

"Bringing Back the Glory of 70 Years Ago! We want to repair the tiled roof and create a 'Standing Bar' in the old sake brewery!"

The stage is Kyuragi-cho, Karatsu City, Saga Prefecture. The Kyuragi River that flows through the town has been selected as the 'River with the Best Water Quality' by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport, and Tourism four times in the past ten years, making it the only pristine river in Saga. It's been 70 years since the old sake brewery, 'Shiromizu Shuzo,' completed its role. By repairing the tiled roof damaged by typhoon damage, we aim to create a 'Standing Bar' that preserves the brewery's atmosphere!

"Nice to meet you,

Thank you for taking the time to read this! I am Takeshi Arima, the representative of the 'Kura' Crowdfunding project.

※ 'Kura' Crowdfunding... A term coined for crowdfunding aimed at renovating old sake breweries.

I am a metalworker who combines Western jewelry techniques with the traditional Japanese art of 'Kinko.'

To cut to the chase:

"Please lend your support in repairing the old sake brewery's tiled roof, damaged by typhoons, to create a 'Standing Bar' that preserves the brewery's ambiance!"

Seventy years have passed since these buildings served their role as sake breweries, standing proudly throughout the years. However, starting with Typhoon No. 17 in Heisei 29 (2017), they have endured numerous subsequent typhoons and earthquakes, resulting in damage to a section of the sake brewery's tiled roof (highlighted in red and covered with blue sheets).



Inside the sake brewery, substantial pillars and beams were used, creating a dynamic space. However, this dynamic space has been compromised by water leaks, and the damage continues to progress even now.



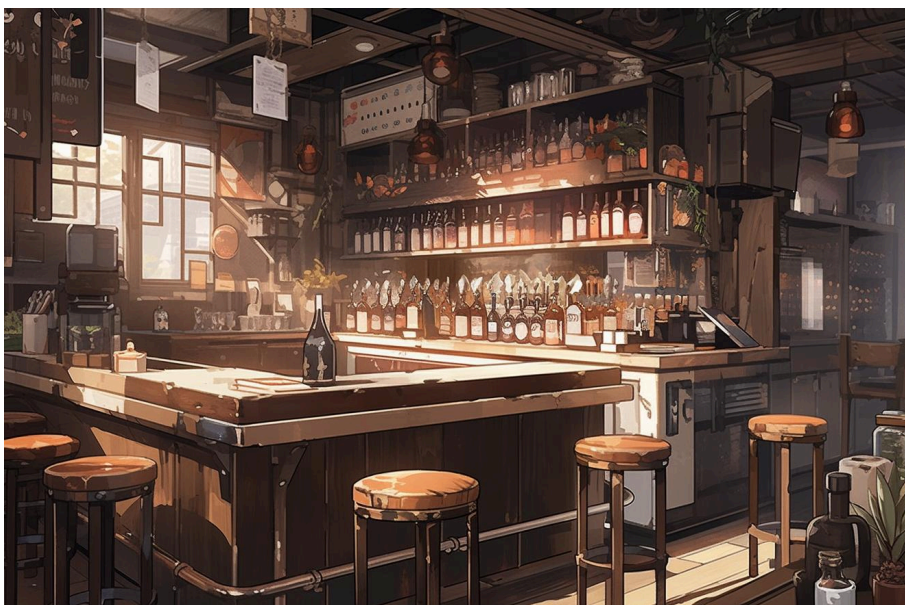
Due to the soaring cost of materials, a significantly high repair cost is now required. To prevent further damage, it is crucial to commence the construction at this time, as further delay could render it too late.

(↓ Click here to learn more if you're interested. ↓)

[The History of the Old Shiromizu Sake Brewery in Kyuragi](#)

To preserve this historically significant building for future generations, we kindly ask for your support in funding the repairs to the tiled roof!

"Standing Bar (Image is for reference.)"



A 'Standing Bar'... 'Kakuuchi' refers to the practice of purchasing sake from a liquor store and enjoying it right there in the establishment.

In this setting, local regulars gather at the counter, savoring their drinks as usual, while occasional visitors and tourists who happened to drop by join in. You might find a family experiencing the local lifestyle during a trial stay or individuals working remotely on a 'workation' while immersing themselves in Kyuragi's natural beauty. We aim to create a space that fosters interactions among people who wouldn't typically cross paths, embracing a sense of 'eclectic mix' while preserving the ambiance of the sake brewery.

"The future we want to realize..."

The future we want to bring to life begins after the repair of the tiled roof through this 'Kura' Crowdfunding campaign...



The sake brewery, as shown in the above image, constitutes only a small portion of the entire property. We have chosen to name the entire property, including the main thatched-roof house and rice fields, 'Hakusui-so' (白水荘). Our goal with the Hakusui-so Project is to transform this space into a 'multifaceted facility where the lifestyle and activities of the past can be experienced once more.'

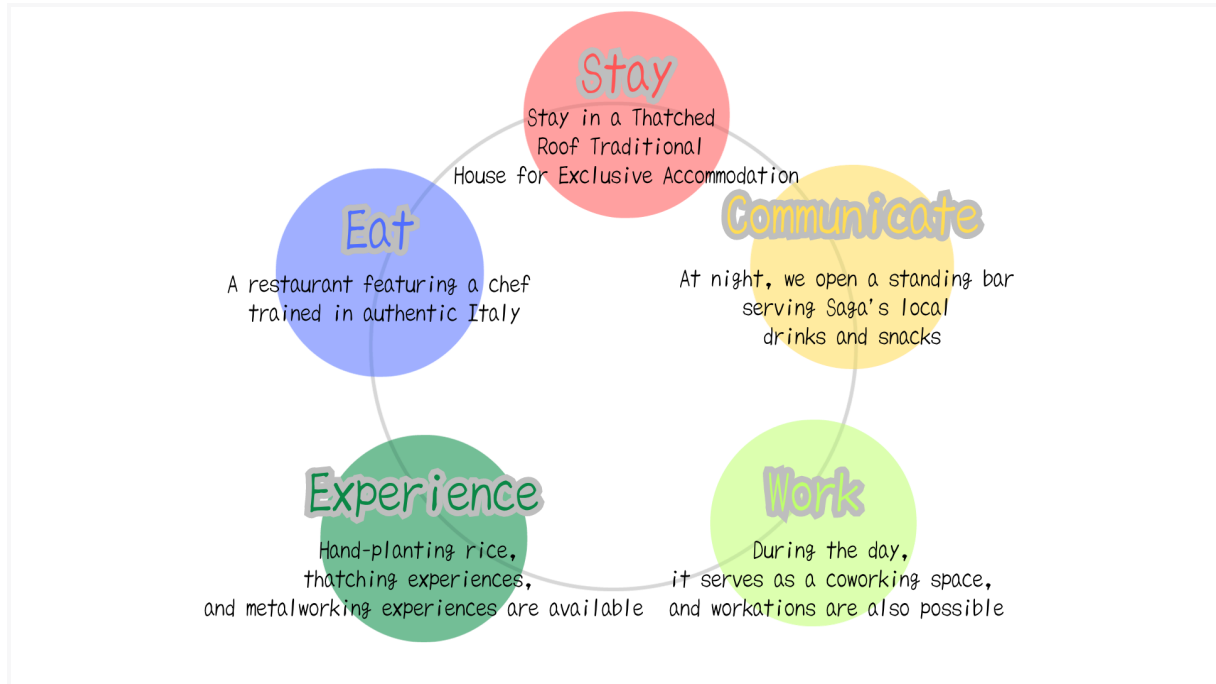
This land encompasses approximately 1000 tsubo (around 3300 square meters)! After carefully considering how to not only recognize and preserve the value of these historic buildings but also utilize them as vital local resources in Kyuragi, we embarked on this endeavor. It's a community-driven effort to explore the possibilities and shape a brighter future for Kyuragi Town.

Hakusui-[so Map](#)

I (Arima) also use it as my workshop, 'Hanatagane' (花鑿), as part of its versatile utilization.

"The vision for utilizing Hakusui-so:"

To prepare for the opening of the 'Standing Bar' in February next year and 'Hakusui-so' in June, we will be working on the following:



We are preparing for the following to make the 'Hakusui-so' a vibrant and versatile destination:

'Stay'... The main thatched-roof house can be rented as a whole for overnight accommodations.

'Eat'... We have plans for a restaurant specializing in daily course meals made with locally sourced vegetables, prepared by a chef with training in authentic Italian cuisine (tentative).

'Experience'... Guests can partake in hands-on experiences such as planting rice by hand, harvesting and cooking freshly harvested rice over a traditional hearth, and even trying their hand at thatching the thatched-roof (craftsman experience). You can also immerse yourself in the lifestyle of the past.

'Work'... During the day, we will open the sake brewery as a co-working space (private rooms available in the main thatched-roof house).

'Connect'... In the evenings and on weekends and holidays, we plan to operate the 'Standing Bar.' Additionally, we'll use the space for children's dining, movie screenings, events, and gallery exhibitions.

"My vision..."

"Funding Allocation:

The support funds we receive this time will primarily be allocated to the following three key areas:



"Implementation Schedule:

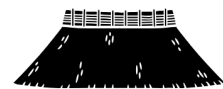


We are aiming for the full-scale opening of the 'Standing Bar' on February 2, 2024 (Friday). Prior to that, we plan to hold a pre-opening event on December 16, 2023 (Saturday) as an opportunity to express our gratitude for your support in this 'Kura' Crowdfunding campaign and to provide an update on our progress. (For those interested, we have prepared a limited 20 sets of returns, so please take a look.)

As mentioned earlier, we have plans for a second 'Kura' Crowdfunding campaign to transform the entire 1000-tsubo property into a multifaceted facility.

The schedule for the second phase of implementation is as follows

- 01 Recruitment Period (2/1~3/31)
- 02 Renovation Work for Hakusui-so (4/1~5/30)
- 03 Return Event (4/1~Valid for six months)
- 04 Return Event2 (6/1~)
- 05 Countryside Living Experience Complex Facility
「Haksui-sou」 OPEN (6/1~)



In the next phase, the second stage, we will be renovating the entire 1000-tsubo property known as 'Hakusui-so.' This includes preserving and passing on the traditional Japanese culture and craftsmanship of thatched roofing (茅葺) to future generations. You will have the opportunity to stay in the main thatched-roof house, which can be rented as a whole, to learn about and experience the beauty of thatched roofing and, together, help preserve and nurture 'Shiromizu-so' (the entire property).

In the second stage, we are also planning to offer returns involving NFTs, so please look forward to it.

(For those interested, please click below.)

["Introducing Our Region:](#)

"My Memories..."



In conclusion;

to preserve and pass on the traditions of the sake brewery and the thatched-roof main house, which are a source of pride for Japan, it has become increasingly challenging for just the landowner (myself) to manage them.

I would like to shift from "protecting it as an individual (the Arima family)" to "protecting it together as a community." Your support and assistance in this endeavor are greatly appreciated. Thank you very much!



<About the Fundraising Method> This project will be conducted using the All-or-Nothing method. If the funding goal is not reached, the project will not proceed, and the rewards will not be delivered.

Supporting Message;

Professor Ryutaro Goto, who is a professor in the Architecture and Environmental Design Course at the Faculty of Engineering at Saga University

At present, Hakusui-sou (sake Brewery) is in a pitiful state. While its large framework and spacious interiors are attractive, the 'size' has become a hurdle for modern utility. However, local enthusiasts have come forward to transform the former sake brewing facility into a 'Kakuchi BAR,' where people from within and outside the region can come together. If a part of this vast space can be turned into a new venue for activities and interaction, it would be a wonderful thing.

Wooden structures can be restored even with 'damage.' For this, specialized skills, personnel, and funding are necessary, and support is required from many people in their respective positions. Furthermore, the Hakusui-sou (sake Brewery) consists of multiple buildings and external spaces within a large estate, and collectively, they hold spatial value. Moreover, the thatched-roof main house is a rare presence, being both the largest and most prestigious in the region. This location is situated along an old road in the mountains and could potentially become a landmark for the former center of the town of Kyuragi. It is also conveniently located near the present-day road station on the national highway, and I sense the potential for this project to contribute to regional development. While expecting support from many people, I also hope to support this project with enthusiasm, alongside university students who are interested in old houses and renovation, as we learn and enjoy the journey together.

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supports the preservation and maintenance of Japan's traditional and historical buildings. In this era, it is not only important to recognize the value of old buildings and preserve them but also to consider ways for local communities to utilize them, allowing residents and children to experience their value. It is essential to convey the importance of this and promote vibrant community development.

The '白水荘project' embodies this spirit, aiming to use the approximately 200-year-old thatched-roof main house and the 120-year-old former sake brewery, 'Shiromizu sake brewery,' as catalysts for community revitalization. It goes beyond

the renovation of a single vacant house and aims to revitalize the entire region by inheriting history, culture, and resources while creating new cultural elements. We resonate with this vision and will support it wholeheartedly."

Please note that I've used placeholders like 'Mabeck Cp.,Ltb' and '白水荘project' as the actual names and terms weren't provided in the original text.

Dr. Yoko Oomori, Professor of Art Engineering, Kurume Institute of Technology

As soon as you cross the Nakashima Bridge from the left bank of the Goto River in Goto, you are immediately struck by the overwhelming presence of the old Shiramizu Sake Brewery's "store" and the brick-built "brewery" with its chimney. The depth of history and the elegance inherent in traditional Japanese architecture are palpable. Behind them stands the thatched roof "main building" exuding a dignified atmosphere. The main building is utilized as a jewelry workshop, and it's profoundly moving to see the high-quality pieces crafted within these traditional walls, which have stood for over 200 years.

In 2012, I conducted a survey of these three traditional buildings and recognized their high historical and architectural value. Regrettably, they have not yet been designated as cultural properties, but they are crucial architectural assets when discussing the history and culture of Kyuragi Town. The combined presence of the "main building," the "brewery," and the "store" adds significant value to this site. However, the maintenance of these buildings incurs substantial costs, especially when it comes to preserving traditional Japanese architecture. The "brewery" of the old Shiramizu Sake Brewery has severe roof damage, leading to leaks. Urgent repairs are needed to prevent further deterioration. Through this crowdfunding campaign, we hope to carry out these repairs and, in turn, promote the productive use of not only the "brewery" but also the "store" and "main building," contributing to the revitalization of Kyuragi Town.

Mr. Ikuo Kikuchi, Chairman of the NPO Heritage Organization From Tsu

At the NPO Heritage Organization From Tsu, we have been paying close attention to the old Shiramizu Sake Brewery's buildings as a candidate for registration as a tangible cultural property of the country since the inception of our organization. While I had visited the thatched roof main building several times, I had only seen the exterior of the old brewery, and it was only recently that I entered it. Especially regarding the roof, it seemed quite damaged, and I assumed that it must have been leaking quite badly. In such a condition, I even thought it might be better to demolish it. However, upon entering the building, I found that all the thick supporting columns inside were made of hardwood, and the beams supporting the second floor

exceeded the standard dimensions by far. The beams were tightly arranged, creating a dynamic space. While the roof had indeed caused considerable damage to the main ridge beam, it had not yet put the entire building in a dangerous state. With proper reinforcement, it can be saved, and I felt that losing this space would be a great loss. I sincerely hope that we can preserve the building of the old Shiramizu Sake Brewery, which, if lost, may never be built again, and I pledge to provide full support as an NPO to ensure it is utilized while preserving its historical significance.

We hope to receive generous support for this "grand project in a small town" with a population of about 3,500 people!