Arita Uchiyama Historic District

Beginning in the mid-seventeenth century, Arita's porcelain industry was centered around the Uchiyama (literally, "inner mountain") district. The area was chosen for its location close to Izumiyama, where porcelain stone, a special type of stone high in kaolinite and essential for making porcelain, could be found. Many of the most famous kilns were in Uchiyama, entry into which was strictly controlled by the daimyo lords of Saga domain.

During the Great Bunsei Fire of 1828, nearly all of the buildings in the area were destroyed. Only one survives today. Over the next century, buildings were built using both traditional Japanese and Western architecture styles. In 1991 the area was designated as a National Important Preservation District for Groups of Historic Buildings. One hundred sixty-one historical buildings remain from the late Edo (1603−1867), Meiji (1868−1912), Taishō (1912−1926), and early Showa (1926−1989) periods. Each building included in the designation is marked with a small blue-and-white porcelain plaque that denotes its year or era of construction.

Arita's largest event, the Arita Porcelain Market, is held in this area every year from April 29 to May 5. Many of the historical buildings have been converted into cafés, galleries, and shops. Several of the most famous kilns in this district are open to the public, including showrooms and museums of historic collections. Arita Ceramic Museum and the Former Tashiro Family Western-style House are both in Uchiyama as well.