

## Izushi Castle Town

The historic streets of Izushi Castle town will take you back in time to the world of the Edo period (1603–1868). The structure of the streets has remained unchanged for around 400 years and the traditional ambience of the town is calm and pleasant. It is easily walkable, and visitors can enjoy the feel of the local community while taking in the sights and sounds of the old townscape. To experience the traditional lifestyle one step closer, visitors can also rent kimono from a local shop to wear while touring the town.

At the front entrance to Izushi Castle is the picturesque Shinkoro Clock Tower, which was completed in 1881 and is still in use today: it is one of the oldest clock towers in Japan. Also noteworthy are the distinctive *sake* cellar buildings with their traditional red clay exteriors. For those hoping to sample some local Sasa Zuru *sake*, the cellars are well stocked, and visitors can stop by for tastings. Another local Izushi specialty is *sara soba*. More than 50 shops in the town offer these buckwheat noodles served on a number of small plates.