

Sakata, Yamagata, Japan

One of Edo Japan's wealthiest port cities, Sakata trades on rice storehouses, a rare maiko teahouse, silky wonton ramen, and sweeping views of Mount Chokai across the Sea of Japan.

 Pier (docked)

 Typical call: 8-10 hrs

 Currency: Japanese Yen (JPY)

 Language: Japanese

 Shuttle to city center

🚢 MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____	Arrive: _____	All aboard: _____
Excursion: _____	Notes: _____	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Pier — outer industrial wharf, no tendering

Shuttle to center: ~15 min (complimentary buses to Sankyo Soko or Sakata Station)

Best For: Japanese history, architecture, local food & sake

Don't Miss: Sankyo Soko storehouses, Somaro maiko performance, Sakata wonton ramen

 Getting around:  **Taxi**  ¥2,400–¥2,900 one way

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Sankyo Soko Rice Storehouses** — Twelve black-walled wooden storehouses built in 1893 line a shaded zelkova-tree boulevard that has become Sakata's most...
- **Somaro Maiko Teahouse** — One of the only active maiko (apprentice geisha) cultures outside Kyoto.
- **Former Honma Family Residence & Museum** — Explore the estate of Japan's wealthiest merchant dynasty — so rich the locals said they'd rather be a Honma than a...
- **Kaikoji Temple — Self-Mummified Monks** — Sakata's most unusual sight: two Sokushinbutsu — Buddhist monks who self-mummified through years of extreme diet and...
- **Dewa Sanzan — Sacred Mountain Shrines** — About an hour by car, Mount Haguro is the most accessible of the three sacred Dewa mountains, featuring a 2,446-step...

BEST WALKS

- **Historic Merchant District Loop** 2 km · ~2 hrs · Easy, flat — From the Sankyo Soko storehouses, walk through the historic downtown to the Somaro Maiko Teahouse, past Hiyoriyama Park (great sea...
- **Honma Estate & Imoriyama Park** 1.5 km · ~1.5 hrs · Easy — Walk from central Sakata to the Former Honma Family Residence, then continue to the Honma Museum of Art set within the beautiful...

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 **CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)**

Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr	57°	42°	14d
Jun	73°	61°	15d
Aug	83°	72°	16d
Sep	76°	65°	16d
Oct	65°	54°	16d

 **DAYLIGHT &  MONEY**

Apr 5:04AM–6:17PM · Jun 4:14AM–7:07PM · Aug 4:54AM–6:35PM · Sep 5:21AM–5:49PM · Oct 5:49AM–5:02PM

 Currency: Japanese Yen (JPY)

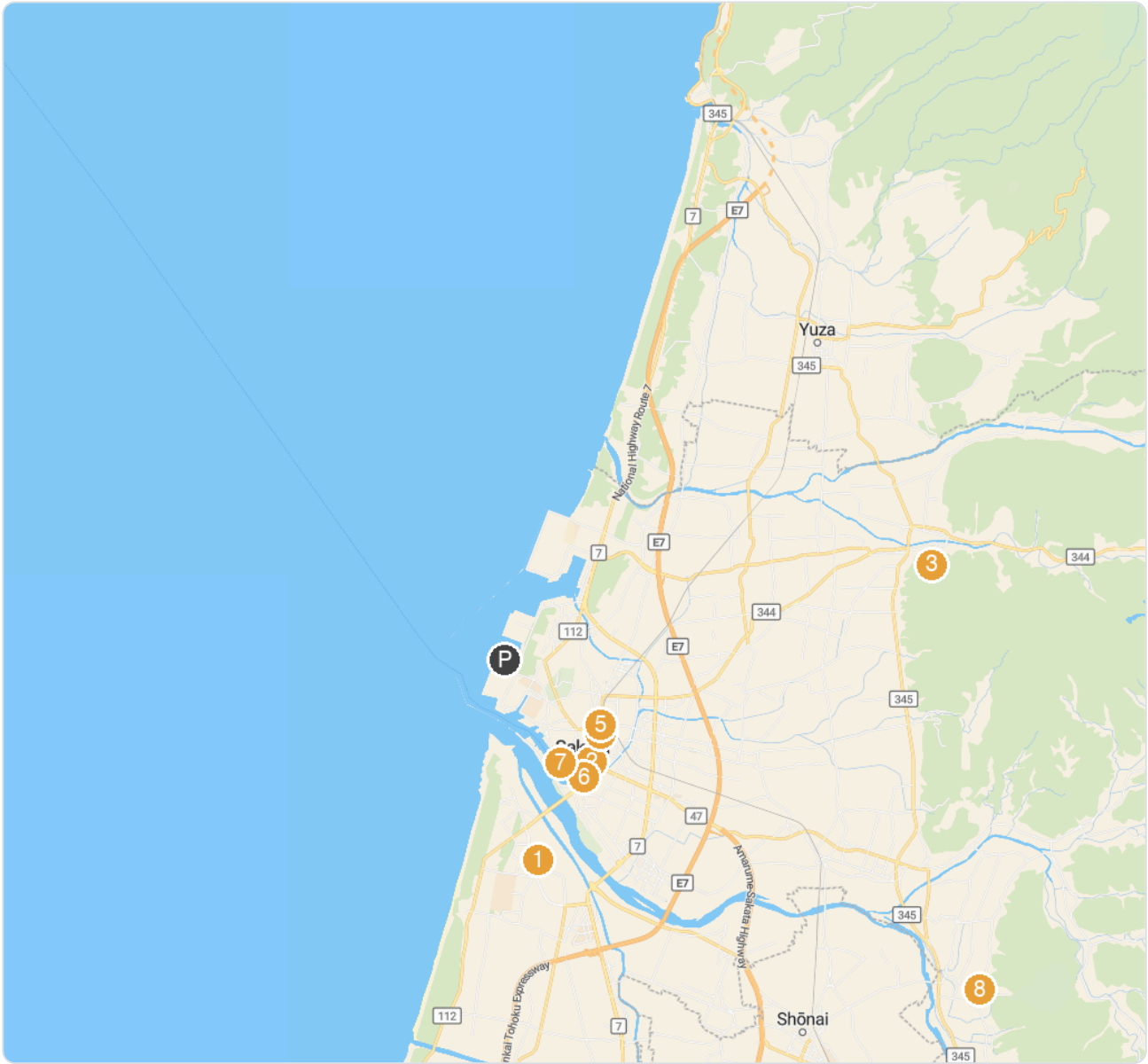
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Take the free shuttle. The port is ~5-6 km from the city — walking out is not permitted. The complimentary cruise shuttle drops you at Sankyo Soko or Sakata Station. Note the last...
- Carry cash (JPY). Sakata is a smaller rural city. Ramen shops, market stalls, and taxis typically require yen. ATMs are available at

Sakata, Yamagata, Japan — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



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|--|--|---|---|
| 1 The Ken Domon Museum of Photography | Museum showcasing works of renowned Japanese photographer Ken Domon. | 2 1. Homma Residence | Historic residence of the wealthy Homma merchant family. |
| 3 Hachimori Natural Park | Scenic natural park offering hiking trails and coastal views. | 4 Yakumojinja Shrine | Traditional Shinto shrine for spiritual reflection and cultural experience. |
| 5 Homma Museum of Art | Art museum featuring Japanese and Western art, plus a garden. | 6 Sankyo Warehouse | Historic rice warehouses with traditional architecture and a museum. |
| 7 Sakata Marine Center | Waterfront facility with fresh seafood market and local products. | 8 Matsuyama Cultural Lore Museum | Museum preserving local history, folklore, and cultural artifacts. |
| P Cruise port / terminal | | | |