

Night of Nagasaki Shianbashi & Doza AREA MAP

Machibura Project
Published in January 2021



How to enjoy SHIANBASHI and DOZA areas.

Nagasaki is one of Japan's most eminent places for fish-catching. Besides, it is believed to be Japan's top notch place with various fish-species in abundance. One can relish plenty of dishes cooked by skilled chefs, using fresh fish, like the IKIZU-KURI. It is one of the most popular among tourists and is available at affordable price at most Sushi restaurants, Izakaya (local bars), and ethnic Japanese food eateries.



In the night towns of historical Nagasaki, Shianbashi and Doza areas, there are some fascinating narrow streets in alleys where one can enjoy quite a lot.

思案橋横丁 (SHIANBASHI YOKOCHO ST.)

Shianbashi Yokocho is the street on the first right turn from the entrance of Shianbashi. It is quite a busy lane next to the main street, also known as GURUME DOORI (Gourmet Street), as it houses many good eateries.



銅座町通り (Dozamachi-Dori St.)

A short walking distance from the Kanko-dori tram stop, you'd find yourself invited to many Izakaya, Sushi restaurants and Ramen shops famous in the area. The shrine, Doza-inari, is located on the roof of a nearby building.



柳小路通り (Yanagikoji-Dori St.)

Entering from the Mikaeriyanagi (a willow tree which is famous as a place where people used to stop by while going back home and miss ladies working at red light areas), a street which continues up to Shianbashi Yokocho is also known as the deep zone of Nagasaki. You'll find not only old restaurants with traditional curtains hanging outside but also new restaurants popular amongst local people.



思案橋・銅座

“Shianbashi” which is famous all over Japan and the red light district called “Doza” near Shianbashi are the night towns of Nagasaki.

If you know their history, the neon will seem more attractive.



The monument of Shianbashi at the entrance of Doza.



Nagasaki night's down towns Shianbashi, Motoshikkui-machi, Funadaiku-machi, Kago-machi, are called Doza in Nagasaki.



HISTORY SEEN IN THE ORIGIN OF TOWN'S NAME

本石灰町 MOTOSHIKKUI-MACHI

In old days, since the coastline was extended to this area, lots of lime was used to purify oil at Aburaya-machi. Many traders used to live here as lime from places around Macao was brought in by ship.

船大工町 FUNADAIKU-MACHI

This town used to face the sea. There were many ship repair places and it was given this name as there lived many shipwrights, who used to build ships. It was called Shinfunadaiku-Machi in the Kanei era but the name was changed to Funadaiku-Machi during the Shoho era.

籠町 KAGO-MACHI

In this area there lived many craftsmen who made bamboo baskets that were used in the trade with the Chinese. It is the next town of TOJIN YASHIKI (an Edo period residential area for Chinese people in Nagasaki) which was made in the Edo period. Craftsmen were guided by Chinese living in the Tojin Yashiki and performed dragon dance for the first time in KUNCHI festival around 1790. Musical instruments and costumes were brought from China by Chinese people who lived in the Tojin Yashiki.



銅座町 DOZA-MACHI

After the mid Edo era, Doza was the name of the government office which monopolized sales and was engaged in refining copper produced in many areas. It was built in 1925 in Nagasaki and used to mint copper coins. Doza was abolished only in 18 years and later came to be called 'Doza Ato' (Doza trace). Near Shinchi Chinatown tram stop which is located west of town in present, there used to be a place of government office for packed seafood, rice and water. And there also used to be a Tsushima clan residential area. Government office for bagged seafood, rice and water was established in 1745 and used to collect and process seafood (sea cucumber, shark's fin, dried abalone) which were exported to China. Dejima and Shinchi-Gura were also nearby and this area was the place where the first exchange of people and goods began in Nagasaki.

WALKING DOWN THE STREET THAT REMAINS FROM THE EDO ERA.



NAGASAKI in the first year of the KYOWA period (1801) (Nagasaki Museum of History and Culture)

Maruyama, Hanamachi (traditional entertainment district for communication) was located on the mountain side which was near to Tojin yashiki, Shinchi and Dejima. With the exchange of goods and people, the town flourished.

It seems there are no remains left in this area but if one looks well, one would be able to see a refined wall coating that has remained from the Edo period and “Shinmichibashi”, a stone bridge, that was built in 1725.

When you go up to a narrow slope from Funadaiku and Kagomachi area, you will see temples, Ojizosan and Omagari Neko.

Daishido House in FUNADAIKU-MACHI



Shinmichibashi was built to connect Nishihamamachi-Tshukiji and Tsukiji-Doza. The present bridge is a stone bridge which was built in 1916.

SHIANBASHI, THE ENTRANCE OF HANAMACHI (traditional entertainment district for communication), WHICH MADE PEOPLE THINK 「WHETHER TO GO OR NOT」

NAGASAKI MARUYAMA opened in 1642 and flourished as one of the three biggest hanamachi in Japan and made itself well-known not only in Japan but also all over the world.

Shianbashi Bridge was located at the entrance of the hanamachi, Maruyama. People crossed the bridge while wondering whether to go or not and used to go and meet Yujo (lady working at red light district) of Maruyama after deciding at the Omoikiri-bashi bridge. On the way back, people tried to forget the attachment with Yujo at the Omoikiri-bashi Bridge and went back while looking at Maruyama from under the Mikaeriyangi.



Pictorial NAGASAKI (Nagasaki Museum of History and Culture) traces of omoikiri-bashi bridge railing



Mikaeriyangi



The hanamachi no longer exists but Mikaeriyangi is still there at the starting point of fork shaped road called Yama-No-Kuchi and there is also the bridge railing under the tree. The narrow street entering from the side of Mikaeriyangi is called Yanagi-koji-Dori.

~MEIJI / TAISHO PERIOD~

There was Ine's home and clinic.

The house of Siebold's Japanese wife Taki Kusumoto and daughter Ine was at the corner of Doza-bashi Street. Originally it was Taki's family house (a konjak store). Later, Ine studied western medicine as the first Japanese women obstetrician. After practicing in Tokyo she returned to Nagasaki and began her practice at this very place.



(Ozu Museum)

Numerous play houses

Around the current Doza area, there were many play houses. They were called “Shibaya” by people that time. The place where many play houses existed was called “Shibayanji”.

Lord of Doza who interacted with people from various cultures

Tokutaro who belonged to the 6th generation of the Nagami family was born in 1890. He was a person of culture who got familiar with pictures and painting from his young age and presented many of his works to the world. He interacted with many writers and artists like Yumeji Takehisa, Ryunosuke Akutagawa, Hiroshi Kikuchi and so on. It is said that whenever they came to Nagasaki, they always visited the Nagami family.

Power spot in DOZA!?

Inari Shrine located on the rooftop of the Doza building is said to bring good fortune if one prays at the shrine. It is believed that there was a big fire near Doza-machi area in the early Meiji period and the fox god, OINARI, appeared, waved the white stick and the fire didn't spread. It is also said that the fox god protected soldiers of the Doza-machi during the Russo-Japanese War. You might receive some good fortune if you pray even from the bottom of the building.



Inari shrine in Doza (Rooftop of the building)

~NOSTALGIC SHOWA PERIOD~

Shianbashi and Doza in heyday of cabaret. There were hit songs written about Nagasaki which made adorable night of Nagasaki popular all over Japan.

“COOL FIVE” who sang “Nagasaki wa Kyou mo Ame datta” (It rained in Nagasaki again) debuted from Nagasaki.

Nagasaki prospered in shipbuilding industry after WW2. Doza which was a public place also prospered. There was cabaret boom that time in all over Japan and many famous cabaret pubs were also started in Nagasaki. Among them, “GINBASHA” was very popular. The band (Uchiyamada Hiroshi & Cool Five) put a super hit song “Nagasaki wa Kyo mo Ame datta” also belonged to “Ginbasha”



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Popular songs that made an impression to the image of Nagasaki.

- ♪ Nagasaki no Hito
- ♪ Nagasaki Monogatari
- ♪ Nagasaki wa Kyo mo Ame Datta
- ♪ Nagasaki no Yoru wa Murasaki
- ♪ Nagasaki kara Fune ni Notte



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Drinking alcohol at Doza was the first step to be an adult in Nagasaki. It was a city of a longing night.

~EVEN NOW AND FROM NOW ON~



Shianbashi and Doza are undoubtedly Nagasaki's most active entertainment area. These places are like a peaceful where one can drink happily and tastefully. Many people go to Doza to seek healing. The town has hidden gaiety since the Edo period and “after all, the night of Nagasaki is DOZA”.



After getting off at Shianbashi tram stop, a unique arched gate welcomes you with statues of people from Nagasaki Yukari. There are many restaurants and shops gathered along from the main street (where cars pass by) to the narrow alley that is on a side street. It's a safe entertainment district where even women can walk in peace.

Delicious cocktail bars

There are many skilled bartenders in Nagasaki. One needs to feel free to open the door to any bar that one wishes to go. You can be sure to be received with a very hearty welcome.



Nagasaki cocktail "Nagasaki"

Stylish Italian restaurants

There aren't just Japanese and Chinese eateries in Nagasaki, but many western gourmet eateries are also housed at Nagasaki, because there was much contact with the West since ancient times.



Shianbashi and Doza: Ideal places to enjoy Nagasaki's gourmet food



Seasonal fishes

There are many varieties of fish and their freshness is Nagasaki's pride.

Nagasaki beef

Do try Nagasaki beef which ranked number one in the contest called “Olympic of Japanese beef” in Japan.

Whale

Nagasaki prefecture has been a treasure house of whale meat since old days. This luxury food can be relished in Nagasaki.



Nagasaki Salad The crunchy noodles of Sara Udon with fresh vegetables and a dressing are a must try!!



Cooked bony parts of fish



Nagasaki oden



Japanese braised pork dish

Comfortable at the bar!

Nagasaki's unique dish!



With delicious Oaked

One word column! | Nagasaki's dishes are sweet! |

Nagasaki which flourished due to international trade during the period of national isolation used to share its profits by distributing it amongst all citizens of Nagasaki. For this very reason, it prospered more than any other town. This gave rise to its rich food culture and the attractive entertainment districts such as Shianbashi and Doza. Also, because sugar entered Japan through Dejima, Nagasaki was abundant in sugar. A few sweet dishes and soy sauce are remnants of this history.