

SAKA NO UE NO KUMO MUSEUM

坂の上の雲ミュージアム

Greeting

The Saka no Ue no Kumo Museum was built in April 2007 as a core facility of the “Saka no Ue no Kumo” town development project. Based on the concept of developing the entire town as a field museum (museum without a roof), Matsuyama City strives to create a fascinating town where people can visit and feel its rich history.

The novel, *Saka no Ue no Kumo* (Clouds Above the Hill), features stories about events in Japan and around the world during the formation of modern nations, and life at that time, all of which give meaningful suggestions for modern-day life. This museum features exhibitions and other events on such themes to encourage visitors to learn about history and think about the future.

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The Novel – *Saka no Ue no Kumo* (Clouds Above the Hill)

Novelist Ryotaro Shiba devoted almost all of his 40s to completing this book. Focusing on the lives of Shiki Masaoka, Yoshifuru Akiyama and his younger brother, Saneyuki, from Matsuyama, Shiba wrote about Japan in the Meiji Era, when the country was striving to become a modern nation. It was a time when the feudal system was giving way to a meritocracy in which people could pursue their individual interests to become what they wanted to be, a doctor, a government official, a soldier, or anything else they could qualify for based on their own merit rather than their status at birth. Shiki became a journalist, and helped develop modern haiku, tanka, and other writing styles. Yoshifuru Akiyama trained the army’s cavalry in its early period, and Saneyuki Akiyama established the foundation of modern naval tactics. Both of these military men were active through the turbulent period of the Russo-Japanese War. Shiba wrote that “the ambiguous theme of this novel is an examination of what the Japanese are, and I wanted to consider this by observing the conditions in which the individual characters lived their lives.” This book definitely gives us many suggestions for living in today’s world.

Serialized in Sankei Shimbun Evening Newspaper (April 22, 1968 – August 4, 1972), and published by Bungeishunju Ltd.



Ryotaro Shiba

(1923 – 1996) Born in Osaka City. Graduated from the former Osaka University of Foreign Studies (currently Osaka University School of Foreign Studies), Mongolian Department. Joined Sankei Shimbun Co., Ltd. In 1948. Received the 42nd Naoki Prize in 1960 for Owls’ Castle. His major works are *Ryoma Goes His Way*, *Kunitori Monogatari*, *Kukai the Universal: Scenes from his Life*, *Nano Hana no Oki*, and *The Tatar Whirlwind: A Novel of Seventeenth-Century East Asia*. His many traveler’s journals and essays include *On the Highways*, *Fujin-sho*, and *Konokuni no Katachi*. Received the Order of Culture in 1993. February 12, the anniversary of his death, is called *Nanohana Ki*, which means Rape Blossom Mourning Day.



Shiki Masaoka
[1867-1902]



Shiki’s three tatami-mat study room
This study room was added around 1879, at about the time when Shiki graduated from elementary school. He was very proud of his room and called it his *shosai* (a term that implies great pride). Here he enjoyed writing classical Chinese-style poetry and making newspapers. The novel *Saka no Ue no Kumo* includes a scene in which Shiki invites Saneyuki to his house to show him his study room. The room was restored as the Shikido at Shoshu-ji Temple in Suehiro Town.

Designing the Saka no Ue no Kumo Museum

What we most wanted to express in the design of the museum was the spirit of the people in the Meiji Era that Ryotaro Shiba loved so much, people such as Shiki Masaoka, and Yoshifuru and Saneyuki Akiyama, who had independent minds and devoted themselves to public affairs. The museum is located on the border of Shiroyama Park and the urban area. Visitors go through exhibition rooms, each connected by a triangular slope, as if enjoying a stroll through a garden. We designed the museum to enable visitors to feel and think about the spirit of people in the Meiji Era while enjoying the exhibitions and learning about history. We truly hope that this museum will be a cultural experience for the public in the true sense, and one that lives up to Ryotaro Shiba’s reputation.



Tadao Ando

Born in Osaka, 1941. Self-taught architect. Established Tadao Ando Architect & Associates in 1969. Received the Architectural Institute of Japan (AIJ) Prize for Architecture for the Row House (Azuma House) in Sumiyoshi. His major works are the Church of the Light, the Ryotaro Shiba Memorial Museum (Higashiosaka), Chichu Art Museum (Naoshima), Nakanoshima Children’s Book Forest (Osaka), and Bourse de Commerce (Paris). Featured in private exhibitions at the Museum of Modern Art, New York in 1991, and National Georges Pompidou Centre of Art and Culture (Paris) in 1993 and 2018. After teaching as a guest professor at Yale University, Columbia University, and Harvard University, he also accepted the position of professor at the University of Tokyo in 1997 and has been a professor emeritus since 2003. Received the Japan Art Academy Prize in 1993, the Pritzker Architecture Prize in 1995, the International Union of Architects (UIA) Gold Medal in 2005, and more. Received the Japanese Order of Culture in 2010, the Order of Culture of the Italian Republic in 2015, and the National Order of the Legion of Honour of France in 2021. His publications include *Kenchiku wo Kataru* (Talking about Architecture), *Renshi Renpai* (Succession of Defeats), *Kenchiku ka Ando Tadao* (Architect, Tadao Ando), and *Shigoto wo Tsukuru* (Create Work).



Saneyuki Akiyama
[1868-1918]



Matsuyama Castle where Saneyuki played
Matsuyama Castle has two-tiered turrets. It was built on a hill surrounded by flatlands by Yoshiaki Kato in the Edo Period. This photo was among Shiki Masaoka’s possessions. Shiki composed a haiku on the back of the photo. He wrote many haiku about Matsuyama Castle.



Yoshifuru Akiyama
[1859-1930]



Meikyokan School, where Yoshifuru studied
This is a lecture room of the domain school built in Nibancho in 1828 by Matsudaira Sadamichi, the 11th lord of Matsuyama Domain, as a training facility for retainers. It served as a hall and library at Matsuyama Junior High School (currently Matsuyama Higashi High School) after abolition of the feudal domain system. The novel *Saka no Ue no Kumo* describes Yoshifuru at the age of eight when he was enrolled at the Meikyokan School.

Developing the Entire Town as “a Museum Without a Roof”

Matsuyama is where Shiki and the Akiyama brothers were born and raised, and many locations associated with their lives still remain. With the goal of enhancing the attractiveness of the town by using these locations, Matsuyama City embarked on a project aimed at developing the entire town as a field museum (museum without a roof). In a collaborative effort involving residents as well as private and public entities, this ambitious project centers on the novel *Saka no Ue no Kumo* to bring the life and times of Shiki and the Akiyama brothers to the public. The Saka no Ue no Kumo Museum is the core facility of this exciting town development project.



The Shiki Museum

Opened in 1981, the Shiki Museum exhibits literary materials to promote knowledge about Matsuyama and related literature through the world of Shiki Masaoka. It is popular as a site for intellectual recreation enjoyed by residents and extracurricular activities for schools. It includes a research facility and a visitor center for tourists.



Dogo Onsen Honkan

Dogo Onsen Honkan was built in April 1894 by Yukiya Isaniwa, the first mayor of Dogo Yunomachi. Isaniwa devoted himself to developing the hot spring for visitors. Soseki Natsume was a frequent guest here during the time he taught English at Matsuyama Junior High School. In 1994, when the 100th anniversary of its remodeling was celebrated, it was designated a National Important Cultural Property.



Bansuiso

Bansuiso is located at the southern foot of the mountain where Matsuyama Castle stands. This imposing French-style structure was built in 1922 as a second home by Sadakoto Hisamatsu, a descendant of the former lord of Matsuyama Domain. It is the oldest reinforced concrete structure in Aichi Prefecture. In November 2011, it was designated a National Important Cultural Property.

[Facility Overview]

Architect Tadao Ando Architect & Associates
Building Area 936.80 m²
Total Floor Area 3,122.83 m²
Structure and Scale Reinforced concrete (SRC) construction
1 basement floor/ 4 stories above ground

[Open Hours]

9:00 am – 6:30 pm (Last entry is 6:00 pm)

[Days Closed]

Mondays (Open if the Monday is a national holiday. Other days to be announced.)

*Closed on days to be announced between February and March each year to change exhibits.

[Admission Fees]

General ¥400 (¥320)
Seniors (65 and up) ¥200 (¥160)
High School Students ¥200 (¥100)

*Junior high school students or younger are free of charge.

() shows the discounted admission fees for groups of 20 or more individuals.

*2nd floor is free of charge.

[Access]

- From JR Matsuyama Station (10 min.)
Tram (to Dogo Onsen) → Disembark at Okaido → 2 min. by foot
- From Dogo Onsen (10 min.)
Tram (all routes) → Disembark at Okaido → 2 min. by foot
- From Matsuyama Airport (30 min.)
Limousine bus (to Dogo Onsen) → Disembark at Okaido → 2 min. by foot
- From Matsuyama Sightseeing Port (30 min.)
Limousine bus (to Dogo Onsen) → Disembark at Okaido → 2 min. by foot
- From Matsuyama Interchange on Matsuyama Expressway (20 min.)

[Parking]

No visitor parking.
Please use public transportation or pay lots near the museum for parking. There are five handicapped parking spaces. Please contact us if you would like to reserve one.



SAKA NO UE NO KUMO MUSEUM

[Contact]
Designated Administrator:
Consortium Meiji Matsuyama
3-20 Ichiban-cho, Matsuyama City,
Ehime Prefecture, Japan 790-0001
TEL: 089-915-2600 FAX: 089-915-3600
URL: <https://www.sakanouenokumomuseum.jp/>



Website



Instagram

A gradual slope brings you into the world of *Saka no Ue no Kumo*

Stairs in the Sky

These stairs feature an unusual structure that eliminates the central post that traditionally supports the largest load. The slope brings you from the 2nd floor to the Exhibition Room 3 on the 4th floor. When descending from the 4th to the 2nd floors, try the unique stairs.



"Carp Swimming up a Waterfall" by Saneyuki Akiyama



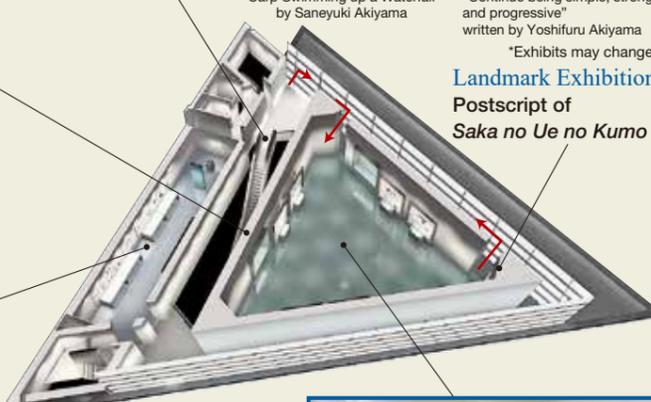
"Continue being simple, strong, and progressive" written by Yoshifuru Akiyama
*Exhibits may change.

Landscapes of Matsuyama

Photos of Matsuyama landscapes taken in the Meiji Era are exhibited with haiku written by Shiki Masaoka.



Exhibition Room 2
Three characters from *Saka no Ue no Kumo*



Landmark Exhibition
Postscript of *Saka no Ue no Kumo*

Exhibition Room 3

Different themed exhibitions based on *Saka no Ue no Kumo* are held each year.



4F

Episodes and materials related to the three main characters of *Saka no Ue no Kumo* are exhibited. In addition, exhibitions are held under different themes each year.

Equipment

Restrooms

- Located next to the information desk on the 2nd floor, and on the 3rd floor.
- An accessible restroom is available. (Ostomate-compatible)
- 1 unit with a baby seat (in the restroom on the 2nd floor) is provided.

Coin lockers (¥100 return type)

- Beverage vending machines
- Located in the coin locker room

Other equipment

- 9 wheelchairs (2 of which are power-assisted attendant-propelled)
- 3 baby strollers
- 5 walkers
- Reading glasses

*If you would like to use any of these items, please contact the staff at the information desk.



Themed Gallery The Spring in the Past

Ryotaro Shiba's descriptions of the natural features of Matsuyama in *Saka no Ue no Kumo* are exhibited.



Exhibition Room 1

Saka no Ue no Kumo and the Era

The Meiji Era, during which Japan began moving forward to become a modern nation, is explained through a chronology, historical materials and videos.



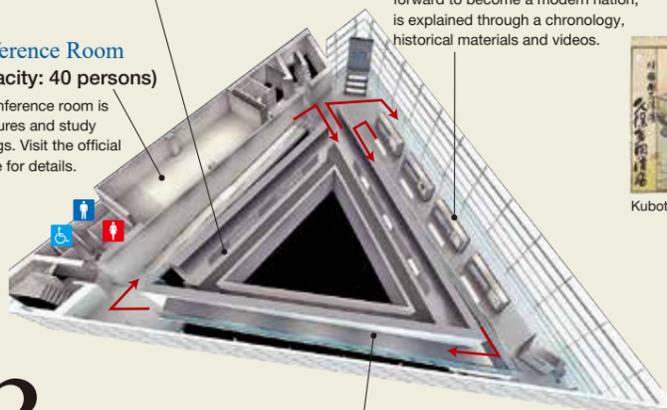
Russian Prisoners of War in Matsuyama



Dogo Onsen Kami no Yu (around 1894)

Conference Room (Capacity: 40 persons)

The conference room is for lectures and study meetings. Visit the official website for details.



Kubota Shipping Agent (Flyer)



A spoon and a fork gifted by a Russian prisoner of the Russo-Japanese War

3F

The Meiji Era background of the novel is explained here. Characteristics of Japan when the nation was moving forward to become a modern nation are explained with historical materials and videos.



Colored glasses used for the Shinrokaku on the rooftop of the Dogo Onsen Honkan building



Model of the Tsurishima Lighthouse



View from the Tsurishima Lighthouse



Inside the Tsurishima Lighthouse Residence

Slope from the 3rd to the 4th floors

The wall is covered with episodes from *Saka no Ue no Kumo* serialized in newspapers.

Each episode of *Saka no Ue no Kumo* serialized in 1,296 editions of the Sankei Shimbun newspaper (April 22, 1968 – August 4, 1972) is exhibited on the wall.



Hall

This hall is used for a wide range of events and activities, including concerts, recitations and other free events.



Library & Lounge

Saka no Ue no Kumo and other books about the Meiji Era can be read for free.



History of Tadao Ando's Architecture

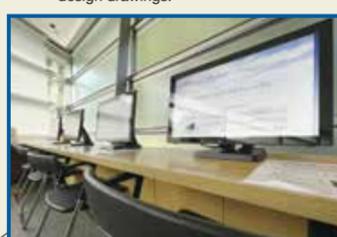
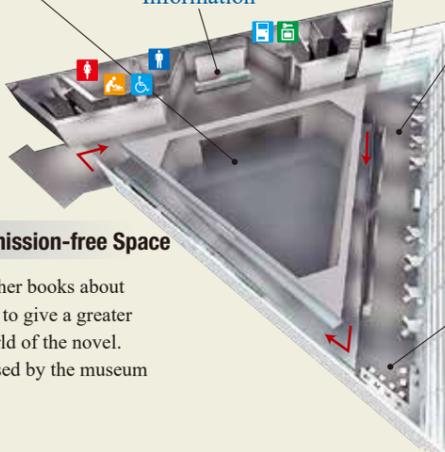
History of buildings designed by Tadao Ando, who designed the museum, is explained using photos, videos, and design drawings.

2F

Admission-free Space

Saka no Ue no Kumo and other books about the Meiji Era are introduced to give a greater understanding about the world of the novel. Materials collected and housed by the museum are shown on the computer.

Information



Digital Museum

You can find details on the materials exhibited or retained by the museum. (Easy to operate with the touch screen.)



Museum Café

Open: 10:00 am – 5:00 pm
Also open to guests not visiting the museum.

A full-scale French-style building designated a National Important Cultural Property. The café features a wonderful view of the Bansuiso surrounded by seasonal plants and trees. Original blend coffee, tea, and many other items to choose from for a relaxing time.



Audio Guide

- Fee ¥100 per unit
- Use the receiver to hear explanations about the exhibits and buildings.
- Available in Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, and Taiwanese

