



Japan National Tourist Organization

(Japan Travel Updates <http://www.jnto.go.jp>)
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JAPAN: A WORLD OF CERAMICS

From the dawn of time Japan has been a vast pottery workshop, its rugged hills and lush valleys studded with thousands of puffing, glowing kilns. 12,000 years ago the ceramists of the Jomon Period were creating simple and strong but breathtaking pots and bowls. Today, despite the country's high-tech modernization, the Japanese ceramic tradition is stronger than ever. More than a hundred pottery villages create everything from rough-finished ash-cruled Shigaraki ware, treasured for centuries by Tea Ceremony masters, to seashell-thin intricately painted porcelains.



Because of the breadth of ceramic centers in Japan, this itinerary only explores some of the major **pottery locations** on **Honshu**, Japan's main island. JNTO has produced a separate itinerary highlighting pottery centers on Kyushu island – closest to the Asia mainland -- where porcelain was first introduced into Japan by the Koreans in the 16th century.

Day 1 – Arrival into TOKYO



Arrive into Narita Airport and transfer to downtown Tokyo by convenient Airport Limousine Bus or Narita Express Train.

Day 2 & 3 – TOKYO

Tokyo is an ultra-modern, infamously busy megalopolis of 12 million people, 750 square miles of chockablock high rises, jam packed commuter trains, lavish shops and frenetic neon nights. But beneath the city's slick and speedy surface is a whole world that remains quintessentially "Old Japan", if one knows where to look.

Begin your trip in the early morning at **Tsukiji Market** (5:00 a.m.-noon, except Sunday and some Wednesdays), the largest wholesale fish market in the world. Inside a vast concrete building, thousands of tons of fresh fish are delivered by boat daily and sold to supply restaurants and markets all over Japan. A single giant tuna can be priced at upwards of \$80,000! The market affords a fascinating view of working class Japanese culture. Equally fascinating is the outer market, located in narrow streets between Tsukiji Market and Tsukiji Station. Here you'll find wholesale foods for restaurant chefs and bargain-hunting housewives, bulk shitake mushrooms-ginko nuts, edible flowers, giant knives, bamboo goods, and (of course) sushi bars. Pottery abounds: check out the lively street displays of decorative, reasonably priced functional tableware, the colorful painted and glazed pottery. By Subway, take the Hibiya (Grey) Line to Tsukiji; it's a 10 minute walk. However, if you wish to view the tuna auction from the beginning, you should get there by 5:00 a.m., and the subways don't open until 5:00 a.m. The fish auction runs from 5:00 – 5:40 a.m., the fruit and vegetable auction runs from 6:30-7:30 a.m.



Subway

Next, visit the **Tokyo National Museum in Ueno Park** (9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except Monday, tel. 03/3822-1111), quite simply the finest Japanese art museum in the world. Don't miss the **Jomon** pottery dating back to 10,000 BC and **Yayoi** Pottery from 300 BC, as well as later more sophisticated traditions, including many objects designated as “National Treasures” or “Important Cultural Properties.” The museum also includes the **Horyu-ji Treasure House** (open Thursdays, except rainy days). By train take the JR Yamanote Line or the Ginza Line to Ueno Station; it's then a 10-minute walk.

Tokyo also has abundant contemporary ceramic museums, galleries, and shops. In addition, visit the houseware and fine craft floors of any department store to find good selections of both everyday and art pottery.

Museum Recommendations

Hatakeyama Collection (tel. 03/3447-5787) – Fine arts and crafts of ancient Japan, Korea and China, collected by Meiji industrial tycoon Hatakeyama Issei, exhibited a choice few at a time in a charming setting. The museum is particularly famous for its tea ceremony artifacts, and includes an actual tea ceremony room on the upper floor. Next door to the museum is the famous **Hannya-en** Restaurant, housed in Hatakeyama's former villa. The museum is located in the Minato-ku district, a 6-minute walk from Takanawadai Subway Station. The opening period is: April 1 to June 15, July 1 to September 15, October 1 to December 15, January 8 to March 15, and the hours are: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. April to September, and 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. October to March; closed Monday.

Idemitsu Museum of Arts (10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., except Monday; tel. 03/3213-9402) – The museum features Zenga by Zen priest Sengai, Japanese ceramics, crafts and paintings, hand-painted Ukiyo-e and Chinese ceramics, crafts and bronzes and offers a separate exhibition of fine pottery shards. There's a great view out over the **Imperial Palace** grounds. It's located in the Chiyoda-ku. District, a 3-minute walk from Yurakucho Station.

The Japan Folk Crafts Museum (10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., except Monday; tel. 03/3467-4527) – The museum features masterpieces of folk art from Japan, Korea and elsewhere, collected during the 1920s and 1930s by Yanagi Soetsu, founder of Japan's Folk Art Movement. It's a 5-minute walk from Komaba-Todaimae Station on the Keio-Inokashira Line.

Crafts Gallery, The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo (10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., except Monday; tel. 03/3211-7781) – Here you'll find an especially strong collection of modern versions of traditional Japanese ceramic styles. Located in the Chiyoda-ku district, in **Kitanomaru Park**, it's a 7-minute walk from Takebashi Subway Station.

Nezu Institute of Fine Arts (9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except Monday; tel. 03/3400-2536) – The museum exhibits Japanese paintings, calligraphy, sculpture, ceramics, lacquer and Chinese bronzes. There are five lovely tea arbors on the wooded grounds. Advance reservations are required to visit. Located in the Minami-Aoyama district, it's a 10-minute walk from Omotesando Subway Station.

Suntory Museum of Art (10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., except Monday; tel. 03/3470-1073) – The museum exhibits Japanese lacquer, ceramics, glass, costumes, masks and other fine arts; it houses a complete tea ceremony room. Located in the Minato-ku district, it's a 3-minute walk from Akasakamitsuke Subway Station.

Craft Center:

Japan Traditional Craft Center (10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., except Thursday; tel. 03/3403-2460), The second-floor gallery houses an array of folk arts and crafts, including ceramics, from all over Japan. They also conduct craft workshops. Call for details. It's located one block from Gaien Mae Station.

Gallery Recommendations:

Akasaka Green Gallery (10:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., except Sunday & Monday; tel. 03/3470-1073). This exquisite gallery has been in the same location for a quarter of a century; its proprietor, Mr. Ito, is always ready to talk shop with ceramics enthusiasts. It's located by Akasaka Mitsuke subway station, and right down the street is the mirrored-glass headquarters of the avant-garde Sogetsu Kaihan school of flower arrangement, with a Noguchi stone garden in its lobby.

Gallery Tao (11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., except Sunday). This small gallery features exhibitions of wonderfully quirky modern ceramics, by both Japanese and foreign artists. It's located in the Shibuya-ku district, near Omotesando Station, Exit 2A. The address is: Maple House, B-1, 4-8-6 Jingumae, Shibuya-ku.

Department Store Recommendations:

- Mitsukoshi Department Store, in Nihonbashi
- Takashimaya Department Store, in Nihonbashi
- Seibu Department Store, in Ikebukuro

All three of these super-stores, especially Seibu, contain Arts Floors that offer for sale some of the most stunning in contemporary Japanese fine arts, including pottery. Seibu has been called “the most exciting cultural innovator in Tokyo.”

Flea Markets:

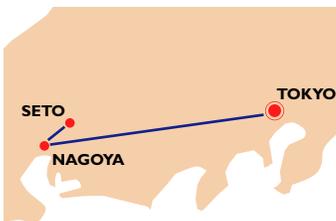
Tokyo’s many traditional flea markets are a delightful way for visitors to browse through everything from fine antiques to eclectic second-hand goods – used kimono, vintage Japanese pinups, or jazz age matchboxes. And, of course, every kind of pottery imaginable.

Togo Shrine (1st, 4th and 5th Sunday of each month, dawn until dusk)
Winding through the gardens of Togo Shrine, past pools where ornamental carp swim, this sprawling bazaar offers more than its share of real art at bargain prices. Located at 1-5-3 Jinguma, Shibuya-ku, a 5 minute walk from Meiji Shingumae Station, Exit 5.

Heiwajima Antiques Fair (3 days in March, June, September, and December; 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.) This is a gigantic indoor sales extravaganza held by over 200 antique dealers from all over Japan. It’s located at the Tokyo Ryutsu Center, 2 F, across street from Ryutsu Station of the Tokyo Monorail; address: 6-1-1 Heiwajima, Ota-ku, Tokyo 143-0006

Check Tokyo’s English-language visitors’ guides and Tokyo Magazine on arrival for a schedule of current flea markets and secondhand bazaars.

Day 4 & 5 – NAGOYA and SETO, TAJIME and TOKONAME



Nagoya is a good base for exploring the nearby, important pottery villages. Despite its magnificent Tokugawa-era castle, Shinto shrines, Zen gardens, museums and art galleries, and easily reached neighboring pottery villages, the city is not on most tourist agendas. The pottery villages surrounding Nagoya are the main reason for visiting this area. Nagoya is 2 hours by *Hikari* Shinkansen bullet train from Tokyo.

Seto, is the oldest and most illustrious kiln center in Japan, producing glazed pottery since the 8th Century. Today, Seto is dominated by 24 hour semi automated factories making 1/6 of Japan's everyday ceramics, the best known being Noritake China. Its main street is crowded with shops that display the products of local workrooms. Seto is 30 minutes by express train on the private Meitetsu Line from Nagoya's Sakae Station. Begin your day there by stopping by the information

booth near the railway station to pick up maps and printed information in English, and to plan your day. Seto has so many pottery workshops, shops and factories spread out over such a wide area that you'll need to pick and choose what you want to see.

Visit the **Aichi Prefecture Ceramics Museum** (9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., except Monday), 20 minutes by bus from Owari Seto Station. It houses a vast collection of old Japanese ceramics from the Jomon Period to the present and will give you a good overview of the ceramic riches of the area.

Pottery Shopping

The **Seto-shi Tojiki Center** (9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., except Monday) sells the works of some of Seto's premiere potters.

Akazu-yaki Kaikan (8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., closed Saturday afternoons), is world-renowned for its Oribe and Shino glazed pottery. Modern versions of these ancient styles are on sale.

Shinano Ceramics Center (10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.), 20 minutes by taxi from Owari-Seto Station, sells contemporary Seto ware. There are many more pottery shops everywhere you look in Seto; it's a perfect place for the window shopping stroller.

Toninyo Juhachibankan, is a pottery shop located between Owari-Seto Station and Seto Koen Park, specializing in pottery dolls and contemporary pottery.

Monuments to Look and Hands-on Experiences

In **Seto Koen Park** there is an impressive monument to Toshiro Kato, founder of Seto Pottery. The 11 foot high hall, built in 1866, is the largest pottery product in Japan.

For a hands on experience, the **Seto Pottery Kiln** (10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Sundays and holidays only) offers pottery lessons to amateurs for a nominal fee.

If you want to visit a working kiln, check out either **Kato Sakusuke Kiln** (tel. 0561/82-2505) or **Mizuno Hanjiro Kiln** (tel. 0561/82-2660); reservations must be made in advance.

If you wish, you can visit **The Pottery Clay Mine**, the source of the clay used by the city's potters, it's located to the west of **Kamigama Jinja Shrine**.

For more information on Seto contact the Commerce and Industry Section of Seto City Office (tel. 0561/82-7111).

Tokoname is another important pottery village near Nagoya whose pottery tradition dates back to the 8th century. The town is 40 minutes from Nagoya Station on the Meitetsu Tokonome Line. Tokoname is best known for its simple glazes and rough unglazed finishes; Tokoname vases are particularly prized by collectors.

The **Tokoname Ceramics Hall** (8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., except Saturday) offers a fine selection of local ceramics for sale. It is a 5-minute taxi ride from Tokoname Station, at 3-8 Sakae-cho.

Tokoname Ceramic Research Center (9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except Monday) displays some of the very best Tokoname School pottery from the 8th century to the present. It is also close by the train station at 7-22 Okujo.

For more information on Tokoname contact the Tourist Section of Tokonome City Office (tel. 0569/35-5111).

Tajimi and neighboring **Toki City**, are noted for their collections of now-extinct **Mino** ware and workshops producing **Shino** ware. The simple designs and color schemes of this pottery have long been favored for use in tea ceremony. To get to Tajimi, take the JR Chuo Line 21 minutes from Nagoya.

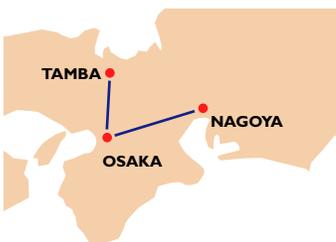
The **Gifu Ken Tojiki Shiryokan Museum** (9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., except Monday) shows ancient Mino ware and pottery-making tools from the classic Seto Period. It's just 10 minutes by taxi from Tajimi Station.

For pottery-buying, check out the big **Mino-yaki Wholesale Center** (8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., except Sundays, and the 2nd & 4th Saturday of each month) at 1-9-4 Higashi-machi; it's a 15-minute taxi ride from the station.

The **Suigetsu Kiln** (tel. 0572/22-1990), located at 7, Kokeizancho, has both an open workshop and retail outlet.

For more information contact Tajimi Tourist Information (tel. 0572/22-1111).

Day 6 – to TAMBA



Tamba is a small castle town with well preserved old buildings and of much interest to pottery lovers. Travel from Nagoya to Osaka by Shinkansen; transfer to the JR train to Tamba, a 50 minute ride from Osaka. **Tamba-yaki** is a simple, brown black stoneware dating back 700 years. The pottery is still made by local farmers and there are many kilns in the area.

The Old Merchants' Quarter of **Sasayama**, near the Hon-Sasayama bus terminal, is a nearly 550 yard stretch of Edo-era merchant houses and the pottery museum.

The **Tamba Koto Kan** or the Old Tamba Pottery Museum, (9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., except Monday) is housed in a wonderful group of old rice *kura* (storehouses). It offers excellent English information, and the museum shop next door sells new Tamba ware.

Visit nearby **Tachikui**, where kilns and workshops produce and sell brown-black Tamba-yaki stoneware, a tradition going back over 700 years. Even today many of the potters are farmer-artisans, turning out their charming and affordable everyday ware in wood-fired climbing kilns. Charming.

Also of interest in Tamba:

The **Noh Mask Museum**, castle ruins, samurai houses and the **Historical Art Museum**.

If time allows, stop in **Osaka** to visit the following museums with significant pottery collections:

The **Museum of Oriental Ceramics** (9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., except Monday), a superb museum in a lovely building, houses a private collection of Chinese, Korean and Japanese ceramics. It's located on Nakanoshima-dori, near Nagahama Station.

The **Japan Folk Art Museum** (10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., except Wednesday) is considered to be one of the best folk art museums in the country. It's located in **Senri Expo Park**.

The **Fujita Art Museum** (10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., except Monday; March – May and September – November only) exhibits Baron Fujita of Rimpa's important collection of Chinese and Japanese tea ceremony objects in a *kura* on his old estate. The museum is a 10 minute walk from Kyobashi subway station.

Day 7 & 8 – KURASHIKI



Stay in **Kurashiki** and visit nearby pottery villages. Return to Osaka, then by Hikari Shinkansen to Okayama, transferring there to local train to Kurashiki. Old Kurashiki, the neighborhood known as **unga no iriguchi** (“entrance to the canal area”), preserves a charmingly timeless realm of teahouses, museums, inns and Bizen pottery shops all set along a picturesque canal.

While you're there, visit the **Ohara Bijutsukan**, the Museum of Art (9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., except Monday). It exhibits a truly remarkable collection of works from

the folk art potters Hamada Shoji, Kawai Kanjiro, Tomimoto Kenkichi, and expatriate Bernard Leach.

And, though it's not a ceramics site, the marvelous **Japanese Toy Museum** (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., daily), with its adjoining toy shop, will delight any arts-lover.

Day Trips from Kurashiki

Okayama is one stop on the JR local train from Kurashiki. The **Okayama Prefectural Art Museum** (9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., except Monday) features a good collection of ancient Bizen pottery. It is within walking distance of both the train and bus stations.

Also in Okayama is **Koraku-en** (7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.), considered to be one of Japan's top gardens. It's rambling complex of castle and gardens dates back to 1686.

Imbe, on the Inland Sea coast is a 700 year-old pottery village world-famous for its unglazed **Bizen-yaki**. To get to Imbe from Okayama, take the JR Aki line 40 minutes to Imbe Station. If Zen has a material expression, it is Bizen-yaki. The beauty of the best of these charred, speckled, dappled pieces is as much accidental as it is deliberate, triggered by the intense heat produced by wood-fired climbing kilns. Greatly treasured by traditional tea masters, the finest examples of Bizen-yaki are expensive, but well worth it. The area around Imbe station is rife with kilns, studios and shops.

There are two major centers of Bizen-yaki in Imbe.

- 1) The **Bizen Togei Bijutsukan or Ceramics Museum** (9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., except Monday). It not only carries good displays of Bizen ware, but also offers two great publications:
 - an English-language pamphlet on local pottery traditions and
 - a map of local pottery shops.
- 2) The **Fujiwara Kei Memorial Gallery** (10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except Monday) celebrates the works of the late master potter Fujiwara Kei, a Japanese National Treasure. The gallery is 10 minutes by taxi from Imbe Station.

For more information: Bizen Tourist Office (tel. 0869/64-3301).

Day 9 – HAGI



Travel to **Hagi** by Shinkansen and local JR train. This ancient town is one of the loveliest, most picturesque in all Japan, and it is world renowned for its distinctive beige-pink glazed pottery. Along with being a veritable treasure house of ceramics, **Hagi** has a charming **Samurai Quarter**, with its orchards, gated earthen walls and grand old houses and temples.

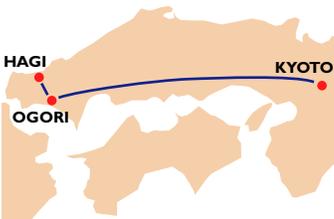
The **Kumaya Bijutsukan**, the local Art Museum (8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., daily) contains priceless Hagi tea bowls, as well as the oldest piano in Japan.

The **Tea Bowl Museum**, also in the Samurai Quarter, is a definite must-see.

The town's beige-pink **Hagi-yaki** teaware has suffered from its popularity; with too many local potters turning out second rate commercial pots. But there are still fine kilns, carrying on the Hagi tradition proudly. Notable: **Sakagamaya**, dating back to the 16th century; and **Harada-Choju-en**, carrying the works of several of Hagi's best contemporary potters.

Many visitors choose to tour Hagi via rented bicycle, to take in the town's fairy tale scenery, which includes a saltwater lagoon, river and oceanfront, and even a small volcano!

Day 10 – KYOTO



Travel to Kyoto by JR train to **Ogori** then Shinkansen to Kyoto, a half-day trip. A good place to begin is in the shrine-like house of the great folk art revivalist potter **Kawai Kanjiro** (10:00 am to 5:00 p.m., except Monday). Kanjiro was a true renaissance man, excelling not only as a ceramist but as an architect, critic and poet, and his house reflects its late owner's sensitivity and sense of style. His giant climbing kiln still stands behind the great main house. It's a 2 minute stroll from Umamachi Bus Stop.

The charming hilly area around **Kiyomizu Temple** was historically the city's leading pottery-making neighborhood, and even today the narrow cobblestoned ways are lined with shops selling delicate Kiyomizu ware. Call the **Kiyomizu-yaki Danchi Cooperative Union** (tel. 075/581-6188) for more information.

As you walk back downhill into the city, drop by **Chion-in Temple** with its 67-ton bronze bell. Savor the historic houses and more shops selling pottery along Sannenzaka – a truly memorable stroll which ends up at **Yasaka Shrine**.



Kiyomizu-dori Temple

One of the best local shops is **Matsuda**, at 3-338 Kiyomizu-dori (10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. daily). Mr. Matsuda sells a connoisseur's array of ceramics, especially blue-on-white antique Imari porcelain, at very reasonable prices, and he especially enjoys meeting the knowledgeable pottery aficionado instead of the "shopaholic" tourist!

While you're in the Kiyomizu neighborhood visit

The **Kyoto Tojiki Kaikan** or Kyoto Pottery Center (9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily) with fine displays of **Kyo-yaki** (for sale, of course!);

The **Rakushi-en on Gogo-Zaka** (9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., except Wednesday) offering select pieces from kilns all over Japan, and representing individual potters rather than mass produced works (tel. 075/541-1161);

The **Kyoto National Museum** (9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except Monday) with its extensive pottery collection.

In the Gion district visit

The **Kyoto Craft Center** (10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Thursday – Tuesday), offering high quality handicrafts, including a wide selection of pottery. It's located on Shijo-dori near **Yasaka Shrine**.

In Downtown Kyoto visit

Tachikichi (10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., except Wednesday) is a large shop on Shijo-dori at Tominokoji. It has sold Kyo-yaki since 1752, and is Kyoto's most exclusive ceramics emporium. It offers works in a wide price range, and will ship.

Yamato Mingei (10:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., except Friday), on Kawaramachi / Takayakushi, specializes in beautiful and reasonably priced mingei crafts from all over Japan.

Hirata (tel. 075-681-5896; 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. daily), one block south of Toji Temple sells ceramic planters for bonsai, folk toys from all over Japan, and ceramic dolls.

The **Raku Museum** (10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except Monday), near the Horikawa Nakadachiuri Bus Stop, is another must for anyone who loves Japanese pottery.

Day 11 – SHIGARAKI (Day Trip)

Shigaraki is a world-famous pottery village. To get here from Kyoto take an 18 minute train ride to Ishiyama Station. From here, transfer to a bus for a pleasant 1-hour ride on to Shigaraki town. The place is very visitor-friendly: A call to the Shigaraki Tourist Association (tel. 0748/82-2345) the day before you visit can help you organize what you want to see and do.

When you get here, drop by the **Shigaraki Traditional Crafts Center** (9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., except Thursday). It's an easy 5 minute walk from the bus station, and a good introduction to the bustling local ceramics scene. Also worth a visit is the **Shigaraki Ceramic Cultural Park** (9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., except Thursday).

Kilns and pottery shops are literally everywhere in Shigaraki, with locals and a scattering of foreign potters turning out really remarkable roughly powerful bowls, teapots, cooking pots, casseroles and cups – even garden statues of the highly libidinous **tanuki** raccoon god!

Back in downtown Kyoto, there are endless opportunities to see and buy pottery. As in Tokyo, the big department stores should not be neglected by the ceramics scholar or collector. The Gift, Art and Houseware sections of Takashimaya, for instance, have museum-quality modern ceramics work for sale, as well as simple and functional but exceedingly beautiful pieces at bargain prices.

Nishikikoji Street Market sells everything from designer rice and green tea to rare sakés to edible chrysanthemums to live eels. Though non-edible goods like pottery are the exception, you will find ceramic housewares here, and the whole scene is delightfully and traditionally Japanese. Lively in late afternoon, many shops are closed on Wednesdays. This is the essence of everyday Japanese life at its most magical.

RESOURCES

Annual Pottery Fairs

The website http://www.e-yakimono.net/html/pottery_festivals_japan.htm provides information on pottery festivals in Japan by region. Major ones in central Honshu are the following:

Seto Pottery Fair (tel. 0561/82-7111): held the 3rd weekend in September, draws as many as half-a-million ceramics buyers with its famous bargain prices.

Tokoname Pottery Fair (tel. 0569/35-5111): held the 4th Saturday and Sunday in August

Tajimi City Pottery Fair (tel. 0572/22-1111): The 2nd Saturday and Sunday in April and in mid-October (date varies)

Toki City Pottery Fair: Mid-April, May 3–5th, and the 4th Saturday in October

Kiyomizu-yaki Danchi Pottery Fair (tel. 075/581-6188): July 18-20

Shigaraki Pottery Fair (tel. 0748/82-2345): held on the last Friday, Saturday and Sunday in July

Insider Tips and Museum Information

- Before you leave, consult *Roberts' Guide to Japanese Museums* (Laurence P. Roberts; Tokyo: Simul Press, 1987) and JNTO's "Museums and Galleries" practical guide in hard copy or on our website at http://www.japantravelinfo.com/pdf/pg081_museums.pdf to see which special interest museums you would like to visit.
- Peruse at the "Museum Information Japan" website (<http://www.dnp.co.jp/museum/icc-e.html>) to see if there are any particular museums and special exhibitions that interest you.
- Check the Tokyo Convention & Visitors Bureau's website (<http://www.tcvb.or.jp/>) to obtain information about Tokyo museum entrance discounts.

- Scan the English-language Tokyo newspapers as soon as you arrive, for special pottery exhibitions at museums and pottery sales at galleries and department stores.

Relevant Reading on Japan's Ceramic Arts

- ***Zen and the Art of Pottery***, Kenneth R. Beittel, Weatherhill, paperback, March 1990
- ***Inside Japanese Ceramics***, by Richard L. Wilson, Weatherhill, paperback, June 1999
- ***Japan Crafts Sourcebook: A Guide to Today's Traditional Handmade Objects***, Japan Craft Forum, with an introduction by Diane Durston, Kodansha Intl., August 1996
- ***Arts & Antiques*** magazine, October 2000, pp. 80-85, "The Way of Tea Ceramics," by Dana Micucci
- ***Washington Times***, Saturday, September 23, 2000, "Section E" *Travel* – "Japanese Potters Continue Tradition of Kiln-fired Beauty," by Richard Busch
- Archived articles from *Ceramics Monthly* as follows:
 - "Visiting Four Japanese Potters," Richard Busch, November 2001, p.74
 - "Japanese National Treasure Uichi Shimizu," by Kelvin Bradford, September 2001, p.47
 - "Naniwazuyaki, The Pottery Of Osaka," by Eric Carle, May 2001, p.62
 - "Two Wheels Of Japan," by Makoto Hatori, March 1999, p.110
 - "A Sojourn in Japan," by Dale Huffman, January 1999, p.39
 - "Pottery and the Artist in Japan Today, by Linda Kiemi-Sawyer, October 1998, p.102
 - "Effects Of a Residency in Japan," by George Kenney, February 1997, p.52
 - "A Potter's Look at Tradition," by Makoto Hatori, January 1997
 - "Echizen Stoneware, 800 Years of Japanese Tradition," by Virginia Hillhouse, April 1996, p.39
 - "In Pursuit of Japanese Tradition," by Glenn Rand, December 1995, p.63
 - "Japanese Masters' Pots," June 1991, p.32
- Special issue of ***Studio Potter Magazine***, entitled "Japan and America: Myth and Reality in Ceramics," with guest editors Louise Allison Cort and John Neely, Vol. 21, #1, December 1992

Websites Focusing on Ceramics in Japan

<http://www.japanesepottery.com> – Website of *Japan Times* ceramics columnist, Robert Yellin

<http://www.culture.co.jp/bizen/index-e.html> – Bizen ceramics information

<http://www.ceramic.or.jp/welcome.html> – Website of the Ceramics Society of Japan

<http://www.japan-net.ne.jp/~iwcat/> – Tokoname ceramics information

http://www2.biglobe.ne.jp/~minoyaki/index_e.htm – Mino ceramics information

<http://www.raku-yaki.or.jp/yurai-e.html> – Raku ceramics information

<http://www.the-anagama.com/En/index.html> – Shigaraki wood-fired stoneware information