

The tower of Hiroshima Castle viewed over cherry trees in blossom
Photo: PIXSTAR/PIXTA



The Charms of Hiroshima



Townscape of Saijo Sake Brewery Street, Higashihiroshima City,
Hiroshima Prefecture
Photo: PIXSTAR/PIXTA



The Shimanami Kaido cycle and pedestrian path runs alongside the expressway
on the bridges
Photo: Yocchan/PIXTA

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he eyes of the world will be on Hiroshima from May 19 to May 21, 2023 as it hosts the G7 Hiroshima Summit. Hiroshima is a beautiful prefecture surrounded by the Chugoku Mountains and the calm Seto Inland Sea, with many scenic spots to visit and explore. These include Itsukushima Shrine, which is registered as a World Heritage Site, Hiroshima Castle, and the traditional Japanese garden Shukkeien. Hiroshima is also a place where a unique tea ceremony culture developed and continues to be nurtured. On August 6, 1945, Hiroshima was destroyed by the first nuclear weapon used on a human population, but the city has recovered and the preserved ruin of the present-day Atomic Bomb (Genbaku) Dome is a World Heritage Site. In addition, the sake brewing district of Saijo, a new performing art called “Hiroshima Kagura,” and a cycling route with beautiful views of the islands in the Seto Inland Sea are popular attractions. In this month’s issue of *Highlighting Japan*, we introduce these charms of Hiroshima.

