

## **Uchime Bay**

In ancient times, traders traveling between Iki and Tsushima, the Korean Peninsula, and Kyushu anchored their boats in Uchime Bay on the eastern side of Iki before proceeding on to the capital at Harunotsuji. Upon arrival in the bay, the seafarers had to transfer their goods to smaller vessels capable of navigating the shallow Hatahoko River. They then rowed upriver for 1.5 kilometers to the docks of Harunotsuji, which flourished as the capital of the kingdom of Iki from around 200 BCE to 350 CE.

The main place of interest in the bay today is Kojima Shrine, where deities associated with the sea and fishing are enshrined. It is located on a small island reachable via a sandbank that emerges from the sea at low tide or in a traditional-style rowboat when the tide is in.