



## Annual Festivals & Events

### Spring

- Apr. \*** Garakuta Market: Antique market in Sanmachi Street featuring old folk crafts as well as antiques.
- Apr. 14-15** Spring Takayama Festival with splendid procession from Hie-jinja Shrine of twelve floats; three floats display the antics of Takayama's famed automaton dolls.
- Apr. 15** Festival at: Tenmangu Shrine, Ippon Sugi Hakusan-jinja and Toshogu Shrine.
- Late Apr.-Early May.** Takayama Sakura (Cherry Blossom) Festival.
- May 4-5** Sosha Festival: Hida Sosha Shrine.
- May 5** Higashiyama Sansha Festival: Hakusan, Shimmei and Nishikiyama-jinja Shrines.
- May 15** Opening of Norikura Skyline road.  
\*Held on 1st Sun. of every month from Apr. through Oct.

### Summer

- Jul. 1** Opening of Hida Takayama Camping Site. (till Sep.)
- Aug. 1-15** Ema-ichi at Yamazakura Shrine: Charming paintings of horses, originating in the practice of dedicating real horses or wooden horses to temples and shrines, are on sale at this traditional fair.
- Aug. 6** Tanabata (Star) Festival: Matsunoki Tanabata park.
- Aug. 9** Tezutsu Hanabi (Hand-held fireworks): Fireworks contained in bamboo, sending flames and sparks fifteen feet into the air, are demonstrated near the Yayoi-bashi Bridge on the Miyagawa River.
- Aug. 11-13** Evening Market in front of Takayama Jinya with demonstrations of local crafts and various performances on an outdoor stage.

- Aug. 16-17** Bon-Odori dances: Local people and visitors join in the traditional folk dances of the All Souls Festival. The sound of drums fills the evening air.
- Aug. 19** Shoro-Okuri: Floating of commemorative lanterns on Miyagawa River.

### Autumn

- Oct.** Gallery-no-Machi: Exhibition and sale of paintings by professional and amateur artists from Takayama and around Japan.
- Oct. 9-10** Takayama Autumn Festival: Similar to the Spring Festival on a slightly smaller scale. A very colorful and impressive event, drawing large crowds.
- Oct.-Mid-Nov.** Season of spectacular autumn foliage.

### Winter

- Dec.** Opening of local ski resorts.
- Dec. 31/Jan. 1** Joya-no-kane (ringing a temple bell 108 times) at Hida-no-sato.
- Early Jan.-End Mar.** Saké-tasting and promotional events at Takayama's some seven saké breweries.
- Jan. 24** Nijuyokka-ichi: A fair devoted to the work of local craftsmen, especially items made of wood and bamboo, held in and around Yasugawa-dori.
- Feb. 3** Setsubun: Bean-throwing ceremonies celebrating spring at Hida Kokubunji Temple and Daijōji Temple.

For inquiries: HidaTakayama Tourist Information office Tel. (0577)32-5328

### Access: By JR Train

From	Type of transportation	Time required	Fare (¥)
Tokyo Sta. (Transfer at Nagoya)	[Tokyo to Nagoya] Tokaido Shinkansen "Nozomi" or "Hikari" (Bullet Train) [Nagoya to Takayama] Limited Express "Wide View Hida"	4hrs.	¥14,500*
Shin-Osaka Sta. (Transfer at Nagoya)	[Shin-Osaka to Nagoya] Tokaido Shinkansen "Nozomi" or "Hikari" (Bullet Train) [Nagoya to Takayama] Limited Express "Wide View Hida"	3hrs. 20min.	¥10,510*
	[Shin-Osaka to Takayama] Direct Limited Express "Wide View Hida"	4hrs. 5min.	¥8,070
Osaka Sta.	Direct Limited Express "Wide View Hida"	4hrs. 10min.	¥8,070
Kyoto Sta. (Transfer at Nagoya)	[Kyoto to Nagoya] Tokaido Shinkansen "Nozomi" or "Hikari" (Bullet Train) [Nagoya to Takayama] Direct Limited Express "Wide View Hida"	3hrs.	¥9,880*
	Direct Limited Express "Wide View Hida"	3hrs. 40min.	¥7,440
Nagoya Sta.	Limited Express "Wide View Hida"	2hrs. 10min.	¥5,870
Kanazawa Sta. (Transfer at Toyama)	[Kanazawa to Toyama] Several Limited Express services are available. ("Hakutaka", "Thunderbird", etc.) [Toyama to Takayama] Limited Express "Wide View Hida"	2hrs. 10min.	¥5,840

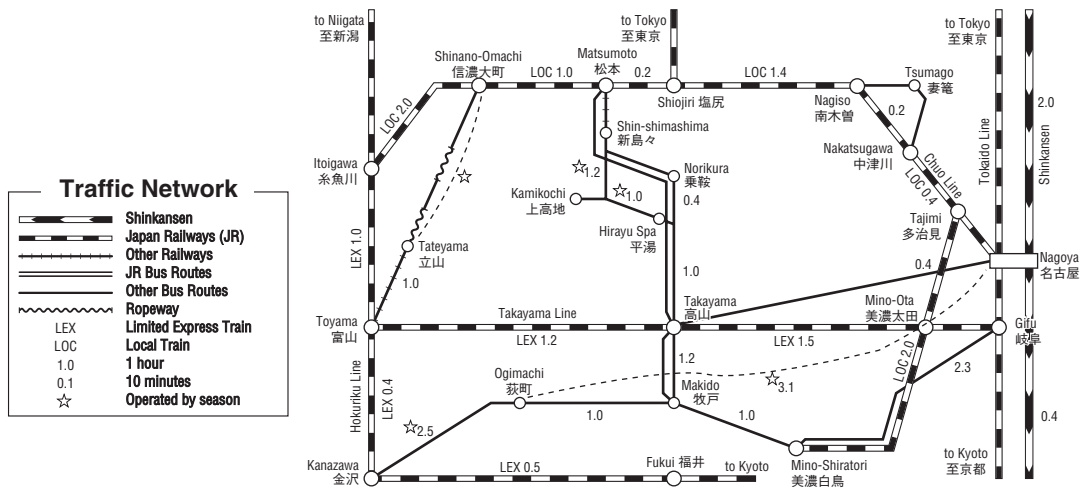
\* "Nozomi", Reserved seat

### Timetable for "Wide View Hida" between Takayama and Nagoya

Lv. Nagoya	7:43	8:43	9:43	10:48	11:48	12:48	14:48	15:48	17:48	19:43
Ar. Takayama	10:04	10:57	12:18	13:12	14:16	15:22	17:12	18:20	20:15	22:08
Lv. Takayama	6:50	8:07	9:37	11:35	12:43	13:38	14:40	15:36	16:43	18:42
Ar. Nagoya	9:13	10:32	12:01	14:01	15:01	16:01	17:01	18:01	19:01	21:01

**Timetable for “Wide View Hida” between Osaka, Kyoto and Takayama**

	Lv. Osaka	Lv. Shin-Osaka	Lv. Kyoto	Ar. Takayama	Lv. Takayama	Ar. Kyoto	Ar. Shin-Osaka	Ar. Osaka
Weekday	7:59	8:03	8:30	12:13	15:36	19:21	19:45	19:51
Weekend	8:02	8:07	8:34	12:13				



**By bus**

To	From	Operation Company	Time required	Fare (¥)
Takayama	Tokyo (Shinjuku Sta.)	Keio bus , Nohi bus	5 hrs. 30min	6,500
	Osaka (Kintetsu Namba Sta.)	Kintetsu bus , Nohi bus	5 hrs. 11min	5,500
	Nagoya (Meitetsu Bus center)	Meitetsu bus. JR Tokai bus. Nohi bus	2 hrs. 45min	2,900
Shirakawago	Takayama (Nohi Bus center)	Nohi bus	50min	2,400
	Nagoya (Meitetsu Bus center)	Gifu bus	3 hrs. 05min	3,500

All services require reservation in advance.

**Places of Interest:**

- ① **San-machi Suji:** (三町筋) 15-min. walk from Takayama Sta. The center of the old town of Takayama and is still a living part of the city. The three main streets of San-machi Suji are narrow, and lined with stores selling traditional wares, craftsmen’s workshops, inns and breweries (indicated by a ball made of cedar leaves hanging outside). You will also find restaurants serving local delicacies such as soba noodles, and a number of antique shops specialising in old folk crafts. Scattered around the district are also a remarkable number of small museums, where the buildings are every bit as interesting as the items on display. You may also notice some storehouses in which are kept the tall festival floats that are brought out at Takayama’s famous Spring and Autumn festivals.
- ② **Morning Markets:** (朝市) 10-min. walk from Takayama Sta. The Takayama Jinya and Miyagawa morning markets are among Takayama’s best-known sights. Every morning, from 7 a.m. to noon, farmers’ wives from nearby villages bring fresh produce - vegetables and flowers - to these markets. The varieties of produce mark the changing seasons in the mountains around the town.
- ③ **Kusakabe Mingei-kan (Kusakabe Folk Museum):** (日下部民芸館) 17-min. walk from Takayama Sta. Standing close to the Miyagawa River, this museum is a superb example of traditional Takayama architecture. Open: 9:00-16:30 (Mar.–Nov.), 9:00-16:00 (Dec.–Feb.). Closed: Tue. (Dec.–Feb.) Admission: ¥500. For more information: <http://www.kusakabe-mingeikan.com/english/index.htm>

- ④ **Yoshijima-ke (Yoshijima Heritage House):** (吉島家住宅) Located next to the Kusakabe Mingei-kan, this is another fine traditional house but in a different, more intimate style. Rebuilt in 1908 with absolute fidelity to the older structure it represents the best of local craftsmanship as applied to merchant houses. Open: 9:00-16:30 (Dec.–Feb.); 9:00-17:00 (Mar.–Nov.). Closed: Tue. (Dec.–Feb.) Admission: ¥500.
- ⑤ **Takayama Yatai Kaikan (Festival Floats Exhibition Hall)** (高山祭屋台会館) **Sakurayama Nikko Kan:** (桜山日光館) 25-min. walk from Takayama Sta. Visitors who cannot be in Takayama at the time of the Spring and Autumn festivals will find here a colorful display of four of the eleven floats used in the Autumn festival procession. The floats are designated as important cultural properties. Open: 8:30-17:00 (Mar.–Nov.), 9:00-16:30 (Dec.–Feb.) Admission: ¥820.
- ⑥ **Shishi Kaikan (Lion Dance Ceremony Exhibition Hall):** (獅子会館) 20-min. walk from Takayama Sta. Shishi (mythical lion) dances are featured in many Japanese festivals, especially those of central and northern Japan. Those of the Hida region around Takayama are considered particularly fine examples. In this museum, located in the Sakura-machi district, over 800 lion masks are on display alongside drums and other items related to festivals. Open 8:30-17:00 (Apr.–Nov.), 9:00-16:30 (Dec.–Mar.) Closed: irregularly Admission: ¥600.
- ⑦ **Hida Takayama Shunkei Kaikan (Lacquer Ware Museum):** (飛騨高山春慶会館) 15-min. walk from Takayama

Sta. An important collection of Shunkei lacquer wear, one of Takayama's most representative crafts. Over 1,000 items (dating from the 17th century through to the present day) are on display, also an exhibit showing the production technique. Open: 8:00-17:30 (Apr.–Oct.), 9:00-17:00 (Nov.–Mar.) Closed: Dec. 31 – Jan. 1 Admission: ¥300.

⑧**Fujii Folk Craft Museum** (藤井美術民芸館) 10-min. walk from Takayama Sta. It contains a private collection of folk art from China, Korea as well as Japan. The entrance gate was modeled after the outer entrance gate of Takayama Castle. Open: 9:00-17:00. Closed: Dec. 31 – Jan. 1 Admission: ¥700.

⑨**Takayama-shi Kyodo-Kan (Local History Museum):** (高山市郷土館) ※**Closed for maintenance until the spring of 2011.** 15-min. walk from Takayama Sta. This museum houses a vast collection of objects related to the old crafts and traditions of the region. The building itself is around 100 years old. Among special exhibits are wood carvings by Enku, a Buddhist priest who created religious statues in a unique, rustic style, and ancient clay vessels excavated in Takayama. Open: 8:30-17:00 (Mar.–Nov.), 9:00-16:30 (Dec.–Feb.) Closed: Mon. and Dec.29–31 Admission: ¥300.

⑩**Hirata Kinen-kan (Folk Art Museum):** (平田記念館) 10-min. walk from Takayama Sta. Interesting both for its displays of objects related to the lifestyle of Takayama merchants and for the building itself - a fine merchant house constructed in 1897. Open: 9:00-17:00 Admission: ¥300.

⑪**Hida Minzoku Koko-kan (Archaeology Museum):** (飛騨民族考古館) 15-min. walk from Takayama Sta. Another museum of special architectural interest in the oldest part of San-machi Suji and once owned by a retainer of Lord Kanamori. Contains unusual structural details that suggest associations with ninja. Open: 9:00-17:30 (Mar.–Oct.), 9:30-16:30 (Nov.–Feb.) Admission: ¥500.

⑫**Takayama Jinya (Historical Government House):** (高山陣屋) 10-min. walk from Takayama Sta. Once the seat of local government when Takayama was under the administration of the Kanamori clan, this is the only building of its kind in Japan. It was originally built in 1615 and managed by the feudal authorities until the late 19th century, when it was taken over by the local government. The existing buildings are the result of reconstruction in 1816. Resembling a palace on a small scale, the buildings are set within strong walls and approached by an imposing gateway. Open: 8:45-16:30 (Nov.–Feb.), 8:45-17:00 (Mar.–Jul., Sep.–Oct.), 8:45-18:00(Aug.) Closed: Dec. 29, Dec. 31, Jan. 1 Admission: ¥420.

For more information: <http://www.pref.gifu.lg.jp/pref/s27212/english.htm>

⑬**Hida Kokubunji Temple:** (飛騨国分寺) Situated just 5-min. walk from the Sta., this is the oldest temple in Takayama. It was originally built in 746 by Emperor Shomu as one of several

provincial temples dedicated to the peace of the nation but the original temple was burnt down. The oldest surviving building, the wooden Main Hall, dates from the 16th century. Among the temple's treasures are a precious sword said to have belonged to the Heike family and Heian-period wooden statues of Yakushi Nyorai and Kannon. Open: 9:00-16:00 Closed: Dec. 31 – Jan. 1 Admission: ¥300.

⑭**Shorenji Temple:** (照蓮寺) About 10-min. walk from San-machi Suji and overlooking the town, this temple originally stood in Shirakawago, some distance from Takayama. It was brought to this site in 1960 due to the construction of a dam. The Main Hall, dating from 1504, is considered an outstanding example of Muromach period architecture and is said to have been constructed from just one giant cedar. Admission to the main hall: ¥200. Open: 8:30-17:00 Closed: irregularly

⑮**Shiroyama Park:** (城山公園) Once the site of Takayama Castle. A castle was first raised here by Lord Kanamori in 1590 although it was not fully completed until sixteen years later. Traces of the original donjon foundations and walls can still be seen, and the park is famous for its lush greenery. In spring, the cherry blossoms are particularly beautiful. There are also fine views of the Japan Alps. Open year-round.

⑯**Higashiyama Teramachi:** (東山寺町) Running north to south along an esplanade lined with tree, there are thirteen temples and five shrines here. Every temple or shrine has interesting buildings and many have fine statues and other treasured art objects. By visiting Higashiyama Teramachi you will fully understand why Takayama is called "little Kyoto".













⑰**Hida-no-Sato (Hida Folk Village):** (飛騨の里) This village is a remarkable example of conservation of buildings, crafts and traditions brought together and placed in a beautiful mountain setting - yet only 20-min. walk or 10 min. by bus from central Takayama. Covering an area of 99,000 square meters, the village includes more than 30 traditional farmhouses and buildings, many of which were transported from other parts of the region. Each has been preserved in its original state, including artifacts related to the life and work of the owners, and visitors can wander from house to house at leisure. Also certain houses have been set aside for use as craft workshops. Here, you can watch demonstrations of local crafts such as woodcarving, lacquer-work, and the making of straw baskets, hats and sandals. There are souvenir shops near the Village, selling pottery and other crafts items, as well as traditional restaurants. Open: 8:30-17:00. Admission: ¥700

#### One-day Travel pass for Nohi bus

Allows unlimited travel for one day on the Nohi city circulation buses named "Sarubobo Bus". 2 routes are available. Fare: ¥600 for adults, ¥300 for children




## Accommodations in Takayama

Name of facilities	Tel.	Fax.	Room rate (¥)
1 Pension Cocotte (P)	(0577)34-5510	(0577)34-5542	¥¥
2 Pension Hida No Mori (P)	(0577)34-6575	(0577)34-6586	¥¥
3 Minshuku Mizunoso (M)	(0577)53-2707	(0577)53-2707	¥
4 Takayama Park City (BH) 	(0577)33-5020	(0577)33-9288	¥¥
5 Ryokan Murayama (R)	(0577)32-5856	(0577)32-5857	¥¥
6 Minshuku Sosuke (M) 	(0577)32-0818	(0577)33-5570	¥
7 Yasuda Pension (P) 	(0577)34-5550	(0577)34-1321	¥¥
8 Oyado Hachibei (M)	(0577)35-2111	(0577)35-2389	¥
9 Oyado Iguchi (M) 	(0577)34-0345	(0577)32-4575	¥
10 Minshuku Iwatakan (M) 	(0577)33-4917	(0577)34-8708	¥
11 Oyado Morimoto (M)	(0577)33-4689	(0577)33-4639	¥
12 Oyado Yamakyu (M) 	(0577)32-3756	(0577)35-2350	¥
13 Minshuku Yamashita (M)	(0577)33-0686	(0577)32-8513	¥
14 Minshuku Kuwataniya (M) 	(0577)32-5021	(0577)36-3835	¥
15 Hida Hotel Plaza (H)	(0577)33-4600	(0577)33-4602	¥¥¥
16 Hida Takayama Tenshoji (Y) 	(0577)32-6345	(0577)32-6392	¥
17 Takayama Green Hotel (H)	(0577)33-5500	(0577)32-4434	¥¥¥
18 Ryokan Seiryu (R)	(0577)32-0448	(0577)35-2345	¥¥
19 Ryokan Muhyoukan (R)	(0577)33-8616	(0577)34-1910	¥¥
20 Oyado Yumenoya (M)	(0577)36-5511	-	¥
21 Rickshaw Inn (R) 	(0577)32-2890	(0577)32-2469	¥
22 Uenoya (M) 	(0577)32-3919	(0577)36-3332	¥
23 Hotel Yamaichi (PL)	(0577)34-6200	(0577)34-6201	¥
24 Sumireso (M) 	(0577)53-2054	(0577)53-2271	¥
25 Sumiyoshi Ryokan (R) 	(0577)32-0228	(0577)33-8916	¥¥

## Remarks:

1-26 correspond to those on the maps on page 1/6.

H = Hotel Rate for a twin room.  
 R = Ryokan Rate per person.  
 M = Minshuku (family-run inn) Rate per person.  
 Y = Youth Hostel Rate per person.  
 P = Pension Rate per person.  
 PL = Kokumin-shukusha or People's Lodge Rate per person.  
 = **Welcome Inn** member

¥¥¥ more than 15,000 yen  
 ¥¥ 8,000 yen – 15,000 yen  
 ¥ 8,000 yen or less

## SHIRAKAWAGO

**Shirakawago** (白川郷), a secluded snowy mountain village inscribed on the UNESCO's World Heritage List in 1995, retains the historic landscape with some 150 traditional vernacular farmhouse-style houses called Gassho-zukuri. The Gassho-zukuri style house is 18-m. long and 10-m. wide. There are four stories inside the huge building so that a large number of family members can live together. To withstand the weight of heavy snow, the angle of the roof is sharp. The shape of such a roof is like that of two hands in prayer to God or Buddha and the act is called Gassho in Japanese. The Gassho-zukuri-style roofs are re-thatched once in 40-50 years and even today three or four roofs are re-thatched each year with the cooperation of the whole village. Several Gassho-zukuri houses have been designated as

important cultural properties and are open to the public. The observatory at the Ogimachi Castle ruins is the best point from which to view the whole village.

**Open-air Museum Gassho Village** (野外博物館合掌造り民家園): 25 Gassho-zukuri houses were transferred from the Kazura district in Shirakawa Village and opened as an open-air museum in 1972. In some houses, you can see demonstration of traditional crafts such as dyeing and weaving. You can also experience them at first hand upon reservation. Open: 8:40-17:00 (Mar.-Nov.) and 9:00-16:00 (Dec.-Feb.) (Enter by 20 min. before the closing time.) Closed: Thu. in Dec.-Mar. Admission: ¥500

**Access:****Bus service:****Takayama — Shirakawago** (Runs all year)

(高山) (白川郷)

Lv. Takayama (高山)	8:50	※9:50	11:50	※12:50	13:50	※16:50
	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
Ar. Shirakawago(白川郷)	9:40	※10:40	12:40	※13:40	14:40	※17:40
Lv. Shirakawago(白川郷)	※10:45	12:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	※17:20
	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
Ar. Takayama (高山)	※11:45	12:50	14:50	15:50	17:00	※18:10

※=Reservation Only

Nohi Bus: Tel. (0577)32-1688

Fare: ¥2,400 one way, ¥4,300 round trip.

**Accommodations in Shirakawago:**

There are 25 Gassho-zukuri-style minshukus (approximately ¥8,400 with 2 meals) and 15 ryokans (¥10,000~ with 2 meals).

Reservations can be made through the Tourist Office near Ogimachi-Gassho-shuraku Bus Stop.  
Tel. (05769)6-1013 Open: 9:00-17:00  
(Only Japanese spoken)



## TOURIST INFORMATION

(Visit Japan Information Network)

**Hida Takayama Tourist Information Office:**

In front of JR Takayama Station, 1-1, Showa-machi,  
Takayama City, Gifu Pref. Tel. (0577)32-5328  
8:30-18:30 (Apr.-Oct.); 8:30-17:00 (Nov.-Mar.)



**Welcome Inn Reservation Center (WIRC)** is here to help you book economical accommodations at participating inns throughout the country. Our participating establishments, called "Welcome Inns", comprise a range of accommodations from hotels, business hotels, Ryokan, minshuku, pensions and Shukubo (temple lodgings) to youth hostels. Most of them have guest rooms at rates which do not exceed ¥8,000 yen per night (excluding tax and service charges) for a single room.

**Reservation over the Internet**

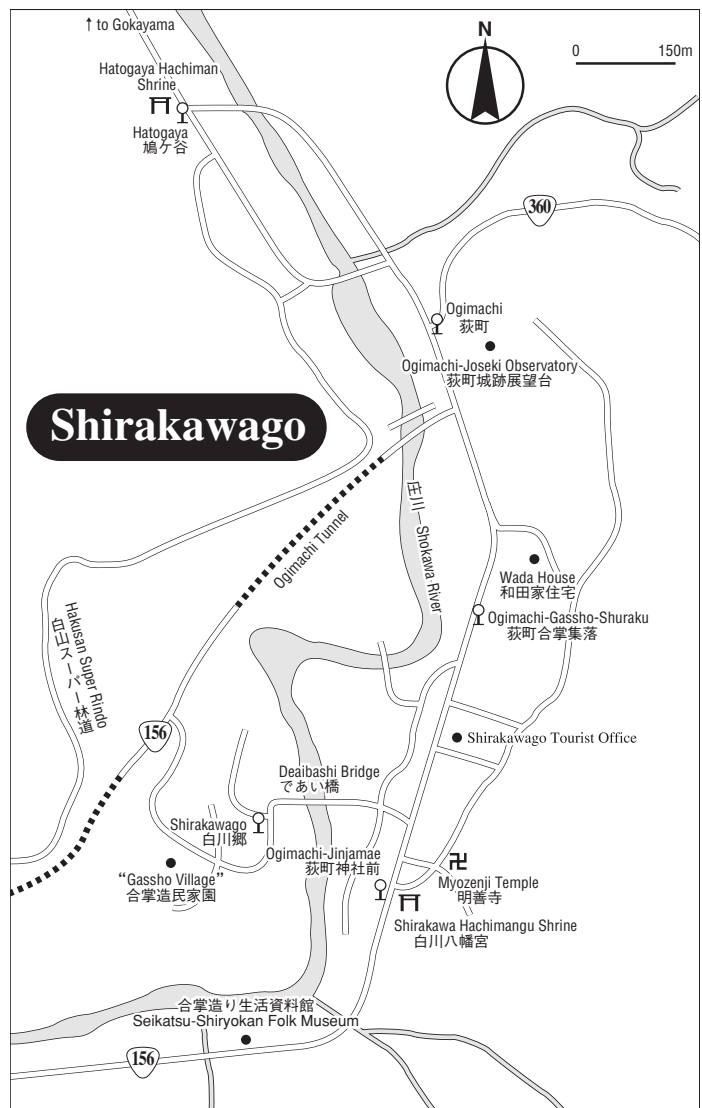
Visit our website at <http://www.itcj.jp> and apply through our system.

Application deadline – generally 5 days ahead of your check-in date

**Reservation at booking counters in Japan**

To take advantage of our service, you must appear in person at any of the Welcome Inn reservation counters located at the Tourist Information Centers: Tokyo (10th fl. Tokyo Kotsukaikan Bldg., 2-10-1, Yurakucho, Chiyoda-ku), Kyoto (9th fl. of JR Kyoto Sta.), Narita International Airport, Kansai International Airport.

**Welcome Inn Reservation Center**  
c/o International Tourism Center of Japan  
<http://www.itcj.jp>



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