



#Kataribe

Kataribe (語り部) を世界へ

"Kataribe" to the world



In Japan, there is a place called Sanriku (Aomori, Miyagi, and Iwate Prefectures), where was damaged by the tsunami on March 11, 2011 of Great East Japan Earthquake.

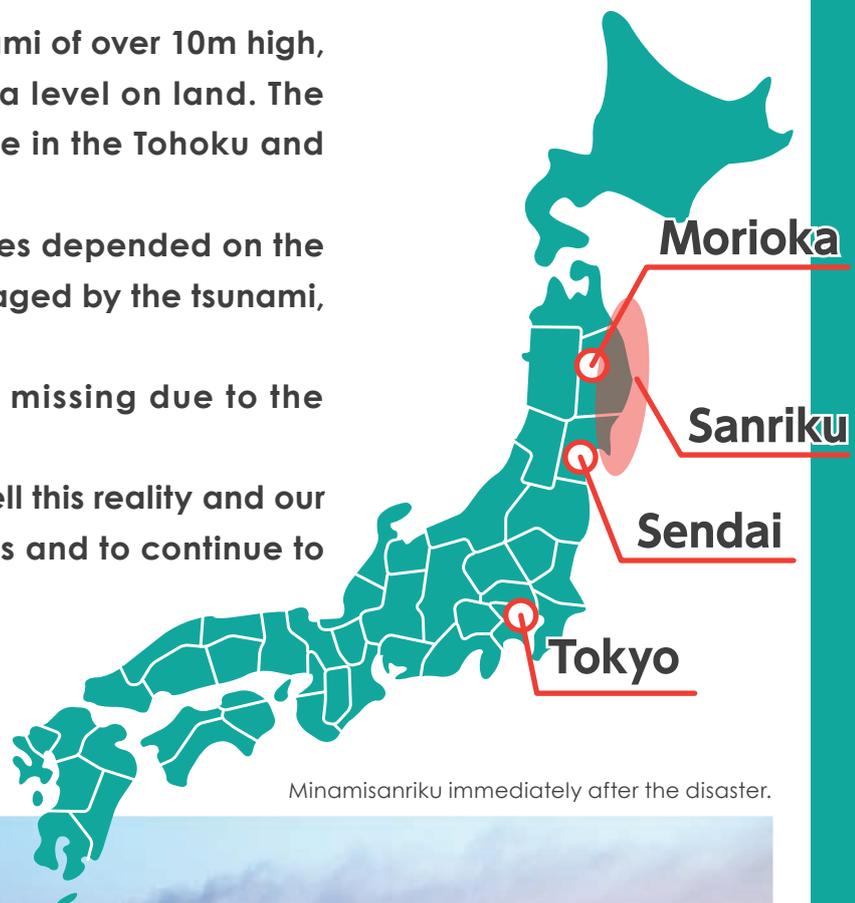
On March 11, 2011 at 14:46:18 JST, occurred an earthquake at the depth of about 24km off the coast of Sanriku in the Pacific Ocean. At magnitude 9.0 and maximum seismic intensity level 7, it was the biggest earthquake in observed history near Japan.

This earthquake caused a giant tsunami of over 10m high, and which reached 40.1m above sea level on land. The tsunami caused devastating damage in the Tohoku and Kanto regions along the Pacific coast.

In Sanriku as well, where people's lives depended on the sea, everywhere was massively damaged by the tsunami, and many precious lives were lost.

There were 18,429 persons dead or missing due to the earthquake and tsunami.

We survivors are seeing the need to tell this reality and our experiences to the future generations and to continue to share it with the world.



Minamisanriku immediately after the disaster.





So many things damaged and deformed, you can feel the terrible menace of tsunami.

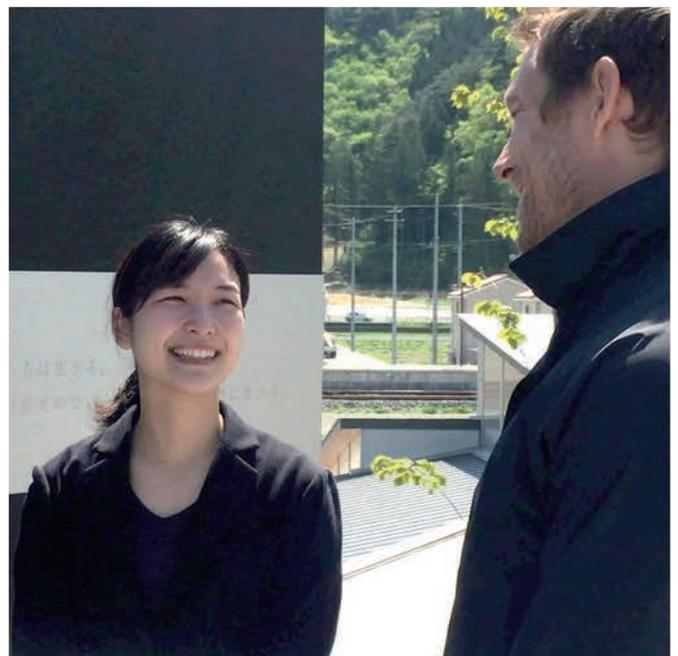
This area has been hit by natural disasters such as tsunamis many times in the past, causing many casualties, but it also a place that has grown from the lessons learned. In addition, the people of the region live in harmony with the rich nature of the sea, forests, rivers, etc. and the blessings of the sea, and strongly feel the importance of protecting lives from natural disasters and the importance of living in society.



The Pacific Ocean seen from the cape. A town flourishing with fisheries and surrounded by magnificent nature.

These people from tsunami-hit areas who share their stories with people of the world are called "Kataribe."

Among those people, there are "storyteller" (Kataribe) to let people around the world feel and learn from the importance of these things.



Nodoka KIKUCHI, a survivor who was a junior high school student at the time of disaster. Currently she is a "Kataribe" in the Kamaishi area.



#Kataribe Introduction



Minami Sanriku

It was a quiet and beautiful cityscape overlooking the coastal inlet surrounding Shizugawa Bay. Despite heavy damage in the Great East Japan Earthquake disaster, we decided to face the sea, but appealing aspects of the area, to invite visitors from all over the country.

Minami Sanriku Hotel Kanyo
Proprietor
Noriko ABE

Leadership

**Leadership particularly in times of emergency,
our mission as a lodging facility,
our mission to continue telling about the realities.**

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Just after the earthquake, the local residents began evacuating to the hotel, so I gathered the staff to check what they can do. As the situation became clearer, I recognized that "we must become a shelter for people." So even though we were isolated without electricity and water, I instructed the kitchen manager : "First, think of a menu using the ingredients we currently have for everyone through one week." I encouraged the people who felt overwhelmed by the anxiety of not knowing how long this extreme situation would last. I didn't just run the emergency shelter with forward-looking determination; I also strove to make it possible for people to stay in this area by creating a new community and collaborating with volunteers to host various events.

With 80% of the town center damaged by the disaster, it was our duty to do what we could as the remaining hotel.

The founder of our hotel said to build an earthquake-resistant hotel, because of the lessons he learned from the Chile earthquake and tsunami. So the hotel was built on a hard bedrock. We are flooded, but we worked to revitalize the area and increase the number of visitors to the area by setting up a free school inside the hotel, where college students helped tutor children; continuing to promote the Minamisanriku Kira Kira Rice Bowl, which was featured in restaurants around town before the disaster as a town revitalization project, and compiling the "Minamisanriku Ten-Ten Map," which lists the stores dotting the area.



Lodging

Minami Sanriku Hotel Kanyo

The sunrise seen from the natural hot spring open-air bath where the colorful view of the Pacific Ocean spreads out in front of you is exceptional. For dinner, enjoy fresh sea urchin, abalone and other seafood from Minamisanriku.

Kurosaki 99-17, Shizugawa, Minamisanriku,
Motoyoshi-gun, Miyagi
TEL : 0226-46-2442

More info here



Minami Sanriku Hotel Kanyo Shun ITO

Real story

**Disasters will happen.
Even in places where they have never happened before,
there is always the possibility that they may happen.**



For interested attendees, the "Don't Let the Disaster Memories Fade" Kataribe Bus shares about stories from the disaster and about the future of Minamisanriku. As the environment and landscape change in pace with reconstruction, we provide an experience special to here.

There are many things that can be protected through people's decisions, determination, and action.

I work to tell about the events of the Great East Japan Earthquake, with the hope that, by seeing this, you will become aware of new options, so in case of eventual similar disaster to occur, it would inspire you to save your friends and the people important to you.

As an interpreter guide, I share correct information with foreigners.

Minami Sanriku Hotel Kanyo Seiji KURAHASHI

Real story



I think that one important activity is sharing information with the foreign travellers who come to Japan increasing in recent years.

Up to now, we've also received many visits mainly of foreign students and research institutions who want to learn about Japan's disaster reduction and prevention.

Because literal translation is a difficult thing, I'm experiencing the true significance of telling stories in my own words, without relying on an intermediary interpreter.

All Minamisanriku Reconstruction Team Kazuma GOTO

Learning from history and experience

What you can gain through knowledge and what you can feel through your five senses are different.

People often ask me, "Why do you still live here even after the disaster?" It's because there are lots of good things from the past, like how the local people are connected and help each by primary industry.

Along with telling stories of the disaster, I also want to speak about how being a victim of the disaster affected my views of the relationship of "human" and "nature," and how things should be going forward.

**I want to tell the importance of
life to many people teaching
about Japan's failures.**

More info here





After the disaster, renewed gratitude for 'the everyday.'

Kesennuma Tourism & Convention Bureau

Shigeo HASHIMOTO



Real story

More info here

At first I struggled to express myself as being a victim of the disaster since I hadn't yet organize my feelings. But along the way, as I responded to the needs of the visitors, who had questions like "How did you overcome the disaster?"

Recently, increasing foreigners who eager to learn, so we're working to provide language support as part of our services. It is because we have come to the stage where many people have regained their everyday lives, that I want to tell what happened and how we handled it.

Kesennuma

2

A town renewed for its tourism of the coastal inlet and as one of the top fishing industries in Japan, Kesennuma Fishing Port is famous as one of the biggest fishing location in the world.

This area was hit by tsunami many times, but the predecessors always declared "We live with the sea" and believed in the sea's blessings, so they rebuilt.

Kesennuma City Memorial Museum

Kimito KONDO

As visible evidence, I share the memories and lessons from the disaster.

Stories and records of the disaster

In addition to a panel gallery and videos on a large 300-inch screen, visitors can tour the inside of the adjacent ruins of the building former Kesennuma Koyo High School.

The cars that washed into the building, the cars piled on the building walkway, the flooded books and textbooks -- to the extent that is safe the building has been preserved untouched as visual evidence of the disaster.



More info here



Kesennuma Plaza Hotel

Takeaki SAKAI

Stories and records of the disaster

Under the theme of Kesennuma's future, I want to connect people together.

My style is lecture by video to teach content similar to disaster studies, telling stories from that time leading up to how reconstruction has proceeded. I keep in mind that I want each person to go home knowing at least one thing more than when they came, such as knowing what not to do when evacuating assuming people live near the sea in the future, or how to prepare for future disasters such as the Nankai Trough.



Lodging

Kesennuma Plaza Hotel

This hotel stands on a hill overlooking Kesennuma Bay. You can enjoy seasonal seafood such as abalone, shark's fin, and swordfish, as well as enjoy the natural hot spring floating bath springing from 1800m underground.

1-1 Kashizaki, Kesennuma, Miyagi
TEL : 0226-23-1313

More info here



Rikuzentakata Disaster–Area Kataribe Kugikoya

Akira KUGIKO

Managing a shelter; and an organization

I tell you the facts,
in order for you to make useful
in case of emergency.



More info here



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Rikuzentakata Ofunato

Rikuzentakata, where was characterized by beautiful beaches and known as the "playground of the sea" in Tohoku, was a very crowded town in summer. It was one of the areas most severely damaged by the Great East Japan Earthquake disaster. Scenic spot Takata Matsubara, where also received heavy damage, became famous for the Miracle Pine, the one tree left standing.

Despite being an evacuee myself, I used my hotel experience to organize the chaos of the huge shelter by implementing rules, distributing roles, and assigning uses to certain rooms.

Supplementing video, pictures, and music with verbal explanations to show the raw situation and voices of the time, I introduce the events of the Great East Japan Earthquake in Rikuzentakata in chronological order.

I tell about the Rikuzentakata that I grew up seeing, the current status, and its future.

Sharing facts and lessons, focusing learning
on Japan's natural disasters.



More info here

Iwate Tsunami Memorial Museum

Stories and records of the disaster



From footage, real items, pictures of the scenes, stories from the victims, and other records which show the mechanisms of the earthquake, the phenomenon caused by the Great East Japan Earthquake, and the later-calculated damage, you can deeply experience the disaster.

The facility is divided into four zones and displays many valuable videos and materials. It is a facility where you can learn the horrors of natural disasters and the facts and lessons of the Great East Japan Earthquake from various angles.



Lodging

Ofunato Hot Spring

"Ofunato Hot Spring" hotel & inn in Ofunato City, Iwate Prefecture in Sanriku. Enjoy the open-air bath with a beautiful view of the sunrise, the seafood carefully-selected by the fisherman owner, and the natural art created by the sea and sky.

Marumori 29-1, Ofunatocho, Ofunato, Iwate
TEL:0192-26-1717

More info here



Kamaishi

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The pillars of Kamaishi's hopes and reconstruction are all for the children.

Houraikan Inn, Proprietor
Akiko IWASAKI

Message to the future

Kamaishi City, known as "the town of iron, fish, and rugby," is an area surrounded by sea and mountains and full of nature. Having experienced the huge tsunamis of the 1933 and 1896 Sanriku earthquakes in the past as well, they have carried on the wisdom of their predecessors about how to survive for the future through the teaching "Inochi Tendenko," which means "save yourself": you should take action to protect your own life.



Kamaishi is now being rebuilt with Japan's state-of-the-art civil engineering technology. We also held the Rugby World Cup here. That's why the faces of local children are full of smiles.

Restoring the children's smiles lost that day is connected to Kamaishi's recovery. For that reason, I tell what happened, and work with the hope that I'll be saved by my own power if something like that happens again.



Returning alive from being swallowed by the waves. Choices in that extreme situation saved her life.

The area already had an established community with clearly designated roles, so when the disaster occurred, we were able to act by maintaining the chain of command.

This culture of wisdom and teachings that was passed down to us, we will continue to pass on to the future.



Lodging

Houraikan Inn

Local chefs serve fresh seafood harvested on the Sanriku coast with concentrated elegance. In addition, the golden sun rising from the horizon of Otsuchi Bay and the moon road on the sea surface are both must-see sights.

20 Chiwari 93-18, Unosumaicho, Kamaishi, Iwate
TEL : 0193-28-2526

More info here



Using the wisdom of your predecessors,
simulate the techniques that saved them.
"Road to Life"



Sanriku Hitotsunagi
Nature School

Satoshi ITO

Survival story



More info here

The residents who grew up with the sea saw the sea level suddenly drop to a level they had never seen before. Guessing what would happen, they quickly warned the area. Calling out each other, taking hands each other, everyone in the area evacuated together. Climbing the hill in a breath, the lifesaving bonfire, choices made in an extreme situation, etc. -- a simulation workshop of the day that separated life and death. This is "Road to Life."

The local disaster drills that were repeatedly held. Choices faced neighborhoods, schools, governments, private businesses, each with their consequences. We see the mission entrusted to us as accurately sharing all these things that happened in Kamaishi, and we keep working to fulfill that mission.



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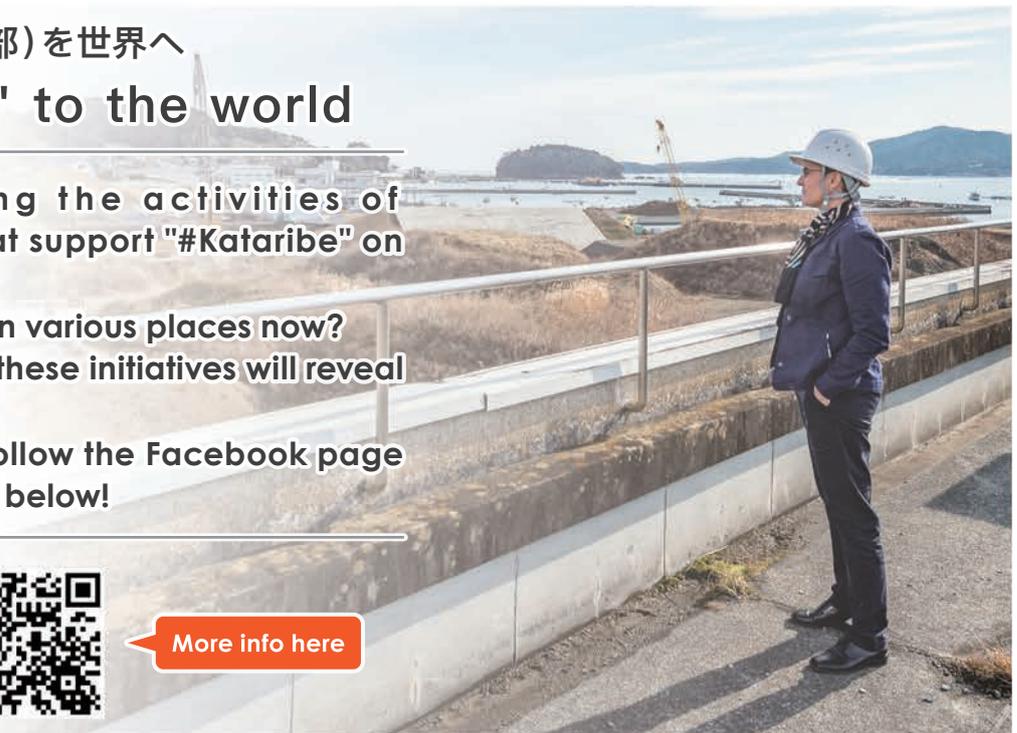
We are posting the activities of
organizations that support "#Kataribe" on
Facebook.

What is going on in various places now?
Knowing each of these initiatives will reveal
the future!

Please visit and follow the Facebook page
from the QR code below!



More info here



Otsuchi

5

Oraga Otsuchi Dream Plaza Mio KAMITANI

Reforming to think about disaster



More info here



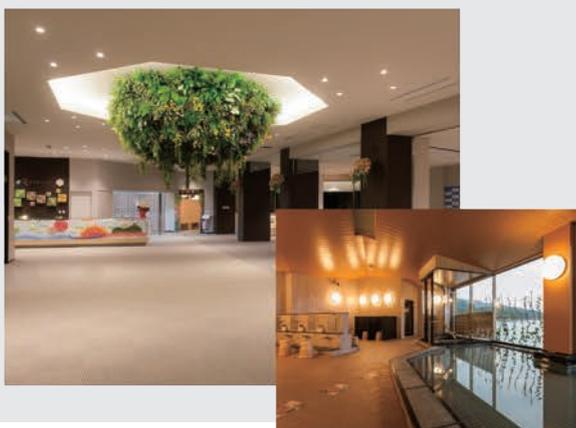
**There is only one thing I want to express:
"Take care of the people important to you"**

The tsunami took many things away from Otsuchi. What saved us, who had lost so much, were the many interactions with the people who came to help us. By sharing with others the things that let us move forward, our role is to help people grow by transforming the Great East Japan Earthquake from something that happened to someone else, to something that could happen to oneself. We work with the hope this will contribute to Otsuchi's future.



**"If it were you, what would you do?"
We have them take it home to keep thinking about.**

I've taught the importance of thinking at companies' new employee and trainings for educational institution staff. Having seen and experienced Otsuchi, I want to promote a change in thinking from learning-based disaster prevention to independent thinking-based disaster prevention, so that people will act proactively to survive in future disasters.



Lodging Sanriku Flower Hotel Hamagiku

Sanriku Flower Hotel Hamagiku opened in September 2013. This hotel boasts rooms reminiscent of a Mediterranean resort hotel, fresh seafood, and a view of the Sanriku Coast from the guest rooms.

Namiitakaigan, Otsuchi, Kamihei-gun, Iwate
TEL : 0193-44-2111

More info here





Yamada Miyako

Miyako City, located at the easternmost point of Honshu, has valued the bonds of people. Since the 1933 Sanriku earthquake and tsunami, stone tsunami monuments have been erected all over the town, engraved with a warning to future generations: "No matter how many years pass, stay alert; a tsunami can come all the way here."

There are places where the scenery to the left and right differ completely, separated by a single track.

Sanriku Railway

Makoto YAMANOME

Recovery after disaster



More info here



We operate the "Disaster Learning Train," which is a chartered train run that shows the current state of disaster areas along the Sanriku Railway Rias Line (between Sakari and Kuji, 163km).

It's a program where you can directly 'see, hear, and feel,' that gives you a different perspective from usual by showing you spots such as inside the tunnel where the train stopped at that time and the view from Koishihama Station.

Shinsei Yamada Shopping Arcade Co-op

Momoyo SHIYA

※ Apply to Yamada Wonderful Experience Bureau.

Local community

More info here



What happened in Yamada? Stroll the town and use a tablet to find out by comparing pictures from before and after the disaster. We are working hard to involve the whole area in "what we as Yamada can do" so that you can go home smiling after interacting with the local people you meet along the way.

Together with the local area, looking forward, and doing what we can now.

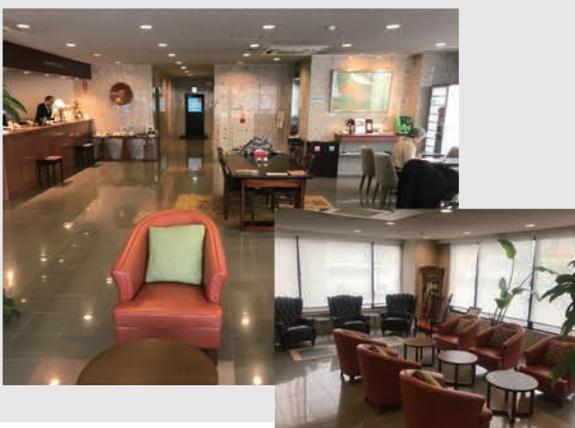
Lodging

Miyako Central Hotel Kumayasu

This is a hotel in Miyako blessed with nature and history including Jodogahama Beach, a 1300-year-old tradition of Kuromori Kagura dance, and Mount Hayachine. You can enjoy creative meals that use local ingredients and traditional foods.

2-5 Aramachi, Miyako, Iwate
TEL : 0193-64-2121

More info here



Kataribe Contact List

Kesennuma City Memorial Museum



Address 9-1 Hajikamisemukai, Kesennuma,
Miyagi 988-0246
TEL 0226-28-9671
e-mail info@kesennuma-memorial.jp
Opening Hours ... 9:30~17:00 (Apr.~Sept.)
9:30~16:00 (Oct.~Mar.)
Days Closed Every Monday
(Check website for more info)
Admission fee General: 600円 / High School: 400円
Elementary/Middle School: 300円
Group Discount Available



Iwate Tsunami Memorial Museum



Address 180 Dotekage, Kesencho,
Rikuzentakata, Iwate 029-2204
TEL 0192-47-4455
e-mail AJ0006@pref.iwate.jp
Opening Hours ... 9:00~17:00
Days Closed New Year Holidays
(Check website for more info)
Admission fee Free



Minami Sanriku Hotel Kanyo Kurosaki-99-17, Shizugawa, Minamisanriku, Motoyoshi-gun, Miyagi / 0226-46-2442 / minamisanriku@kanyo.co.jp
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All Minamisanriku Reconstruction Team 32-14 Tokura, Minamisanriku, Motoyoshi-gun, Miyagi / 0226-46-9518 / minasan.msrb@gmail.com
(#Kataribe / GOTO / P6)
Kesennuma Tourism & Convention Bureau 7-13-2F Uoichibamae, Kesennuma, Miyagi / 0226-22-4560 / k-kanko@k-macs.ne.jp
(#Kataribe / HASHIMOTO / P7)
Kesennuma Plaza Hotel 1-1 Kashizaki, Kesennuma, Miyagi / 0226-23-1313 / info@kesennuma-plaza.co.jp
(#Kataribe / SAKAI / P7)
Rikuzentakata Disaster-Area Kataribe Kugikoya T215-7, 49-1 Tochigasawa, Takatacho, Rikuzentakata, Iwate / 0192-47-4299 / akirakugiko7@gmail.com
(#Kataribe / KUGIKO / P8)
Ofunato Hof Spring Marumori 29-1, Ofunatocho, Ofunato, Iwate / 0192-26-1717 / contact@oofunato-onsen.com
Houraikan Inn 20 Chiwari 93-18, Unosumaicho, Kamaishi, Iwate / 0193-28-2526 / houraikan.matsuda@gmail.com
(#Kataribe / IWASAKI / P9)
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(#Kataribe / ITO / P10)
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Yamada Wonderful Experience Bureau 3-20 Hachimancho, Yamada, Shimohei-gun, Iwate / 0193-82-3111 / info@yamada-fc.org
(#Kataribe / SHIYA / P12)
Miyako Central Hotel Kumayasu 2-5 Aramachi, Miyako, Iwate / 0193-64-2121

Shinsei Yamada Shopping Arcade Co-op 12-9 Hachimancho, Yamada, Shimohei-gun, Iwate / 0193-77-3732 / info@shinseyamada.com
Kamaishi DMC, Ltd. 16 Chiwari-72-1, Unosumaicho, Kamaishi, Iwate / 0193-27-5666
Miki Tourist 1-18-16 Hamamatsucho, Minato City, Tokyo / 03-5404-8893
Michinori Travel Tohoku 1-17-18 Kuriyagawa, Morioka, Iwate / 019-641-8811
Sanriku DMO Center 10-1 Uchimaruru, Morioka, Iwate / 019-629-5572

#Kataribe

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