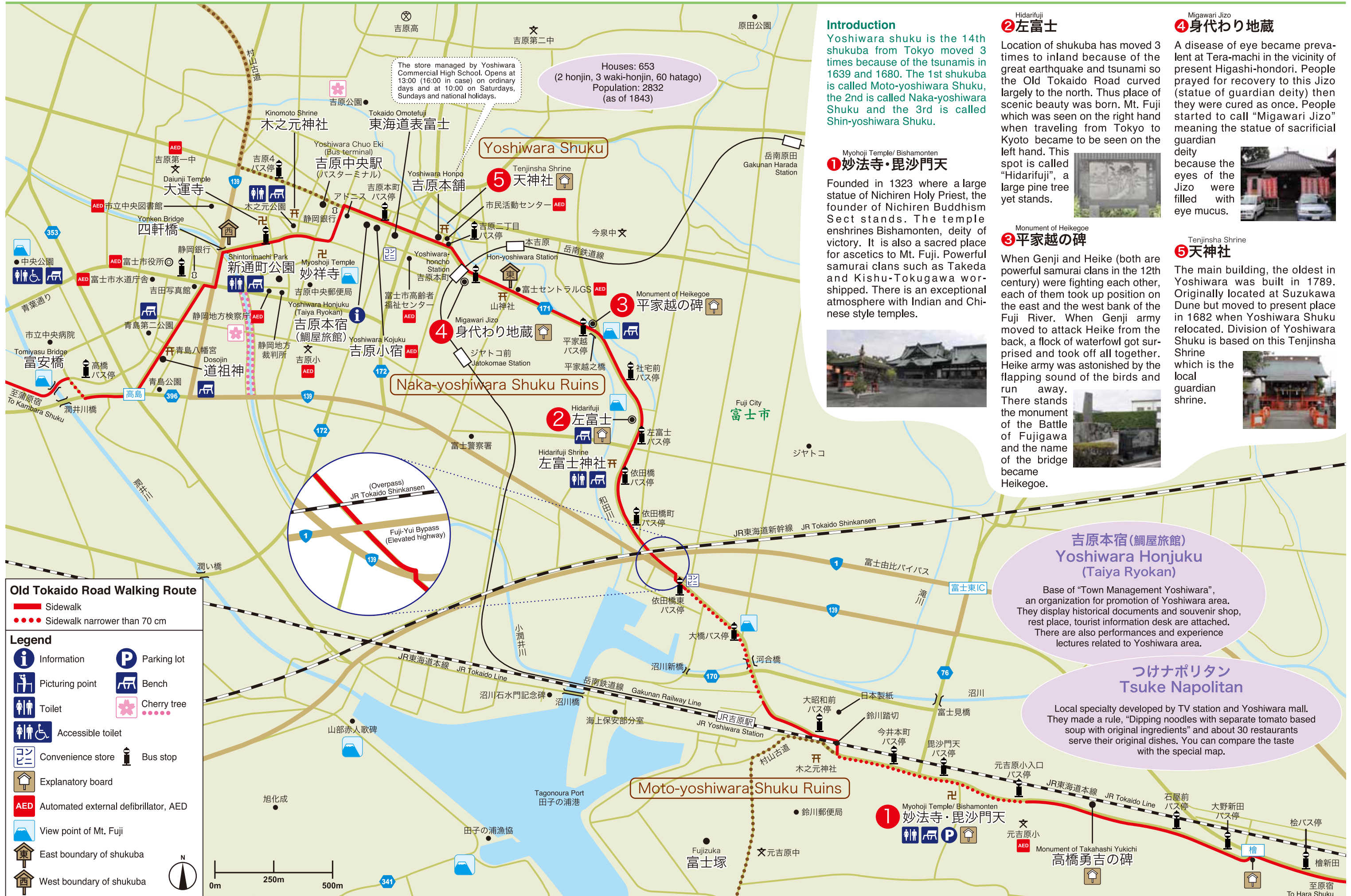


5 Yoshiwara Shuku Noted for Scenic Beauty of “Hidarifuji”

Hinoki-shinden, Fuji City – Tomiyasu Bridge, Fuji City



Introduction

Yoshiwara shuku is the 14th shukuba from Tokyo moved 3 times because of the tsunamis in 1639 and 1680. The 1st shukuba is called Moto-yoshiwara Shuku, the 2nd is called Naka-yoshiwara Shuku and the 3rd is called Shin-yoshiwara Shuku.

1 妙法寺・毘沙門天

Founded in 1323 where a large statue of Nichiren Holy Priest, the founder of Nichiren Buddhism Sect stands. The temple enshrines Bishamonten, deity of victory. It is also a sacred place for ascetics to Mt. Fuji. Powerful samurai clans such as Takeda and Kishu-Tokugawa worshipped. There is an exceptional atmosphere with Indian and Chinese style temples.



2 左富士

Location of shukuba has moved 3 times to inland because of the great earthquake and tsunami so the Old Tokaido Road curved largely to the north. Thus place of scenic beauty was born. Mt. Fuji which was seen on the right hand when traveling from Tokyo to Kyoto became to be seen on the left hand. This spot is called “Hidarifuji”, a large pine tree yet stands.



3 平家越の碑

When Genji and Heike (both are powerful samurai clans in the 12th century) were fighting each other, each of them took up position on the east and the west bank of the Fuji River. When Genji army moved to attack Heike from the back, a flock of waterfowl got surprised and took off all together. Heike army was astonished by the flapping sound of the birds and run away. There stands the monument of the Battle of Fujigawa and the name of the bridge became Heikegoe.



4 身代わり地蔵

A disease of eye became prevalent at Tera-machi in the vicinity of present Higashi-hondori. People prayed for recovery to this Jizo (statue of guardian deity) then they were cured as once. People started to call “Migawari Jizo” meaning the statue of sacrificial guardian deity because the eyes of the Jizo were filled with eye mucus.



5 天神社

The main building, the oldest in Yoshiwara was built in 1789. Originally located at Suzukawa Dune but moved to present place in 1682 when Yoshiwara Shuku relocated. Division of Yoshiwara Shuku is based on this Tenjinsha Shrine which is the local guardian shrine.

