

## 11. Wakaura Sightseeing Promenade (Vol. 6-918)

### Monument Text

Yamabe no Akahito

okitsushima arisonotamamo shiohimichite kakuroiyukaba omooemukamo

### Explanation

This poem is from volume six of the classical Japanese poetry collection *Man'yōshū* (poem number 918). In 724, Emperor Shōmu visited Tamatsushima in Kinokuni (present-day Wakayama Prefecture) for a period of around 14 days, and this poem focused on the distant islands was composed by Yamabe no Akahito, one who was in the company of the emperor. It depicts the low tide beginning to move towards full tide, with the seaweed off the coast of the wave-beaten shore swaying and gradually disappearing into the sea. Through the description of the movement of the beautiful seaweed, the poem touches on being moved by the mysteries of nature.

The inscription on the monument is the work of Ujita Shōzō.