

Step out to the unknown!



Tomioka Silk Mill



Shima Onsen



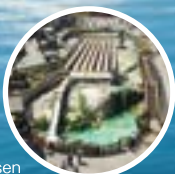
Minakami Onsen Area



Akagi Nanmen Senbonzakura (Akagi Cherry Blossoms)



Ikaho Onsen



Kusatsu Onsen



Japan. Endless Discovery.

Accessible to Narita Airport and Haneda Airport

▶ A New Pass

The starting date is December 19, 2015!!

The JR TOKYO Wide Pass is a discounted pass for unlimited rides in Tokyo and the surrounding Kanto area. Valid for three days, the pass is good for unlimited rides using reserved seats on ordinary cars on Shinkansen, limited express and other trains in the valid use area. The JR TOKYO Wide Pass makes it easy to visit popular tourist destinations such as Gunma, Mt.Fuji, Izu, Karuizawa.

for adults (12 years of age or older)

for children (between 6 and 11 years of age)

Fares: **¥10,000** **¥5,000**

Valid period: **Consecutive three days**



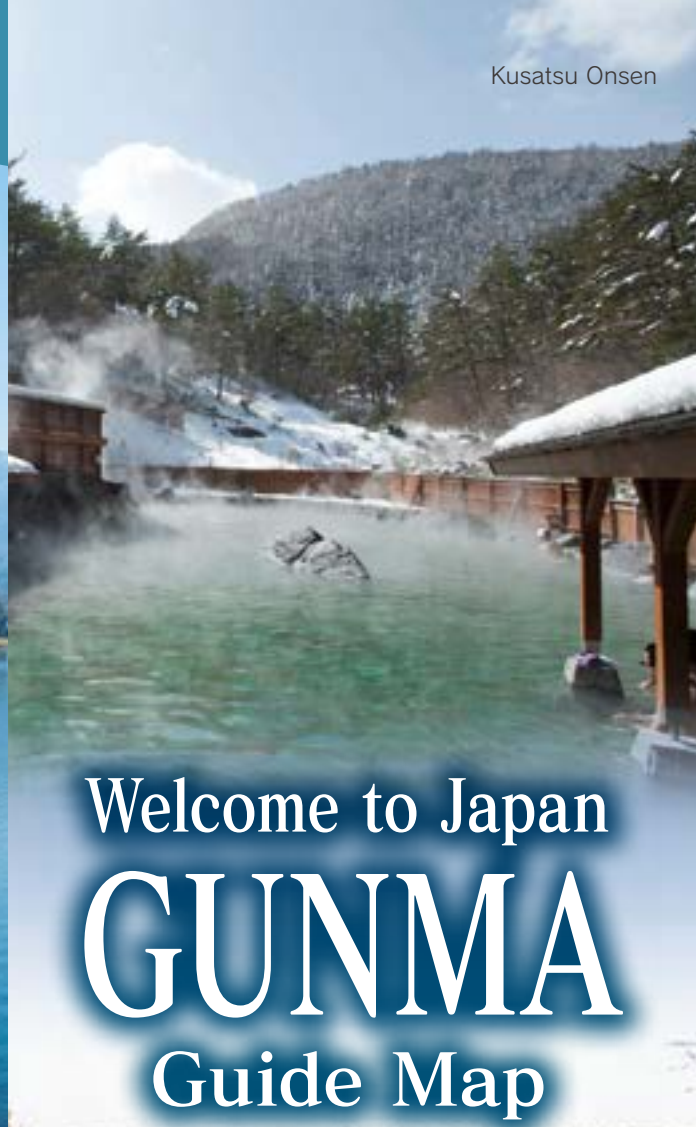
Joetsu Shinkansen Max Toki



Narita Express

The information described here is as of November 2015.

<http://www.jreast.co.jp/e/tokyowidepass/>



Welcome to Japan GUNMA Guide Map



Tomioka Silk Mill

Enhance the contents of your shopping bag with Gunma's skillfully made products

Specialty



Silk products

The silk industry led Gunma, and Japan, into the world of modern technology. Raw silks woven into exquisite silk fabrics have helped to spread the name of Gunma throughout the world.

Art



Sosaku Kokeshi

Bark is peeled from pulpwood and skillfully carved on a lathe. Then the dolls are polished and painted and become what we call "Sosaku Kokeshi". The grain of the wood is celebrated for its beauty and the dolls serve as high quality interior decorations.



Glass

Glass vases, tablewares and artworks are hand-made by artisans with great care. These hand-made products are colorful and beautiful as well as very unique, which provide a feeling of warmth to users.



Geta

In the north of Gunma, paulownia wood geta are produced. These clogs feature beautiful grain, lightness and warmth. Artisans make each pair by hand.

Souvenir



Local Sake

As Gunma is blessed with abundant nature and good water, brewers produce delicious local sake across the prefecture. Gunma's local sake varies in flavor and aroma from brewer to brewer. Why not compare the flavors and aromas?



Takasaki Daruma

Buddhist priests at the Shorinza Darumaji Temple in Takasaki City began making these dolls. The dolls' eyebrows represent cranes, while their whiskers represent turtles. The production of Takasaki Daruma is the largest among Daruma in Japan.

Strawberries, apples and grapes etc.

There are a large number of tourist farms in Gunma. According to the season, picking of various fruits including strawberries, apples, grapes, pears can be enjoyed. Depending on the farm, hands-on experience such as jam making from picked fruit is also provided.



Food



Okkirikomi

This is a local dish representative of Gunma. Thick fresh noodles are cooked with a variety of ingredients focusing on vegetables. The thickened soup will warm you up. This dish is recommendable especially in the cold months of the year.

Lavender soft ice cream

At Tambara Lavender Park in Numata City, you can taste lavender soft ice cream. When you eat the slightly lavender-colored ice cream, you will appreciate the mild herb flavor.



Yakimanju

This is an unique local snack that plain steamed buns are grilled with sweet miso sauce. The sweet, savory aroma has attracted locals for generations.



Konnyaku

Konnyaku dishes are popular in Gunma, which boasts the largest Konnyaku production in Japan. It is also enjoyed as a health food with almost no calories.



The recommended mark of superior Gunma local products.

This is the mark attached to local products recommended by Gunma Prefecture

that represent the arts, craftsmanship and the flavors of Gunma.

Learn all about the history and culture of Gunma



Byakue Dai-Kannon ● Takasaki City [E-4]

This 41.8 m statue of the Goddess of Mercy was erected in 1936 through the efforts of an entrepreneur from Takasaki who wanted to share the calm and grace of Buddhist philosophy and think with people throughout the world. The spring cherry blossoms from trees on the grounds surrounding the Byakue Dai-Kannon attract visitors from all over Japan.



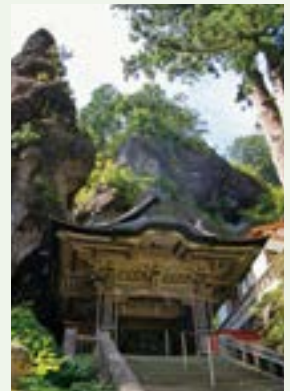
Nukisaki-jinja Shrine ● Tomioka City [F-3]

This shrine has a history of 1400 years. The shrine chamber, altar and tower gate are designated as national important cultural properties. You will get to the shrine pavilion by descending the stone steps. This is a rare example of a *kudarimiya* layout.



Historical Townscape ● Kiryu City

This city is famous for its production of silk fabric. The townscape from about 400 years ago still remains. You can see historical buildings, including houses with tiled roofs, shops with thick mortar walls, and factories with saw-tooth roofs.



Haruna-jinja Shrine ● Takasaki City [D-3]

This is an old shrine with a history of more than 1400 years, located in the middle of Mt. Harunasan. The deity is enshrined in the Misugata-iwa cave behind the shrine chamber. This shrine has come to be known as a major power spot in the Kanto area, thought to be flowing with mystical energy.



Onioshidashi Park ● Tsumagoi Village [D-2]

In 1783, Mt. Asama-yama erupted with lava flows. Onioshidashi is a work of the lava.



Tomioka Silk Mill ● Tomioka City [F-3]

This is the first model machine silk-reeling mill built by the Japanese government in 1872. The technical innovation realizing mass production of quality silk and the historical value have earned the mill candidacy as a UNESCO world heritage site.



and satisfy your curiosity at a variety of public facilities.

Pray for good fortune and celebrate joy.



Kita-Karuizawa Fire Festival (February)

● Naganohara Town

4,000 candles twinkle amid the glittering snow that blankets the site. Tourists, who come to pray for happiness, instantly feel as though they have set foot into a fantasy world.



Festival

Maebashi Tanabata Festival (July)

● Maebashi City

During the Tanabata festival, each shop in the shopping streets hangs out its own distinctive Tanabata decorations, turning the streets and alleys into colorful tunnels. Beneath the Tanabata decorations stretches a long line of stalls selling a variety of tasty festival treats amid the throngs of visitors.



Castle Town Obata Cherry Blossom Festival (April)

● Kanra Town

Kanra is famous for its cherry trees and well known as a castle town that was governed by the Oda Clan. What a wonderful sight to see the armour clad brave samurai warriors parade under the cherry trees in full bloom.



Kiryu Yagibushi Festival (August) ● Kiryu City

Tradition has it that the Yagibushi musical performance gets its rhythm from the cold dry winds of a Gunma winter and the flow of the clear waters of Tone River. The dancing is fast, fun and furious, and it evokes images of good spirits and the bravery of days gone by.



Numata Festival (August) ● Numata City

Carrying around *dashi* (floats) and large and small *mikoshi* (portable shrines) is the main feature of *matsuri* (festival) in Japan. Giant Tengu Mikoshi is famous for being shouldered by women.



Shorinzan Nanakusa Taisai Daruma-ichi

(January)

● Takasaki City

This is a lively all-night festival on January 6 and 7. About 210,000 people visit it every year to buy lucky Daruma dolls.

Heso Festival (July)

● Shibukawa City

This city, located in the middle of Japan, calls itself "the navel (*heso*) of Japan". Shibukawa Heso Festival is a unique festival in which participants paint a big face on their belly and dance to songs.



Join the local festival that holds unique characteristics in each area.

春

A resort where you can relax amid tranquil surroundings, enjoying panoramic views of the colorful flowers growing in abundance on the hills and fields.

Spring in Gunma is resplendently beautiful.



Gunma Flower Park ● Maebashi City [D-5]

In the flower theme park, you can enjoy lovely flowers, cactuses and Japanese garden to your heart's content. Besides, various flower events are held depending on the season. Visitors are welcome throughout the year.



Akima Ume Garden ● Annaka City [E-3]

Here in the largest *ume* (Japanese apricot) garden around Tokyo, the *ume* blossom is in full bloom from early to late March. The 50-hectare hillside is covered with 35,000 trees clad in red and white blossom.



Golf Courses

There are more than 80 golf courses located in extremely attractive natural settings throughout the prefecture.

Sakura no Sato ● Shimonita Town [E-3]

The *Somei Yoshino* cherry trees blossom in early April, followed by the *yaesakura* (double cherry blossom) trees between April and May. At the foot of Mt. Myogisan, 5,000 cherry trees of 45 different varieties reach full bloom, one after another.



Ota City Northern Athletic Park ● Ota City [E-6]

At Ota City Northern Athletic Park, a carpet of about a 500,000 white and pink flowers is spread out over the extensive grounds between early April and mid-May every year.



Shikishima Park / Rose Garden ● Maebashi City [E-4]

In the city of Maebashi can be found the extensive grounds of Shikishima Park, located between Tone River and Hirose River. The park is home to 7,000 rose bushes of 600 different varieties that together create a riot of bloom each year.

夏

Even at the height of summer, the cool breezes that occasionally blow through the highlands will help you to forget the heat.



Oze ● Katashina Village [B-5]

The marshlands of Ozegahara and the mystical Lake Oze-numa are located at one of the highest elevations of any marshland throughout the world. These lush natural habitats for wildlife are surrounded by Mt. Hiuchigatake, Mt. Shibutsusan and other stunning peaks topping the 2,000-meter mark.



Fireworks ● many areas in the prefecture

Large fireworks that fill the night sky are a summer feature in Japan. During the period from the end of July to the end of August, fireworks events are held in many areas of Gunma Prefecture.



Mt. Akagi-yama ● Maebashi City [D-5]

There are 14 varieties of 500,000 azalea trees on Mt. Akagi-yama. They fully bloom in early to mid-June. You can camp in the area where crater-lake and moor lie near the top of the mountain.



Rafting/Canyoning ● Minakami Town

Rafting is an outdoor sport that rafts down the rapids in a rubber boat. It can be enjoyed between spring and autumn on the Tone River, which flows through the town.



Lake Nozoriko ● Nakanojo Town [C-2]

This is a manmade lake 12 kilometers in circumference at an elevation of 1,513 meters above sea level. Between early summer and early autumn, you can observe more than 300 types of alpine plants such as *Nozori-kisuge* (Daylily) and *Renge-tsutsuji* (Rhododendron).



Onoike Hydrangea Park ● Shibukawa City [D-4]

In late June, 20 varieties of 8,000 hydrangeas fully bloom in the 1.4 hectare park. These flowers are lit during the night and offer a different atmosphere from that of daytime.



Tambara Lavender Park ● Numata City [B-4]

In summer, July through August, 50,000 lavenders are planted in the 20 hectare ski park in Tambara plateau.

Enjoy summer in Gunma to your heart's content amid the magnificence of nature.

秋

Soft sunlight and invigorating, yet gentle breezes open the door to autumn.

The vivid scarlet and gold hues of the leaves that herald autumn in Gunma are an impressive sight.



Lake Harunako ● Takasaki City [D-3]

Mountains including Mt. Harunafuji and Mt. Eboshidake lie around Lake Harunako, which was made from a volcano eruption. Daylily and azalea give you a sense of relaxation. You can enjoy outdoor activities such as cycling by the lake.



Mt. Myogisan
● Tomioka City/Annaka City/Shimonita Town [E-3]

This rugged mountain, with its oddly-shaped rocks, is one of the three major beauty spots in Japan. It is also famous for its beautiful colored leaves.



Mt. Tanigawadake ● Minakami Town [B-4]

A view of the 1,977m peak of Mt. Tanigawadake is totally comparable with the views of the even higher 3,000m peaks of the Japan Alps. This is also well-known site as one of Japan's leading rock climbing spot.



Terihakyo Gorge ● Minakami Town [B-4]

This mystical gorge has 11 waterfalls that show various faces in each season. Especially, the beautiful scenery of autumnal leaves is marvelous.



Mt. Kusatsu-Shiranesan ● Kusatsu Town [C-2]

This is an active volcano 2,160m above sea level. Yugama near the mountaintop is a crater lake about 300 meters in diameter and about 30 meters deep. This lake is said to be among the most acidic lakes in the world.



Fukiware-no-taki Falls ● Numata City [C-5]

With a breadth of approximately 30m and a drop of 7m, here creates magnificent view as it is called "Japan's Niagara". The volume of water peaks in the spring and early summer. In autumn, while the volume trickles off, the autumn leaves surrounding the falls make it an extremely spectacular attraction.

冬

Steam rises up from the hot springs, drawing tourists irresistibly toward the snowy landscape.

Gunma has many charms in winter, in the form of its onsen and snow-blanketed fields.



Sakurayama Park ● Fujioka City [F-4]

At Mt. Sakura-yama, close to Yashio Onsen, the *fuyuzakura* (winter cherry blossom) are a much-beloved sight during the season usually associated with autumn leaves. Around 7,000 winter cherry trees bloom in profusion from November to December.



Mt. Asama-yama ● Tsumagoi Village [E-2]

The beautiful broad slopes of Mt. Asama-yama attracts and charms the visitor with the beauty of nature regardless of the season. Boulders that tumbled down the slopes of this volcano after a major eruption centuries ago have collected at Onioshidashi Park and at a site known as the Kanbara ruins.



Ski Grounds

In the north Gunma, including Tsumagoi, Kusatsu, Minakami and Katashina, the whole place is covered with snow in winter. Here you can enjoy skiing and various kinds of snow activities. Also, there are many onsen resorts near the ski grounds.



Open-Air Bath

One of the true pleasures of Gunma's natural richness is a steamy open-air bath. Bathe and listen to the birds and the gurgle of tricking streams as you absorb the snowy scenery and enjoy your own private moment alone in nature.