






Ikeda Udatsu Town Walking Map

Tile Ornaments of Udatsu Houses

-  **A Manabe-ke**
Family crest of ivy in a circle
-  **B Sumiyoshi-ke**
Family crest of a princess tree in a tortoise shell
-  **C Mano-ke**
House crest based on the name "Matsu-ya"
-  **D Imoto-ke**
Family crest of a tachibana citrus tree
-  **E Satou-ke**
House crest based on the name "Yamasa"
-  **F Miyamoto-ke**
Design of dragon and tiger
-  **G Kamenaga-ke**
Family crest of crossed cloves in a circle
-  **H Nakamura-ke**
Family crest based on the name "Okubo" with wisteria
-  **I Uchida-ke**
House crest based on the name "Kanemasu"
-  **J Mamiya-ke**
Sake factory crest based on the name "Miyoshikiku Shuzou"

History of Ikeda Tobacco Trade and "Udatsu"

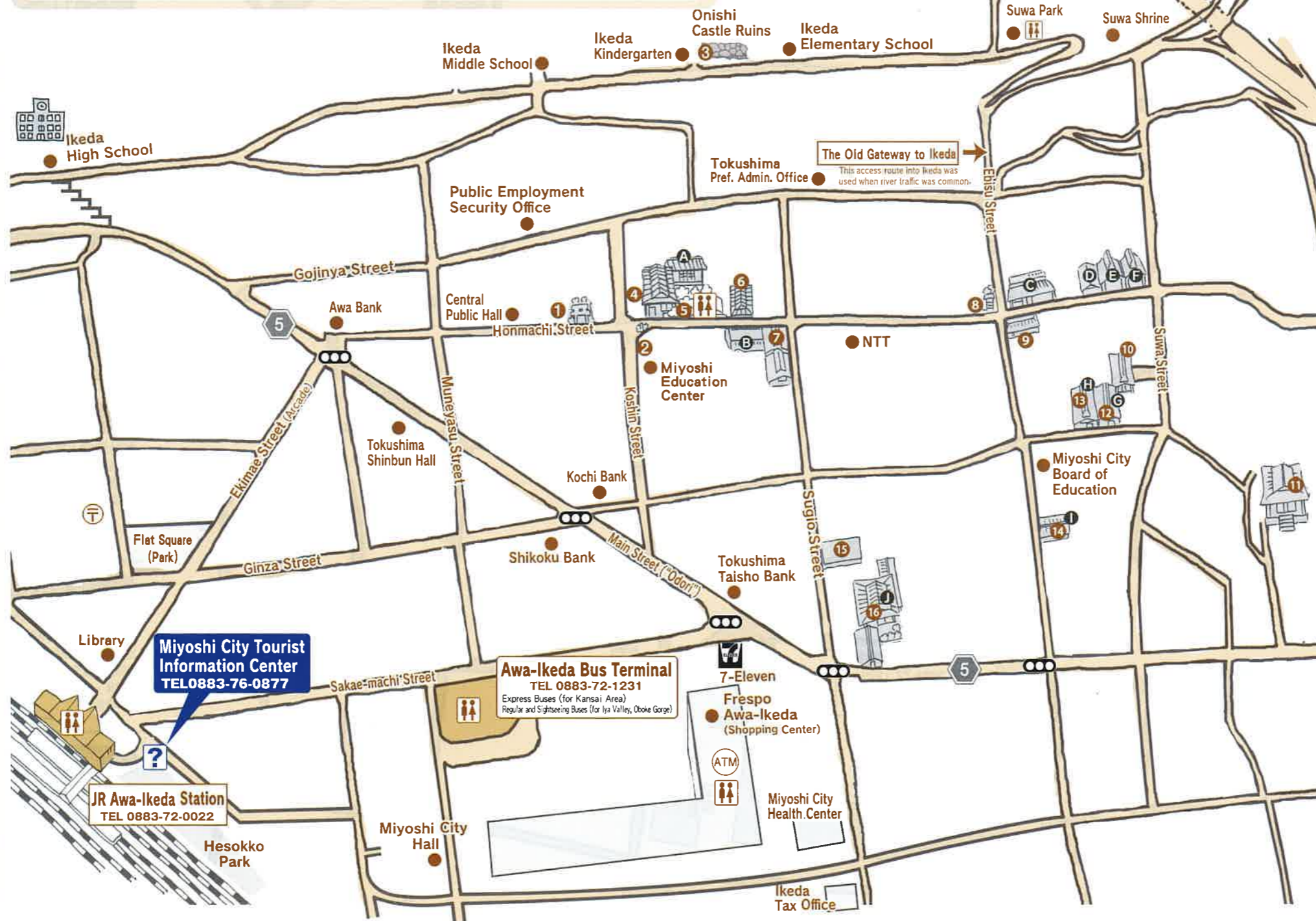
From the end of the Edo Period through the Meiji Period (in the mid-to-late 19th century), the town of Awa-Ikeda flourished from the production of "Awa Chopped Tobacco". In its heyday, there were about 100 private tobacco factories in Ikeda. Due to this thriving industry, local traders became quite prosperous and accordingly built stately "udatsu" style homes around town. An "udatsu" is a unique half-wall that extends out of the second-floor roof and served as fire-proof barrier from the neighbor's house. Since they were expensive to construct, such architectural adornments were a way to showcase a family's wealth, whereas the origin of the word comes from the phrase "to be successful".

Vintage Cigarette Packages Previously Produced in Ikeda.



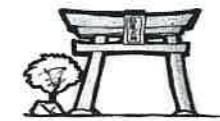
Hirata-bune

Tobacco was transported down the Yoshino River via "Hirata-Bune" ("Flat Bottom Boats"). It is said that a boat-full of tobacco was worth enough to construct an additional storehouse building on a family estate.



① Oinari-san

Shrine for "Inari", the god of good fortune.



② Koushin-san

Stone monument for "Koushin", the god of travel and to cure eye disease.



③ Onishi Castle Ruins

Built in the year 1221, the castle once located at this site prospered for about 400 years. However, in 1638 Japan's Edo Government declared that only one castle could exist in each region, so it ceased being a seat of power and now only its stone foundation remains.



④ The Letter "ki" (き) Under the Roof

The family business previously located here, called "Kaneki", cut the rolling paper for cigarettes. Today the building has been converted into a guesthouse.



⑤ Tobacco Museum

Located in a classic-style house, this museum documents the history of Ikeda's tobacco trade. Displays include many of the original cigarette packs that were once produced in Ikeda.



TEL 0883-72-3450 Closed Wednesdays

⑥ House of Coach Tsuta

Former residence of Ikeda's legendary high school baseball coach, this "udatsu" style house has a unique gabled roof design, unlike other "udatsu" homes in Ikeda.



⑦ Manabeya Community Exchange Center (MINDE)

Set in the revived estate of the Manbe family, this multi-purpose facility sustains its historic charm and serves as a local gathering place.

TEL 090-7629-3000

⑧ Oibessan

Shrine to the god of business. A festival is held here annually on January 10th.



⑨ Kirikawa-ke

This "udatsu" home features a slightly rounded roof.



⑩ Itsukushima Shrine

Shrine for the god of safe boat travel. Along with the 3 other shrines on Honmachi Street, a total of 4 gods are enshrined in this area.



⑪ Ige Shrine

Etched into the perimeter wall of this shrine are the names of tobacco merchants who donated great sums for its upkeep, signifying the prosperous history of Ikeda.



⑫ Kamenaga-ke

What do you think is featured on this house's tile ornament? Two chili peppers? ...it is actually a pair of clove spice!



⑬ Nakamura-ke

The home of Nakamura Waemon, the first person to produce chopped tobacco in Ikeda. You can compare the height of the "udatsu" to the neighboring Kamenaga-ke house. Also, in this side-by-side view you can understand the fire-wall function of the "udatsu".



⑭ Uchida-ke

This house features a 14 tile long "udatsu". Certainly, the world of "udatsu" is deep...



⑮ Nakawa Shouten

This sake factory was established in 1926 by the 3rd generation descendant of Nakamura Waemon. Their main sake product is called "Imakomachi".

TEL 0883-72-0126



⑯ Miyoshikiku Shuzou

Established in 1889, this sake factory was created by the family of a former local samurai, who also still maintain their ancient feudal house. As the 5th generation descendant of the founder, the current sake brew master continues to create new styles of sake.

TEL 0883-72-0053

