

# Plum blossom

## Ward flower plum

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"Plum is Okamoto, cherry blossom is Yoshino, mandarin orange country,

chestnut Tanba" ... Is it from the Edo period that Okamoto Bairin's fame began to be heard in the world? Hyogo's folk song also sang "Ume is Okamoto, Sakura is Ikuta, and Matsunoyo is Minatogawa", and it can be seen that it was widely loved by people. After that, with the conversion to residential land from the beginning of the Showa era, its appearance disappeared, but people's desire to revive Okamoto's plum grove was strong, and plum trees were planted in various places in the ward, and plum grove became It was maintained.

At the end of 1986 (Showa 61), Ume, a flower closely related to Higashinada Ward, was selected as the flower of the ward.

Every year, when the buds of plum blossoms are in full bloom, various types of plum blossoms and scents such as red plum blossoms, white plum blossoms, and weeping plum blossoms entertain us.

## Okamoto (Bairin) Park

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About 10 minutes on foot northwest of Hankyu Okamoto Station

This park was constructed in 1982 (Showa 57) in honor of the former plum grove that had been lost due to floods and residential land. In addition to Yang Guifei and Hon Huang Plum, about 200 plums such as Tobi Ume, which was given by Dazaifu Tenmangu, are planted. There are many types such as early bloomers and late bloomers, and you can enjoy plum blossoms for a relatively long period of time. The best time to see is from mid-February to mid-March.

# Hokura Umebayashi

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About 40 minutes on foot northeast of Hankyu Okamoto Station



In 1975 (Showa 50), plum trees were planted on Mt. Hokura, one east of the valley, in response to the wishes of the inhabitants to revive Okamoto's plum grove. There are about 150 white plums and about 100 red plums such as Shirakaga and Maya Koume. With the cityscape of the city and the distant view of the sea in the background, it is a wonderful view. The best time to see is after mid-March.

## Symbol mark of the flower "ume" in Higashinada Ward

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The green on the top represents the mountain (Mt. Rokko), and the blue on the bottom represents the sea, designing the rich natural environment of Higashinada Ward surrounded by mountains and the sea. Plums are expressed at the foot of the mountain, and the white area on the border between the mountains and the sea is inspired by the symbol of the port city of Kobe, the seagull.

(Produced by: Designer Tokuyoshi Tanaka, member of the Behavioral Art Association)

