



# YAMASHIRO ONSEN KAGA JAPAN



GUIDE BOOK ENGLISH EDITION



[www.yamashiro-spa.or.jp](http://www.yamashiro-spa.or.jp)



# Enjoy the relaxing vibes of Yamashiro Onsen's Yunogawa and Kosoyu.



Yamashiro Onsen's mascot, Yamashiro Spa Crow-kun

## What is "Yunogawa" ?

Centuries ago, hot spring towns were built up around public baths. Hot spring inns lined the streets around the public bath, and visitors looking for curative springs would go to the public bath and occasionally take walks through nature during their long stays in town. This public bath was called "soyu," and the area of the town built up around it was known in the Hokuriku region as a "yunogawa." Even today, the old-fashioned hot spring culture and atmosphere lives on here in Yamashiro Onsen.



**Soyu** The baths at Soyu are drained and cleaned daily, before being refilled with fresh 100% hot spring water. The vaulted ceiling features large skylights, for a beautiful and refreshing atmosphere.



**Kosoyu** Kosoyu (or "Old Soyu") was built in Yamashiro's yunogawa in 2010. The nostalgic atmosphere extends beyond the architecture, as visitors also prepare themselves for the bath in the traditional way, for a taste of Yamashiro Onsen's history and culture.



**Hazuchio-Gakudo** Enjoy one-of-a-kind sweets in this distinctive building, with its atmospheric Bengara latticework, or check out the Kutaniyaki porcelain items at Ninuriya, at this must-see spot in Yamashiro's yunogawa.

## An Encounter with a three-legged Crow

Some 1,300 years ago in the year 725, a famous Buddhist priest named Gyoki was on his way to the sacred Mt. Hakusan when he noticed a single crow soaking its injured wing in a pool of water to soothe the pain; this is said to have been the origin of Yamashiro Onsen. This crow is said to be the legendary three-legged crow Yatagarasu, from the myths and legends of ancient Japan.



### A Open Hot Spring Baths

Visitors can enjoy the baths at hot spring inns even if they aren't overnight guests (fees apply).

### B Yakuoin Onsenji Temple

This temple was built to house carved statues of the Healing Buddha and other deities, to watch over and protect the spring.

### C Hattori Shrine

Giant trees rise six meters tall around this shrine, and line both sides of the hundred stone steps up to it. In winter, the white of the snow gives the shrine a quiet, otherworldly beauty.

### D Onna-shozu & Otoko-shozu Springs

Onna-shozu spring features a Jizo statue in back, watching over it. The name, meaning "women's fresh water," comes from the groups of women who worked for the inns, gathering fresh water from this spring.

### E Spring Source & Foot Bath

Located right near Soyu in the center of the hot spring town. Look for the statue of a crow perched on a boulder at the foot bath.

### F Michibanya

Michibanya is a shop which introduces products and gives information about Yamashiro Onsen.

### G Bicycle Rentals & Nuku-Mobi

Enjoy traveling around the Yamashiro area in the new two-seat Nuku-Mobi concept car! Contact your accommodations for its reservations.

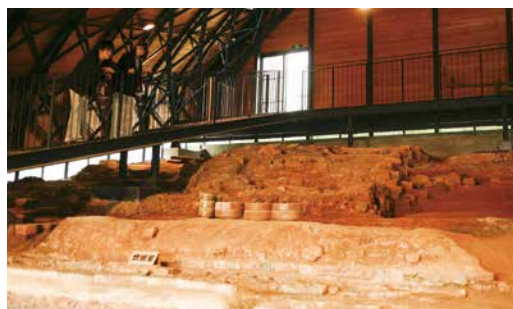


## Home of the Revival of Kutaniyaki porcelain

Kutaniyaki porcelain are some of Japan's most famous colored ceramics. Their history stretches back more than 350 years, to the porcelain made in Kutani Village of the Kaga Domain, during Japan's feudal era.

A number of famous one-of-a-kind Kutaniyaki porcelain were produced at this historic kiln. Well over a century after the Kutani Kiln shut down, the people at Yoshidaya revived Kutaniyaki porcelain, here in Yamashiro Onsen.

Walking through the atmospheric hot spring townscape and enjoying the beautiful artistry of Kutaniyaki porcelain is one of the greatest pleasures that Yamashiro Onsen has to offer



### Ancient Kutani Kiln Exhibition Center

Find yourself transported to centuries ago at this colossal ancient kiln. Visitors can try hands-on pottery wheel or painting experiences, making this a great destination.



### Iroha Soan Hut (Rosanjin's temporary residence)

For a time during the early 20th century, Rosanjin, known as the "consummate artist" lived in Yamashiro Onsen. He passionately carved shop signs in the hut's workshop, became absorbed in painting and calligraphy in the hut's study, and met with the gentlemen of Yamashiro Onsen around the hut's hearth. Iroha Soan Hut continues to tell the tale of Rosanjin's personality and talents to this day.



### CoCo Hands-on Kutaniyaki Gallery

Items made by young local artisans are on display and sale here. Visitors can also try painting ceramics under the careful supervision of specialists.

- Ceramic-painting Hands-on Experience: ¥1,500 and up (+¥700 shipping & handling fee)
- Open: 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (Last admission for ceramic-painting at 4:30 p.m.)
- Closed: Thursdays
- Tel: (0761) 75-7116

# Exciting events and festivals for every season.

## Shobuyu Festival

• June 4: Prayer Ceremony & Nyuto-shiki Bathing Festival (Iris Mikoshi Portable Shrine)  
 June 5: Yamashiro Ondo Bon Dance



To pray for good health for the following year, the young adults of Yamashiro carry a mikoshi portable shrine around town, starting from Yakuoin Onsenji Temple. Lanterns held up on poles lead the procession, as the iris mikoshi shrine is jostled making its way around town. The festival fills the air with the smell of irises, long said to drive away evil spirits.



## Cherry Blossom Season

Yamashiro Onsen has a number of great places to view cherry blossoms: Ohinomiya Park, Banshoen Park, Makomogaik Lake, Kikyogaoka Plaza, and more.



## Yamashiro Daidengaku Festival

• Early August  
 • Location: Special Event Venue in Front of Hattori Shrine  
 Daidengaku was brought to life by Mannojo Nomura, who developed a modern revival of the once-popular folk dance from the middle ages known as Dengaku. These summer nights feature people in whimsical costumes dancing to lively rhythms, accompanied by the sound of flutes and the warm light of bonfires.



## Summer Festival

• August  
 • Location: Around Hazuchio-Gakudo  
 Yamashiro's summer festival is centered around Hazuchio-Gakudo, with events all throughout town. Grab a snack at a roadside stall or participate in a prize lottery, or any of a number of other fun things to do.



## Yamashiro Art Market

• Mid August  
 • Location: Yamashiro Onsen-dori Shopping Street  
 See artisans selling their wares, or try workshops, have something to eat and drink, or enjoy the stage shows at this fun event.

## Mando-e Lantern Night

• August 16  
 • Location: Yakuoin Onsenji Temple  
 The walking path through the forest is illuminated by the soft light of candles to celebrate O-Bon.

## A Hassaku Festival

• September 1  
 • Location: Hattori Shrine  
 After a dance ritual on the grounds of Hattori Shrine, the giant shishi lion is paraded around town, as a way to both pray for and give thanks for abundant harvests.

## B Yamashiro Yunogawa Roman Retro Festival

• Mid October  
 • Location: Yunogawa area  
 Held to celebrate the opening of Kosoyu, a faithful restoration of Yamashiro Onsen's public bath from over a century ago.

## C Yakuoin Onsenji Temple in Fall

• Around November  
 • Location: Yakuoin Onsenji Temple  
 Yakuoin Onsenji Temple is well known for its breathtaking fall colors. The deep reds of the leaves serve as a sign to the people of Yamashiro that winter is coming.

## D Food and Dish Festival for the Start of Crab Season

• Early November  
 • Location: Soyu & Yunogawa area  
 Enjoy foods from famous local restaurants, as well as crab hotpot, freshly caught crab, and more for sale in celebration of the crab season start.

# Hospitality, the secret ingredient of Yamashiro's delights.



Yamashiro is located near Hashitate Port, which is famous for the Kitamaebune trading ships that once traveled Japan. The port is also famous for its incredible seafood available all year round, delivered to Yamashiro's inns remarkably fresh. The chefs at these inns look forward to flexing their skills in November, when crab season begins, preparing delicious dishes that help take the edge off the region's harsh winter soon to come. The rich variety of flavors makes winter the best season of the year for seafood — food lovers have been known to visit the Hokuriku region from all over Japan in winter just for the outstanding seafood.

### Junmaishu Yamashiro

Nothing goes better with seafood than local sake. This junmaishu is made by Yamashiro's local sake shop association with utmost care at every step, down to the rice and water used. Available at sake shops in town.



One of Yamashiro's most famous local sweets, Ren-no Yokan is produced at a long-established sweets shop besides the Kosoyu named Ren Eishodo. This yokan sweet bean jelly shop was established in 1819, and still makes their yokan using only three natural ingredients: azuki beans, kanten jelly, and sugar. Their mild sweetness and clean aftertaste have earned them plenty of dedicated local fans, perhaps the best sign of their quality. Yamashiro Onsen is also home to a number of other sweets shops, all with their own unique offerings — a walk around town to try them all would make a great way to spend a day. There are also plenty of places worth checking out that offer lunch and local dishes, too.



### Ren-no Yokan

These famous Yamashiro Onsen sweets are made from a secret family recipe.  
 • Ren Eishodo — Open 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
 Closed: January 1-2



### Hot Spring Eggs

Slowly cooked by soaking in the hot spring, allowing them to take on the delicious flavor of the minerals in the spring water.  
 • Shop at Soyū — Open 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., 365 days a year

### Hazuchio Curry

A delicious slow-cooked curry, topped with local vegetables.  
 • Hazuchio Cha-mise — Open 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
 Closed: Wednesdays (except if a natl. holiday)

### Hazuchio Cha-mise Sweets

Relax and take a break from your walk around Yamashiro with shirataki dumpling zenzai topped with ice cream, a Kutani Parfait, or one of their other sweets.  
 • Hazuchio Cha-mise — Open 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
 Closed: Wednesdays (except if a natl. holiday)

### Persimmon Leaf Sushi

Persimmon leaves are topped with sushi rice and marinated mackerel, sakura shrimp, thin strips of ginger, kon-nori seaweed, and other toppings in this local dish.  
 • Kyusen — Reservation required by 10:00 p.m. the day before  
 Tel: (0761) 76-1511

### Yamashiro Onsen Bowl

A Kutaniyaki porcelain bowl, filled with rice and topped with local vegetables, shrimp, shio-koji, and more.  
 • Bengaraya — Open 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.  
 Closed: Wednesdays

## Perfect for Overnight Stays in Yamashiro! Canbus Kaga Loop Buses



Day Pass Prices:  
 1-day Pass: ¥1,100  
 2-day Pass: ¥1,300  
 Kids 6-12: Half price  
 Kids under 6: Free

Available for Sale at:  
 The Canbus Office,  
 onboard Canbus buses,  
 and Kaga Tabi Machi Net  
 (located inside JR  
 Kagaonsen Station)



Canbus Kaga Loop Buses start at JR Kagaonsen Station and travel to a number of locations throughout Kaga and beyond on three routes: the Mountain Route, the Sea Route, and the Komatsu Airport Route. Get on and off at any stop you'd like!

## One Round Trip per Day Eiheiji Odekake-go Bus



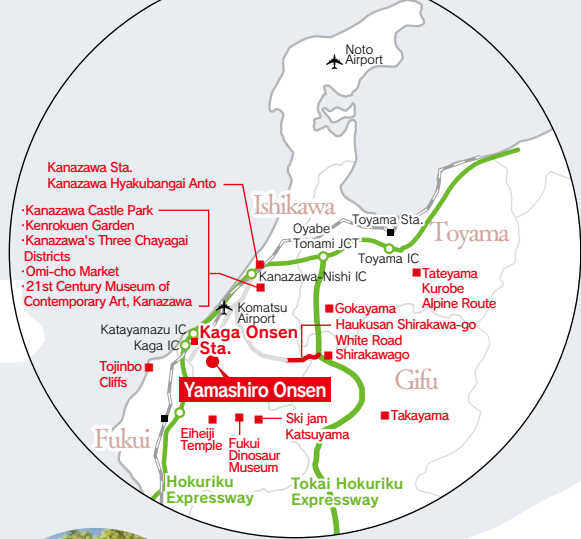
Eiheiji Temple was established centuries ago in the adjacent prefecture of Fukui as a training temple for Soto Zen Buddhism. The Eiheiji Odekake Bus stops at three bus stops in Yamashiro before arriving at Eiheiji Temple. Seats are available under reservation only, so please make sure to reserve and purchase your ticket by 6:00 p.m. the night before at the front desk of your accommodations.

Fare: One way ¥900

# A convenient hub to access the Hokuriku area

Yamashiro Onsen is located right in the middle of many exciting places, with Kenrokuen Garden, Eiheiji Temple, Shirakawa-go Village, and more accessible as day trips.

Yamashiro Onsen is the perfect hot spring hub for the Hokuriku region.



## Kanazawa Station

Just 24 minutes from JR Kagaonsen Station via Limited Express train. The Hokuriku Shinkansen was opened in March 2015, offering convenient access from the Tokyo metropolitan and Kanto areas.



Info on buses direct to Kanazawa



## KANAZAWA



## Kanazawa Castle Park & Kenrokuen Garden

Kenrokuen is considered one of Japan's three finest gardens, and is a beloved symbol of Kanazawa. Enjoy its natural beauty through all four seasons, with scenery created by expert gardeners.

35 Limited Express trains daily!  
24 minutes from JR Kagaonsen Station via Limited Express train

1hr., 15min. by direct bus

Kaga Hashitate, an Important Preservation District for Groups of Historic Buildings



Natadera Temple



## Shirakawa-go & Gokayama Villages

These thatched-roof houses, built in a style known as gassho-zukuri, have been registered as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. These precious historic houses are still in use as homes and can be found only in Gokayama and Shirakawa-go.



## Eiheiji Temple

Zen training is practiced by the many monks of this solemn temple, in accordance with the strict rituals established by Dogen 750 years ago.



60 min. by direct bus

Info on buses direct to Eiheiji Temple



Info on the Echizen Railway



## YAMASHIRO ONSEN

1hr., 45min. Kagaonsen Sta. to Kanazawa Sta., then take a bus from Kanazawa Sta.



Kutaniyaki Art Museum



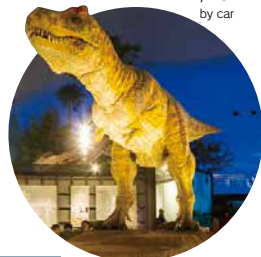
Koroji Bridge at Yamanaka Onsen

## FUKUI

1hr., 10min. by car

## Fukui Prefectural Dinosaur Museum

This giant domed building houses an incredible selection of dinosaur skeleton replicas, fossils, specimens, life-size dioramas, reconstructions and more, making it the perfect destination for dinosaur lovers of all ages.



Nagashibune Boat on the Daishoji River

## TOYAMA&GIFU

2hr., 45min. Kagaonsen Sta. to Kanazawa Sta., then take a bus from Kanazawa Sta.



Info on highway buses to Shirakawa-go Village and Takayama

## Hida Takayama

Irrigation channels run below rows of latticed bay windows, along roads lined with machiya townhouses and entrance curtains at long-established shops. Enjoy a stroll around town with a Hida beef croquette or some grilled Hida beef on a skewer.



Note: Times listed are estimates, and may vary depending on traffic conditions.



Info on Keifuku Buses



Info on Kaga-Echizen Guide Taxi service

## KANAZAWA



21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa

An art museum with a beautiful glass exterior, and grounds designed to be as open to the city as a park.



### Kanazawa's Three Chayagai Districts

Enjoy a walk through these beautiful traditional geisha districts, with their old-fashioned latticed windows and stone streets.



### Omi-cho Market

The perfect place in Kanazawa to shop for incredibly fresh seafood like fish, crabs, shrimp and more, or fruit, dried seafood, and other everyday items.

## FUKUI



### Fukui Prefectural Dinosaur Museum

One of Japan's largest museums dedicated to dinosaurs, paleontology, and earth science.



### Ski jam Katsuyama

One of western Japan's largest snow resorts, surrounded by the incredible grandeur of the peaks of the Hakusan mountains.

## TOYAMA



### Tateyama Kurobe Alpine Route

A ride through Japan's Northern Alps, rising some 3,000 meters above sea level, for spectacular natural beauty all year round.

# How to get Yamashiro, Kaga

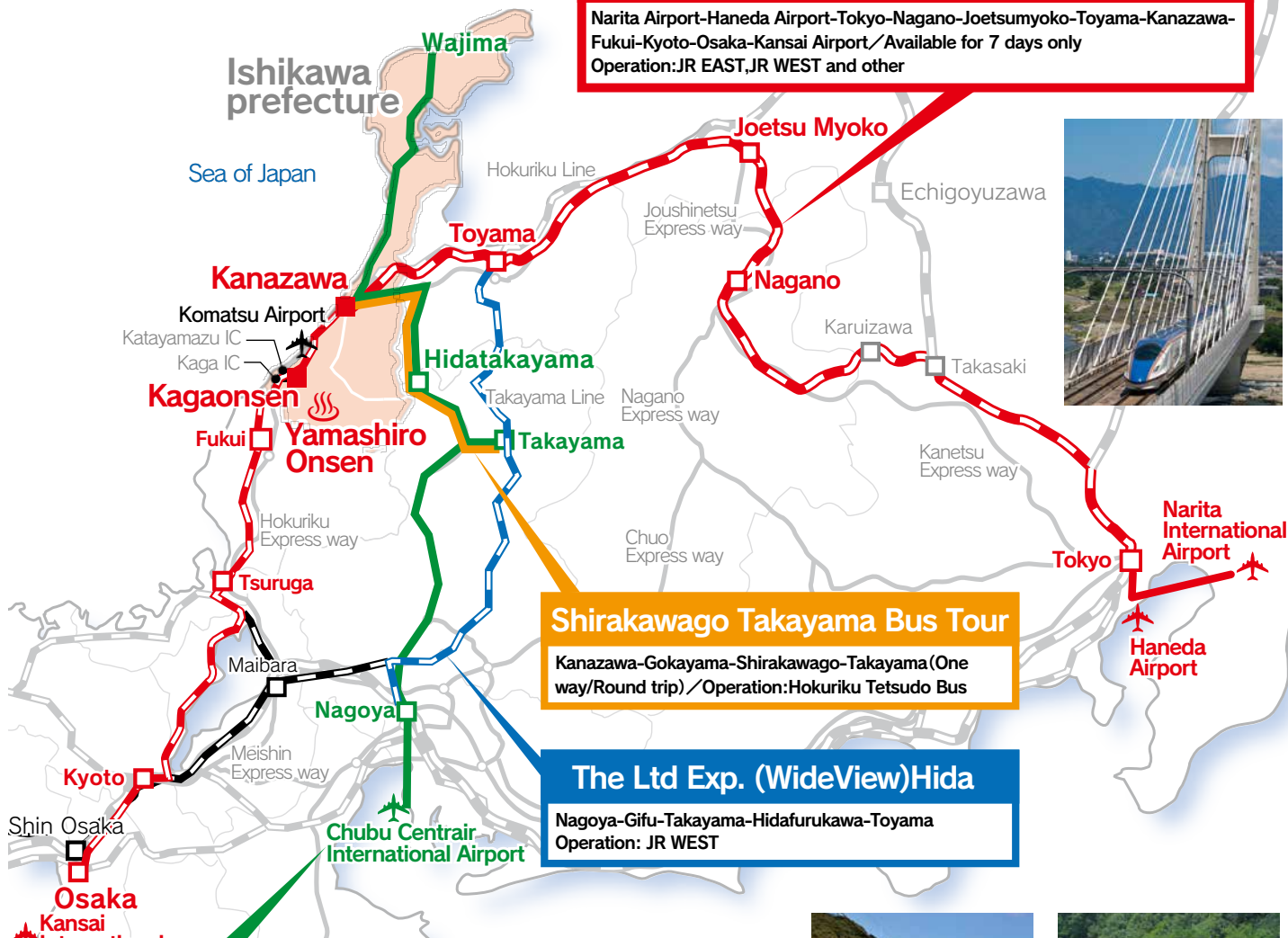
**New Golden Route!**



## Hokuriku Arch Pass

<https://www.jreast.co.jp/multi/pass/hokurikuarch.html>

Narita Airport-Haneda Airport-Tokyo-Nagano-Joetsumyoko-Toyama-Kanazawa-Fukui-Kyoto-Osaka-Kansai Airport/Available for 7 days only  
Operation:JR EAST, JR WEST and other



## Shirakawago Takayama Bus Tour

Kanazawa-Gokayama-Shirakawago-Takayama (One way/Round trip)/Operation:Hokuriku Tetsudo Bus

## The Ltd Exp. (WideView)Hida

Nagoya-Gifu-Takayama-Hidafurukawa-Toyama  
Operation: JR WEST

## The Dragon Route Bus Pass

Chubu Airport-Nagoya-Gujohachiman-Takayama-Shirakawago-Kanazawa-Wajima  
Operation:Meitetsu Bus and other



### MEMO

**Push-type information app for foreign visitors to Japan**  
"Safety tips"  
Android·iOS

**Trouble & accident counter**  
Police Help Line  
076-225-0555  
Multilingual support  
Weekday

**Medical institution (Kaga-city area)**  
Kudo Hospital (English and Chinese available)  
0761-73-3312  
Kaga-city Medical Center (English available)  
0761-72-1188

## KAGA



**Yunokuni no Mori Traditional Handicrafts Village**  
Set inside a natural forest, this craft village with traditional style houses offers many hands-on activities covering a wide range of local handicraft techniques such as pottery, silk-dyeing, and making soba noodles.



**Natadera Temple**  
Originally founded by a Zen master in AD 717 and rebuilt during the Edo Period after having suffered harm and destruction multiple times, Natadera is one of Japan's most famous Buddhist temples outside Kyoto and one of many Mount Hakuasan worshipping religious facilities in the area.



**Kakusenkei Gorges**  
Further down Yamanaka Onsen, Kakusenkei is a 1.3 km path stretching along the banks of the Daishoji River, gently meandering through very picturesque and colorful gorges. Going up and down past graceful waterfalls and luminous clearings, this highly praised promenade offers splendid views at every season but most especially in autumn.



# Accessibility

## By Car to Katayamazu IC or Kaga IC

- Tokyo to Katayamazu IC** (5 hr., 40 min./494 km)  
 Kan-etsu Expressway → Fujioka JCT → Joetsu JCT  
 → Hokuriku Expressway
- Tokyo to Kaga IC** (5 hr., 35 min./522 km)  
 Tomei & Shin-Tomei Expressway → Komaki JCT  
 → Meishin Expressway → Maihara JCT → Hokuriku Expressway
- Osaka to Kaga IC** (2 hr., 50 min./250 km)  
 Meishin Expressway → Maihara JCT → Hokuriku Expressway
- Nagoya to Kaga IC** (2 hr., 20 min./210 km)  
 Meishin Expressway → Maihara JCT → Hokuriku Expressway
- Maibara to Kaga IC** (1 hr., 25 min./130 km)  
 Maihara JCT → Hokuriku Expressway
- Niigata to Katayamazu IC** (3 hr., 40 min./335 km)  
 Hokuriku Expressway
- Nagano to Katayamazu IC** (3 hr., 30 min./290 km)  
 Joshin-Etsu Expressway → Joetsu JCT → Hokuriku Expressway
- Kanazawa to Katayamazu IC** (20 min./32 km)  
 Hokuriku Expressway
- 10 min. drive from Kaga IC to Yamashiro Onsen
  - 15 min. drive from Katayamazu IC to Yamashiro Onsen

## By Highway Bus to Yamashiro Onsen

**Osaka (Namba OCAT) to Yamashiro Onsen**  
 (5 hr., each way; one round trip per day)  
 Contact: Kishiwada Kanko Bus Co., Ltd. • Tel: (072) 436-2226



## By Plane to Komatsu Airport

- |                     |                  |                        |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| Haneda to Komatsu   | (1 hr.)          | 10 round trips per day |
| Narita to Komatsu   | (1 hr., 15 min.) | 1 round trip per day   |
| Sapporo to Komatsu  | (1 hr., 35 min.) | 1 round trip per day   |
| Sendai to Komatsu   | (1 hr., 5 min.)  | 2 round trips per day  |
| Fukuoka to Komatsu  | (1 hr., 20 min.) | 4 round trips per day  |
| Naha to Komatsu     | (2 hr., 10 min.) | 1 round trip per day   |
| Seoul to Komatsu    | (1 hr., 45 min.) | 3 round trips per week |
| Shanghai to Komatsu | (2 hr., 5 min.)  | 4 round trips per week |
| Taipei to Komatsu   | (2 hr., 50 min.) | 5 round trips per week |

- 25 min. drive from Komatsu Airport to Yamashiro Onsen
- 25 min. bus ride from Komatsu Airport to JR Kagaonsen Station (5 round trips per day)



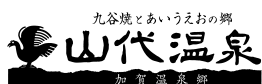
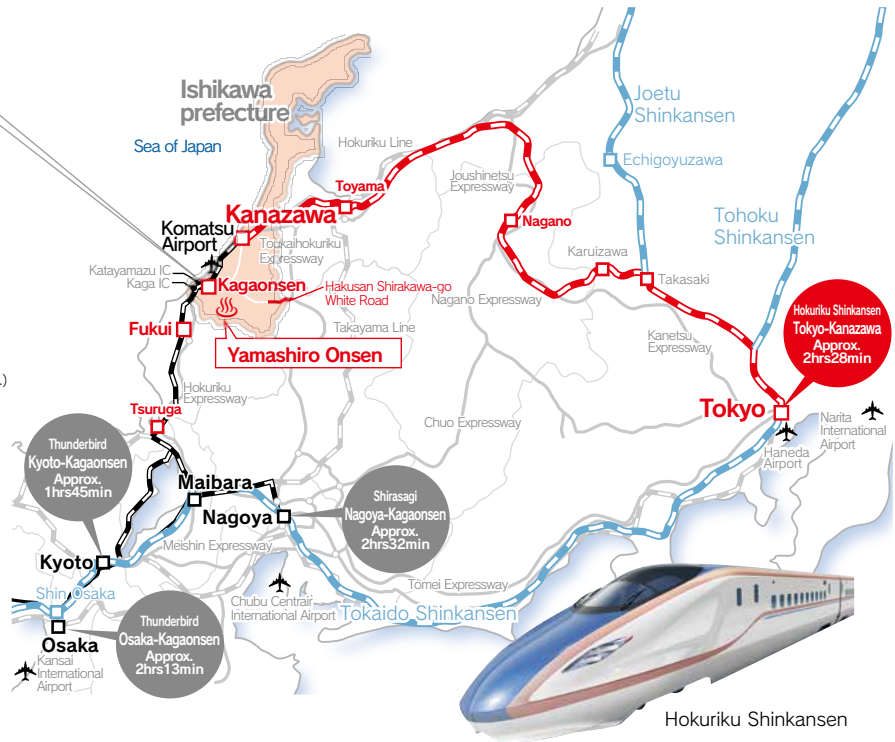
## Yamashiro Onsen Tourist Association-affiliated Ryokan Inns

- |                                |               |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Araya Totoan                   | ☎0761-77-0010 |
| Fujiya Ryokan                  | ☎0761-77-1122 |
| Houshoutei                     | ☎0761-77-1143 |
| Onoya                          | ☎0761-77-4113 |
| Tatami                         | ☎0761-77-2200 |
| Tachibana Shikitei             | ☎0761-77-0001 |
| Hatori                         | ☎0761-77-8200 |
| Beniya Mukayu                  | ☎0761-77-1340 |
| Hoshino Resort Kai Kaga        | ☎0570-073-011 |
| Hotel Kikyou                   | ☎0761-76-1130 |
| Bansyoukaku                    | ☎0761-77-1515 |
| Morinosumika RESORT&SPA        | ☎0761-77-0150 |
| Kaga-Hyakumangoku              | ☎0761-77-0200 |
| Yamashitaya                    | ☎0761-77-2222 |
| Yuzankaku                      | ☎0761-77-1400 |
| Yukai Resort Saichoraku        | ☎0570-550-178 |
| Yunokuni Tensyo                | ☎0761-77-1234 |
| Hakusan Shoubutei              | ☎0761-77-0335 |
| Yoshidaya Sannoukaku           | ☎0761-77-1001 |
| Live Max Resort Kaga-Yamashiro | ☎0761-77-3060 |
| Rurikoh                        | ☎0761-77-2323 |

## By JR Train to JR Kagaonsen Station

- Tokyo to Kanazawa to Kagaonsen Station** (3 hr., 10 min.)  
 Hokuriku Shinkansen → (Transfer at Kanazawa Sta.)  
 → Hokuriku Main Line Limited Express (Thunderbird or Shirasagi)
- Tokyo to Maibara to Kagaonsen Station** (3 hr., 50 min.)  
 Tokaido Shinkansen → (Transfer at Maibara Sta.)  
 → Hokuriku Main Line Limited Express (Shirasagi)
- Osaka to Kagaonsen Station** (2 hr., 11 min.)  
 Hokuriku Main Line Limited Express (Thunderbird)
- Kyoto to Kagaonsen Station** (1 hr., 45 min.)  
 Hokuriku Main Line Limited Express (Thunderbird)
- Nagoya to Kagaonsen Station** (2 hr., 30 min.)  
 Hokuriku Main Line Limited Express (Shirasagi)
- Kanazawa to Kagaonsen Station**  
 (as little as 24 min.; at least 35 Limited Express trains per day)  
 Hokuriku Main Line Limited Express

- 10 min. drive from Kagaonsen Station to Yamashiro Onsen



www.yamashiro-spa.or.jp

Home of Kutaniyaki Ceramics, Bengara Latticework, and Hot Springs.  
 Yamashiro Onsen, a Kaga Onsen Hot Spring Town.

Yamashiro Onsen, Kaga City, Ishikawa Prefecture  
 Yamashiro Onsen Tourist Association Tel: (0761) 77-1144

Yamashiro Onsen Search

