

History of Tomari Port

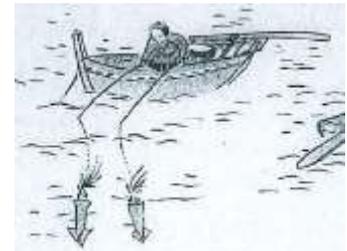
Everything you have to know about the fishing port in Tomari!



1 Traditional Fishing and Fishing Port

【Mat.1】 Study Guide to Voyagers in Edo Period, from “Records of Japans Sea Routes”

「The port of Tomari was a difficult harbor. When the sea wind blows, it does not let a single ship leave the port.」



Traditional Squid Fishing

【Mat.2】 (1930):「Tomari - Nakamura Miyokichis Childhood Stories」

「Squid fishing boats leave the harbor in the evening and fish until the morning in the deep waters (about 40 m), while moving the fishing rods up and down. As soon as I became a



Abalone Fishing with Dugout Canoes around 1960

5th or 6th grader, I would join fishing tours on smaller boats. When the sea was rough, we would either find shelter in the harbor of Shiranuka or we would even take the long 6 hour ride to Hachinohe harbor.」

【Mat.3】 (1965): Port of Tomari and Squid Fishing



Fishermen with boats waiting for the waves to calm down



Pushing the boats into the waters



Squid fishing and unloading

2 Changes in Fishing and Fishing Ports

Changes Aboard the Fishing Boats



「Nowadays ships are equipped with radars and lights.」



「The boats as well as the harbor are a lot bigger, too!」

Compare the Pictures of Yakeyama Fishing Port of 1968 and 2009



Chronology of Tomari Fishing Port

Year	Main Events ◇Fisheries Association ●Development through Village/Country/Prefecture ・Other
1965	・ Strong wind in combination with a storm surge washed away and/or destroyed 60 fisher boats, destroyed 51 houses, flooded 164 houses and injured 21 people. Total damage: 190 Million Yen.
1966	◇The Fisheries Association asks the prefectural government to transform Tomari fishing port into a well-equipped evacuation port.
1967	●680 m long breakwaters (levee protection works) south of Tomari fishing port are finished and will be further extended for another 650 m southwards. ◇Tomari Fisheries Association finished the construction of a “fresh fish handling station” to process and pack fish, opened a radio station to contact fishing boats directly, and finished the construction of a gas station.
1969	●Yakeyama fishing port and Tomari fishing port become designated evacuation ports (type 4 fishing port).

2002 ~ 2018	●National and prefectural government further develop Yakeyama port. New breakwaters off the coast and other facilities to protect the harbor are constructed. The construction of a bridge for transporters (Yakeyama Ôhashi) has been finished. The village built a new landing site, and a new cargo handling site for processing and packing fish. A new ice production and storage site has been constructed.
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3 Future of Fishery in Tomari

The influence of the port development on life in Tomari



Tomari Fisheries Association Mr.Yoshimi Taneichi

「Tomari fishing port is close to the fishing grounds, where squid, sardines and bonito are caught. Therefore, a lot of people came to live in Tomari. We used to use the sandy Tomari fishing port, but when the waves were too high, the boats couldn't leave the harbor. Since fishing boats were getting bigger, too, we moved to Yakeyama fishing port around 1975 and since 1998 we have breakwaters and other protection sites, ship landing sites and cargo handling facilities, as well as an ice production and storage facility. This helps us to send fresh fish safer and quicker. On top of that, the damage from storm surges has been reduced. However, we're now confronted with another problem: the decrease in fish resources.」



Fishing boats in Yakeyama port



Tomari Fisheries Association and Cargo Handling Facility



Unloading of Fishing Boat



Landscape of Yakeyama Fishing Port : At the back you can see the big bridge
(*Yakeyama Ohashi*)