

## 1 Shiki Mizugaki Palace

The palace of the emperor who saved his people from blight

Palace of Emperor Sujin (10th emperor). According to the ancient books, the emperor searched for Ōtataneko, descendant of Omononushi, after receiving a divine message about the cause of the blight on the land. The emperor entrusted Ōtataneko to pray to Omononushi, thereby curing the land.



Location : near Shikino Miagatanimasu Shrine, in Kanaya, Sakurai  
Access : 12-min walk from JR Miwa Station

## 2 Makimuku Tamaki Palace

The story of the origin of sumo wrestling

Palace of Emperor Suinin (11th emperor). During Emperor Suinin's reign, Nomi no Sukune and Taima no Kehaya held the first sumo match in front of the emperor. This is the story of the origin of sumo, which took place at Sumo Shrine to the east.



Location : near Anashi, Sakurai (Makimuku Ruins)  
Access : 10-min walk from JR Makimuku Station

## 3 Makimukuhi Shiro Palace

The place of ancient hero Yamato Takeru-no-mikoto

Palace of Emperor Keiko (12th emperor). Imperial Prince Yamato Takeru-no-mikoto was active during this emperor's reign. This is a translation of a stanza of a song composed on his dying bed: "Yamato, the best in the land. Surrounded by mountains like layered hedges, Yamato is truly beautiful".



Location : near Anashi, Sakurai (Makimuku Ruins)  
Access : 17-min walk from JR Makimuku Station

## 4 Iware Wakazakura Palace

The graceful legend of the name "Sakurai"

Palace of Emperor Richu (17th emperor). While boating on Iware Reservoir, a cherry blossom floated down into the Emperor's cup, so he called his palace Wakazakura ("young cherry blossom"). Another story tells of the planting of a cherry tree near a hot spring in Tomi, and from this comes "Sakurai".



Location : near Wakazakura Shrine, Tani, Sakurai  
Access : 10-min walk from JR Sakurai Station

## 5 Hatsuse Asakura Palace

A strong emperor who spread the Yamato Court

Palace of Emperor Yūryaku (21st emperor). The Yamato Imperial Court is said to have extended over the entire country during his time. Through anecdotes and songs from ancient books, we get a sense of the strength of Emperor Yūryaku.



Location : near Kurozaki/Wakimoto, Sakurai (Wakimoto Ruins)  
Note: Iwasaka, Sakurai is also a traditional location  
Access : 18-min walk from Kintetsu Yamato-Asakura Station

# Palace Walking Map

Sakurai, the home of beautiful Yamato Japan

## Search for the spots of Gods and Legends from ancient books

The Kojiki, the Nihon Shoki, and the Manyōshū, completed in the Nara period. Hear the never-ending call from days long ago by visiting the areas of Sakurai mentioned in these ancient books.



## 6 Hatsuse Namiki Palace

An important position for Yamato authority

Palace of Emperor Buretsu (25th emperor). Hatsuse Valley - the palace's location - was an ancient major route from Yamato Province to Ise and the eastern sea. Hatsuse Asakura-No-Miya Palace was at the valley entrance, and it's thought this was an important position for Yamato authority.



Location : near Izumo, Sakurai  
Access : 22-min walk from Kintetsu Hasedera Station

## 7 Shiki Shimakanasashi Palace

Record of the introduction of Buddhism

Palace of Emperor Kimmei (29th emperor). Emperor Kimmei received a Buddhist statue, sutras, and other gifts from Baekje (Korea) - the first public introduction of Buddhism to Japan. Opinions were divided, so the Emperor had his minister, Soga no Iname, take the statue and worship it.



Location : near southern Hasegawa River, Tobi, Sakurai  
Access : 13-min walk from Kintetsu Yamato-Asakura Station

## 8 Osada Sachitama Palace

A confrontation between Soga and Mononobe surfaces

Palace of Emperor Bidatsu (30th emperor). A confrontation between pro-Buddhist Soga and anti-Buddhist Mononobe surfaces, and Emperor Bidatsu banned Buddhism and had all Buddhist items and buildings burned upon Mononobe's advice.



Location : near Kasuga Shrine, Kaiju, Sakurai  
Access : 11-min walk from JR Sakurai Station

## 9 Kurahashi Shibakaki Palace

The rise of Buddhism and the shadow of Imperial assassination

Palace of Emperor Sushun (32nd emperor). An ancient book records the "Soga-Mononobe Conflict" ("The Incident of Mononobe no Moriya"), where the conflict turned into war. As a result of wide-spread acceptance of Buddhism, Soga gained great power, eventually leading to the assassination of the Emperor.



Location : near Kurahashi, Sakurai  
Access : 45-min walk from JR Sakurai Station

## 10 Iware No Mura

Ancient palace grounds for Yamato authority

Iware no Mura is the ancient name of western Sakurai city. As a base for ancient Yamato authority, there were many palaces: Emperor Reimu's Iware Wakazakura-No-Miya Palace, Emperor Seinei's Iware Mikakuri-No-Miya Palace, Emperor Keitai's Iware Tamaho-No-Miya Palace, Empress Jingū's Iware Wakazakura-No-Miya, Emperor Yōmei's Iware No Ike No Namitsuki-No-Miya Palace, and others.



Photo : the grounds of L' Auberge de Plaisance Sakurai  
Access : 40-min walk from JR Sakurai Station