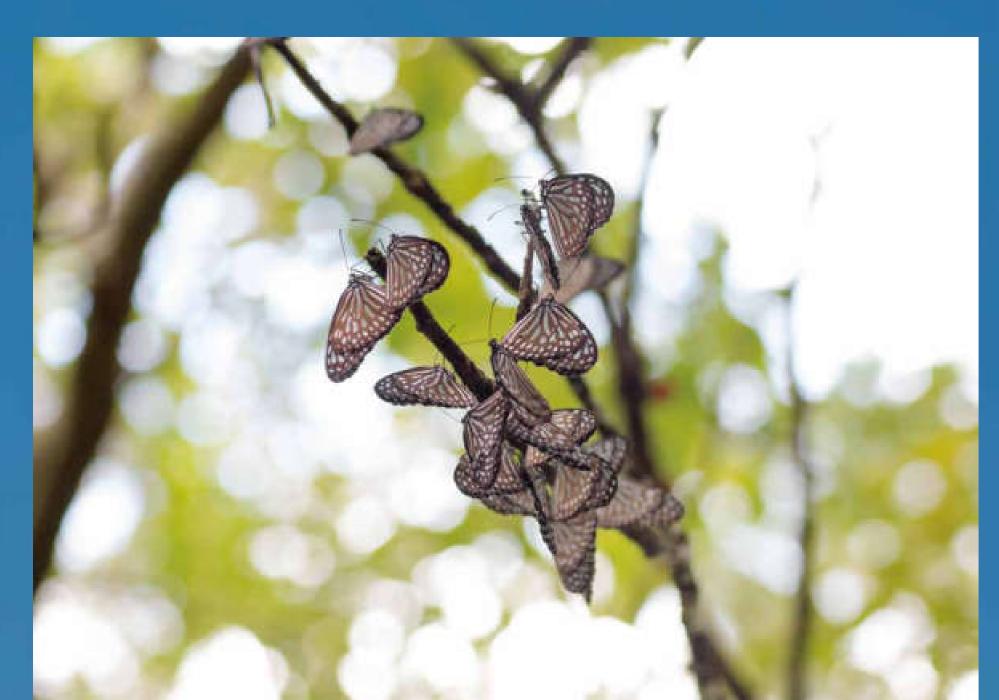


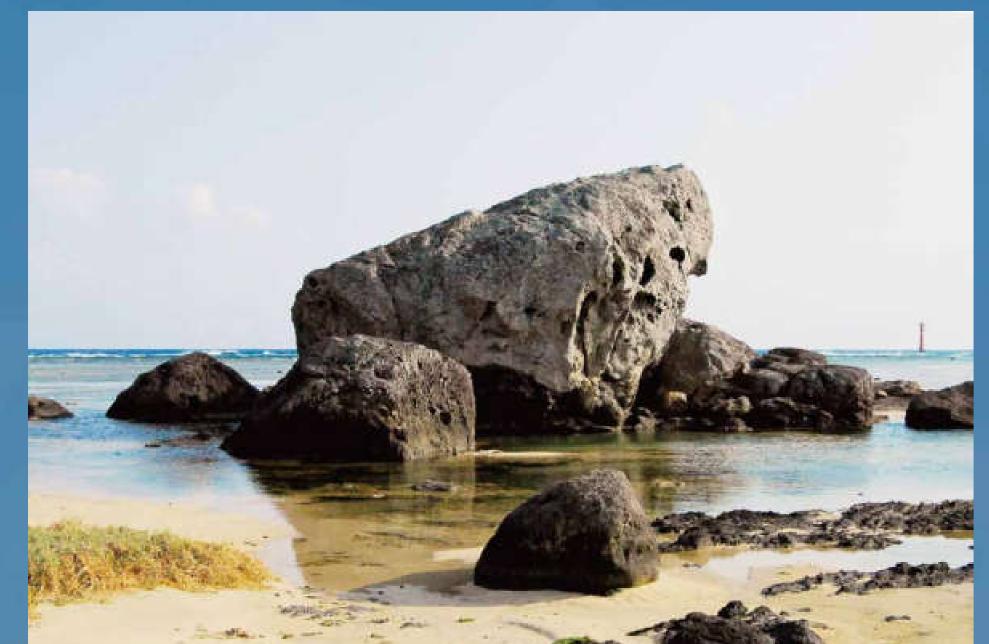
Kasari Area (Amami City) Tourist Map





1 Ceylon Blue Glassy Tiger Butterflies'

Ikusa bama beach extends from Manya Community to Ushuku Community. This large sand dune has a number of *hamajyo guchi* pathways. The dune has clusters of textile screw pine trees (lauhala) and tall beefwood trees, providing wintering spots for Ceylon blue glassy tiger butterflies en masse when the temperature is below 10°C.



2 Fooswee Rock (Usyuku)

At the wide beach at Ōse area in Ushuku Community, there lays a giant rock. The locals call this rock Fooswee Rock. The place has long been a play spot for children. Their coming-of-age ritual sugests they jump into the tide pool from the top of rock to get their adulthood recognized.

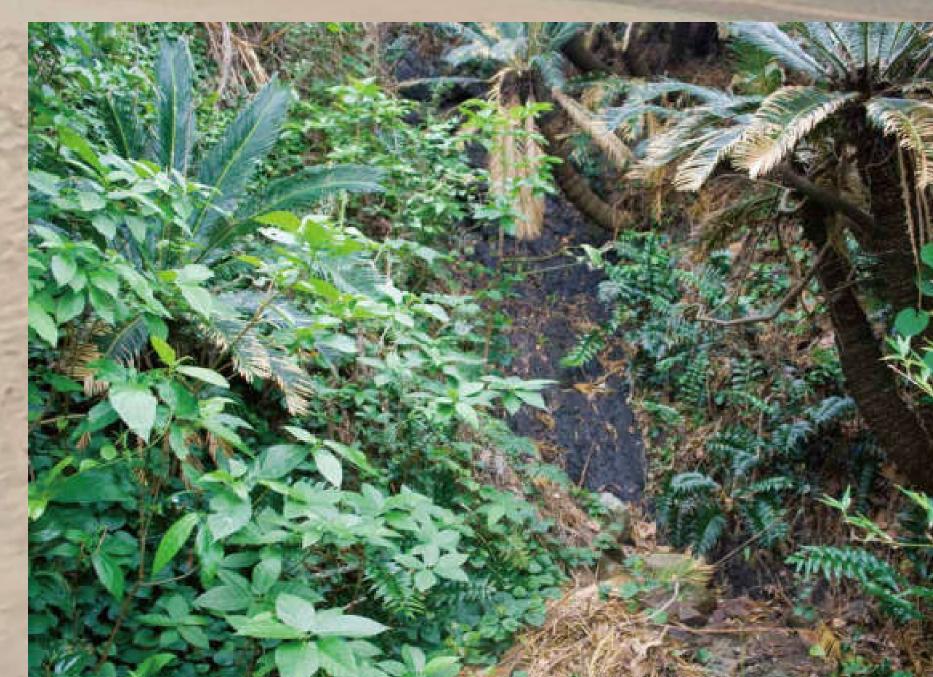


3 Holding Child Rock (Tomori Beach)

Tomori beach with a mother-holding-child rock (Kwadaki iwa) is a beautiful beach. The offshore current is a complex and dangerous place for swimming. The Holding Child Rock consists of a round sandstone on top of a limestone. The name comes from the shape resembling a mother piggybacking a shore is called *Zan-no-su* (a dugong nest).



4 Cape Ayamaru, One of the "10Great Views of Amami" (Sakibaru) yamaru is named after its circular shape resembling a ball (*mari*) made of twill fabric (*aya*). It is said that local deities reside in the mountain at Cape Ayamaru, which is considered a sacred mountain, linked with the conception of Amami *Nirai* (paradise over the horizon) and the widely shared myth Tenson Korin (the descent on the earth by the creators). It is said that a holy temple stood at the top of Ayamaru mountain, where today's observation platform is situated. The entire hill at the cape was the ruin site of Ayamaru Gusuku (fortress) as is believed by the local people. The view from the cape is recognized as one of the "10 great views of



Come visit all 29 communities! Each community has a tourist information sign illustrating Sani 1st / 2nd Wards its unique cultural & historical properties Gamozaki Tourist Park Yani WC P = & Ayamaru Misaki Tourist Park Seawater swimming pool Nabeguru Cycad tree cluster Ground golf course Kasari Bay WC P & Sakibaru Beach WC P **Ushuku Kitchen Midden Historic Park** Kasari Branch, Amami City Uttabaru Beach Amandee Amami Park **Tatsugo Town** WC P & * The scale below is presented as an approximate guideline Kasari Town, Amami City

5Km

Shower P Parking area Rest area Barrier-free toilet

Major Sightseeing Spots and Facilities (Spots and Facilities (Spot

Kasari area is surrounded by the Pacific Ocean and the East China Sea, and has small mountains with

altitudes of 200m or less running north and south. On the east side, here lies a flatland where sugarcane

and semi-tropical fruit fields are cultivated, and livestock is raised. Kasari Bay, one of " 500 Important

Wetlands in Japan," designated by the Ministry of the Environment, covers the west side. Many

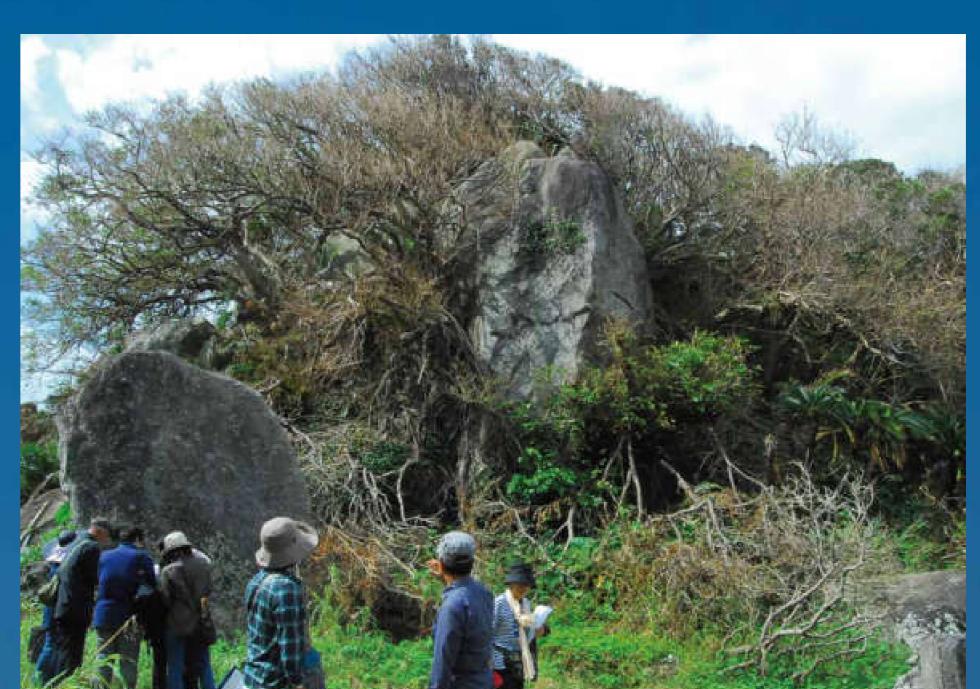
generation to generation through their daily lives.

mmunities in Kasari area inherit their traditional performing arts, passing their unique culture from



6 Ayamaru #2 Kitchen Midden (Sakibaru)

At Ayamaru #2 Kitchen Midden site, a number of kitchen midden ruins from a period between Jomon period (approx. 13000 - 2300 years ago) and Yayoi period (approx BC 4 - AD 3 century) were found in the dune in the cycad cluster. The discovered artifacts, including potsherds, stoneware, and shell rings, indicate the ancient islanders caught fish and shell among the developed coral reefs and resided at the back of the sand dune. In modern times, the dune was a place to obtain salt from seawater until



7 Foo Ishi (giant stone) (Suno)

TheSunozaki Plateau stretches to the northwest side of the community with its base reaching some residential houses. A large stone behind one of these residential houses is called "*Muri-no Foo ishi*" (giant stone in the forest). The stone is wrapped by trees growing on the beach. This sacred place prevents people from cutting these trees. Some trees fall when a typhoon hits the area, exposing the giant stone. This area has been a place people fear and



8 Beru shoreline (*Kobore* rock) (Beru)

At Beru shoreline, horse races and boat races used to be held. The reef contains *Kobore* rock and *Tsu*zungomori, a perfect deep marine playground for children. On the southern side, however, there lies a sanctuary the locals fear. The locals purify their community with incense and Shutsukesuna (shorefront sand) on January 15th of the Lunar calendar, praying for protection from venomous Habu snakes and household peace.



9 Coral wall (Beru)

Beru Community consists of a newly developed block with migrated residents and a block rooted in old tradition. The southern part of the community has a smaller number of households, with *Kami* Michi (deity's path), Amuigo, and a nest of Kenmun (Amami's mythical local monster). Some houses have coral walls covered by *Minko* (known as *Itabi* in mainland Japan, Ficuserecta), representing scenery of the good old days.



