



▶ 河南町のみどころ紹介

Kanan-cho, a Town Filled with Marvels



歌人西行法師の終焉の地として有名な弘川寺や、全国的にも珍しい双円墳の金山古墳など、古くから開けたこの地には優れた古墳や遺跡などの文化財が多くあります。町域の3分の1の山地部が、金剛生駒紀泉国定公園に指定された豊かな自然と歴史に恵まれたまちです。

These lands are home to such marvels as Hirokawa Temple, referred to as “the land of demise” by Buddhist poet, Saigyō, the extraordinary twin-cylinder Kanayama Tumulus as well as various other cultural properties such as ancient tumuluses and ruins. One-third of the town’s mountainous region is a part of the Kongo Ikoma Kisen Quasi-National Park which is blessed with rich nature and history.

河南町は、大阪府の南東部に位置し、大阪市の中心部から25km圏にあります。

町域は、東西6.7km、南北7.5kmにひろがり面積は25.26km²です。北は太子町、西は富田林市、南は千早赤阪村と接し、東は葛城山系の稜線をはさんで奈良県の葛城市、御所市に接しています。地形的にみると、金剛・葛城山脈に連なる山地部とその前面に広がる丘陵地、大和川支流の石川水系によって形成された段丘地などで構成されており、町域の3分の1の山地部が金剛生駒紀泉国定公園に指定されています。

河南町の歴史は古く、神山遺跡では約1万年前の縄文時代早期の土器がみつかっています。弥生時代の後期(2世紀)になると、東山や寛弘寺といった、町北部、西部の丘陵上に集落が築かれます。古墳時代の集落のようすはあまり明らかになっていませんが、古墳時代前期中ごろ(4世紀)になると、寛弘寺の弥生時代後期の集落があった丘陵上に古墳が築かれはじめます。寛弘寺古墳群のはじまりです。古墳群はその後、7世紀にかけて100基以上の古墳が築かれました。後期(6世紀)になると町北部から太子町にかけての丘陵上にも古墳群が築かれます。総数約200基からなる一須賀古墳群です。

難波の宮と大和の飛鳥をむすぶ最古の官道である竹内街道に近い河南町を含む一帯は、大和の飛鳥が「遠つ飛鳥」と呼ばれたのに対し、「近つ飛鳥」と呼ばれていました。古代国家形成過程において重要な地域であったこの地には、太子町の王陵群やアカハゲ古墳・塚廻り古墳といった古墳時代終末期(7世紀)の古墳が特に密集しており、往時のすがたをしのぶことができます。千早赤阪村に近いこともあって、南北朝の戦乱期にはいくつかの山城が築かれました。

平岩氏の居城であった平石城跡では、掘割や副郭など当時のすがたを比較的よくとどめています。戦乱で荒れたこの地ですが、16世紀になると大ヶ塚で寺院を中心とした町場が形成され再び発展をはじめます。17世紀後半から19世紀にかけては地方商業都市として栄えました。

現在の河南町は、「大都市近郊の農業のまち」として発展し、「なにわの伝統野菜」などを栽培しています。豊かな自然と歴史的環境にめぐまれた河南町を、このトラベルガイドを片手に歩いてみませんか。

Kanan-cho is located in the southeast area of Osaka, 25km from Osaka's center.

The town spreads 6.7km from east to west, 7.5km from north to south, with the total area of 25.26km². The north side shares the border with Taishi-cho, the west with Tondabayashi-shi, the south with Chihayaakasaka-mura, and the east shares the mountain range of Katsuragi with Katsuragi-shi and Gose-shi of Nara prefecture. The town is consisted of mountains, which lead to the Kongo and Katsuragi Mountain range, hilly areas spreading out in front of the mountains, and terrace areas made by Ishikawa River system from Yamato River branches. Also, one-third of the mountain area is a part of the Kongo Ikoma Kisen Quasi-National Park.

Kanan-cho has a close connection to human civilization as earthenware from early Jomon period (about 10,000 years ago) have been found here. In the late Yayoi period (2nd century), people begun to build villages around hilly areas in the north and east parts of the town such as Higashiyama and Kankoji. Although the details of village life in Kofun period is not yet clear, in the mid Kofun period (4th century), tumuluses (Kofun) were built in the hilly area in Kankoji where the late Yayoi-period villages had once been. That was the beginning of Kankoji Kofungun (group of tumuluses). The number of tumuluses expanded beyond 100 by the 7th century. From the late Kofun period (6th century), another group of tumuluses started to appear in the hilly area from the north of the town to Taishi-cho. These two tumulus groups are known as Ichisuka Kofungun which is composed of about 200 tumuluses.

The Kanan-cho area is located aside the oldest government road called Takenouchi-kaido Road connecting Naniwanomiya Palace and Asuka of Yamato Province. This area was also called Chikatsu-Asuka (Nearer Asuka) comparing it to Yamato's Asuka known as Tootsu-Asuka (Farther Asuka). Since this area had been an important location in the process of building an ancient state, there were many tumuluses built in the end of the Kofun period (7th century) such as Taishi-cho's royal tumuluses, Akahage Kofun and Tsukamawari Kofun. The tumuluses' scenery takes you back to ancient times. There were several castles built in the mountains during Nanboku-cho war period because the area is close to Chihayaakasaka-mura village. Especially, Lord Hiraiwa's Hiraiwa Castle remains were well preserved so you can see the canal, walls and other features. Even though this area was destroyed during this war time, new towns lead by temples and shrines in Daigatsuka started to develop in the 16th century. In addition, the towns became rich local commercial cities from later 17th century to 19th century.

Presently, Kanan-cho has been developed as the “Agricultural Town Near Metropolitan Area” and cultivates “Traditional Vegetables from Naniwa (Osaka).”

Please enjoy your tour of Kanan-cho, the town with rich nature and historic heritage.