

滋賀県の産地 (S H I G A)



HIKONE-BUTSUDAN

(BUDDHIST HOUSEHOLD ALTAR)

Hikone-shi and environs, Shiga Prefecture

In the mid-Edo Period, Hikone clan officials encouraged those skilful craftsmen engaged in the production of weapons of war including armorer, lacquer worker and other craftsmen to convert themselves to the Buddhist altar production. In this way the altar production started as a small-scale domestic industry. In succeeding years, as a consequence of the propagation of Buddhism and Hikone clan's protection of the altar production, the framework as a site of Hikone Buddhist altar production center was consolidated, which paved the way to today's developing business.

Hikone-but sudan is a large-scaled altar, which features gorgeous and solemn atmosphere created by the anterior surface which has heavily used makie (gold relief lacquer) and highlighted grain achieved by 'medashi-nuri' technique. And yet, even a small-scale altar does not always give a feeling that it is cramped. To provide good usability and ease of housing of related accessories, a document case is built in as an all-in-one unit.

SHIGARAKI-YAKI

(CERAMICS)

Shigaraki-cho, Shiga Prefecture

Shigaraki-yaki, one of the six ancient pottery, is said to have originated from a variety of sueki (unglazed earthenware) and Haji pottery which were made in mid 8th century, when Emperor Shomu constructed Shhigaraki-no-miya Palace (742). Through the history Shigaraki has produced various successful products in response to various conditions, such as demands, progress in techniques and skills, changing lifestyle etc. To name the typical items in chronological order, they are —— a group of daily-life items, i.e. urns, jars, and mortars, then, a group which was made using progressed techniques and skills, i.e. tea ceremony utensils, Sake bottles and tea pots. And then, a group consisting of hibachi brazier, plant pots and umbrella stands.

Shigaraki-yaki has several unique characteristics which promote the pottery's rustic taste of soil. Namely, 'natural graze' caused by the ashes of fuel wood which fell onto the surface of the pottery during the firing process; natural red pattern called 'hi-iro' (fire color) which appears on the pottery's surface; white spots sprinkled over the pottery called 'Ishihaze' which is caused by the popped out grains of heated feldspar or silica ingredient of the pot earth.



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OMI-JOFU

(WEAVING)

Echigawa-machi and environs, Shiga Prefecture

Since the Kamakura Period, hemp fabric industry has blossomed in Omi nurtured by ample water resource of Echi River as well as high humidity and other environmental conditions. The activity by the Omi merchant made a massive contribution to the prosperity of the industry. In the Edo Period, as the Hikone clan who governed Hikone on the east bank of Lake Biwa developed, hemp fabric manufacturing also further developed and established itself as a stable local industry. Since then the dyeing techniques have made a massive advance to create the refined splashed pattern called 'kasuri' unique to Omi-jofu. Omi-jofu comes in two kinds, i.e. weft yarn 'kasuri' and warp-and-weft 'kasuri'. The former is printed using cut paper stencil onto the yarn wound around the frame ('hane-maki') before being dyed. The latter is prepared by printing each of the warp and weft using comb-type instrument ('kushi-oshi') before being dyed. The latter is the fabric of the highest quality woven by elaborately adjusting the warp and weft to make splashed pattern. Having a breathable and water-absorbing property, hemp textile is less-coherent to the skin to give the wearers a pleasant feeling.