In the water-rich Ashiro district of Hachimantai City, there are as many as 20 waterfalls of various sizes. The most famous among these is Fudo Falls. This three-tiered waterfall is a scenic spot recognized as one of the "100 Best Waterfalls in Japan" and one of the "20 Best Waterfalls in Iwate".

On the quay adjacent to the waterfall, there used to be an old shrine hall; a building tag dated 1744 and a stone lantern dated 1802 still remain, which tell of the ancient belief in Fudo Falls. Today, a new "Worship Hall" has been donated to the quay, and a new shrine pavilion has been erected next to the waterfall's approach.

Fudo Falls is said to have served as a strict monastic dojo for monks, and that quiet atmosphere of such a dojo still lingers in the surrounding forested area. Unfortunately, however, little has been uncovered about this from surviving documents. The shrine was renamed "Sakuramatsu Shrine" in the Meiji period (1871). The stone carving "Fudo Myōō" enshrined in the middle of the waterfall is relatively new, dating from 1934.
Fudo Falls, located within the grounds of Sakuramatsu Shrine, is said to be a historic sacred site that has been used by ascetic practitioners and as a place of prayer by feudal lords and powerful families since ancient times.

Within the area, various smaller shrines are lined among the streams and cliffs, and the whole is surrounded by a mysterious atmosphere. Each of the four seasons has its own flavor, and the precincts of the temple offer beautiful scenery. The air is filled with negative ions, which relaxes you and surrounds you with a pleasant sensation. This place is also known as a power spot for healing the mind.

The walking trail offers a harmony of majestic waterfalls with melting snow, fresh greenery, and flowers in spring. In autumn, visitors can enjoy the colorful waterfalls and the autumn leaves along the mountain stream. Tie a wish to the shrine’s “Emmusubin-No-Ki”, or “Matchmaking Tree.”

**Fudo Falls**

From a height of 15 m, its waters flow gracefully between the cliff rocks even as it throws up powerful spray and stirs up the surrounding quiet. A "Fudo Myo" stone carving is enshrined in the middle of the waterfall.

**Sakuramatsu Shrine**

Legend has it that long ago, villagers were shocked to see cherry blossoms on a pine tree and revered the sight as a good omen. Originally, it was called "Taki Fudo" or "O-Fudo-Sama." However, in 1871, the shrine was instead renamed "Sakuramatsu Shrine" in honor of the Shinto deity Scitotama (Princess Scitota). Two years later, the shrine's status was elevated from village shrine to township shrine.

**Worship Hall**

The new shrine next to the approach has an old. There is a building plaque from 1744 that still retains the image of the shrine building. In addition, pray for a good harvest and good health. Ema etc. are dedicated.

**Matchmaking Tree**

Two maple trees stretch out from the moss-covered rock as if they are climbing to the heavens, and they are connected at the center so as to snuggle up to each other. It is said that if you tie a note between them and wish for marriage, that wish will come true.

**Fudo Hall**

It’s said that there used to be an old shrine at the current location of Fudo Hall. In front of the Fudo Hall, there is a large stone offering stone that predicts the crop pattern based on how much snow is piled up.