

TO MATSUMOTO
 Around Kobuchisawa Station
 0~20 minute walk

KOBUCHISAWA
 小淵沢

NAGASAKA
 長坂

Oomurasaki Center &
 Nature Park
 10 minute walk

Location: Nirasaki City

**18 Ruins of Takeda Katsuyori's
 Shimpu Castle**

Shimpu Station is composed of two lonely platforms situated on a hill and surrounded by houses. Follow the path towards the peach orchard, cross the road and find yourself transported back in time.



Location: Hokuto City

**19 Oomurasaki Center
 & Nature Park**

From Hinoharu Station, walk for a few minutes and you will arrive at the Oomurasaki Center & Nature Park where you can learn about the local flora and fauna.

Website: <http://www.city.hokuto.yamanashi.jp/~oomurasaki/>



Location: Hokuto City

20 Around Kobuchisawa Station

The last stop on Yamanashi's JR Chuo line is Kobuchisawa. The area around the station is very picturesque and cool during the summer which makes trekking, hiking or even simple sightseeing a pleasant experience. Whether it is for shopping, visiting shrines, or getting close to nature, this is the ideal place to refresh your mind and body. Local gift shops dot the neighborhood, so drop in and enjoy some sweets and seasonal fruits.

HINO HARU
 日野春

ANAYAMA
 穴山

SHIMPU
 新府

Ruins of Shimpu Castle
 20 minute walk

Heiwa Kannon
 25 minute walk

NIRASAKI
 韮崎

Location: Nirasaki City

17 Heiwa Kannon (Goddess of Mercy)

Get off at Nirasaki Station and experience the imposing view of the Heiwa Kannon statue whose grandeur can easily be seen from the station platform. The statue is deceptively far, but it is certainly worthwhile to explore the different paths which lead to its base.

SHIOZAKI
 塩崎

TO KOFU

RYUO
 竜王



Cultural Note!

文馬
 「絵馬」
 ema, votive plaque



In any Shinto Shrine you can find ema, pieces of wood sold in order to contribute to the maintenance of the shrine. On its surface is usually a drawing of the yearly Chinese zodiac or some other designs. If you buy one, you can write your wish (in any language) and hang it among the other ema with hopes that it might come true. I am particularly an ema lover and I feel comfortable writing on them in Portuguese.



**RYUO STATION
 TO
 KOBUCHISAWA STATION**



TRAVELER PROFILE

NAME: ÉRICA TANAKA
 POSITION: GRAPEVINE SATFF WRITER
 NATIONALITY: BRAZILIAN
 HOBBIES: COOKING AND READING
 ALWAYS TRAVELS WITH: A BOOK