

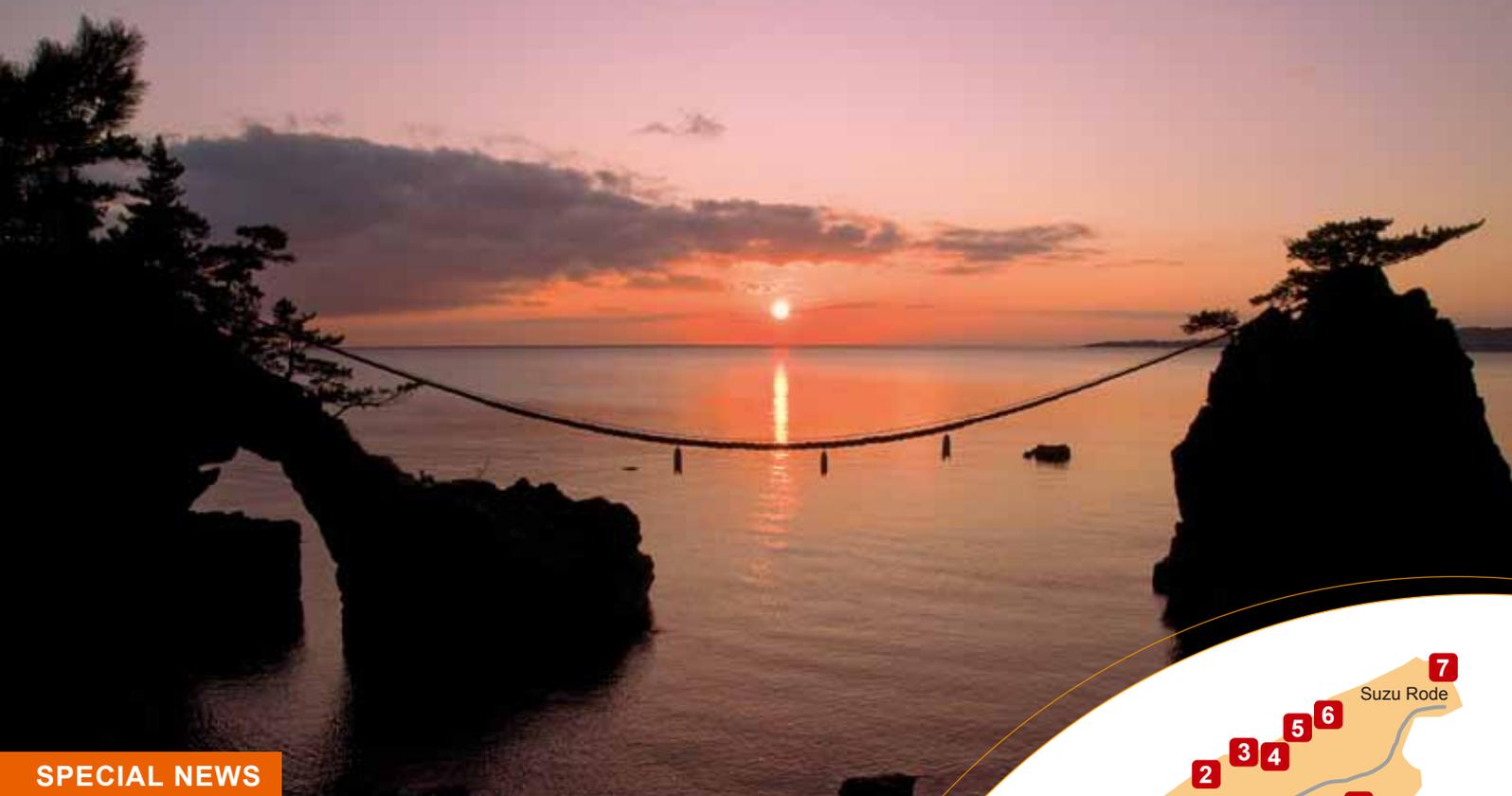
Published by Tourism & Exchange Bureau of Ishikawa Prefecture

Ishikawa Tourism Newsletter

2012
Autumn
Edition
Vol.17

TOP NEWS

Take an Eco-Friendly Drive Around the Beautiful Noto Peninsula!



SPECIAL NEWS

Sights Around the Hakusan Super Rindo Forest Road



Buzz Topics

Seasonal Events & Can't Miss Information



Drive with the "Ishikawa Travel Guide"

Use the Ishikawa Travel Guide Android smartphone app to find information about and directions to tourist spots. The app also has suggested routes for travelers making use of PHV rental cars! Available in Japanese, English, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese, and Korean. There is also a tourism app available for the iPhone.

"Ishikawa Travel Guide" Homepage
http://hot-ishikawa.jp/f-lang/app/index_en.html

iPhone Tourism App
<http://itunes.apple.com/jp/app/ishikawa-travel-guide/id412377293?mt=8>



<App Icon>

Android iPhone



Car GPS Available in English!

Toyota Rent-A-Car & Car Lease Ishikawa has equipped five of their Prius Plug-in Hybrid Vehicles (PHV) with English-language GPS navigation systems.

<http://www.toyota-rl.co.jp/index.html>

Toyota Rent-A-Car & Car Lease Ishikawa Homepage



Hybrid Charging Stations at Recommended Tourist Spots

Enjoy the sights of the Noto while charging your car in one of the 21 G-Stations set up conveniently around popular tourist spots. Charging is FREE and WiFi is also available in the vicinities around G-Stations.

TOP NEWS

Noto's Satoyama and Satoumi were designated as a Globally Important Agriculture Heritage System in June 2011. Take a relaxing drive around the Noto Peninsula and recharge as you enjoy the various autumn sights.



Take an Eco-Friendly Drive Around the Beautiful Noto Peninsula!

[Sample Travel Routes for the Noto]



Sights Around the Hakusan Super Rindo Forest Road

MAP-9



Come try the delicious Tochimochi Rice Cakes of the Hakusan region!

Shinsahonpo Homepage:

<http://www.shinsahonpo.co.jp/>



The Hakusan Rindo Super Forest Road connects Hakusan City in Ishikawa Prefecture with Shirakawa Village in Gifu Prefecture. It is a 33.3-km-long, fully paved toll road. Used mostly for tourism, 40 percent of the traffic on this toll road occurs in October, when it becomes famous for having great spots for viewing autumn foliage. You can see beautiful autumn foliage from just about every point on this road, but here are some recommended spots.

- Autumn Foliage Season: early October to late October
- Access: 1.5 hours / 60 km from Kanazawa Nishi I.C. on the Hokuriku Expressway
1 hour / 40 km from Komatsu Airport
- One-Way Toll: 3,150 yen for white plate cars; 9,370 yen for minibuses; 21,000 yen for buses
- Contact: Hakusan Rindo Ishikawa Management Office (TEL: 076-256-7341)

<http://www.hakusan-rindo.jp/> (Japanese, English, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese, Korean)



Oyadani-no-Yu & Ubagataki Falls (elevation 770 m)

Climb down the stairs from the parking lot, walk through a tunnel of green trees for about 20 minutes, and you will arrive at Ubagataki Falls ("Uba" means "old woman"). The waterfall gets its name from the white water cascading over the rocks, which looks like the flowing white hair of an old woman. You can gaze at the beauty of the falls while dipping your feet in natural foot spas and enjoying the secluded hot springs. Ubagataki Falls has been selected as one of Japan's 100 best waterfalls.



Fukube-no-Ōdaki (elevation 900 m)

This elegant waterfall, a majestic landmark of the Jadani Valley, features an 86-m vertical drop. At times, the water can splash out onto the road. Visitors can stand on the observation platform and relax in a comfortable breeze while enjoying the cool mist of the falls.



Sanpōiwa Parking Lot (Sanpōiwa-dake) (elevation 1,450 m)

Located about 40 minutes past the Chugu Toll Booth, this is the highest point on the Hakusan Super Rindo Forest Road, and is also located on the border between Gifu and Ishikawa Prefectures. You can hike the trail to the peak of Sanpōiwa-dake (elevation 1,726 m) from the parking lot (about 50 minutes to climb up and 30 minutes to climb down), and enjoy a fantastic view of Mt. Hakusan and the Northern Alps.

Cashback on Tolls for One-Way on the Hakusan Super Rindo Forest Road!

Families and tour groups coming in cars or buses and staying overnight at one of the facilities associated with the Kaga Onsen Resorts (Awazu, Katayamazu, Yamashiro, Yamanaka), Tatsunokuchi Onsen, Hakusan Onsen Resorts, or Kanazawa Onsen Resorts, can get cash back on tolls for a one-way trip on the Hakusan Super Rindo Forest Road.

- Those who stay overnight AFTER using the Hakusan Super Forest Rindo Road: show your receipt for the Hakusan Super Forest Rindo Road at your hotel and receive a refund for one-way tolls.
- Those who use the Hakusan Super Forest Rindo Road AFTER staying overnight: pick up a free voucher for one-way tolls when you check out of the hotel (the voucher will have an expiry date)

Participating hotels:

<http://www.hot-ishikawa.jp/rindou/>

Buzz Topics

Seasonal Events & Can't Miss Information

Ishikawa Sweets Exhibition 2012

MAP-10

Since the Edo Period, when Ishikawa was known as Kaga Hyakumangoku, there has been a culture of making Japanese sweets in Ishikawa. This autumn, Ishikawa presents a new Japanese sweets exhibition featuring Japanese and Western sweet confectionaries from all over Japan who will be gathering in one place to sell their products. There will also be a diverse variety of other events, such as a stage show and a Japanese sweets tea ceremony. Come to the exhibition to see and eat, and find out why Ishikawa is known as one of Japan's three best prefectures for Japanese sweets!

- When: November 3-4, 2012 (Sat.-Sun.)
- Venue: Ongakudo Koryu Hall, Shiinoki Cultural Complex, and more
- For more information: Ishikawa Tourism Promotion Division
Tel: 076-225-1542 (Japanese only)



Crab Season Opens, Heralding the Return of Gourmet Ishikawa Food!

The season for snow crab, the representative delicacy of the winter season and known as the "King of Gourmet Food", will open on November 6. In Ishikawa, male crabs are called "Kanogani Crabs" and female crabs are called "Koubakogani Crabs". The latter is very popular with the locals and is served not only at high-class Japanese restaurants, but also at izakayas and revolving sushi bars.

- Crab Open Season: Nov. 6 to March 20 (Koubakogani Crab season ends on January 10)

Make Your Trip a Learning Experience With a Visit to "Shunran-no-Sato"!

MAP-11

Shunran-no-Sato is a small farming community on the Noto Peninsula that has turned their traditional farmhouses into guesthouses where tourists can come and engage in agricultural green tourism. Surrounded by abundant nature, there is something to experience here every season of the year. They were also selected from among 600 entrants to be in the top 12 finalists for the BBC World Challenge 2011, gaining fame and recognition on the world stage. Over this past spring and summer alone, about 300 students from China stayed at this village where you can cook a meal with food you harvested yourself while experiencing the warm hospitality of a Japanese family. The Noto Peninsula, which has also been designated as a GIAHS, will provide you with an unforgettable experience with Mother Nature and friendly local people.

- Access: about 10 minutes from Noto Airport
- Cost: 9,450 yen/person (includes one night stay, two meals, and activity fees)
- Autumn Activities: mushroom picking, rice harvesting, tree house building, and more

<http://shunran.info/>

G-PASS for Chubu/Hokuriku Expressways

NEXCO Central Japan has begun sale of their "Central Nippon Expressway Pass 2012 in Autumn" (a.k.a. G-PASS) for foreigners visiting Japan. This pass gives users unlimited access to designated sections of expressways originating from Central Japan International Airport at a fixed price. With the Electronic Toll Collection (ETC) system provided by car rental companies, you can use expressways without stopping at toll booths. This autumn, come tour the Hokuriku and Chubu regions in a rental car!

- Period of Validity: any 3/5/7-day period between August 10, 2012 (Friday) and November 14, 2012 (Wednesday)
- Eligibility: Non-Japanese passport holders or Japanese nationals with permanent residency in foreign countries (with a valid driver's license permit for Japan)
- Eligible Cars: select rental cars (from the below listed car rental agencies) equipped with the ETC system
- Cost: 3 days for 10,000 yen, 5 days for 13,000 yen, 7 days for 16,000 yen
- Where to Rent: Toyota Rent-a-Lease Aichi, Central Japan International Airport
TEL: 0569-38-0100
Mazda Car Rental, Central Japan International Airport
TEL: 0569-38-7055
*Cars must be rented and returned to these two car rental agencies. (Offer is not valid with cars from other rental agencies.)

(NEXCO Central Japan)

<http://www.c-nexco.co.jp/news/2786.html>



↑ ↓ Diverse Menu of Activities



↓ Group Picture



↓ Host Families

