



Fukui Castle Ruins

Ōte 3-chome/Chuo 1-chome and Elsewhere,

The sprawling Fukui Castle, built by Shibata Katsuie and Yūki Hideyasu served as the foundation of present day Fukui City. As integral to city life as ever, and their likenesses lead the annual Echizen Jidai Parade.



Former site of Fukui Castle's

Fukui Castle was built in 1600 by Yūki Hideyasu, second son of Tokugawa Ieyasu. Its inner moat, stone walls, and tower base remain today, as well as a 2007 reconstruction of Orōkabashi Bridge, the local lord's private causeway. The ruins are also renowned as a scenic spot for cherry blossom viewing.



The castle moat, died pink with sakura petals



A reconstruction of the castle's Orōkabashi Bridge



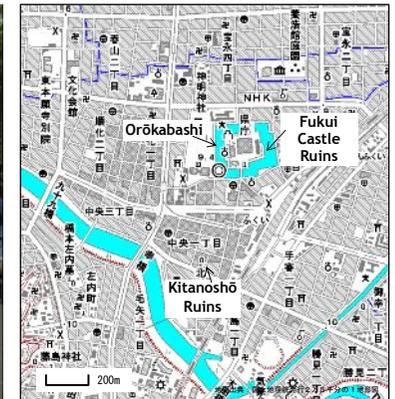
Kitanoshō Ruins and Shibata Park



Bronze statues commemorating Oichi no Kata and her three daughters



Echizen Jidai Parade, Fukui Spring Festival's biggest event^②



Nearby Kitanoshō Castle was built in 1575 by regional warlord Shibata Katsuie. After losing the Battle of Shizugatake to Hashiba Hideyoshi in 1583, Katsuie set fire to his castle tower after sealing himself and his wife, Oichi no Kata, inside. Fukui Castle was built 2km to the north shortly thereafter, concealing what little remained of Katsuie's fortress.

Currently, the area of Kitanoshō's inner keep contains traces of the old castle as well as Shibata Park, Shibata Shrine, and statues commemorating the tragic Oichi no Kata and her three daughters: Chacha, Ohatsu, and Ogō. Today Katsuie is regarded as having laid the foundations for what was to become Fukui City, and the Spring Festival's Echizen Jidai Parade is led by impersonators of he and his wife. The procession makes its way through rows of cherry trees in full bloom, making it both a heroic and poetic sight.