

和紅茶

Sashima Tea & Kengo Kuma Architectural Tour

Sakai, Ibaraki

Experience the blending of history and tradition with skill and innovation in contemporary Japan

Inspired by the slow food movement and our passion for unique experiences, our remarkable tours are designed to connect travelers with local makers. These curated programs foster a first-hand understanding of Sashima's award-winning wakocha black teas; some itineraries include visits to Kengo Kuma's six inspired local designs. Collaborate with a master tea blender, enjoy a contemporary vegetarian meal, or explore modern Japanese architecture.



Program 1 Creating Original Wakocha Tea With a Master Blender

Duration
5 hours

We start our visit by exploring Naganoen's lush tea plantation with master blender Michio Hanamizu, to discover the art of crafting Japanese black teas, before learning the process of tea rolling first-hand.

We then move on to Kengo Kuma's Montenegro Hall, where the Naganoen's award-winning teas are served at the family-run Chabaco Café. After a glass of wakocha tea, we enjoy a contemporary Japanese vegetarian lunch, expertly paired with another of Naganoen's teas.

While the master blender completes the process of drying your hand-rolled tea, we visit Kengo Kuma's five other local works, learning about the unique history of the region in the process.

Back at Montenegro Hall, the tour concludes with a tasting of our own hand-made tea.



Hands-On Experience: Creating Original Wakocha Tea With a Master Blender
A welcome drink of Japanese black tea and a vegetarian lunch paired with wakocha tea *1
A tour of six buildings designed by the architect Kengo Kuma (Program 4) *2

*1 Please feel free to ask about the full menu.

*2 The six buildings designed by Kengo Kuma are Montenegro Hall, Cha-Gura Sakai Riverside Restaurant, Sakai Sandwich, S-Lab, S-Gallery, and HOSHIIMO 100 café

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Address: Naganoen: Modo 1, Sakai, Sashima District, Ibaraki 306-0423, Japan
Tea Café and Shop Chabaco: Montenegro Hall, 446-4 Kamikobashi, Sakai, Sashima District, Ibaraki 306-0434, Japan
Sakai Sandwich and Cha-gura: Michi-no-eki Sakai, 1341-1, Sakai, Sashima District, Ibaraki 306-0433, Japan
S-Lab, S-Gallery, and HOSHIIMO 100 café: 1459-1 Sakai, Sashima District, Ibaraki, Japan

Access: 30 minutes by taxi from JR Koga Station (approx. 60 minutes by rail from Tokyo Station or Shinjuku Station; Koga station pick-up available)
Sakai-Koga IC on the Ken-O Expressway (Approximately 90 minutes by car from the Tokyo metropolitan area; parking available)

The Sashima Tea & Kengo Kuma Architectural Tour is by reservation only. (We are happy to respond to individual requests concerning your desired date, the content of the tour, your transportation needs, and any other details, so please feel free to inquire.)

Website: <https://musubi-travel.jp/experience> Inquiries: megumi@musubi-travel.jp

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