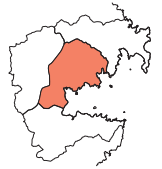


History of Minamisanriku Sun Sun Shopping Village

A place of brightly shining smiles



▲ Commemorative photo at the temporary Minamisanriku Sun Sun Shopping Village.
Never without a smile on their faces, the shopkeepers of Minamisanriku walked the path to recovery with the support of people from all over the country.

Faced with the tragic reality that everything was lost in the tsunami, Minamisanriku shopkeepers at first found it difficult to even imagine rebuilding their businesses. However, the warm encouragement of the townspeople and the volunteers from all over Japan who visited the Minamisanriku Recovery Market, which was held soon after the earthquake, motivated the shopkeepers to get back on their feet.

On February 25th, 2012, the temporary Minamisanriku Sun Sun Shopping Village opened during a snowstorm. The shopping village enjoyed over a million visitors and became a symbol of shopping streets in the tsunami-stricken areas that have their hopes set on recovery.

March 3rd, 2017 saw the completion and opening of the permanent shopping street in the center of the former Shizugawa district, where the land had been raised. The basic design of the shops is the work of architect Kengo Kuma. A fresh start was made with 28 stores, including restaurants and fishmongers.

Carefully nurturing relationships with supporters from all over the country, the shopkeepers of Minamisanriku have walked the path to recovery.

The shopping street has also won a range of awards based on its achievements. Their hearts filled with gratitude, the shopkeepers continue the hard work of creating a heartwarming shopping experience for people.



▲ On March 3rd, 2017, the permanent Minamisanriku Sun Sun Shopping Village opened on reclaimed land that had been raised 10 meters in the center of the Shizugawa District.