



栃

The Grace of Japan

TOCHIGI

Tochigi Prefecture Tourism Guide Book

木



Ashikaga Flower Park

The large wisteria trellises in this park are a magnificent attraction to be hold in the springtime. The "Kiseki no Fuji" (Wisteria of Miracles) is more than 150 years old, and was selected in CNN's "Dream destinations for 2014" as a spot much like the "Tree of Souls" in the movie Avatar, directed by James Cameron. The spot has since become even more popular as a tourist attraction.

Find "the real thing" in Tochigi Prefecture.

Tochigi Prefecture is conveniently close to Tokyo and offers beautiful natural scenery along with a rich cultural heritage.

Take a peek—here is the place to find worlds you’ve never dreamed of.

Tochigi is far from the bustle of the big city. It’s a place to go that will bring you satisfaction, both in body and in mind.



INDEX

History	04
Gourmet	08
Nature Green Season	10
Autumn Leaves & Winter	12
Festival	14
Experience	16
Interpreters in Tochigi Prefecture	18
Hiring a Vehicle in Tochigi Prefecture Special Lodging: Historical Structures	19
Luxury Hotels in Tochigi	20
Tochigi Access Map	22

History

Nikko Toshogu

Within the precincts of this shrine are 55 beautiful architectural works of astounding splendor, including eight national treasures and 34 important cultural properties.



Taiyūin



Sanbutsud

Nikko-zan Rinnoji Temple

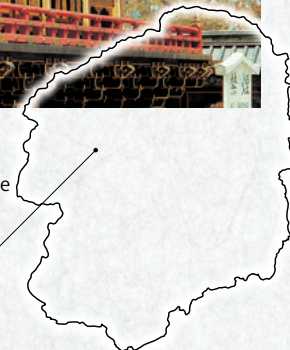
The "Sanbutsudo" sohondo is one of the three main temples of the Tendai sect, and it is the largest wooden structure at Mt. Nikko.



Nikko Futarasan Shrine

This ancient shrine marked the beginning of the faith of Mt. Nikko. The gods of good luck and matchmaking are deified here.

- Nikko Toshogu
- Nikko-zan Rinnoji Temple
- Futarasan Shrine
- Shinkyo



Shinkyo

This beautiful bridge is a structure belonging to Futarasan Shrine, and could also be considered a gateway to the Shrines and Temples of Nikko, a World Heritage Site.



Mashiko Ware

There are currently around 250 studios and 50 different shops selling Mashiko ware pottery. Here you'll find works made by a diverse range of ceramics workers, from young potters to accomplished veterans.

Japanese saké in Tochigi

There are many saké breweries in Tochigi Prefecture, where many famed brands of Japanese saké are produced. Tourists can visit these breweries to take a look inside of these facilities—an experience ordinarily not possible.



Watanabe Sahei Shoten

Nearly all of the saké brands at this brewery are brewed from pure rice, in line with the brewery's philosophy that "the original local brew is pure rice saké." Brewery tours are also available in English (reservations required).



Katayama Shuzo

Founded in 1879, this brewery manufactures saké from famous Nikko natural water, with an attention to detail using the techniques passed on through the generations from Echigo Toji (master brewers).



Tonoike Shuzo

Visitors can enjoy the atmosphere of this brewery, which is full of nostalgic emotion and dignity. Mashiko Ware drinking containers are also sold here.



Shimazaki Shuzo

This brewery uses the caverns where the remains of their underground factory stood at the end of World War II as a cellar for brewing their refined saké. This cellar was under construction at the latter part of the war.

Oya History Museum

This history museum features the mining history of Oya stone.

The museum contains the old mining site, a massive 20,000 m underground cavern.



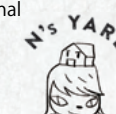
Nikko Tamozaawa Imperial Villa Memorial Park

A collection of structures built using architectural styles from three different periods: Edo, Meiji and Taisho. The park has also been selected as one of Japan's 100 best historical parks. Visitors can tour the inside of the villas as well as the garden areas.



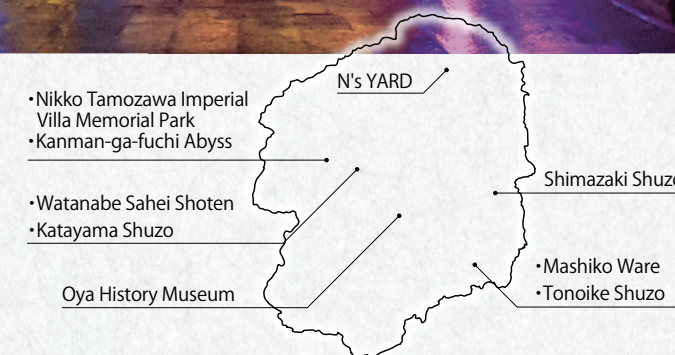
N's YARD

Visitors of this modern art space can encounter the works of modern artists, Yoshitomo Nara in particular. The facility also offers a shop that sells original goods, and a café.



Kanman-ga-fuchi Abyss

A rare and impressive sight made of the lava flowing from Mt. Nantai. A group of around 70 jizo statues can be found at the southern shore. Across from the shore is the Nikko Botanical Garden, where lovely scenery can be found all year-round from the fresh green leaves of spring to the colors of autumn.



Gourmet

Skyberry

Skyberries are premium-grade strawberries selected in Tochigi, the "strawberry kingdom" over the course of 17 years, out of more than 100,000 bunches grown. The fruit of these strawberries is exceptionally large, and their colorfully glistening shape makes them look like a cluster of gem-like treasures.



1. Gyoshintei (vegetarian food)

A vegetarian specialty restaurant that is the only one of its kind in Nikko to follow the Shijo-shin school, with its "traditional taste" passed on over the 1,250-year history since the shrines at Nikko were built.

■ Sannai 2340, Nikko City, Tochigi Prefecture
■ 0288-53-3751

2. Café & Garden: "Shirasagi-tei"

Enjoy the uniquely delectable taste of beef simmered over many hours, as well as the rich demiglace sauce with the umami of vegetables that just melts in your mouth.

■ Takakuko Kuikihara 2888, Nasu Town, Nasu-gun, Tochigi Prefecture
■ 0287-64-4848

3. Ishi-no-kura

A Japanese restaurant that pays great attention in using quality ingredients made locally in Tochigi Prefecture. Enjoy the tastes of each season here.

■ Higashi-hanawada 2-8-8, Utsunomiya City, Tochigi Prefecture
■ 028-622-5488

4. Otowa Restaurant

Each delicacy offered on the French menu at this establishment is a real treat, using meticulously-arranged ingredients that have been carefully selected each day.

■ Nishihara-cho 3554-7, Utsunomiya City, Tochigi Prefecture
■ 028-651-0108

5. Western-style Dining: "Meiji-no-Yakata"

Diners can relish Western-style cuisine made with great attention to detail in a retro-style atmosphere, like being in another country.

■ Sannai 2339-1, Nikko City, Tochigi Prefecture
■ 0288-53-3751

6. Utsunomiya Cocktail Club

Thirty-two bars in Utsunomiya belong to this club. Patrons visiting one of these clubs can enjoy original cocktails such as the "Tochigi-made Tochi-otome cocktail," for a limited time only.

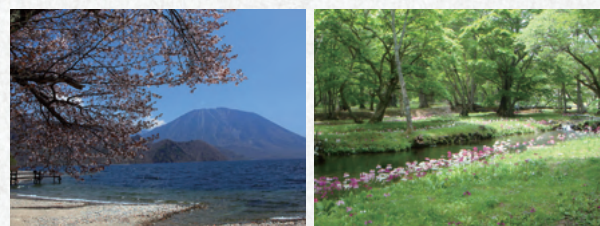
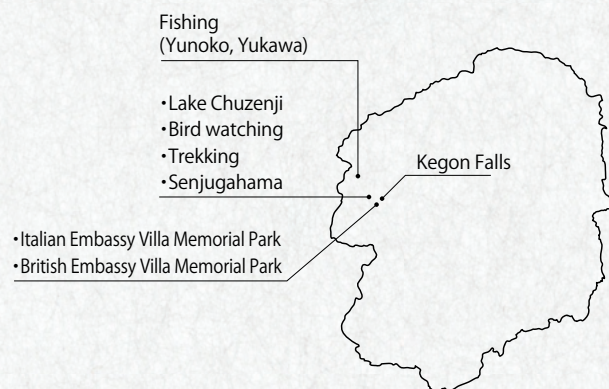
■ 028-632-2445 (Utsunomiya Convention Bureau)



Nature Green Season

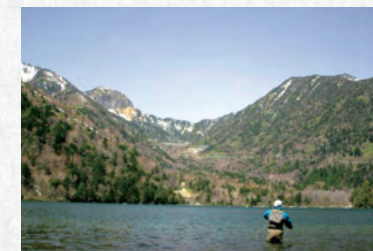
Lake Chuzenji

This lake is one of the most outstanding lakes in Japan, situated at an elevation of 1,269 m above sea level. Lake Chuzenji was selected as one of the "100 Landscapes of Japan," and is a popular tourist destination all year-round with azaleas blooming in the early summer, a season for autumn leaves and more.



Senjugahama

A beachline that stretches about 2 km from north to south, which is located at the western edge of Lake Chuzenji. The area is home to a rich natural environment, with a forest of water oaks and Japanese elm trees that are over two centuries old. The collection of Japanese primrose is popular during the early summer.



Fishing (Yunoko, Yukawa)

Enjoy fly fishing with the great outdoors as your backdrop. You might be able to catch a kokanee or a rainbow trout.



Bird watching

Many summer birds can be seen in the highly diverse environments here, including wetlands, forests, and rivers.



Trekking

Take a stroll in the mountains, surrounded by the grandness of nature. Forget the everyday crowds—let yourself be led to just the perfect spot, and enjoy a soothing outdoor experience.



Kagon Falls

One of Japan's three largest and most famous waterfalls. Water falls from this magnificent waterfall from a height of 97 meters, and visitors can enjoy both the greatness of nature and its beauty of form.



British Embassy Villa Memorial Park

This villa was built by British diplomat Ernest Satow in 1896, and was used until 2008 by the Embassy of Great Britain. The villa was restored as a museum, and was opened to the public in 2010.



Italian Embassy Villa Memorial Park

A restoration of the building used as the Italian Embassy until 1997. Visitors can fulfill their spirits as they enjoy the picturesque views of Lake Chuzenji from the garden.



Mt. Chausu

An active volcano situated in the middle of the Nasu mountain range. In the right weather conditions, visitors may be able to look down upon a sea of clouds from the summit and enjoy a mystical, breathtaking view.



Ryuzu Falls

One of Nikko's three most famous waterfalls. The name of this waterfall is said to originate from the way that the large boulder at the mouth of the waterfall divides the water into two streams, resembling a dragon's head.



Odashirogahara

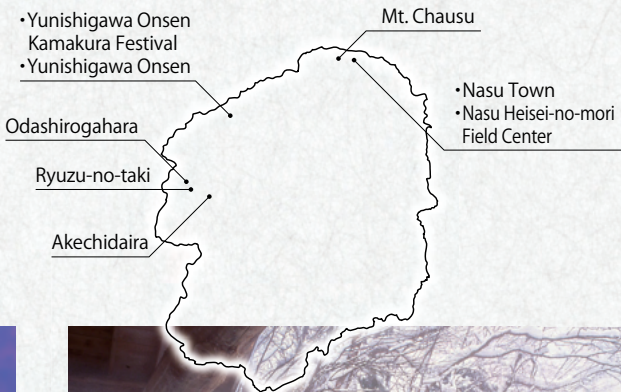
See the lovely and mysterious spectacle of the "Lady of Odashirogahara," a white birch tree on which hoarfrost forms in the wintertime.



Yunishigawa Onsen Kamakura Festival

Held at seven different venues each February, with the main venue being the "Heikenosato" tourist facility. The miniature kamakuras (igloos) on the banks of the Sawaguchi River are registered as a Night View Heritage of Japan, and are a must-see.

Autumn Leaves & Winter



Akechidaira

At a height of 1,373 m, the Akechidaira Lookout is a popular observation point, which can be reached in three minutes by ropeway. Visitors can enjoy impressive scenery with each season.



Nasu Heisei-no-mori Field Center

A forest bathing zone comprised of part of the Nasu Imperial Villa site, now open to visitors. Those who visit can thoroughly enjoy the natural beech tree forest and the hard-to-find Komadome Falls. Note: Interpreter-led guide walks require a reservation.



Winter Scenery of Nasu Town

In the winter, the vast snowy fields of Nasu Town spread outwards, and the lovely scenery basking in the morning glow brings a fresh breath of nature to your whole being.



Yunishigawa Onsen

These hot springs carry the old tradition of being the place of respite for defeated Heike refugees from the battle of Dannoura to heal their wounds at the waters bubbling forth from the dry riverbed.



Festival

Even today, festivals that preserve the traditions of old are carried out all throughout Tochigi Prefecture.



Kanuma Autumn Festival Held during the middle part of October

During the first day of this festival, chokoku-yatai (parade wagons with carved decorations) are brought into the precincts of Imamiya Shrine, where the Shinto ritual is solemnly carried out. A citizen's parade is held on the second day, after which more than 20 of the chokoku-yatai all come out at once to join the parade.

Gojinkasai Festival Held during the latter part of May

The participants dress in white garments and bear torches as they parade down from Nasu Onsen Shrine to Sessho-seki, and release their fires into a giant torch (the sacred volcanic fire), evoking a mystical mood.



Yama-age Festival Held during the latter part of July

This festival is held every July, and features outdoor kabuki dances of magnificent splendor that are one of a kind in Japan, honoring a tradition of over 450 years that dates back to 1560.



Yabusame-Shinji Held during the middle parts of May and October

An impressive Shinto ritual featuring horseback archery, where the archer skillfully steers his horse for an impressive bow-and-arrow performance. The "Sennin-Musha-Gyoretsu" (March of a Thousand Warriors), a procession that reenacts the march of soldiers from Mt. Kuno in Sunpu to Nikko attending the funeral of the spirit of shogun Ieyasu Tokugawa, is a breathtaking sight.



Rafting on Kinugawa



Standup paddleboarding (Lake Chuzenji)



Snow cycling



Snowshoeing



Kuranomachi pleasure boat

Experience

Experience inspiring moments during your travels.

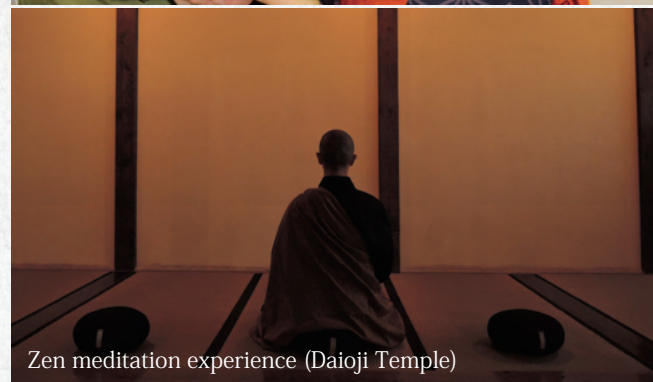


Edo Wonderland Nikko Edomura

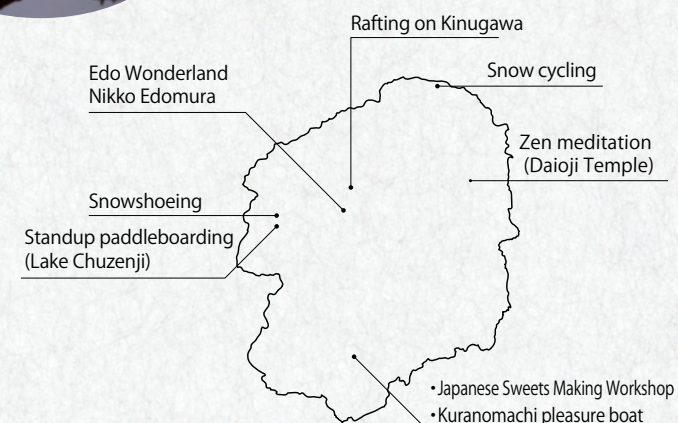
A cultural park that lets you experience the culture of the Edo period. The extensive site of this park features a recreated town complete with roads, staging posts, merchant family areas, ninja houses, samurai family homes and more.



Japanese Sweets Making Workshop



Zen meditation experience (Daioji Temple)



Interpreters in Tochigi Prefecture



Yukari Kawai

I discover something new each time I visit Nikko. I'll share the "Nikko that I love" as I guide you along the way.

■ Languages: English



Yumi Aoyama

I mainly interpret in the Nikko and Nasu areas. I work as hard as possible to make your valuable trip one in which you'll feel fully satisfied—a trip to remember.

■ Languages: English



Eiji Maruta

Having lived in New Zealand for 22 years, I'm confident that I can bring happiness to customers who come to Japan.

■ Languages: English



Sachiko Kikuchi

I work to the best of my ability so that you can even better understand the greatness of Japan and its people.

■ Languages: English



Kaori Watanabe

I am a guide full of hospitality with copious knowledge about Nikko. I will clearly and wholeheartedly show you the history, nature, and culture of Nikko, by flexibly meeting your detailed requests with the motto of "cheerful and sincere".

■ Languages: English
Chinese



Nobuko Uzuka

My family has lived in the Nikko area for generations, and I'm very proud of the rich nature and history of the region. Offering you heartfelt and polite guidance is my motto.

■ Languages: English



Mutsumi Honma

I offer fun guidance to visitors, as I explain the rich nature and history that Tochigi Prefecture has to offer. Please enjoy yourself as we walk together, seeing, knowing and experiencing the fascination of Tochigi.

■ Languages: English

- Prices vary, depending on the courses, times etc.
- If you wish to take an in-vehicle tour or an optional tour, please contact the Utsunomiya branch of JTB Corp. (TEL: 028-614-2171)
- For information on hiring an interpreter only or other details, search for "Licensed Guides" on the Visit Tochigi website, and make an inquiry.

Visit Tochigi
<https://www.tochigiji.or.jp/interpreter/>



Hiring a Vehicle in Tochigi Prefecture



Jumbo taxi



Hired vehicle



Standard taxi

Unit: yen

	Jumbo taxi	Hired vehicle	Standard taxi
Base fare	4,370	3,930	3,050
30 min.	4,350	3,930	3,030
1.0 hr.	8,720	7,860	6,080
1.5 hr.	13,070	11,790	9,110
2.0 hr.	17,420	15,720	12,140
2.5 hr.	21,770	19,650	15,170
3.0 hr.	26,120	23,580	18,200
3.5 hr.	30,470	27,510	21,230
4.0 hr.	34,820	31,440	24,260
4.5 hr.	39,170	35,370	27,290
5.0 hr.	43,520	39,300	30,320
5.5 hr.	47,870	43,230	33,350
6.0 hr.	52,220	47,160	36,380
6.5 hr.	56,570	51,090	39,410
7.0 hr.	60,920	55,020	42,440
7.5 hr.	65,270	58,950	45,470
8.0 hr.	69,620	62,880	48,500
8.5 hr.	73,970	66,810	51,530
9.0 hr.	78,320	70,740	54,560
9.5 hr.	82,670	74,670	57,590
10.0 hr.	87,020	78,600	60,620

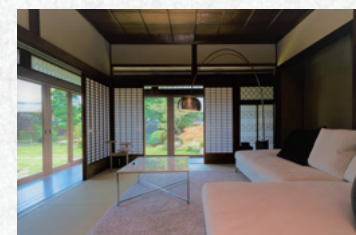
FIRST TAXI GROUP
Kanto Kotsu Co., Ltd.

Wakakusa 2-1-19, Utsunomiya City, 320-0072
TEL: 028-908-6633; e-mail: info@first-taxi.co.jp

- Utsunomiya and Shimotsuke area call center
 0120-150-840
- Kanuma area call center (Kanuma Godo Taxi)
 0120-623-189
- North Tochigi call center (Shiobara Jidosha Co., Ltd.)
 0120-818-391
- North Tochigi call center (Nasu Godo Jidosha Co., Ltd.)
 0120-020-031

※The fares listed in this table are estimated fares to and from Utsunomiya only. Fares will change depending on the time and distance traveled.
Please inquire for a quote.

Special Lodging: Historical Structures



Iizukatei

A top-quality lodging facility renovated from the Iizuka family residences, a tangible cultural property with 200 years of history.

- Bato 360, Nakagawa Town, Tochigi Prefecture
- 0287-82-7551
- From ¥18,000



Mashiko Yuwakan

This facility opened as the "Nanma Hotel" in Nikko City, Tochigi Prefecture in 1882. The retired emperor stayed at this hotel when he was Crown Prince, at the time when schoolchildren were being evacuated to the countryside due to the war.

- Mashiko 4264, Mashiko Town, Haga-gun, Tochigi Prefecture
- 0285-72-8846
- From: ¥7,500



Furumine Shrine

A lodging facility where visitors can purify their bodies and set their minds at ease from their everyday lives to receive the power of the deities.

- Kusagyu 3027, Kanuma City, Tochigi Prefecture
- 0289-74-2111
- Prayer service: from ¥6,600

Luxury Hotels in Tochigi

Nikko area



The Ritz-Carlton in Nikko

- Chugushi 2482, Nikko City, Tochigi Prefecture
- Regular season: from ¥105,000 (one room)
- Off-season: from ¥75,000 (one room)
- Note: Opens May 2020



Chuzenji Kanaya Hotel

- Chugushi 2482, Nikko City, Tochigi Prefecture
- 0288-51-0001
- Regular season: from ¥27,830
- Off-season: from ¥25,410



KAI Nikko

- Chugushi 2482-1, Nikko City, Tochigi Prefecture
- 0570-073-011
- Regular season: from ¥22,000



Nikko Senhime Monogatari

- Yasukawa-cho 6-48, Nikko City, Tochigi Prefecture
- 0288-54-1010
- Regular season: from ¥20,500
- Off-season: from ¥17,000



Tokugawa Annex [AQUA]

- Nikko 2204, Nikko City, Tochigi Prefecture
- 0288-53-3200
- Regular season: from ¥25,300
- Off-season: ¥16,500–21,500



Nikko Kanaya Hotel

- Kamihatsu-ishimachi 1300, Nikko City, Tochigi Prefecture
- 0288-54-0001
- Regular season: from ¥28,435
- Off-season: from ¥25,410

Kinugawa, Kawaji and Yunishigawa areas



Kinugawa Kanaya Hotel

- Kinugawa Onsen Ohara 1394, Nikko City, Tochigi Prefecture
- 0288-76-0001
- Regular season: from ¥36,000
- Off-season: from ¥32,000



Kinugawa Grand Hotel Yume no Toki

- Kinugawa Onsen Ohara 1021, Nikko City, Tochigi Prefecture
- 0288-77-1313
- Regular season: from ¥35,000
- Off-season: from ¥25,000



KAI Kinugawa

- Kinugawa Onsen Taki 308, Nikko City, Tochigi Prefecture
- 0570-073-011
- Regular season: from ¥24,000



Wakatake-no-Sho Bettei Sasane

- Kinugawa Onsen Fujihara 136, Nikko City, Tochigi Prefecture
- 0288-76-3000
- Regular season: from ¥20,000
- Off-season: from ¥17,000



Kinugawa Sanraku

- Kinugawa Onsen Ohara 1060, Nikko City, Tochigi Prefecture
- 0288-76-2211
- Regular season: from ¥35,000
- Off-season: ¥24,000–¥30,000



KAI Kawaji

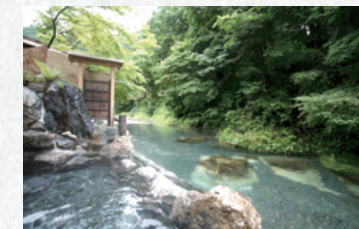
- Kawaji Onsen Kawaji 22, Nikko City, Tochigi Prefecture
- 0570-073-011
- Regular season: from ¥20,000

Nasu area



Iwaiyado Jyuan

- Kawaji Onsen Kawaji 52, Nikko City, Tochigi Prefecture
- 0288-78-1101
- Regular season: from ¥21,000
- Off-season: from ¥17,000



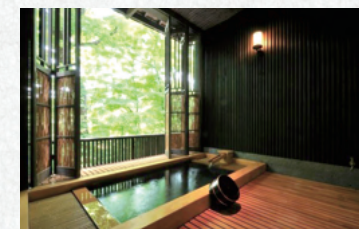
HonkeBankyu

- Yunishigawa 749, Nikko City, Tochigi Prefecture
- 0288-98-0011
- Regular season: from ¥21,500
- Off-season: from ¥19,500



Nasu Sanraku

- Oaza Yumoto 206, Nasu Town, Nasu-gun, Tochigi Prefecture
- 0287-76-3010
- Regular season: from ¥44,000
- Off-season: ¥35,000



Sansuikaku

- Oaza Yumoto 206, Nasu Town, Nasu-gun, Tochigi Prefecture
- 0287-76-3180
- Regular season: ¥39,750–¥54,050
- Off-season: ¥35,350–¥43,050



Risonare Nasu

- Takakuotsu-michishita 2301, Nasu Town, Nasu-gun, Tochigi Prefecture
- 0570-073-055
- Regular season: from ¥21,000



Shikinoyakata Nasu

- Oaza Takakuhei 1185-2, Nasu Town, Nasu-gun, Tochigi Prefecture
- 0287-73-5576
- Regular season: from ¥38,500
- Off-season: from ¥30,800

Tochigi Access Map

By Train (Does not incl. transfer and rest times; travel times are estimates for reference purposes only)

<To Nikko> (Access also possible from JR Utsunomiya Stn. via the Nikko Line)		
Shinjuku Stn. Ikebukuro Stn.	Ltd. Exp. Nikko	Tobu-nikko Stn.
	Ltd. Exp. Kinugawa / Ltd. Exp. SPACIA Kinugawa	2 hr.
Asakusa Stn.	Transfer at Shimo-imaichi Stn.	Tobu Nikko Line (express/local)
	Ltd. Exp. Kinu / Ltd. Exp. Revaty Kinu / Ltd. Exp. Revaty Aizu	1 hr. 50 min.
	Transfer at Shimo-imaichi Stn.	Tobu Nikko Line (express/local)
	Ltd. Exp. Kegon / Ltd. Exp. Revaty Kegon / Ltd. Exp. Kirifuri	1 hr. 50 min.

<To Nasu>		
Tokyo Stn.	JR Tohoku Shinkansen "Nasuno" service (and some "Yamabiko" services)	Nasushiobara Stn.
		1 hr. 15 min.
Shinjuku Stn. New South Gate	JR Bus Kanto Nasu / Shiobara-go, other highway buses	Nasu Hot Springs
		3 hr. 30 min.

[Special discount tickets available! Visit the following websites for details.]
●East Japan Railway Company (JR East): <https://www.jreast.co.jp> ●Tobu Railway: <http://www.tobu.co.jp>

By Highway Bus

Narita Int'l Airport	Maronie-go bus	Utsunomiya Stn.
		2 hr. 30 min.

[Visit the following website for details.] ●Kanto Transportation: <https://www.kantobus.co.jp/>



<To Utsunomiya>		
Tokyo Stn.	JR Tohoku Shinkansen "Yamabiko" or "Nasuno" service.	Utsunomiya Stn.
		50 min.
	JR Utsunomiya Line (rapid/local)	1 hr. 55 min.
Shinjuku Stn.	JR Shonan-Shinjuku Line (rapid/local)	
		1 hr. 50 min.
Asakusa Stn.	Tobu Nikko Line (Ltd. Exp. Kegon / Ltd. Exp. Revaty Kegon / Ltd. Exp. Kirifuri / Ltd. Exp. Kinu / Ltd. Exp. Revaty Kinu / Ltd. Exp. Revaty Aizu)	Tobu-utsunomiya Stn.
	Transfer at Tochigi Stn.	1 hr. 50 min.
	Tobu Utsunomiya Line	
		1 hr. 50 min.
<To Ashikaga>		
Tokyo Stn.	JR Tohoku Shinkansen "Yamabiko" or "Nasuno" service.	Ashikaga Stn.
	Transfer at Oyama Stn.	
	JR Ryomo Line	1 hr. 20 min.
Shinjuku Stn.	JR Shonan-Shinjuku Line (rapid/local)	
	Transfer at Kuki Stn.	
	Tobu Ltd. Exp. Ryomo	Ashikaga-shi Stn.
		1 hr. 30 min.
Asakusa Stn.	Tobu Ltd. Exp. Ryomo	
		1 hr. 15 min.

Haneda (Tokyo) Int'l Airport	Maronie-go bus	Utsunomiya Stn.
		2 hr. 50 min.