

Map showing directions

Legend

- Shinkansen Lines
- Railway lines
- Expressways
- National roads

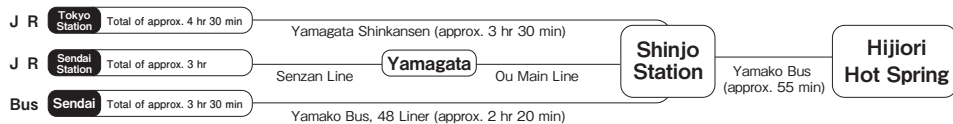


Transportation information

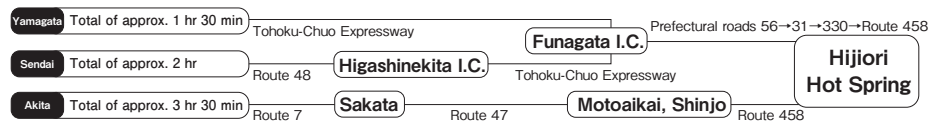
By air



By JR trains and buses



By car



Note: We recommend using Route 13 rather than Route 458 because the section between Hijiiori and Sagae on Route 458 is closed during winter and some parts of Route 458 are unpaved and narrow.

Okuramura village office, Okuramura Tourism Association
2528 Oaza-Shimizu, Okuramura, Mogami-gun, Yamagata Prefecture 996-0212
Tel: 0233-75-2111
<http://www.vill.ohkura.yamagata.jp/>

Hijiiori Hot Spring Tourist Information Center (Hijiiori Ideyukan)
451-2 Oaza-Nanzan, Okuramura, Mogami-gun, Yamagata Prefecture 996-0212
Hijiiori Hot Spring website: <http://hijiiori.jp/>
Okuramura Tourism Association website: <https://ohkura-kanko.com/>



You will definitely like
the charm of the hot spring.

Yamagata Hijiiori Hot Spring



People visiting, people welcoming, everybody is warmhearted.

The entire town is filled with the charm of the hot spring:
the nostalgic ambience and the composed flow of time.

A place of mystery. No matter when or how many times you visit,
you will want to visit again: Hijiiori Hot Spring.



Hijiori Hot Spring, with a history of more than 1,200 years.

A folk tale about Hijiori Hot Spring is that an elderly monk treated his broken elbow by taking a bath in the hot spring.

Hijiori Hot Spring began to be used 1,200 years ago.

“Thirty-six Families of Hijiori” have maintained this hot spring in collaboration under a contract made in the Edo Period.

The strong bonds between people still exist here.

Come and experience warmhearted human nature, Japanese-style inns with overflowing charm, exquisite cuisine and a superb hot spring that are distinctive to Hijiori.

The longer you stay, the more you will like it.

Why not experience hot-spring healing yourself?



1 Jizokura, the place of the folk tale about the hot spring

2 View of the Hijiori Hot Spring area in winter

3 Yakushi Shrine

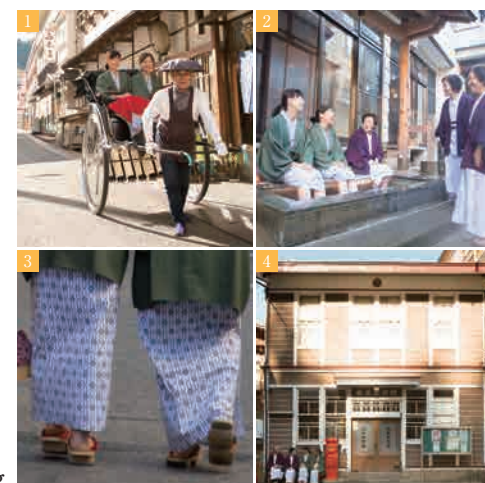
4 Hijiori Lanterns



からんころん

Morning market full of smiles
in a hot spring town where
you can enjoy a delightful
stroll

The true pleasure of Hijiory Hot Spring is strolling about and visiting public baths dressed in the casual *yukata* kimono. There are many tourist attractions, including the well-known morning market and Gensen Park where you can enjoy foot bathing and lower-body bathing. Feeling tired during a walk? How about a rest on the veranda of a Japanese-style inn? In the old days, people who came to this hot spring to heal their illnesses used inn verandas for cooking and socializing. People still socialize with each other, just like those days in the hot spring town.



- 1 A rickshaw,
imparting the romantic Taisho
Period ambience
- 2 Foot bath in the hot spring town
- 3 Strolling in *yukata* with *geta* clogs
- 4 Former Hijiory Post Office building



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ぽかぽか



Relax by visiting the hot spring baths in Hijiori and Kogane

1 Kami-no-Yu, a public bath

This natural hot spring bath considered to be the origin of Hijiori Hot Spring, is also known as "Scar Bath", because of the belief that the water can heal scars. You will feel fresh after soaking in this bath.

■ Open hours: April - November: 8:00 am - 6:00 pm December - March: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
■ Bathing charges: adults: ¥300 children: ¥100 ■ Inquiries: Tel 0233-76-2211

2 Hijiori Ideyukan

Hijiori Ideyukan has two baths, with facilities to pour hot spring water and for lying bathing; both with beautiful views that differ in each of the four seasons. There is a hot spring recuperation consultation office.

■ Open hours: April - October: 9:30 am - 5:30 pm November - March: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm ■ Closed: Mondays and Tuesdays
■ Bathing charges: adults: ¥450, Elementary school children: ¥250, Children below school age: free ■ Inquiries: Tel 0233-34-6106

3 Caldera Hot Spring Baths

The building has large baths and open-air baths replenished with water from Kogane Hot Spring, and resting rooms. There is also a carbonated spring water bath; if you drink the water, your stomach and liver will function more briskly.

■ Open hours: April - October: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm November - March: 10:00 am - 4:30 pm ■ Closed: Wednesdays and Thursdays
■ Bathing charges: adults: ¥500, Elementary school children: ¥250, Children below school age: free ■ Inquiries: Tel 0233-34-6106



1 Kokeshi doll painting hands-on workshop

2 Strolling in the hot spring town

3 Walks around terraced rice-fields in Shikamura and a beech forest

4 Trekking with special snowshoes

5 Hot spring recuperation consultations

6 Rickshaw tour guide

In addition to the above, many more programs for tourists run throughout the year.

■ Inquiries and applications:
Hijiori Ideyukan, Tel 0233-34-6106

Refresh your mind and body with the hot spring recuperation and hands-on programs





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Plenty of exquisite cuisine and characteristic souvenirs

1 Kotobukiya, a soba noodle restaurant

Recommended dishes: Ita-soba noodle, chicken soba noodle
 ■ Open hours: 10 am-5 pm (Dec.-Mar.: 4 pm)
 ■ Closed: 2nd Thursdays (2nd and 4th Thursdays during winter) ■ Tel no: 0233-76-2140

2 Kakizaki Rice Cake

Recommended dishes: Freshly pounded rice cakes, ramen in miso flavored soup
 ■ Open hours: 11 am-3 pm (Dec.-Mar.: 2 pm)
 ■ Closed: 2nd and 4th Wednesdays ■ Tel no: 0233-76-2118

3 Inakaya

Recommended dishes: Chicken gibellet ramen ■ Open hours: Lunch time: 11 am-4 pm
 ■ Dinner time: 7 pm-11 pm ■ Closed: variable ■ Tel no: 0233-76-2611



4 Hotei Manju

This *manju* cake has a filling of sweet red bean paste covered in a thin, brown, sweet tasting pastry. This has been a favorite souvenir of Hijiori Hot Spring for many years.

5 Horse-chestnut rice cake

A traditional snack with an attractive racy flavor. The red beans in the rice cake give an accent to the texture.

6 Soba ice cream

Ice creams made of the local specialties of Okuramura are particularly pleasing after a bath. Enjoy the graceful taste that retains the flavors of the ingredients.

7 Hijiori Caldera Soda Pop Tomato Soda Pop

Natural soda water taken from Caldera Hot Spring Baths is mixed into this soda pop. Tomato Soda Pop is made from tomatoes produced in Okuramura.

8 Hijiori kokeshi dolls

Hijiori kokeshi dolls are made in the tradition established in Naruko and Togatta. The dolls have a gentle appearance with unique eyes and lips.

9 Local sake produced by Koya Brewery

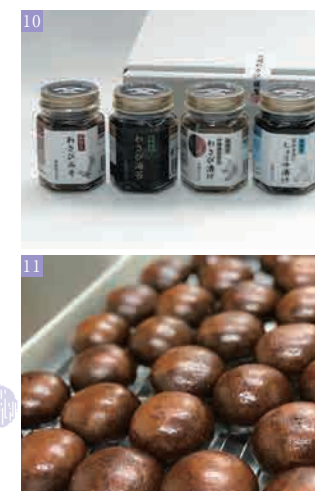
Sake brewed in Okuramura from spring water has a mellow taste. This sake is sold at souvenir shops in the hot spring town.

10 Processed foods made of Okura wasabi, Yukiaoi

Processed foods made of *Yukiaoi*, Japanese horseradish grown in pure mountain streams in the Masudama area. Each individual product is hand made.

11 Kanrinto Manju (deep-fried sweet bun)

A tasty dish that is crunchy on the outside and moist inside.





Hijiori's festivals and events gracing the four seasons with blessing of mountains and tradition

Various special events, including "Hijiori Lanterns" that color summer nights, and "Sange Sange", which is a traditional new year event, are held throughout the year. The events will make your days in Hijiori even more remarkable.

1 end of July to mid-September Hijiori Lanterns

The "Hijiori Lanterns," which started in the summer of the 1200th anniversary of the opening of Hijiori Hot Spring, color the hot spring town at night, depicting the diverse sights reflecting the inspiration provided by the spa to young artists who have a connection to Yamagata Prefecture.

■Place: Hijiori Hot Spring Town
■Inquiries: Hijiori Hot Spring Tourist Information Center 0233-76-2211

A Hijiori Hot Spring fan club Yu-no-Sato Hijiori Club Applications for membership are now being accepted!

People who visit Hijiori Hot Spring many times will be acknowledged as Hijiori Hot Spring fans. A Hijiori Hot Spring passport will be issued to acknowledged fans, who will receive various privileges.

■Inquiries: Hijiori Idayukan, 0233-34-6106



Hijiori Hot Spring seasonal events

2 May-August (5:30 am-7:30 am)

Well-known morning market



Mornings at Hijiori Hot Spring begin with cheerful chatting between women selling local specialties and shoppers at the morning market. On sale are seasonal specialties, such as edible mountain plants during the spring, home-grown vegetables and mushrooms, and home-made foods.

■Place: Hijiori Hot Spring Town
■Inquiries: Hijiori Hot Spring Tourist Information Center, 0233-76-2211

4 1st and 3rd Saturdays in June - October

Hijiori Dam illumination

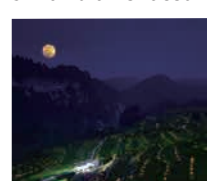


Hijiori Dam, which was designated by the national government in 2009 as a Registered Tangible Cultural Property, is illuminated. We hope you will enjoy Hijiori Dam at night with its changing colors, while listening to the sound of running water.

■Place: Hijiori Dam (Hijiori Gensen Park)
■Inquiries: Hijiori Hot Spring Tourist Information Center, 0233-76-2211

6 1st Saturday in August

Shikamura Terraced Rice Field Firefly Light Concert



A concert held in the terraced rice fields in Shikamura that have been selected as one of the best one hundred terraced rice field sites in Japan. The clear tones of the ocarinas sound in the terraced rice fields that are illuminated by about 1,200 firefly lights. Come and enjoy this wondrous world that lasts only for one night.

■Place: Specially prepared site in the Shikamura terraced rice fields
■Inquiries: Okuramura Industry Promotion Section, 0233-75-2105

8 Beginning of November

Furusato Miraikan Soba Harvest Festival

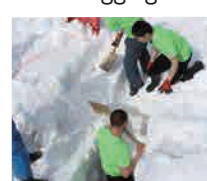


At Furusato Miraikan, you can have freshly ground, kneaded and boiled noodles made of soba grown in Okuramura. During the Soba Harvest Festival noodles made of just harvested soba with a good flavor and foods are sold.

■Place: Furusato Miraikan
■Inquiries: Furusato Miraikan, 0233-34-6001

10 10. 4th Sunday in February

Snow Digging World Cup in Hijiori



A peculiar competition performed for nearly thirty years on snow sports days at Hijiori elementary and junior high schools, which were closed in 2008. People compete in how quickly they can dig through the snow and reach the ground. You may think this is easy, but actually it's a tough competition requiring a lot of strength and technique.

■Place: Hijiori Lifelong Study Center
■Inquiries: Oh! Kura Sport, 0233-75-2212

3 Mid-May to mid-June

Hijiori Hot Spring Edible Mountain Plants Festival



Hijiori is located deep in the mountains and is covered in deep snow during the winter. It is a treasure trove of edible mountain plants. Please taste the special dishes offered at inns, containing mountain plants that are thick and soft during this season. During the period, on Sundays, mountain plant dishes are offered free at the morning market.

■Place: Hijiori Hot Spring Town
■Inquiries: Hijiori Hot Spring Tourist Information Center, 0233-76-2211

5 4. July 14

Hijiori Hot Spring Beginning Festival



A Shinto ritual held on July 14, said to be the date on which Hijiori Hot Spring was opened. The hot spring town becomes crowded because the Jizo Portable Shrine Parade is held and rice cakes are thrown to people to celebrate the beginning. We thank the god of the hot spring and praise the great undertaking of our predecessors who have maintained the hot spring for so long.

■Place: Hijiori Hot Spring Town
■Inquiries: Hijiori Hot Spring Tourist Information Center, 0233-76-2211

7 6. August 16, 17 and 20

Hijiori Hot Spring Yuza Shrine Festival



The schedule of the festival at Yuza Shrine (Yakushi Shrine), which enshrines the god of hot water, is as follows: 16th: "Bon Festival Dance Wearing Disguise Costume"; 19th: Singing Contest; 20th: the Festival's Sumo Tournament.

■Place: Hijiori Hot Spring Town
■Inquiries: Hijiori Hot Spring Tourist Information Center, 0233-76-2211

9 January 7

Hijiori Sange Sange



An ancient new year event carried out in the three sacred mountains in Dewa by Buddhist monks practicing asceticism. Men in white costumes from the village parade though the hot spring town, praying for a bumper harvest and good health with the sound of trumpet shells. Free freshly pounded rice cakes are offered to visitors.

■Place: Hijiori Hot Spring Town
■Inquiries: Hijiori Hot Spring Tourist Information Center, 0233-76-2211

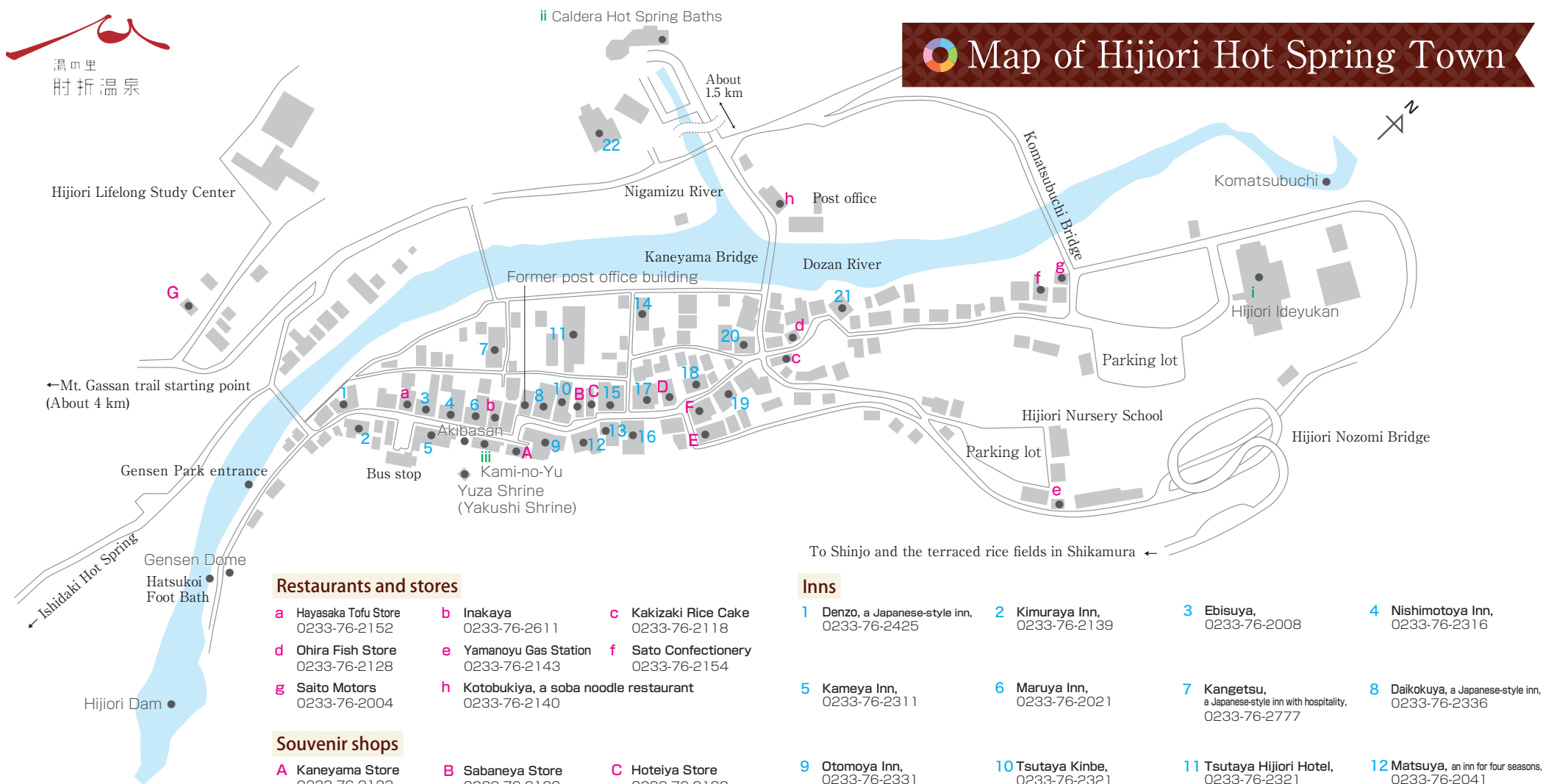
11 mid-March

Okura Snow Tale



Winter events of Okuramura. These include a winter fireworks display, wondrous snow corridors and a huge snowman called Mr. Okura. **Amazake**, a sweet, hot drink made from rice, and **Tamakonnayaku**, a hard jelly made from devil's tongue roots, are planned to be offered free of charge.

■Place: Open space in front of Hijiori Idayukan
■Inquiries: Hijiori Hot Spring Tourist Information Center, 0233-76-2211



Restaurants and stores

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| a Hayasaka Tofu Store
0233-76-2152 | b Inakaya
0233-76-2611 | c Kakizaki Rice Cake
0233-76-2118 |
| d Ohira Fish Store
0233-76-2128 | e Yamanoyu Gas Station
0233-76-2143 | f Sato Confectionery
0233-76-2154 |
| g Saito Motors
0233-76-2004 | h Kotobukiya, a soba noodle restaurant
0233-76-2140 | |

Souvenir shops

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| A Kaneyama Store
0233-76-2123 | B Sabaneya Store
0233-76-2130 | C Hoteiya Store
0233-76-2132 |
| D Yokoyama Niuemon Store
0233-76-2125 | E Sasaki Store
0233-76-2133 | F Chonan Butcher Shop
0233-76-2011 |
| G Suzuki Kokeshi Workshop
0233-76-2217 | | |

Hot spring facilities without accommodation

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| i Hijiori Idayukan
0233-34-6106 | ii Caldera Hot Spring Baths
0233-76-2622 | iii Kami-no-Yu
0233-76-2211
(Hijiori Hot Spring Tourist Information Center) |
|---|--|--|

Inns

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| 1 Denzo, a Japanese-style inn,
0233-76-2425 | 2 Kimuraya Inn,
0233-76-2139 | 3 Ebisuya,
0233-76-2008 | 4 Nishimotoya Inn,
0233-76-2316 |
| 5 Kameya Inn,
0233-76-2311 | 6 Maruya Inn,
0233-76-2021 | 7 Kangetsu,
a Japanese-style inn with hospitality,
0233-76-2777 | 8 Daikokuya, a Japanese-style inn,
0233-76-2336 |
| 9 Otomoya Inn,
0233-76-2331 | 10 Tsutaya Kinbe,
0233-76-2321 | 11 Tsutaya Hijiori Hotel,
0233-76-2321 | 12 Matsuya, an inn for four seasons,
0233-76-2041 |
| 13 Miharuya, main building,
0233-76-2036 | 14 Miharuya, annex building,
0233-76-2036 | 15 Wakamatsuya Murai Rokusuke,
0233-76-2031 | 16 Miuraya Inn,
0233-76-2046 |
| 17 Matsui Inn,
0233-76-2016 | 18 Yuzo, a Japanese-style inn,
0233-76-2151 | 19 Saito Inn,
0233-76-2040 | 20 Tamanya Inn,
0233-76-2215 |
| 21 Motokawarayu,
a Japanese-style inn with hot spring baths,
0233-76-2259 | 22 Kinseikan,
0233-76-2418 | | |

Hijiori Hot Spring Tour



You can use the hot spring baths at any three of the inns and hot spring facilities in Hijiori Hot Spring Town with this ticket.

Charge: ¥1,100
Tickets sold at Hijiori Idayukan and Caldera Hot Spring Baths

Restaurants in Okuramura

10 Furusato Miraikan



Come and taste handmade soba noodles made from only soba grown in Shikamura.

Recommended dishes: Ita-soba noodle, chicken soba noodle

Open hours: 10:30 am to 3 pm (shorter during winter)

Closed Mondays and Tuesdays (open if they fall on a holiday)

Tel no: 0233-34-6001

11 Iwagamigongen Soba Restaurant



Soba noodles with a good flavor made 100% from home-grown Okurayama soba.

Recommended dishes: Zaru-soba noodle

Open hours: 11:30 am to 2 pm

Closed: variable

Tel no: 0233-75-2150

12 Mt. Okura Soba Negibozu



This stylish, relaxing soba restaurant is a recommended stop if you take a drive. Using locally made buckwheat flour, this natural handmade 100% buckwheat flour soba contains no binding agents and goes down the throat smoothly.

Recommended Menu: 100% buckwheat flour boxed soba, Okura tomatoes and 100% buckwheat flour soba

Open Hours: Lunch: 11:15 am to 3:00 pm (last order 2:30 pm) Dinner: 5:00 pm - (last order 9:00 pm)

Closed: Lunch: Tuesdays (open if Tuesday falls on a holiday) Dinner: Mondays and Tuesdays

Phone No: 0233-29-8825

13 Restaurant Okura



The miso ramen (noodles in miso soup) is a favorite. The restaurant, which is well-known among the village locals, also offers a set meal on its menu.

Recommended Menu: Miso ramen (noodles in miso soup), Yaki soba (fried noodles)

Open: 10:30 am - 2:00 pm; 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Closed: Wednesdays

Tel: 0233-75-2544

Tourist attractions in the area

6 Viewing spot of Mt. Gassan, Mt. Hayama and Mt. Chokai



An ideal spot in Yunodai Plateau to see Mt. Gassan, a sacred mountain, Mt. Hayama and Mt. Chokai. Enjoy a gorgeous view of the mountains with remaining snow, fresh verdure or beautifully tinted leaves that differs by season.

7 The terraced rice fields in Shikamura



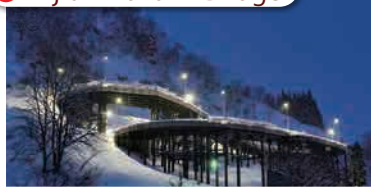
One of the best one hundred terraced rice field sites in Japan. The scenery changes from season to season and it's a truly nostalgic landscape for Japanese people. A Firefly Light Concert is held in the summer.

8 Shimizu Castle remains



Enjoy a stunning view from the remains of the castle's inner ward in each of the four seasons. We can see that the castle was a fort protected by nature.

9 Hijiori Nozomi Bridge



This 240m-long bridge is one of the longest in Japan. The S-shape of the bridge and huge piers attract sightseers.

2 Yunodai Plateau



The extensive buckwheat fields on the highlands spreading out along National Highway 458 are covered with pure white flowers from the end of August until the beginning of September.

3 Gensen Park



You can enjoy a leisurely stroll around this area including a place to drink spring water, Hatsuikoi ("First Love") Footbath and Hijiori dam which is registered tangible cultural properties.

4 Komatsubuchi



Water colored jade green flows between steep black rocks. This is a place of scenic beauty in Hijiori, and the origin of mysterious folk tales.

5 Ishidaki Hot Spring



Secluded hot spring in the mountains, ten minutes by car from Hijiori. Warm up in this hot spring with an abundance of carbonic acid gas.

[Owned by Ebisuya Inn, 0233-76-2008]

1 Jizokura



The place of a folk tale of the beginning of Hijiori Hot Spring. Receive divine grace for marriage, childbirth and prosperous business.

