

FUKUSHIMA

Koriyama Collaborative Core Urban Area Brochure

Discover all the charms of the KCCUAI!





Seventeen municipalities unite* to energize central Fukushima.


CONTENTS


■ What Is the Koriyama Collaborative Core Urban Area (KCCUA)?


■ Key Points of Living in the KCCUA


——  Major initiatives among 17 municipalities


——  An “intellectual hub” created by excellent transportation access

——  An “industrial hub” that fosters dynamic economic activity

——  A medical system that supports safe, secure living


——  An education system that meets a wide range of learning needs

——  A child-rearing environment that supports children’s futures

——  Wide-area library access available across all 17 municipalities

■ New Residents Roundtable: Perspectives on Life in the KCCUA



■  17 Municipalities—Each with Its Own Charm

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| —  Koriyama | —  Ten'ei | —  Furudono |
| —  Sukagawa | —  Bandai | —  Miharu |
| —  Nihonmatsu | —  Inawashiro | —  Ono |
| —  Tamura | —  Ishikawa | |
| —  Motomiya | —  Tamakawa | |
| —  Otama | —  Hirata | |
| —  Kagamiishi | —  Asakawa |  |

What Is the KCCUA?

The KCCUA is a region comprising 17 municipalities* in central Fukushima Prefecture. Under the slogan of “Sharing, Growing, and Helping Each Other,” the region is working to build an urban area that is resilient to climate change, where all generations live healthily. Through initiatives such as disaster preparedness and efforts to extend healthy life expectancy, the region aims to ensure that everyone can continue living comfortably and happily.



Start here to get a full picture of the KCCUA. 



**Connecting to the Future:
The Story of the KCCUA**



The KCCUA Portal Site



The KCCUA Database

Lifestyle Highlights of the KCCUA



The KCCUA offers many advantages through cooperation that goes beyond municipal borders. Explore key points such as excellent transportation access, strong industrial clusters, childcare support, and wide-area library services.



Major initiatives among 17 municipalities



An “intellectual hub” created by excellent transportation access



An “industrial hub” that fosters dynamic economic activity



A medical system that supports safe, secure living



An education system that meets a wide range of learning needs



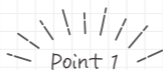
A child-rearing environment that supports children’s futures



Wide-area library access available across all 17 municipalities



Contents



SDGs Collaborative Initiatives of the 17 Municipalities

To build a vibrant region where no one is left behind, people support one another, and everyone can live healthy and fulfilling lives, the 17 municipalities collaborate on a wide range of initiatives related to the SDGs.



Koriyama SDGs Award



1 ~ **17**

The City of Koriyama presents the Koriyama SDGs Award to companies and organizations that contribute to the realization of Koriyama as an “SDGs Future City.”

Asakano Gakuen University **3** **4**

Asaka no Gakuen University was established to provide lifelong learning opportunities for seniors and to promote their active participation in society.

Safe Communities **3 5 11 13 16 17**

To ensure the KCCUA is a safe place to live, data and information are shared about injuries and accidents.

Sports Innovation **3 17**

The KCCUA works together with professional sports teams and universities to raise awareness about health and increase participation in sport activities.

SDGs Project “Healthy Urban Area” **3 17**

By analyzing medical data and information and by introducing digital systems, we are striving to implement measures to increase life expectancy.

Care and Support Services for Sick Children **4**

Childcare workers, doctors and nurses work together to provide care for sick children at specialized facilities.

Entrepreneurship Education Program

8 9

Provides hands-on learning opportunities to foster entrepreneurial spirit and business knowledge for high school students and others in the KCCUA.

Joint Promotions to Attract Businesses

8 9

The municipalities hold joint exhibits at trade shows to attract businesses to the area, revitalize the local economy and create jobs.

KCCUA Thailand Market Development Program

8 9 17

This program supports local businesses in expanding overseas by collaborating with partners in Thailand such as Rangsit University, including buyer matching, local promotions, and exhibition participation.

Improving Working Conditions with Digital Technology

8 9

The KCCUA is introducing information systems and creating ways to telework to improve productivity and efficiency.

Local Tourism

8 17

The KCCUA creates tourism pamphlets, brochures, and websites to attract more visitors to the area.

Aerial Photography

11

The municipalities cooperate to take photographs of the area that are used for property tax valuations, agriculture, forestry, and road maintenance.

Frontier Farmers

2 8

Promotes local producers and agricultural products through interview articles, photos, videos, and PR activities at events.

Disaster Management Support System

11 17

A support system for public employees to facilitate disaster management.

Matching Project for Gen Z Community Development

11 17

We hold intergenerational exchange meetings and other events to match the younger generation with local organizations to ensure the sustainability and refine the activities of each organization.

Public-Private Partnerships **11** **17**

The KCCUA has partnered with 21 companies and organizations in an effort to revitalize the economy, foster sustainability, and improve services for residents. *As of March 2026.

Koriyama Civic Support Center **17**

The Center provides consultations and organizes courses to support public outreach activities by residents or residents' groups from the KCCUA.

Challenge New Ideas Study Group **17**

A group made up of young people who aim to come up with innovative ideas by researching and observing the KCCUA.



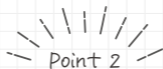
For more information, click/tap here.

What Are the SDGs?

Adopted by the United Nations in September 2015, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are comprehensive objectives comprising 17 goals and 169 targets to be achieved by 2030 as well as guidelines for evaluating progress toward these goals, with the aim of “realizing a sustainable world” based on the principle that “no one is left behind.”



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



An R&D Cluster That Capitalizes on the Region's Accessibility

The KCCUA is located in the center of Fukushima and is connected to the Tohoku Expressway and Ban'etsu Expressway. The Tohoku Shinkansen, Tohoku Line, Ban'etsu East Line, and Ban'etsu West Line that also run through the KCCUA, as well as Fukushima Airport, allow for quick and convenient travel to Tokyo and other parts of the country.

Because of its accessibility, the KCCUA is home to many companies, cutting-edge research institutions, and industrial support organizations, leading to a well-developed R&D cluster.



[Contents](#)

Many industrial support organizations are located in the area.



institutions and industrial support organizations

More than **20** businesses

The KCCUA is home to more than 20 institutions and organizations that specialize in fields such as the environment, renewable energy, medical device development, and agriculture.*Excerpt from "Phase 2 of the KCCUA Vision"



▲ Industrial Technology Institute Fukushima Prefectural Government (Koriyama)



▲ Inawashiro Aquatic Environment Centre (Inawashiro)



▲ JICA Nihonmatsu (Nihonmatsu)



Click/Tap here for each organization's website, etc.

Capable and Talented People



High schools

14,789 students

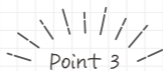
*Fukushima Prefecture Statistics Division
Basic School Survey Report 2024



University Students
(including junior college students)

5,325

*Enrollment from university websites
(as of May 1, 2025)



Point 3

A strong industrial cluster that drives economic growth and development

During the early Meiji era (1868-1912) the Asaka Canal was constructed in Koriyama, providing access to a large amount of electricity from hydroelectric power generation. This electricity was shared with textile and chemical factories, leading to massive industrial growth.



Now the second largest industrial cluster in Tohoku, the KCCUA is home to many private manufacturing, wholesale, and retail companies. These companies are aided by the many research institutions and support organizations in the area, and the municipalities are working together on various initiatives to revitalize the area even further.



TAP

Contents

One of the leading industrial clusters in the Tohoku region, with well-balanced development of agriculture, commerce, and industry.

26,579 private companies

*2021 Economic Census, Fukushima Prefecture



Wholesale & retail companies

6,556



Construction companies

3,561



Manufacturing companies

2,129



Transportation & delivery companies

731



Financial firms

472



Telecommunication companies

165



Click/Tap here for details by municipality

The gross municipal income and gross municipal product of the KCCUA account for approximately 30% of the Fukushima's total.

Gross municipal income

¥1,8trillion

(prefecture total: ¥5,2trillion)

Gross municipal product

¥2.6trillion

(prefecture total: ¥7.9trillion)

*Based on the 2022 Fukushima Prefecture Annual Report of Municipal Accounts by the Fukushima Prefecture Statistics Division

Awesome! It accounts for about 30% of the prefecture.



Annual sales value (commerce)

¥188billion

*Based on the 2021 Economic Census of Fukushima Prefecture



Total value of manufactured goods shipments (industry)

¥185billion

*Based on "2023 Industry in Fukushima Prefecture," Fukushima Prefecture Statistics Division



Agricultural output

¥74.8billion

*2023 Agricultural Output by Municipality (Projected), Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries



Number of farm households

23,888

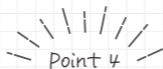
*2020 Agriculture and Forestry Census, Fukushima Prefecture Statistics Division



Industrial parks

69

*Phase 2 of the KCCUA Vision



Healthcare in the KCCUA

In addition to the large number of hospitals, clinics, and dental clinics in the KCCUA, specialists and emergency medical services ensure that patients receive the care they need to stay healthy.



Hospital beds per 100,000 population

National average

1,187.3

City of Koriyama

1,701.6

*Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare
"Medical Facility Survey" (as of October 1, 2024)



Contents

30% of the total number of beds in Fukushima Prefecture

8,098 beds

(Prefecture 24,535)

*As of October 1, 2024—according to the
“Survey of Medical Institutions”
conducted by the Ministry of Health,
Labour and Welfare



7,811 hospital beds

(prefecture: 23,616)



287 clinic beds

(prefecture: 919)



Click/Tap here for details by municipality

A living environment with great healthcare

This gives us
peace of mind!



Hospitals, clinics, and dental clinics **752**

*Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare
"Medical Facility Survey" (as of October 1, 2024)



Hospitals

38



Clinics

440



Dental clinics

274



▲ Ohta Nishinouchi Hospital
(Koriyama)



▲ Iwase General Hospital
(Sukagawa)



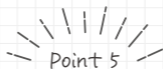
▲ Masu Memorial Hospital
(Nihonmatsu)



▲ Hirata Central Hospital (Hirata)



Click/Tap here for each organization's website, etc.



Education in the KCCUA

With many universities, colleges, and schools that specialize in a wide variety of fields, the KCCUA can provide a well-rounded education for students with diverse interests. The KCCUA is also undertaking initiatives based on public-private partnerships with national and prefectural research and academic institutions, companies, and organizations.



▲ Koriyama Women's University and College



▲ Ohu University



▲ Nihon University College of Engineering



Click/Tap here for each organization's website, etc.



Contents

Effective Learning Environments

223 educational institutions

*As of May 1, 2023—according to the Basic School Survey Report (Basic School Statistic School Year 2023) conducted by the Fukushima Prefecture Statistics Division and the Statistical Abstract published by the Fukushima Prefectural Board of Education.



125
elementary
schools



65
junior
high schools



3
compulsory
education
schools



26
high schools



4
universities
(including a
junior college)



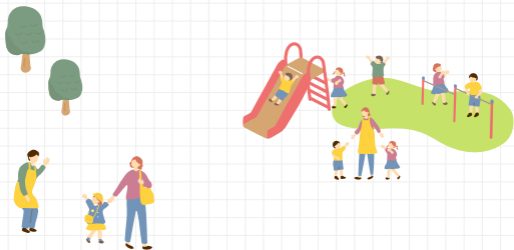
TAP

Click/Tap here for details by municipality



A Safe and Healthy Environment to Support Childrearing

Many local parenting and family support centers have been created within the KCCUA, and they provide places where parents, guardians, and families can socialize, consult with experts about problems and concerns regarding parenting, and receive various kinds of support. In this way, residents can raise their children with peace of mind while working.



Contents

High-quality day care and early childhood education

97 daycare centers

*Fukushima Prefecture
Statistical Yearbook as of October 1, 2023

101 kindergartens and certified centers for early childhood education

*According to the Basic School Survey Report (Basic School Statistic for School Year 2023) published by the Fukushima Prefecture Statistics Division



97

daycare centers



36

certified centers for early childhood education



65

kindergartens



Supporting childrearing by providing activities for parents and children, and consultations about parenting problems and concerns.



34

**local parenting
and family
support centers**

*As of March 31,
2024—Fukushima
Prefecture Website,
Childcare Support
Division



12

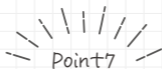
**children's
centers**

*Fukushima
Prefecture Statistical
Yearbook as of
October 1, 2023

We'd also
love to try
using these
services.



Click/Tap here for details by municipality



Available in all 17 municipalities

Libraries in the KCCUA

Residents of the KCCUA can use any library in any of its 17 municipalities (Koriyama, Sukagawa, Nihonmatsu, Tamura, Motomiya, Otama, Kagamiishi, Ten'ei, Bandai, Inawashiro, Ishikawa, Tamakawa, Hirata, Asakawa, Furudono, Miharuru, Ono).

*Services and rules for use may differ between libraries.

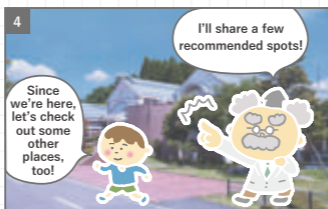
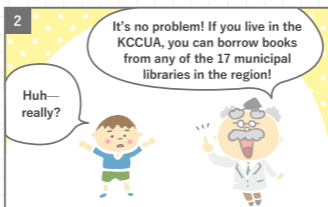
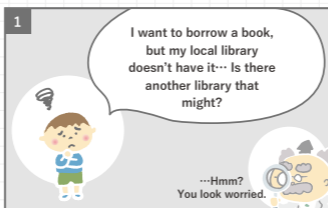


Click here for details



Contents

Did you know? You can use any library across 17 municipalities!



**Pick Up!**

A glimpse into library use

Resident of Furudono
Family outing to Sukagawa♪
We stopped by “tette”!

**The Yoshida Family**

Click or tap here to read an interview
with Ms. Yoshida.

Sukagawa City Central Library (inside Sukagawa Citizen Exchange Center “tette”)





Located in the city center, it is a perfect library for other activities like lunch or shopping. Kids also love its interactive reading area with exciting features.

It's a full day of fun for parents and children!



〒962-0845

4-1 Nakamachi, Sukagawa
(Inside Sukagawa Citizen Exchange Center)

☎ 0248-75-3309

Closed: Every Tuesday; year-end/New Year holidays; special maintenance periods

Hours: Mon, Wed-Sat 9:00 AM-8:00 PM / Sun & holidays 9:00 AM-6:00 PM





Resident of Nihonmatsu
We came for a festival in
Motomiya—so we visited
the library, too!



The Seki Family



TAP

Click here to read their interview.

Motomiya Shirasawa Yume Library





A bright library with terrace seating in warm sunlight and reclining chairs. The calm, peaceful atmosphere makes it easy to slow down and stay a while.

It's great that
parents can
enjoy it.



〒969-1203
500 Tsutsumisaki, Shiraiwa, Motomiya

☎ 0243-44-2112

Closed: Every Monday; year-end/New Year holidays;
special maintenance periods

Hours: Tue–Sat 9:30 AM–8:00 PM / Sun & holidays
9:30 AM–5:00 PM





check!

Playgrounds are also available.

Audio
Guide



●Nihonmatsu Shinkin Shiroyama Pool

Nihonmatsu



A variety of indoor pools.

●Hoshino Resorts Nekoma Mountain

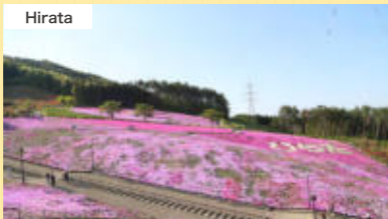
Bandai



A safe kids' area for family fun.

● Jupia Land Hirata

Hirata



A famous flower spot with wooden play equipment.

● Ohisama Dome

Tamura City



Indoor play equipment for children of all ages from infants through elementary school.

● **Commutan Fukushima—Fukushima Prefectural
Environmental Creation Center Communication Building**

Miharu



Learn about Fukushima after the Great East
Japan Earthquake.

Discussion with people who moved here

What We Discovered After Moving Here! All About the KCCUA



Let's ask residents who chose the KCCUA as their new home what they find appealing about it.



Contents

Participants



Manami Nakayama

(born in Tokyo). After serving as a Local Vitalization Cooperator, she now runs the traditional Japanese house facility “Nononowa” in Tamura.



Hiroaki Kanno

(born in Kawamata, Fukushima Prefecture). After working as an EMS paramedic for the Tokyo Fire Department, he relocated with his family to Motomiya.



Tokiaki Narui

(born in Tochigi Prefecture). He moved to Ono in January 2024 as a Local Vitalization Cooperator.



Yui Namioka

(born in Aomori Prefecture). She moved to Bandai in April 2024 as a Local Vitalization Cooperator.



Tsukasa Takehara

(born in Tokyo). He moved to Ishikawa in October 2022 as a Local Vitalization Cooperator.



Sho Hoshi

(born in Tokyo). After visiting Ten'ei while researching satoyama (traditional woodland landscapes) for a museum in Tokyo, he later relocated there.



The discussion venue



Countryside Life Experience House

“Wakuwaku” in Motomiya

A relocation experience facility that uses a renovated

old folk house. Visitors can stay for a set period and experience Motomiya's climate, culture, and lifestyle with no accommodation fees.

What are the charms of the area?



One of the attractions of the KCCUA is its excellent transportation convenience and the rich nature close at hand. What aspects of nature do you find appealing?

Nakayama I started keeping Japanese honeybees, which are rare, on my property in Tamura. Bees are vital partners that support crop pollination. As for wildlife, there are many creatures that are rarely seen these days, such as water scorpions, diving beetles, loaches, and giant dragonflies.



Takehara I also had the opportunity to help create a biotope in terraced rice fields during elementary school classes. In Ishikawa, there is an annual Firefly Festival in June, and this project aims to increase populations of Genji and Heike fireflies for that event. Firefly numbers declined significantly once, but through activities over the past two years, they have gradually increased, and the environment is slowly recovering.

Hoshi I moved here after coming to the Yumoto

area of Ten'ei for plant research. Because of that, I feel the true value of this area lies in its rich natural environment, including its plant life. The Yumoto area also has terraced rice fields where rare plants are still alive.

How about the environment for raising children?

Kanno I really appreciate the support of many people, including staff at the city hall. In Motomiya, there are various extracurricular activities available. My older child occasionally joins practice with the local basketball team, and I'm considering enrolling my younger child in a dance school.

Hoshi Our situation was completely different from Motomiya. When my son attended Yumoto Elementary School, there were only two students in the entire school at the time. I was worried because I had attended a large elementary school in an urban area, but the classes were essentially one-on-one, and the teachers were incredibly patient. In the end, I think it was a good situation. Children in Yumoto are not intimidated by adults at all. At school, there are more teachers than students, and when they go home, they grow up in an environment where everyone in the neighborhood knows one another. So, they have no fear of interacting with adults. It depends on the child's personality, of course, but I'm glad my child attended there.



Any gaps between your expectations and reality?

Were there any surprises after moving, or any gaps between your expectations and reality?

Namioka I was born in Aomori Prefecture, got a job in Miyagi Prefecture, and now live in Bandai. Since I have always lived in the Tohoku region, there wasn't a huge cultural gap. However, I had always lived by the sea before, so moving to mountainous Bandai made me notice differences in people's temperaments. The sense of community is strong, and I felt a bit isolated at first.

Narui People in Ono also seemed a bit curt in their greetings until I had settled in. This went on for a while, and just when I started wondering whether I could really make it here, they suddenly began chatting with me about all sorts of things. But I think that can happen anywhere when you move

somewhere new.

Takehara When I first moved here, people often asked me my last name. When I answered, they would say, “You’re not originally from Ishikawa, are you?” I wondered how they knew. Later, I was surprised to learn that just by hearing a surname, people can tell which village area within the town someone is from.

Hoshi After moving to Ten’ei, I married a local woman and took the surname Hoshi. In the Yumoto area where I live, about 80% of the people have the surname Hoshi. So, if you call out “Hoshi-san,” everyone turns around (laughs). Even outside the family, we call each other by our first names.

Nakayama Even though Tokyo has more people, I find myself more conscious of others here than I was in Tokyo. People say things like, “I saw you at that place yesterday!” when I wasn’t even aware. Now, even for a quick outing, I think, “I should change clothes” (laughs).

Kanno The biggest difference I feel compared to city life is how I spend time. When I lived in the city, I could watch videos on my smartphone during my train commute, but since



switching to commuting by car, I can't do that anymore.

Namioka Speaking of time management, since Bandai gets a lot of snow, I sometimes wish I could use the time spent shoveling snow in winter for something else.

Narui Time flows more slowly here, but there might actually be more to do in the countryside.



**Trust in community
is something they earn over time.**

**Is there anything you consciously do to be
accepted by the local community?**

Takehara If there is an event in town, I try to stop by, even if it's only for 10 minutes. In Ishikawa, the morning market runs every Saturday from May to November, and I've attended consistently since moving here. At first, people saw me and said,

“He’s the guy who came to our town through the Local Vitalization Cooperator program.” But gradually, “the guy” became “Takehara-san,” and now people even ask me for advice. I realized that trust isn’t something you gain instantly; it takes time.

Hoshi Showing up for community work in the village is important, too.

What can newcomers do?

Takehara I think locals often don’t realize how great their own area is. In Ishikawa, for example, we have good ingredients year-round, hot springs, easy access to most places in the prefecture, and not much snow. People say the bedrock is solid, which makes the area more resistant to earthquakes. I always tell townspeople, “There’s no place more livable and wonderful than Ishikawa,” but they all say, “Nah, it’s nothing special.” I’ve been having that conversation ever since I moved here (laughs). Recently, more people have finally started saying, “If you keep saying so, maybe we should try promoting it.”

Hoshi What I find most appealing in the Yumoto area is the autumn foliage. There are many oak trees, and the entire mountain turns a magnificent

orange. I often see passing cars stopping to take photos.

**Love your town.
Newcomers can help
locals do so.**

Namioka Bandai has 25 hamlets. I once visited all of them to hold discussion sessions. I planned to have each hamlet list its unique charms, but over half of them just replied, “Well, you know … there’s nothing.” (laughs). But you can drive to Aizuwakamatsu, Kitakata, or Inawashiro in about 30 minutes. We have supermarkets, convenience stores, and hospitals right here. The town office is also doing many progressive things. I always think people should be prouder of these.

Narui They seem shy about saying, “I love my hometown”—it feels a bit embarrassing. Creating opportunities for people to proudly say, “This is my hometown!” might be one role for newcomers.



Namioka When I first moved here, I thought, “Fukushima Prefecture is an ordinary prefecture—nothing particularly good



or bad.” But precisely because of that, it felt like a place without strong preconceptions, almost like a blank slate. That’s why I thought it might be a place where people aren’t bound by fixed images and can more easily find their own way of living.

What do you want to do next?



How do you imagine living in the KCCUA going forward?

Namioka I still have time left in my term as a Local Vitalization Cooperator. Bandai has many young migrants, and both the mayor and town hall staff enjoy having fun. So I want to engage with the town in a sustainable way, centered on what I find enjoyable and interesting.

Narui As a Local Vitalization Cooperator, I also want my activities to make people feel glad they had me here. I will work hard during my remaining term to connect those activities with what I personally want to do.

Nakayama I want to focus on natural cycles and make natural resources more appealing. It would be great if that could lead



to efforts to increase the number of people connected to the area.

Hoshi I have always believed that revitalizing a community is about revitalizing ourselves.

“Community revitalization” can sound vague, but I think that if we keep doing what we find interesting, we naturally gain more local friends. So, if someone is thinking of coming to the countryside to do something, I want them to go all in on what they want to do and enjoy life.

Takehara I was the first Ishikawa Local Vitalization Cooperator. I hope to use that experience to create a network for people who will move to Ishikawa in the future.

Kanno I currently work as an emergency medical technician at a private hospital. I want to contribute to the community by sharing my experience in emergency medicine through social media, providing knowledge about local disaster preparedness and emergency care. I also hope to promote the region’s appeal, potentially inspiring newcomers to choose the KCCUA.



Detailed relocation stories of the participants are available online.

ONE TEAM

Discover 17 One-of-a-Kind Communities

Explore 17 Unique Municipalities!
Play spots, libraries, and newcomers'
stories—all in one place.



Koriyama



Sukagawa



Nihonmatsu



Tamura



Motomiya



Otama



Kagamiishi



Ten'ei



Bandai



Inawashiro



Ishikawa



Tamakawa



Hirata



Asakawa



Furudono



Miharu



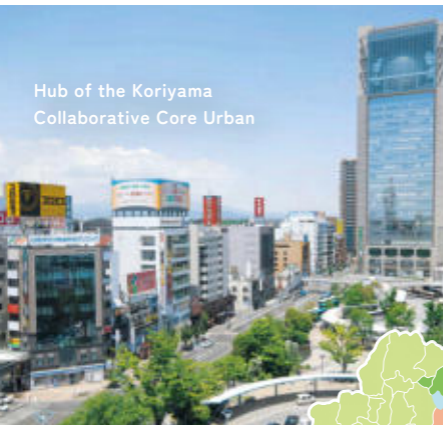
Ono



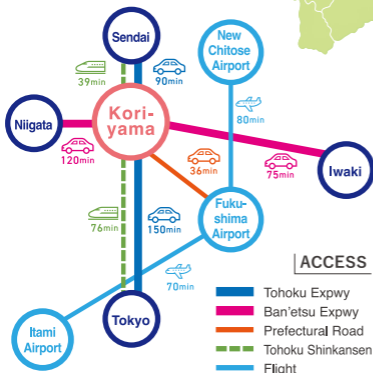
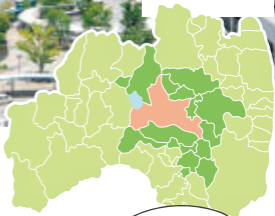
Contents

Koriyama

Hub of the Koriyama
Collaborative Core Urban



▲Koriyama Station



Koriyama City Mascot
Gakuto-kun



Contents

“SDGs Future City” Koriyama

In 2019, the Cabinet Office selected Koriyama as an “SDGs Future City” in recognition of the local government’s efforts toward achieving the SDGs. With the aim of realizing a “Healthy Urban Area for All Generations,” Koriyama is striving to create a community that ensures the well-being* of residents, leaving no one behind. Koriyama ranked first in the Fukushima “SDGs Promotion Survey” (Nikkei Inc., 2025).

*Being in good physical, mental, and social condition. A concept that includes not only short-term happiness, but also sustainable happiness into the future, such as a sense of purpose and meaning in life.

【PROJECT VOICE (Koriyama SDGs Award Winners)】



The Koriyama SDGs Award recognizes companies, organizations, schools, and individuals across the KCCUA working toward the SDGs. We share the initiatives and aspirations of recipients of the award through web articles and videos. Please scan the QR code below for details.

City
Website



TAP

Official
Instagram



TAP

One of Tohoku's top commercial and industrial cities.

Koriyama is the largest commercial center in the prefecture and the second largest in Tohoku. Only 76 minutes from Tokyo by Shinkansen, the city is thriving as a place where people, goods, and knowledge gather.

Koriyama's development as a commercial center began in the Meiji era (1869–1912) when the construction of the Asaka Canal stimulated agricultural production and provided the area with electricity, which spurred industrial development. The city celebrated the 100th anniversary of its municipal status in 2024.

Koriyama is also known as the “City of Music” because of its many musical activities.



1. Koriyama Auditorium, constructed in 1924 to commemorate the city's founding.

2. Musical bench.

3. Coming of Half Age Concert

4. A song created by City of Koriyama Frontier Ambassadors GR@4N BOYZ to commemorate the city's 100th anniversary.

Digital Tourism Map



The “Koriyama City Digital Tourism Map” is now available. For details, please click/tap the button on the right.

Koriyama
Digital
Tourism Map
TAP

Audio Travel Guide “Ototabi”

Audio Guide



Kaiseizan Park



A symbol of the city’s history, Kaiseizan Park becomes a sea of pink when its 1,300 cherry trees start blossoming during cherry blossom season. Among them is Japan’s oldest Somei-Yoshino Cherry

Tree. Many sport facilities, such as a baseball stadium and a track and field facility, are located in the eastern part of the park.

📍 1-5 Kaisei, Koriyama

☎ 024-934-8733 (Kaiseizan Frontier Partners: Inquiries about park facilities)

☎ 024-934-1500 (Kaiseizan Cross Field Koriyama Inc.: Inquiries about sports facilities)

【P】Parking available

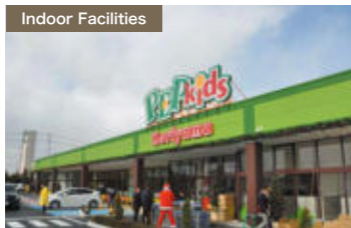
(This audio guide was produced in FY2023.)

Living Information

Playground

PEP Kids Koriyama

Indoor Facilities



This is one of the largest indoor playgrounds in Tohoku, with a lineup of fun playground equipment that attracts children's interest centered on "Pep Active." There is also a "Pep

Kitchen," where parents and children can experience cooking together, as well as a, which draws visitors from far and wide.

📍 1-1-3 Yokozuka, Koriyama

☎ 024-953-5232 (Certified NPO Koriyama Pep Kosodate Network)

Closed*: Second Wednesday and Thursday of every month; third Wednesday and the following day; year-end/New Year holidays (Dec 31 to Jan 3) *From April 2026.

Hours: 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM (75-minute rotation system; 4 sessions per day)



Sho's Comment

It's fun to play with the Play Leaders!



Details are available here.

Library

Koriyama Chuo Library



Located next to Hayama Park. There is an audiovisual room on the third floor. The Koriyama Museum of History recently opened next door, to the west.

📍 1-5-25 Hayama, Koriyama 963-8876

☎ 024-923-6601



TAP

Details are available here.

Voices of People Who Have Moved to Koriyama

The Takahama Family (Ryo and Saki)

■ Relocated from Tokyo to Koriyama



Q What do you like about Koriyama?

A The people are kind and warm.
We feel we can have real communication here.

Q What are the benefits of living in Koriyama?

A Access from Tokyo is excellent—and it's convenient whenever we need to go to Tokyo for work.



TAP

Read more of their interview here.

Inquiries about Relocation and Settlement

**City of Koriyama Policy Management,
Sustainability, and Regional
Development Division***

TEL.024-924-2021

1-23-7 Asahi, Koriyama, Fukushima

***From April 2026, inquiries will be handled by the City Branding and
Promotion Division (Tel: 024-924-2591).**

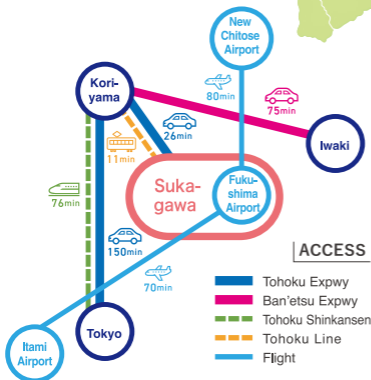
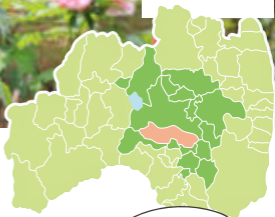


Relocation and Settlement Related Websites

Sukagawa

Seasonal events as well as cultural and sports-related events are plentiful

▲Sukagawa Peony Garden, a National Place of Scenic Beauty



Sukagawa City Mascot
Botan



Contents

My love, Sukagawa

Sukagawa is the birthplace of Eiji Tsuburaya, also known as the “God of Tokusatsu” (literally, God of Special Effects) The city proactively preserves the special effects filmmaking he pioneered as part of the local culture, while fostering civic pride in this unique heritage.



Monuments of Ultraman heroes line the street from the station to the city center.

Famous for street lined with Ultraman heroes

Located in the heart of Fukushima's Nakadori region, Sukagawa—together with Tamakawa—is home to Fukushima Airport, serving as a “gateway to the skies.” The city is officially the sister city of the Land of Light in the M78 Nebula, the home of Ultraman. Along the streets, monuments to Ultraman heroes and monsters welcome visitors.

Sukagawa is also a green city, home to the National Place of Scenic Beauty “Sukagawa Peony Garden,” as well as Midorigaoka Park and the Shakadogawa River. The city is also lively with events such as the Torch Festival, which represents over 430 years of tradition. There is also the regular market “Rojima,” which is held in the narrow alleys of Sukagawa's old shopping district.



1. Sukagawa's Torch Festival, lighting up the late autumn night sky.
2. Rojima, featuring handmade accessories, select goods, and a wide variety of food and drink stalls.
3. The Sukagawa Tokusatsu Archive Center, preserving valuable special effects materials and offering free tours.

Digital Tourism Map



The “Sukagawa City Digital Tourism Map” is now available. For details, please click/tap the button on the right.



Audio Travel Guide “Ototabi”

Audio Guide



Sukagawa City Hall (Main Building)



In “Light Square,” in front of the east entrance of Sukagawa City Hall, the Father of Ultraman—the mayor of the Land of Light, M78 Nebula, in Sukagawa—welcomes visitors. “Minna no

Square” on the first floor and observation deck on the sixth floor, the “Ultra Floor,” which offers views from the eye level of the Father of Ultraman, are open on weekends and holidays.

📍 135 Hachiman-machi, Sukagawa

☎ 0248-88-9122 (Administrative Management Division*) *The division name changed to the Administrative Management Division in April 2026

【P】Parking available

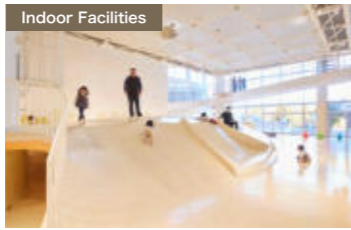
(This audio guide was produced in FY2023.)

Living Information

Playground

Sukagawa Citizen Exchange Center “tette”

Indoor Facilities



With indoor play areas, a library, and the Eiji Tsuburaya Museum—where you can learn about the achievements of Eiji Tsuburaya, the “God of Tokusatsu”—tette is packed with attractions. The

bright, open five-story building is spacious and comfortable, making it a great place to relax.

📍 4-1 Nakamachi, Sukagawa ☎ 0248-73-4407

Closed: Third Tuesday of every month, and year-end/New Year holidays (Dec 29 – Jan 3)*Central Library and Waiwai Park: closed on Tuesdays

*Eiji Tsuburaya Museum: closed on Tuesdays

Hours: Central Library: Weekdays 9:00 AM – 8:00 PM (Sundays & holidays until 6:00 PM)

Waiwai Park & Eiji Tsuburaya Museum: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM



Hikari's Comment

The library has secret hideout spots that are so much fun!



TAP

Details are available here.

Library

Sukagawa City Central Library (inside “tette”)



Located on the 2nd to 4th floors of “tette”, the library offers many comfortable reading spaces where visitors can relax and enjoy books.

📍 4-1 Nakamachi, Sukagawa
962-0845

☎ 0248-75-3309



TAP

Details are available here.

Voices of People Who Have Moved to Sukagawa

Toshihiro Takagi

■ Moved to Sukagawa from
Saitama



Q What do you like about
Sukagawa?

A It's not too rural. It has everything you need for daily life, and there are many great restaurants that make excellent use of local ingredients.

Q What kind of place is Sukagawa?

A It's a town where the distance between people feels comfortable. And if you want to be active in the community, you can get deeply involved in activities like festivals.



TAP

Read more of his interview here.

Inquiries about Relocation and Settlement

**Sukagawa City Planning
and Policy Division**

TEL.0248-88-9131

135 Hachiman-machi, Sukagawa, Fukushima



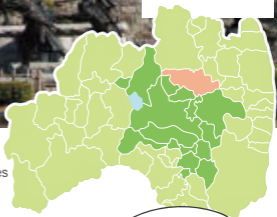
Relocation and Settlement Related Websites

Nihonmatsu

A city where the real sky
opens wide



▲Nihonmatsu Castle Ruins
(National Historic Site)
— selected as one of Japan's 100 Great Castles



Nihonmatsu City Mascot
Kikumatsu-kun

ACCESS



Contents

A city for sightseeing with a rich cultural atmosphere

A city for sightseeing with a rich cultural atmosphere Nihonmatsu is surrounded by abundant nature and is a treasure trove of local sake, brewed from pure water and fine rice. During the Edo period, it flourished as a castle town of the Niwa Clan with a fief of 100,000 koku (a traditional unit used to measure rice yield), giving the city its rich historical and cultural heritage. At the foot of Mount Adatarata, where the “real sky” spreads forth as described in the Chieko Poems, you’ll also find popular attractions such as Dake Onsen.



Standing 1,700 meters tall, Mount Adatarata is beloved by hikers and is counted among Japan’s 100 Famous Mountains.



The Nihonmatsu Lantern Festival, one of Japan’s Three Great Lantern Festivals, is another highlight. The sight of seven huge floats, each over 11 meters tall and adorned with 300 lanterns, parading through the streets to lively festival music is truly spectacular.

A castle town representing Fukushima, featuring both highlands and local mountains

Nihonmatsu is a regional city located in the northern part of Nakadori in Fukushima and has a population of 49,669 (as of November 01, 2025).

The Nihonmatsu Castle Ruins, which were selected as one of Japan's 100 Great Castles, are located in the city center.

To the west lies a hot-spring and highland area, including Dake Onsen.

To the east is a scenic mountain region that is known as one of Fukushima's leading areas for organic agriculture.

The city is also famous for the traditional Nihonmatsu Lantern Festival, which has continued since the early Edo period (Kan'ei 20), as well as

the Nihonmatsu Chrysanthemum Dolls, one of Japan's largest chrysanthemum festivals. In addition, thanks to high-quality groundwater from Mount Adatarata, Nihonmatsu is renowned as a sake-producing region with four local breweries.



1. Chrysanthemum dolls add vivid color to autumn in Nihonmatsu. The venue at Kasumigajo Park is filled with vibrant chrysanthemum displays.
2. Dake Onsen, a long-established hot spring resort at the foot of Mount Adatarata.
3. Mount Adatarata, counted among Japan's 100 Famous Mountains.
4. A sake-producing region with four breweries, crafting delicious Japanese sake.

Digital Tourism Map



The “Nihonmatsu Digital Tourism Map” is now available. For details, please click/tap the button on the right.



Audio Travel Guide “Ototabi”

Audio Guide



Nihonmatsu Lantern Festival



The Nihonmatsu Lantern Festival is a historic event in which lanterns are lit on floats known as Taikodai, representing seven districts within the city. Energetic young men parade

through the streets to the beat of traditional festival music.

📍 Nihonmatsu Shrine / 1-61 Motomachi, Nihonmatsu

☎ 0248-88-9122 (Nihonmatsu City Tourism Division)

【P】Designated City Public Facilities, etc.

Classification: Important Intangible Folk Cultural Asset of Fukushima Prefecture

(This audio guide was produced in FY2023.)

Living Information

Playground

Nihonmatsu Shinkin Shiroyama Pool

Indoor Facilities



This indoor pool is popular with visitors of all ages, featuring a 50 cm-deep toddler pool, water slides, and a lazy river. The pool also hosts exciting events such as waterslide races.

📍 170 Kakunai 4-chome, Nihonmatsu ☎ 0243-24-7555

Closed: First Monday of the month (or the following weekday if it falls on a holiday), and year-end/New Year holidays (12/31, 1/1)

Hours: 9:00 AM – 9:00 PM

Fees: Adults ¥500 / High school students ¥300 / Elementary & junior high students ¥200 / Preschoolers free / Ages 60+ ¥400



Kou's comment

They also hold seasonal events during Christmas and Golden Week!



Details are available here.

Library

Nihonmatsu City Nihonmatsu Library



The mobile library vehicle “Matsukaze” visits public facilities and elementary/junior high schools to lend books.

📍 102 Motomachi 1-chome, Nihonmatsu, 964-0917

☎ 0243-23-5082



TAP

Details are available here.

Comments from People Who Have Moved to Nihonmatsu

Motohiro and Naoko Seki

■ Relocated from Tokyo to Nihonmatsu



Q What do you like about Nihonmatsu?

A The delicious sake and the many famous lone cherry trees. We feel this is where we should live.

Q What kind of place is Nihonmatsu?

A There are many kind people here. This was a major factor in our decision to relocate.



TAP

Read more of their interview here.

Inquiries about Relocation and Settlement

**Nihonmatsu City Secretariat
Policy Division**

TEL. 0243-55-5090

403-1 Kanairo, Nihonmatsu, Fukushima

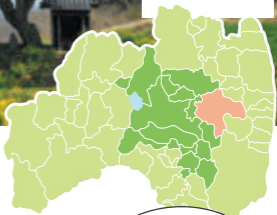


Relocation and Settlement Related Websites

Experience the true
essence of rural life
surrounded by nature

Tamura

▲Ozawa Cherry Trees: The city is home to
88 famous cherry blossom viewing spots.



ACCESS



Tamura City Mascot
Kabuton



Contents

A unique city aiming to become an “Insect Sanctuary”

Blessed with scenic mountain landscapes, Tamura is home to a rich variety of insects, including rhinoceros beetles.

In July 2023, Tamura launched the Insect Sanctuary Council in collaboration with other municipalities, with the goal of co-creating a sustainable society where diverse insect species can thrive.



In the Tokiwa area, Mushi Mushi Land displays over 100 types of insect specimens from around the world, including the impressive Hercules beetle.

Proactively supporting new residents who want to start businesses

Tamura is located in the heart of the Abukuma Highlands. Formed in 2005 through the merger of five towns and villages, the city offers the flexibility to choose where to live according to each person's lifestyle.

Conveniently situated near Koriyama, the region's core city, and the Hamadori region facing the Pacific Ocean, Tamura is about 30 to 40 minutes away from Koriyama by car.

The city has an inland climate with large seasonal temperature differences and relatively low rainfall and snowfall. Even before the Great East Japan Earthquake, Tamura attracted many newcomers, and in recent years it has actively welcomed migrants, particularly those aiming to launch their own businesses.

1



2



3



1. Telework Center Terrace Ishimori: A telework center and shared office in a renovated former school building.
2. Green Park Miyakoji: A campground featuring a craft beer brewery, opened after repurposing an unused facility.
3. Sky Palace Tokiwa: An accommodation facility built on the summit of Mount Denjoyama with breathtaking views of a sea of clouds.

Digital Tourism Map



The “Tamura Digital Tourism Map” is now available. For details, please click/tap the button on the right.



Audio Travel Guide “Ototabi”

Audio Guide



Abukuma-do Cave



A limestone cave formed over countless years, with a publicly accessible route running 600 meters. Visitors can view beautiful stalactite formations, including Takenegoten, the

largest chamber, which is nearly 29 meters high.

📍 1 Higashi-kamayama, Sugaya, Takine-machi, Tamura

☎ 0248-88-9122

【P】Parking available for 700 cars and 30 buses

(This audio guide was produced in FY2023.)

Living Information

Playground

Ohisama Dome

Indoor Facilities



An indoor playground for children up to elementary school age. Inspired by Abukuma-do Cave—one of Tamura's most popular tourist attractions—this space features play equipment, toys, a

ball pool, and a sandbox. With several separate zones, children can enjoy activities at their own pace.

📍 120-3 Genjiro, Funehiki, Funehiki-machi, Tamura (Inside Funehiki Sports Ground)

☎ 0247-82-2700

Closed: Every Thursday, and year-end/New Year holidays (12/29-1/3)

Hours: 10:00 AM-4:30 PM (3 sessions per day, 90 minutes each)



Inori's Comment

< The smooth floor feels great!



Details are available here.

Library

Tamura City Library



In addition to the main library, Tamura has four branch libraries: Takine, Ogoe, Miyakoji, and Tokiwa. The main library features works related to Takehisa Yumeji, while the Tokiwa Branch

exhibits donated butterfly specimens.

📍 19 Ohgida, Funehiki, Funehiki-machi, Tamura 963-4312

☎ 0247-82-1001



Details are available here.

Comments from People Who Have Moved to Tamura

Manami Nakayama

■ Relocated from Tokyo to Tamura



Q What do you like about Tamura?

A The people are very kind and warm. Every day brings new discoveries and moments of gratitude.

Q What attracts people to move to Tamura?

A Once you build connections, people treat you like family.



Read more of her interview here.

Inquiries about Relocation and Settlement

**Tamura City Planning and
Coordination Division**

TEL. 0247-61-7615

**76-2 Hatasoi, Funehiki, Funehiki-machi,
Tamura, Fukushima**

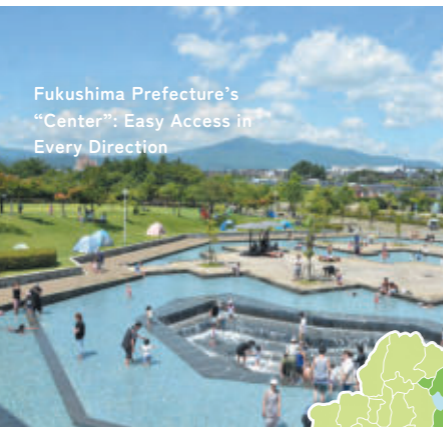


TAP

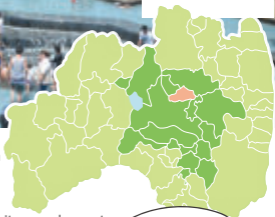
Relocation and Settlement Related Websites

Motomiya

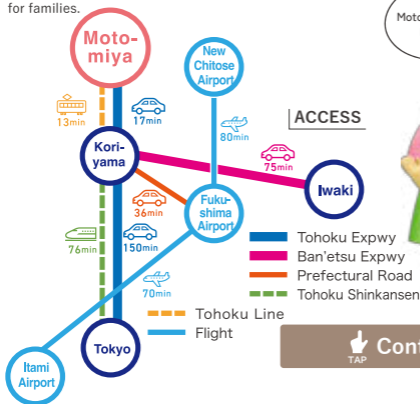
Fukushima Prefecture's
"Center": Easy Access in
Every Direction



▲ Mizuiro Park, located alongside the Adataro River, is a place where children can enjoy the water and wide-open space. In addition to a playground with play equipment, the park offers water play at its waterfalls and fountains in summer, making it a popular spot for families.



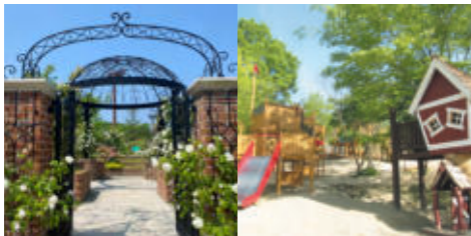
Motomiya City Mascot
Mayumi-chan



Contents

A park officially recognized by the British Royal Family

After a visit by the UK's Prince William, the city was given permission by the British royal family to use the nickname "Prince William's Park." The park is now a popular tourist attraction.



The grounds include a British-style rose garden, rose arch and gazebo, as well as a wide variety of flowers of each season. The outdoor play area includes large wooden play structures where children can play, offering a space to enjoy nature while having fun.

Ranked no.1 place to live in Fukushima Prefecture

Motomiya is located near the center of Fukushima Prefecture and flourished long ago occupying a strategic position at the crossroads of the Aizu, Soma, and Miharuru Roads. It is known as the “Center City” of Fukushima Prefecture because of its important location, and is very popular with young families. For three years in a row, 13th time overall, Motomiya was ranked Fukushima Prefecture’s most livable city by the Toyo Keizai magazine. It is an attractive city that combines convenient access with rich natural scenery, making everyday activities such as shopping easy and comfortable.



1. Motomiya Fureai Art Museum: Features British automata (karakuri) and works connected to Motomiya.
2. Shiki no Sato Ryokusui-en: A nature-rich garden where seasonal flowers bloom throughout the year.
3. Iwatsunosan and Gankakuji Temple: Known for its giant stones and unusual rock formations carved with figures such as Kannon; the entire mountain is designated as a Natural Monument.

Digital Tourism Map



The “Motomiya City Digital Tourism Map” is now available. For details, please click/tap the button on the right.



Audio Travel Guide “Ototabi”

Audio Guide



Ja no Hana Gardens: A Village of Flowers and History



The Ja no Hana Gardens are known for the vibrantly blooming flowers that visitors can see throughout the year. The historical Ja no Hana Mansion next to the gardens used to be the holiday

home of local wealthy farmers the Ito family.

📍 38 Motomiya aza-Ja no Hana, Motomiya

☎ 0243-34-2036

【P】Available (300 cars,10 buses)

Designation: Tangible Cultural Property of Japan “Ja no Hana Mansion”

(This audio guide was produced in FY2023.)

Living Information

Playground

Prince William's Park

Indoor and Outdoor Facilities



It offers both an outdoor playground on the hilly terrain and an indoor play area, so children can play even on rainy days. The variety of play options designed for different age groups is also attractive.

Outdoor Playground & English Garden

📍 61 Ishigami, Nukazawa, Motomiya

☎ 0243-24-5406 (Urban Development Division)

Hours: 9:00 a.m.–4:45 p.m. (April 1–October 31); In winter: until 4:00 p.m.;

During summer vacation: until 5:00 p.m. The underground connecting passage and restrooms are available only during the hours listed above.

Indoor Play Area

📍 50 Ishigami, Nukazawa, Motomiya

☎ 0243-24-5368 (Child Welfare Division)

Closed: Wednesdays (or the following day if Wednesday is a holiday); year-end and New Year holidays (December 28–January 4)

Hours: 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. (until 5:00 p.m. during summer vacation)



Haruki's comment

It's fun because there is lots of play equipment.



TAP

Details are available here.

Library

Motomiya Shirasawa Yume Library



There are DVDs, CDs and other audiovisual materials available, as well as a terrace, and a lifelong learning information center. It is suitable for people to interact.

📍 500 Tsutsumisaki, Shiraiwa, Motomiya 969-1203

☎ 0243-44-2112



TAP

Details are available here.

Voices of People Who Have Moved to Motomiya

Hiroaki Kanno

■ Originally from Kawamata
Relocated from Tokyo to
Motomiya



Q What do you like about Motomiya?

A There are large parks where children can play. Also, I'm happy they are free!

Q What attracts people to move to Motomiya?

A Because the people are kind, my stress is gone.



TAP

Read more of his interview here.

Inquiries about Relocation and Settlement

**City of Motomiya, Policy
Promotion Division**

TEL.0243-24-5323

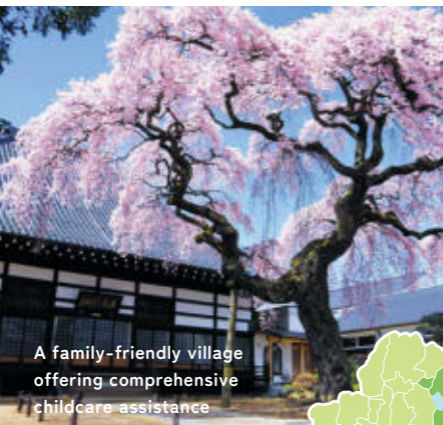
212 Bansei, Motomiya, Fukushima



TAP

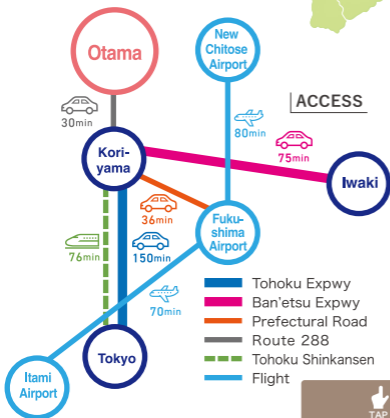
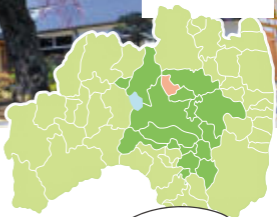
Relocation and Settlement Related Websites

Otama



A family-friendly village offering comprehensive childcare assistance

▲ Weeping Cherry Tree at Soohji Temple (Fukushima Prefecture Green Cultural Property)



Otama Village Mascot Tama-chan



Contents

A Great Countryside village—small, yet full of charm

The symbol of Otama is Mount Adatara, which is counted among Japan's 100 Famous Mountains. At its gently spreading foothills, rice cultivation, vegetable farming, fruit growing, and livestock farming all thrive.

Through delicious seasonal foods and relaxing hot springs, Otama proudly shares its unique lifestyle and promotes itself as a great countryside village—rich in nature, warmth, and local appeal.



A peaceful rural landscape unfolds at the foot of Mount Adatara.

A nature-rich village with outstanding convenience —a great place to live

Otama is located between Nihonmatsu and Koriyama, on a fan-shaped plain stretching out at the foot of Mount Adatarata, with the Abukuma River flowing to the east.

Despite nationwide population decline, the 2020 National Census showed that Otama had the highest population growth rate in Fukushima compared with 5 years earlier—marking 45 consecutive years of growth. The village also has the highest proportion of residents aged 14 years or younger in the prefecture.

With major nearby cities such as Koriyama and Fukushima within commuting distance, Otama offers excellent everyday convenience while preserving its beautiful countryside. Villagers take deep pride in the rural landscapes at the foot of Mount Adatarata and the area's rich natural environment.

1



2



1. Fukushima Residents' Forest "Forest Park Adatarata" features spacious tent sites, cottages, and trailers.
2. The "Juni Kagura" ritual is performed every April and October at Kamiharada Shrine to pray for a bountiful harvest.

Digital Tourism Map



The "Otama Village Digital Tourism Map" is now available. For details, please click/tap the button on the right.



Audio Travel Guide "Ototabi"

Audio Guide



Soohji Temple's Weeping Cherry Tree



Soohji Temple's weeping cherry tree is estimated to be 350 years old. Its graceful shape creates a beautiful scene as the blossoms appear to rest gently above the main hall's roof. Many

visitors are drawn to its carefully maintained branches and the soft pink color of its flowers.

📍 Minamimachi, Tamanoi, Otama

☎ 0243-24-8096 (Otama Village Tourism Association)

【P】Approx. 10 spaces

Classification: Fukushima Prefecture Green Cultural Property

(This audio guide was produced in FY2023.)

Living Information

Recreation Areas

Fukushima Residents' Forest
Forest Park Adatara

Events



A campground located in a forest park at the foot of Mount Adatara, featuring bathing facilities. Visitors can enjoy hands-on nature experiences, including forest walks and winter

snowshoe trekking.

📍 68 Nagakubo, Tamanoi, Otama

☎ 0243-48-2040

Closed: Open year-round※ Group sites, free sites, some individual sites, the Forest Learning Center, and the Youth Campground are closed during winter.

Hours: 9:00 AM–5:00 PM

Fees: Adults ¥660 / Elementary & junior high students ¥330 / Preschoolers free※ Additional fees apply for facility use.



Aoi's Comment

They even hold winter events where you search for wild animal tracks in the forest!



TAP

Details are available here.

Library

Adataro Furusato Hall (Otama Village History and Folklore Museum)



In addition to the library, the exhibition area displays Otama's archaeological, folklore, and historical materials. The former Goto family residence, originally built in the late Edo period,

has been relocated and is preserved on-site.

📍 183 Saian, Tamanoi, Otama 969-1392

☎ 0243-48-2569



TAP

Details are available here.

Comments from People Who Have Moved to Otama

Haruki Ogawa

■ Relocated from Tokyo to Otama



Q What do you like about Otama?

A It's peaceful and easy to live here. The beautiful scenery is one of its many charms.

Q What spots do you recommend in Otama?

A I love the view from the summit of Onagura Mountain, where you can see the whole village. I enjoy seeing how the scenery changes with the seasons.



TAP

Read more of his interview here.

Inquiries about Relocation and Settlement

**Otama Village Planning and
Finance Division**

TEL. 0243-24-8136

70 Hoshiuchi, Tamanoi, Otama, Fukushima



Relocation and Settlement Related Websites

Kagamiishi

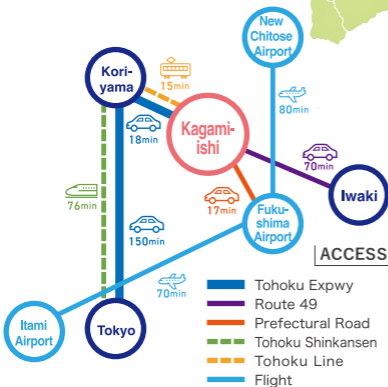
Enjoy a refreshing lifestyle
in the town of the folk song



▲Kagamiishi 2025 Rice Paddy Art Theme
“Cinderella”



Kagamiishi Town Mascot
Makiba No Arthur



TAP

Contents

Picture Books Viewed Through Windows — Another Beautiful Library

Enjoy Kagamiishi's stunning rice paddy art from the observation room of Kagamiishi Town Library, with its charming triangular roof.

Inspired by the view from the library, the concept “Picture Books Viewed Through Windows — Another Beautiful Library” continues a series based on nursery songs, fairy tales, and children's songs. For 2025, the artwork features the theme “Cinderella” and was created using nine types of rice in six colors. This picture-book-like rice paddy art makes Kagamiishi's beautiful rural scenery even more unforgettable.



Kagamiishi Town Library: View the rice paddy art from the 4th-floor observation room.



Rice paddy art created together with Kagamiishi residents.

A compact, livable rural town

Located midway between Koriyama and Shirakawa, Kagamiishi offers excellent accessibility, with the JR Tohoku Line, Route 4, and the Tohoku Expressway running north to south through the town.

Although Kagamiishi is the third-smallest town in Fukushima by area, it has a large park featuring many sports facilities, as well as convenient commercial amenities such as large supermarkets.

Thanks to its high quality of life, the town is especially popular with families raising children, and it has a notably high proportion of residents under the age of 15.



1. Torimiyama Athletic Stadium (within Torimiyama Park), renovated in 2024.
2. Artificial sledding hill (Fureai no Mori Park).
3. Iwase Farm, Japan's first Western-style ranch and the inspiration for the folk song "Makiba No Asa."

Digital Tourism Map



The “Kagamiishi Town Digital Tourism Map” is now available. For details, please click/tap the button on the right.

Kagamiishi
Town Digital
Tourism Map



TAP

Audio Travel Guide “Ototabi”

Audio Guide



Torimiyama Park



Covering 18 hectares, Torimiyama Park is famous for its seasonal flowers, with around 400 cherry trees blooming in spring and approximately 40,000 irises in summer. The park also offers a wide

variety of sports facilities, making it a lively destination throughout the year and a source of pride among the residents of Kagamiishi.

📍 199 Midorimachi, Kagamiishi

☎ 0248-62-7636 (Kagamiishi Town Sports Facilities Management Office)

【P】Parking available

(This audio guide was produced in FY2023.)

Living Information

Playground

Community Plaza

Indoor Facilities



A warm and welcoming space featuring play equipment for preschoolers, picture books, and educational toys. The outdoor Kids Terrace includes a large slide and can be used

even on rainy days. The facility is also equipped with toddler toilets and a nursing room.

📍 286 Higashimachi, Kagamiishi

☎ 0248-62-7278

Closed: 4th Saturday of every month, and year-end/New Year holidays (12/29-1/3)

Hours: 8:30 AM – 9:00 PM



Minami's Comment

I want to read books while using the little chairs and tables!



Details are available here.

Library

Kagamiishi Town Library



This library features a comfortable “shoes-off” free space, creating a relaxing environment for reading.

📍 440-6 Asahimachi, Kagamiishi
☎ 0248-62-1288



TAP

Details are available here.

Voices of People Who Have Moved to Kagamiishi

Takumi and Hiro Koyanagi

■ Relocated from Tokyo to Kagamiishi



Q What do you like about Kagamiishi?

A The town is compact and easy to live in. Shopping is very convenient here.

Q What are the charms of Kagamiishi Town?

A The rich nature and peaceful living environment. We often go for walks in the park together.



TAP

Read more of their interview here.

Inquiries about Relocation and Settlement

**Kagamiishi Town Planning and
Finance Division**

TEL. 0248-62-2117

345 Fujinuma, Kagamiishi, Fukushima



TAP

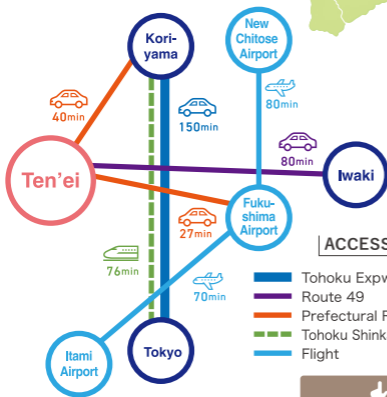
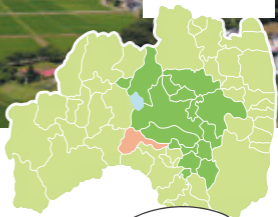
Relocation and Settlement Related Websites

Ten'ei

Come and taste our locally grown rice!



▲ It is famous for rice and its beautiful rural landscapes.



Ten'ei Village Mascot
Futamata Gitsune



TAP

Contents

Surrounded by clear mineral water

Ten'ei is known as the “Village of Springs” for its many underground springs. The water from the springs is used for tap water in homes and for agriculture in the area. Other local products include sake, rice and vegetables, for which the water is essential.



Rice from Ten'ei has won numerous gold medals at the International Contest on Rice Taste Evaluation.



The high-quality Ten'ei organic long green onions (top), the Ten'ei yacon (bottom), certified as a specially cultivated agricultural product, rich in fructooligosaccharides.

Farms, highlands and hot springs

Ten'ei is located near the Ou Mountains, and rivers flowing to the Pacific Ocean and the Sea of Japan run through the village. Rice, green onions, and yacón are grown near the village office. A highland resort area with vacation homes and golf courses lies near Lake Hatori. There are also many secluded hot springs in the area such as Futamata Onsen.



1. Hot Springs: Ten'ei offers a wide range of hot springs, from secluded gems such as Iwase Yumoto Onsen, Futamata Onsen, Hatori Lake Onsen, and Ten'ei Onsen.
2. Hatori Lake Highlands: A resort area with facilities such as golf courses and campgrounds, enjoyable year-round.
3. Michi no Eki: Ten'ei is one of the few municipalities in Japan with two roadside stations, Michi no Eki—"Kinosato Ten'ei" and "Hatori Lake Highlands." Both sell locally grown produce and specialty items, and visitors can enjoy menus featuring Ten'ei ingredients.

Digital Tourism Map



The "Ten'ei Village Digital Tourism Map" is now available. For details, please click/tap the button on the right.

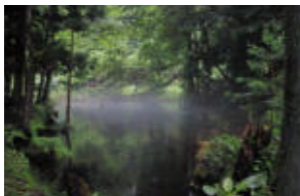
Ten'ei
Digital
Tourism Map
TAP

Audio Travel Guide "Ototabi"

Audio Guide



Wakui no Shimizu Spring



This spring is known for the many folktales about it that have been passed down since long ago. It is said that 2,200 liters of water flow up every minute. The sand that rises from the clear

bottom lends a mystical air to this 500 m² surface.

📍 6 Kyoyahara, Makinouchi, Ten'ei

☎ 0248-82-2117 (Ten'ei Tourism Association)

【P】Available

Designation: Designated Cultural Property and Natural Monument of Ten'ei

(This audio guide was produced in FY2023.)

Living Information

Playground

Lively Children's Playground

Indoor Facilities



This is an indoor plaza where preschool children can spend time. In addition to a ball pit, there are fun toys such as building blocks, miniature cars, papier mâché clay, coloring books,

and origami. Staff members are always available for consultation on childcare issues.

📍 Group Health Check Up Room, Ten'ei Village Health Preservation Center (Herusupia) 23 Aza Higashida, Shimomatsumoto, Ten'ei

☎ 0248-82-3800

Thursdays, Saturdays, Sundays, and year-end/New Year holidays (December 29–January 3)

Hours: 8:30 a.m.–5:15 p.m.



Issei's comment

It's great when I want to move around on the playground equipment or when I want to spend time quietly.



TAP

Details are available here.

Library

Ten'ei Village Lifelong Learning Center (Bunka no Mori Ten'ei)



“Bunka no Mori Ten'ei” contains a multipurpose hall, an exhibition hall, and a library.

📍 66 Harahata, Shimo-matsumoto, Ten'ei 962-0503

☎ 0248-82-2504



TAP

Details are available here.

Voices of People Who Have Moved to Ten'ei

Sho Hoshi

■ Relocated from Tokyo to Ten'ei



Q What do you like about Ten'ei?

A Everyone in the community knows one another, so daily life feels secure.

Q What do you recommend about Ten'ei?

A The breathtaking autumn foliage. It is beyond beautiful—it is awe-inspiring.



TAP

Read more of his interview here.

Inquiries about Relocation and Settlement

**Village of Ten'ei, Planning and
Policy Division**

TEL.0248-82-2333

**78 Hara-hata, Shimo-matsumoto, Ten'ei, Iwase,
Fukushima**



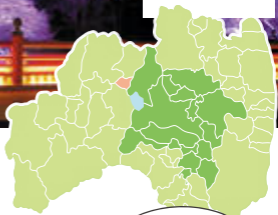
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Relocation and Settlement Related Websites

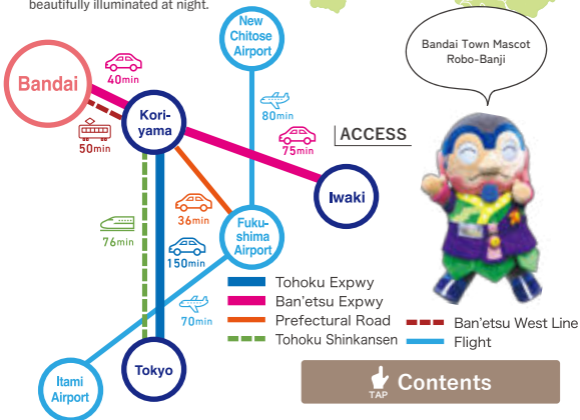
Bandai

Expanding its appeal through the joy of nature and digital transformation initiatives

▲Somei-Yoshino cherry trees line both banks of the Ohtani River at the entrance to the National Historic Site of Enichiji Temple. During cherry blossom season, the trees are beautifully illuminated at night.



Bandai Town Mascot
Robo-Banji



Contents

Introducing digital tools for a richer life

Bandai aims to create an inclusive society where everyone can be their true selves. To achieve this mission, the town is promoting digital transformation and public–private co-creation projects.

Bandai’s vision is to build “an attractive community that our children and grandchildren will want to continue living in.” This bold effort—led by a small town of just over 3,000 residents—has only just begun.



Bandai Nandemo Exchange Hub: Undiscovered Everyday is a unique facility housed in a formerly vacant 50-year-old house that was renovated using do-it-yourself (DIY) techniques. It includes a consultation desk for vacant homes and relocation/settlement support, along with a coworking space and a DIY workspace open to both residents and visitors alike. Serving people with many different purposes, it is a place where anyone can imagine and shape their future daily life in Bandai.

A town proud of its tourism, agriculture, and manufacturing —enjoy outdoor activities on Mount Bandai

Bandai offers a wide range of outdoor activities, including hiking and skiing, that make full use of the natural beauty of Mount Bandai, one of Fukushima's most iconic peaks. Visitors can stay at Bandaisan Onsen Hotel and Nekoma Mountain, both of which are operated by Hoshino Resorts. Agriculture in the area centers on rice cultivation, while the production of spinach and sweet potatoes is also thriving. In addition, two popular sake breweries produce exceptional sake, using the region's renowned spring water and locally grown rice. Bandai is also home to the Aizu Factory of Sigma, a world-famous camera lens manufacturer.



1. Maboroshino-taki Waterfall is a roughly 5-minute walk from the parking lot, halfway up the Bandai Gold Line. By late April, the water volume increases due to snowmelt, revealing its powerful and majestic form.
2. The restored Kondo Hall at the historic site of Enichiji Temple, known as the birthplace of Aizu Buddhist culture.
3. The Aizu Akae Higan Jishi Dance, performed in front of homes to pray for a bountiful harvest, is a folk tradition that welcomes the arrival of spring in the Aizu region.

Digital Tourism Map



The “Bandai Town Digital Tourism Map” is now available. For details, please click/tap the button on the right.

Bandai Town
Digital
Tourism Map



Audio Travel Guide “Ototabi”

Audio Guide



Historic Site: Enichiji Temple Ruins



Enichiji Temple was founded by the eminent priest Tokuitsu Bosatsu of the Nanto Hosso sect. The main hall was restored in 2008, followed by the central gate in 2009. Other

highlights include the Niohmon Gate and Yakushido Hall. In spring, the kizashi-zakura cherry blossoms bloom beautifully across the site.

📍 38 Teranishi, Bandai, Bandai

☎ 0242-73-3000

【P】Parking available

Classification: National Historic Site

(This audio guide was produced in FY2023.)

Living Information

Playgrounds

Hoshino Resorts Nekoma Mountain

Sports



A ski resort that is open from early December to early May. It features a kids' area where children can climb, play, and go sledding on small snowy hills, as well as snow tubing, an activity in

which you slide down the slopes on a snow tube like a float.

📍 (South Area) 6838-68 Shimizudaira, Sarashina, Bandai
(North Area) 1163 Nekomayama, Hibara, Kitashiobara

☎ 0242-74-5000

Operating Period: Please check the official website for details.

Fees: Website Discount 1-Day Lift Ticket — Adults 5,700 yen / Middle & high school students 4,200 yen / Elementary school students 2,700 yen / Preschoolers free

※ Other lift tickets are also available.



Genshi's Comment

Sledding at the ski resort is the best!



Details are available here.

Library

Bandai Town Central Library



The book corner at the entrance of the Community Center offers a wide variety of books, including novels, local history materials, children's books, reference books, cookbooks, handicrafts,

picture books, philosophy, and health guides.

📍 1018 Niwatari, Bandai, Bandai 969-3301

☎ 0242-73-2017



Details are available here.

Comments from People Who Have Moved to Bandai

Yui Namioka

■ Originally from Aomori
Relocated from Miyagi to Bandai



Q What do you recommend about Bandai?

A Without a doubt, Mount Bandai! It's super cool!

Q What's appealing about the people in Bandai?

A Once you settle in, there are many people who treat you warmly like family.



Read more of her full interview here.

Inquiries about Relocation and Settlement

**Bandai Town Administrative
Management Division**

TEL. 0242-74-1211

1885 Nakanohashi, Bandai, Bandai, Fukushima

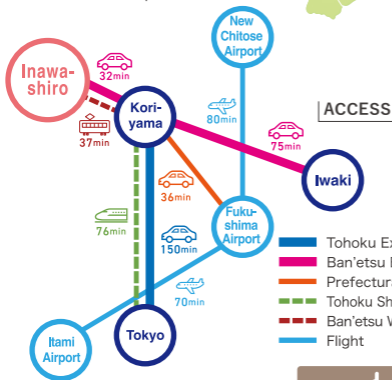
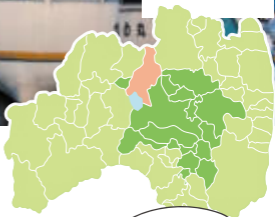


Relocation and Settlement Related Websites

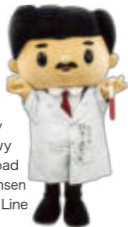
Inawashiro

Around Lake Inawashiroko, you'll find many fashionable shops

▲ Tourist cruise ships that were suspended during COVID-19 have resumed operations. The Kame-maru is Japan's only turtle-shaped restaurant cruise ship.



Inawashiro Town Mascot
Hideyoku-kun



Contents

Experience the grandeur of nature through dramatic volcanic landscapes and countless lakes and marshes

Inawashiro is located in Bandai-Asahi National Park, Japan's second-largest national park by land area. The area around Mount Bandai and Lake Inawashiroko captivates visitors with its dramatic volcanic scenery, along with the rich beauty of forests, lakes, and wetlands that change with the seasons.

Located south of Mount Bandai, Lake Inawashiroko is one of Fukushima's most popular lakeside resort areas, attracting many visitors during the summer.



Seen from the summit of Mount Bandai, Lake Inawashiroko offers a breathtaking sense of scale and grandeur. The lake also serves as a wintering ground for swans and supports a valuable ecosystem.



Inawashiro is home to three active volcanoes—Mount Bandai, Mount Adatara, and Mount Azuma—and is known as a hot spring area with an abundant supply of natural geothermal sources. The spring at Numajiri Motoyu boasts one of Japan's highest natural flow rates, at 13,400 liters per minute.

A major resort area in the Aizu region, offering year-round outdoor fun

Inawashiro lies along the northern shore of Lake Inawashiroko, surrounded by famous peaks such as Mount Bandai and Mount Adatara. The town's climate is affected by its proximity to the Sea of Japan, with an average annual snowfall of 1 to 2 meters.

In the summer, visitors can enjoy hiking in the mountains and swimming in the lake, while winter brings skiing and a wide range of snow activities. At the foot of Mount Bandai, expansive rural landscapes spread out, and local specialties include buckwheat, rice, and tomatoes.

The area is also known as the birthplace of the world-renowned scholar Dr. Hideyo Noguchi.

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1. Inawashiro Ski Resort offers a wide variety of slopes—from steep runs with a maximum gradient of 42 degrees for advanced skiers, to the 200-meter Central Slope, where beginners can ski with confidence. Enjoy snow sports surrounded by magnificent nature.
2. Tenkyodai (Showa no Mori) is a spectacular viewpoint with panoramic views of Lake Inawashiroko. The walking trails, which are open from spring through autumn, offer a chance to experience the changing seasons up close.
3. Banreikai Soba School serves handmade soba noodles made with 100% locally grown Inawashiro buckwheat flour, and also offers hands-on soba-making experiences.
4. Noguchi Hideyo Memorial Infectious Disease Museum (opened July 2, 2022) introduces the history of infectious diseases from the past to the present.

Digital Tourism Map



The “Inawashiro Town Digital Tourism Map” is now available. For details, please click/tap the button on the right.

Inawashiro
Town Digital
Tourism Map



TAP

Audio Travel Guide “Ototabi”

Audio Guide



TAP

Lake Inawashiroko



Lake Inawashiroko, Japan’s fourth-largest lake, stretches across two cities and one town: Aizuwakamatsu, Koriyama, and Inawashiro. Reflected in the lake’s crystal-clear waters,

Mount Bandai creates a stunning view throughout the entire year.

📍 Inawashiro

☎ 0242-62-2048 (Inawashiro Tourism Association)

【P】Parking available

(This audio guide was produced in FY2023.)

Living Information

Recreation Spots

Lake Inawashiroko

Events



Lake Inawashiroko lies almost exactly in the center of Fukushima Prefecture. From its shores, you can enjoy panoramic views of Mount Bandai, which is counted among Japan's 100 Famous Mountains, with

beautiful scenery in every season. In the summer, the area comes alive with visitors enjoying swimming, camping, and water sports.

📍 Inawashiro

☎ 0242-62-2048 (Inawashiro Tourism Association)



Kana's Comment

I heard that a winter phenomenon called shibuki gori happens here. I really want to see it someday!



TAP

Details are available here.

Library

Inawashiro Town Library & Historical Information Center (Nagomiina)



A community-based cultural facility that includes a library and a historical information room.

📍 132-7 Kojomachi, Inawashiro
969-3123

☎ 0242-23-7855



TAP

Details are available here.

Comments from People Who Have Moved to Inawashiro

Hiromu Nagatomo

■ Relocated from Tokyo to Inawashiro



Q What do you like about Inawashiro?

A I love its abundance of tourism resources. You can enjoy the town all year round.

Q What led you to relocate to Inawashiro?

A I've been visiting Inawashiro's ski resorts since I was a child. I wanted to help revitalize this town that I know and love so well.



TAP

Read more of his interview here.

Inquiries about Relocation and Settlement

**Inawashiro Town Commerce,
Industry, and Tourism Division**

TEL. 0242-62-2117

100 Jonan, Inawashiro, Fukushima



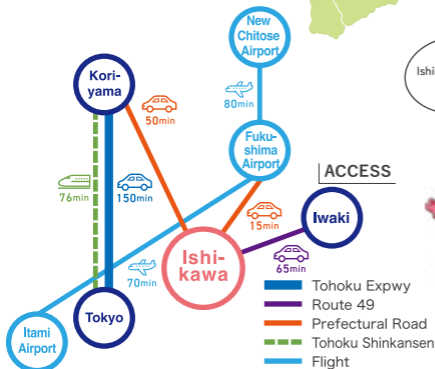
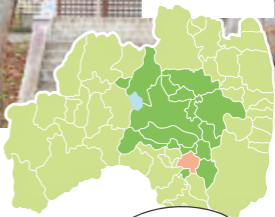
TAP

Relocation and Settlement Related Websites

Ishikawa

It's the "Crystal Town" of Fukushima Prefecture where the residents live happily.

▲Iwatsutsu kowake Shrine, listed in one of the traditional compendium shrines)



Ishikawa Town Mascot
Kirara-chan



Contents

A Town of Crystal

It is also recognized as one of Japan's major mineral-producing regions, yielding not only quartz crystal but also a wide variety of other minerals. It has community facilities designed to bring people together. At "Hitokurasu" you can learn and experience things related to fire and living. Educational Welfare Complex "Motto Gacco" also offers things to learn.



Hitokurasu opened in 2021, transforming the former Nakaya Second Elementary School into a nature-based community exchange facility. It also offers experiential stays, and the site also includes barbecue facilities, rental offices, and meeting rooms.



Motto Gacco is a renovation of the former Ishikawa Elementary School into an integrated education and welfare complex. Its concept is a new community hub for "gathering," "play," and "learning." The complex includes childcare support facilities, a community center, a gymnasium, and the Ishikawa Library.

Just the right size

A mid-sized town in the southern part of Fukushima Prefecture, Ishikawa is home to many large supermarkets and medical facilities. Situated between Shirakawa and Iwaki, the town is accessible by highways and by the JR Suigun Line. On the outskirts of town, farmers raise livestock and grow crops like rice, apples and grapes. Bobata Hot Spring is one of the popular hot springs in town.

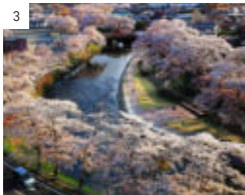
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1. "Ishinikuru" History and Folklore Museum: Exhibits on Ishikawa's history and folklore; mineral specimens from Japan and abroad; and interactive areas featuring VR videos and projection-mapping displays.
2. Bobata Lakeside Center, a facility for sports and recreation.
3. Cherry blossom spots: Tree-lined avenues known as "Sakura Valley" since the Edo period, as well as solitary cherry trees throughout the town.
4. Hot spring areas: Known for having some of the highest radon concentrations in the Tohoku region: Bobata Onsen, Nekonaki Onsen, and Katakura Onsen, etc.

Digital Tourism Map



The “Ishikawa Town Digital Tourism Map” is now available. For details, please click/tap the button on the right.



Audio Travel Guide “Ototabi”

Audio Guide



Hot Spring Tour



The small town of Ishikawa is home to several hot spring resorts. The variety of baths and scenery have given many visitors a reason to return.

📍 Ishikawa

☎ 0247-57-7731(SAKURAIIZE Regional Trading Company)

【P】Available

(This audio guide was produced in FY2023.)

Living Information

Playground

Ishikawa Kids Plaza
(Motto Gacco Education and Welfare Complex)

Indoor Facilities



A spacious plaza where parents, children, and friends can play together. It includes a baby area. Outdoor play equipment and a sandbox are also available, making it a facility for both indoor and outdoor play.

📍 165 Sekine, Ishikawa

☎ 0247-26-9150

Closed: Tuesdays; year-end and New Year holidays (December 28–January 3)

Hours: 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.; 1:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.

Fee: Free for children through second grade.



Kosei's comment

There's also a library, so you can borrow books you want to take home!



Details are available here.

Library

Ishikawa Library (Motto Gacco Education and Welfare Complex)



It has a book storytelling room and a study room with local learning corners and provides free Wi-Fi. You can sign up for a variety of events, such as book storytelling sessions and community gatherings.

📍 165 Sekine, Ishikawa 963-7852

☎ 0248-82-2504



Details are available here.

Voices of People Who Have Moved to Ishikawa

Tsukasa Takehara

■ Originally from Tokyo
Moved to Ishikawa from
Shizuoka Prefecture



Q What is life like in Ishikawa?

A For nature lovers, it is one of the most wonderful places imaginable.

Q What is appealing about the people of Ishikawa?

A They never reject people from other areas; instead, they show genuine interest. In a good way, the community feels close-knit.



Read more of his interview here.

Inquiries about Relocation and Settlement

**Town of Ishikawa, Planning and
Commerce Division**

TEL.0247-26-9114

185-4 Nagakubo, Ishikawa, Fukushima



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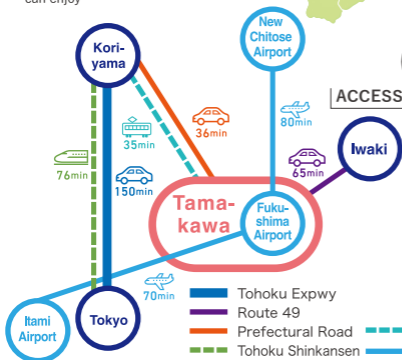
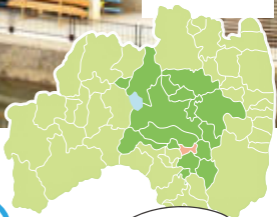
Relocation and Settlement Related Websites

Tamakawa



Fukushima's gateway to the skies—where nature meets everyday convenience

▲ Tamakawa Village's waterfront complex, Otsuna Eki Tamakawa. Overlooking the Abukuma River, it's a place where everyone can enjoy



Tamakawa Village Mascot
Cook-chan the Mountain
Pigeon



TAP

Contents

Enjoy a modern lifestyle that fits you

Home to Fukushima Airport, Tamakawa is known as Fukushima's "gateway to the skies." In addition to the airport, the village offers excellent transportation access with two highway interchanges and two stations on the JR Suigun Line.

Tamakawa provides a well-balanced environment for learning, living, work and recreation, supporting diverse modern work styles and a lifestyle that suits each individual.



The Sugama Plaza Exchange Center makes use of the former Sugama Junior High School building. While preserving the school's nostalgic atmosphere and the warmth of its wood interior, the facility offers office and coworking spaces designed for comfortable communication and strong security. It is popular for its relaxed and welcoming environment.



The Tamakawa tourism exchange facility Forest Station Yodge was renovated from the former Sugama Elementary School Yotsuji Branch, a wooden school building. Surrounded by rich nature, it serves as a tourism and community hub, offering a wide variety of hands-on programs and activities.

A village where you can enjoy cycling and canoeing

Located about two hours from central Tokyo by car or train, this compact village has a population of approximately 6,000 (as of July 2024). Known as “Japan’s most bicycle-loving village,” Tamakawa offers a range of cycling routes and hands-on experiences, including canoeing on the majestic Abukuma River.

Delicious local foods are another highlight—especially the village’s signature superfruit, the hardy kiwi known as sarunashi.



1. Enjoy cycling through magnificent landscapes on a wide variety of courses.
2. Kompira Cherry Tree: A 300-year-old red weeping cherry tree owned by Mr. Takechiyo Kobari, standing proudly in a private garden.
3. Dairai Shrine enshrines the Thunder God, a deity linked to the Heike clan. Known as the “Thunder God of Odaka,” it is a regular attraction for tour groups.
4. Tamakawa’s specialty Sarunashi is a rare fruit with a very short season for fresh consumption, making it difficult to find in regular markets. Fruit-picking experiences are available during the harvest season from late September to mid-October.

Digital Tourism Map



The “Tamakawa Village Digital Tourism Map” is now available. For details, please click/tap the button on the right.

Tamakawa
Village Digital
Tourism Map



Audio Travel Guide “Ototabi”

Audio Guide



Otsujigataki Falls



Otsujigataki Falls has been selected as one of Japan’s Top 100 Waterfalls. Its name is said to come from the waterfall’s shape, which resembles the kanji character 乙 (otsu). Water

cascades across an impressive 100-meter-wide riverbed, creating a breathtaking view and earning the waterfall the nickname “Little Niagara.”

📍 Takiyama, Tatsuzaki, Tamakawa

☎ 0247-57-7230 (Tamakawa Village Tourism & Products Association)

【P】Parking available

Classification: Japan’s Top 100 Waterfalls

(This audio guide was produced in FY2023.)

Living Information

Playgrounds

Wakuwaku Land Tamakawa

Indoor Facilities



An indoor playground located inside Fukushima Airport, where you can watch the runway and see planes taking off and landing through the windows. Open to children up to the second grade, the

facility features large play equipment, Ultraman toys, and a wide variety of educational toys.

📍 21 Habakida, Kitasugama, Tamakawa
(Inside Fukushima Airport Terminal Building)

☎ 0247-57-1511

Closed: Open year-round

Hours: 10:00 AM–4:30 PM (three 90-minute sessions)

Fee: ¥100 per session

※ Free for Tamakawa residents and infants under 6 months old



Ren's Comment

There's also an Ultraman monument at the entrance to Fukushima Airport.



TAP

Details are available here.

Library

Tamakawa Village Library “Cook+chan”



A library located inside the Tamagawa Cultural Gymnasium, offering both library and cultural functions.

📍 71 Ohyaji, Odaka, Tamakawa
963-6312

☎ 0247-57-4632



Details are available here.

Comments from People Who Have Moved to Tamakawa

Mizuho Tanaka

■ Relocated from Kumamoto to Tamakawa



Q What do you like about Tamakawa Village?

A I love the delicious food and the rich natural environment.

Q What kind of village is Tamakawa?

A It's a village that makes you want to connect with people. Newcomers are welcomed right away, so I've hardly ever struggled to make friends.



Read more of his interview here.

Inquiries about Relocation and Settlement

**Tamakawa Village Planning and
Policy Division**

TEL. 0247-57-4628

9 Nakanawate, Odaka, Tamakawa, Fukushima



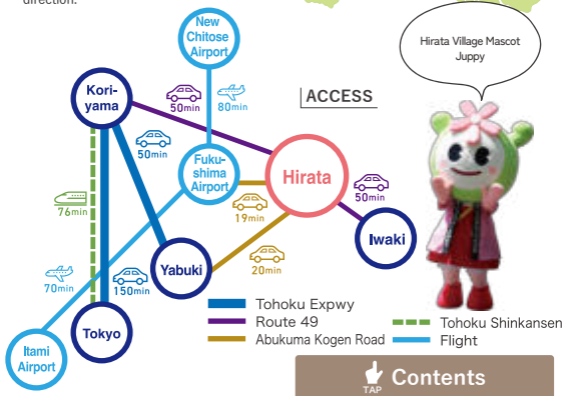
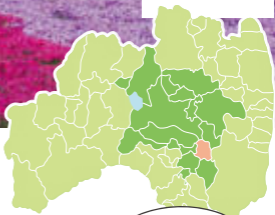
TAP

Relocation and Settlement Related Websites

Hirata

Becoming “Japan’s Hottest Village” with its specialty habanero peppers

▲Jupia Land Hirata, established to make the most of the natural beauty at the foot of Mount Yomogita-dake. In the spring, fields of pink and red moss phlox bloom in every direction.



Contents

Life isn't that spicy

Hirata Village aims to become “Japan’s Hottest Village” through the cultivation of habanero peppers, known as some of the hottest chili peppers in the world. Despite being a small mountain village, Hirata is full of energy—bringing excitement to the region with its signature “extreme spiciness.”



A village specialty that's making headlines: habanero peppers.



Habanero soft-serve ice cream is also available at Roadside Station Hirata.

A highland village with excellent access

Located in southern Fukushima, Hirata sits midway between Iwaki and Koriyama. The village lies entirely within the Abukuma Highlands, a gentle plateau at an elevation of 500 to 700 meters above sea level.

Hirata's charm includes its rich natural environment—beautifully decorated with seasonal flowers and greenery—as well as local specialties such as local sake, natural yam, and highland vegetables, all made possible by the soil and water of the Abukuma region. The village is also known for traditional performing arts such as the Komagata Jangara Nenbutsu Dance, passed down through the generations, as well as valuable cultural heritage sites such as the ruins of Yomogidakan, believed to have been built during the Bunmei era.



1. The stunning
 2. Yamadoridaki Falls
 3. its beautiful scenery.
- The Komagata Jangara Nenbutsu Dance, designated as a Hirata Village Intangible Folk Cultural Property.

Mount Yomogita-dake, one of the 100 Famous Mountains of Tohoku and a symbol of Hirata. Rising 952 meters, this isolated peak offers a variety of hiking routes.

Digital Tourism Map



The “Hirata Village Digital Tourism Map” is now available. For details, please click/tap the button on the right.

Hirata Village
Digital
Tourism Map



TAP

Audio Travel Guide “Ototabi”

Audio Guide



TAP

Yamadoridaki Falls



After walking about 750 meters along the promenade beside the Kitasugawa River, you’ll reach Yamadoridaki Falls, which drops approximately 8 meters. Its natural

beauty is well worth the visit—whether surrounded by brilliant red autumn leaves or by the quiet white landscape of winter snow.

📍 Kodaneishi, Nakagura, Hirata

☎ 0247-55-3115 (Hirata Village Office)

【P】Parking available

Classification: Selected as one of Fukushima’s 50 Best Walking Trails; Selected as one of Fukushima’s 100 Heritage Sites

(This audio guide was produced in FY2023.)

Living Information

Playgrounds

Jupia Land Hirata

Outdoor Facilities



A well-known flower-viewing destination where a sea of moss phlox blooms in April and May, and 28,000 hydrangea plants representing 825 varieties reach their peak in July. In 2021,

four new wooden play structures were added, including climbing equipment.

📍 437 Yomogitadake, Yomogita-shinden, Hirata

☎ 0247-55-3557 (Hirata Village Industrial Promotion Corporation)

Closed: Open year-round

Hours: 8:30 AM–5:00 PM

Fee: Free

※ Admission fees apply only during event periods.



Inori's Comment

I heard there are around 260,000 moss phlox plants here! The pink flower fields are amazing.



Details are available here.

Library

Hirata Village Central Community Center Library



This library is located inside the Central Community Center.

📍 158-5 Kitta, Nagata, Hirata
963-8205

☎ 0247-55-2131



Details are available here.

Comments from People Who Have Moved to Hirata

Toru Nishiwaki

■ Relocated from Tokyo to Hirata



Q What appeals to you about Hirata?

A The natural environment unique to mountain villages. It feels like returning to my hometown.

Q What is your favorite place in Hirata?

A I love the nature-rich scenery. When I have free time, I sometimes go out to relax and find peace in the views of the landscapes.



Read more of his interview here.

Inquiries about Relocation and Settlement

**Hirata Village Planning and
Commerce Division**

TEL. 0247-55-3115

116 Kitta, Nagata, Hirata, Fukushima



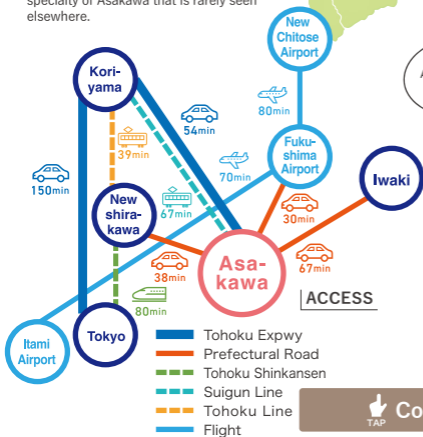
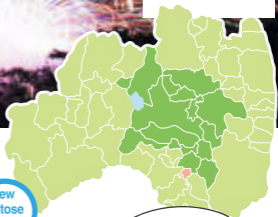
TAP

Relocation and Settlement Related Websites

Asakawa

A town that has carried on the tradition of fireworks for over 200 years

▲The highlight of the Asakawa Fireworks held on August 16 is "Jiraika", a unique specialty of Asakawa that is rarely seen elsewhere.



Asakawa Town Mascot
Asamaru



Contents

Fireworks that fill residents with pride bring excitement to the town

Asakawa is the home of fireworks. Fireworks events are held four times a year, once in each season, and fireworks are also a familiar part of everyday life for local residents.

For example, some tempura restaurants offer special menus inspired by fireworks, and the sheer variety of these dishes shows just how deeply the people of Asakawa love fireworks. In Asakawa, fireworks connect the community—this is the spirit of the town.



A popular local dish is Nana-shaku Ball, a tempura rice bowl topped with two huge shrimp. Created to celebrate the town's Asakawa Fireworks, it is served at a local restaurant. Other menu items also incorporate fireworks themes, with names such as "Oh Jiraika" and "Jinari."



In the past, people would hang spent fireworks shells under the eaves of their homes to ward off evil spirits. By attaching copies of old documents to these shells, they created "Evil-Warding Fireworks." A smaller version, called "Mini Mayoike Hanabi," can be purchased at the Asakawa Chamber of Commerce.

Seasonal views from Shiroyama overlooking the town are another highlight

Asakawa is a small town located in the southern part of Nakadori, Fukushima Prefecture. Surrounded by the mountains of the Abukuma Highlands, the town offers beautiful scenery throughout the year.

In the town center, Shiroyama Park provides sweeping seasonal views of rice fields spreading across the river plains. A fireworks tradition that began as a memorial for victims of a farmers' uprising has continued for over 200 years, and today it stands as one of Asakawa's signature tourist attractions.

Access is convenient via the JR Suigun Line, with Koriyama Station reachable in about one hour.



1. Kanshu-ji Temple houses Fukushima Prefecture's only—and one of Japan's rarest—mummified monk statues: "Kochi Hoin Yutei."
2. Panoramic view from Shiroyama Park.
3. Dr. Tomizo Yoshida, a world-renowned medical researcher and pioneer in cancer studies, was born in Asakawa. The Tomizo Yoshida Memorial Museum was established to preserve his legacy for future generations.

Digital Tourism Map



The "Asakawa Town Digital Tourism Map" is now available. For details, please click/tap the button on the right.



Audio Travel Guide "Ototabi"

Audio Guide



Asakawa Fireworks



Held every year on August 16 during Obon, the Asakawa Fireworks are said to be the oldest traditional fireworks festival in Fukushima. Thousands of uniquely designed fireworks in

a wide range of sizes light up the summer sky.

📍 Oaza-Takiwa, Asakawa, Ishikawa

☎ 0247-36-2815(Asakawa Town Hall)

【P】1,400 spaces

Classification: Prefectural Important Intangible Folk Cultural Property

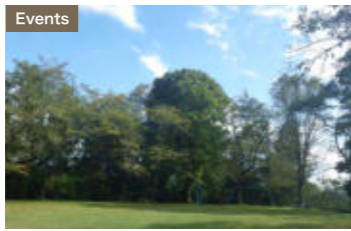
(This audio guide was produced in FY2023.)

Living Information

Playgrounds

Shiroyama Park

Events



A scenic spot offering panoramic views of the town, with the Nasu Mountain Range visible in the distance. It also serves as the launch site for the fireworks finale that brings the Asakawa Fireworks

Festival to a close.

📍 58 Shiroyama, Asakawa, Asakawa

☎ 0247-36-2815 (Asakawa Town Planning and Commerce Division)



Mina's Comment

I want to go on a picnic with a boxed lunch!



Details are available here.

Library

Asakawa Town Asakawa Library



This library features Ehon No Ouchi, a space for parents and children to enjoy reading together, as well as a multipurpose community area. It is designed to be used in many different ways by people of all ages.

📍 75 Yamashikita, Minowa, Asakawa

☎ 0247-36-2900



TAP

Details are available here.

Comments from People Who Have Moved to Asakawa

Masato Kasuya

■ Originally from Saitama /
Relocated to Asakawa



Q What's appealing about Asakawa?

A The rice is absolutely delicious!
Even after it cools down, Asakawa rice still tastes amazing.

Q What's amazing about Asakawa Town?

A The Asakawa Fireworks. I've seen fireworks displays in other places, but I truly believe Asakawa's are the best in Japan.



TAP

Read more of his interview here.

Inquiries about Relocation and Settlement

**Asakawa Town Planning and
Commerce Division**

TEL. 0247-36-2815

112-15 Sedoyachi, Asakawa, Asakawa, Fukushima



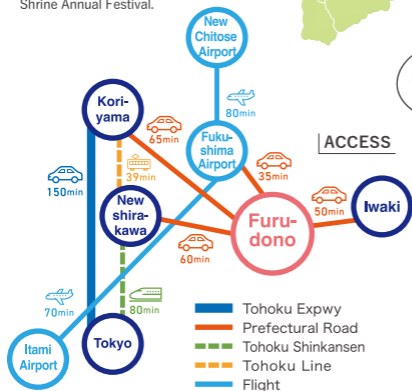
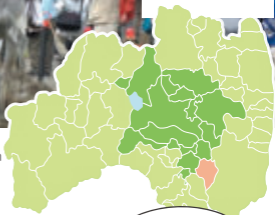
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Relocation and Settlement Related Websites

Furudono

A town where deep history and abundant nature come together as two defining charms

▲Yabusame (Japanese horseback archery) is the main attraction of the Furudono Hachiman Shrine Annual Festival.



Furudono Town Mascot
Yabusame-kun



Contents

Furudono: Forest town, forestry town

Forests cover around 80% of Furudono, and most are planted forests. Historically, these forests provided firewood and charcoal, but today the town is known for producing cedar lumber.

Although forestry remains an important industry, Furudono also makes full use of its forest environment by developing walking trails and campgrounds. These outdoor facilities attract many visitors from outside the town.

In recent years, Furudono has also expanded opportunities for people to connect with its forests through hands-on activities such as woodworking experiences, firewood splitting, and forest bathing in the planted forest.



Kudeju are slender wooden boards made from unused parts of cedar timber produced in Furudono. Their flexibility allows for a wide range of shapes and uses, limited only by the creativity of the woodworker. They are also offered as return gifts through Furudono's hometown tax donation program.



Standing at 669 meters, Mount Kamakuradake is the symbol of Furudono. With three hiking routes available, visitors can choose a trail based on their fitness level and aim. Each course offers varied scenery and the beauty of the changing seasons.

A town that draws visitors for spring cherry blossoms and autumn yabusame horseback archery

Furudono is a mountainous town in southern Fukushima with a population of 4,394 (as of November 30, 2025). Located along an old highway route, it is about one hour by car from Iwaki, Koriyama, and Shirakawa.

The Koshidai Cherry Tree is a giant yamazakura (mountain cherry), one of Fukushima's famous late-blooming cherry blossoms. In autumn, many travelers visit Furudono to witness the 800-year-old yabusame horseback archery event at Furudono Hachiman Shrine—an iconic tradition that is said to have inspired the town's name.

Furudono is also known for its delicious local specialties, including sake, miso, and konnyaku.



1. The giant cedar tree at Furudono Hachiman Shrine. Its mystical atmosphere and overwhelming presence have made it a well-known spiritual "power spot."
2. "Koshidai no Sakura" (Koshidai Cherry Tree), a large yamazakura representing Furudono, estimated to be around 400 years old.
3. Roadside Station Furudono – Ofukuro no Eki, popular for mountain vegetables such as shidoke, urui, and fuki as well as local produce such as mini tomatoes and ginger. The Ofukuro Shokudo is a restaurant well loved for its handmade soba noodles and tempura.

Digital Tourism Map



The “Furudono Town Digital Tourism Map” is now available. For details, please click/tap the button on the right.

Furudono
Town Digital
Tourism Map



Audio Travel Guide “Ototabi”

Audio Guide



Yabusame (Japanese Horseback Archery)



At the annual festival of Furudono Hachiman Shrine, traditional performances such as kasagake and yabusame have been passed down since the Kamakura era.

Experience the unique beauty of yabusame, where flying arrows and galloping horses come together in a powerful harmony of stillness and motion.

📍 38 Furudono, Yamakami, Furudono

☎ 0247-53-4620 (Furudono Town Industry Promotion Division)

【P】Parking available

Classification: Prefectural Important Intangible Folk Cultural Property

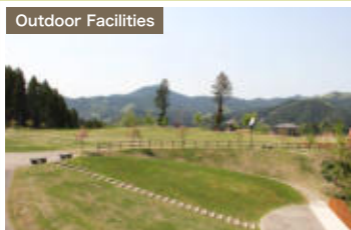
(This audio guide was produced in FY2023.)

Living Information

Playgrounds

Ikoï no Mori Park

Outdoor Facilities



A park located on a small hill. The grassy plaza includes a gazebo, a drinking fountain, and large playground equipment. At Satoyama Plaza, there is a cooking area where visitors

can barbecue while enjoying the changing scenery of the seasons.

📍 9 Oosaku, Matsukawa, Furudono

☎ 0247-53-4613 / 0247-53-4620 (Furudono Town Industry Promotion Division)



Ryo's Comment

There's a walking trail through the forest, too. It feels like an adventure—so exciting!

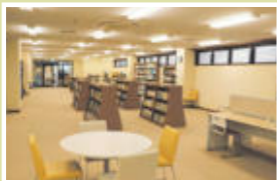


TAP

Details are available here.

Library

Furudono Town Library



A library attached to the Furudono Town Community Center, with a rest area and a self-study space.

📍 235 Yokokawa, Matsukawa, Furudono 963-8304

☎ 0247-53-2305



Details are available here.

Comments from People Who Have Moved to Furudono

Chihiro Yoshida

■ Originally from Chiba /
Relocated to Furudono



Q What do you like about Furudono?

A The people are easygoing and welcoming. It feels very comfortable here.

Q What are your recommended spots in Furudono?

A I love the mural at Kuranoba, the community facility located within the Toyokuni Sake Brewery grounds. It's a dreamy work inspired by floating dandelion fluff.



Read more of her interview here.

Inquiries about Relocation and Settlement

**Furudono Town Industry
Promotion Division**

TEL. 0247-53-4620

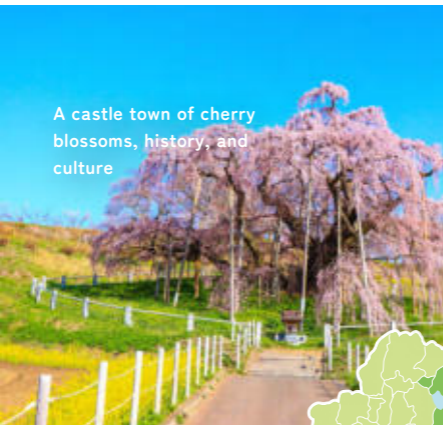
31 Shinkuwabara, Matsukawa, Furudono, Fukushima



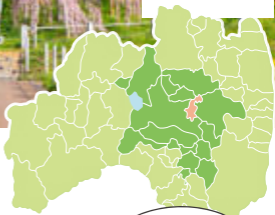
Relocation and Settlement Related Websites

Miharu

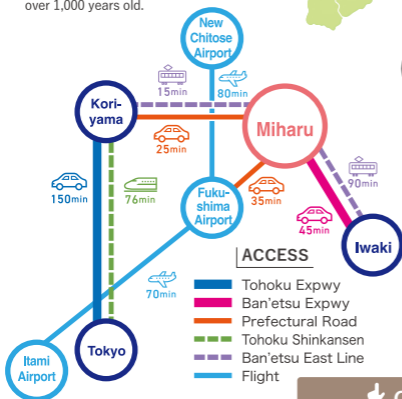
A castle town of cherry blossoms, history, and culture



▲One of Japan's Three Great Cherry Trees, the Miharu Taki-zakura is designated as a National Natural Monument. It is said to be over 1,000 years old.



Miharu Town Mascot Komarin



Contents

Becoming a town of cherry blossoms, castles, and outdoor adventures

Miharu is a beautiful castle town where cherry blossoms bloom magnificently across the town each spring. To make its rich history and natural surroundings even more enjoyable for visitors, Outdoor Village Miharu was opened in 2025 on the shores of Lake Sakura, offering outdoor experiences such as camping and kayaking. This new initiative is helping to revitalize the town.



Miharu is now promoting experiential tourism by making full use of its natural resources and the open fields around Lake Sakura (right). Centered on Outdoor Village Miharu (left), this project aims to create welcoming spaces where visitors can easily enjoy and experience outdoor activities.

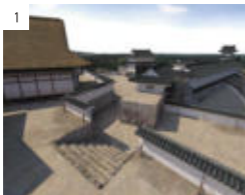
A town with historical charm and excellent accessibility

Located on the western edge of the Abukuma Highlands and surrounded by mountains, Miharu is home to the Miharu Taki-zakura, one of Japan's Three Great Cherry Trees, which attracts many visitors each spring.

With Koriyama only about 30 minutes away by car, Miharu is also a popular commuter town. Access to both the Aizu and Iwaki areas is convenient via the Ban-etsu Expressway.

While Miharu remains a historic castle town, the number of stylish cafes—especially those popular with young people—has also been increasing in recent years.

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1. At the site of the former Miharu Castle, now known as Shiroyama Park, virtual reality (VR) technology allows visitors to see the castle as it once stood. The Miharu Castle gojoin (castle seal stamp) is also a popular souvenir.
2. Stroll through the castle town of Miharu, where traditional buildings and storehouses preserve the atmosphere of the past. Enjoy local cafes and souvenir shops along the way.
3. Miharu is also one of the leading blueberry-producing areas in Fukushima Prefecture. Some of the town's six blueberry farms offer tourist experiences where visitors can pick their own berries.

Digital Tourism Map



The “Miharu Town Digital Tourism Map” is now available. For details, please click/tap the button on the right.

Miharu Town
Digital
Tourism Map

TAP

Audio Travel Guide “Ototabi”

Audio Guide



Miharu Castle Ruins



Also known as Maizuru Castle, Miharu Castle was the residence of the lords of the Miharu domain. It served as a subsidiary castle under the control of a powerful feudal lord in

the Tohoku region. Thanks to panoramic VR technology, visitors can experience Miharu Castle as it once stood.

📍 Omachi, Miharu

☎ 0247-62-3690 (Miharu Tourism Association)

【P】Parking available (mid-slope)

Classification: Japan's 100 Famous Castles: The Sequel

(This audio guide was produced in FY2023.)

Living Information

Playground

Commutan Fukushima - Fukushima
Environmental Creation Center (Exchange Building)

Events



A facility where visitors can learn about radiation and the current state of Fukushima's environment. On weekends, science experiments, craft activities, and science shows are

held, offering fun and educational experiences that attract many families with children.

📍 Tamura West Industrial Park, 10-2 Fukasaku, Miharu ☎️ 0247-61-5721
 Closed: Mondays, and year-end/New Year holidays (Dec 29–Jan 3)
 Hours: 9:00 AM–5:00 PM



Amiru's Comment

／ The hands-on events change every week, so check the website calendar before visiting!
 ＼



TAP

Details are available here.

Library

Miharu Town Library



A library located on the first floor of the NTT Building. It also hosts monthly themed exhibitions.

📍 12-1 Omachi, Miharu
963-7759

☎ 0247-62-3375



TAP

Details are available here.

Comments from People Who Have Moved to Miharu

Kiyoto Miyajima

■ Relocated from
Yamanashi to Miharu



Q What kind of place is
Miharu?

A It offers great transportation
access and everyday convenience. Being able to enjoy the
abundant nature is also a big attraction.

Q What's your impression of the people in Miharu?

A Everyone is very kind. They warmly welcome
newcomers.



TAP

Read more of his interview here.

Inquiries about Relocation and Settlement

**Miharu Town Planning and
Policy Division**

TEL. 0247-62-1122

1-2 Omachi, Miharu, Fukushima

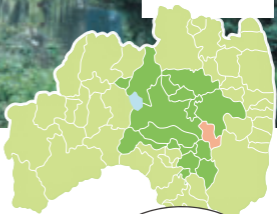


Relocation and Settlement Related Websites

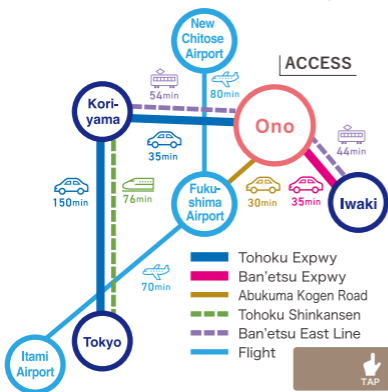
A town where you can appreciate the beauty of the local mountain landscapes

Ono

▲The bell tower of Todosan Manpuku-ji Temple, standing on natural stones, is a symbol of the town. Visitors can also see over 500 arhat statues from the Showa era.



ACCESS



Ono Town Mascot
Kozakura-chan



Contents

Green views, perfect for a lifestyle devoted to your hobbies

Ono is a green town, selected as one of “Fukushima’s 100 Green Views” thanks to its outstanding natural environment. Within this rich setting, the town’s “Midori tono Fureai Park” is a popular destination.

The park features the log cabin-style house called “Fureai no Mori House” and the uniquely designed “Forest Gymnasium”, both of which serve as local symbols. Visitors can enjoy a wide variety of activities, including camping at the powered auto campground and hands-on programs such as woodworking experiences.



The administration building, a warm wooden structure, includes spaces for exhibitions and experiential learning.



An auto campground designed to make the most of the natural terrain and forest scenery.

A nature-rich town with convenient access

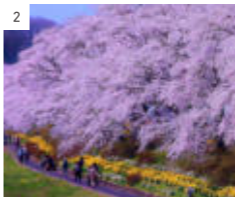
Ono is located in the mountains, midway between Koriyama and Iwaki. The town center developed on the flatlands along the Natsui River and its tributaries.

The town is famous for the Natsui Senbonzakura cherry blossoms and the mountain azaleas (Yamatsutsuji) that bloom on Mount Takashiba. Access to the town continues to improve with the opening of the Fukushima Recovery and Revitalization Road toward the Hamadori region, in addition to the Ban-etsu Expressway connecting Koriyama and Iwaki, and the Abukuma Kogen Road providing access to the southern part of the prefecture.

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1. The Showa Rakan Statues lining the back of Manpuku-ji Temple grounds. These expressive arhats sit peacefully beside the Kannon Hall.
2. Natsui Senbonzakura, Ono Town's signature cherry blossom spot. The reflection of the blossoms on the surface of the Natsui River is especially beautiful.
3. Mount Takashiba, rising 884 meters. In late May, it becomes a breathtaking sight as approximately 30,000 mountain azaleas bloom in brilliant color.

Digital Tourism Map



The “Ono Town Digital Tourism Map” is now available. For details, please click/tap the button on the right.

Ono Town
Digital
Tourism Map



Audio Travel Guide “Ototabi”

Audio Guide



Old Cedars, “Jiji-sugi” and “Baba-sugi” of Suwa Shrine



The approach to Suwa Shrine features a straight avenue of cedar trees. Among them, two massive cedars—estimated to be 1,200 years old—stand side by side like a loving couple,

towering over visitors with their powerful presence.

📍 Machiya, Natsui, Ono (Inside Suwa Shrine)

☎ 0247-72-6938(Ono Town Tourism Association)

【P】Parking available

Classified Status: National Natural Monument

(This audio guide was produced in FY2023.)

Living Information

Playground

Ono Town Smile Park

Outdoor Facility



Located within Ono Sports Park, this children's park features play equipment suitable for toddlers one year old and up, along with a natural grass lawn. Four covered benches are

available for families, and the fenced area provides peace of mind for parents supervising their children.

📍 65-1 Biuri, Ono-niimachii, Ono ☎ 0247-72-2518 (Town Gymnasium)
 Closed: Mondays, and year-end/New Year holidays (Dec 29 – Jan 3)
 Hours: (Apr–Sep) 8:30 AM – 7:00 PM *(Oct–Mar) until 5:00 PM



Hinano's Comment

I love that there's a fence so kids can run around freely and safely.



Details are available here.

Library

Ono Town Hometown Culture Center & Library



A complex that includes four facilities: the Library, the Toshio Oka Memorial Hall, the Local History Museum, and the Art Museum.

📍 2 Nakadori, Ono-niimachi, Ono
☎ 0247-72-2120



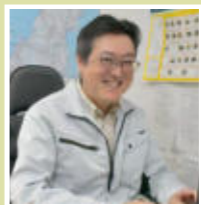
TAP

Details are available here.

Comments from People Who Have Moved to Ono Town

Satoshi Okada

■ Moved from Tokyo to Ono Town



Q What's good about Ono Town?

A Above all, the abundant nature. Rare animals live surprisingly close by.

Q How is life in Ono Town?

A At first, I was surprised by everything when I talked to the local people, but Ono feels more human and enjoyable than Tokyo.



TAP

Read more of his interview here.

Inquiries about Relocation and Settlement

**Ono Town Planning and
Policy Division**

TEL. 0247-72-6939

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Relocation and Settlement Related Websites



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