

## **Tableware used on the occasion of G7 the Ise-Shima Summit**

## Banko Ware Sake Toasting Cups (Yokkaichi)



Yokkaichi Banko sake cup with Morie mounted on gold & silvercoated base. These sake cups that form a pair feature raised illustrations called Morie, a traditional technique adopted in Yokkaichi Banko Ware (designated as traditional craft by Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry) that is a specialty of Mie Prefecture. The images displayed on the cups represent the ocean that symbolizes the nature in Ise Shima and cherry blossoms in Japan's traditional design. The sake cups were used for the toast at the Ise Shima Summit as items to introduce the beauty of Japan's traditions and the long-established arts handed down in Mie prefecture where the summit was held. The master craftsman (Mr. Suigetsu Shimizu in charge of molding) serves as Chairman of The Banko Pottery Cooperative Association. He presented his crafts to the Emperor in 1990 during the Ceremony of Enthronement and was awarded the title Person of Cultural Merits by the Yokkaichi municipal government in 2011.

## Echizen Lacquer Futamigaura Bowl with Makie of Meotoiwa (Wedded Rocks)



This Echizen lacquer bowl is handcrafted, with each piece painstakingly carved out of Mizumezakura wood, a top-grade material known for its solid texture and firm surface that produces a beautiful finish. The Maki-e gold lacquer applied in a brilliant finish depicts the image of one of the top tourist sights in Mie Prefecture: the famed Meotoiwa, a pair of rocks representing a husband and wife, in Futamigaura. As a user-friendly device, a tiny hole pierced on the lid helps prevent the lid from sticking to the bowl and enables the user to open it easily with one hand.

## Ise Shunkei Lacquer Double Bento Lunch Box



These stacked boxes were produced using the traditional craft of Ise Shunkei, a style of lacquerware appreciated for its feel and exquisite texture that has enjoyed popularity in Ise since the Edo Period into the Showa Period. Clear urushi (traditional lacquer) is used as coating to reveal the grains, letting the emerging natural wood pattern manifest the spirit of people in Ise who have held simple lifestyles in high esteem. The partition inside the box is movable to be adjusted to suit the entree and so that smaller bowls or dishes can be placed inside.