



From the Spectacles Bridge to Naka-Dori Street

~Enjoy a Comfortable Walk through the Oldest Section of Nagasaki~

Time & Distance

approx. 2 hrs.
approx. 1.7 km.

MEMO

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1 Allcore Naka-dori

This is the highlight of the tour. On either end of the street stands an arched streetlight with a silhouette pattern on it. The design of the road tiles is based on the deck of a Japanese ship. Along the 400-meter long slightly winding street there are about 130 shops such as souvenir shops, Japanese and Chinese restaurants, cafés, confectionery stores, boutiques and many clothing stores. English is spoken in some of the shops. It is impossible for this small map to introduce every little shop here. You can enjoy exploring this old cozy street and discovering its various shops.

2 Kitchen Seiji Restaurant

Has the tram crashed into the restaurant? No, it has not. The frontage of the restaurant is made from a real tram body. Actual straps, old photos and tram stop signs are exhibited for you to experience! Of course, the food is also good.

3 Iwanaga Baijuken Confectionery

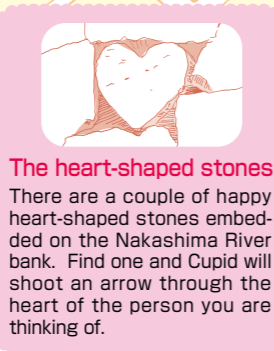
Established in 1830, this confectionery store is frequented by many local customers. Castella and decorative seasonal sweets are their hot items. The overhead signboard was made from the bottom boards of a ship from the Taisho era.

4 Nakashima River, Stone Bridges, Teramachi Temple Street

Nakashima River played an important role for canal transportation during the national seclusion period. Many stone bridges were constructed over the river. The riverside is reminiscent of old times. Along the unique stone-paved Tera-machi Street at the foot of Kazagashira Mountain, there stand two shrines and 14 temples in a row.

5 Kofukuji Temple

Kofukuji Temple was founded in 1620 by Ming Priest Shinen as the first Zen Temple of the Obaku sect in Japan. Its nickname is the "Nanking Temple". This temple is known as the red temple with its Great Vermilion Gate. The second generation Chief Priest Mokusu-Nyojo built the spectacles bridge. The third generation Chief Priest Itsunen invited the Priest Ingen from China who introduced many items such as Ingen beans, sesame tofu and the round dining table from Ming, China to this country.



The heart-shaped stones
There are a couple of happy heart-shaped stones embedded on the Nakashima River bank. Find one and Cupid will shoot an arrow through the heart of the person you are thinking of.



6 The Spectacles Bridge (Designated Important National Cultural Asset)

This bridge, built in 1634 by the second generation Chief Priest Mokusu-Nyojo of Kofukuji Temple and it is the oldest arched stone bridge in this country. It came to be called "Megane-bashi" or "Spectacles Bridge" because when the tide is in, its double arches reflected in the water creates the image of a pair of glasses.



(Right: Housed in the Library of University of Nagasaki)

7 Ezaki Turtle Shell Craft Shop (Designated Important National Cultural Asset)

Since establishing this turtle shell craft shop in 1709, the Ezaki family has devoted themselves to their business from generation to generation. Since the Meiji era the Ezaki Share Craft Shop has been providing many fine works of art to the Imperial Household Agency. The shop architecture was built in 1898 and was chosen as a registered tangible national asset.

Machiya Town Houses

Have you noticed that in this area there are town houses with a small and narrow tunnel-like sidewalk between them? This is the feature of the Machiya Town House. And there is a courtyard along the back path. Many courtyards of this kind were made during the Edo and Meiji era, some of which were preserved in this section of the town. Today "Machiya" are often refurbished to appear as modern shops.



Ensui Restaurant



'Saruku' information Boards are written in Four Languages' (Japanese, English, Chinese and Korean)

The photos of the old landscapes and the people at that time help you imagine the former days of Nagasaki.

- A. Site of St. Augustine's Church
- B. Nakashima-gawa River
- C. Remains of Seifutei Restaurant
- D. Egobata
- E. The streets of Suwa-machi
- F. Heifurizaka Slope
- G. Kōtaiji Temple
- H. Kofukuji Temple, Kannon Hall and Kojima-machi
- I. Ichiran Bridge and Koei Temple
- J. Yukichi Fukuzawa
- K. Site of the Nishikawa family residence
- L. Heifurizaka Slope