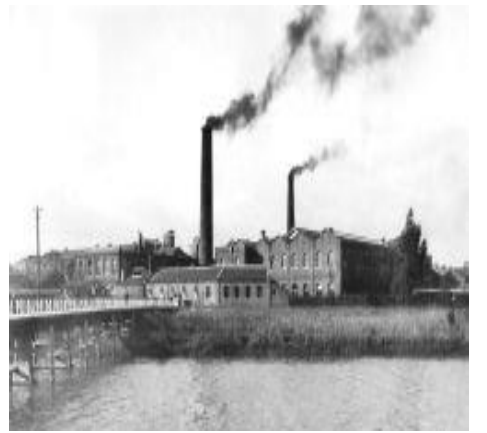


# Cruise in Amagasaki Canal



Amagasaki Lock  
Special Program



## "Ama-Lock" Cruise Tour in Amagasaki Canal ( Southeast HYOGO; Between Osaka & Kobe )



Amagasaki, just 6 minutes by train from Osaka, is a unique coastal downtown where the contemporary Japan, retro-modern, and even former townscapes are coexist As one of the cores of the large Industrial Region, Amagasaki and Amagasaki Lock which is called "Ama-Lock" has supported high economic growth of Japan.

On the other hand, they were plagued by serious air and sea pollution problems. However, as growing awareness of environmental sustainability, **the area has been changed to a region with abundant marine resources and abundant sea areas** due to the efforts of residents, industry, and the government.

The "**Ama-Lock**" the entrance of the Amagasaki Canal is one of the largest locks in Japan, built as the first Panama Canal system in Japan to **support cargo transportation** as a strategic location of logistics and for protecting town from storm surges and Tsunami.

In recent years, "**fish sharing**" of which anglers distribute caught fishes to local restaurants when they caught fishes more they need, is held. These efforts to use marine resources effectively are highly unique, and it is providing a perspective on a "**new recycling-oriented society.**"

**- Overview -**  
Canal cruise boat tour unique to "Industrial City Amagasaki," on an active canal stretching through of factories, you can experience the water level adjustment of the open sea and the canal in the same way as the Panama Canal.

**Program Operator: Amagasaki Tourism Bureau**



New "Banshu-ori" Textile

Produced by a designer  
tamaki niime



# New "Banshu-ori" Textile produced by a designer, tamaki niime (Central HYOGO)



"Banshu Ori" is a cotton textile industry of which feature is dying yarn before waving. At the time of the postwar economic growth in Japan, they only provided the textile to the global luxury clothing brands as a leading regional industry for keeping its local economy. But since the late 1980s, production bases have been shifted to other Asian developing countries, and the industry has lost its vitality.

In recent years, the industry has been **shifting from mass manufacturing to small-lot of multi kinds products production to create high-valued final products.** Also, they are hiring young designers throughout the region and promote product development with their innovative ideas.

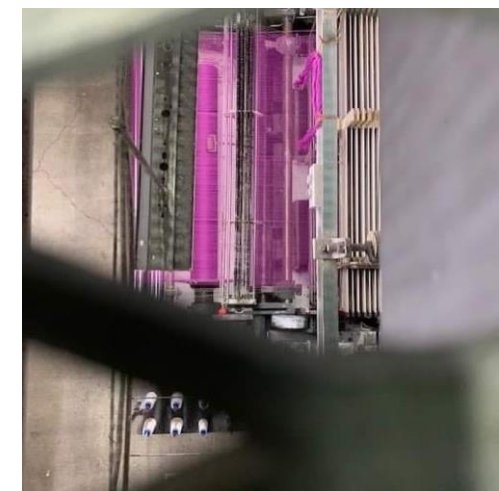
**Tamaki Niime is one of the foremost Banshu-ori artists.** She has launched the original brand "tamaki niime" with her passion to create a new era of women and embody it herself. The brand is now working the integrated manufacturing from cotton cultivation to design, weaving, commercialization, and sales with an aim of global expanding with their **"Itten-mono" (=one of a kind) manufacturing.**

Their efforts; renovation of abandoned factories with the local community, "Recovered Fiber" projects of recycling offcuts into yarn, should be **hints for sustainable community development.**

### — Overview —

Factory tour & Hands-on workshops; Learn their concept of mass production of "Itten-mono" (=one of a kind) products, and their work improving its added value from yarn while observing the entire process.

**Program Operator: Ltd. tamaki niime**





# “Blanching” in natural hot-spring water



## Blanching in natural hot spring water

( Northern-end of HYOGO; the Sea of Japan area )

In Yumura Onsen; a small hot-spring village at the northern end of Hyogo, abundant natural hot springs of 470liters at 98 centigrade is gushing out from shallow borehole in every minute. It has been used for “Blanching” such as cooking **vegetables** as well as for bathe since its opening in 1,200 years ago.

Today, the effective ingredients contained in the hot spring water are focused and the community expands the use for laundry and hair washing. The hot spring **culture “Daily life with Onsen from birth”** has spread to the every household.

As a new challenge, **region-wide efforts to make the most of high-temperature hot springs** such as using temperature differences for power generating, air-conditioning at ryokan hotels are evolving. They are actively promoting their environmentally friendly lifestyle, and giving **hints for initiatives that do not emit CO2, nor rely on fossil fuels.**

### — Overview —

The guide talk about the efforts utilizing hot springs in the entire the town such as for “Blanching,” ryokan hotels, and the daily lives of local residents.

**Program Operator: Yumura Onsen Tourism Association**







## Visiting the village of Tamba ware, one of ceramic ware that began in old times



( East HYOGO; Between Kyoto & Kobe )

Tamba-tachikui ware, one of Japan's finest traditional potteries is characterized by its brownish earthy surface and simple texture.

Although it faced a difficult period due to the Great Depression and other disasters, it has been reevaluated and revitalized by overseas along with "Mingei Movement" the folk crafts movement that has found beauty in everyday products since the late 1920s.

Also, the industry has been adapting to the changing lifestyles at times while inheriting its traditions such as diversifying from the past major large-sized potteries to small folk wares like tea utensils and sake bottles, even vivid colors are being taken in recent years.

The active attitude of adopting new styles without being bound by a single traditional technique and passing it on to the next generation should be a hint for accepting diversity and creating a sustainable community.



### -Overview-

Surrounded by the original Japanese landscapes in the hometown of Tamba ware, you can walk through the alleys where potteries gather, and enjoy interacting with local people involved in crafting at each pottery.

**Program Operator: Tamba Tachikui Ceramic ware Cooperative Association**



# Nushima Island the origin of Japan

## Onokoro Cruise Tour Special Program



Program Operator  
Nushima Onokoro Cruise

# Onokoro Cruise in Nushima Island; the origin of Japan



( Awaji Island, the Seto Inland Sea )

Nushima Island is a place where it is said the beginning of the Japanese archipelago in the Japanese mythology. In the surrounding area, there are many strangely shaped rocks such as the Pillar of Heaven; Kamitate-gami Rock originated from mythology, as well as characteristic reefs that can only be seen from the sea. Here is a highly unique area with many places derived from mythology.

In order to promote its charms by themselves, local fishermen are planning **guided cruise boat tour in cooperate with migrants**. The tour approaches strangely shaped rocks on fishing boats and go around the area along with myths by a boat operated by **fishermen with highly skills to operate boats in the area full of dangerous spots**.

The cooperation of local fishermen and migrants to utilize their main business of fishing as tourism **is giving hints for new regional development and an increase** in the related population on the remote island where the population continues to decline and losing vitality.

### - Overview -

A guided cruise tour on a fishing boat going around Onokoro Island, Nushima Island that it is said the origins of Japan in Kuniumi myth, and learn the life of local residents and fishery works.

**Program Operator: Nushima Onokoro Cruise**