"Town in which Koi Swim" Origination Story

The smoothly flowing, clear "water." The brightly colored "Koi fish."

This beautiful scene was created with great feeling by the people of the city.

The people at the time wondered if the 100m waterway could be used for urban development and they also wanted to do something that would spiritually enrich the children.

It was the "spring water" and the "koi fish" that brought these two desires together.

The koi fish were introduced to the Shinmachi waterway in July 1978.

Since then in May of each year the neighborhood association with the cooperation of the residents of Shimabara City release more "Koi."

The Town in which Koi Swim, as a colorful area in Water Town Shimabara, has koi fish leisurely swimming around even today.

---

Spring Water Garden Shimeiso
Admission fee: Adults 300 yen, Children 150 yen
Pre-schoolers are free
Business hours: 9:00 am - 6:00 pm
Days closed: Always open
Contact: TEL 0957-63-1121

Shimabara Wākimizukan Building
Admission fee: Free
Kanzashi Making Experience: 300 yen
Business hours: 9:00 am - 6:00 pm
Days closed: Always open
Contact: TEL 0957-62-8102

Tourism Exchange Center Seiryutei
Business hours: 9:00 am - 6:00 pm
Days closed: Always open
Contact: TEL 0957-64-2450

---

Shimabara Onsen Tourism Association
Shimabara City Tourism Information Desk
Shimabara Castle Keep Office
TEL 0957-62-3986
TEL 0957-62-4766
[Town in which Koi Swim Map]

A 100m waterway runs through the Shinmachi area and center of Shimabara City and in this waterway freely swim colorful koi fish. The waterway flows as if it binds together the elegant town, and the nishiki koi fish that gracefully swim in the waterway is one of the representative scenes of “Water Town” Shimabara. The sight of the flowing clear spring water and its babbling sound make this a strolling spot that will cleanse you all the way to the heart.

The Tourism Exchange Center

Seiryutei

In addition to tourism information, there is a rest spot and the display and sale of local products, so this is a great place to search for souvenirs. The building is built above the lake and part of the floor is made of glass so that you can enjoy watching the nishiki koi fish swimming under your feet. Admission tickets for Shimeiso can also be purchased here.

Multilingual Information Displays (⑧ to ⑨)

There are 20 locations in the area you can visit including the Tourism Exchange Center “Seiryutei”, “Shimabara Wakizimukan Building”, and “Shimeiso”. The signs are in Japanese, but multilingual support is provided on the Web, which provides information in audio form as well as text. QR code and NFC are supported to provide information in the 5 languages of Japanese, English, Korean, Chinese, and Taiwan official language.

Shimabara Peninsula Free Wi-Fi

Free Wi-Fi is available to domestic and foreign visitors to Shimabara Peninsula. It can be used within the area shown by the dotted line on the map. The usage time is a maximum of 20 minutes per connection (up to 12 contentions per day). To use the service you must register an email address or SNS account.

Spring Water Garden

Shimeiso

- National Registered Monument
- National Registered Tangible Cultural Property

Shimeiso, nestled in the Town in which Koi Swim, is a National Registered Tangible Cultural Property that is built on a pond in which 3,000 tons of spring water bubbles up each day. Nishiki koi fish swim gracefully in this spring water pond and the plantings of red pine, maple, and other plants change their colors with the seasons. The spring water pond is so clear that it makes it look like the “the koi fish are floating in the air,” which has become a topic even overseas. From the veranda that overhangs the spring water pond you can watch the spring water bubbling up into the lake.

- National Registered Tangible Cultural Property

Shimeiso

This is a free rest area in the center of the Town in which Koi Swim. The rest area uses a residence built during the 1930's and here you can experience making Kanzarashi, a traditional sweet using the spring water of Shimabara. The experience takes about 30 minutes. Take a break and enjoy eating the chewy white balls with syrup of Kanzarashi while listening to the babbling water. This is one spot you want to visit while on a stroll.