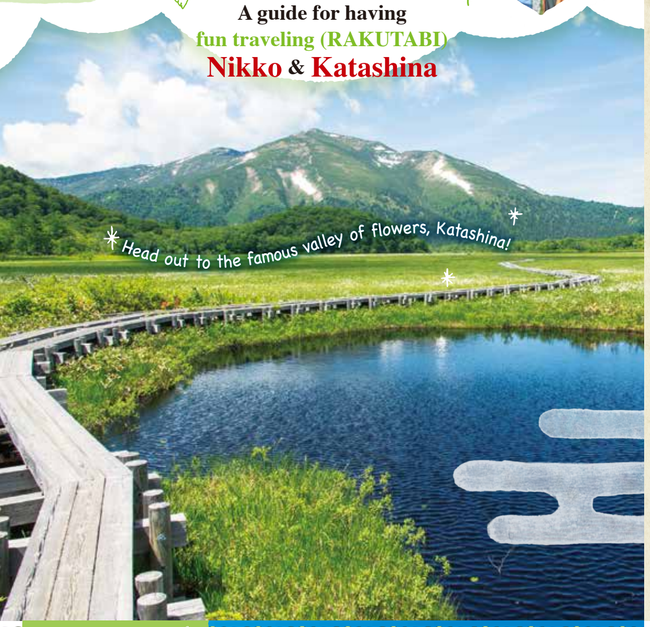
From Nikko to Katashina

Nikko > Katashina
Drive & Access Guide

RAKU-TABI

A guide for having
fun traveling (RAKUTABI)
Nikko & Katashina



Katashina & Nikko So Much to Eat and Enjoy!

A Whole Host of Food & Souvenirs

Locals foods and great gifts are all part of the fun when taking a trip. Here's a sampling of the treats and specialties you can find in Katashina and Nikko.

Katashina Village

Gelato

Enjoy a selection of gelato made with a rich selection of local ingredients. The menu includes the hanamame gelato that's so popular with Oze hikers, richly blended with the hanamame beans that are a specialty of Katashina.

Katashina Village

Ozedofu Zaru Tofu

Tofu made using fabled Katashina big white soy beans, which were revived after ten years of hard work. The rich flavor of the soy beans and smooth texture have won over many fans.

Katashina Village

Watanabe Seika Hanamame Bread

This popular bread is baked using plenty of Katashina hanamame beans, boiled slowly to make them super soft and delicious.

Katashina Village

Roadside Roasted Sweetcorn

The famous "sweetcorn road" is located along the road from the Katashina town hall in the direction of Nikko. Katashina sweetcorn boasts a high sugar content, making it especially sweet and deliciously fragrant.

Katashina Village

Hotaka Bokujo Jingisukan (Genghis Khan)

A famous Hotaka Bokujo dish that can be enjoyed while camping amid the vastness of nature or enjoying other activities. Dynamic preparation in a special skillet only increases the flavor.

Katashina Village

Katashina Handmade Amazake

This is your chance to experience handmade "amazake", a sweet low-alcohol drink made from fermented rice. Packed with the blessings of nature, this particular amazake is made using renowned Katashina mochi rice, carefully selected malt, and snow-melt water from Oze.

Katashina Village

Large Sized Portions (Homitei)

A hit menu item for around 30 years, and by now a dish that Katashina is famous for. Apparently is got its start when construction workers visiting to work locally asked if the portions could be made any larger...

Katashina Village

Katashina Highland Vegetables

Katashina highlands vegetables come highly recommended, produced by the marked temperature difference between day and night and the pure waters of the region! You can purchase them at the Roadside Station Oze Katashina. (Around late July - late September).

Katashina Village

Maitake Mushroom Dishes

Katashina is where cultivation of maitake ("hen-of-the-woods" mushrooms) started out. With carefully controlled temperature, humidity and growing periods, these delectable mushrooms have as natural a texture and fragrance as possible. You'll taste that difference not only with the famous maitake rice bowl, but also as tempura when accompanying delicious "Katashina soba", which itself is made using water selected as one of the top one-hundred in Japan.

Nikko City

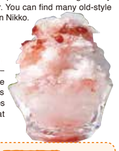
Nikko Handmade Soba

Nikko is famous as the producer of some of the finest soba noodles in Tochigi, and this delicious example is made using locally produced flour and pure Nikko water. You can find many old-style restaurants serving handmade soba in Nikko.

Nikko City

Natural Ice Shaved Ice

Shaved ice made using natural ice and time-honored methods. This natural ice is only made by five places in all of Japan, making this rare treat popular in cafes across the city.



Nikko City

Nikko Yuba

Yuba, also known as "tofu skin" and "bean curd robes", is said to have started out as food for monks during Buddhist training. It is now eaten in a variety of different ways, including sashimi yuba, rolled up or fried.

Nikko City

Nikko Pickles

Traditional Nikko pickles, made using an amber by-product called "tamari" that is produced when making soy sauce or miso. They go perfectly with white rice, and also with "Chazuke" (cooked rice with green tea poured on it).

Nikko City

Nikko Mizuyokan

Refreshing Nikko mizuyokan is a jellied dessert made using red bean paste and plenty of fresh water from the Nikko mountains. The elegant interaction of the delicious ingredients has garnered great popularity.

Nikko City

Cheesecake, Meiji-no-Yakata

Using cream cheese from Denmark, the Meiji-no-Yakata cheesecake is made using meticulous methods and the best ingredients. Incredibly popular, in particular for its no-bake flavor from a baked cheesecake. Also makes a great gift!

Nikko City

Nikko Pudding, Nikko Pudding Tei

Pudding characterized by a full, rich flavor and subtle sweetness, made using fresh eggs from Nikko and milk from the Nikko Kirifuri Highland Ozasa Ranch. The meltingly smooth texture also further brings out the delicious flavor.

Nikko City

Kanaya Hotel Bakery Bread

Hefty "Royal Bread" is the most popular choice here, with a dense dough that produces a subtle texture. Then there is the cylindrical and fragrant "Cheese Lord" with a crispy toasted surface wrapped around melting cheddar cheese. Enjoy flavors that only carefully selected ingredients and traditional baking methods can produce.

< Inquiries >

Katashina Village Tourism Association
3964 Oaza Kamata, Katashina-mura, Tone-gun, Gunma 378-0415
TEL 0278-58-3222 FAX 0278-58-3213
URL http://www.oze-info.com/

Katashina Village Murazukuri Tourism Division
3967-3 Oaza Kamata, Katashina-mura, Tone-gun, Gunma 378-0498
TEL 0278-58-2112 FAX 0278-58-2110

See the homepage for more details: Katashina Village search

Nikko City Tourism Association
717-1 Imaichi, Nikko-shi, Tochigi Prefecture 321-1261
Inside the Tourism Information Hall at the Roadside Station Nikko (Nikko-Kaido Nikonikohonjin)
TEL 0288-22-1525 FAX 0288-25-3347
URL http://www.nikko-kankou.org/

Nikko City Tourism Section Tourism Promotion Division
1 Imaichihoncho, Nikko, Tochigi 321-1292 (Inside the Nikko City Office)
TEL 0288-21-5170 FAX 0288-21-5121

See the homepage for more details: Nikko Kinugawa Travel Guide search

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Recommended!

Katashina Sightseeing Spots!

Head out to the famous valley of flowers, Katashina. Introducing some of the best spots in Katashina, Gunma!

Relax and refresh in lovely scenery!

D-2

Oze National Park

Oze, the largest highland wetlands on Honshu, is bursting with the appeal of untouched nature. There are three entry points into Oze from Katashina: Hatomachi Pass, Fujimishita and Oshimizu.

Inquiries: 0278-58-3222
(Katashina Village Tourism Association)

C-3

White World Oze Iwakura Activities

These slopes here are some of the largest in Kanto, allowing incredible skiing on powder snow to be enjoyed in the winter. In the summer activities such as the "sky trampoline" appear, providing fun for all the family.

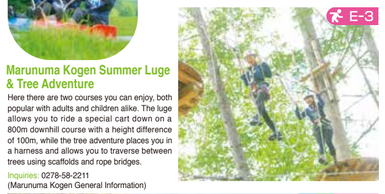
Inquiries: 0278-58-7131 (Oze Iwakura Resort)

C-4

Hotaka Bokujo Camp Site

The Hotaka Bokujo Camp Site is located halfway up Mt. Hotaka, one of the one hundred famous mountains of Japan. As well as camping you can also stay in log cabins and other facilities. There's also some delicious lamb jingisukan (Genghis Khan) to eat and a range of experiences to try that include baking bread and making crafts.

Inquiries: 0278-58-3757 (Katashina Hotaka Bokujo Camp Site)

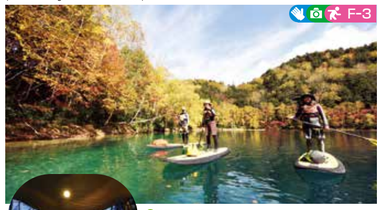


E-3

Marunuma Kogen Summer Luge & Tree Adventure

Here there are two courses you can enjoy, both popular with adults and children alike. The luge allows you to ride a special cart down on a 800m downhill course with a height difference of 100m, while the tree adventure places you in a harness and allows you to traverse between trees using scaffolds and rope bridges.

Inquiries: 0278-58-2211
(Marunuma Kogen General Information)

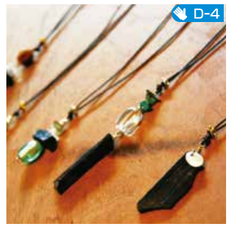


F-3

Sugenuma

Sugenuma is known for its beautiful deep-blue waters, some of the clearest in all Japan. Between June and November you can also enjoy canoe & SUP guided tours. There is also a camp site here, allowing you to spend a full day surrounded by the nature of Katashina.

Inquiries: 0278-58-2958 (Sugenuma Camp Village)
Inquiries: 080-5978-6714 (Canoeing / Bluebird Canoe)
Inquiries: 080-7826-0815 (SUP / High Five Mountain Works)



D-4

CharcoalHandmade Accessories Experience

Making your own original accessory using charcoal, which is also one of the traditional industries of Katashina, has proven to be a very popular experience. You can make a variety of items, including necklaces and earrings, so come along and give it a try!

Inquiries: 090-8596-0250
Reservation required (Ikarakan)

D-4

Indigo Dyeing Experience

Experience indigo dyeing for yourself on a handkerchief, T-shirt, stole or carrying cloth, all using traditional Japanese methods (natural indigo made of fermenting indigo leaves).

Inquiries: 0278-25-3443
Reservation required
(Indigo Studio Shigehachi)

Highland Produce Harvesting Experience

You can experience harvesting a range of different highland produce, including tomatoes, sweetcorn, blueberries and apples. Picking them yourself makes them taste even better! You can also take them home or give them as gifts.
*There will be seasonal variations in exactly what you can harvest.

Inquiries: 0278-58-3222
(Katashina Village Tourism Association)

Delicious Katashina Water

The delicious water at the "Oze no Sato Katashina Springs" was selected in 2008 to be among the one hundred most exquisite waters of Japan. Here you can enjoy not only the clear, clean water but also the wonderful surrounding scenery of a famous beauty spot.

Inquiries: 0278-58-3222
(Katashina Village Tourism Association)

C-4

Katashina Pottery Experience

The "Oze Hanasaku gama kiln" is located close to Hanasaku Onsen. The pottery making experience here can be enjoyed by simply making a reservation, and the careful instruction of the teacher makes it perfect even for absolute beginners. A stroll through the mountain garden is also recommended!

Inquiries: 0278-58-4835
Reservation required (Oze Hanasaku gama)

Katashina Flower Tour

The representative flower of Oze, white skunk cabbage, is joined by a natural monument of Gunma prefecture, the Japanese azalea, and Japanese wood poppies, covering the mountainside in blooms from ancient times. Why not take the tour of all the beautiful flowers that bloom in Katashina?

Inquiries: 0278-58-3222
(Katashina Village Tourism Association)

C-4

Koshimoto White Skunk Cabbage Forest

(Late April - Early May)
A forest of white skunk cabbage featuring around 15,000 plants. The forest is illuminated during the Golden Week period, allowing you to also enjoy the skunk cabbage at night.

E-3

Marunuma Kogen Japanese Wood Poppies

(Early June - Late June)
The Japanese wood poppy is known as the queen of the wild mountain plants. They also form a striking contrast with the rock garden at the Nikko-Shiranesan summit station.

C-4

Hariyama Tennozakura Cherry blossom tree

(Late April - Early May)
A natural monument of Gunma, this massive cherry blossom tree is thought to have lived for over 300 years. When illuminated at night, you will be transported to an illusory world.

C-4

Hotaka Bokujo Japanese Azalea

(Mid-June - Late June)
Enjoy around 15,000 Japanese azaleas, the natural monuments of Gunma, as they turn the vicinity of 1,500m elevation Sangodaira bright red.

Recommended!

Nikko Sightseeing Spots!

Head out to Nikko, treasure-trove of history, culture and nature. An introduction to some of the best spots in Nikko, Tochigi!

H-4

Nikko Toshogu Yomei Gate (National Treasure)

A mausoleum for Ieyasu Tokugawa, and part of the Shrines and Temples of Nikko World Heritage Site. The "Heisei major repairs" have recently been completed, the first of their kind in around 40 years and restoring much of the original beauty of the temple, including incredible colors and lacquer on the 508 carvings, decorations adorned with gold leaf, and pure white pillars.

Inquiries: 0288-54-0560 (Nikko Toshogu)

H-4

Nikko-zan Rin-noji Temple Taiyuuin Mausoleum

A stunning component of the Shrines and Temples of Nikko World Heritage Site. There's plenty to see here, including the gate to the "Taiyuuin" Mausoleum of Iemitsu Tokugawa, the third of the Tokugawa Shogunate.

Inquiries: 0288-54-0531 (Nikko-zan Rin-noji)

H-4

Nikko Futarasan Jinja Shinkyo

The beautiful crimson lacquered "Shinkyo" ("divine bridge") at Futarasan Jinja shrine, which is dedicated to Mt. Nantai, marks the gateway to the Shrines and Temples of Nikko World Heritage Site. It is also counted among the three great bridges of Japan.

Inquiries: 0288-54-0535 (Nikko Futarasan Jinja)

G-5

Italian Embassy Villa Memorial Park & British Embassy Villa Memorial Park

Parks where you can enjoy modern architecture that blends Japanese and Western styles, along with the rich nature of Chuzenji Lake and a historic international setting. Both buildings are recreations of those used for many years as embassy villas by their respective countries.

Inquiries: 0288-55-0880 (Nikko Natural Science Museum)

J-4

Osaruland Theater

The famous pair of Taro and Jiro have now opened this new theater! Enjoy this extremely funny show, other attractions, and even get close to the primates.

Inquiries: 0288-70-1288

J-4

Edo Wonderland Nikko Edo Village

A theme park recreating a Japanese townscape from the Edo period (1603 - 1868). Dress in period-correct clothing, as a villager or even a samurai, and slip back to a different time.

Inquiries: 0288-77-1777

J-3

Tobu World Square

A theme park that features more than 100 1/25 scale, highly detailed recreations of famous buildings and world cultural heritage sites from around the globe, including Japan's own Skytree.

Inquiries: 0288-77-1055

J-3·4

Kinugawa Rafting

This popular outdoor tour places your party in a rubber boat and forces you to work together to navigate the ravines of the Kinugawa river. With an instructor along for the ride, even beginners can take to the water!

Canyoning

Give yourself over to a natural rock waterslide created by the canyon itself! This thrilling dive into basin of water will take bravery, but is more than worth it! Experience for yourself all the fun that rafting has to offer.

Inquiries: 0288-70-1181 (NAOC) J-3
Inquiries: 0288-77-2030 (Nikko Nasu Outdoor Service) J-4
Inquiries: 0288-77-4802 (e-rafting) J-3

Nikko Kimono Experience

Wear an antique kimono and head out for a stroll through the world heritage site of Nikko. Take photos in front of each famous location to deepen your memories of your trip.

Inquiries: 0288-53-6465 (Utakata) H-4
Inquiries: 0288-25-6625 (COCON NIKKO) I-4

H-4

J-4

Meisui no Sato Nikko Okaki workshop

You'll find more than 100 types of Japanese Okaki and Senbei crackers here! The handmade senbei crackers experience even allows you to create your own unique cracker decorated with an image or lettering of your choice.

Inquiries: 0288-31-1147
(Meisui no Sato Nikko Okaki workshop)

Experience Nikko Pottery

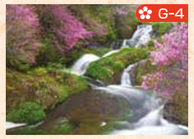
Three different studios offer the chance to experience pottery making, by hand for beginners or children and or using an electric potter's wheel for more experienced potters.

Inquiries: 0288-53-3379 (One Play-it) I-4
Inquiries: 0288-21-7674 (Kinu-yaki Kanbaragama) J-4
Inquiries: 0288-76-0854 (Nikko-yaki Kinugawa-ana) J-3

Nikko Flower Tour

The unique environment in Nikko provides many beautiful flowers, including at Senjugahara, Lake Chuzenji and Ryuzu Falls. Taking a flower tour will also take you to the best sights in Nikko, and comes recommended at any time of year.

Inquiries: 0288-22-1525
(Nikko City Tourism Association)



G-4

Ryuzu Falls Rhododendron Wadanum

(Early May - Early June)
Rhododendron wadanum bring a wonderful splash of purple to the Ryuzu Falls, one of the three great waterfalls of Okunikko. The incredible contrast between the colors and the water just has to be seen to be believed.

F-4

Senjugahama Japanese Primrose

(Early June - Mid-June)
Japanese primrose bloom multiple flowers off from their stems. Here you can experience them blooming so thickly that they form a veritable carpet.

F-4

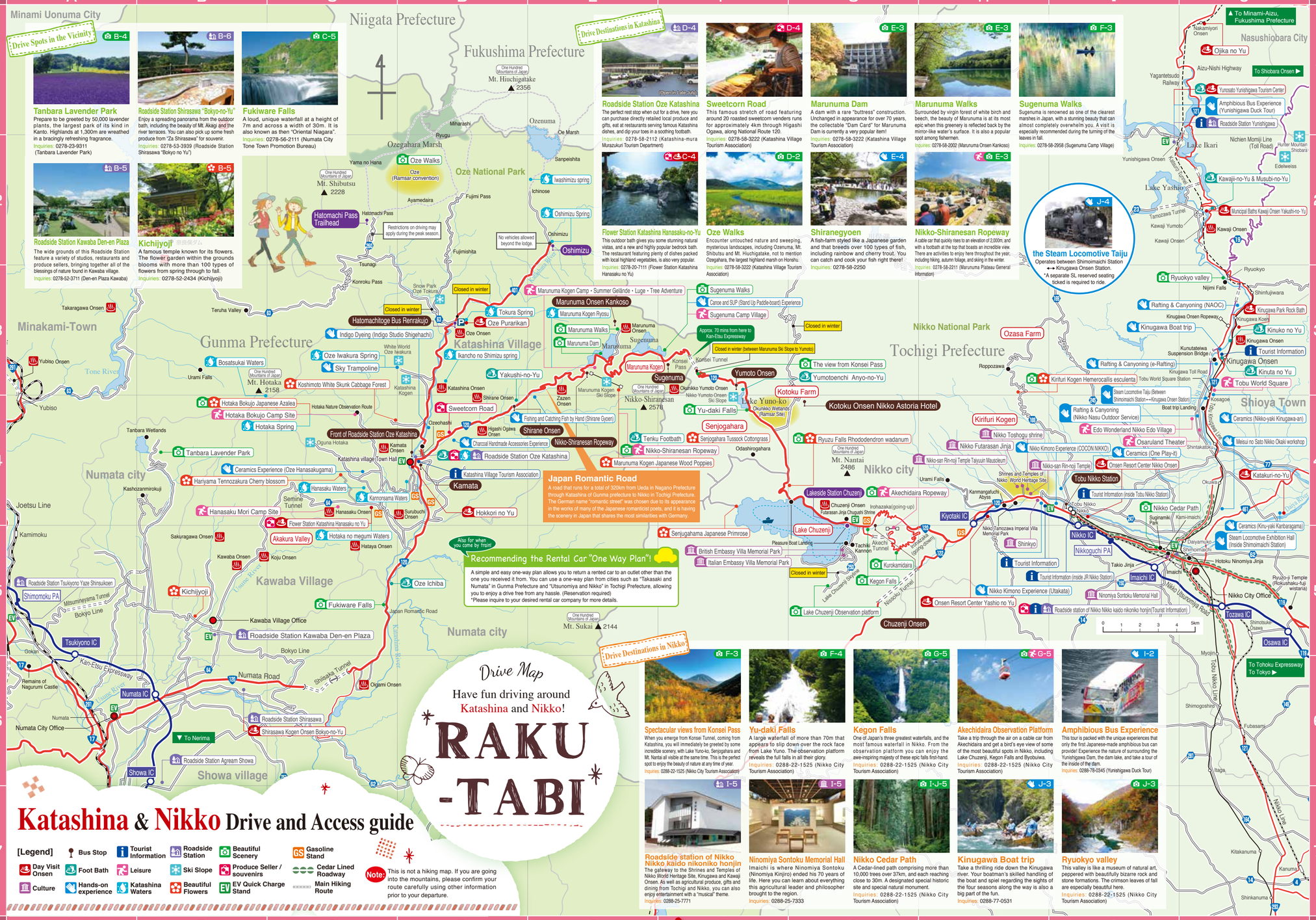
Senjogahara Tussock Cottongrass

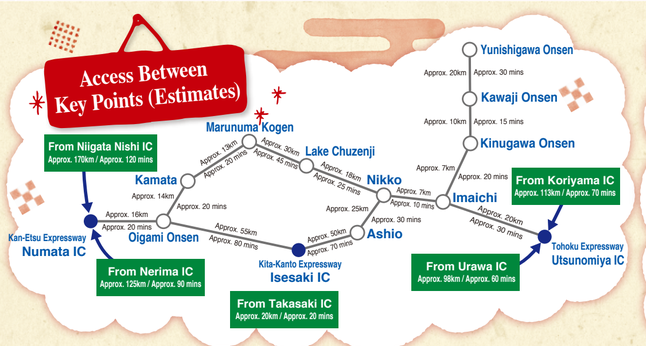
(Mid-June - Late June)
As the name suggests, experience a vast spread of fluffy white cottongrass. This is your chance to enter an illusory, charming world.

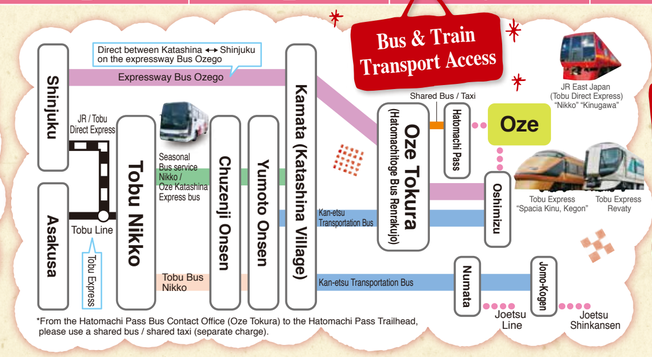
H-3

Kirifuri Kogen Hemerocallis Esculenta

(Late June - Mid-July)
Take in 260,000 hemerocallis esculenta as they bring brilliant yellow color to highlands at an elevation of 1,600m and with a stunning view of the Kanto Plain.







Guide to Mountain Huts in Oze National Park

Location of Mountain Huts	Mountain Hut Name	Inquiries
Oshimizu	Oshimizu-goya Lodge	0278-58-7370
	Monomi-goya Lodge	0278-58-7043
Ozenuma	Ozenuma-sanso Lodge	0278-58-7311
	Chozo-goya Lodge	0278-58-7100
Miharashi	DAI-NI Chozo-goya Lodge	0278-58-7100
	Hinoemata-goya Lodge	0278-58-7050
Akatashiro	Motoyu-sanso Lodge	0278-58-7311

Location of Mountain Huts	Mountain Hut Name	Inquiries
Yoshippori Tashiro	Touden-goya Lodge	0278-58-7311
Ryugu	Ryugu-goya Lodge	0278-58-7301
Yamanohana	Oze Lodge	0278-58-4158
	Yamanohana-goya Lodge	0278-58-7411
	Shibutsu-sanso Lodge	0278-58-7311
Hatomachi Pass	Hatomachi-sanso Lodge	0278-58-7311

Guide to Japanese Inns, Private Homes Providing Lodgings and Pensions

Katashina Village Tourism Association
TEL.0278-58-3222

For more details

Oze Onsen / Katashina Onsen
Kamata Onsen / Higashi Ogawa Onsen
Shirane Onsen / Zazen Onsen
Marunuma Onsen / Surubuchi Onsen
Hataya Onsen / Hanasaku Onsen

RAKU-TABI Round trip Recommended Routes

Driving Edition

Be it an abundance of nature or long-standing history and culture, some of the best spots in all of Japan await you. Take a look at "Oze Katashina & Nikko" experiences that you simply can't fit into just a daytrip.

*The major spots between Katashina and Nikko can also be covered using seasonal bus service "Nikko-Oze Katashina express bus".

3 Full Days in Nikko and Oze Katashina

Take in Nikko Toshogu, which has recently finished it's "Heisei major repairs", the first in around 40 years, hike in Ozegahara Marsh and then visit theme parks in the Kinugawa area or experience riding a real steam locomotive. With one night in a mountain hut and another at a hot spring, this laidback plan still brings you leisure, history, culture and nature.

- Roadside Station Oze Katashina
- Approx. 21.0km (60 minutes)
- Hatomachi Pass Oze Walking
- Approx. 7.7km (140 minutes) (walking)
- Stay Mountain hut (Ryugu) Ozegahara Marsh Hiking
- Approx. 7.7km (150 minutes) (walking)
- Hatomachi Pass Oze Walking
- Approx. 52km (90 minutes)
- Stay Okunikko Yumoto Onsen
- Approx. 29km (50 minutes)
- Tour of Shrines and Temples of Nikko World Heritage Site
- Approx. 20km (40 minutes)
- Tour of Kinugawa Area theme parks or Shimoimaichi Station Steam Locomotive Exhibition Hall & train turntable tour (Shimoimaichi Station & Kinugawa Onsen Station)
- Roadside station of Nikko Nikko kaido nikoniko honjin

2 Days Amid the Greatest Scenery in Japan

In addition to the famous waterfalls and epic scenery of the region, take note of the dam selected as an important cultural property. You'll also visit both of the new Roadside Stations and experience the full appeal of both areas.

- Roadside Station Oze Katashina
- Approx. 13km (25 minutes)
- Nikko-Shiranesan Ropeway
- Approx. 2km (5 minutes)
- Marunuma Dam
- Approx. 3km (6 minutes)
- Marunuma
- Stay Marunuma Onsen
- Approx. 18km (28 minutes)
- Yu-daki Falls
- Approx. 4km (7 minutes)
- Senjogahara Walk
- Approx. 9km (14 minutes)
- Kegon Falls
- Approx. 23km (35 minutes)
- Roadside station of Nikko Nikko kaido nikoniko honjin

2 Days of Experiences & Adventures to Make Many Memories

Experience nature, history and culture, creating memories unique to your own adventure. Perfect for a family outing, with something for everyone to enjoy!

- Roadside Station Oze Katashina
- Approx. 3km (10 minutes)
- Charcoal Handmade Accessories Experience
- Approx. 20km (30 minutes)
- Sugenuma Canoe and SUP Stay Sugenuma Camp Area
- Approx. 9.8km (14 minutes)
- Marunuma Kogen Tree Adventure
- Approx. 45.1km (68 minutes)
- Nikko Kimono Experience Nikko Tourism
- Approx. 7.9km (13 minutes)
- Roadside station of Nikko Nikko kaido nikoniko honjin