

Toba City

The port of Toba originally flourished as a safe harbor for fishing boats, and is historically famed as the base of the fleet of naval commander Kuki Yoshitaka (1542–1600). Today, Toba is perhaps best known for its pearl industry, and is in fact the place where the art of culturing pearls was first perfected. The rugged coastline also supports a thriving fishing industry, with modern vessels and *ama* female divers harvesting a wide variety of fish, shellfish, crustaceans, and edible seaweed.

Toba is situated inside Ise-Shima National Park. Please note that while swimming is permitted in many places, taking any sea life from Toba's waters without a permit is strictly forbidden.