Introduction to Tahara City, Aichi Prefecture

## **History and Culture**

Tahara City is located at the southern tip of the Atsumi peninsula of Aichi Prefecture, surrounded on all three sides by the Pacific Ocean, Ise Bay, and Mikawa Bay. The whole of coast line is designated as Mikawa Bay National Monument Park.

Blessed with a temperate climate and the natural environment, since receiving the full flow water from Toyokawa river in 1968, the City has been promoting the development of a large-scale production base, making it Japan's largest producer of fresh vegetables, greenhouses, and livestock. In addition, Toyota Motor Corporation and many other companies are expanding into the coastal industrial area in the northeastern part of Tahara City.

The City has an abundance of local resources including scenic spots such as Koijigahama, Pacific Long Beach, and Mt, Zao. Important cultural heritage sites include Yoshigo shell mound site park and the works of painter Kazan Watanabe at the Tahara Municipal Museum, who was active towards the end of the Edo period.

## **Cape Irago**

The Cape Irago lighthouse at the tip of the Atsumi peninsula was selected as one of the "50 Lighthouses of Japan". This location offers the perfect view of large vessels coming from the Pacific Ocean into Ise Bay and Mikawa Bay, and moving onto Mikawa Port and through to Nagoya Port.

In addition, Koijigahama, where the beautiful white sandy beach extends for about one kilometer from the lighthouse to "Hiinoseki-mon" and the Road Station Irago Crystal Porto at the ferry terminal connecting Irago with Toba City in Mie prefecture, are famous tourist locations in Tahara City.

## **Agriculture**

Tahara City boasts the highest gross agricultural production in Japan for cabbage, broccoli and other open-air-grown vegetables, facilities for producing tomatoes, flowers, horticulture and livestock. In particular, the annual domestic share of chrysanthemum production accounts for about 30%, making Tahara City the number one producer of flowers in Japan.

The introduction of large-scale machinery and environmental control technology has led to further expansion, making Tahara a technologically advanced agricultural region.

## **Surfing**

The Pacific Ocean coast of Tahara City is known as one of the leading surfing spots in Japan. The World Surfing Games were held in September 2018 at the Pacific Long Beach in the Akabane area, where the world's top surfers gathered to battle the waves. Tahara City regards surfing as an important resource is working on building a town "triggered" by surfing.

World Surfing Games Sept 2018, Tahara City <a href="http://isasurf.org/wsg/2018/en/welcome-to-tahara/">http://isasurf.org/wsg/2018/en/welcome-to-tahara/</a>



Atsumi peninsula of Aichi Prefecture. Cape Irago is at bottom tip of the peninsula in this photograph.



Irago Lighthouse



Irago Koijigahama



Musk melons



Chrysanthemums



Cabbage fields