

Published by Tourism & Exchange Bureau of Ishikawa Prefecture

Ishikawa Tourism Newsletter

2011
Autumn
Edition
Vol.13

TOP NEWS

Kōyō (Autumn Foliage) Spots in Ishikawa



SPECIAL NEWS

Designation of "Noto's Satoyama and Satoumi" as GIAHS!



PICK OF THE SEASON





TOP NEWS

Kenrokuen Garden

MAP-1

Kenrokuen Garden is a must-see site for tourists in Ishikawa. Many local residents also come to see the colors of the changing autumn foliage.

- Season: beginning of November – beginning of December
- Contact: Kanazawa Castle & Kenroku-en Management Center (TEL: 076-234-3800)
- Access: 15 minutes by bus from JR Kanazawa Station; get off the bus at "Kenrokuen Shita" and walk about one minute to Kenrokuen Garden

<http://www.pref.ishikawa.jp/siro-niwa/kenrokuen/>

(Japanese and English)

Kōyō (Autumn Foliage) Spots in Ishikawa

Hakusan Super Rindo Forest Road

MAP-2



The Hakusan Super Rindo Forest Road is famous for its autumn foliage scenery, and 40 percent of its visitors come during the month of October. The beauty of the autumn foliage in the mountains is absolutely stunning.

- Season: early October – late October
- Contact: Hakusan Forest Road, Ishikawa Management Office (TEL:076-256-7341)
- Access: By car, about 60 km/90 min. from the Kanazawa Nishi IC exit on the Hokuriku Expressway; by car, about 40 km/60 min. from Komatsu Airport

<http://www.hakusan-rindo.jp/>

(Japanese, English, Traditional and Simplified Chinese, Korean)

Natadera Temple

MAP-3



This temple, nestled in rocky mountains and surrounded by flora, boasts a long history. The autumn foliage at this temple is almost other-worldly.

- Season: early November – late November
- Contact: Natadera Temple (TEL: 0761-65-2111)
- Access: 30 minutes by bus from Kaga Onsen Station on the JR Hokuriku Main Line; get off the bus at Natadera Temple

<http://www.natadera.com/>

(Japanese and English)

Kakusenkei Gorge

MAP-4



Take a walk along the 1.3 km trail of Kakusenkei Gorge and enjoy the beautiful autumn foliage. The red maple leaves around Kohrogi Bridge are an absolute must-see!

- Season: early November – late November
- Contact: Yamanaka Onsen Tourism Association (TEL: 0761-78-0330)
- Access: 30 minutes by bus from JR Kaga Onsen Station. Take the Kaga Onsen bus bound for Yamanaka Onsen, and get off the bus at the Yamanaka Onsen stop

<http://www.yamanaka-spa.or.jp/>

(Japanese and English)

Designation of "Noto's Satoyama and Satoumi" as GIAHS!

On June 11, 2011, at an international forum held in Beijing, China by the UN Food and Agricultural Organization, "Noto's Satoyama and Satoumi" were designated as a Globally Important Agricultural Heritage System (GIAHS). They are the 9th system in the world to receive this designation, and the first one within Japan. Here are some of the main features of Noto's Satoyama and Satoumi.

Senmaida - Thousand Terraced Rice Fields

白米千枚田の棚田 **MAP-5**

Representative of the Noto, the Senmaida Rice Fields are listed as one of Japan's 100 most beautiful terraced rice fields.



Noto peninsula



Salt Fields

揚げ浜式塩田 **MAP-8**

At the Okunoto salt fields, which have a history of 400 years, you can try your hand at the traditional Japanese method of making salt.



Wajima Morning Market

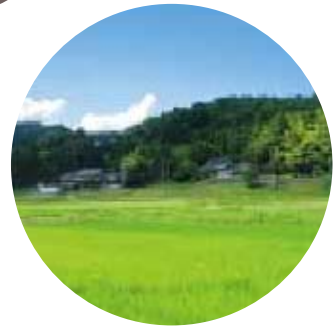
MAP-6

Measuring about 360 m in length, the outdoor Wajima Morning Market is hailed as one of Japan's three largest morning markets.

Shunran-no-Sato

春蘭の里 **MAP-9**

A settlement of about 30 old-style traditional Japanese houses, many of these houses are now guesthouses that offer tourists the chance to experience the rural lifestyle. This community sees many overseas tourists as well as many domestic student tourists.



Gojinjō Daiko Drumming

御陣乗太鼓 **MAP-7**

This is a tradition that was started in the year 1576, during the Azuchi-Momoyama Period. Every year, from the months of August to October, you can watch the powerful performances of Gojinjō Daiko Drumming for free at Wajima Station.



Aenokoto あえのこと

This is a festival that gives thanks to the gods of the fields for a year of plentiful harvest. It was designated in 1977 as an Important Intangible Folk Cultural Property, and in 2009, it was designated by UNESCO as an Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

What is the GIAHS Program?

The Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) Program was initiated by the UN Food and Agricultural Organization in 2002 with the goal of safe-guarding traditional farming methods and agricultural systems (i.e. irrigation, farmland, water facilities), as well as the current culture, biodiversity, and landscape for future generations.



How is it Different from the UNESCO World Heritage Program?

Both programs are similar in their goals to preserve sites for future generations. However, UNESCO's World Heritage Program is aimed at preserving ancient natural environments and the remains or current conditions of historical buildings. On the other hand, the GIAHS Program aims to preserve current agricultural lifestyles, biologically diverse environments, and rural landscapes.

Stay One Night at a Hot Spring Resort and Get One-Way Free on the Hakusan Super Rindo Forest Road!

MAP-2

From June 1 to November 10, those who stay for a night at hot spring resorts in the Kaga and Hakusan areas receive a one-way cash-back refund for the Hakusan Super Rindo Forest Road. This 33 km road connects Ishikawa's Mt. Hakusan with the World Heritage Site Shirakawa-go and features not only stunning autumn foliage, but also Ubagataki Falls, listed as one of Japan's 100 most beautiful waterfalls.

Bunka-no-Mori Museum Week - Oct. 1 (Sat.) - 9 (Sun.), 2011

MAP-1

The zone surrounding Kenrokuen Garden is often called Bunka-no-Mori (meaning literally "forest of culture") because of the concentration of many art galleries and museums in the area. Bunka-no-Mori Museum Week, which will take place from October 1st to 9th, will create an "Autumn of Culture" season and will host a variety of events showcasing traditional Japanese culture and art.

<http://www.pref.ishikawa.jp/muse/bunkanomori/>

Enjoy Kanazawa Geisha Dancing

MAP-10

Come enjoy traditional taiko drumming and geisha dance performances, and experience the culture of old tea houses at Kanazawa's Higashi Chaya District.

- Dates:
 - Higashi Chaya District October 7 (Fri.), 15 (Sat.), 24 (Mon.)
 - Nishi Chaya District October 3 (Mon.), 12 (Wed.), 22 (Sat.)
 - Kazuemachi Chaya District October 5 (Wed.), 17 (Mon.), 28 (Fri.)
- Start Time: 1:30 p.m. (about one hour)
- Venue: Ishikawa Prefectural Noh Theater
- Capacity: Up to 50 persons per performance (first come, first served)
- Cost: Individual ¥1,500/person, Groups (at least 20 people) ¥1,300/person
- ※ Comes with a "Passport Guide" for cultural facilities around Kenrokuen Garden
- Register: Mon. - Fri. (TEL:076-225-1371) Bunka-no-Mori Kenrokuen Area Cultural Zone Promotional Executive Committee (Ishikawa Cultural Promotion Division)
- Sat., Sun., and Holidays: (TEL:076-264-2598) Ishikawa Prefectural Noh Theater

PICK OF THE SEASON



Try Kaga Crab and the Tastes of Winter at Wajima's Crab Festival!

MAP-11

Every year on November 6, fishermen go out to fish for crabs, looking in particular for the Kaga Crab which is representative of the winter season. At the Wajima Crab Festival held around Wajima Port, where many of the Kaga Crabs are caught, you can spend a fun-filled day buying crabs and trying a variety of crab dishes.

- Date: November 20 (Sunday)
- Contact: Wajima Tourism Association (TEL:0768-22-1503)

http://www.wajimaonsen.com/event/112/post_44.html

Kenrokuen Garden & Kanazawa Castle Park Light Up

MAP-1

Come see the night light-up of yukitsuri (ropes and bamboo poles attached to tree limbs to give extra support during the winter) and the autumn foliage, and experience the enchanting atmosphere of Kenrokuen Garden.

- Dates:
 - November 18 (Friday) - 20 (Sunday), 5:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.
 - November 26 (Saturday) - 27 (Sunday), 5:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.
- Admission Fee: FREE
- Contact: (TEL:076-225-1542) Ishikawa Tourism Promotion Division

<http://www.hot-ishikawa.jp/shiki/autumn/>

Must-see "Gojinjō Daiko Drumming"

MAP-6

Listed as one of the Intangible Cultural Properties of Ishikawa Prefecture, Gojinjō Daiko Drumming is one of the main features of the GIAHS-designated Noto Satoyama and Satoumi. Drummers don masks and perform lively and gallant pieces on the taiko drums, creating a very unique atmosphere. The deep sound resonates through the ground, moving listeners' hearts. Come and enjoy the festive atmosphere of autumn!

- Dates: Until October 31, every Monday, 8:30 p.m. - 8:50 p.m.
- November 1 - November 20, every Saturday
- Place: Flatt Houmu Road Station Wajima, Wajima City
- Admission Fee: FREE
- Contact: Wajima Station Tourism Center (TEL:0768-22-1503)

http://www.wajimaonsen.com/event/78/post_7.html

