㉒Walking on the Road of Traditions and Historic Old Temples

Agatai Elementary School, Hamamatsu City – JR Maisaka Station, Hamamatsu City

Introduction

The distance between Hamamatsu Shuku and Maisaka Shuku is long and with strong dry wind blowing from north it must have been a tough journey in winter. A few old houses and rows of pines are scattered along the Old Tokaido Road. The area is now famous for white onion production. The shipping which starts at the beginning of January is the earliest in Japan.

Agatai Shrine / Kamo-no-Mabuchi

❶縣居神社・賀茂真淵

A shrine dedicated to Kamo-no-Mabuchi, a scholar in 'kokugaku' (research in ancient Japanese thought and culture) in the middle of the Edo Period (1603-1868). Mabuchi started to study kokugaku at the age of 11, he married the daughter of Umeya Honjin at 29 in 1725, but abandoned his family at 37 and absorbed in research of ancient Japanese's spirit through classical literature such as 'Manyoshu' under Kada-no-Azumamaro in Tokyo. He started to work for Tayasu Munetake, the second son of the 8th Tokugawa shogun Yoshimune at 50. He is known as one of the big 4 scholars of kokugaku in the Edo Period equals to Kada-no-Azumamaro, Motoori Norinaga and Hirata Atsutane. There is also a memorial museum.

Horidome Poppo Michi

❷堀留ポッポ道

A verdure promenade was built at the vacant lot of railroad siding of JR Tokaido Line Hamamatsu Factory in 1985. A domestic narrow gauge steam locomotive produced in the infancy of locomotive production in the Taisho Period (1912-1926) is displayed. It is "Ke-91 Tank Locomotive" which linked Minoota and Tajimi in Gifu Prefecture on the Tono Railroad.

Iba Ruins

❸伊場遺跡

Ruins of ancient village through the Jomon Period (12,000BC - 300BC) to the Kamakura Period (1185-1333) were found here. The largest ruins of ancient villages group of the Yayoi Period (300BC – AD300) found in western Shizuoka Prefecture and also ruins of local government office of the Nara-Heian Period (710-1185) were also discovered. You can visit restored buildings and museum in the park.

Futatsu-mido / Hidehira-no-Matsu

❹二つ御堂・秀衡の松

Fujiwawa-no-Hidehira who was feudal lord of Oshu Hiraizumi (Iwate Prefecture) fell ill in Kyoto. His mistress hurried to him but heard about his death on her way here. She built the north small temple and passed away in grief. But it was a misinformation. Hidehira made recovery from illness and heard about the story on his way back to Oshu. They say Hidehira built the south small temple and planted a pine tree on the burial mound of his mistress. The pine was called "Hidehira-no-Matsu", about 6 meters around the trunk which existed until about 1882.

Kokuzoji Temple

❺虚空蔵寺

A temple of Rinzai Buddhism sect often called by its familiar name 'Kokuzoji' or 'Kokuzo-san' than its proper name 'Zokoji'. As it is believed to give wisdom from long ago, students preparing for entrance test visit and pray for success. At the grand festival on every February 13th, street stalls line both sides of the road bustled with people buying Dharma doll praying for success in entrance test, to ward off evil and for better-luck.

House of the Nakamura Family
(Designated as important cultural property of Japan)

❻中村家住宅 重要文化財

A 1-story building with hipped roof thatched with reed built in 1688.
The Nakamura family has its origin in Yamato Province (Nara Prefecture), invited by the Imagawa family and settled here. They also served the Tokugawa family as Imagire vessel provision manager and local administrator. Ieyasu's mistress lady Oman gave birth to his second son Hideyasu here in 1574.

- ●Open: 9:30 to 16:30
  Closed: Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, national holidays, year-end and New Year holidays
- ●Admission: \200 for high school students and over