

Ceramics of Kyushu

April 1st (Tue) – July 8th (Sun), 2014

Greatly influenced by ceramics of Joseon Dynasty, ceramics of Kyushu with distinctive features have been produced in various areas using wide variety of techniques. Imari, which have patterns with cobalt blue or over-glaze enamel colors over white body, and E-garatsu, which have generous and spontaneous paintings, are well-known among them.

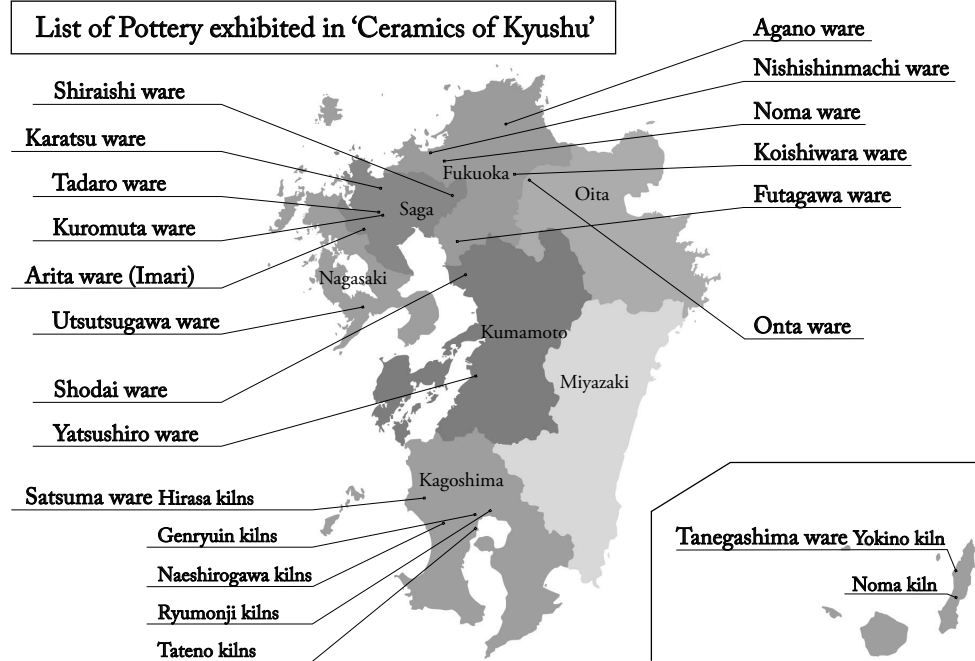
Imari is a ceramic made mainly in Arita, Saga prefecture. In 1610's making porcelains was started there and they were shipped to all over Japan from the port of Imari. This is why consumers called them *Imari-yaki*. Karatsu kilns, on the other hand, were set up in the 16th century and they were produced in many kilns of wide areas, from a west part of Saga prefecture to a north part of Nagasaki prefecture. A variety of styles exist in Karatsu wares and they are called according to their styles; E-Garatsu, Korean-Karatsu, Mishima-Karatsu and so on. The museum possesses Nisai-Karatsu most of all.

In addition to Imari and Karatsu, the Japan Folk Crafts Museum has many early-modern Kyushu ceramics as a collection such as Shodai ware, whose characteristic is a bold slip decoration, Satsuma ware, especially Black-Satsuma made as daily wares,

Tanegashima ware, which are simple and powerful. Most of them were collected by Soetsu Yanagi (1889-1961), founder of the museum and the collection is characterized as involving a lot of ceramics used in a daily life by common people.

In the Mingei Movement set up in the end of Taisho period (1920's), advocates paid attention to many potteries where the traditional techniques of making Kyushu ceramics had been well preserved until the 20th century. For example, Onta ware, decorated with *tobikanna* chatter marks design, brushed mark design and others, Naeshirogawa and Ryumonji, whose ancestor was old Satsuma, Nishishinmachi ware whose root was Takatori ware; these wares were found and first paid attention to under the Mingei Movement in the early Showa period (1920's to 30's), and have been highly esteemed. In addition, Koishiwara, Shiraishi, Tadaro and many other wares were also introduced.

The museum exhibits ceramics of Kyushu from Momoyama period to Showa period from the collection. It would be our pleasure if you enjoy brilliant potteries used in a daily life, simple and strong ceramics and other works.



Ceramics of China

The museum holds a wide collection of Chinese ceramics including mortuary and funeral pottery of the Hang Dynasty, works made in the Sung, Ming and Qing Dynasty. In addition, ceramics made in the 20th century were collected in 1960's especially from the southern part of China. Please enjoy the profoundness of Chinese ceramics from the Hang Dynasty to the 20th century.

Seto and Mino

Seto and Mino are famous production sites of ceramics in Japan. Their characteristics are painting works. In this room, works mainly made in the Edo period are on display.

Various Craft Works of the Joseon Dynasty

Wooden, metal, and stone works used by ordinary people in the Korean peninsula mainly from the late 19th century to the early 20th century are exhibited. Their characteristics are spontaneous shape and simple patterns.

Ceramics of the Korean Peninsula

The museum houses ceramics of the Korean Peninsula mainly between the 15th and the late 19th century, the Joseon Dynasty. As for porcelain, white porcelain and blue/white, and as for ceramics, on the other hand, brush-work design, inlay design and iron paintings are essential techniques. Excellent ceramic works of the Korean Peninsula are introduced in this room, which have strong relationship with ceramics of Kyushu.

Ceramics of Kyushu

Momoyama to Edo period

Museum Shop

Woven Cotton of Okinawa

Woven works made from a type of banana fiber (*basho*) or ramie are well-known speaking of woven works of Okinawa, but woven cotton must not be forgotten. Woven cotton from various area of Okinawa such as Kasuri on indigo ground and Hana Ori from Shuri, Hana Ori costumes from Yomitan, Kasuri on white ground and Minsaa fabric from Yaeyama are on display in this room.

Ceramics of Kyushu

Arita ware (Imari)
17th - 18th century

Dolls and Toys

Miharu dolls (Fukushima prefecture) and Kounosu dolls (Saitama prefecture) on display were made as Girl's festival dolls for ordinary people in the late Edo period. They are so simple, lively and sensitive. In addition to dolls, folk toys such as battledores, tops and cards are also on display.

Ôtsu-e

Ôtsu-e is a representative Japanese folk painting. They were sold as souvenir around Oiwake in Ôtsu, present Shiga prefecture in the Edo period. Because the same themes were drawn repeatedly, they became more attractive and lively.

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Showa period

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Arita and Hirasa ware, 17th - 18th century

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