



① Tsuno Shrine

On his way to move the capital to the eastern part of Japan, the first emperor, Emperor Jimmu visited Tsuno Shrine. After that visit, the shrine gained respect and was from then known as Hyuga No Kuni Ichinomiya. According to historical records, this was the first grand shrine in the area of Hyuga (modern day Miyazaki Prefecture).

However, after the battle between the Shimazu and Otomo clan, all the records and items related to the shrine were burnt. The only thing that was saved during the battle was the “goshintai”. A goshintai is an object that holds the spirit of the kami (god). The current shrine underwent renovation between 2002 and 2007. On the evening of July 7, 2007 the goshintai was moved to its current place in the shrine.

Tsuno Shrine’s kami is Onamuchinomikoto. He had many children so this shrine is visited by people who are praying for children and marriage. In addition, numerous people were healed by him so he is known for being the god of medicine and curing illnesses. While building the region, he met many people and built deep relationships. Therefore, this shrine is known to help those profit in business endeavors.



② Onamuchinomikoto

Statue- It is said if you rub this statue, your wish will come true. Visitors wishing for an illness to be healed, to have children, and to prosper in business should rub this statue while praying.



③ White rabbit

While on his way to Inaba Province, Onamuchinomikoto helped a rabbit in pain. That is why, it is believed that if you rub this rabbit, you will recover from any ailments.



[Contact us]
Tsuno Town Tourism Association
TEL : 0983-25-5712
FAX : 0983-35-3119
3604-7 Kawakita, Koyu Gun, Tsuno Town
Miyazaki Ken, 889-1201, Japan
Located in Tsuno station



THE ORIGIN OF THE MYTH
MIYAZAKI
—TSUNO TOWN—

Emperor Jimmu's route as he moves the capital east

The first emperor of Japan, also known as Emperor Jimmu, consulted with his brother Itsusenomikoto about where the center of Japan should be. His brother replied it should be in the east. So Emperor Jimmu started his journey from Takachihomiya and stopped in Tsuno's Mt. Osuzu and Yatogi waterfalls. He sharpened his arrowhead in the waters of what was later to become known as Yatogi waterfalls. 矢 ya (arrowhead) 研 togu (sharpen) 矢研 (Yatogi)

He stopped at Tsuno Shrine to pray for success, sea safety and peace. Then he departed Mimitsu for Yamato no Kuni (now known as Nara). The ruler of Yamato No Kuni, Nigihayahinomikoto, passed the responsibility of governing the area known as present day Nara, to Emperor Jimmu. The emperor then declared Unebi no Kashihara (an area in Nara) as the capital of Japan and he started to rule the country from there.



Tsuno Town



4 Ama no Iwafune

It is a large boat-shaped rock with a height of 3m, a width of 3m, and a length of 12m in the Tani River, which is about 200m upstream from Yatogi waterfall. It is said to be the spot where Nigihayahinomikoto 1* landed when he descended from Taka ama hara 2*. When he came to earth and was left on that giant rock people started calling it ama no (heaven's) iwa (rock) fune (boat).

1* Nigihayahinomikoto was a god who played a role in helping Emperor Jimmu set up the capital in the east.

2* A place in Japanese mythology where the heavenly gods dwell.

5 Yatogi Waterfall

The origin of the name Yatogi waterfall comes from when Emperor Jimmu was moving the capital east. On his way he stopped at the waterfall where he and his soldiers sharpened their arrow heads in the waters of the waterfall. The height of this waterfall is 73 meters and is listed in One Hundred Waterfalls of Japan. The waterfalls included on this list are known for their dynamic setting and beauty.



6 Tateno

After Emperor Jimmu sharpened his arrow head at Yatogi Waterfall, he headed east and down the hills through a field. There, an unfortunate event happened and his clothes were caught and torn by sharp thorns. The area he was in had no place for him to change his clothes, so the emperor stood there with his clothes on as the people around him stitched the tears. After mending the emperor's clothes, the locals wished him a safe journey east and said goodbye. Later people fondly remembered this story and that is how the name of the district was named Tateno- 'Tate' means to stand and 'no' means field.

