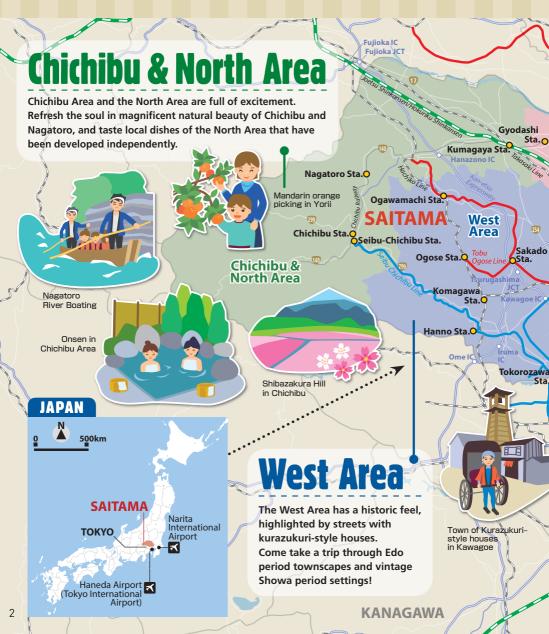
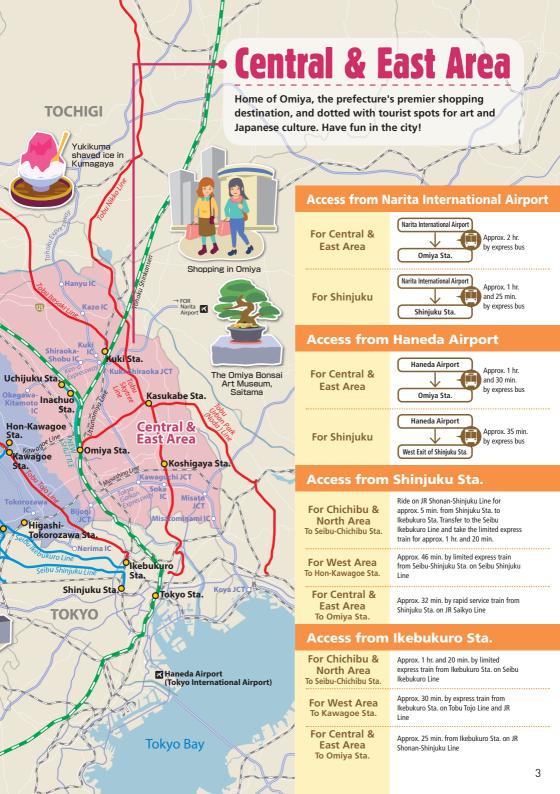


Visit Saitama Prefecture,

where you can experience the past and present of Japan!

The Chichibu Area and North Area are full of the appeal of rich nature, the West Area is where you can feel the atmosphere of Japan, and the Central Area and East Area are a fusion of city and nature. Experience Japanese history and culture in Saitama Prefecture, which is full of attractions!









Experience Nature

This popular area is accessible from the city, featuring historic townscapes in Chichibu and beautiful forest and streams in Nagatoro. Come here to enjoy nature firsthand!









Shibazakura Hill, the Carpet of Flowers

芝桜の丘

Shibazakura Hill in Hitsujiyama Park overlooks the streets of Chichibu. With a backdrop of Chichibu's symbol Mt. Buko, more than 400,000 of 9 varieties of shibazakura flowers bloom on the vast expanses of Shibazakura Hill.

* Chichibu *



https://bit.ly/3rcUwD2



Chichibu's local dish Butamisodon

秩父名物・豚味噌丼

You can eat such local dishes as butamisodon (miso pork over rice) in this area.





https://bit.lv/3oAHEoE



Nagatoro River Boating

長瀞ライン下り

Nagatoro Valley has been a popular spot for its scenery since long ago. Taking a traditional boat down the river with gorgeous views of the Iwadatami rock terraces on one side and the grand Chichibu Sekiheki red cliff on the other is a Nagatoro tourist mainstay.

* Nagatoro *



https://bit.ly/36D6JJv



Ride the Nagatoro steam locomotive!

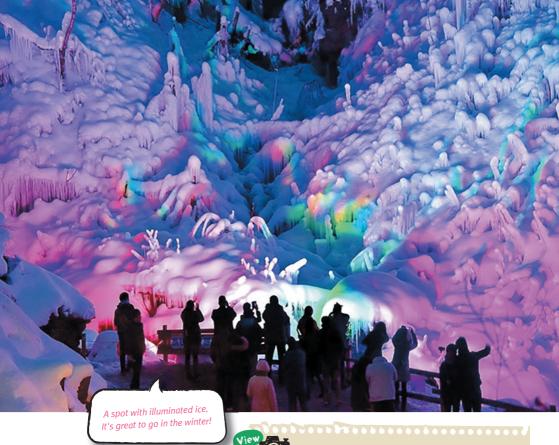
長瀞の蒸気機関車に乗ろう!

The Paleo Express is a steam locomotive with service on the Chichibu Railway. The tranquil views from the train window are worth it.



https://bit.ly/3rfpeeW







Ice Art

The Icicles of Ashigakubo

あしがくぼの氷柱

Icicles are formed here by the severe cold. For a certain period of time, they are all illuminated during weekends, creating a fantastical world. Enjoy a space made up of the art of light and ice!

* Yokoze *



https://bit.ly/3ap5oqN

Poppy-Filled Hills Color the Skies

天空を彩るポピー

Fifteen million Shirley Poppies grow at an elevation of 500 meters on the Chichibu Kogen Farm. The red from the vast fields of the flowers makes the skies feel even bluer.



* Minano *



https://bit.ly/3jfaCcv



Chichibu & North Area

More Places to Enjoy Nature





Mandarin orange picking,

with 400 years of history

みかん狩り

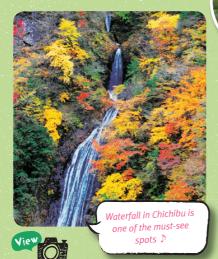
Yorii is one of the northernmost areas growing mandarin oranges in Japan, with a history spanning back over 400 years. During the orange season, many hikers visit the orange orchards to pick fruit.

* Yorii *

Eat fresh-picked mandarin oranges straight from the tree!



httns://hit.lv/2MiSh2r



Japan's Top 100 Falls

Marugami Waterfall

丸神の滝

Named one of Japan's top 100 waterfalls. The waterfall has no basin due to its 3 steps for water to slide down gradually. The falls are 76 meters high and flow beautifully like white silk. * Oaano



https://bit.ly/2MJ08Ge



Take In the Negative Ions at **Onouchi Valley**

尾ノ内渓谷

With headwaters rooted in Mt. Ryokamisan, Onouchi Valley offers wonderful views in all four seasons, cycling through lush greenery, fall colors and icicles. Enjoy the calming effect of the negative ions from all the waterfalls in the area.





https://hit.ly/3an9iFo



Climbing magnificent Mt. Buko, which has an elevation of 1,304 meters, is a popular activity. Sometimes a sea of clouds is visible.



"Terasaka Rice Terrace Firefly
Bonfire Festival" exists for one
night only in the summer.

Terasaka Rice Terrace is

one of the largest in Saitama, which has many typically Japanese rural landscapes. 寺坂棚田 Boasting an area of approx. 52,000 square meters, this is one of the largest rice terrace in Saitama Prefecture. It not only makes for beautiful scenery, it also serves as a stock of water. In the fall it is also worth seeing the blooming of 1.5 million Lycoris radiata bulbs planted on the footpaths between the rice fields.

* Yokoze *



https://bit.ly/36AXIW.

Free volunteer guides available.

A Touch of History

Restored and maintained park and a history museum on the premises.



Menuma Kangiin Shodenzan Temple Shodendo Hall Designated National Treasure

妻沼聖天山歓喜院聖天堂

Shodendo Hall is the main hall of Menuma Kangiin Shodenzan Temple with brilliantly-colored, ornate carvings. Come see the masterful carving technique which earned the hall its designation as a national treasure in July of 2012 and is said to be the pinnacle of early modern decorative architecture.





https://bit.ly/3cyS2L3



Remains of Hachigata Castle One of the Nationally designated historic sites

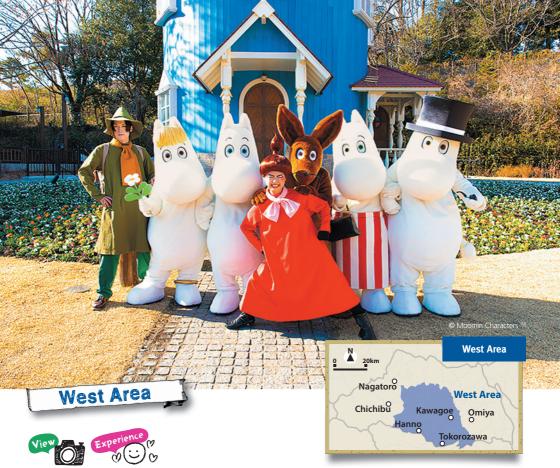
鉢形城跡

Remains of Hachigata Castle is a historic site in Yorii. One of the largest such sites in the Kanto region, the site was designated as a national historic site in 1932. Hachigata Castle is also designated as one of Japan's top 100 castle sites and has gathered attention as some of old castle ruins.

* Yokoze :



https://bit.ly/2YGhoyo



Spend some leisurely time in a dream world

MOOMINVALLEY PARK

ムーミンバレーパーク

This is a leisure facility where you can experience the story of Moomin. It is the first Moomin theme park outside Finland. It has several attractions including the Moomin residence where the Moomin family lives.





https://bit.ly/3j99Eyq





Tokorozawa Sakura Town, Japan's cutting edge pop culture facility

ところざわサクラタウン

This is Japan's cutting edge pop culture facility combining a museum, art museum, library, and anime museum. Don't miss the Bookshelf Theater packed with a display of massive bookcases inside the Kadokawa Culture Museum!





https://bit.ly/39HNJeG







Time Bell Tower,

Symbol of Koedo (Traditional Town)

時の鐘

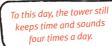
The Time Bell Tower is a symbol of Kawagoe, conspicuously towering over the streets with kurazukuristyle houses. Heralding back to the days of the early Edo period, when it was used to tell time in the castle town of Kawagoe, the townspeople have grown fond of this bell tower.

Kawagoe *



https://bit.ly/3pH3TL3

Take a walk through Kashiya Yokocho (Penny Candy Alley) and sample various cheap snacks







Kawagoe Hikawa Shrine,

Home to a God of Matchmaking

川越氷川神社

Kawagoe Hikawa Shrine is a popular tourist destination known for being home to a god of matchmaking. The towering large vermilion torii gate on the approach to the shrine is one of the largest wooden torii gates in Japan.





https://bit.ly/2YBAjuz



Kita-in Temple

Housing Numerous Important Cultural Properties

喜多院

Built in 830, Kawagoe Daishi Kita-in Temple has numerous nationally designated important cultural properties and buildings on its grounds, including the birthplace of lemitsu Tokugawa and the powder room of Kasuga-no-Tsubone.





https://bit.ly/20148CH







A Touch of History at Kawagoe Festival Museum

川越まつり会館

Kawagoe Festival is a nationally designated important intangible folk cultural property. Come visit Kawagoe Festival Museum to see how the culture has developed over the festival's more than 360-year history, adding Kawagoe-specific features





https://bit.lv/39GG05B

Plenty of Other Sites!



Kinchakuda, one of Japan's biggest red spider lily fields 巾着田

Shaped by the serpentine route of the Koma River, this flower field is beautiful through all four seasons. Known in particular for its red spider lilies in autumn, approx. 5.5-hectare grounds amass one of Japan's largest groups of the flower with 5 million bulbs.









Also very popular for its hiking trail!



Learn about fermentation techniques at the

OH!!! ~Fermentation, Health and Magic of Food!!!~ * Hanno *

theme park! OH!!! ~発酵、健康、食の魔法!!!~

This tourism complex is based on the concept of learning about exciting fermentation techniques and enjoying the magic of food. Learn about, experience and taste the power of fermented foods here.



https://bit.lv/3oGSda8

* Sayama *

https://bit.lv/3tiXvLH





Enjoy the laid-back, colorful scenery of cherry blossoms along **Nobitome Canal**

野火止用水

This canal boasts 360 years of history. Along the waterway you'll find a promenade lined with Yoshino cherry and weeping cherry trees in the spring. Come see spots reminiscent of traditional, tranguil Japanese hometown scenery.



* Niiza *



Experience Sayama

tea picking at Miyanoen

You can experience everything from lectures on tea picking to making tea by hand.



Enjoy the vast lake and beautiful scenery, such as cherry blossoms and autumn leaves, at different times of year.









Hand Papermaking Experience at Saitama Craft Center

埼玉伝統工芸会館

Popular attractions include a washi paper demonstration tour and a washi papermaking experience tour. Doubling as the Ogawamachi Roadside Station, the local products section of the center also offers shopping for local vegetables, snacks, handicrafts and more.

* Ogawa *



https://bit.ly/36SibRJ

Experience (2) Gourmet **

Yasuragi Peace House

Experience and interact with a rural village house

やすらぎの家

This facility is more than 100 years old private house relocated and reconstructed into a hall for experiencing and interacting with rural

experiencing and interacting with rura life. Visitors can either make their own udon noodles (reservation required), or just purchase meals.

* Tokigawa *



https://bit.lv/2YCXJQ1





Washi no Sato Hand Papermaking and Seasonal Views

和紙の里

Visitors can take a tour to see approx. 1,300-year-old traditional methods for hand-making washi paper, or try for themselves. Also, take a soothing walk through the courtyard of the thatched roof papermaking house and take in the seasonal views.





https://bit.ly/3atu9SI





Extraordinary experiences await!



Naguri Canoe Atelier on a Quiet Lakeside

名栗のカヌー工房

Enjoy paddling wooden canoes made at this atelier on Lake Naguri. Forget your daily troubles in the quiet lakeside of Lake Naguri, surrounded by tranquil mountains under blue skies.





https://bit.ly/3cFS3ND







Drive a train at THE RAILW

THE RAILWAY MUSEUM!

鉄道博物館

Features exhibitions on Japan's railway heritage and resources, as well as actual train carriages, parts, and models; hands-on workshops on railway history, fundamentals, structure and more





https://bit.ly/3czkWL



IWATSUKI NINGYO MUSEUM in Iwatsuki, the town of traditional Japanese dolls

さいたま市岩槻人形博物館

Learn about the history of people and dolls at this museum which aims to pass on doll culture to future generations. The museum's goal is to educate the world about doll culture, featuring initiatives to familiarize visitors with dolls.





https://bit.ly/36yTMjl









Ruins restored at Iwatsuki Joshi Park

岩槻城址公園

The castle grounds are full of color, with cherry blossoms in spring and Yatsuhashi Bridge, a vermilion bridge stretching across an iris pond. There are events held year round, including a cherry blossom festival, Nagashibina, the doll memorial celebration, and more.





https://bit.ly/2YA2fPr

Central & East Area

Outside the City



Remains of Oshijo Castle Once called one of Kanto's 7 greatest castles

忍城址

Built in Bunmei era of Muromachi period, Oshijo Castle earned a reputation as a floating fortress when it withstood an attack at the end of the Sengoku period in the subjugation of the Kanto region by Hideyoshi Toyotomi.

* Gyoda *



https://bit.ly/2YGhRAE



Kawaguchi Autorace Largest motorcycle racing track

川口オートレース

Kawaguchi Autorace is the largest among the 6 racing tracks in Japan. Come and feel the exhilarating races with motorcycles roaring, sprinting at speed of 150 km/h!

* Kawaauchi *



https://bit.ly/2LdhPNR



Washinomiya Shrine Kanto's oldest grand shrine

鷲宮神社

Kanto's oldest grand shrine has been well protected by powerful supporters in each period, with the Kamakura shogunate rebuilding the main building and the Tokugawa shogunate contributing 400 koku to the shrine.

* Kuki *



https://bit.ly/3oGik05



Take a tour of a factory making snacks that are very popular in Japan!

グリコピア・イースト

You can see the whole process of making Glico's popular snacks Pocky and Pretz from mixing the ingredients to packing the finished product in a box. Reservations are required, so make a reservation in advance!

* Kitamoto



https://bit.lv/36vdMTO



Also a mother tree of Kvushaku-fuji wisteria in Japan.

Kasukabe



The Wisteria in Ushijima

National Special Natural Plant 牛島の藤

It is a giant wisteria tree, famous for being very big and having more than 1,200 years, admired as the No.1 in the world. The flower clusters in full bloom may reach as much as 2 meters, and the beautiful wisteria purple of the flowers are fascinating.



Kasukabe Information Center Puratto Kasukabe

ぷらっとかすかべ

This is a facility that provides information on the appeal of the city of Kasukabe. Visitors can learn about tourism, events,

city government and more. There is also a section featuring Crayon Shin-chan, who serves as a guide to the town, so feel free to stop



Каликаве



Rose Garden with 300 species and 4.800 rose bushes バラ園



https://bit.ly/3jfbP3x



Flower Park with a wide spread of flowers フラワーパーク



https://bit.ly/3pUjQ0c



Soka Matsubara Promenade National scenic beauty place of "Oku no Hosomichi"

草加松原

Soka



https://bit.ly/2MJ0QmS



Satte Gongendo cherry embankment, scenic spot in Satte

幸手権現堂桜堤

Satte



https://bit.ly/3p04bjm





This Nakasendo Post Station conveys the atmosphere of Edo 中山道宿場町

Okegawa prospered greatly as an Edo period agricultural products trading center. Many mercantile houses and inns still operate in the former Okegawa-juku (Okegawa post station), recalling the prosperity of the town's days as a post station.



https://bit.lv/3cDCzJN

*PT*Local Dishes

In a prefecture offering both natural and urban sites, each area of Saitama has developed its own regional cuisine. Here is a selection of 6 great dishes!



Warajikatsu

* Ogano *

A Chichibu specialty

Beloved by the locals, this katsudon dish features two large deep-fried pork cutlets atop a bowl of rice. This specialty combines the crisp, juicy pork cutlets in a secret recipe sauce.



A Kawagoe specialty

Being surrounded by rivers, the specialty in Kawagoe is unagi, or freshwater eel. The unagi is well marbled with a soft texture that you have to try at least once. There are numerous long-established unagi restaurants in Kawagoe City that date back to Edo times.



A recent Higashimatsuyama yakitori specialty **«**

* Higashi-matsuyama * 🗍

erfect combinatio of eel and sweet

Tsumikko つみっこ with plenty of vegetables and a rich flavor

Tsumikko is said to have been eaten during work breaks when sericulture was popular. This is a specialty dish of Honjo that is made by putting kneaded flour dough in a pot and stewing it with plenty of vegetables.

* Kazo *

Kazo Udon

is a famous Udon variety in Saitama, which is famous for udon 加須うどん

Kazo udon is a local dish that spread to Kazo where wheat cultivation flourished, and it continues to be loved today. The chewy and smooth texture of this superb udon is irresistible.



Slow-cooked over a charcoal grill

The famous yakitori (pork) of Higashi-matsuyama is an original recipe of skewered meat of pig's head, slowly and carefully grilled over charcoal fire. It is served with a spicy miso sauce, which combination is exquisite! Try it once, and you'll be hooked.

* Hidaka *

Koma-nabe Hotpot 高麗鍋 Healthy cuisine with local vegetables

This local dish was created to commemorate the 1,300year anniversary of the establishment of the former Koma County. Required ingredients are kimchi, locally grown vegetables from Hidaka, and ginseng.





Hands-on Experience

Saitama offers plenty of opportunities to get in touch with Japanese culture and nature! Get a more intimate look at Japan by trying on some traditional dress, baking sembei crackers, and many more cultural experiences.





Try on a kimono in a fitting traditional town setting

着付け体験

In the Kawagoe area, there are many shops about that offer kimono rentals. With the traditional Japanese look of Streets with kurazukuri-style houses and Time Bell Tower, this is the spot to take your pictures! Walk around in a kimono and take your own photos.

Kawagoe



https://bit.lv/2MRrFoM

Try out some armor and feel what it's like to be a warlord. 甲胄体験

With its many Sengoku period sites, you can try some armor on in Gyoda. There is one suit of adult size armor and one suit of child size armor available for parent and child to try on together.

Gyoda



https://bit.lv/3avBNvR

Other Experiences



Try farmwork with fruit picking フルーツ狩り

* Chichibu & Ogano *



https://bit.lv/2YCYKYI



Bake your own Soka sembei crackers, the local specialty The real thing, from the source 草加せんべい

* Soka ·



https://bit.lv/36DHFSq



Learn the art of making soba noodles そば打ち

Ogano



https://bit.lv/3iik3bm



Saitama, abundant in nature, allows you unique to Japan, such as Cherry blossom,







A row of cherry trees beautifully decorates the **Kurome River**

The Kurome River runs through the center of Asaka City. Jogging or walking on the promenade along the river is an enjoyable activity. The sight of the Kurome River reflecting the colors of the row of cherry trees and rape blossoms in full bloom in the spring is worth seeing.



https://bit.ly/2YzIVSe





* *Shiki* * いろは親水公園

Iroha Shinsui Park, where you can enjoy rows of cherry trees



Full bloom: Late Mar. to late Apr.

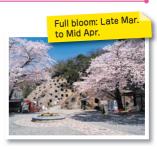
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Cherry blossom viewing at the charming Hundred Caves of Yoshimi

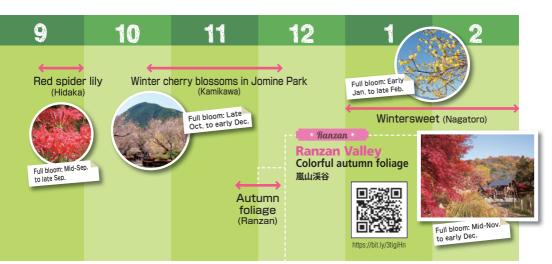
* Yoshimi * 吉見百穴

(Hyakuana)





to experience the four seasons. From flowers that create an atmosphere Plum and Wisteria, to richly colored autumn leaves, there's spectacular scenery in every season.





あやめ・ラベンダーのブルーフェスティバル

Iris and Lavender Blue Festival



https://bit.lv/3pLDk7e





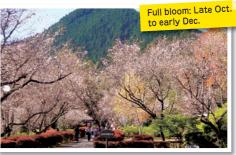


A safflower field colored bitter orange

Okegawa prospered as a trading center for agricultural products including safflowers and as a post station in the Edo period. Today a safflower festival is held there during the best flower viewing period, from mid to late June.



https://bit.ly/3pUALjD



Kamikawa 城峯公園 冬桜

Jomine Park Where rare light crimson winter cherry blossoms bloom

A park that features full facilities such as camping grounds, a restaurant, souvenir shop, barbecue area and viewing deck in addition to blooming seasonal flowers, making it perfect for families to enjoy.



https://bit.ly/3tkQhY0

Nagatoro 長瀞・宝登山ロウバイ園

Mountain summit with the fragrance of wintersweet







Full of interesting events, such as Saitama's three Night Festival", "Kawagoe Festival" and "Kuma Enjoy events that you can't find anywhere else!

* Chichibu *

Chichibu Yomatsuri, Night Festival

One of Japan's top 3 hikiyama (float) festivals

秩父夜祭

Counted as one of Japan's 3 great float festivals along with Gion Festival in Kyoto and Takayama Festival in Hida. It is the Big Annual Festival of Chichibu

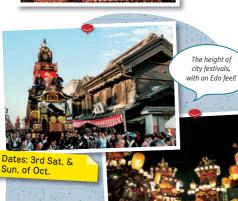
Shrine, which enshrines several gods from the Chichibu region of Saitama Prefecture, and has a history of more than 300 years.



https://bit.ly/36AZ1iQ







Kawagoe Festival held by Hikawa Shrine

川越まつり

* Kawagoe *

Luxurious floats are pulled around all day long, and when they pass each other, they compete in a spectacular hayashi performance (traditional Japanese orchestra) musical battle known as "hikkawase". Nationally designated as an important intangible folk cultural heritage.



https://bit.ly/3tkOVMP



Kumagaya Fan Festival A passionate festival

熊谷うちわ祭

A fan festival regularly held at Atago Yasaka Shrine. Referred to as Kanto's best Gion Festival for its dazzling display of 12 floats parading through the urban area with the Kumagaya musical accompaniment.



https://bit.ly/2YA182a

big festivals, the "ChichibuYomatsuri gaya Fan Festival".



Saika Festival

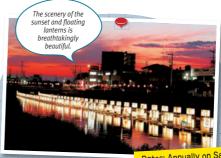
The Asaka Citizen Festival - overflowing with love for the community

朝霞市民まつり「彩夏祭」

Features two venues, the Asaka venue and North Asaka venue, both of which offering various events such as Yosakoi Naruko dancing and fireworks. Events in which the local Asaka citizens participate in together.



https://bit.ly/39E7mEy



* Sugito *

Dates: Annually on Sat. & Sun. in early Aug.

The Furutone River Floating Lantern Festival

features wondrous scenery

古利根川流灯まつり

This is a festival in which 250 large, handmade lanterns are floated in the Furutone River. A belt of light from the lanterns completely fills about 1 kilometer of the river's surface. That wondrous scene has a beauty like that of the Milky Way.



https://bit.ly/3jbCzS



* Konosu *

Konosu Doll Festival featuring Japan's highest

hina doll pyramid 鴻巣びっくりひな祭り

Leading Hina doll production area, boasting nearly 400 years of tradition. This event from mid Februrary to early March features Japan's tallest Hina doll pyramid that is surprisingly tall in the main venue.



https://bit.ly/2YG0vnL



* Kamikawa *

Kanasana Shrine is lively during the Japanese New Year and the daruma doll fair 金額神社

This shrine is said to have been founded by Yamato Takeru during his eastern expedition. Mt. Mimuro and the area around it behind the hall of worship are enshrined as a deity. During the first three days of the new year, a great many people make their first shrine visit of the year at

Kanasana Shrine and Daikofusho-ji Temple (Kanasana Daishi) and many visit them for the daruma doll fair.



https://bit.ly/39Legzn



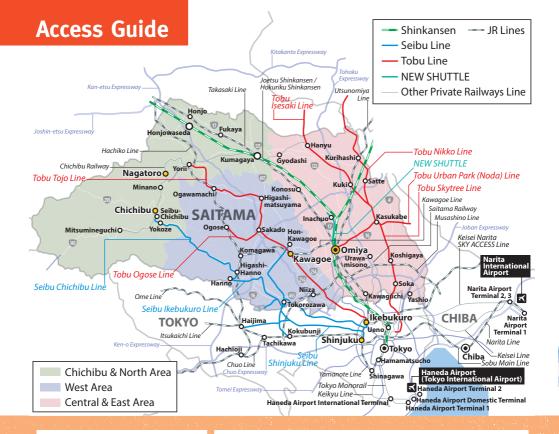
* Moroyama *

Yabusame (horseback archery) Festival at Izumo Iwai Shrine 出雲伊波比神社の流鏑馬まつり

This is a festival held at Izumo iwai. Shrine for more than 950 years as part of the region's traditional culture. You can see superb horseback tricks up close, including archery from atop a galloping horse, folding fan tricks and noroshi.



https://bit.ly/2Mw9tkR



Special train and bus deals!

For Kawagoe

SEIBU Rail Pass

Discount round-trip passes between Seibu-Shinjuku Sta. or Takadanobaba Sta. and Hon-Kawagoe Sta. on sale.

SEIBU Railway

 www.seiburailway.jp/railways/tourist/english/ticket/ daypass.html



KAWAGOE DISCOUNT PASS

Special discount round-trip passes from Ikebukuro Sta. to Kawagoe Sta. or Kawagoeshi Sta.

TOBU Railway

mww.tobu.co.jp/foreign/en/



For Saitama City

TOKYO Wide Pass

Ride freely on JR Shinkansen, limited express, express, local trains, etc. within Kanto area for 3 days.

East Japan Railway

mww.jreast.co.jp/e/



埼玉県内の観光案内所

Saitama Prefecture Tourist Information Centers

Stop by one of these locations if you need help or want some tourist information while traveling in Saitama!



http://bit.ly/3axnwP4

Check this site for more information!

ちょこたび埼玉 Chocotabi Saitama

Check this site for Saitama Prefecture sightseeing information!



Also includes info on preventing the spread of COVID-19!

https://en.chocotabi-saitama.jp/

新型コロナウイルス接触確認アプリ「COCOA」 COVID-19 contact tracing app COCOA

This is the official app of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare which notifies users if they have come into contact with a person registered as infected with COVID-19. Make sure to download it before going on your trip to Japan!





у

Apple Store

Shopping image photo by iStock

^{*}This publication is current as of February 2021.
*The prices listed in this brochure include tax.