

MIKIMOTO PEARL ISLAND

The Home of Cultured Pearls



Ise-Shima National Park
TOBA



THE NATURAL BEAUTY AND WARM HOSPITALITY OF ISE-SHIMA

Toba is located in the heart of Japan. As the gateway to the Ise-Shima National Park, the city is an inter-national tourist spot set in the lush mountainside and blessed with the bountiful sea nearby. The breathtaking view of Toba Bay reveals a string of islands, one of which is the world-famous Mikimoto Pearl Island.

Mikimoto Pearl Island came to renown in 1951 for the first successful culture and production of pearls in history. Today, Mikimoto Pearl Island is visited by tourists from the world over.



Mikimoto Pearl Island — A Place Where Memories are Made

Mikimoto Pearl Island is the home of the Mikimoto pearl. Pearls were cultured successfully for the first time in history in 1893 using a method developed by Kokichi Mikimoto.

Once you have crossed the Pearl Bridge, you will encounter pearls and people who love pearls. Please enjoy your visit and take back some pleasant memories which will remain in your hearts forever.



The dream of the pearl king KOKICHI MIKIMOTO MEMORIAL HALL

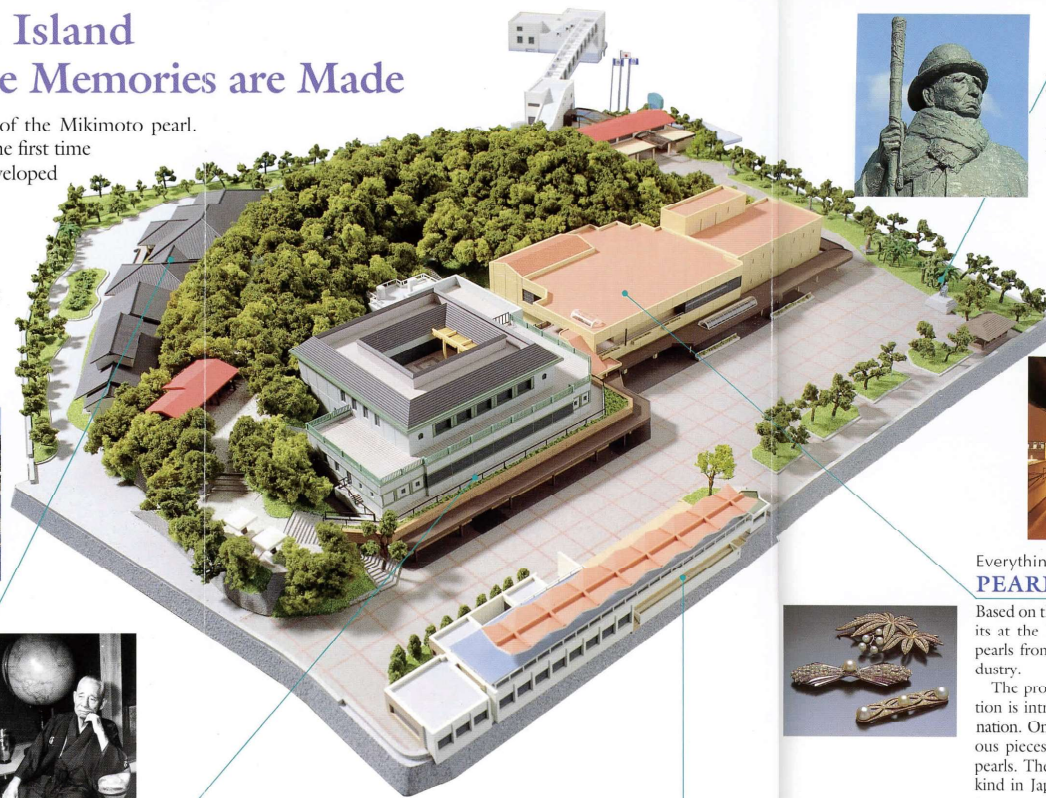
The Kokichi Mikimoto Memorial Hall was built in 1993 in commemoration of the centennial anniversary of cultured pearls. The hall introduces the often turbulent life and deep interests of Kokichi Mikimoto, often referred to as the Pearl King. Unique episodes, refined pieces, the many people, his love of his hometown Ise-Shima and his passion for pearls are introduced in an audio visual presentation depicting the life of Kokichi Mikimoto.



Shopping and dining PEARL PLAZA

On the first floor is The Pearl Shop, featuring a rich selection of pearl products of various designs and styles.

On the second floor is a restaurant overlooking Toba Bay. An ideal spot to take a break for food and drinks.



The beauty of technique WOMEN DIVERS

There have always been women divers. They worked along side Kokichi Mikimoto from the very beginning placing mother oysters deep on the ocean floor and bringing them back up. From the guest room women divers can be seen still today, dressed in traditional white clothes, diving for pearl oysters.



The symbol of pearl island THE KOKICHI MIKIMOTO STATUE

The Kokichi Mikimoto statue, built in 1953, shows the Pearl King of latter years holding the Imperial award, wearing his trademark Yamataka hat and cape.



Everything about pearls PEARL MUSEUM

Based on the theme "Pearls and People," the exhibits at the Pearl Museum offer information about pearls from such fields as history, science, and industry.

The process of a pearl from creation to production is introduced in an easy-to-understand explanation. On the second floor is an exhibit of numerous pieces of jewellery constructed using natural pearls. The collection, which is the only one of its kind in Japan, features rare pieces gathered from round the world. There are exhibits showing transitions in the history Japanese pearl jewellery design as well as displays featuring crowns, artistic works and a wide selection of pieces created by Mikimoto craftsmen.



MIKIMOTO PAGODA

Modeled on an ancient pagoda at Horyu temple in Nara, this piece was exhibited at the Philadelphia Exposition in 1929.



PEARL CROWN II

Pearl Crown II, modeled after Byzantine crowns of the Middle Ages, was completed in 1979 after 14 months of meticulous workmanship using gold filigree techniques used in the dagger of ancient Egyptian king Tutankhamen

MIKIMOTO'S ARTISTIC WORKS



YAGURUMA

The Yaguruma is representative of the history of Japanese jewellery. Brooches, rings, hair accessories, and other pieces for a total of 12 different uses are assembled into one uniquely designed artistic work.



YUMEDONO

Modeled after the original Yumedono of the Horyu temple in Nara, this piece was created in 1993 in commemoration of the centennial anniversary of cultured pearls.

THE PEARL

COMPOSITION AND COLOR

The pearl is composed of thousands of layers of calcium carbonate crystals and a kind of hard protein called "conchiolin". The pearl color mainly comes from three reasons; light effect such as interference, pigments contained in conchiolin and organic matter (blemish).

SELECTING A PEARL

Size, Shape, nacre thickness, degree of imperfection, color and luster are determinants of the pearl value. Among them nacre thickness is the most important factor to decide the quality. In addition to the quality of individual pearl, consistency or "matching" is an important factor in selecting pearls for such finished pieces as necklaces, which require uniformity.

Fee

Individual Tickets

Adult (16+)	¥ 1,650
Child (7-15)	¥ 820

Group Tickets

Adult (16+)	¥ 1,320
Child (7-15)	¥ 660

※Each group must have at least 20 members.

Transportation Access

- About 4 hours by train from Tokyo via Nagoya
- About 2 hours by train from Osaka, Kyoto
- About 30 minutes by car from Toba to Ise Jingu



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