

This road leads to
Mt. Fuji in the distance.

The road of faith and the road of silk

The ancient “Fuji Path” alive with
the history of Mt. Fuji worship

In the feudal Japan, countless pilgrims walked all the way from Edo along “Fuji Path” and had their first opportunity to admire the view of Mt. Fuji in this town of Nishikatsura. To this day you can discover the abundant history connected to the origins of the Japanese people about Mt. Fuji, along the roadside as the original path goes through the town.



Signpost of a Mt. Fuji Climbing Trail



Nishikatsura Town and Mt. Fuji (the Fuji Path in Nishikatsura Town connecting Mt. Fuji)



Fujisan Ichijo-ji Temple (with Mt.Mitsutoge in the back)

Bliss of pure nature

Nishikatsura Town Specialties

Mineral water

Snow and rain water falling on Mt.Fuji seeps deep into the mountain and layers of lava, and the mountain's underflow gushes out in springs in the foothills. The spring water of Nishikatsura Town has been praised as the best. Gentle on your tongue, the water includes many unique minerals from Mt. Fuji including vanadium.



Ranunculus nipponicus



Textiles

If you listen carefully, you may still catch the sound of weaving looms somewhere in the town. Today, the town is creating a variety of new silk goods that inherits the millennial history of “Gunnai Ori (Kaiki silk)” now in Nishikatsura. Taking advantage of durability, lightness and unique sheen of the silk, the town keeps creating umbrellas, neckties, scarves in striking modern designs.

To be No.1 and one of
the most scenic spots in Japan

Nishikatsura: Worshipping Mt. Fuji in the distance

Mt.Mitsutoge

Mt. Mitsutoge, facing squarely with Mt. Fuji, is a popular destination for hikers and was once known as ‘Misuzumine’ (Peaks of Deities’ Bells), a sacred site in mountain worship. It was established as a holy site by En-no-Gyoja Ozunu, the founder of Shugendo, and worship for Mitsutoge was spread among people in the late Edo period by “Kutai Shonin”, a holy priest. Among the Mitsutoge mountain paths, the route from Nishikatsura Town was once the main route. Even today you can see valuable history and magnificent ruins along the path. The view of Mt. Fuji from the summit of 1,785 meters is listed first in “The New 100 Views of Mt.Fuji” selected by Yamanashi Prefecture. Some scholars believe that the woodblock print “Gaifukaisei,” one of the masterpieces by the famous Edo ukiyoe artist, Katsushika Hokusai, is actually a view from Mt.Mitsutoge.



Woodblock print circa 1830

Mt.Mitsutoge to the northwest. Mt. Kurami to the southeast. Climb the two mountains facing each other, with the Old Fuji Path between them. Alpine plants of the season, historic sites of mountain worship and history, and the majestic view of Mt. Fuji awaits you.



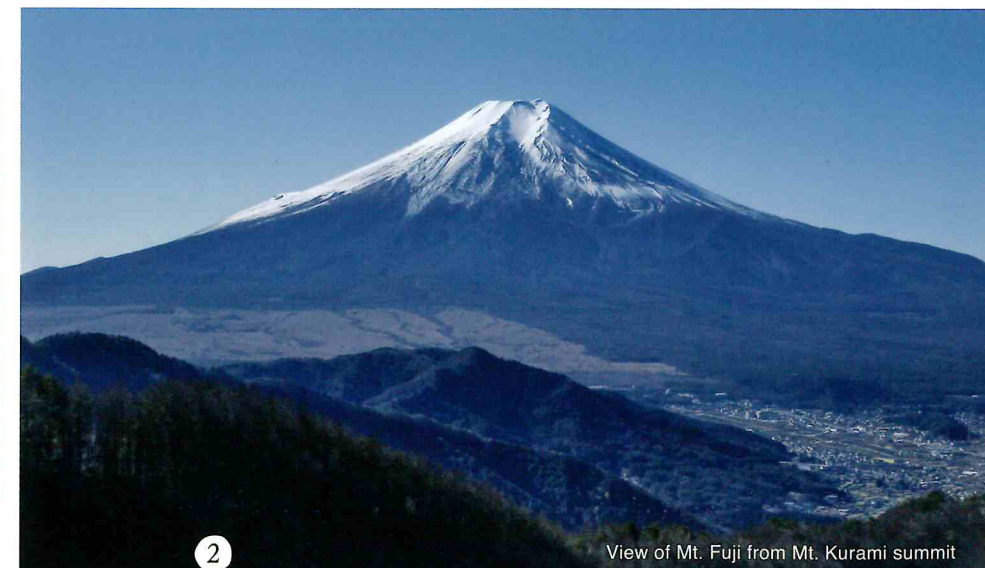
Mt. Kurami

Seen from Mitsutoge Station, Mt. Mitsutoge towers to the northwest, and to the southeast the gentle foothills of Mt. Kurami invite you. At 1,256 m above the sea level, the area commands an amazing view listed in “100 Best Spots in Kanto to View Mt. Fuji” and the “Eight Greatest Views of Mt. Fuji”. The panoramic view from the summit is wonderful of course, but it is also a good spot to observe the town of Nishikatsura as well as Mitsutoge on the other side. There are two trekking paths from Nishikatsura Town to Mt.Kurami, the Yakujin Route and the Doya Route, and both tranquil courses can be enjoyed in every season. Mt. Kurami is also famous for the rare flowers “Cypripedium japonicum” that bloom in the foothills.

Kai Misuzumine

“Honja Sekison Daigongen” enshrined on the summit is a deification of the rock wall that characterizes Mt.Mitsutoge. The water from between the rocks on the Byobu Rock walls was regarded as a deity called “Byobu-iwa Kiyotaki Fudomyo-oh,”

and the night skies and constellations were also deified as “Hokushin Myoken Daibosatsu.”



View of Mt. Fuji from Mt. Kurami summit

Sakura and autumn foliage sites

In Mitsutoge Sakura Park, the cherry blossoms compete with the three largest in Japan - "Miharu Taki Sakura" (Fukushima), Yamataka Jindai Sakura (Takegawa-cho, Hokuto City, Yamanashi Prefecture), and Neodani Usuzumi Sakura (Gifu Prefecture).



Iko no Mori Park
(early April to mid-April)



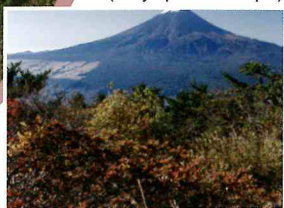
Chukonhi Statue
(early April to mid-April)



Mitsutoge Sakura Park
(early April to mid-April)



Mitsutoge Sakura Park Mountain Trail
(early April to mid-April)



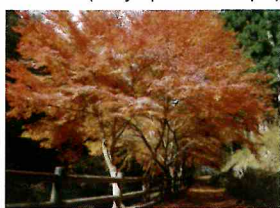
Mt. Mitsutoge Peak
(late October)



Iko no Mori Park
(early November to mid-November)



Mitsutoge Sakura Park
(mid-November to late November)



Shinrei no Taki Waterfall Walking Trail
(mid-November to late November)

Mitsutoge Cherry Tree of Hope

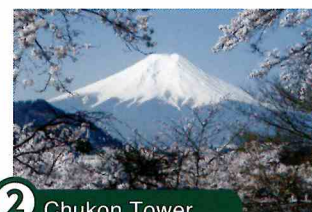
Seeds from the 2,000-year old Yamataka Jindai Cherry Tree (standing at Jisso-ji Temple, Mukawa-cho, Hokuto City) were carried into space aboard the Space Shuttle Endeavor in November 2008. The seeds were kept aboard KIBO ("hope"), the Japanese research module on the International Space Station, for eight months before being returned to Earth in July 2009. Only two of the 120 seeds successfully germinated after their return. Exhibited to celebrate the beginning of the Reiwa Era in April 2020, the Sora Zakura (Space Cherry) bloomed much faster than anyone could have imagined. Seeds from the tree were planted to grow 2nd generation cherry trees, and some of these were presented to Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima Prefectures as symbols of recovery from the Great East Japan Earthquake.

Nishikatsura Town received one of the 2nd generation cherry trees through Hokuto City and The One Earth Foundation in March 2018. It was named the "Mitsutoge Cherry Tree of Hope." Nishikatsura Town continues activities to promote the security of its residents and the safety of all those who come to hike up Mt. Mitsutoge.

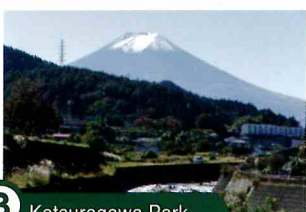
Best places to view Mt. Fuji from within the town



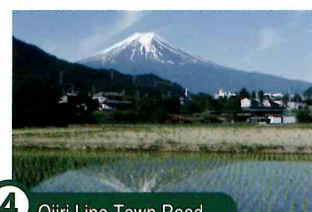
① Shimokurechi Nakano Area



② Chukon Tower



③ Katsuragawa Park



④ Ojiri Line Town Road

The number of each spot corresponds to the number shown on the Map on page 5.

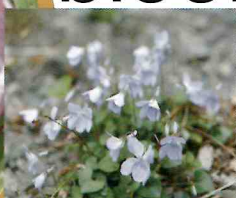
You can see the magnificent reflection of an inverted Mt. Fuji in the water.

Ranked in the New 100 Mountains with Most Beautiful Flowers

Alpine plants that bloom in Mt. Mitsutoge



Large-flowered Cypripedium
(early June to late June)



Viola Grypoceras
(mid-April to mid-May)



Kumoi Kozakura Primula
(early May to mid-May)



Gentian
(early May to late May)



Rhododendron Wadanum
(mid-May to early June)



Rhododendron Kaempferia
(mid-May to early June)



Orchidaceae
(early June to late June)



Lathyrus Ochrus
(early July to early August)



Anemonopsis
(late July to mid-August)



Cranesbill
(late July-late August)



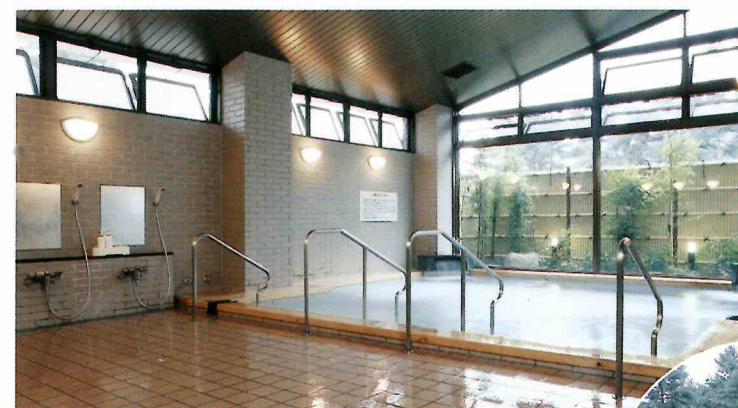
Pincushion Flower
(mid-August to early September)



Cirsium purpuratum (Japanese thistle)
(mid-August to mid-September)

A place to play sports, bathe, and camp, surrounded by woods in the mountain foothills.

Mitsutoge Green Center



Kaiun-no-Yu Fureai-kan

It is a place of rest and serenity to promote exchanges between residents and visitors. Bamboo charcoal, bamboo vinegar, and turmeric herbal baths using Mitsutoge spring water is a remedy for beautiful skin. There are comfortable and relaxing guest rooms and meeting rooms for various training and seminars.

◎8 guest rooms (Japanese-style room: 10 tatami mats, 6 persons), outdoor baths, herbal baths, bamboo charcoal baths, meeting rooms, training rooms, salon, dining room



Pottery class

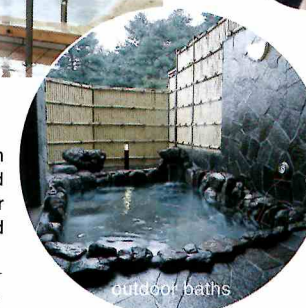


Soba noodle making class

Handicraft Workshop Facility

A workshop facility where you can enjoy creating things with your family and friends. Try making your original items in workshops such as soba-noodle-making, pottery, weaving, dyeing, miso-making!

◎Soba noodles, udon noodles ◎Pottery ◎Hand-weaving (coaster - take one home) ◎Dyeing (handkerchief- take one home) ◎Woodworking workshop ◎Aobata tofu (tofu and soy pulp- take some home) ◎Aoba soy miso and more



outdoor baths



Tennis Court



Futsal Field

Sports Facilities

Located near the summit of Mt. Mitsutoge, symbol of Nishikatsura Town, Byobu Rock has been a popular spot for rock climbers as the Mecca of rock-climbing in the Kanto area. The Martial Arts Stadium built at Mitsutoge Green Center, situated at the foot of the mountain trail to Mt. Mitsutoge, was remodeled into the Sukoyaka Koryukan ARC sports center. ARC features a space for bouldering, which has become popular these days as an activity that anyone can enjoy casually. ARC boasts several climbing walls with different heights for visitors of all ages, from children to adults. In addition to bouldering, ARC also has equipment for badminton, table tennis, training, judo, kendo, and so on, to serve as a comprehensive sports facility.



Sukoyaka Koryukan ARC



Cottage (for 10 people)



Cottage (for 10 people) first floor

Cottages and barbecue area

The cottages have a calming atmosphere of wooden cabins. There is also a BBQ area in the beautiful nature, and it is a popular spot for a real outdoors experience.

◎Cottage for 5 people (3 cottages) ◎Cottage for 10 people (1 cottage with a loft) ◎Facilities: air conditioner, kitchen, bath, toilet, TV, refrigerator, electric kettle, table ◎Kitchen Appliances: (pots, frying pan, kettle, knives, chopping board), Rental Appliances: (hot plate, rice cooker) ◎Prohibitions: bonfire, karaoke, etc.

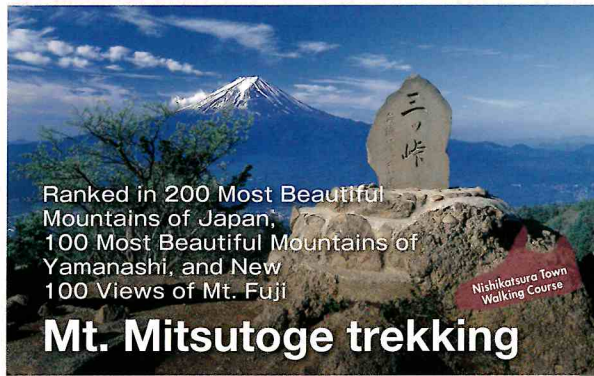


Cottage (for 5 people) Japanese-style room



Good Fortune Bell

Mt. Mitsutoge is also called Misuzu Ridge. It has been revered as a holy place since En the Ascetic (En no Gyoja) began training here in the Nara Period. Kutai Shonin restored the status of the holy place during his long residence on Mt. Mitsutoge in the late Edo Period. Training here until the end of his life, Kutai Shonin established the 8th, 17th, and 28th of each month as days for ascetic practice. Misuzu Gongen Shrine is set back from the trail in a secluded area. Kutai Shonin performed ascetic practices on Misuzu Ridge in the hope of preventing disasters and bringing happiness. Because of this, the spot is believed to bring good fortune to those who visit. This Monument to Misuzu was erected as a symbol of hope for the safety of those visiting Mt. Mitsutoge, Byobu Rock and other mountains.



Ranked in 200 Most Beautiful Mountains of Japan, 100 Most Beautiful Mountains of Yamanashi, and New 100 Views of Mt. Fuji

Mt. Mitsutoge trekking

Mt. Mitsutoge consists of three peaks - Mt. Kaiunzan, Mt. Osutaka, and Mt. Kinashi; and the view of Mt. Fuji from the highest, Mt. Kaiunzan, is superb. On the trail, there are many historical landmarks from the Nara period relating to the mountain worship. Each one of them has been in the limelight as power spots of good luck.

Time required to ascend: 3 hours 40 minutes
Time required to descend: 2 hours 40 minutes

* Actual results may vary.
Not including break time and lunch.

It is loved as the mountain with the best view of Mt. Fuji in all of Japan. It also has panoramic views of the Misaka Ranges and the Southern Alps.

The rocks of the cliffs beneath the summit. Known as one of Japan's leading rock climbing areas.

To pray for the peace and security of Mt. Mitsutoge and a good harvest. It was also once worshiped as a deity of sericulture.

The 88 stone statues of the revered priest are worshipped. And it is said to have the same results as pilgriming all the 88 temples.

Those with faith in the deity of marriage worship for luck in marriage, and also because the name sounds the same as the word for the famous Japanese indigo dyed fabric, it is also worshipped by those in the textile industry.

The point where horses would be turned back. The path becomes rocky and uneven hereafter.

A point looking out over a view extending widely before you. Enjoy seeing the view of Mt. Fuji from between the two trunks of a Japanese red pine tree.

A large natural rock shaped like a Dharma with the words "Ark" inscribed, meaning Dainichi Nyorai.

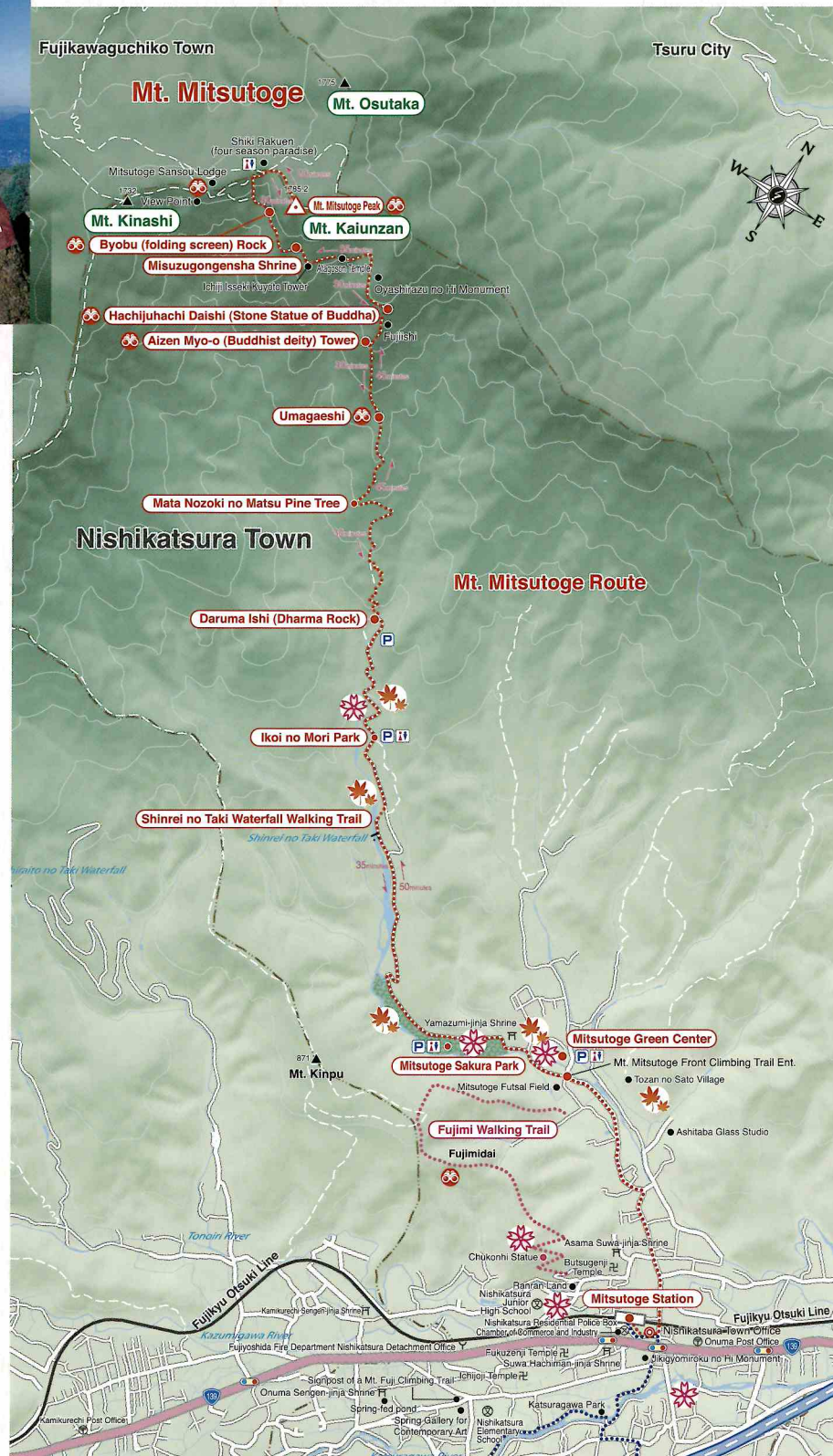
The double weeping rosebud cherry blossoms come with spring, and in autumn the mountain trees turn beautiful and vivid colors.

A path consisting of approximately 400-meter monolith with a great view of waterfall. In autumn the changing colors of the trees can be seen with Mt. Mitsutoge in the background.

A place of about 1000 cherry blossom trees. You can enjoy an athletic field and playing on the riverside with cherry blossoms and azaleas vying for attention.

A facility where you can relax and refresh while enjoying the abundant nature of Mitsutoge. Recover your energy here after the mountain climb.

The mountain trail towards the summit of Mt. Mitsutoge from "Mitsutoge Station" was once known as the "Path of Faith".



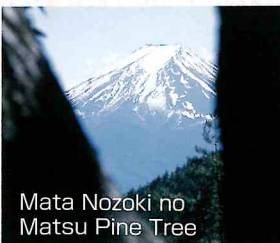
A video featuring Mt. Mitsutoge is now available.



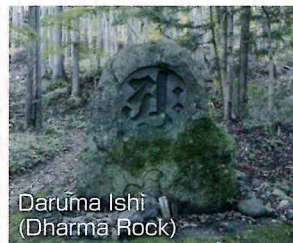
Byobu (folding screen) Rock



Hachijuhachi Daishi (Stone Statue of Buddha)



Mata Nozoki no Matsu Pine Tree



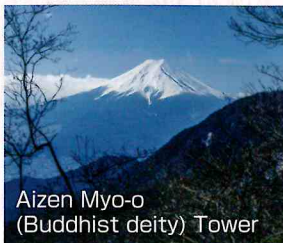
Daruma Ishi (Dharma Rock)



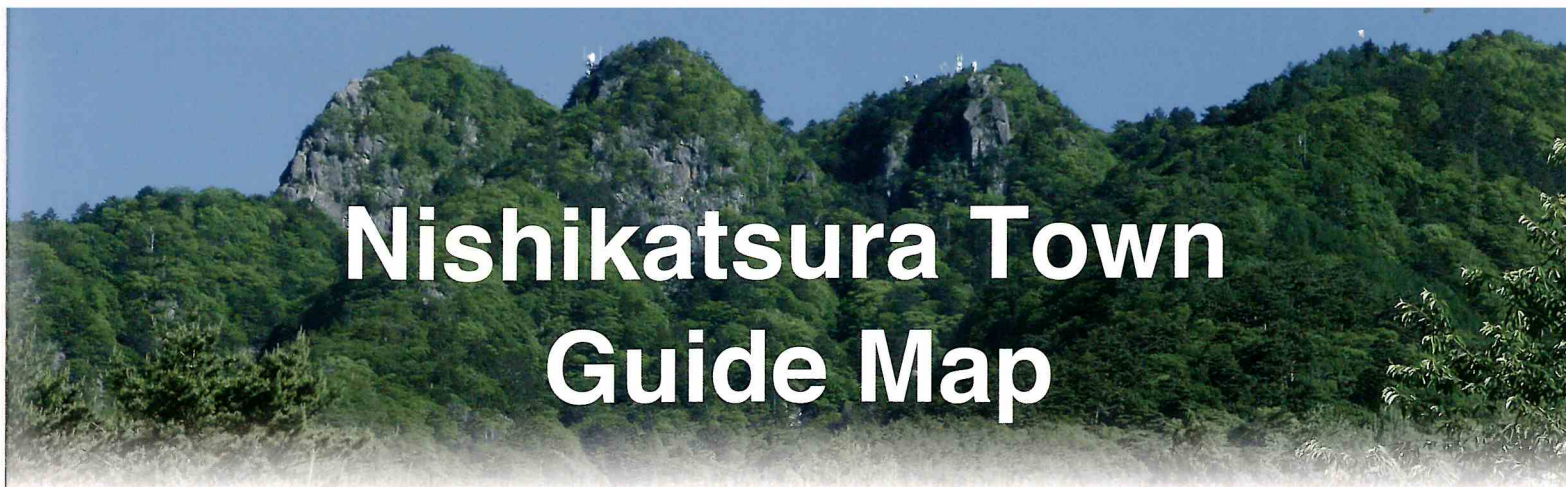
Shinrei no Taki Waterfall Walking Trail



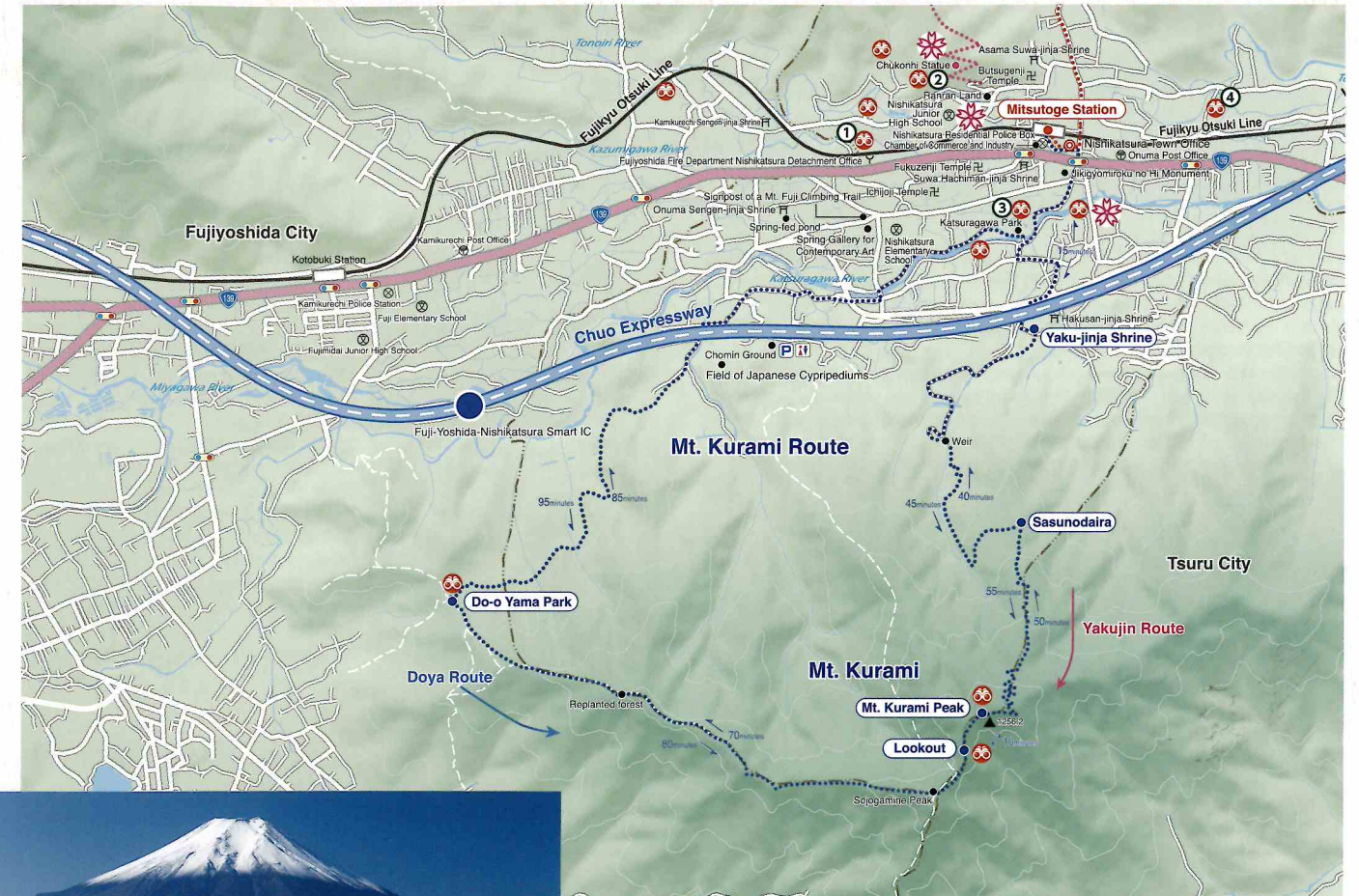
Beautiful autumn foliage along the promenade around Shinrei-no-Taki Waterfall



Aizen Myo-o (Buddhist deity) Tower

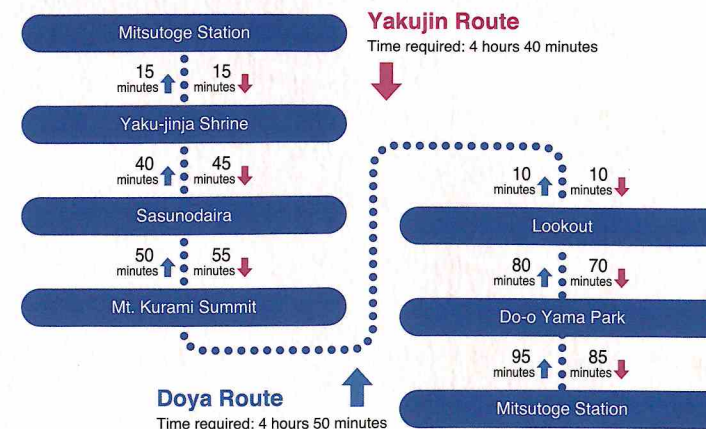


Nishikatsura Town Guide Map



An easy to approach trekking course with Mitsutoge Station as a starting point.

Mt. Kurami trekking

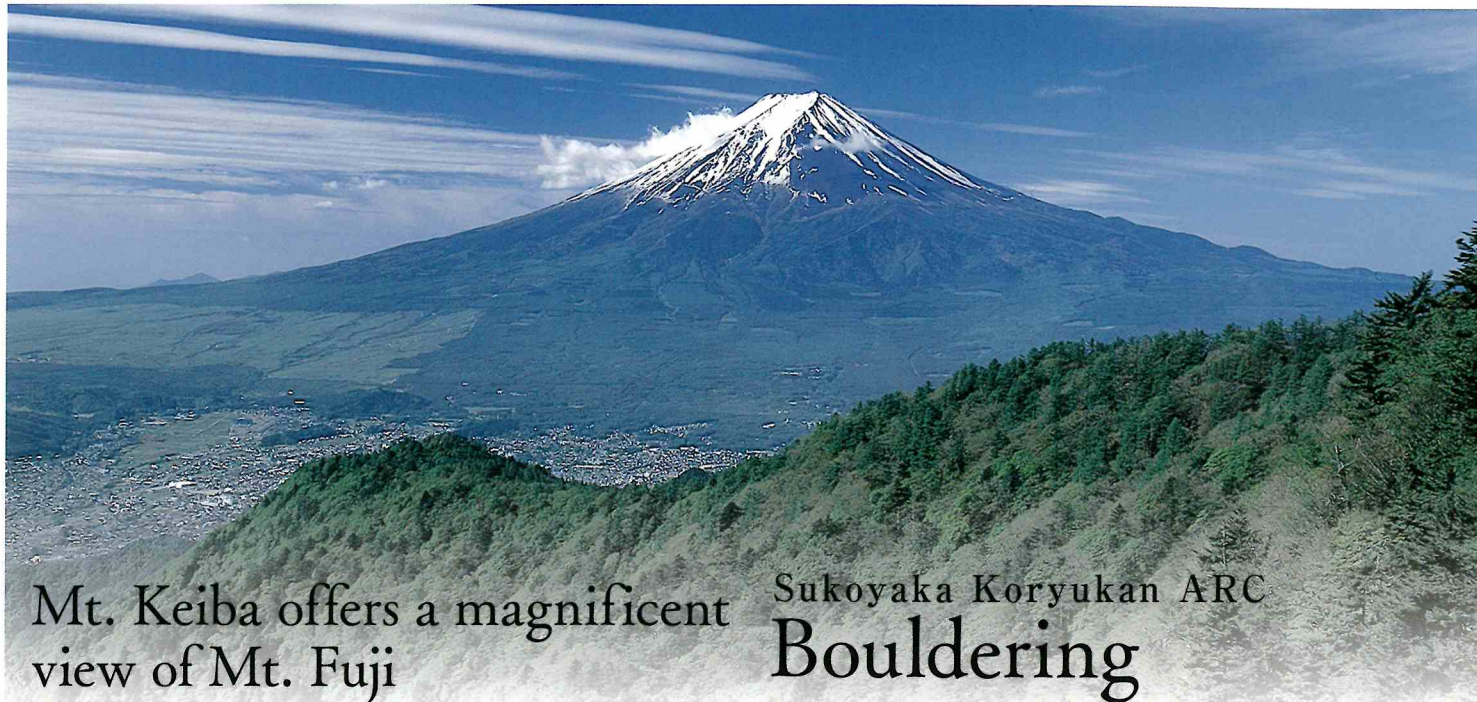


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An area of the rare flower Cypripedium japonicum

Perennial orchids of genus Cypripedium. A precious flower classified as an endangered species by Ministry of Environment. It was named after Naomi Kumagai, a famous warrior from The Tale of Heike, because the part of the flower called "labellum lip" looks like a balloon-shaped protector mounted warriors carried behind their back.



Mt. Keiba offers a magnificent view of Mt. Fuji

Visitors are invited to enjoy an invigorating hike on Mt. Keiba's pathway. Standing 700 meters above sea level in the Shimokurechi Area northeast of Nishikatsura Town, Mt. Keiba was famous during the Meiji Era for the horse races that were run near the summit. The trail that theriders used has been recreated for visitors.

Guideposts make following the path easy, and signs with the names of trees add to the enjoyment of the hike. The trees around the top of the mountain are well maintained to ensure visitors a wonderful panoramic view of Mt. Fuji and townscape of Nishikatsura.

Sukoyaka Koryukan ARC Bouldering



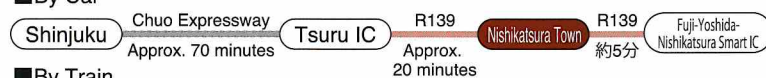
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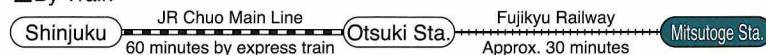
Information

Access Information

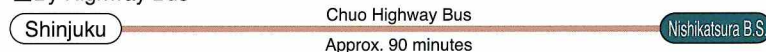
■By Car



■By Train



■By Highway Bus



■Transportation

Fujikyū Railway Mitsutoge Sta. TEL.+81-555-25-2013

Fujikyū Bus TEL.+81-555-72-6877

Fujikyū Call Center (Highway Bus Reservation) TEL.+81-555-73-8181

Fujikyū Yamanashi-Hire Car Dispatch Center TEL.+81-120-818-229

■Accommodation

Mitsutoge Green Center TEL.+81-555-25-3000(Accommodation, bathing, meals, etc.)

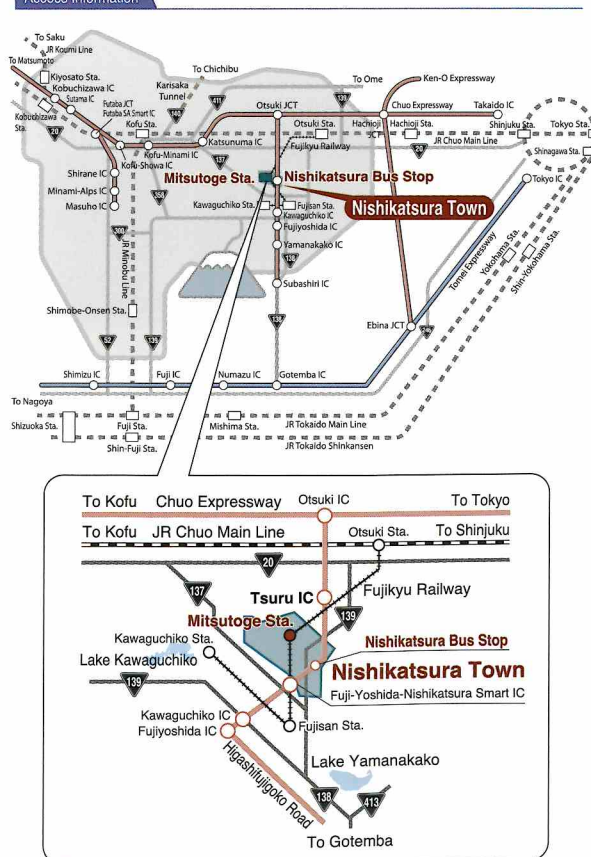
Mitsutoge Sansou Lodge TEL.+81-555-76-7473(Mt. Mitsutoge summit lodge)

Shiki Rakuen (four season paradise) TEL.+81-555-76-7566(Mt. Mitsutoge summit lodge)

■Contact Information

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Access Information



Nishikatsura Town Yamanashi Prefecture

Nishikatsura: Worshipping Mt. Fuji in the distance

Nishikatsura Town Guide

Nishikatsura

Mt.Mitsutoge and Mt. Kurami

