



The Experience

Ogie-bushi is a traditional shamisen music style designated as a National Important Intangible Cultural Property.

Passed down for over 250 years since the Edo period, this delicate and lyrical shamisen music holds exceptional artistic value in Japanese performing arts history. This exclusive program offers a private recital of this rare cultural treasure at a venue of your choice.

The experience features a 10-minute introduction to Ogie-bushi, followed by a 20-minute private performance. A hands-on shamisen trial is also available for a few guests upon request. This is an extraordinarily rare private recital that even most Japanese people seldom have the opportunity to experience.

Sales Points

National Cultural Treasure: Enjoy a private recital featuring the delicate sounds of a National Important Intangible Cultural Property.

Authentic Experience: Move beyond standard reception entertainment to truly connect with authentic, high-level Japanese culture.

The Aesthetics of Subtraction: Experience the profound Japanese spiritual worldview—an art form distilled down to its purest essence rather than a flashy spectacle.

Note: Guests are kindly requested to maintain quietness during the performance.

General Information

Contact: Kanagawa DMO

Business Hours: 9:00–17:00

Website: <https://www.kanagawa-kankou.or.jp/>

Phone: 045-681-0007

Email: product@kanagawa-kankou.or.jp

Tour Types

Individual Travel, Group Travel

Target

Culture seekers, Relaxation seekers, Authenticity seekers

Price (Tax Included)

Please inquire.

Includes

2 Vocalists (Uta-kata), 2 Shamisen Players, 1 Interpreter
 Performance: 15–20 mins + Hands-on Trial: 15 mins
 [Hands-on trial after the recital is optional upon request]
 [Program can also conclude with the performance only]

Meeting Point

Reception or Banquet Hall arranged by the client

Access

Depends on venue

Reservation Period

From 1 year to 20 days prior

Reservation Accepted

Year-round

Duration

Basic 15–30 minutes (Can be adjusted upon request; recommended to start right after the opening toast)

Group Size

From 1 guest up to venue capacity
 [Note for hands-on trial: 15 mins for up to 6 guests using **3 shamisen** in turns to touch, pluck strings, and take photos]

Private Tours

Available for private venues only

Languages

☒ English ☐ Chinese
☐ Others: Conversational English

Guide Provided?

No

About Ogie-bushi

Ogie-bushi is a traditional shamisen music style designated as a National Important Intangible Cultural Property.

Ogie-bushi: Delicate Melodies Expressing the "Heart of Japan" Across Time

"Ogie-bushi is not merely heard with the ears—it is felt with the heart and the atmosphere."

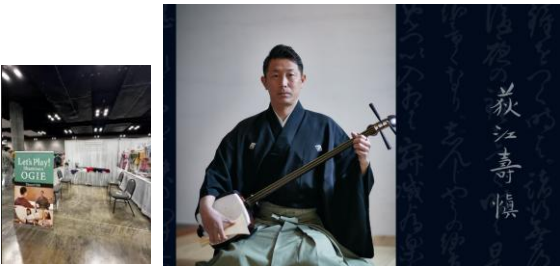
Ogie-bushi: The Art of Stillness & Minimalism

— Listening to 250 Years of Edo "Iki" (Refined Sophistication) —

Ogie-bushi is one of the world's most delicate musical genres. Originating in 18th-century Edo and designated as a **National Important Intangible Cultural Property**, it strips away ostentation to reveal the beauty of restraint. Welcome to the world of the **"Aesthetics of Subtraction."**



Performance on the
Kabuki-za Stage



Ogie-bushi Cultural Experience Booth in Hawaii

Key Aspects of Ogie-bushi

1. Private Sounds Away from the Bustle of the Theater

The history of Ogie-bushi began when star performers moved away from the bustling stages of Kabuki theaters—where thousands gathered—to perform in intimate "Ozashiki" (private tatami rooms). The close proximity of just a few meters between artist and audience gave birth to a unique style, allowing listeners to catch whispering, delicate vocals and the finest vibrations of every single note.

2. "Ma" (Negative Space): The Beauty Resting in Moments of Silence

If Western music is a culture of "addition" (layering sounds), Ogie-bushi is a culture of "subtraction" (distilling sounds).

Ultimate Minimalism: Notes are reduced to the absolute minimum, placing high value on the lingering resonance (*yogon*). When combined with the refined nobility favored by the samurai class, it formed Ogie-bushi's uniquely elegant worldview.

The Aesthetics of Silence: The empty space between notes—"Ma"—is the true essence of Ogie-bushi. This silence shares a meditative depth with Zen and the Way of Tea (*Chado*).

3. Intellectual Socializing Loved by Cultural Elites

Far from mere entertainment, Ogie-bushi was cherished as a refined cultural pursuit by Japan's leading literary figures and artists. Master creators such as novelist **Soseki Natsume** and painter **Ikuo Hirayama** polished their sensibilities through this music. It was, in essence, the "common language of creators" of that era.

4. Experiencing the "Heart of Japan" in Kamakura: Preserving & Passing Down Tradition

Today, this tradition is preserved through performances at Kabuki-za, the National Theatre, and international venues by masters such as **Ogie Jushin**. At the historic Kamakura practice studio, visitors can participate in workshops to touch the shamisen and experience this unique sense of "Ma" firsthand.