



# Mizushima & Iro ga Hama

Irohama/Tateishi, Tsuruga City

Across Tsuruga Bay floats Kojima, an island whose beauty captivated Bashō as he travelled along the coast by boat. Its beauty has diminished none since the poet gazed upon it centuries ago.



Mizushima, as viewed from (Mt.) Sazae ga Dake<sup>①</sup>



Iro ga Hama

Muzushima, an island comprised of two smaller sand islands, floats in Tsuruga Bay near the pristine beaches of Iro ga Hama. The clear blue waters of the ocean cresting over the shore bring to life the very views that captivated poets Saigyō and Bashō, whose works rhapsodized about their allure.



Honryū-ji Temple<sup>②</sup>

Near Iro ga Hama Honryū-ji, a temple where Bashō once stayed, remains to this day. When staying there the poet would often listen to the sounds of the waves crashing upon the shore while he composed verse. Three stone monuments at the temple bear his words, each praising the enchanting view from the shores of Iro ga Hama.



Stone monuments inscribed with Bashō's works at Honryū-ji<sup>③</sup>



Tateishisaki Lighthouse

At the farthest point along the Tsuruga Peninsula sits the Tateishisaki Lighthouse, whose chalk-white structure provides a stunning contrast with the azure skies behind it. One of many symbols of Tsuruga City, it is a treasured icon whose preservation is paramount to the city.

In the city's Shiragi district visitors can feel the gentle sea breeze over rocky cliffs at Mon ga Saki, which at a height of 50m is known as "mini-Tojinbō." The sight of waves crashing against these cliffs is widely regarded as one of the definitive views of the Japan Sea.



Mon ga Zaki<sup>④</sup>



Photos ①~④ courtesy of Tsuruga City