

# Tourist Information Center

In TOCHIGI, there are a number of tourist information centers that can help international travelers in English. If you need any assistance, please contact one of the centers below :

## List of JNTO certified Foreign Tourist Information Center

[http://www.jnto.go.jp/jpn/reference/visitor\\_support/tic/list.html](http://www.jnto.go.jp/jpn/reference/visitor_support/tic/list.html)

### Utsunomiya city Tourist Information Center

(Open: 8:30 - 20:00 Close: year-end  
and new-year holidays)

TEL +81-28-636-2177

### Tourist Information in Tobu-Nikko Station

(Open all year round: 8:30 - 17:00)

TEL +81-288-53-4511

### Tourist Information Center in JR Nikko Station

(Open all year round: 9:00 - 17:30)

TEL +81-288-25-3275

### Kyodo Center Tourist Information Office

(Open: 9:00 - 17:00)

Close: year-end and new-year holidays)

TEL +81-288-54-2496

### Kinugawa/Kawaji Onsen Tourist Information Center

(Open all year round: 8:30 - 18:00)

Dec. to Feb.: 8:30 - 17:30)

TEL +81-288-77-2052

### Roadside Sta. Yunishigawa Information Center

(Open all year round: 9:00 - 17:00)

TEL +81-288-78-1222

### Roadside Sta. Nikko, Tourist Information Office

(Open all year round: 9:00 - 17:00)

TEL +81-288-22-1525

### Roadside Sta. Nasukougen Yuai-no-mori

(Open all year round: 8:00 - 18:00 [Apr. to Oct.]  
9:00 - 18:00 [Nov. to Mar.])

TEL +81-287-78-0233

### NEXCO Higashi-nihon Nasukogen SA

#### Down line Information

(Open all year round: 8:00 - 18:30)

TEL +81-287-72-5973

### NEXCO Higashi-nihon Nasukogen SA

#### Up line Information

(Open all year round: 8:30 - 19:00)

TEL +81-287-72-1606

### NEXCO Higashi-nihon Sano SA

#### Down line Information

(Open all year round: 9:00 - 19:00 [Mon. to Fri.]

8:00 - 19:00 [Sat., Sun. & holidays])

TEL +81-283-23-0232

### NEXCO Higashi-nihon Sano SA

#### Up line Information

(Open all year round: 8:00 - 20:00)

TEL +81-283-23-8855

The rich history and culture represented by the World Heritage Site - Shrines and Temples of Nikko, the beautiful nature, an abundance of hot spring resorts and a variety of food. Let me introduce you to the charm of "TOCHIGI" in all seasons.



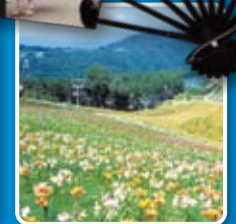
TOCHIGI PREFECTURE  
TOURISM DIVISION

TEL +81-28-623-3309  
FAX +81-28-623-3306  
URL <http://travel.tochigiji.or.jp/en/>

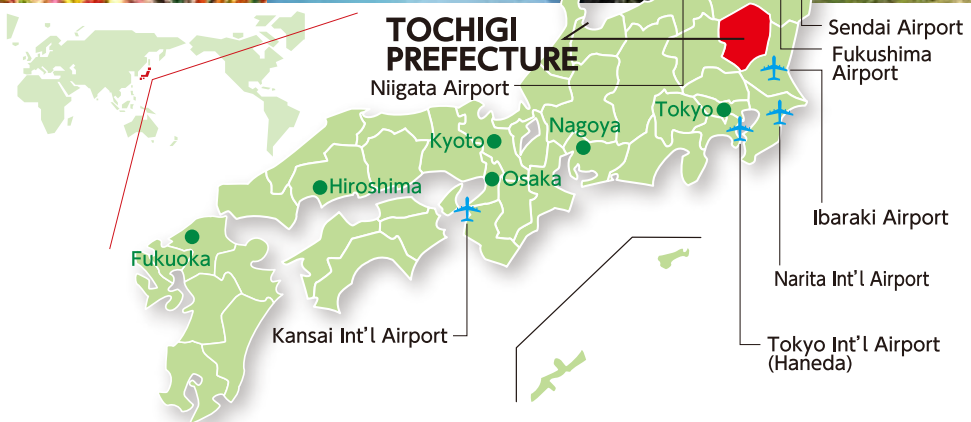
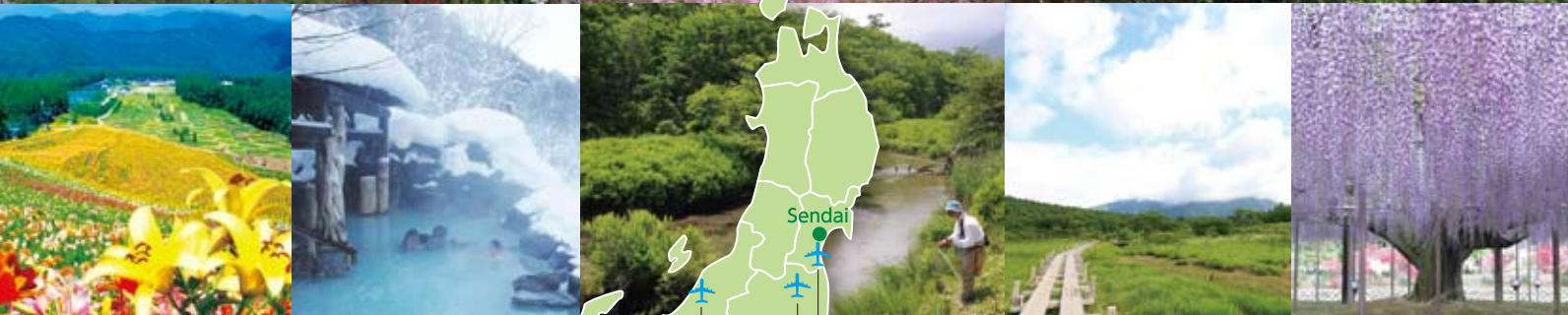


# TOCHIGI

## TOCHIGI PREFECTURE TRAVEL GUIDE

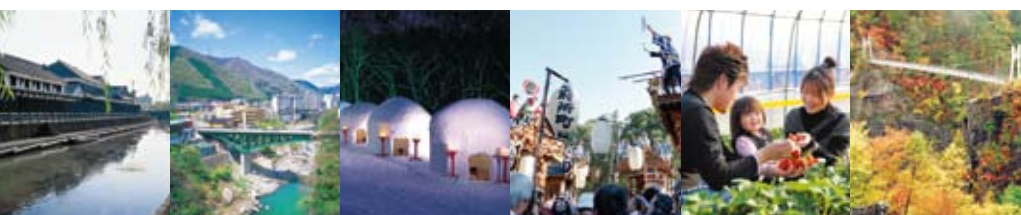


# WELCOME TO TOCHIGI!



## About TOCHIGI

TOCHIGI Prefecture is located 50 minutes away by Shinkansen from Tokyo to its capital city, Utsunomiya. Blessed with beautiful nature such as Oku-nikko and Nasu Highland that have distinctive seasonal changes, it's also rich with historical and cultural heritage such as the World Heritage Site – the Shrines and Temples of Nikko. Hot springs that boast in output volume and high quality spring water are scattered across the prefecture. Apart from top production volume of strawberries in Japan, TOCHIGI also has a variety of delicious specialties such as Yuba bean curd skin and Tochigi Wagyu Beef. It can be said that TOCHIGI is a tourism prefecture that embodies the essence of Japan.



**Transport Information** ... P2  
Details of how to get to TOCHIGI

**Tourist Attractions in TOCHIGI** ... P4  
World Heritage Site, Traditional Culture, Nature, Hot Springs and Food

**Four Seasons in TOCHIGI** ... P6  
Flowers, Seasonal Events and Traditional Culture

**NIKKO AREA** ..... P8  
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(Nikko Nature Area)

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**CENTRAL AREA** ..... P20  
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**CENTRAL AREA** ..... P22  
(Eastern Area)

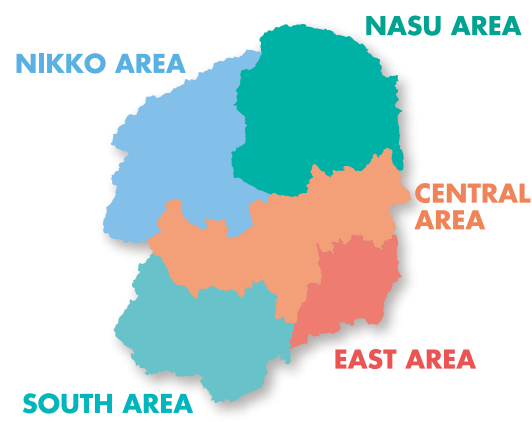
**SOUTH AREA** ..... P23  
(Ashikaga/Sano/Tochigi/Oyama Area)

**EAST AREA** ..... P26  
(Haga/Mashiko Area)

**MAP of TOCHIGI** ..... P28  
Color-coded easy-to-read regional map

## Five tourist areas in TOCHIGI

TOCHIGI Prefecture is made up of five areas: the Nikko Area, famous for the World Heritage Site – “Shrines and Temples of Nikko”, lies in the north-western part of the prefecture; the Nasu Area with the northern mountain range as its backdrop is famous for its highland resorts; the East Area where you can experience traditional art craft such as pottery-making; Ashikaga/Sano/Tochigi/Oyama make up the South Area that is rich in historical culture, and finally the Central Area that is led by the industrial city of Utsunomiya.



# Easy access to TOCHIGI

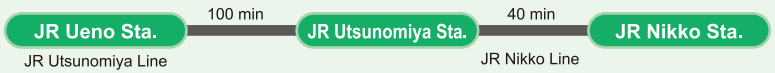
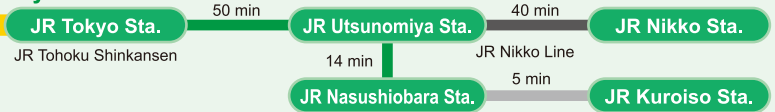
Transport to TOCHIGI can be summarized into three types of method – automobiles that use expressways, JR Shinkansen/conventional line, and Tobu Railway. By Tobu, it will take 110 minutes from Asakusa Station, where the SKYTREE is, to the city of Nikko. By JR, it takes 50 minutes on Shinkansen from Tokyo Station to Utsunomiya. If taking the expressways, it takes 80 minutes from Kawaguchi JCT to Kanuma IC in the Central Area of the prefecture.

TOCHIGI and TOKYO are very close!

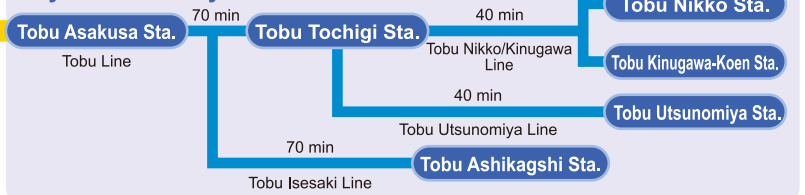


Scan above for the official tourism website of Tochigi prefecture.

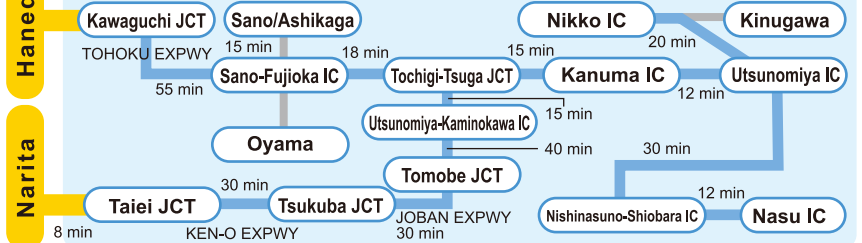
## By JR



## By Tobu Railway



## By Expressway



## TOCHIMARU SHOP

TOCHIMARU SHOP is located in Tokyo Skytree, the tallest free-standing broadcasting tower in the world. The shop showcases all the local specialties in TOCHIGI prefecture. Many people visit here everyday. You can buy TOCHIGI's famous strawberries, dairy products, Gyoza dumpling, and traditional folk crafts such as Mashiko-yaki potteries. General tourist information about TOCHIGI is also provided.

### Who is TOCHIMARU?

TOCHIMARU, the official TOCHIGI mascot appearing in various prefectural PR events, is designed based on the prefecture tree – Horse Chestnut.



## TOKYO SKYTREE

The 634-meter-high Tokyo Skytree is recognized by the Guinness World Records as the tallest broadcasting tower in the world. Situated 100 kilometers north of Tokyo Skytree, the prefectural city of TOCHIGI – Utsunomiya is within close proximity and takes only 110 minutes by railway from Asakusa to Nikko Station.

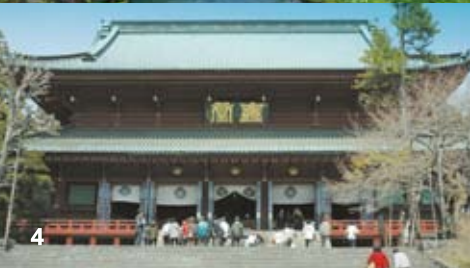


# Attractions in TOCHIGI

TOCHIGI consists of the northern mountainous terrain that gently slopes to the southern plains over its rich and fertile plateaus. The beautiful natural environment transforms along with its four distinct seasons. It's rich with historical and cultural heritage including the World Heritage Site – Shrines and Temples of Nikko. It's blessed with hot springs that boast in output volume and high quality spring water. Apart from top production volume of strawberries in Japan, TOCHIGI also has a variety of delicious specialties such as Yuba (bean curd skin), Ramen (Japanese noodle soup) and Tochigi Wagyu Beef. TOCHIGI is indeed a tourism prefecture that embodies the essence of Japan.

## World Heritage Site Shrines and Temples of Nikko

Comprised of Nikko Shrine, Nikko Futarasan Shrine, and Nikko-zan Rinnoji Temple, Shrines and Temples of Nikko is a UNESCO listed World Heritage Site. The site is located in Nikko Sannai, a sacred region with over 1,250 years of history. Spots flowing with Mystical energy are all over the area creating a quiet and solemn atmosphere.



## Experience

Enjoy a variety of leisure activities in TOCHIGI such as outdoor sports, interactions with animals, and pottery making.



## Nature and Hot Springs

From spring (Apr~May) blossoms to the snowy winter (Dec~Jan), TOCHIGI enjoys four colorful distinct seasons. There are also an abundance of hot springs that boast both in quantity and quality. Please enjoy the seasonal sceneries and the plentiful hot springs while basking in the beauty of nature.



## Delicious Cuisine

Traditional foods like Nikko Yuba (bean curd skin) and Nikko Yokan (sweet bean jelly) have been passed down throughout history. The taste of Utsunomiya Gyoza (dumplings) earns itself one of the highest consumption rates in Japan; Sano Ramen continues to expand noodle traditions, and the rivalry for the best Soba noodles in town is as fierce as ever. All of these are delicious fruit of the labor of love from the rich land of TOCHIGI and its people.



# Feel the Changing Four Seasons in TOCHIGI

With beautiful sceneries painting four distinctive seasons, TOCHIGI is ever changing all year round.



**春** Spring  
Mar~May



**夏** Summer  
Jun~Aug



**秋** Autumn  
Sep~Nov



**冬** Winter  
Dec~Feb

In spring (Mar~May), azaleas, cherry blossoms and field mustards are in full bloom everywhere in TOCHIGI. Cherry blossoms start blooming between April and May and spread colorful sceneries throughout TOCHIGI.



Cherry Blossom Avenue of Soutome (Central Area)



Azaleas of Yahata (Nasu Area)



Rafting (Nasu Area)



Scenic walk in Senjogahara Plateau (Nikko Area)



Hunter Mountain Lily Park (Nasu Area)

In summer (Jun~Aug), rare flowers are in full bloom in Oku-nikko and Nasu Highland. Boat tours and river rafting are popular activities as well as fishing and fish-trapping using Yana (a type of fishing weir).

Autumn (Sep~Nov) with autumn leaves extending from Nikko and Nasu highlands is highly recommended. Many people enjoy visiting famous autumn leaf-viewing spots scattered across TOCHIGI.

Irohazaka winding Rd (Nikko Area)



Nichien Momiji Line (Nikko Area)

Nikko National Park Nasu Heisei-no-mori Forest (Nasu Area)



Hunter Mountain Shiobara (Nasu Area)

Chuzenji Hot Spring Snow Hut Festival (Nikko Area)



Yunishigawa Hot Spring (Nikko Area)

In winter (Dec~Feb), the northern area of TOCHIGI transforms into a picture-postcard view of snow and ice. Not only highlands and ski resorts, canyons and lakes are also painted in wintry colors.

Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb

NIKKO AREA

Nikko World Heritage Site

With over 1,250 years of history, there are many historic and cultural heritage in the Nikko Area. Among them, the scenery of the blend of ancient constructions and nature is especially spectacular at the 1999 UNESCO listed World Heritage Site – Shrines and Temples of Nikko. Blessed with a diverse nature, Oku-nikko greets visitors with its colorful sceneries. Also, Oku-nikko Wetlands are registered under the Ramsar Convention. Nikko is a place where its history is in tune with the natural surroundings.



**Three Wise Monkeys** 三猿 (日光東照宮) (Nikko Toshogu Shrine)



By depicting the life cycle of a monkey, the eight pieces of wood carvings located on Shinkyusha (Sacred Stable) in Toshogu Shrine symbolizes the path of human life. Among the carvings, the famous Three Wise Monkeys conveys the Buddhist teaching to grow up truthfully by "not see, speak or hear evil" as a child.

MAP C-6

**Nikko Toshogu Shrine** 日光東照宮

P MAP C-6

Tokugawa Ieyasu, the first Shogun of the Tokugawa Shogunate in the Edo era is worshiped here. The elaborate and sophisticated sculptures in the national treasures of Yomeimon Gate, Karamon Gate, Sleeping Cat and Three Wise Monkeys which are carved by top-class skilled workers of the day and will amaze with superb details and craftsmanship. In recent years, it has gained popularity as a location flowing with mystical energy. Voice guidance is available in various languages.



**Tamozaawa Imperial Villa Memorial Park** 田母沢御用邸記念公園

P MAP C-6

The mansion and garden ensemble was built as a recreational villa for Emperor Taisho (the Crown Prince at the time). It now functions as a memorial park open to the public. Visitors can view places such as Gozasho (The Imperial Chamber) and the study where His Majesty used to manage government affairs. Beautiful plants are grown all year round in the garden. The magnificent 400-year-old Weeping Cherry Tree, in particular, is a sight not to be missed. Free park guide is available.



**Kanman-ga-fuchi Abyss** 神瀧

A small gorge by the Daiyagawa River that was formed from lava is now a popular scenic spot. A row of approximately 70 Jizos (stone statue) with gentle facial expressions are lined up along the walking rail on the southern riverside. From the temple by the riverside, you can enjoy the stunning color contrast between the greenery and the white streams seeping through cracked rocks.



**Shinkyō Sacred Bridge** 神橋

Located at the entrance of Nikko Sannai, the wooden vermilion-lacquered bridge is also registered as a World Heritage. The legend has it that two snakes set free by deities entwined themselves over the Daiya River. With grass growing on their backs, the snakes eventually transformed into a bridge.

**Taiyūin Mausoleum** 家光廟大猷院

P MAP C-6

This mausoleum belongs to Iemitsu Tokugawa – the third successive Shogun of the Edo era. Within the precinct, there are 22 pieces of National Treasures and Important Cultural Properties which are registered as World Heritage. Following Iemitsu's will the construction is more modest than the Toshogu Shrine with restrained use of color and carving, creating a heavy yet tranquil atmosphere. It is also a famous maple leaf-viewing spot.



P MAP C-6

**Nikko-zan Rinnoji Temple Sanbutsu-doh Hall** 日光山輪王寺三仏堂

The collection of Buddhist temples in Nikko Sannai are aggregately called Rinnoji. Including the main hall (Sanbutsu-doh Hall) where three statues of Buddha reside, there are 38 constructions that are registered as World Heritage. (The restoration of Sanbutsu-doh Hall will be completed by March 2019.)

日光の祭り  
Festivals in Nikko



**Hyakumono-Zoroe Sennin Gyoretsu** (The Samurai Style 1,000-person Procession)

百物揃千人武者行列

A re-enactment of the relocation of Ieyasu Tokugawa's remains to Nikko. This main event of Nikko Toshogu Temple Grand Festival is held on 18th May and 17th October every year. Dressed in extravagant costumes, around 1,200 shrine parishioners parade down the streets while performing exquisite dances.



**Yayoi-sai Festival**

弥生祭

An annual festival held in Futarasan Shrine lasting 5 days between 13th~17th April. A fleet of portable shrines decorated in artificial cherry blossoms joyfully parade through the town. Also known as the festival that brings spring to Nikko. Tourists can also take part in carrying the portable shrine, please feel free to give it a try!



**Nikko Sannai Area**

The region comprised of Nikko Toshogu Shrine, Nikko-zan Rinnoji Temple and Futarasan Shrine is called Nikko Sannai. It is a sanctuary that is also tourist-friendly with facilities such as parking and public toilets.

Landmarks on map include: Futara-reisen Spiritual Fountain, Kaizan-doh hall, Nikko Toshogu Shrine, Nikko Toshogu Museum, Yomeimon Gate, Shinkyu-sha Sacred Stable, Five Storied Pagoda, Rinnōji Sanbutsu-doh Hall, Nikko-zan Rinnoji Temple, Rinnōji Hon-doh Main-Hall, Nikko Tamozaawa Imperial Villa, Nikko Memorial Park, Nikko Botanical Garden, Nikko General Hall, Kosugi Hoan Museum of Art, Nikko, Treasure House of Rinnoji, Daiya River, Shinkyō Sacred Bridge, to Nikko Sta., to Kirifiri Highland, to Lake Chuzenji, to Bake-Jizo, Kanman-ga-fuchi Abyss, and Futarasan Pay Parking Lot.

Facilities on map include: P, P2, P3, P4, P5, P6, P7, P8, P9, P10, P11, P12, P13, P14, P15, P16, P17, P18, P19, P20, P21, P22, P23, P24, P25, P26, P27, P28, P29, P30, P31, P32, P33, P34, P35, P36, P37, P38, P39, P40, P41, P42, P43, P44, P45, P46, P47, P48, P49, P50, P51, P52, P53, P54, P55, P56, P57, P58, P59, P60, P61, P62, P63, P64, P65, P66, P67, P68, P69, P70, P71, P72, P73, P74, P75, P76, P77, P78, P79, P80, P81, P82, P83, P84, P85, P86, P87, P88, P89, P90, P91, P92, P93, P94, P95, P96, P97, P98, P99, P100.

## NIKKO AREA

## Nikko Nature Area



The Ramsar Convention registered  
"Oku-nikko Wetlands"

## Mt. Nantai and Lake Chuzenji



男体山と中禅寺湖

Lake Chuzenji was formed when a prehistoric eruption of the representative mountain of TOCHIGI, Mt. Nantai, blocked the flow of Daiya River. Boat tours and lakeside hiking are popular activities in the area. Cherry blossoms are in full bloom in May, and around October is the viewing season for maple leaves.



## Kegan Falls

華厳ノ滝

Water from Lake Chuzenji drops 97 meters to the rocks below. Surrounded in a dynamic yet solemn atmosphere, it is one of the three finest waterfalls in Japan. Going 100 meters down via an elevator built in the bedrock, you can observe splashes of water bouncing off the basin from a close distance.

## Cedar Avenue of Nikko

日光杉並木

The row of cedar trees planted across three avenues – Nikko, Reiheishi, and Aizu-nishi, is known for its distance and even listed in the Guinness Book of Records for the longest tree-lined avenue in the world. Cedars that are over 380 years old stand firmly on both sides of the street, making for an enjoyable peaceful walk.



## Tachiki Kannon Statue

立木観音

Chuzenji Tachiki Kannon Statue is a temple built on the shore of Lake Chuzenji. The name Tachiki Kannon comes from the legend that Priest Shoto hand-carved the Gohonzon (the principle object of worship) – Senju-Kannon (1000-armed Kannon), from a standing tree ("standing tree" is "Tachiki" in Japanese).



## Nikko Yokan (sweet bean jelly)

日光の羊羹

Yokan was first made as an item of offering to the shrines and temples, and gradually made available to the general visitors. The Nikko Yokan is a must-have gem for souvenir. Its taste is smooth, with just the right amount of sweetness.



## Nikko Yuba (bean curd skin)

日光の湯皮

Processed from soy bean, Yuba is made from the thin film formed on top of boiled soy milk. Nama-Yuba (non-dried fresh Yuba) is absolutely exquisite. It has also been used as a cooking ingredient in temples.



## Senjo-ga-hara Plateau/Odashiro-ga-hara Plateau

戦場ヶ原・小田代原

Registered as a Ramsar Convention wetland, a 2-hour hiking course is available via a natural exploration path circulating the marshland. Recommended time of visit are between mid-June to early August for the blooming alpine florals, and from late September to early October for the stunning colors of autumn foliage.



## Kirifuri-kogen Highland

霧降高原

The highland is situated 1,200 meters above sea level. Facilities such as a hiking course and camping grounds are available. Glancing down on the sea of clouds is a dreamlike experience. From June to July, the grassland is carpeted in yellow Kisuge Lilies.



## Nikko Kisuge Yellow Lily

ニッコウキスゲ

June to July is the blooming period for Nikko Kisuge Yellow Lilies on Kirifuri Highland. Walking paths are available for the enjoyment of the summer scenery in Nikko when the Kisuge Lilies turn yellow all over the highland.

日光の温泉  
Hot Springs in Nikko

Within the Nikko Nature Area, hot springs are available in places such as Yumoto, Kotoku and Chuzenji, where one can enjoy various types of spring water.

日光の名物  
Local Specialties in Nikko

## Trout Dishes

マス料理

Trout has long been used in dishes in hotels and local restaurants in Nikko. Whether simply baked in a hearth or featured on a famous hotel menu as a traditional French dish, there are various types of cooking to be tried.



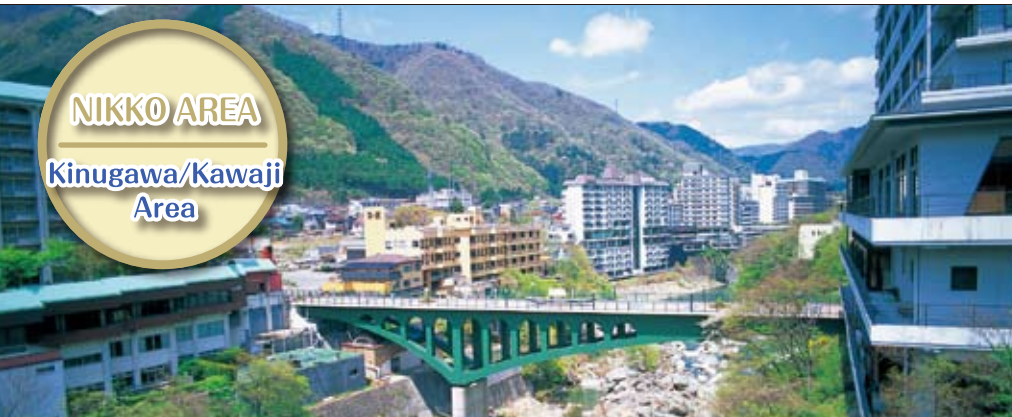
## Shaved ice using natural ice

天然かき氷

Natural ice refers to the ice stored in winter that is kept until summer (Jun-Aug) for use. There are only five icehouses in the country that still use this traditional storage method; three of them are from Nikko. Shaved ice using natural ice accumulated from Nikko's spring water tastes exceptional.



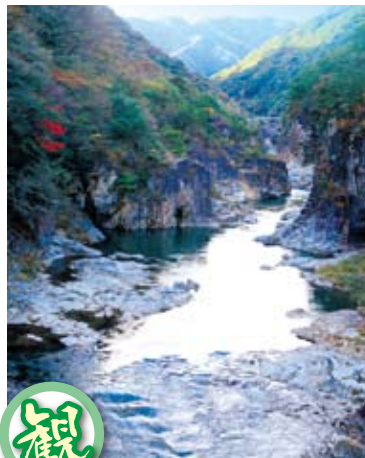
**NIKKO AREA**  
Kinugawa/Kawaji Area




**Kinugawa Hot Spring** 鬼怒川温泉  MAP E-5  
One of the famous hot spring villages in Japan. The shores of Kinugawa River are lined up with Ryokan (Japanese inns) and hotels. Together with Hakone and Atami, it is known as the "Annex of the Kanto Region". There are also many theme parks, ski fields and golf courses around the area.

**Kawaji Hot Spring**  MAP D-4  
川治温泉  
A quiet and homely hot spring village nestled in the valley. Enjoy soaking in the outdoor hot spring by the river while gazing upon the railway bridge. The view of trains running across the night sky is highly recommended. The beauty of maple leaves (Oct-Nov) is also a highlight.

**Ryuo-kyo Canyon**  MAP E-5  
龍王峡  
A place of scenic beauty known for its rugged landscape, formed by volcanic rocks erupted from submarine volcano activities 22 million years ago. It's almost as if a mad dragon had rummaged through the area. It is also famous for the stunning maple leaves during October and November.




**EDO WONDERLAND NIKKO**  MAP D-5  
EDO WONDERLAND 日光江戸村  
A theme park that recreates the town life during the Edo period. Aside from intense Ninja shows and elaborate Geisha performances, visitors can also try their hands at Japanese martial arts and indigo dyeing. Change into an Edo-period Kimono costume and take a stroll around the village is fun too.


**Tobu World Square**  MAP E-5  
東武ワールドスクウェア  
A theme park that exhibits precise replicas of world famous heritage and buildings in 1:25 scale. Including 45 World Heritage Sites such as the Pyramid and the Taj Mahal, there are 102 locations from 21 countries on display. A tour in the park feels almost like a tour around the world!

*Outdoor Activities*



**Nichien Momiji Line**  MAP E-3-4・5  
日壇もみじライン  
The toll road that connects Kinugawa and Shiobara Hot Spring Villages. Befitting of the name Momiji ("maple leaf" in Japanese), around October, the sight of both sides of the road being coated in vivid red is particularly spectacular. There are a number of waterfalls alongside the road; many people opt to make stopovers to take photos.




**Ryuo Festival** 龍王祭  MAP E-5  
A major annual festival during summer (July) in Kinugawa and Kawaji Hot Spring Villages. Opening with a ritual at a shrine in Ryuo-kyo Canyon, there are many highlights such as Mikoshi (portable Shinto shrine), various stage events and firework displays.

日光の祭り  
Festivals in Nikko



**Kinugawa Line Kudari River Cruise**  MAP E-5  
鬼怒川ライン下り  
Drift boat cruising is a feature attraction of Kinugawa River. How about a 40 minute tour, where you will fall in love with the beauty of the valley as the boat glides past rocks in care of the skillful boatman? (Operating Seasons: mid-April to late November)



**Rafting**  MAP E-5  
ラフティング  
An adventure sport whereby a team of people work together to navigate a raft against white water and rapids. Enjoy the ever changing scenery and the thrill of the ride! (Operating Seasons: late April to mid-November).







**NIKKO AREA**  
Yunishigawa/Kawamata  
Oku-kinu Area



**観**

**Setoaikyo Valley** 瀬戸合峡 **MAP C-4**  
Steep bedrocks that are over 100 meters in depth spread 2km across the valley. One of the best autumn leaf viewing spots in TOCHIGI. Visit around mid to the end of October for peak fall foliage. The view from the Watarasshai Suspension Bridge in the valley is second to none.

**Kawamata-kanketsusen Geysyr** 川俣間欠泉 **MAP B-4**  
At the bottom of the Funsen-kyo Bridge, situated by the valley of the secret hot spring/Kawamata Hot Spring, the sight of hot spring water roaring up 30-meter high from the bottom of the gorge is spectacular. It is also visited by many photography lovers.



**Kinu-numa Marsh** 鬼怒沼 **MAP A-5**  
Being 2,020 meters above sea level, Kinu-numa Marsh is one of Japan's highest high-altitude wetlands and is a treasure house of alpine plants. The reflection of the blue sky in the water-filled marsh; alpine floras in full bloom in summer; the leaves paint the land flaming red in autumn, and the arrival of migratory birds amidst the snowy winter. Enjoy the diverse nature of each and every one of these seasons.



**Heike no Sato (Village of the Heike Clan)** 平家の里 **MAP C-3**  
A folk village that recreates the lifestyle of Heike fugitives. Nine of the restored thatched-roofed houses have been turned into various museums, showcasing such as the history of Yunishigawa and the production process of traditional arts and crafts.

**日光の温泉 Hot Springs in Nikko**

**Yunishigawa Hot Spring/ Kawamata Hot Spring Oku-kinu Hot Spring** 湯西川温泉・川俣温泉・奥鬼怒温泉

The tranquil Yunishigawa Hot Spring has over 800 years in history. The Kawamata Hot Spring rests alongside a gorge carved out of rocks. The Oku-kinu Hot Spring is hidden away in the primeval forest, known as the last secret hot spring in the Kanto region. Take your time to relax and unwind in these hidden hot spring villages.



**Yunishigawa mizu-no-sato Water Village** 湯西川水の郷 **MAP C-3**  
A compound-type tourist attraction at the entrance of Yunishigawa Hot Spring Village. Visitors can enjoy a hot spring bath or a foot bath using the finest spring water source, or try their hands at making Soba noodles. The Yunishigawa's local dish - Shiru-bandai Mochi (rice cakes in soup) is also quietly gaining popularity.



**Amphibian Bus** 水陸両用バス **MAP D-4**  
Take a ride on the bus and head straight to the dam lake! Mini tours on the amphibian bus can take visitors around the dam as well as visit the circumferential facilities not normally open to the public.

**日光 Festivals in Nikko**

**Yunishigawa Onsen Matsuri (Snow Hut Festival)** 湯西川温泉かまくらまつり **MAP C-3**  
A feature festival in the winter (Dec-Feb) of Yunishigawa Hot Spring. During daytime, enjoy a barbecue or snow-viewing inside the snow hut while bathing in the gentle light reflected from the snow walls. At night, the magical sight of 1,000 illuminated small snow huts is simply captivating.



**Takenoyoi Matsuri (Bamboo Lantern Festival)** 竹の宵まつり **MAP C-3**  
A light up event held from July to August in connection to the Tanabata legend. Bamboo lanterns made from candles placed in bamboo tubes colorfully illuminate the streets of Yunishigawa.

**Heike Taisai (Grand Festival of Heike)** 平家大祭 **MAP C-3**  
A traditional Yunishigawa festival held in early June, features Biwa (Japanese lute) performances, dances and theatrical plays. The highlight of the festival is the Emaki Gyoretsu Procession, where over 200 people dressed as heroic Samurais or delicate princesses parade through the town. Visitors can also apply to join the march.



**日光の名物 Cuisine of Nikko**

**Irori Cuisine (Cooking using Traditional Sunken Hearth)** いろり料理  
Irori Cuisine is the signature gourmet food in Yunishigawa. An 800-year traditional cooking method by simply grill wild ingredients such as Sansai (wild vegetables), mushrooms and venison. Other dishes using Irori include Sake heated in bamboo tubes, and a paste of mixed minced meat and Miso paste grilled on a spatula.

**NASU AREA**

**Yaita/Nasushiobara Area**

The Yaita and Nasu-shiobara Area, with highlands and hot springs, is encircled by Yamizo Mountains in the East, and rests at the foot of the majestic Mt. Takahara and Mt. Nasu-dake in the North of the prefecture. Blessed by natural surroundings such as blooming wetlands and an abundant supply of hot springs, the area is equipped with resorts that cater for both skiing in winter and flower-viewing in spring. Situated near expressways and railroads, it also has metropolitan outlet malls, many entertaining attractions, and a diverse range of gourmet food befitting a hot spring village.



**Nasu Senbonmatsu Ranch**

那須千本松牧場

At Senbonmatsu Ranch, there are plenty of facilities and events that everyone can enjoy. Try a variety of dairy products and take them home as souvenirs. Genghis Khan (Mongolian mutton barbecue) is also popular.



**Nasu Garden Outlet**

那須ガーデンアウトレット

A popular outlet mall with around 150 shops. It is situated near the Kuroiso-Itamuro Interchange. A convenient bus transport service from Nasushiobara Station is also readily available free of charge. The market that sells local produce such as fresh vegetables and high quality processed food is well-known.



**Hunter Mountain Shiobara**

ハンターマウンテン塩原

The ski field with the largest slope in the metropolitan area. Well-equipped to cater for everyone from a full-scale 3km-long downhill to a kids-friendly area for sleds and snow play. Family slopes for snowboarding and beginners are also available.



**Showjin-zawa-yusui Spring**

尚仁沢湧水

The spring that has been selected as one of the 100 Exquisite and Well-Conserved Waters of Japan. The surrounding area feels cool even during the height of summer, making it an ideal destination for forest bathing. The good-tasting spring water is said to have health benefits and is very popular among tourists.



**Momiji-dai Ohtsurihashi Large Suspension Bridge**

もみじ谷大吊橋

With a length of 320 meters, it is the largest pier-less suspension bridge in the country. The Shiobara Valley spreads out encircling the suspension bridge, showcasing a panoramic view of the natural landscape enriched by four distinct seasons. Enlisted as a "Sacred Place for Lovers", it is a romantic spot perfect for marriage proposals.



**Roadside Station "Meiji-no-mori Kuroiso"**

道の駅明治の森・黒磯

Situated next to the mansion built by a former foreign minister in the Meiji era. The white-walled mansion and the front garden attract many visitors. Homemade bread and strawberry gelatos sold at the roadside station are also very popular.



**Numappara Marsh**

沼ッ原湿原

Situated at the foot of Nasu Mountains, the 1,200-meter altitude marshland is a treasure house of alpine plants. Visitors can observe over 200 types of plants here. During July, the sight of the marshland coated in bright yellow Nikko Kisuge Yellow Lilies is particularly spectacular.



**Local Specialties in Nasu**



**Apple Picking**

リンゴ狩り

In apple orchards in Yaita, over 8 varieties of delicious sun-drenched apples are in season from October to November.

**Yakisoba Noodles with Soup**

スープ入り焼きそば

A hidden specialty in Shiobara, with stir-fried thin noodles floated on a bowl of original soup with a hint of Yakisoba sauce. It is a mysterious Yakisoba with the appearance of a bowl of Ramen.



**Hunter Mountain Lily Park**

ハンターマウンテンゆりパーク

One of the largest lily fields in Japan with 5 million lilies of 50 different varieties. Discover rare lilies or enjoy horseback riding in the park. The unique lily-flavoured ice cream is also worth a try.



**那須地区の温泉 Hot Springs in Nasu Area**

**Shiobara Hot Spring Village**

MAP F-3

塩原温泉郷

An esteemed hot spring region that has been visited by many great writers of Japan. It is also called the Eleven Hot Springs of Shiobara, known for its variety of spring qualities and composition. Select a hot spring that matches with your body condition and feeling of the day.

**NASU AREA**  
Kuroiso/Otawara/Nasu Area



**Mt. Chausu-dake and Ropeway**

茶臼岳とロープウェイ

Mt. Chausu-dake is the highest peak of the Nasu volcanic zone. Whether it is the cherry blossoms and azaleas in spring (May~Jun), the summer (Jul-Sep) greenery, or the maple leaves in autumn (Oct), the beautiful mountain attracts many hikers with its ever changing seasons. A wide range of hiking courses is also available.



**Nikko National Park Nasu Heisei-no-mori Forest**

日光国立公園那須平成の森

A part of the Nasu Imperial Villa, open to the public as a place to get in touch with nature. Visitors can join tour programs of the Field Center or discover rare plants and animals in the abundant forest. In winter, visitors can make their way through the forest wearing a pair of Kanjiki (traditional snowshoes).



**Sessho-seki (Killing Stone)**

A historic site based on the legend of the Nine-Tailed Fox. The wicked fox that committed all kinds of evil-doing had turned into a rock, and continues to emit toxic gases to this day. After a walk in the mysterious mountain with the smell of sulfur in the air, enjoy a visit to one of the hot springs nearby.



**Nasu Rindo-ko LAKE VIEW**

那須りんどう湖 LAKE VIEW

Attractions such as interacting with animals, flower-viewing, various entertainment events and the Zip Line – where you zip along a wire over the lake, draw many families all year round. Visitors can also enjoy the delicious barbecue and ice cream in the park.



**Kurobane-joshi Park (Kurobane-jo Castle Ruins Park)**

Traces of the castle still remain with the preservation of earthen walls, dry moat and water moat. Nasu and Nikko mountains, and Nakagawa River can all be seen standing from where the remains of the castle are situated. The Hydrangea Flower Festival held between late June and early July also attracts many tourists to the park.



**Nasu Animal Kingdom**

那須どうぶつ王国

An entertaining experience-based facility on a vast park site housing animals from around the world. Apart from alpacas, Blakistor's fish owls, camels, penguins and capybaras, the park also features daily raptor shows such as falcons and eagles, and various other performances whereby visitors can enjoy interactions with all the animals.



**Azaleas of Yahata 八幡のツツジ**

From late May, gentle slopes that are 1,100 meters above sea level are painted pink with blossoms of azaleas. The vivid color contrast of flowers, green leaves and the blue sky is quite stunning.



**那須地区の温泉**

**Hot Springs in Nasu Area**



**Nasu Hot Springs**

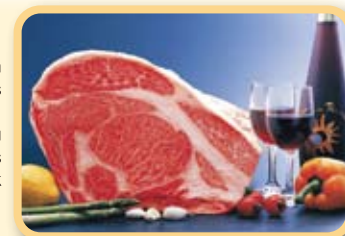
那須温泉

With a long history background, and boasting the most quantity of spring water in the prefecture, Nasu Hot Springs are scattered all over Mt. Chausu-dake, the main peak of Nasu mountains. Simple and nature-bound, there are many easy-to-approach hot springs in the region.

**那須の名物 Local Specialties in Nasu**

**Tochigi Wagyu Beef とちぎ和牛**

The highest-ranking branded beef in the country, known for the sweetness in the melting fat and its rich flavor. There are many restaurants in Nasu that provide TOCHIGI Wagyu dishes such as Yakiniku (grilled beef), steak and hamburger at relatively low prices.



**Daily Products 乳製品**

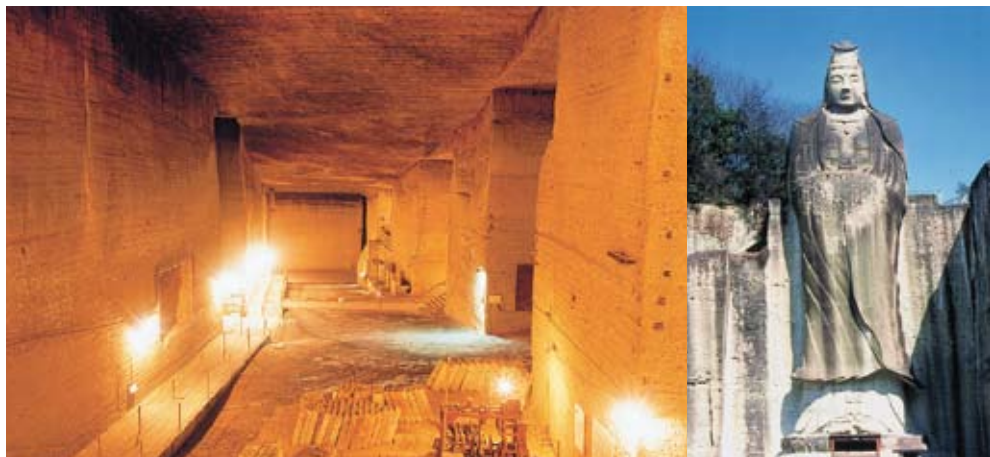
There are several ranches in TOCHIGI that churn out delicious dairy produce such as milk, yoghurt and cheese. The rich cheese cake from Nasukogen The Cheese Garden, and the soft serve ice cream of Minami-ga-oka Dairy ranch, made using the world's finest Golden Guernsey Milk, are all very popular among visitors.



CENTRAL AREA

Utsunomiya Surrounding Area

The Central Area is full of fascinating tourist attractions: Nasu-karasuyama's history-enriched traditional festivals, famous flower-viewing spots in Takanezawa and Kitsuregawa, historic and metropolitan sightseeing spots in the prefectural capital - Utsunomiya, and traditional festivals in Kanuma. It is a place abundant with a diverse range of tourism resources.



**Kanuma Yatai-no-machi Central Park** 鹿沼屋台のまち中央公園

Recognized as cultural assets of the city, three of the carved festival floats are on display all year round. Visitors can study the magnificent carving details at a close distance. In addition, videos that vividly introduce autumn festivals in Kanuma and history-learning corners are also available in the park.

P ⓘ 📷 MAP E-9

**Oya Stone Museum Heiwa Kannon Statue** 大谷資料館・平和観音

The old mining site of Utsunomiya's specialty - Oya Stone, has now turned into a reference museum. The spacious underground area is large enough to fit a baseball field. Almost can be mistaken for the ruins of Ancient Rome, immerse in the spectacular and magical atmosphere of the museum. The Heiwa Kannon Statue is 27 meters high. Enjoy the town view by climbing up to the height near the face of Kannon-sama.

P ⓘ 📷 MAP F-8



**Ohdori Main Street and Orion Street** 大通りとオリオン通り

Utsunomiya is the largest city in TOCHIGI. Stretching from JR Utsunomiya Station, Ekimae Ohdori (Main Street) is lined with modern buildings and constructions, showcasing the prosperity of a metropolitan city. Orion Street is a 300-meter long bustling shopping street, including souvenir shops, the Miya Café which sells local products, and Utsunomiya's specialty - Gyoza (dumplings) restaurants.

MAP F-9



**Bicycle Race** 自転車レース

Utsunomiya is the host city for Asia's most prestigious cycling race - Japan Cup Cycle Road Race. Top-class cyclists from around the world gather here and compete fiercely. Ohdori (Main Street) is closed off, and the sight of the criterium turning the streets into a race course is simply exhilarating.

県央の祭り

Festivals in the Central Area



**Gyoza Dumplings** 餃子

Utsunomiya is known as the Town of Gyoza, where there are over 300 restaurants serving Gyoza dumplings, all unique in terms of ingredients, pastry and cooking methods. If you cannot decide on where to go to eat, please visit Kirasse, a restaurant with a rotating daily menu. Visitors can enjoy several Gyoza flavors at once. Gyoza-making classes are also hosted by veteran lecturers from the Utsunomiya Gyoza Association.

**Furusato Miya Matsuri Festival**

ふるさと宮まつり

A delightful summer festival that unfolds on Ekimae Ohdori Main Street in Utsunomiya. In two days, over 90 portable shrines are carried through the streets. Various traditional folk performing arts such as Yosakoi dance and Ohayashi (Japanese orchestra), and marching bands also liven up the evenings.

**Kanuma Buttuke Autumn Festival**

鹿沼ぶつけ秋祭り

An autumn festival with extravagant portable shrines, carved floats, and marching bands that parade through the town. The highlight of the festival is "Buttsuke", when two or more festival floats face one another and compete in Japanese orchestra.



県央の名物

Local Specialties in the Central Area

**Cocktails and Jazz**

カクテル・ジャズ

Utsunomiya is the birthplace of many bartenders who have won the Japan Cocktail Competition. Original cocktail concoctions from different bars are quite popular. Bars with jazz performances are also in high demand.

**Local Beer** 地ビール

TOCHIGI has the top production volume of two-rowed barley - an ingredient used in the making of beer. While in Utsunomiya, taste the local beer that is made with plenty of locally-produced barley. Gyoza Romance, the beer that is the perfect match to Gyoza (dumplings), is also a must-try.



**Cherry Blossoms in Hatchiman-yama Park** 八幡山公園の桜

A famous flower-viewing spot with around 800 cherry blossoms and 5,000 azaleas planted. Overlooking the city from the Utsunomiya Tower on top of the mountain, depending on your luck, the Tokyo Skytree can also be spotted at a distance.

MAP F-8



**Romantic Village**

ろまんちっく村

Roadside Station Utsunomiya Romantic Village is not only a restaurant in a vast span of area where you can enjoy the high quality food made from local produce such as freshly-picked vegetables. It is also an experience-based facility equipped with a farm, a forest for leisure activities, a hot spring, a pool and accommodations.

P ⓘ 📷 MAP F-8

**CENTRAL AREA**

**Eastern Area**



**Yana (fish weir)**  
観光やな

Yana is a type of trapping device that consists of a slatted platform made of wood or bamboo. There are several Yana for tourists by the limpid stream of Nakagawa River – one of few places in Japan where the ascent of wild sweetfish can be found. Enjoy catching fish in a casual, water play-like manner. Visitors can also try their hands at grilling sweetfish at the Irori fireplace with a view of the river.



**Nakagawa Town** 那珂川町馬頭広重美術館  
**Bato Hiroshige Museum of Art**

Located in Nakagawa Town, original drawings by Ukiyo-e artist of the Edo period – Hiroshige Utagawa, and Hanga (woodblock prints) of Utagawa School are on exhibition here.



**Yama-age Festival** 山あげ祭

The history and tradition of the extravagant open-air Kabuki have been passed down for around 450 years. Audiences will be captivated by the heroic and dynamic dance performances, along with the stage background of Yama (stage scenery) made from local specialty – Washi Japanese paper.



**SOUTH AREA**

**Ashikaga/Sano/Tochigi  
Oyama Area**

Known for the nation's oldest university – the Site of Ashikaga School and designated National Treasures, the surrounding area of Bannaji Temple is regarded as the focal historic spot in the South Area of the prefecture. The city of Tochigi expanded due to water transport to and from Tokyo. As such, there are many nostalgic cityscapes remain to this day, making them perfect places to experience traditions and history. There are also many local specialties and metropolitan tourist spots due to their close proximity to Tokyo, including the outlet shopping mall by the highway which attracts many visitors throughout the year.



**Ashikaga Flower Park** あしががフラワーパーク

A paradise of flowers, where summer (Jul~Aug) is the season for roses and lotus flowers, autumn (Sep~Oct) is amethyst sage, and in winter (Dec~Jan) visitors can enjoy the illumination event. Spring is the best visiting season, as in May, the wisteria tree that is over 145 years old and is referred to as the most beautiful in the world, spread its branches overhead. The sight of 1000 square meters of light purple vines draped down like a wall of waterfall is simply breathtaking.



**県央** Local Specialties  
in the Central Area  
**の名物**



**Soba (Yamizo Soba Street)**  
そば (八溝そば街道)

Nasu-karasuyama City is situated in the Yamizo region, where it is long been known to produce highly fragrant Soba noodles. Soba cultivated under the setting of rich water resources and temperature differences in Yamizo Mountains is absolutely exquisite.



**Local Sake** 地酒 (酒蔵)  
and Sake Brewery

The Shimazaki-shuzo Sake brewery started in 1849 and is now open to the general public. Visitors can also tour in the 600-meter long cave that is used as a Sake cellar. Surrounded by tranquility inside the cave, it almost feels like being lost in a foreign world. The Sake here is well-known for its mellow and elegant taste.



**Cherry Blossoms in Soutome** 早乙女の桜

100 cherry blossom trees that are planted along two sides of the road and stretches 500 meters long, transform into a tunnel of cherry blossoms in spring. A popular sightseeing spot in April, where the yellow field mustard also begin to spread under the cherry blossoms.



**県南** Local Specialties  
in the South Area  
**の名物**



**Grape Picking**

ぶどう狩り  
TOCHIGI is the largest vineyard region in Northern Kanto with over 70 vineyards available for grape picking. Many types of grapes are grown here such as Kyoho and Delaware. Shops that sell jam and juice made from harvested grapes are also available.



**Sano Ramen Noodles**

佐野らーめん  
The secret to the delicious taste of the local gourmet food – Sano Ramen noodles, is in the use of water of the finest quality, wheat suited for noodle-making, and the unique noodle-making technique using young bamboo. The clear broth lightly coils the elastic and curly noodles, giving it a long-lasting divine flavor.



**SOUTH AREA**

Ashikaga/Sano/Tochigi  
Oyama Area



**Sano Premium Outlets**

佐野プレミアム・アウトレット

Modeled after the east coast townscape in the U.S., the complex has around 180 stores with renowned domestic and international brands. High-end brand products can be purchased at bargain prices. Transport is also easy with direct bus services from Tokyo.



**Watarase-yusuichi Retarding Basin**

渡良瀬遊水地



A gallery of nature with an extensive reed bed and a habitat for various species of birds. Visitors can enjoy a variety of outdoor sports such as canoeing, boating and hot air balloon races. Looking down from the sky, Lake Yanaka appears in the shape of a heart. Rumor has it that it will bring happiness to couples that visit the site together.



**Tenpyo-no-oka Park Flower Plaza**



天平の丘公園 花広場

Tenpyo-no-oka Park Flower Plaza consists of a harmonious blend of beautiful nature and historical remains. There are around 450 double-flowering cherry blossoms, as well as wild cherry blossoms and weeping cherry blossoms planted in the plaza. Visitors can enjoy the flowers in full bloom and outdoor performances of folk songs and dances at the Tenpyo Flower Festival held in April.

**県南の祭り**  
Festivals in the South Area



**Tochigi Autumn Festival** とちぎ秋まつり

An autumn festival in Tochigi City that is held in November biennially. Lavishly decorated in detailed carvings and gold and silver embroideries, festival floats carrying figurines of deities and historical heroes parade down the streets to the exhilarating rhythm of Taiko (traditional Japanese drums).



**Oyama Fireworks Festival** 小山の花火

The fireworks festival in the city of Oyama boasts one of the largest scale firework displays in the Kanto region. The light up location and the close proximity of the spectator seating are keys to its appeal. Including "continuous launch" displays, around 20,000 fireworks will flourish in the night sky.

**The Town of Kura Storehouses**



**Kura-no-Machi Tochigi**

蔵の街・栃木市

Many Kura (storehouse) were built in the center of Tochigi City between Edo and Meiji period. Through trade with Edo, traces of the business district that reached peak prosperity both economically and culturally still remain deeply in the town. While listening to the boatman sing a traditional river boat song, experience a sense of style and elegance on a cruise along the Uzuma River that runs through the city.



**The Site of Ashikaga School** 史跡足利学校

At the Site of Ashikaga School, known as the oldest university in Japan, visitors can view the school in its original historic form. In 1549, it was introduced to the world by the Roman Catholic missionary, Saint Francis Xavier, as the largest and most famous university of the Bando (old name for Kanto) region in Japan.



**Bannaji Temple** 饗阿寺

Designated as a National Treasure. Few buildings in Japan can compare to the rarity of the Hondo (main worship hall) of Bannaji Temple. Built during the Kamakura era, it has adopted the construction style of Zen Buddhism, and has been meticulously preserved and protected along with other Cultural Properties, including artworks at the site and the neighboring Ashikaga School.



**EAST AREA**

**Haga/Mashiko Area**

The nostalgic sight of a steam locomotive (SL) running full throttle while blowing black smoke is a seasonal feature in the East Area. Tours on the SL to Moka and Mashiko is especially popular. There are many famous flower-viewing locations and parks. A variety of attractions are also available at a theme park based at a cutting-edge motor race track, drawing visitors from around the world.



**Steam Locomotives in Moka** 真岡のSL

Two models of SL (steam locomotive), C11 and C12, run on weekends in Moka. During April, the railway track is almost wrapped in pink cherry blossoms and the ground a shade of yellow with the spreading field mustard. The color contrast is stunning and attracts many photography lovers.



**Mashiko Pottery Market**



MAP I-10

益子陶器市

Held twice a year in April-May and November, it is the biggest market for Mashiko Pottery. Visitors can buy Mashiko ceramics at cheaper than regular prices, or engage in conversations with potters. Combining spring and autumn, around 800,000 people gather at the market every year.



**Mashiko Pottery**



Began with daily use items such as earthenware pots and bowls, Mashiko Pottery has become the leading folk craft of TOCHIGI. Including its artistic aspect, a variety of styles of ceramics is now available.

**Pottery Making Experience**

焼物体験

Apart from the pottery studio in Ceramic Art Messe Mashiko, there are many facilities in Mashiko where visitors can try their hands at using a potter's wheel or pottery decoration. Even beginners can enjoy authentic ceramic art in a relaxed setting.



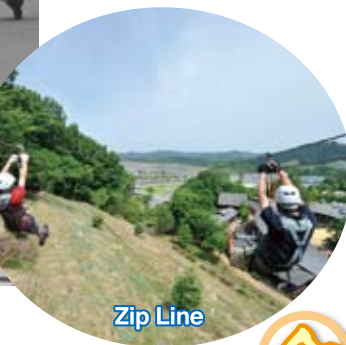
**Twin Ring Motegi**

ツインリングもてぎ

A theme park based at the motor race track that has also held world championship events. It has a museum hall that exhibits world famous automobiles and walking robots, and a multi-recreational area full of experience-based leisure facilities catered for all ages. In addition to the showroom of car histories and a go-kart track, there are also many seasonal events such as fireworks displays and hot air balloon races.



MAP J-9



**Zip Line**



**Strawberry Picking** いちご狩り

TOCHIGI enjoys the most production volume of strawberries in Japan. In particular, there are many large strawberry farms catered for sightseeing, where visitors can try the all-you-can-eat option without time limits, or the homemade strawberry ice cream.



**Sakagura (Sake Storehouse) Experience** 酒蔵体験

In addition to trying Sake at the Tonoike Sake Brewery in Mashiko, there are a variety of Japanese Sake-tasting display areas where visitors can also try a range of food made using Sake.



**Ichikai-machi Shibazakura Park**

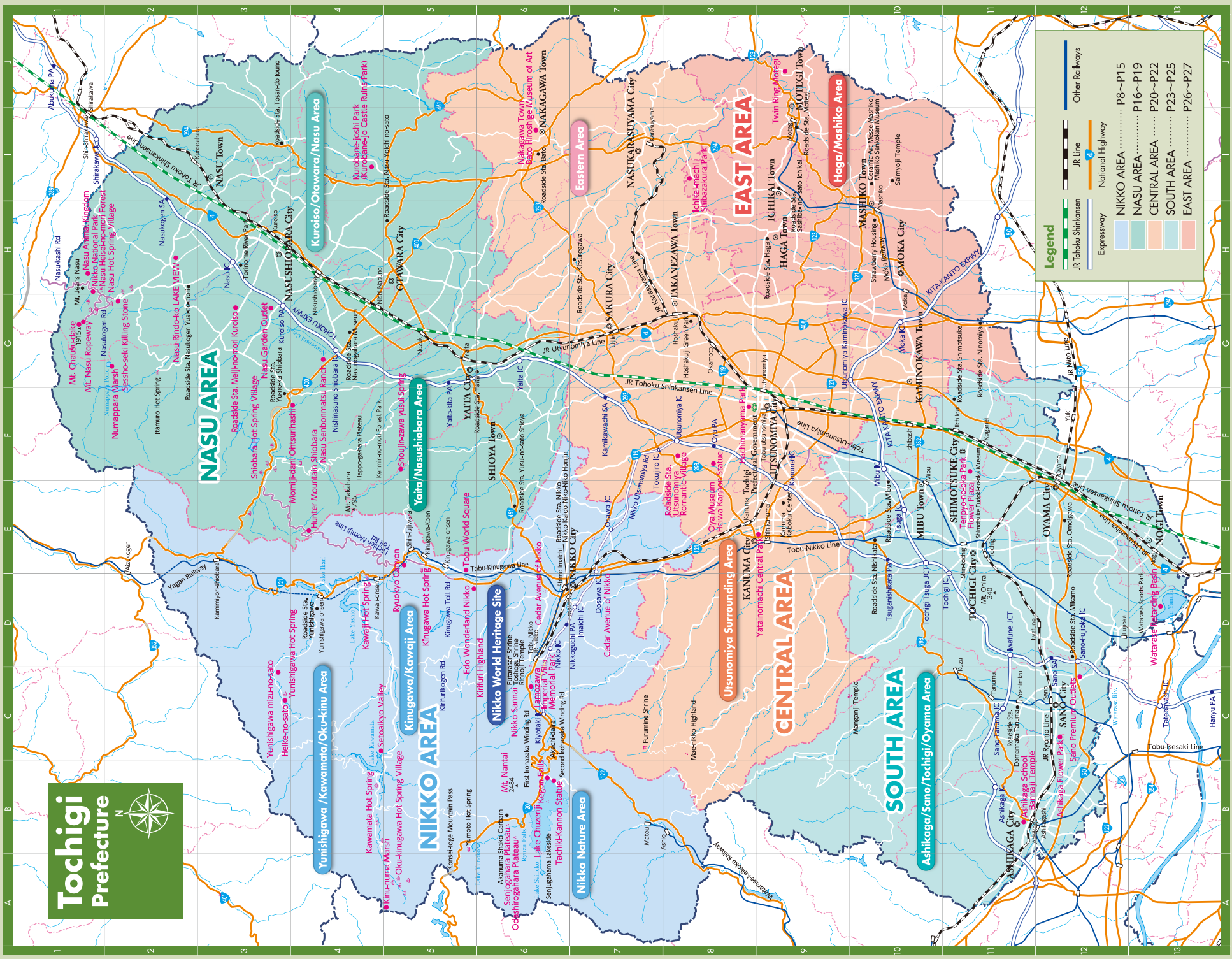


市貝町芝さくら公園

The Shibazakura Park located in Ichikai consists of an extensive area of red, white and pink lawn cherry blossoms, forming various beautiful patterns. April-May is the best viewing season.

MAP I-8

# Tochigi Prefecture



### Legend

- JR Tohoku Shinkansen
- Expressway
- National Highway
- Other Railways
- NIKKO AREA ..... P8--P15
- NASU AREA ..... P16--P19
- CENTRAL AREA ..... P20--P22
- SOUTH AREA ..... P23--P25
- EAST AREA ..... P26--P27