

市長のご挨拶

**稼とまち 笑顔あふれる 南国市」** 

南国市長平山耕一



南国市は高知県の中央部に位置し、北部は山間地で四国山地に接し、南部には高知平野が広がり、太平洋に面しています。温暖な気候と広い耕地に恵まれ、古くから稲作や施設園芸が盛んな田園都市です。律令時代には土佐の国衙が置かれ、平安時代に国司として赴任した紀貫之が、帰京する際の心情を綴った紀行文が「土佐日記」です。戦国時代に長宗我部元親の本拠地となった岡豊城址は国指定史跡となっています。

空の玄関・高知龍馬空港、陸の玄関・高知自動車道南国I.C.を有し、高知新港に隣接するなど、優れたアクセス機能を持っています。平成27年度には、四国8の字ルートを構成する高知東部自動車道「高知南国道路」も開通し、さらにJR土讃線後免駅から県東部へは、ごめん・なはり線で結び、路面電車も走るなど、高知県の交通の要衝となっており、この特性を生かして、企業誘致に積極的に取り組んでいます。

また、市内には高知大学医学部・農林海洋科学部、高知工業高等専門学校の高等教育機関が集中する学園都市でもあります。

本市は、第4次総合計画において、「緑とまち 笑顔あふれる 南国市」を将来像に掲げ、高知の玄関都市として、また、企業誘致による新産業拠点、スポーツ、文化、教育などの交流拠点として、豊かな自然を暮らしの中に生かし、充実した都市機能を備えた環境の中で、だれもが心豊かに過ごすことのできるまちづくりを目指しています。

この要覧を通して、本市の現状と将来像をご理解いただき、さらなる 市勢発展にお力添えいただければ幸いです。

## Official address by Mayor

Nankoku City is located in the center of Kochi Prefecture facing the Pacific Ocean. The northern part of the city is mountainous and connects with the Shikoku Mountains. In the southern part of the city lies the Kochi Plain. The area is blessed with a temperate climate and spacious stretches of cultivated land. It is a rural city with a long history of rice cultivation and greenhouse farming. During the Ritsuryo period, it was the seat of the Tosa Provincial governorate, and during the Heian period, Ki no Tsurayuki, who had been appointed provincial governor, described his feelings when returning to Kyoto in a travel piece called Tosa Nikki (Tosa Diary). The Oko Castle Ruins, which served as Chosokabe Motochika's headquarters during the Sengoku period, has been designated a historical site by the national government.

The city possesses excellent accessibility, including the nearby Kochi New Port, as well as Kochi Ryoma Airport as its aerial gateway and Kochi Expressway's Nankoku Interchange as its land-based gateway. In 2015, the Kochi Nankoku Road (National Route 55) opened as a section of the Kochi-Tobu Expressway, which forms a figure eight shaped route around Shikoku. In addition, Gomen Station on the JR Dosan Line connects the city to the eastern portion of the prefecture via the Gomen-Nahari Line. Together with the streetcar system, these make the city a key transportation hub for Kochi Prefecture. Making the most of these characteristics, we are actively engaged in attracting new businesses into the area.

It is also a university town with a cluster of institutions of higher education, including Kochi Medical School and Kochi University's Faculty of Agriculture and Marine Science, as well as Kochi College's National Institute of Technology.

In its 4th comprehensive plan, the city set its future vision as "Full of Smiles & Green, Nankoku City." The city aims to build a community where anyone can be comfortable and satisfied amidst an environment that offers full urban functionality and makes the most of the area's rich natural environment in daily life, as Kochi's gateway city, as a hub for new industry through attracting businesses, and as a hub of exchange for sports, culture, education, and more.

We hope this guidebook provides an understanding of the city's current situation and future vision, and that you will cooperate in the further development of the city.