



JAPAN TOHOKU TOURISM MAP

Discover Authentic Japan
Nature History Culture Cuisine



ENGLISH

ムービング東北



JAPAN



Tohoku Tourism Promotion Organization

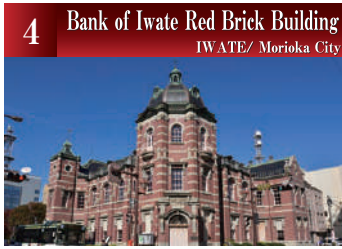
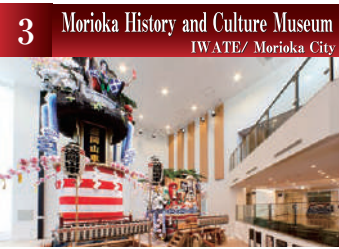
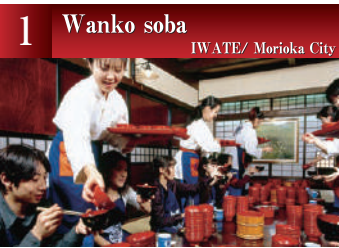
<http://tohokukanko.jp/en/>

Another Japan: Driving Routes for Discovering Tohoku

—Journey to Enjoy Tohoku's Four Seasons and History—

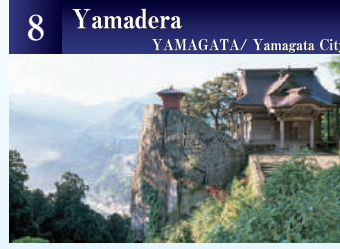
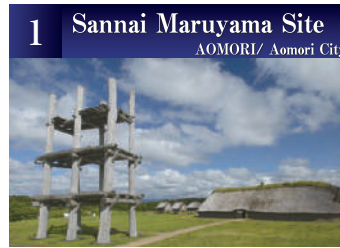
1 | Picturesque Scenery of Tohoku's Four Seasons Driving Route

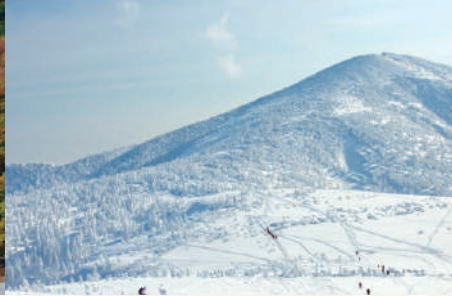
Tohoku's nature displays various charms depending on the season. Traditional handicrafts encapsulate the spirit of artisans. Museums let visitors experience magnificent, impactful Tohoku festivals and the varied expressive styles of contemporary artists. On this trip, you will be fascinated by Tohoku's art, beyond era and genre, as well as its natural beauty.



2 | Tohoku Spiritual Culture and World Natural Heritage Route

A trip to explore Shirakami-Sanchi, replete with rich nature and variety, and the nature and costal beauty characteristic of the Sea of Japan. Travelers will also experience the spiritual culture that took root in Tohoku from long ago, including folk beliefs in the Akita Namahage, worship of the three mountains of Dewa, and the samurai ethos of Iaido.





See here for more information on driving routes.

Tohoku driving routes



<https://www.tohokukanko.jp/en/driving-route>



3 | Tohoku Traditional Craftsmanship and History Route

Niigata is one of the foremost rice-producing areas in Japan, and the sake made from that rice is highly acclaimed. The excellent taste of Fukushima peaches, grown with great time and effort, and Miyagi's Sendai beef convey farmers' love and skill. This trip explores towns where the history and craftsmanship passed down in Tohoku live and breathe.

1 Tsukioka Onsen Kura sake
NIIGATA/ Shibata City

2 Tsubame Industrial Materials Museum
NIIGATA/ Tsubame City

3 Tadami River Bridge No.1
FUKUSHIMA/ Mishima Town

4 Tsurugajo Castle
FUKUSHIMA/ Aizuwakamatsu City

5 Fukushima peaches
FUKUSHIMA/ Fukushima City

6 Sendai beef
MIYAGI/ Sendai City

7 Sendai (Aoba) Castle Ruins
MIYAGI/ Sendai City

8 Matsushima
MIYAGI/ Matsushima Town



Stay at one base to fully enjoy hot springs and activities!

- 1 Asamushi Onsen
- 2 Lake Towada & Oirase Gorge Onsen
- 3 Tsugaru Region
- 4 Hachimantai Onsenkyo
- 5 Morioka & Tsunagi Onsen
- 6 Hanamaki Onsenkyo
- 7 Matsushima
- 8 Akiu/Sakunami Onsen
- 9 Oga Onsen
- 10 Lake Tazawa/Nyuto/Mizusawa Onsen
- 11 Tendo Onsen
- 12 Zao Onsen
- 13 Tsuchiyu/Takayu/Iizaka Onsen
- 14 Higashiyama/Ashinomaki Onsen
- 15 Iwaki Yumoto Onsenkyo
- 16 Tsukioka Onsen
- 17 Iwamuro Onsen

Packed with information to plan your trip and fill free time while traveling

Sightseeing spot information

- ▶ Get information on nearby sightseeing spots during your trip.
- ▶ Pins have pictures, so you can see and choose.
- ▶ Works with Google Maps to navigate to your destination.

Sightseeing itineraries

- ▶ Introduces Base!TOHOKU's recommended itineraries.
- ▶ Just choose the facilities that catch your interest to create a route automatically.

▼ See here for more information.

Base!TOHOKU



<https://base.tohokukanko.jp/>





Spring

Season of New Beginnings

After getting through the long, cold winter, the romantic season of blooming flowers and smiles arrives.



Hirosaki Park

[AOMORI/Hirosaki City]
This is a noted place where about 50 species of 2,600 trees with cherry blossoms bloom in spring. The beauty and the turnout are said to be the best in Japan. Especially the area around Hirosaki Castle has beautiful sights.

[Best time to see this in the average year] Mid April-Early May
[Access] Take about a 15-minute bus ride from JR Hirosaki Station, get off at the Shiyakusho-mae Koen stop; it is nearby.
[Inquiry] Hirosaki Municipal Tourist Center TEL: 0172-37-5501



Samurai Houses

[AKITA/Semboku City]
The weeping cherry tree, more than 300 years old, which is in bloom against the samurai houses' stately black wood fence with the Edo period atmosphere, is absolutely stunning.

[Best time to see this in the average year] Mid April to early May
[Access] About a 15-minute walk from JR Kakunodate Station
[Inquiry] Semboku City Tourist Information Center Kakunodate Ekimae Kura TEL: 0187-54-2700



Kitakami Tenshochi

[IWATE/Kitakami City]
Approximately 10,000 cherry blossoms and 100,000 azaleas bloom in full glory for about 2 kilometers along the Kitakami River. During the Cherry Blossom Festival, you can enjoy a ride through the flower tunnel on a nostalgic sightseeing carriage.

[Best time to see this in the average year] Mid to late April
[Access] Take a bus from JR Kitakami Station for 15 minutes, and get off at the Tenshochi stop.
[Inquiry] Kitakami Tourism Convention Association TEL: 0197-65-0300



Hachimantai Dragon Eye

[IWATE/AKITA]
This mysterious sight can be seen from late May to early June on Kagaminuma Pond at the top of Mt. Hachimantai. The snow covering the pond during winter partially melts like a doughnut, creating a fine view of water reflecting the sunshine and the colors of the sky.

[Best time to see this in the average year] Late May-Early June
[Access] About a 40-minute drive from Matsuo-Hachimantai Interchange
[Inquiry] Hachimantai City Tourism Association TEL: 0195-78-3500
Hachimantai Visitor Center TEL: 0186-31-2714 (0186-25-8846 in winter)



Cherry Picking

[YAMAGATA]
In Yamagata Prefecture, the kingdom of fruit trees, cherry production is ranked No.1 in the country. Various varieties can be tasted from the beginning of June and cherry picking can be enjoyed in various places.

[Period] Early June-Early July
[Inquiry] Yamagata Tourism Information Center TEL: 023-647-2333

Hanamiyama Park

[FUKUSHIMA/Fukushima City]
The stunning landscape in which flowers of plum, cherry, forsythia, quince, magnolia, and peach trees bloom all at once. People say it is like Shangri-La.

[Best time to see this in the average year] Mid April
[Access] About 15 minutes by car from JR Fukushima Station
[Inquiry] Fukushima City Tourist Information Center TEL: 024-531-6428



Hitome Senbonzakura

[MIYAGI/Ogawara Town & Shibata Town]
Along the bank of the Shiroishi River with Mt. Zao in the background, this stretch of approximately 8 kilometers of cherry blossom trees in full glory is spectacular. You can stroll through the cherry blossom corridor while listening to the sound of the river.

[Best time to see this in the average year] Mid April
[Access] At JR Sendai Station, take a Tohoku Line train, get off at Ogawara Station, and walk for about 3 minutes.
[Inquiry] Ogawara Town Commerce, Industry and Tourism Division TEL: 0224-53-2659
Shibata Town Commerce, Industry and Tourism Division TEL: 0224-55-2123



Takada Castle Site Park Cherry Blossom Festival

[NIIGATA/Joetsu City]
The beauty of about 4,000 cherry trees illuminated by the bonbori lanterns is counted among Japan's 3 major night-time viewing spots for cherry blossoms. There are many street stalls during the period.

[Best time to see this in the average year] Late march to mid April.
[Access] About a 15-minute walk from Echigo TOKImeki Railway Takada Station
[Inquiry] Joetsu Tourism Convention Association TEL: 025-543-2777

Fruit-Picking Calendar

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Strawberries												
Cherries												
Grapes												
Peaches												
Pears												
Apples												
Blueberries												

Various fruits such as strawberries, cherries, peaches, pears, and apples are cultivated throughout the Tohoku region. Depending on the location, you can enjoy different types of fruits every season; also, you can try making sweets as well as fruit picking.

Main events in Tohoku

- Mar.** Echigo Urasa Bishamondo Naked Crow Festival
Minamiuonuma, Niigata / 1st Sat. in Mar.
- Apr.** Takada Castle Site Park Cherry Blossom Festival
Joetsu, Niigata / Late Mar. to mid Apr.
- Bunsui Oiran Dochu
Tsubame, Niigata / Mid Apr.
- Kitakami Tenshochi Cherry Blossom Festival
Kitakami, Iwate / Mid to late Apr.
- Hitaka Fire-preventing Festival
Oshu, Iwate / Eve. of Apr. 28 to 29 (main)
- Hatsu-uma Festival - Hibuse no Toramai
Kami, Miyagi / Apr. 29
- Yonezawa Uesugi Festival
Yonezawa, Yamagata / Apr. 29 to May. 3



Summer

Season of Passion

With an azure sky and the sound of festival music, the season of mind-blowing delight.



Aomori Nebuta Festival

C-2

[AOMORI/ Aomori City]

This is truly an exciting mid-summer night festival with breathtaking gigantic paper-lantern floats, which take the forms of warriors and Kabuki actors. The floats parade through the streets, and dancers called Haneto jump and dance.

[Period] August 2-7

[Main venue] City center

[Access] About a 10-minute walk from JR Aomori Station

[Inquiry] Aomori Tourism Convention Association TEL: 017-723-7211



Morioka Sansa Odori Festival

C-4

[IWATE/ Morioka City]

The sound of the world's best drum parade reverberates through the core of spectators' bodies. There is even a circle dance in which you can participate freely on the day.

[Period] August 1-4

[Main venue] Chuo-dori Street, Morioka City

[Access] About a 20-minute walk from JR Morioka Station

[Inquiry] Morioka Sansa Odori Executive Committee TEL: 019-624-5880



Fukushima Waraji Festival

C-7

[FUKUSHIMA/ Fukushima City]

Fukushima's traditional festival where a huge straw sandal of 12 meters in length is carried and dedicated as a prayer for safe traveling, sound health, and bumper crops. You can also enjoy making straw sandals.

[Period] 1st Fri. to Sun. in August

[Main venue] Route 13 Shinobu-dori Street

[Inquiry] Fukushima Waraji Festival Executive Committee

TEL: 024-572-7118



Nagaoka Festival Grand Fireworks Show

B-7

[NIIGATA/ Nagaoka City]

Large fireworks launched one after the next—fireworks with 90 cm shells, ones that flow like Niagara Falls, and a phoenix firework boasting a span of nearly 2 km as a prayer for recovery—adorn the night sky against the backdrop of the Shinano River.

[Period] August 2-3

[Main venue] Along the Shinano River, downstream of the Chosei Bridge, Nagaoka City

[Access] About a 30-minute walk from JR Nagaoka Station

[Inquiry] Nagaoka Fireworks Foundation TEL: 0258-39-0823



Oirase Gorge

C-3

[AOMORI/ Towada City]

An outflow stream from Lake Towada, Oirase Gorge presents outstanding natural beauty with a string of waterfalls running through large and small rocks. A 14-kilometer recreation trail along the stream allows visitors to admire the views of every season.

[Access] Take a JR Bus bound for Towadako Yasumiya from JR Aomori, Misawa or Hachinohe Station

[Inquiry] Oirase Field Museum Gate TEL: 0176-74-1233

Akita Kanto Festival

C-4

[AKITA/ Akita City]

A dazzling display of ten thousand lantern lights simulating fully grown rice grains illuminate the main street in gold, and the craftsmen skillfully handling the rods of lanterns attract spectators.

[Period] August 3-6

[Main venue] Day-time: Area Nakaichi, night-time: Kanto Odori Street

[Access] About a 15-minute walk from JR Akita Station

[Inquiry] Akita Kanto Festival Executive Committee TEL: 018-888-5602



Yamagata Hanagasa Festival

C-6

[YAMAGATA/ Yamagata City]

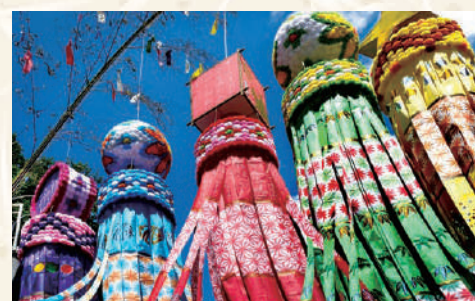
Lead by the float of Zao Daigongen (Great Avatar), more than 10,000 dancers in fascinating costumes holding hanagasa hats adorned with safflowers participate in this dynamic dance.

[Period] August 5-7

[Main venue] Toka-machi, Hon-cho, Nanukamachi-dori - Bunshokan

[Access] About a 15-minute walk from JR Yamagata Station

[Inquiry] Yamagata Prefecture Hanagasa Committee TEL: 023-642-8753



Sendai Tanabata Festival

C-6

[MIYAGI/ Sendai City]

An elegant celebration of paper and bamboo that combines the elegance of the ancient Japanese festival of stars and gorgeousness of the decorations. The streets are filled with colorful Tanabata decorations.

[Period] August 6-8

[Main venue] City-center shopping streets, neighboring shopping streets

[Access] About a 5-minute walk from JR Sendai Station

[Inquiry] Sendai Tanabata Festival Support Association TEL: 022-265-8185

Apr. Tendo Cherry Blossom Festival – Human Shogi

Tendo, Yamagata /Sat. and Sun. from mid to late Mar.

Hirosaki Cherry Blossom Festival

Hirosaki, Aomori /Mid Apr. to early May

Kakunodate Cherry Blossom Festival

Semboku, Akita /Mid Apr. to early May

May Spring Fujiwara Festival

Hiraizumi, Iwate /May 1 to 5

Sakata Festival

Sakata, Yamagata /May 19 to 21

Sendai Aoba Festival

Sendai, Miyagi /3rd Sun. and the day before in May

Tsuruoka Tenjin Festival – Monster Festival

Tsuruoka, Yamagata /May 25

May Motsuji Temple – Gokusui no En

Hiraizumi, Iwate /4th Sun. in May

Bullfighting

Nagaoka & Ojya, Niigata /Late Apr. to early Nov. (Irregular)

June Shirone Giant Kite Battle

Niigata, Niigata /1st Thu. to Mon. in Jun.

Komachi Festival

Yuzawa, Akita /2nd Sun. and the day before in Jun.

Chagu Chagu Umako Festival

Morioka & Takizawa, Iwate /2nd Sat. in Jun.

July Murakami Festival

Murakami, Niigata /Jul. 6 & 7

Shiogama Port Festival

Shiogama, Miyagi /3rd Mon. (Ocean Day) and the day before in Jul.

Osorezan Grand Festival

Mutsu, Aomori /Jul. 20 to 24

July Tajima Gion Festival

Hiramaizumi, Fukushima /Jul. 22 to 24

Soma Wild Horse Chase

Minamisoma & Soma, Fukushima /Last Sat. to Mon. in Jul.

Aug. Fukushima Waraji (straw sandals) Festival

Fukushima, Fukushima /1st Fri. to Sun. in Aug.

Ishinomaki River Festival

Ishinomaki, Miyagi /Early Aug.

Nagaoka Festival Grand Fireworks Show

Nagaoka, Niigata /Aug. 2 to 3

Hirosaki Neputa Festival

Hirosaki, Aomori /Aug. 1 to 7

Hachinohe Sansha Grand Festival

Hachinohe, Aomori /Jul. 31 to Aug. 4

Morioka Sansa Odori Festival

Morioka, Iwate /Aug. 1 to 4



Autumn

Season of Golden Nature

The mountains in crimson and the villages in gold. It is the fertile season of brilliant colors.



!Hachimantai

[IWATE/ AKITA]

In the mountaintop area, large and small lakes are dotted around Hachiman Pond, and the edge of the lake surface glows golden in the season of colorful autumn leaves. Hiking in the wetland is recommended.

[Best time to see] Late September-Mid October
 [Access] About 40 minutes by car from the Tohoku Expressway Matsuo Hachimantai Interchange (Both the Hachimantai Aspite Line and the Jukai Line are closed from early November until mid April in winter)
 [Inquiry] Hachimantai City Tourism Association TEL: 0195-78-3500
 Hachimantai Visitor Center TEL: 0186-31-2714 (0186-25-8846 in winter)



C-4

!Mogami Gorge

[YAMAGATA/ Tozawa Village]

The gorge where the Mogami River flows is a place of scenic beauty with autumnal leaves approaching both the banks. You can enjoy colorful autumn leaves in a boat descending slowly among nature.

[Best time to see] Late October-Early November
 [Access] About 25 minutes by car from Shinjo City
 [Inquiry] Tozawa Village Tourism and Products Association TEL: 0233-72-2110



C-5

!Dakigaeri Gorge

[AKITA/ Semboku City]

A valley about 10 kilometers long formed by the Tamagawa River which flows from the Hachimantai Plateau. Waterfalls flowing through primeval forests, rock walls on both coasts, and distinctive blue streams are beautiful and famous for autumn leaves.

[Best time to see] Mid October-Early November
 [Access] About 50 minutes by car from the Akita Expressway Omagari Interchange
 [Inquiry] Semboku City Tazawako Tourist Information Center "Folake" TEL: 0187-43-2111



C-4



!Tanbo Art (Rice Paddy Art)

[AOMORI/ Inakadate Village]

Tanbo Art is a gigantic artwork display in a large rice field, which is created by planting different kinds and colors of rice plants. The change from spring to autumn is a sight to see.

[Period] June-October
 [Access] About 40 minutes by car from the Aomori City center
 [Inquiry] Planning and Tourist Division, Inakadate Village TEL: 0172-58-2111

C-3

!Naruko Gorge

[MIYAGI/ Osaki City]

A canyon 100 meters deep. It is colored with leaves such as beech, oak and maple trees vividly in autumn. There is the Ofukazawa Promenade of 2.2 kilometers, and you can take a walk while looking at the colored leaves.

[Best time to see] Mid October-Early November
 [Access] About 40 minutes by car from the Tohoku Expressway Furukawa Interchange
 [Inquiry] Naruko Tourism and Hotel Information Center TEL: 0229-83-3441

C-5



!Bandai Azuma Sky Line

[FUKUSHIMA/ Fukushima City]

A mountain-tour road that runs like stitching along the Azuma Mountain Range. A varied landscape develops and the contrast between autumnal leaves, and the desolate volcanic Mt. Azumakofuji makes a magnificent view.

[Best time to see] Late September-Mid October
 [Access] About 50 minutes by car from the Tohoku Expressway Fukushima Nishi Interchange
 [Inquiry] Fukushima Prefecture Azuma Tsuchiyu Road Administration Office TEL: 0242-64-3478



C-7

!Apple-Picking Experience

[AOMORI]

The number-one producer of apples in Japan. The harvesting experience, in which you can enjoy freshly picked delicious apples, is held from summer to autumn.

[Period] August-November
 [Inquiry] Aomori Prefecture Tourist Information Center TEL: 017-734-2500

C-3



!Yahiko Park

[NIGATA/ Yahiko Village]

Yahiko Park is where you can enjoy the different atmospheres of each season. Among them, Momiji Valley is known as the scenic beauty of autumnal leaves, while the landscape of the Kangetsukyo Bridge, a reproduction of an old wooden bridge surrounded by autumnal leaves, is a must-see.

[Best time to see] Late October-Mid November
 [Access] Nearby JR Yahiko Station
 [Inquiry] Yahiko Tourism Association TEL: 0256-94-3154

B-7

Aug. Aomori Nebuta Festival

Aomori, Aomori /Aug. 2 to 7

Niigata Festival

Niigata, Niigata /Early Aug.

Goshogawara Tachi-neputa Festival

Goshogawara, Aomori /Aug. 4 to 8

Akita Kanto (Lantern) Festival

Akita, Akita /Aug. 3 to 6

Iwaki Fireworks Display

Iwaki, Fukushima /1st Fri. and the day after in Aug.

Yamagata Hanagasa Festival

Yamagata, Yamagata /Aug. 5 to 7

Sendai Tanabata Festival

Sendai, Miyagi /Aug. 6 to 8

Kitakami Michinoku Performing Arts Festival

Kitakami, Iwate /Early Aug.

Aug. Matsushima Lantern Floating and Fireworks Festival

Matsushima, Miyagi /Aug. 15 to 16

Izunuma Marsh Lotus Flower Festival

Tome & Kurihara, Miyagi /Late Jul. to late Aug.

Nishimonai Bon Odori (Dance)

Ugo, Akita /Aug. 16 to 18

Hanawa Bayashi (Music Festival)

Kazuno, Akita /Aug. 19 & 20

Sado Earth Celebration

Sado, Niigata /3rd Fri. to Sun. in Aug.

Murayama Tokunai Festival

Murayama, Yamagata /Fri. to Sun. around Aug. 21

Shinjo Festival

Shinjo, Yamagata /Aug. 24 to 26

Omagari National Fireworks Competition

Daisen, Akita /Last Sat. in Aug.

Sept. Japan's Largest 'Imonikai' Festival

Yamagata, Yamagata /The day before Respect-for-the-Aged Day in Sep.

Kataikai Festival Fireworks Display

Ojiya, Niigata /Sep. 9 & 10

Hanamaki Festival

Hanamaki, Iwate /2nd Fri. to Sun. in Sep.

Johzenji Street Jazz Festival

Sendai, Miyagi /2nd Sun. and the day before in Sep.

Aizu Fall Festival

Aizuwakamatsu, Fukushima /Late Sep.

Oct. Nihonmatsu Chrysanthemum Dolls

Nihonmatsu, Fukushima /Early Oct. to mid Nov.

Nanyo Chrysanthemum Festival

Nanyo, Yamagata /Early Oct. to early Nov.

Michinoku YOSAKOI Festival

Sendai, Miyagi /2nd Sat. the day after in Oct.



I Stove Train

C-2

[AOMORI/ Goshogawara City]

You can enjoy the nostalgic journey while warming up with the old, coal potbelly stoves on the train, looking at the snow scene from the train window.

[Period] December-March

[Access] At JR Goshogawara Station, transfer to Tsugaru Railway

[Inquiry] Tsugaru Railway Co., Ltd. Head Office
TEL: 0173-34-2148



C-3

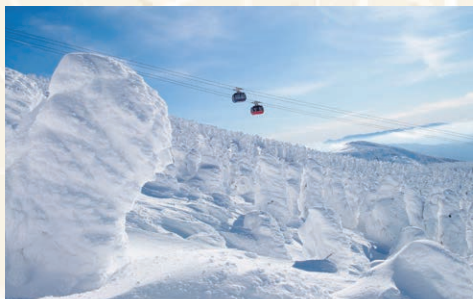
I Appi Heights

[IWATE/ Hachimantai City]

This is one of the best snow resorts in Tohoku, boasting of "aspirin snow," or dry, smooth powder snow, in the winter season. In the Family Park the entire family can play in the snow.

[Access] About 20 minutes by car from the Tohoku Expressway Ashiro Interchange

[Inquiry] Appi Heights TEL: 0195-73-5111



C-6

I Zao Ice Monsters

[YAMAGATA/ Yamagata City]

Try the "Juhyo (Ice Monsters) Corridor of Fantasy" tour, which goes from Zao Onsen Ski Resort by ropeway and snowmobile, and you can see the Ice Monsters and silver frost up close.

[Best time to see in the average year] Late December-Early March

[Access] About 45 minutes by bus from JR Yamagata Station, get off at Zao Onsen Bus Terminal and ride the ropeway

[Inquiry] Zao Onsen Tourism Association TEL: 023-694-9328

Winter

Season of Magical Adventure

Accumulating snow and the warmth of people.

The season to enjoy the silvery white.



C-4

I Nyuto Hot Springs Village

[AKITA/ Semboku City]

This area is dotted with secluded and excellent hot springs, and each of the seven hot spring places has its own spring source. The rustic atmosphere invites nostalgia.

[Access] About 50 minutes by bus from JR Tazawako Station, and get off at Nyuto Onsen stop.

[Inquiry] Nyuto Onsen Association (National Park Resort Nyuto Onsenkyo)
TEL: 0187-46-2244



A-8

I Myoko Highland

[NIIGATA/ Myoko City]

There are 8 ski resorts in Myoko Highland; you can enjoy skiing and snowboarding in winter. It is a highland resort with hot springs nearby.

[Access] About 10 minutes by car from the Joshinetsu Expressway Myoko Kogen Interchange

[Inquiry] Myoko Plateau Tourist Information Center TEL: 0255-86-3911



B-4

I Namahage Sedo Festival

[AKITA/ Oga City]

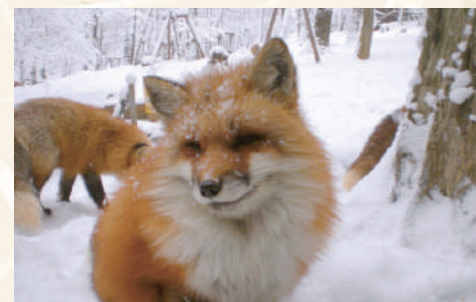
A winter festival combining the New Year's "Saitousai Festival" and New Year's Eve's "Namahage" event. The heroic Namahage dancing boisterously under the Sedo bonfire attracts lots of viewers.

[Period] The 2nd Fri, Sat, Sun of February every year.

[Main venue] Shinzan Shrine

[Access] About a 45-minute bus ride from JR Oga Station, get off at the Shinzan stop, and walk for 20 minutes.

[Inquiry] Oga City Tourism Division TEL: 0185-24-9210



C-7

I Miyagi Zao Fox Village

[MIYAGI/ Shiroishi City]

In a rich natural environment at the foot of Mt. Zao, 6 kinds of over 100 fluffy foxes can be found, including the Kita Kitsune or Ezo Red Fox. You can feed them and pet them.

[Access] About 20 minutes by car from the Tohoku Expressway Shiroishi Interchange

[Inquiry] Zao Kitsune Mura TEL: 0224-24-8812



B-8

I Ouchijuku

[FUKUSHIMA/ Shimogo Town]

Ouchijuku still exudes an atmosphere of a post town from the Edo period. Thatched roof buildings line the street and are designated as an Important Preservation District for Groups of Traditional Buildings.

[Access] At JR Aizuwakamatsu Station, transfer to Aizu Railway, get off at Yunokami Onsen Station, and about 20 minutes by bus.

[Inquiry] Ouchijuku Tourism Association TEL: 0241-68-3611

Nov.	Taimatsu Akashi Sukagawa, Fukushima /2nd Sat. in Nov.
Dec.	Kohata Banner Festival Nihonmatsu, Fukushima /1st Sun. in Dec.
	Sendai Pageant of Starlight Sendai, Miyagi /Early to late Dec.
	Zao Ice Monsters Festival Yamagata, Yamagata /Late Dec. to late Feb.
Jan.	Nanokado Hadaka-mairi Festival Yanaizu, Fukushima /Jan. 7
Feb.	Tono Dobekko Festival Tono, Iwate /Late Nov. to late Feb.
	Hirosaki Castle Snow Lantern Festival Hirosaki, Aomori /Early Feb.

Feb.	Matsushima Oyster Festival Matsushima, Miyagi /1st Sun. in Feb.
	Paper Balloon Festival of Kamihinokinai Semboku, Akita /Feb. 10
	Daito Ohara Water Festival Ichinoseki, Iwate /Feb. 11
	Takeuchi (bamboo hitting) in Rokugono Kamakura Snow Festival Misato, Akita /Feb. 11 to 15
	Namahage Sedo Festival Oga, Akita /2nd Fri. to Sun. in Feb.
	Aizu Picture Candle Festival Aizuwakamatsu, Fukushima /2nd Fri. and the day after in Feb.
	Yokote Kamakura Snow Hut Festival Yokote, Akita /Feb. 15 & 16
	Kokusekiji Temple Sominsai Oshu, Iwate /Mid Feb. (old calendar: Jan. 7 & 8)

Feb.	Lake Towada Winter Story Towada, Aomori, Kosaka, Akita / Late Jan. to mid Feb.
	Inukko (Snow Dog Statue) Festival Yuzawa, Akita /2nd Sat. and the day after in Feb.
	Odate Amekko Market Odate, Akita /2nd Sat. and the day after in Feb.
	Ouchijuku Snow Festival Shimogo, Fukushima /2nd Sat. and the day after in Feb.
	Uesugi Snow Lantern Festival Yonezawa, Yamagata /2nd Sat. and the day after in Feb.
	Hachinohe Enburi Event Hachinohe, Aomori /Feb. 17 to 20
	Tokamachi Snow Festival Tokamachi, Niigata /3rd Fri. to Sun. in Feb.

Visiting the History and Culture of Eternity - The World and National Heritage -

Natural and Cultural Heritage Sites that are registered in the lists of UNESCO and the Japanese Agency for Cultural Affairs located all over the Tohoku area. There are various stories of natural beauty and culture nurtured by the land, people, and history.

World Heritage

世界遺産

AOMORI/AKITA C-3

Shirakami Mountains

The Shirakami Mountains are a vast mountainous area spanning from the southeast part of Aomori to the northwest part of Akita, centered on the border of Aomori Prefecture and Akita Prefecture. The primary characteristic of this mountain area is the virgin forest of rich beech trees. This forest houses mammals such as Japanese black bears and Japanese serows, and precious birds such as the Natural Monuments of Japan, black woodpeckers, and golden eagles. It was registered as the first World Natural Heritage Site in Japan at the same time as Yakushima Island in 1993.



AOMORI/IWATE/AKITA

Jomon Prehistoric Sites in Northern Japan

These 17 archaeological sites in Hokkaido, Aomori, Iwate, and Akita prefectures represent the cultural heritage of the lives and spiritual traditions of the people settled here over a span of 10,000 years. These people utilized the bounty of nature to secure food, formed settlements while coping with changes in climate, and developed their own culture of thought. The Sannai Maruyama Site, in particular, is one of Japan's largest Jomon prehistoric sites. The 17 sites were registered to the list of World Heritage sites as the "Jomon Prehistoric Sites in Northern Japan" in July 2021.



IWATE C-5

Hiraizumi

- Buildings, Gardens expressing Buddha's Land (Jodo) and the Group of Archeological Remains -

Hiraizumi is located in Hiraizumi Town, the southern part of Iwate

Prefecture, and four generations of the Oshu Fujiwara

Clan ruled here, while the town prospered as the capital for about 100 years. Various temples, gardens, and ruins that were built based on the Pure Land idea aiming for a peaceful world are preserved here. Among them, the Chuson-ji Temple Golden Hall is designated as a valuable Amidado Hall, which is the only one remaining from the Heian period, and the Jodo (Pure Land) garden of Motsu-ji Temple is designated as a National Special Historic Site.



Photo courtesy: Chuson-ji Temple

IWATE D-5

Hashino Iron Mining

- Sites of Japan's Meiji Industrial Revolution: Iron and Steel, Shipbuilding and Coal Mining -

Construction started in 1858 and took the next year to complete with engineering guidance by Takato Oshima, said to be the father of modern Japanese iron-making. The site was designated as a National Cultural Property (historic site) for being

Japan's oldest western-style blast furnace ruins. You can see the ruins of three blast furnaces as well as the water mill, and have a glimpse of the operating state of that time.



Purchase a great-deal ticket here!

JR EAST PASS

Tohoku area

A great-deal railway pass for customers visiting Japan.

It allows unlimited rides on all JR East train lines in Tokyo and the Tohoku area while it is valid.



Check the website for details!

<https://www.jreast.co.jp/multi/>

TOHOKU HIGHWAY BUS TICKET

A special discounted bus ticket that allows unlimited rides while it is valid on highway buses traveling within Tohoku's six prefectures, and some of the bus routes between cities.



Check the website for details!

<https://japanbusonline.com/Tohoku>

TOHOKU EXPRESSWAY PASS

Unlimited use of highways in the Tohoku area for a fixed price!

Please rent an ETC card also when you rent a car.

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https://en.driveplaza.com/drawari/tohoku_express/

A worry-free fixed price

No worries even if you don't understand Japanese!

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TRAVEL TO TOHOKU

The Official tourism website of TOHOKU, Japan.



Packed with recommended Tohoku sightseeing spots, events, and itineraries!

For Tohoku sightseeing information. [Travel to Tohoku](https://www.tohokukanko.jp/en/)

<https://www.tohokukanko.jp/en/>



Please help support and rebuild Tohoku through tourism!

TOHOKU Fan Club

Membership is now open!

The TOHOKU Fan Club is a member organization for those wishing to support sustainable tourism in the Tohoku area.

<https://tohokufanclub.com/en/>



Tohoku Tourism Promotion Organization

Senken Building 8F, 2-2-13 Ichibancho, Aoba-ku, Sendai 980-0811 TEL:022-721-1291 FAX:022-721-1293

October 2023



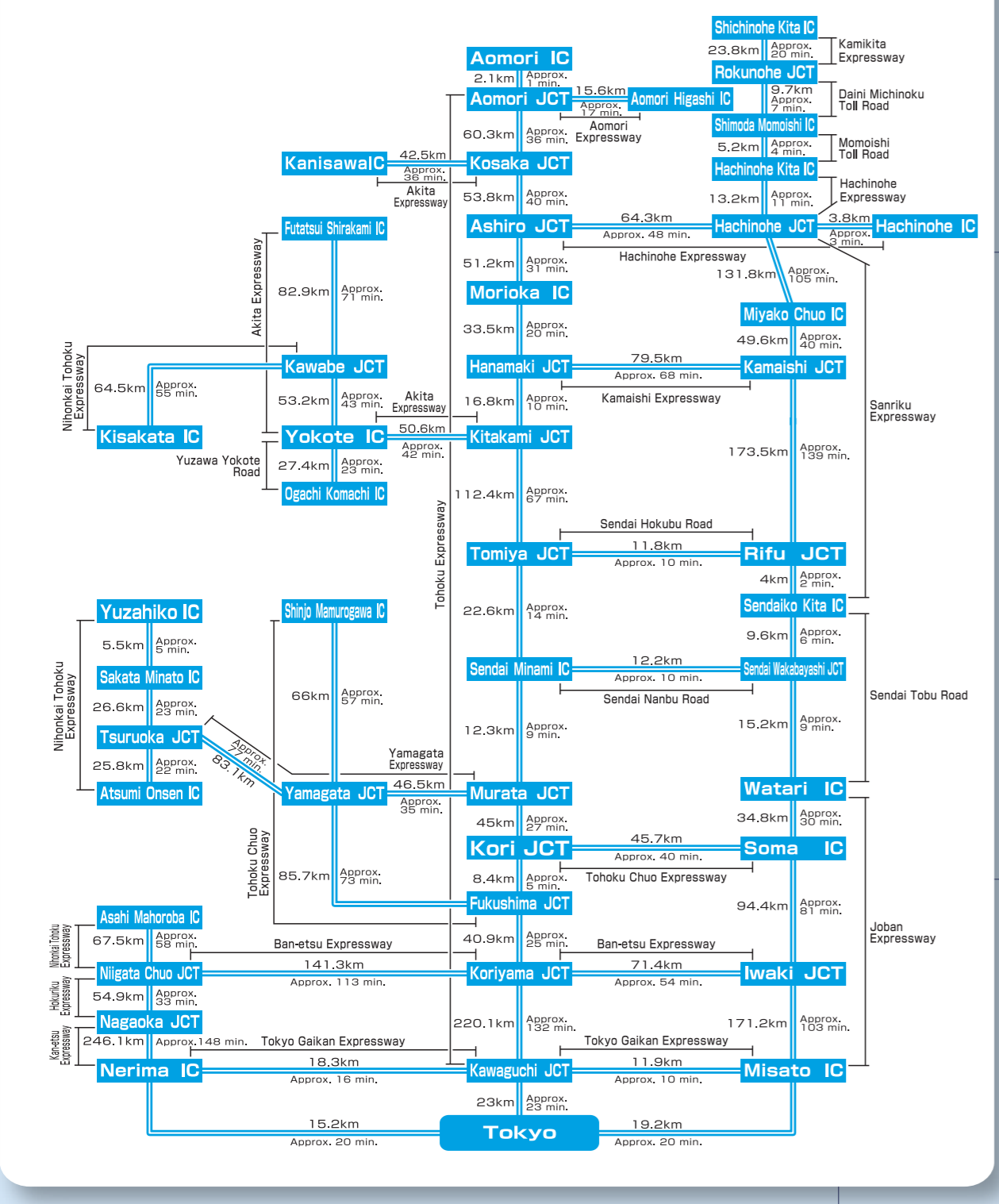
TRAFFIC INFORMATION

By Train

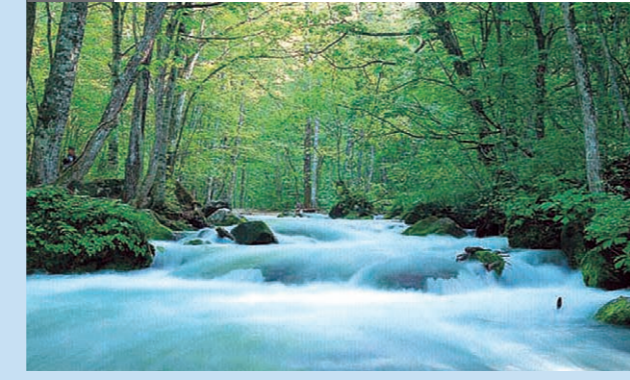
Tokyo	Tokyo Shinkansen	Tohoku Shinkansen	Aomori
Nagoya	Ikado Shinkansen	Tohoku Shinkansen	Shin Aomori
Shin Osaka	Ikado Shinkansen	Tohoku Shinkansen	Shin Aomori
Sapporo	Mororan Main Line	Shinkansen	Sendo
Tokyo	Tohoku Shinkansen	Tohoku Shinkansen	Fukushima
Shin Osaka	Ikado Shinkansen	Tohoku Shinkansen	Fukushima
Sapporo	Mororan Main Line	Shinkansen	Sendo
Tokyo	Tohoku Shinkansen	Tohoku Shinkansen	Miyagi
Shin Osaka	Ikado Shinkansen	Tohoku Shinkansen	Miyagi
Sapporo	Mororan Main Line	Shinkansen	Sendo

The required times are approximate times that do not include the time required for changing trains. The required times will differ according to the train. For further details consult the timetable.

By Car



1 Oirase Gorge AOMORI



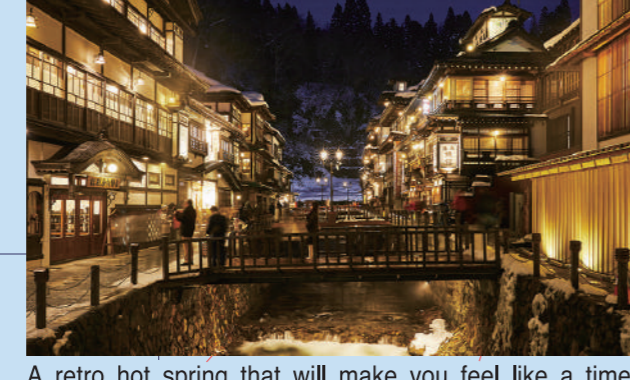
One of Japan's best scenic spots continuing from Lake Towada. Also called the Waterfalls Road, there are many waterfalls scattered along the mountain stream, and you can enjoy the beauty of nature by driving or walking around at the time of fresh green or autumn leaves.

4 Kakunodate AKITA



Kakunodate is called the little Kyoto in Michinoke (Tohoku area). Along the street with a row of samurai residences' black fences, approximately 400 cherry trees including the 300 years-old weeping cherry tree line up, and in bloom, they look vivid against the fences.

5 Ginza H.S. YAMAGATA



A retro hot spring that will make you feel like a time traveler. Wooden inn line the streets, gas lamps gleam in the dusk, and an aura of nostalgia reigns. A view of the snow-covered town in winter is also delightful.

2 Jodogahama IWATE



Located in the middle of Sanriku Fukko National Park and Sanriku Geopark, the beach is adorned with sharp points of white rhyolite. The contrast of the green pines, white rock faces, and ultramarine sea is stunning.

3 Matsushima MIYAGI



There are more than 260 large and small islands in the bay. There are four panoramic views, known as Shidakan, overlooking Matsushima Bay, such as Mt. Tamonzan, Ogi-dani valley, Mt. Tomiyama and Mt. Otakomori. To see the islands closely, we recommend to take a trip around the islands by a pleasure boat.

6 Tsuruga Castle FUKUSHIMA



Tsuruga Castle, once called the impregnable castle, was restored in 1965 using the method and technique of the Edo period. Inside the castle tower is a folk museum and you can learn about the history of Aizu.

7 Tarai Bune (Tub Boat) NIIGATA



Tarai bune is a tub-turned boat for Isonegi, inshore fishing, to catch wakame seaweeds, abalones, turban shells, etc. which are operated by Ama, female divers at the Ogi Harbor in Sado Bay. You can experience riding the boat at Ogi Harbor or Yashima / Keijima Islands.



	JR Line		National Road		Tourist attraction
	Provisionally restored bus rapid transit (BRT) section		Main Local Road		Major sightseeing spot
	Shinkansen Railway		National park		World Heritage
	Private Railway		Hot Spring Resort		Prefectural Office
	Expressway		Ski Resort		City Hall
	Toll Road		Golf course		

Note: When you plan to visit tourist facilities in Tohoku, please make inquiries in advance.
1 : 700,000

