



# Sanchō-machi

Obama-Asuka and Elsewhere, Obama City

A stroll in this old district vividly illustrates the look of the town when it flourished as a port of call for *kitabune* ships, and brings one within reach of Jōkō-ji, resting place of Ohatsu, second of the Azai sisters.



Sanchō-cho's well-preserved traditional architecture, located in Obama Nishikumi<sup>①</sup>



Hōze Festival (Pref. Folk Cultural Property)<sup>②</sup>



Local "one house, one lamp" movement<sup>③</sup>

Obama City's Obama Nishikumi district is home to many well-preserved examples of traditional architecture, located where the Tango Highway turns eastward. On its western side sit old tea houses, its eastern section houses merchant homes and shops, and the town at the foot of Mt. Nochise and the western extremity of the area are old "temple towns." The former tea district is referred to as Sanchō-cho, and its distinct latticed architecture contribute to its relaxed atmosphere. It is also home to the Hōze Festival, the largest fall celebration in Wakasa.



Path to Jōkō-ji Temple



Jōkō-ji's temple gate<sup>④</sup>

At the western end of Nishikumi sits Jōkō-ji, the resting place of Ohatsu, second among the three Azai sisters. Entering monastery life to mourn the death of her husband, Kyōgoku Tadakatsu, she took on the name Jōkō-in. Soon after establishing the temple in 1630, Jōkō-in died in 1633 and was interred there. Her grave remains today,



Jōkō-in's graveyard<sup>⑤</sup>

