

# Welcome to Okamoto Plum Park at Higashinada, Kobe



## 1) Introduction

Since long time ago, it has been said that this park is one of the best parks for viewing plum blossoms in west Japan.

We would like to emphasize that the above was particularly indicated in the book called the famous places for visiting in Osaka and Kobe issued in 1796.

This park was much larger than it is now.

Partly included areas, Sumiyoshi and Okamoto's.

## 2) History

In 1938, this park was heavily damaged by the Hanshin Flood and almost all areas in Okamoto were destroyed by the flood.

In 1945, during in the Second World War this park was destroyed again.

In 1971, Uzugamori area was developed and Uzugamori park was made. Some new plum trees were planted then.

In 1982, the development of Okamoto area was started and Okamoto park was repaired. Some plum trees were planted then.

In 1986, plum trees were chosen as symbol of Higashinada Ward, Kobe.

In 2004, the park's rebuilding was completed with the cooperation of Mr. Miyazaki, Kobe's mayor at the time and from local community. At that time there were 1019 plum trees there.

In 2012, the trees increased to 3064. People concerned hope to increase to 10,000 trees.

## 3) Our recommendation for viewing the Plum blossoms

We strongly recommend to walk around starting from this park through Okamoto Shrine Hokura mountain to Hokura Shrine. We are sure you will enjoy viewing 600 of plum trees with very beautiful blossoms.

For further details, please refer to following our home page: <http://www.us3.jp/suryu/okamotokouen/>

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