



An interior view shows Nishikata Ryota (older son) and Nishikata Tadashi (father), shaping silver teapots, and Hiroshi (younger son), shaping a copper "tokkuri" sake flask, in the Nishikata Family's third-generation metalsmithing studio, "Seigado" (known for its fine hollowware expertly crafted of copper and silver), in Yahiko Town at the foot of sacred Mt. Yahiko, in the Tsubame area (a prominent metal manufacturing center naturally replete with copper resources), located in Niigata Prefecture near the Japan Sea in Japan's Chubu central region.

Images and captions provided by Ben Simmons Photography



A detailed interior view shows Nishikata Tadashi (father), shaping a silver teapot in the Nishikata Family's third-generation metalsmithing studio, "Seigado" (known for its fine hollowware expertly crafted of copper and silver), in Yahiko Town at the foot of sacred Mt. Yahiko, in the Tsubame area (a prominent metal manufacturing center naturally replete with copper resources), located in Niigata Prefecture near the Japan Sea in Japan's Chubu central region.

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A detailed interior view shows the annealing process (softening a silver teapot form for shaping), in the Nishikata Family's third-generation silversmithing studio, "Seigado" (known for its fine hollowware expertly crafted of copper and silver), in Yahiko Town at the foot of sacred Mt. Yahiko, in the Tsubame area (a prominent metal manufacturing center naturally replete with copper resources), located in Niigata Prefecture near the Japan Sea in Japan's Chubu central region.

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A detailed interior view shows Nishikata Ryota (older son), shaping a silver teapot in the Nishikata Family's third-generation metalsmithing studio, "Seigado" (known for its fine hollowware expertly crafted of copper and silver), in Yahiko Town at the foot of sacred Mt. Yahiko, in the Tsubame area (a prominent metal manufacturing center naturally replete with copper resources), located in Niigata Prefecture near the Japan Sea in Japan's Chubu central region.

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A detailed interior view shows an array of specialized wooden "kizuchi" mallets (used in the metal-shaping process), in the Nishikata Family's third-generation metalsmithing studio, "Seigado" (known for its fine hollowware expertly crafted of copper and silver), in Yahiko Town at the foot of sacred Mt. Yahiko, in the Tsubame area (a prominent metal manufacturing center naturally replete with copper resources), located in Niigata Prefecture near the Japan Sea in Japan's Chubu central region.

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An interior view shows the respected metalsmith, Ueno Toshio (a craftsman for more than 60 years), displaying a silver teapot created in his studio, known for fine hollowware expertly crafted of copper and silver, in Tsubame City (a prominent metal manufacturing center naturally replete with copper resources), located in Niigata Prefecture near the Japan Sea in Japan's Chubu central region.

Images and captions provided by Ben Simmons Photography



A morning view shows the Nishikata Family's third-generation metalsmithing studio, "Seigado" (known for its fine hollowware expertly crafted of copper and silver), in Yahiko Town at the foot of sacred Mt. Yahiko, in the Tsubame area (a prominent metal manufacturing center naturally replete with copper resources), located in Niigata Prefecture near the Japan Sea in Japan's Chubu central region.

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An interior view shows Nishikata Hiroshi (younger son), shaping a copper "tokkuri" saké flask, and Tadashi (father), shaping a silver teapot, at the Nishikata Family's third-generation metalsmithing studio, "Seigado" (known for its fine hollowware expertly crafted of copper and silver), in Yahiko Town at the foot of sacred Mt. Yahiko, in the Tsubame area (a prominent metal manufacturing center naturally replete with copper resources), located in Niigata Prefecture near the Japan Sea in Japan's Chubu central region.

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A detailed view shows Nishikata Misato (Ryota's wife), carefully burnishing a copper "guinomi" sake cup, after the mineral water-bath coloring process), at the Nishikata Family's third-generation metalsmithing studio, "Seigado" (known for its fine hollowware expertly crafted of copper and silver), in Yahiko Town at the foot of sacred Mt. Yahiko, in the Tsubame area (a prominent metal manufacturing center naturally replete with copper resources), located in Niigata Prefecture near the Japan Sea in Japan's Chubu central region.

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An interior view shows Nishikata Ryota (older son) and his wife, Misato, carefully coloring copper tumblers using a series of water baths including "iyo" minerals (from the Beppu hot springs region), with his mother, Renko, drying the finished pieces, at the Nishikata Family's third-generation metalsmithing studio, "Seigado" (known for its fine hollowware expertly crafted of copper and silver), in Yahiko Town at the foot of sacred Mt. Yahiko, in the Tsubame area (a prominent metal manufacturing center naturally replete with copper resources), located in Niigata Prefecture near the Japan Sea in Japan's Chubu central region.

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A detailed interior view shows a pure silver teapot (created by Nishikata Ryota), with "akebi" (chocolate vine) wrapping the handle, on a wood plank table in the upper level of the gallery display area at the Nishikata Family's third-generation metalsmithing studio, "Seigado" (known for its fine hollowware expertly crafted of copper and silver), in Yahiko Town at the foot of sacred Mt. Yahiko, in the Tsubame area (a prominent metal manufacturing center naturally replete with copper resources), located in Niigata Prefecture near the Japan Sea in Japan's Chubu central region.

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