

Miyamachi Shotengai

Miyamachi Shotengai is an area within Showa no Machi with several *izakaya* (Japanese bistros), small bars, and popular nightlife spots. It is an ideal place for bar-hopping as most venues are located in close proximity, and Bungotakada's main bus terminal and many of the city's accommodations are a short walk away.

A highlight of the Miyamachi Shotengai is the traditional Japanese "snack bar." Typical snack bars consist of a counter with only a few seats, and many of these venues can be clustered together in one building or alleyway. These snack bars usually have a retro vibe, with Showa era (1926–1989) décor and friendly service. Guests often sing karaoke and join in friendly banter with other patrons. The snack bars on Bungotakada's Miyamachi Shotengai each have their own unique touch and usually serve drinks such as beer and whisky, along with small homemade dishes or snacks such as crackers, nuts, and cookies.

Other bars and *izakaya* on the street specialize in Japanese cuisine such as *yakitori* (skewers of grilled chicken), seafood, and sushi. Asking whether a restaurant offers any local or seasonal items is a good way to ensure getting the freshest items available.