Thatched Roof Folk Art Museum

This was originally the Yamasaki family's private house. It was built some 180 years ago in Suntou, Yamasaki, Toyama City, and later restored and reconstructed here at the village. It is said that it took eight years to build, and it features huge beams and pillars made of Zelkova wood, designed to withstand the heaviest wind, rain, or snow. Naturally curved materials were used in the construction, since it was built in a deep valley and all artificial ornamentation has been removed so that a well-harmonized place of relaxation and work has been created. This structure is typical of thatched roof architecture (Gonro).

Clay Dolls Studio

Clay Dolls are made of soft clay, which is shaped into Taniyama*, Chinawares**, etc. before being colored and glazed.

Clay dolls originated with Toyohiro and Fujio, the 10th feudal lord of Toyama. In the middle of the Edo era, Maeda ordered craftsmen to make ceramic Tani dolls. Soon, both dolls have been close to the hearts of the people of Toyama as "Taniyama's." In the winter of 1983, a special studio was built in the village to preserve clay dolls as a traditional local toy.

*The spirit of the ancient Taniyama, who was politely treated at the 10th lord's house.
**Clay dolls are displayed during the Girls' Festival in early spring.
In 1895, to celebrate his father's 80th birthday, Nakabo Seizaburo donated the brick toys and moved to Toyama City. It had belonged to the Oizumi family from Aika, Kanazawa-Tozen, Hida City, Gifu Prefecture.

This large building features exterior port roofs and gables, solid pillars every 8.4 meters, connecting bases and giant eaves. This building to the right is the 'servants' bath' and the one to the left, a machine room for the home power plant.

The museum was built in order to protect, preserve and utilize the artefacts of Toyama City. The Tanaka family house of Nakamura, Yotsuba, Toyama City was moved, reconstructed and partly renovated here. It was originally built in the latter part of the Edo period and is now topped with gabled (Hiraguri) roofs. Compared to other houses on the Toyama Plain of the same style, the gables are not overly large. This style is also known as Uigusa-kultur in Yamada, Gifu Prefecture. The closer a house is to the mountains, the larger the gables are, so that they will not collapse under heavy snow.

This museum was built to preserve and utilize the folkloric related to the medicine peddler (Baiyukus) of Toyama who have a tradition of some 300 years. Exhibits are classified into the following four major categories: history of the peddlers, tools used by peddlers, tools used in the manufacture of medicine, and items such as wares and tools related to religion. With the cooperation of local hospital, this tradition is conveyed culture and protected health all over Japan. Some materials displayed in this museum have been designated cultural properties by the Ministry of Education.

Memorial Art Gallery of Gyosai Takamura
A Sumi painter who opened up an original path in painting with his eminent technique and who is noted for his unorthodoxy. "Gyosai" chose Chinese and Japanese elements as the subjects for his paintings, and developed a tense atmosphere. By using kakejiku (technique of ink rubbing with a dry brush) to produce two-dimentional lines, he created an original world of dynamic and beautiful Sumi painting.

Museum of Ceramic Art

Originally from Furumihara, Toyama City, this building was the Onsai family house. It epitomises the roof style of architecture (Kiritzu-kunin in Toyama as Azumado). Looking up from the facade, the grand line of the roof, by the gable, the straight composition of the brace and the bundle against the contrasting white walls is striking. Inside, the space is arranged not as surprising as the exterior but utilitarian - a large tatami room, a room with sliding doors, a room with a roof structure (Sekiro). A 6.3 meter above, with a ceiling of lacquered Tatsuyama cedar, displays the passion of the ethnic people toward housing. Everyday pottery is displayed here.

Museum of Archaeology

Sendoji Jidai (Pre-Edo Period Age)... In this era, human beings broke stones and used them as tools. The stone tools used in the manufacture of medicine, and items such as wares and tools related to religion. With the cooperation of local hospital, this tradition is conveyed culture and protected health all over Japan. Some materials displayed in this museum have been designated cultural properties by the Ministry of Education.