

Life in a Castle Town Built on Magma

The Hagi region's varied geological and geographic features enabled the development of specific businesses and industries. The specific qualities of the volcanic clay found around Hagi made possible the production of distinctive ceramics, called Hagi ware. The rocky seabed off the coast supports a fertile bay. The castle town thrived over the centuries through the benefits of its geologic history. Hagi's townscape from the Edo period (1603–1867) remains well preserved, a testimony to its inhabitants' coexistence with and reliance on their geological heritage.

Diagram text left to right, top to bottom:

Old Castle Town

Hagi area

Diagram text above the torii

The 150 years since the Meiji Restoration (1868)

Samurai residences

Temples and shrines

Sake breweries

Ishiya stonemasons' area

Original Hagi ware kilns

Six columns of text, left to right, top to bottom

Hamlet life

Abu Coastal Area

Oku-Abu Area

Tatara ironworks

Oku-Hagi·Chōmonkyō area

Forestry settlements

Hagi Ōkan road area

Post towns

Mishima Island area

Hagi area

Oku-Abu area

Tokusa Basin area

Farming settlements

Mishima Island area

Hagi area

Susa and Esaki bays area

Abu Sea Coast area

Fishing settlements

Titles:

Industries

Climate and Ecosystem

Geology and Topography

Red speech bubbles:

Hagi ware clay was originally magma

Suited for farmland

A craggy seabed attracts fish

Second from row:

Formation of Continental Magma

100 million–30 million years ago

Formation of Japan Sea Magma

20 million–12 million years ago

Formation of Island Arc Magma

2 million–8800 years ago

Bottom row

Plate Tectonics