







公益社団法人 **日本観光振興協会**

日本酒蔵ツーリズム推進協議会 Japan Council for Promotion of Sake Brewery Tourism

JAPAN TRAVEL AND TOURISM ASSOCIATION

(Japan Council for Promotion of Sake Brewery Tourism)

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What is Sake Brewery Tourism?

Sake breweries are scattered all throughout Japan.

Each glass of sake is a story,

and every brewery a microcosm of the larger story of Japan.

Sake Brewery Tourism is about getting closer to the source.

That means closer to the people that make sake possible.

To explore sake means to explore not only the beverage,

but the local cuisine and traditions that have been

inseparable from sake for generations.

Welcome to the

Sake Brewery Tourism Experience

Japan Council for Promotion of Sake Brewery Tourism

Koji making (seikiku) influences the taste of sake.

Koji is essential for the brewing of Japanese sake because it promotes the fermentation of sake rice, while also adding body and a savory taste. The process of making koji is called seikiku. Koji mold is added to steamed sake rice and allowed to grow. Temperature control is the most important part. Sake brewery workers knead and mix the steamed rice to maintain just the right temperature (a process called tokomomi); after the mold grows and creates heat, the workers lower the temperature (a process called kirikaeshi). These processes are carefully repeated for about 48 hours. The quality of the koji determines the quality of the Japanese sake, which is why sake brewery workers put a lot of effort into making the koji.



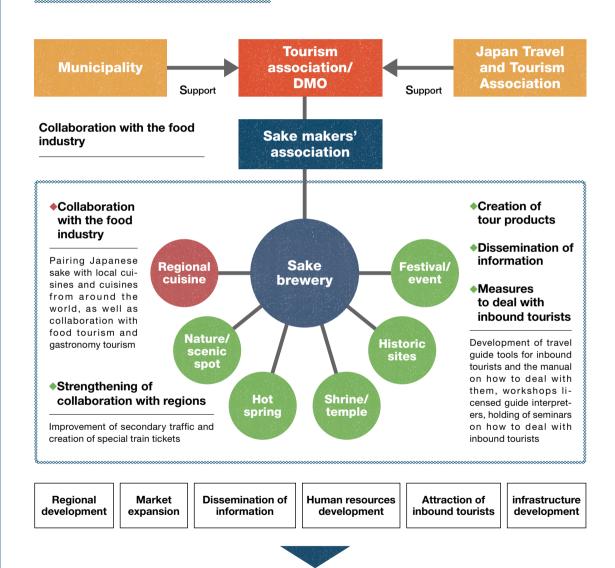
Journey to discover fine Japanese sake

※酒蔵ツーリズムは佐賀県鹿島市の登録商標です。



Japan Council for Promotion of Sake Brewery Tourism

Promotion program diagram



We aim to promote sake brewery tourism so that it continuously creates an economic ripple effect on the entire region and leads to regional revitalization.



Promotion program
Exhibition at a trade show



Regional development in collaboration with DMO

Fermentation

Kake rice

Water

The proce of starch converting to sugar (can find a long) and a cohol (termentation) and a cohol (termentation) occurs invitanceusly in the tank.

Adding the three ingredients in three parts will stabilize the acidity within the tank.

It is a multiple parallel fermentation. Brewers pay close other things.

Council's voluntary program Work

Workshop program

Tool to standardize a system to receive foreigners

Purpose of the establishment of the council

- ①To contribute to the improvement of awareness and value of alcohol beverages made in Japan (Japanese sake, shochu, awamori, wine, beer, etc.) through the promotion of sake brewery tourism
- ②To achieve regional revitalization by utilizing alcohol beverages as tourism resources and supporting the promotion of tourism and economic development of sake breweries and areas surrounding them.

Goals to achieve

- To be able to promote the attraction of domestic and inbound tourists to the region by increasing awareness and the value of alcohol beverages made in Japan and introducing the charms of the region.
- To be able to continuously create an economic ripple effect on the entire region and contribute to regional revitalization by increasing the tourism competitiveness of the region through collaboration between sake breweries and other tourism resources and food.
- To make sake brewery tourism recognized as beneficial for all stakeholders in the region.
- To develop and improve a system to receive domestic and foreign tourists and to sell sake brewery tourism products on a daily basis.

Scope of program

[Program 1] Workshop program

⇒ Go to p. 5

- ①Workshops on sake brewery tourism for licensed guide interpreters, participants in the tourism industry, and council members
- ②Development of the tool to standardize a system to receive foreign nationals (English version and Chinese version)

[Program 2] Promotion program

⇒ Goton 7

- (1) Gathering of information related to sake breweries and operation and update of the website
- Dissemination of information through the official website and SNS

2 Exhibition at 2 trade shows

- Have a display booth at Japanese Sake Fair (organized by the Japan Sake and Shochu Makers Association)
- Have a booth at Tourism EXPO Japan (organized by the Japan Travel and Tourism Association, JATA and JNTO) and holding seminars for overseas media agents and business matching events with overseas media agents

[Program 3] Council's voluntary program \Rightarrow Go to p. 9

- Mutual interaction between members and the provision of opportunities for information exchange
- ②Strengthening of collaboration with the food industry
 (Pairing Japanese sake with local cuisines and cuisines
 from around the world, as well as collaboration with food
 tourism and gastronomy tourism)
- ③Support of the creation of tour products in collaboration with the region and DMO and the promotional activities directed at international tourists
- 4Advisory service on sake brewery tourism

*In addition, the sake/food culture tourism model program is implemented as part of the voluntary program of the Japan Travel and Tourism Association.

Outline | Japan Council for Promotion of Sake Brewery Tourism

Description of sake brewery tourism efforts across the country

We interviewed the person in charge of the Higashihiroshima City government that held the workshop for travel agencies in Higashihiroshima.

Opportunity for Tourism Promotion in Higashihiroshima City

In cooperation with the Japan Council for Promotion of Sake Brewery Tourism, we conducted a workshop program for travel agencies in Higashihiroshima City, where the sake town of Saiio is located, with the aim of supporting the reconstruction of areas in Hiroshima that were severely affected by the heavy rains in western Japan in July 2018.

The workshop consisted of a review of sake breweries, which are the core attractions, as well as reviewing the variety of tourism resources in the area to discover new, attractive features based on the Higashihiroshima City Comprehensive Tourism Strategy. In addition, we sought cooperation from the Hiroshima Prefectural Tourism Federation and other commerce and industry associations in Higashihiroshima City. We invited their members to participate in the presentation on the day of the workshop with the goal of creating products at travel agencies.

On the day of the workshop, 23 people participated, including quests, staff members from travel agencies, and members of the media. I believe we held a successful, meaningful workshop for key members of companies and organizations.

Over 60% of Travel Agencies Intend to Create Products

The visit to the Jokamachi Festival and the presentation session were meaningful because we were able to share with participants the new attractive features of Higashihiroshima City. Though Saijo is considered one of Japan's three major sake brewing areas,

along with Nada and Fushimi, tourism resources other than sake are not being recognized, which is one of the reasons tour products have not been created. We were able to introduce a variety of the tourism resources found in Saiio and the surrounding areas, so the possibilities for new product creation have been expanded. At the same time, I think we must further improve sake brewery tourism to attract domestic and overseas tourists to Higashihiroshima City and Saijo.

The workshop was meaningful because we heard opinions from travel agencies and the media, confirming the problems facing Higashihiroshima City as a tourist destination, in addition to sharing ideas for further development from an objective perspective. One opinion was that extended-stay products could be developed according to specific purposes; consequently, it gave the city a new sense of hope. As over 60% of the travel agencies intend to create products, we think it would significantly drive the full-scale tourism promotion of Higashihiroshima City.

In this workshop, we were able to determine where Higashihiroshima City stands as a tourist destination and what efforts are nec-

essary. In addition. I think it was more worthwhile than regular study tours because changes in the awareness of tourism business operators in the city were promoted to drive tourism promotion





[Program 1] Workshop program

Share Study Cases and Information on Sake Brewery Tourism as a New Means of Regional Revitalization

There are many diverse tourism resources available in Japan. Regional branding is important in the discovery and sophistication of these tourism resources to promote the development of attractive tourism regions. In addition, with the increasing number of both domestic and inbound tourists visiting Japan, there is a growing demand for more themed tourism destinations with more story-like content.

The council, which promotes sake brewery tourism as a means of regional branding and themed tourism, sponsors workshops where business operators related to tourism and sake making can exchange information while discussing sake brewing study cases

and the characteristics of sake in different regions. The council provides this workshop so that sake brewery tourism-themed tourism products can be created after those workshops, as well as increasing the number of tourists and the amount of money spent on tourism and alcoholic beverages.

A visit to Saijo Sakagura-dori Tourist Information Center

In the workshops in Higashihiroshima City, participants visit local sake breweries, and many participants have said they would consider creating products based on those breweries. The workshops give sake making-related business operators the opportunity to share cases of sake brewery tourism, and such opportunities are expected to lead to the development of a system to receive tourists and expand sales channels.

《Examples of the workshop program》

■ 3/2/2019, Higashihiroshima

Workshop for travel agencies "Enhance the attractiveness of Higashihiroshima and disseminate information"

[Participants] Travel agencies

■ 9/20/2019, Tokyo

The first sake brewery tourism workshop "Discover the sake of a prefecture known for good sake, Yamagata'

[Participants] Tourism-related business operators, sake making-related business operators, licensed guide interpreters

■ 10/24/2019/, Osaka

[Participants] Tourism-related business operators

[Participants] Tourism-related business operators, sake making-related business operators the general public

《Overview of the workshop for travel agencies in Higashihiroshima》

■ Date and Time: March 2, 2019 (Sat) 11:00-16:30

■ Location: Higashihiroshima City, Hiroshima

Higashi Hiroshima Arts and Culture Hall Kurara

■ Details : Workshop for travel agency staff members in charge of product creation

Visit to Jokamachi Festival Spring 2019 in Saijo

 Briefing on the sake brewery tourism program Introduction of tourist destinations in Hiroshima

Presentation on tourism in Higashihiroshima City

Number of participants

: Fourteen travel agency staff members in charge of product creation,



Higashihiroshima City is located almost in the center of Hiroshima Prefecture, extending north and south with Saijo at the center. Saijo Sakagura-dori is a street that extends east and west with seven sake breweries located within 1 km of each other and has an impressive landscape with 12 red brick chimneys and walls characterized by a white grid pattern on black slate. Akitsu, a town called the "Hometown of the chief sake brewers," is located in the southern part of the city. The town is the birthplace of Senzaburo Miura, who developed the brewing method from which ginjo-shu originated, and where traditional techniques have been passed down. Located to the north of the city, the rich natural environment



Case | Program 1. Workshop Program

[Program 2] Promotion program Dissemination of information on sake brewery tourism Sponsoring a booth at a promotional event

In order to explain the attractiviness of sake brewery tourism to people at home and abroad, we compile information on sake breweries from different sources and provide that information via the Internet, social media, and at trade shows. At Tourism Expo Japan, one of the largest tourism events in Japan, we promote large scale sake brewery tourism to Japanese and overseas business operators related to tourism, as well as ordinary visitors.



Promoting sake brewery tourism through promotional activities

We had a booth in the Food Culture and Sake Brewery Tourism Area at Tourism Expo Japan, one of the largest tourism events in Japan, to promote sake brewery tourism to Japanese and overseas business operators related to tourism, as well as ordinary

On the days the event was open to members of the industry and the press, we provided information to Japanese and overseas tourism business operators and members of the press through business discussions and seminars while inviting members of the international press to our booth. Since we found organizations to do business with in the business discussions, we have achieved concrete results in attracting tourists.

On the days the event was open to the public, we featured sake from each region by holding tasting sessions and presentation events, while sharing information on sake brewery tourism using panels and brochures at the booth. Over 7,000 people visited the Food Culture and Sake Brewery Tourism Area over the course of two days. Participating organizations were able to appeal to many visitors and determined the effectiveness of the event.

We summarized tourism information about the areas surrounding the sake breweries and developed recommended routes while creating panels and brochures to prepare the regions that we promoted at our booth to accept the basic tools and data. In addition, corresponding efforts to coordinate with local governments, tourism associations, sake brewing companies, and transportation

companies in each region enable the strengthening of intra-regional collaboration and consensus building, which is important in promoting sake brewery tourism.

Having a booth at the expo not only promotes sake brewery tourism but also boosts tourism demand and the creation of tour products, improves the awareness of local sake and tourism resources, and develops and enhances a regional system to receive tourists through collaboration, which are the aims of this council, and contributes to the promotion of sake brewery tourism in the regions we promote at our booth.

《Outline of Tourism Expo Japan 2019》

■ Period : October 24–27, 2019

■ Location : Intex Osaka

Sponsored by

: The Japan Travel and Tourism Association

The Japan Association of Travel Agents

The Japan National Tourism Organization (JNTO)

Number of participating organizations

: 1,475 companies and organizations from 100 countries and regions

Number of visitors : 151,099 (four days)

Organizations participating in the Food Culture and Sake **Brewery Tourism Area**

Okinawa Awamori Distillers Association Higashihiroshima City

Tango Tenshu (Kyoto by the Sea)

Japan Food Tourism Association
 Town of Yuasa, Wakayama

"Interview"

We interviewed Tomova Tomimura from the Okinawa Awamori Distillers Association, who participated in the Food Culture and Sake Brewery Tourism Area.

I want people to enjoy awamori and its association with regional history and culture

Okinawa is comprised of many islands, which makes it distinctly different from other prefectures. Each island has its own culture and history of awamori and sake breweries. We want people to know and enjoy awamori and sake breweries as part of life on each island, instead of thinking of it all as just awamori. The association intends to promote tourism by taking advantage of the unique features of each island. For example, there will be trips for two adults to the southern part of the main island or a girls' trip to the central part. Awamori and sake breweries will be one of the core attractions on the trip as we create tours where tourists can learn of the history and association with local food. Having a sake brewery tourism booth at the expo is beneficial because it allows us to promote awamori and tourism resources while we gather information to make sake brewery tourism a reality.

Promote new ways of enjoying awamori and its diversity

We still plan to create tour products, so we introduced ways to enjoy awamori and its diversity at the current Tourism Expo. We let visitors sample it with candied winter melon (togan-zuke), which is how the kings of the Ryukyu





₩ 事例 / CASE

Kingdom enjoyed awamori. Visitors enjoyed the pairing of awamori containing 30% ABV and candied winter melon. Although it is not well known, awamori pairs well with sweet foods. With this knowledge, you can find new ways to enjoy awamori by pairing it with chocolate and dried fruit. When chocolate lovers meet awamori, the consumer base will expand.

We also introduced a variety of different awamori-based drinks. Though people see awamori as a high ABV alcoholic beverage, there are also awamori-based liqueurs, botanical gin, and varieties that taste like barrel-aged whiskey. We promoted awamori varieties to over 7,000 visitors, which I think is the added value that only Tourism Expos can give.

Other benefits of the Tourism Expo include information exchanges on collaboration with other industries and new efforts by other organizations. Our goal is to allow people to drink awamori in Okinawa in their daily life. I think information on the efforts of other organizations at Tourism Expo, where

Japanese and overseas tourism business operators were gathered, will serve as the first step in promoting awamori in a new way.



Touring Sake Breweries in Okinawa

Awamori is an alcoholic beverage produced only in Okinawa, where the distilling technique came from a remote continent with a history of over 600 years. The origin may seem overwhelming, but for Okinawans, it's their best friend. Awamori's intriguing qualities include the regional taste and flavor differences. Subtropical breezes, the slow passage of time, and the unique regional atmosphere dissolve slowly into awamori and distillers work to make it taste good.

[Participating breweries from Okinawa]

Izena Distillery, L.P.; Iheya Distillery; Onna Distillery, L.P.; Sakiyama Shuzo Sho, Kinsyuzo, Ltd.; Nakijin Distillery, Ltd.; Yanbaru Distillery, Inc.; Yamakawa Distillery, Ltd.; Helios Distillery Co., Ltd.; Ryusen Distillery Co., Ltd.; Tsukayama Distillery, L.P.; Shinzato Shuzo Co., Ltd.; Kamimura Shuzo, Ltd.; Higa Shuzo Co., Ltd.; Chatan Choro Distillery Co., Ltd.; Ryukyu Awamori Kusu No Sato Cooperatives; Ishikawa Shuzojo Co., Ltd.; Uehara Distillery Co., Ltd.; Masahiro Shuzo Co., Ltd.; MiyazatoDistillery: Kumesen Distillery Co., Ltd.; Tsuhako Distillery Co., Ltd.; Zuisen Distillery Co., Ltd.; Shikina Shuzo, Ltd.; Sakimoto Distillery Co., Ltd.; Mizuhoshuzo Co., Ltd.; Okinawa Distillery Cooperative Association; Kamiya Shuzojo; Chuko Awamori Distillery Co., Ltd.; Tokuyama Distillery Co., Ltd.; Miyanohana Co., Ltd.; Taragawa Co., Ltd.; Okinohikari Distillery, L.P.; Ikema Distillery, Ltd.; Kikunotsuyu Distillery Co., Ltd.; Nakama Distillery, Seifuku Distillery; Ltd., Yaesen Distillery; Ltd., Tamanaha Distillery Co.; Ltd.; Takamine Distillery, Ltd.; Ikehara Shuzo Co., Ltd.; Hateruma Distillery; Kokusen Awamori, G.P.; Sakimoto Shuzosho G.P.; Irinamihira Distillery Co., Ltd.; Kumejima's Kumesen Co., Ltd.; Yoneshima Distillery Co., Ltd.

7 Case | Program 2. Promotion program

Enjoying good sake made in Tango during a sake brewery tour

Development of Tourist Destinations by DMOs

Tourism businesses use sake breweries as tourism resources, and sake brewing-related business operators use tourism to promote sales. We expect that successful collaboration between tourism business operators and breweries, that is, model cases, will raise interest and build momentum toward promoting sake brewery tourism.

Japan's food culture has a strong appeal for foreign tourists visiting Japan, and as a tourism resource that exists throughout Japan, it should be utilized more. Promotions that combine food and sake can stimulate potential demand. In addition, the expectation is that we can increase the number of foreign tourists visiting the region and increase visitor satisfaction by facilitating the promotion of the region and combining it with the use of tourism resources, such as other industrial cultures and nature experiences.

Business operators and producers need to collaborate in developing a system for receiving tourists and to work on unified branding. DMOs and other organizations responsible for the development of tourist destinations are expected to take the initiative in managing tourism resource development and continuously promoting the program.

Thus, the Japan Travel and Tourism Association is working on a program that will contribute to the development of tourist destinations across Japan by supporting the advanced efforts of the DMOs as model cases for other regions.

Use of Sake and Food to Let People Know "Kyoto by the Sea"

The theme of the DMO establishment support program is regional

promotion using Japan's food culture. As a result of nationwide open recruitment, it was decided to implement a model program in cooperation with (General Incorporation Association) Kyoto Prefecture Northern Region Alliances Corporation (Kyoto by the Sea DMO). "Kyoto by the Sea" is a group of five cities and two towns in the northern part of Kyoto Prefecture (Fukuchiyama City, Maizuru City, Ayabe City, Miyazu City, Kyotango City, Ine Town, and Yosano town) that are working together to promote tourism using local sake, food, and the industrial and cultural heritage of each place.

《Outline of Kyoto by the Sea DMO establishment support program》

■ Program to provide information and attract inbound tourists

Distribution of videos on overseas social media websites and TV, questionnaires, and booths at tourism events

⇒ Promotion targeting both Japanese and foreign tourists

■ Food/food culture branding program

Development of digital tools for foreign tourists, information on the monthly schedule of special viewings of historical and cultural sites, as well as goods and local specialties, the Kyoto by the Sea Food and Food Culture Forum, and a tie-up with food-related magazines

 \Rightarrow Collaboration with business operators in the region to provide branding of food

■ Program for collaboration with private companies

- ①Kyoto by the Sea food trail (seasonal food tour) campaign
- ②Creation of themed tourism products combining attractive food and food culture attractions
- \Rightarrow Development of programs for foreign tourists to experience sake and food

■ Wide-area collaboration program

- Wide-area round trip program in collaboration with Toyooka DMO and Wakasawan Tourism Federation (rental car round trip plan)
- Promotion and marketing targeted at foreign tourists in collaboration with Kyoto in Forests DMO and Kyoto Infused with Tea DMO
- ⇒ Promotion through wide-area collaboration and creation of products





We interviewed Toyohiro Furuta from the Tango Sake Brewery Tourism Steering Committee, an organization that participates in Kyoto by the Sea's efforts to develop tourist destinations.

Sake Brewery Tourism for Regional Development

I am a certified sake sommelier and master of sake working daily to popularize and promote. Eight years ago, I was impressed by sake brewery tourism in Kashima City, Saga, and thought that we could do the same in the Tango area, where there are 12 sake breweries. The concept is the development of cities and towns that attract people through good sake. Our aim was to develop cities and towns where visitors could find sake breweries, Japanese inns, and restaurants to enjoy good sake wherever they went. To that end, we visited every business operator, explained the idea and how we could work together on it. We organized the Tango Tenshu Festival as the core event for the cities and towns. Though the first festival had a little less than 300 visitors, the sixth festival in 2019 had more than 6,000 visitors, and we aim to attract 10,000 visitors by the tenth year.

Sake brewery tourism is just one of the promising attractions, and our original purpose is to promote regional development. We intend to attract more tourists with the great resources that are Tango's food, nature, culture, and people. Thus, we asked members of the Tango Sake Brewery Tourism Steering Committee, who are passionate about regional development, to join us. In addition, we cannot promote regional development unless there is some system





Human interaction is also one of the best things about tourism

Sake brewery

Tango is said to have introduced sake to Ise Grand Shrine and is thus called "the origin of sacred sake (omiki).



that allows the region to make a profit. The Tango Sake Brewery Tourism Steering Committee was established and is still run by the private sector. We think sustainable urban development will be possible if tourism is viable as an industry.

Development of Content in Collaboration with DMOs

We have made sure that the Kyoto by the Sea DMO understands where we stand and that they support us. The DMO provides PR opportunities at home and overseas as core elements for tourist destination development. Having a booth at the Tourism Expo is one such effort. We are also developing digital content as we conduct PR activities using both Japanese and foreign media in collaboration with the Japan Travel and Tourism Association.

As it is very meaningful to have our efforts introduced to those who focus on tourism as we do, we hope that it will become easier to collaborate with each business operator through the council. I hope one day that the council will take the initiative in facilitating sake brewery promotion across Japan, regardless of the area.



Touring Sake Breweries Making Tango Tenshu

Tango Tenshu is the local sake made in the Kyoto by the Sea area, the origin of sacred sake. An old document says that Japanese sake was first made in Kyoto by the Sea and then introduced to the Ise Grand Shrine. Kyoto by the Sea is found in the northern part of Kyoto Prefecture, and is an area that features the natural wonders of the sea, mountains, and rivers. Water from the mountains is used by the communities and flows into the sea. Water rich in minerals makes great sake and nurtures the fish. In addition, the fact that more than 50% of the shrines in Kyoto Prefecture are located in this area, and shrines are usually built in an area with great water quality, means that the water quality of this area has been good since ancient times. Moreover, the rice grown in this area has received the Special A rank in rice taste rankings 12 times, the most times of anywhere in western Japan, and contributes to the taste of sake.

[Sponsors of the Tango Tenshu Festival]

The Kinoshita Brewery, Ltd.; Kumano Brewing Ltd.; Shirasugi Brewery, Co., Ltd.; Yosamusume Brewery G.P.; Taniguchi Brewery Co., Ltd.; Hakurei Brewing Co., Ltd.; Ikeda Syuzou Co., Ltd.; Wakamiya Syuzou Co., Ltd.

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9 Case | Program 3. Council's voluntary program