



2021 TOP 100 GOOD PRACTICE STORY

Title of the Story: Traditions of Progressiveness and Conservatism Born in the Sagara Samurai Clan Dynasty

Destination Name: Hitoyoshi City, Kumamoto

Country: Japan

Submitter name: Takayuki Kita

Email address: t-kita@tsubame-taxi.co.jp

Position: Representative/Managing Director of General Incorporated Association Razo LABO

Nomination Category: *(Please check the boxes that indicate the focus of your story)*

Please find detailed information for the categories below in the Top 100 training module 'Good Practice Story'.

- Localizing the destination supply chain
- Decarbonizing the destination supply chain
- Culture & Communities
- Environment & Climate
- Nature & Ecotourism
- Tourism Reset & Recovery

Find detailed instructions for submitting good practices in the Top 100 training module "Good Practice Story".

Should you have any questions on your submission please refer to our FAQ page or contact top100@greendestinations.org

DESCRIBE YOUR GOOD PRACTICE STORY

Address each aspect of your good practice story in the different sections being specific including relevant quantitative and qualitative information.

Issues faced

A Japanese renowned author Ryotaro Shiba noted in his travel essays “On the Highway” that the Hitoyoshi-Kuma region is the “village with the most hidden treasures in Japan.” The area, with 10 vicinities, is full of important national and prefectural properties including the national treasure, Aoi Aso Shrine. Our issue was the lack of unity in of assertiveness of each vicinity to reach the goals of enhancement of the local economy and the creation of the successful tourism including the green tourism. This may be due to the difference in the depth and scale of cultural resources each vicinity owns. What was the problem/issue solved with the good practice? Click to add your text

Methods, steps and tools applied

Setting a common goal of receiving recognition of “Japan Heritage” site in Hitoyoshi Kuma enabled all of the 10 vicinities to take actions in generating cross-vicinity historical stories linked to their cultural heritages. Individual administrative projects of “Open Air Museum; Sagara Historic Corridor,” “Plans for Creating Tourist Areas” and “Symbiotic Vision of Relocators Independence in Hitoyoshi Kuma” were integrated into a general strategy of “Japan Heritage Site” management. mented? Click to add your text

Key success factors

What helped you tackle the issues? Click In April 24, 2015, Hitoyoshi Kuma became the first region in the nation appointed as a “Japan Heritage” by the Agency for Cultural Affairs in Japan. By this appointment, the local cultural attractions were established by the community. Nowadays, the area is called “Little Kyoto” and the concept of “Sagara Historic Corridor” was realized. With the success in obtaining Japan Heritage appointment, it was realized that it was time to pursue the original corridor plan first was proposed at the prefectural and city’s cultural property council.. Local residents are more aware of the importance and necessity of preserving the cultural properties. The number of foreign visitors totaled 1,234,665 in 2014 and increased to 1,457,299 in 2019. to add your text



Lessons learned

While implementing the Good Practice what challenges were faced, and how were they overcome? Click to add your text Preservation and maintenance were the key issues for obtaining “Japan Heritage” appointment. Due to the decrease decreasing and aging general population in the region, some cultural properties faced maintenance difficulties. To solve the issue, the city administration supported the creation of a system to accept tourists and preserve the traditions of Hitoyoshi-Kuma 33 Kannon Pilgrimage, for which its continuation had been jeopardized.

Results, achievements and recognitions

Appointment of “Japan Heritage” site,

Additional references



構成文化財

文化財の名称	文化財の所在地	文化財の名称	文化財の所在地
熊鷹住吉神社	球磨村	人吉市-熊鷹	人吉市-熊鷹
熊鷹御音堂の十一面観音菩薩像	山江村	あさぎり町-多良木町	あさぎり町-多良木町
高寺院	山江村	高瀬町-水上村	高瀬町-水上村
四田大神社	山江村	山江村-球磨村	山江村-球磨村
貴白八幡神社	人吉市	人吉市-球磨村	人吉市-球磨村
人吉温泉	人吉市	あさぎり町-多良木町	あさぎり町-多良木町
音清阿蘇神社	人吉市	高瀬町-水上村	高瀬町-水上村
ワンスンカムタ	人吉市	山江村-球磨村	山江村-球磨村
志保神社	人吉市	人吉市-熊鷹	人吉市-熊鷹
大石寺	人吉市	あさぎり町-多良木町	あさぎり町-多良木町
顯成寺と相良家墓地	人吉市	高瀬町-水上村	高瀬町-水上村
宮原野神社	人吉市	高瀬町-水上村	高瀬町-水上村
飯原-西原伊藤神社	五木村	山江村-球磨村	山江村-球磨村
熊鷹神社	相良村	人吉市-熊鷹	人吉市-熊鷹
千高野神社	相良村	あさぎり町-多良木町	あさぎり町-多良木町
井沢野神社	相良村	高瀬町-水上村	高瀬町-水上村
水本神社	阿蘇町	山江村-球磨村	山江村-球磨村
勝蔵寺圓通道成群	あさぎり町	あさぎり町-多良木町	あさぎり町-多良木町
熊鷹阿蘇道成	あさぎり町	高瀬町-水上村	高瀬町-水上村
山上八幡神社	あさぎり町	相良村	相良村
上野神社	多良木町	あさぎり町	あさぎり町
音瀬寺阿蘇地蔵	多良木町	人吉市	人吉市
大田新住宅	多良木町	人吉市	人吉市
多良木相良氏圓通道成群	多良木町	阿蘇町	阿蘇町
久米野神社	多良木町	阿蘇町	阿蘇町
飯本八幡堂の弘法大師像	多良木町	阿蘇町	阿蘇町
熊鷹寺-八幡寺阿蘇地蔵	高瀬町	あさぎり町	あさぎり町
熊鷹阿蘇	高瀬町	あさぎり町	あさぎり町
生野熊鷹寺堂及び本堂と碑	水上村	あさぎり町	あさぎり町
山形山神宮本宮	水上村	あさぎり町	あさぎり町
球磨焼酎	人吉市-阿蘇町・あさぎり町・多良木町・高瀬町-水上村・山江村-球磨村	阿蘇町	阿蘇町
百太郎清と平野清	阿蘇町-あさぎり町-多良木町・高瀬町-水上村	阿蘇町	阿蘇町
人吉球磨の民謡	人吉市-阿蘇町・あさぎり町・多良木町・高瀬町-水上村・相良村-五木村・山江村-球磨村	阿蘇町	阿蘇町
焼酎蔵	人吉市-阿蘇町・多良木町	あさぎり町	あさぎり町

(Translation of Certification)

Japan Heritage

Certification

Traditions of Progressiveness and Conservatism Born in the Sagara Samurai Clan Dynasty. Village with the most affluent hidden,

Hitoyoshi City, Nishiki, Asagiri, Taragi, Yunomae Townships, Mizukami, Sagara, Itsuki, Yamae and Kuma Villages

Here by certifies its appointment

April 27, 2015 Original Appointment

April 28, 2017 Amended

June 19, 2020 Amended

Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology
Koichi Hagiuda

Consisting Properties

Name of Cultural Property	Location	Name of Cultural Property	Location
Konose Sumiyoshi Shrine	Kuma Village	Kuma Ken Hand Gesture Game	Hitoyoshi Asagiri, T Yunomae Mizukami Itsuki, Ya Kuma Vil
11-headed Kannon at Shioyama Kannon Do	Yamae Village	Koshin Worship and Koshin Tower	Hitoyoshi Asagiri, T Yunomae Mizukami Itsuki, Ya Kuma Vil
Takatera In Temple	Yamae Village	Sagara 33 Kannon Pilgrimage	Hitoyoshi Asagiri, T Yunomae Mizukami Yamae a Villages
Yamada Daio Shrine	Yamae Village	Kuma Kagura Dance	Hitoyoshi Asagiri, T Yunomae Mizukami Itsuki, Ya Kuma Vil
Inoguchi Hachiman Shrine	Hitoyoshi City	Usu Daiko Drumming Dance	Hitoyoshi Asagiri, T Yunomae Mizukami Itsuki, Ya Kuma Vil
Hitoyoshi Onsen	Hitoyoshi City	Kumagawa River	Hitoyoshi Asagiri, T Yunomae Mizukami Kuma Vil
Aoi Aso Shrine	Hitoyoshi City	Nagatome Sagara Citadel Group	Yamae V



Un Sun Carta Card Game	Hitoyoshi City	Okunchi Harvest Festival	Hitoyoshi City
Oikami Shrine	Hitoyoshi City	Hitoyoshi Clan Fife and Drum Corps	Hitoyoshi City
Hitoyoshi Castle Ruin	Hitoyoshi City	Iwa-jo Citadel Ruin	Nishii Township
Daishinji Temple	Hitoyoshi City	Arata Daio Shrine	Nishii Township
Ganjoji Temple and Sagara Tombs	Hitoyoshi City	Arata Kannon Hall and Shakyamuni Statute	Nishii Township
Iwaya Kumanoza Shrine	Hitoyoshi City	Taisha Style Swordsmanship	Nishii Township
Higashimata-Nishimata Aki Shrine	Itsuki Village	Uemura Sagara Clan Related Properties	Asagiri Township
Amemiya Shrine	Sagara Village	Shiraga Shrine	Asagiri Township
Toshima Sugawara Shrine	Sagara Village	Tanimizu Yakushi Do Hall	Asagiri Township
Izawa Kumanoza Shrine	Sagara Village	Okadome Kumanoza Shrine	Asagiri Township
Kimoto Jingu Shrine	Nishiki Township	Fukada Daio Shrine	Asagiri Township
Shofukuji Temple Related Properties	Asagiri Township	Ichifusa Yaagami Shrine Lower Hall	Yunomae Township
Sue Aso Shakado	Asagiri Township	Ichifusa Yamagami Shrine Middle Hall	Mizukami Village
Yamagami Hachimangu Shrine	Asagiri Township	Onntake-san Pilgrimage	Hitoyoshi City, Nishiki, Asagiri, Taragi, Yunomae Townships, Mizukami, Sagara, Itsuki, Yamae and Kuma Villages
Omiya Shrine	Taragi Township	Sagara Clan Related Old Passages	Hitoyoshi City, Nishiki, Asagiri, Taragi, Yunomae Townships, Mizukami, Sagara, Itsuki, Yamae and Kuma Villages
Shorenji Temple Amida Hall	Taragi Township	Pottery of Hitoyoshi Kuma	Hitoyoshi City, Nishiki, Asagiri, Taragi, Yunomae Townships, Mizukami, Sagara, Itsuki, Yamae and Kuma Villages
Ota Family Residence	Taragi Township	Ichifusa Cypress Trees	Mizukami Village
Taragi Sagara Clan Related Properties	Taragi Township		
Kume Haruyori Shrine	Taragi Township		
Tsukigi Taishi Do Hall, Statute of Kobo Daishi	Taragi Township		
Josenji Temple Hasshoji Temple Amida Hall	Yunomae Township		
On Taishi Do	Yunomae Township		
Shouzenin Kannon Hall	Mizukami Village		
Ishifusa Shrine Main Hall	Mizukami Village		
Kuma Shochu	Hitoyoshi City, Nishiki, Asagiri, Taragi, Yunomae Townships, Mizukami, Sagara, Itsuki, Yamae and Kuma Villages		
Hyakutaro Channel and Kono Channel	Nishiki, Asagiri, Taragi, Yunomae Townships and Mizukami Village		



Folk Music of Hityoshi Kuma	Hitoyoshi City, Nishiki, Asagiri, Taragi, Yunomae Townships, Mizukami, Sagara, Itsuki, Yamae and Kuma Villages
Choshu lovers' tomb stones	Hitoyoshi City, Nishiki and Taragi Townships

