬼 The Crying Red Ogre



On the edge of a mountain - what mountain, I don't know - there stood a house.

Who lived in the house?

A young red ogre lived in the house.

Although he was an ogre, the red ogre was a very kindhearted ogre. "I was born an ogre, but I want to get along well with the humans."

Then one day, he stuck a wooden signboard in front of his house. There he wrote a message:

A kindhearted ogre lives in this house. Anyone is welcome to visit! I have delicious snacks. I also have delicious tea. Red Ogre

Across the road, some people saw the signboard and read it. "It says there is an ogre offering snacks and tea."

"I wonder if it's really true."

"We can't just wander into the home of an ogre.

It might be setting a trap to catch and eat us!"

"Oh I see, I see, that is dangerous. If we're caught, that's the end of us."

"Shall we take a peek inside from the entrance?"

"Yeah, then we'll know whether or not it's safe to go inside."

The red ogre was listening carefully to the two woodcutters' conversation from inside his house.

Sneakily listening to the story, the honest red ogre thought to himself, "Who are they calling a people-eating monster? They should stop their chattering and just hurry up and come inside."

The red ogre couldn't wait and stuck his face out the window.

"Hey, it's there, the ogre!" "Oh no, let's run for it!" The two yelled. "Hey, wait. Don't run away. Come back," the ogre called.

The two ran until the red ogre couldn't see them any longer. He was so angry that he pulled the signboard out of the ground and broke it. As he did, the ogre's friend, the green ogre called, "Hey, hey," while making his way over. He had ridden a cloud from the neighboring mountain to come and play. "Why are you being so violent?" the blue ogre asked and the red ogre turned his head. He talked all about how he wanted to get along with the humans, how he made the signboard yesterday, and how even so, the humans doubted him and stayed away.

"What? Is that so? Well then I'm going to go down to the village and mess it up. Then you come and hit me on the head. If we do that, the humans will believe in you and come to your house. Right? I think it will work. I'm going to go follow the humans. You come later."

"But I won't really do that. Hitting you, I mean."

"That's okay just make sure to come."

So the green ogre decided and hurried off to the village.

The green ogre went to the village and made a mess.

After, the red ogre came and it really looked like he hit the green ogre on the head. Everyone in the village was so surprised.

The humans were relieved and went to the red ogre's house, where they ate delicious snacks, drank delicious tea, and spoke to the ogre. The red ogre was overjoyed.

But the humans went home and the red ogre was alone again. One night, he lay his head down and saw the image of the blue ogre appear in the darkness. "That's right. Since that time my friend the green ogre hasn't visited even once. I wonder what's wrong."

The next day, the red ogre left for the far away mountain where the green ogre lived. The red ogre also rode through the sky on a cloud. He looked down at the fields, rivers, and forests, and when he approached the mountains and the high peaks of the mountains, he could see deep into the valleys below. He reached the house while sunlight still lingered in the doorway.

The red ogre stepped off of his cloud.

"Why is it so quiet?" he muttered, stomping along the stone steps to the front door. The doorway was closed and there was a paper stuck in it.

Dear Red Ogre,

If the humans see you and I together, they'll think you're a bad ogre, so I'm going to leave the mountains on my own. Please get along well with the humans. Good-bye. Come and visit whenever you want. I will always be your friend.

Green Ogre

The red ogre was quiet and read the letter. He read it twice, and then three times. He leaned on the doorway as tears began to pour from his eyes and he cried.

> "The Crying Red Ogre" is a classic story first published in 1933 by Hamada Hirosuke.



紙芝居ってなんでしょう? What is kamishibai?

1930年代の不況の間に人気があり、紙芝居(かみしばい)はかみしばいやが絵を使ってものがたりを語るストーリーテリングー形態である。

Popular during the depression of the 1930s, kamishibai is a form of storytelling in which the kamishibaiya narrates a story using illustrated boards.

Dendenmushi no Kanashimi

でんでんむしのかなしみ A Snail's Sorrow

There was once a single snail.

One day, that snail realized something worrying. "I was careless until now,

but the shell on my back has filled up with sorrow."

What should be done?

The snail went off to find its friend.

"I cannot go on living," the snail said to its friend.

"What is it?" the snail's friend asked.

"I'm such an unfortunate snail.

The shell on my back is full of sorrow." The first snail said.

Then the snail's friend said, "You're not the only one.

The shell on my back is also full of sorrow."

Then there's no helping it, the snail thought,

and left to go see another of its friends.

And this friend also said, "You're not the only one.

My back is also burdened with sorrow."

So the snail went to visit yet another friend.

The snail visited more and more friends to tell them about its sorrow, but they all said the same thing.

Finally, the snail realized something: "Everyone carries sorrow. It's not just me.

I just have to bear it and everything will be ok."

And so the snail stopped worrying at last.

Originally a poem by Niimi Nankichi,

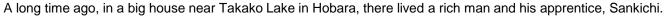
<u>Dendenmushi no Kanashimi</u> is the story of a snail
who learns to live with its sadness.

伊達市のむかしむかし

Long Long Ago in Date City

こがね沼

"Kogane Pond"



In the morning Sankichi would go out to collect grass for the rich man's horses.

But strangely, he always came back soaking wet and very, very tired. This continued for many, many days, and the rich man was worried.

"What on earth are you doing, boy?" the rich man would ask.

But Sankichi would just look down and say nothing.

By and by, the rich man became even more worried.

"Whatever it is, boy, you can tell me. Everything will be all right."

Sanikichi heard the kindness in the rich man's voice and relaxed a little. Bit by bit he began to talk.

"When I go to Takako to collect grass, and when the first rooster crows, with the rays of the rising sun, I can see gold sparkling in the lake!

But when I jump in the lake to take it, no matter how many times I try, I can never get it."

"Well, I'll be! First thing tomorrow morning, let's go together and have a look."

Early the next morning, the rich man and Sankichi went out to Lake Takako.

When the first rooster crowed, "Cock-a-doodle-doo!", the sun rose from the East, and the middle of Takako Lake began to sparkle.

"Wow! Sankichi, your story's true!"

Immediately the rich man jumped into a boat and rowed with all his might to the middle of the lake. Splashing and splashing, he tried to take the gold from the lake, but no matter how many times he tried, he couldn't get it. He was very tired, and sat in the boat, and thought.

"That's it! Now I see!" said the rich man. "The gold is in that mountain over there! It's sparkling in the sunlight. The lake is just reflecting it."

They hurried to the mountain, where just as they thought they found the sparkling gold. The rich man and Sankichi were very happy. The rich man became even richer, and he gave some gold to everyone in the village. And Sankichi lived in the rich man's house, happily ever-





