

Travel Guide for Noshiro City of Akita Prefecture

Welcome to a city blessed with nature -

Noshiro City



City of Woods - Noshiro

Since the Middle Ages, Noshiro was a prosperous land with trades focusing on lumber, especially Akita Cedars. From mid 1600s, Akita Cedar and rice, as well as gold, silver and bronze from Ani area were able to be sent to Kyoto-Osaka area due to the "Kitamaebune (lit. Northern-bound Ships)," wooden ships that sail in a west rotation of The Sea of Japan.

During the Edo period, Noshiro prospered as the center of lumber administration of the Akita Domain. Upon entering the era of modernization, Naomoto Isaka introduced machineries imported from Britain for sawing lumber and modernized lumber processing methods, transactions and trade methods in 1897. At the same time, the timely eruption of the Russo-Japanese War further boosted the growth of the lumber industry in Noshiro. From the Taisho Era to the early Showa Era, Noshiro's lumber industry grew greatly and reached its peak of prosperity, earning itself the title of "Leading Orient City of Woods". Even now, various wood products such as building materials for houses and wooden handicrafts are produced in Noshiro, and are the representative industries of Noshiro.

Registered Tangible Cultural Property
Natural Akita Cedar Sanctuary

Former-Ryotei Kaneyu



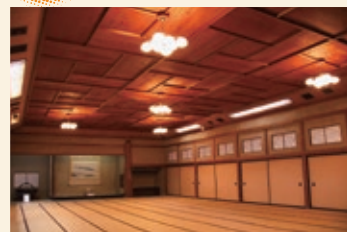
1st Floor Hall Mangetsu-no-Ma

The ceilings of the 42 Tatami Mats wide hall are 9m long planks made from the log of 1 natural Akita Cedar with Naka-moku (lit. Middle Figures).

As the planks are cut by a regular saw instead of a chainsaw, you will see saw marks if you look closely.

Point of Interest

2nd Floor Great Hall



The Great Hall is 110 Tatami Mats wide and has a coffered ceiling made with 4.5 Tatami Mats division Zenmen-Moku (lit. Entire Surface Figures) Akita Cedar.

The alcove post in the 5.5 Tatamits wide Tokonoma emits a presence comparable to the Great Hall.

Former-Ryotei Kaneyu was constructed in 1937. The building is a symbol of the City of Woods of Noshiro. The building is constructed with natural Akita Cedars from former Futatsui Town, Nibuna. The combination of the grand structure of the historical building and the elegant scenery is a proof of modern Noshiro culture and the prosperity of lumber processing technology. In 1998, the building became a tangible cultural property of Japan.

Let me be your guide



Noshiro Shunkeinuri (Permanent Exhibition)

The Shunkeinuri loved by the noblemen of Edo as the pride of Satake Domain in the Edo period. The pale yellow is said to turn golden in colour the more it is used.



You can make arrangements for rentals for the room of your choice as well as preparation of meals.

Rental Hours/ 9:00 a.m.~9:00 p.m.

(Reservation required)

Rental Fees/1 Hour 90 yen~

※Please inquire for more information as prices and contents may be subject to change due to changes in seasons and order shops.



There are volunteer tour guides that will guide you around the premises. Please make your request at the latest 1 day before the day of your arrival at our premises.

Tour Guide Fees/ 500 yen (For Groups of 6 and Above 100 yen per Person)
(High School Students and Below are Free of Charge)

Volunteer Guide/ Kaneya Tamotsu



[MAP-1]

Opening Hours/ 9:30 a.m.~4:30 p.m.

Free Entrance

Holidays/ Monday (In case of holidays, the first weekday from the next day onwards), 29th December ~ 31st January

Inquiry or Registration/ ☎0185-55-3355

(Noshiro City Former-Ryotei Kaneyu)

Homepage/ <http://www.kaneyu.jp>



Isaka Memorial Museum [MAP-1]

A museum about "Naomoto Isaka", Father of Noshiro City, The City of Lumber.

◇Operating Hours: Every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from April ~ September (1st October ~ 31st March are Holidays)

☎0185-54-1289

※The museum is also open on holidays by request. Our contact number during holidays is

☎0185-73-5285 (Noshiro City Lifelong Learning and Sports Promotion Division)

Point of Interest

Naomoto Isaka - Father of Noshiro City, The City of Lumber

Naomoto Isaka was born in Ibaraki Prefecture in 1860. He studied Mito-Kokugaku. After the Meiji Restoration, he became a student of Yukichi Fukuzawa and enrolled in Keio University. He acquired knowledge about Western civilization as well as Yukichi Fukuzawa's rationalism.

At the age of 29, he became the branch manager of Noshiro Branch of the RINSAN Co. Ltd. He remained in Noshiro City after the dissolution of the RINSAN Co. Ltd. and established Noshiro Zaimoku & Co. Ltd., Noshiro Hikizai & Co. Ltd. and Akita Seizai & Co. Ltd.

He introduced large scale modern facilities, new types of sawing machinery from Britain, as well as technological advancements, thereby established the status of "Kingdom of Lumber".



Nibunamizusawa Cedar Plant Community Forest Reserve

[MAP-14 page]

The Nibunamizusawa Cedar Plant Community Forest Reserve covers an area of about 18 hectares and consists of roughly 3000 natural Akita Cedars. The trees are 1 meter in diameter and are about 50 meters tall.

There is a 30 minute per round strolling course where you are able to enjoy the beauty of natural Akita Cedar.

Point of Interest

Japan Number One Natural Akita Cedar

"Kimimachi Sugi" is a cedar tree that is 1.64m in diameter and 58m tall. The estimated age of the tree is around 250 years-old. A measurement of the tree in 1996 earned it the title of "The tallest tree in Japan" and it is named "Kimimachi Sugi".



Noshiro City Woodwork School

[MAP-2]

The school has a fully equipped orthodox woodworking workshop that will satisfy the needs of woodworkers of all levels. From the creation of tissue boxes to pot stands, you are able to experience a variety of woodworking.

Machinery Operating Hours 8:30 a.m.~4:00 p.m.

Holidays/ 2nd, 4th, 5th Sundays, holidays and Year-End and New Year holidays

Inquiry/ ☎0185-52-5249



Institute of Wood Technology, Akita Prefectural University

[MAP-1]

Institute of Wood Technology of Akita Prefectural University is the only technical training and research institution in the university related to "Lumber". Cutting edge research and training are carried out in this institution.

☎0185-52-6900



Tenjin Workshop [MAP-3]

Tenjin Workshop was formerly Tenjin Elementary School before renovation. Woodworking classes and canoe-making classes are available.

Opening Hours/ 9:00 a.m.~4:00 p.m.

Holidays/ Saturday, Sunday, Year-End and New Year holidays

☎0185-88-8815



Bishamon Ikoi-no-Mori [MAP-14 page]

Bishamon Ikoi-no-Mori (lit. Forest where Bishamon Rests) is located in Tokiwa area. in the outskirts of Noshiro City. The area is a fertile Bishamon marsh. Camping as well as fishing, insect collecting and stargazing are among the activities carried out in the area.

[Operating Hours] 20th April ~ 10th November

[Entrance Fee] Free of Charge

Bungalow 1 Building per night: 2,390 yen

Permanent Tent per night: 590 yen

(Tents brought in by customers are free of charge)

Battery Car per ride: 100 yen

Barbeque Pan Rental: Free of Charge

Inquiry/ Bishamon Ikoi-no-Mori Management Building ☎0185-59-2120

Noshiro City Forestry and Lumber Promotion Division ☎0185-89-2250

Kaze-no-Matsubara

Kaze-no-Matsubara (lit. Pine Grove of the Wind) is a buffer strip located along the coast of Noshiro City. The forest boasts itself as the largest buffer strip in Japan, with an east-west width of 1km and north-south length of 14km, covering an area of 760 hectares. In this large area of land are approximately 700 pine grove trees. These pine groves were planted since the Edo period and even now the trees still continue to protect the streets of Noshiro City.

Kaze-no-Matsubara also provides various spots such as a bicycle course, a resting space and a "Health Building Road" filled with woodchips, for you to refresh your mind and heart.

[MAP-1]

The 6 Crowned Glories

Selected as one of the Top 100 Japanese Natures that should be Preserved in the 21st Century

Selected as one of the Top 100 Japanese Famous Pines of the 21st Century

Top 100 Forest Bathing Forests in Japan

Selected as one of the Top 100 Japanese Areas with White Sands and Green Pine Trees

Selected as one of the Top 100 Japanese Soundscapes

Selected as one of the Top 100 Fragrant Landscapes



We can guide you!



Kaze-no-Matsubara Guide Society
☎0185-52-1582 (Akibayashi)



San Wood Noshiro
(Kaze-no-Matsubara Information Center)

[MAP-1]

An introduction of the history of Kaze-no-Matsubara can be found here. This place also serves as a resting area. We also offer bicycle rental services free of charge.

Operating Hours: 9:00 ~ 22:00
(until 21:00 for Sports Facilities)

Holidays/ every Monday, during year-end and New Year holidays, and on the following day of public holidays (Open on national holidays)

☎0185-52-3121



Noshiro Park [MAP-1]

Noshiro Park is a resting place for the citizens of Noshiro City. Sakuras and Azaleas can be seen blooming in spring. The view from the park is great with Yoneshirogawa River and Shirakami-Sanchi visible.

Noshiro Park Spring Festival (Sakura, Azalea)

From late April to early June

Sakura: Around 700 trees, Azalea: Around 3,400 trees

Light displays during festive periods



Tourist Information Center
(NPO Corporation Noshiro Tourism Association)

[MAP-1]

The tourist information center provides information on events, accommodations and tourist facilities. Please feel free to visit.

☎0185-88-8802

Homepage <http://welcomenoshiro.com/>

Shirakami-Sanchi

Shirakami-Sanchi is the generic name of the vast mountain region spanning approximately 130,000 hectares across Akita Prefecture and Aomori Prefecture. The region houses the world's largest primeval beech forest that has went almost untouched by humans. The importance of the nature and ecosystem of the forest is recognized worldwide. In 1993, the forest was registered as the world's first natural heritage in Japan by UNESCO.

In the vicinity of Shirakami Spot

Futatsumori
(Border of Fujisato Town and Ajigasawa Town)
Tomeyama (Happo Town)
Dakdedai Nature Observation Education Forest
(Fujisato Town)



Shirakami Cruise

The Shirakami Cruise departs from Noshiro Port and Hachimori Port, and offer tours where you get to enjoy views of the coastline such as Shirakami-Sanchi viewing from the Sea of Japan. You can also experience sea sprays and rocky boat rides in sport fishing boats.

☎0185-54-7711 (Tourist first)

Departure dates: 6/1~9/30

Capacity: 10 persons and above

Noshiro Port

Hamanasu Observatory Deck [MAP-1]

Hamanasu Observatory Deck is a 27m tall observatory located in the green harbour. The observatory offers views of the Sea of Japan, the madder red sunset, as well as the widespread greenery, "Kaze-no-Matsubara (lit. Pine Grove of the Winds)". The view towards the north is the world heritage, Shirakami-Sanchi while towards the south is the Oga Peninsula.

Operating Hours: April, October 9:00~18:00

May~September 9:00~19:00

November~March 9:00~17:00

Free entrance



Hamanasu Gallery

By using the riverdiike of the Omori area as its campus ground, the 360 division of murals painted by citizens with unbounded imagination and creativity, together with the wide blue Sea of Japan as its background, forms an open-air museum that spans 1200m long.



Basketball City

Towards a
livelier town
through basketball

~ Noshiro City promotes the development of "Basketball City" ~



Noshiro Cup High School Basketball Tournament Selection

Noshiro Cup High School Basketball Tournament Selection is a basketball tournament league held during 3 ~ 5 May every year. It is called "The Fourth National Convention" after the Inter High, National Polity and Winter Cup.

Noshiro Basketball Museum [MAP-1]

NOSHIRO BASKETBALL LIBRARY & MUSEUM

Noshiro Basketball Museum exhibits international and local basketball information. There is also dynamic footage shown on a 100 inches large screen. Come and see, touch and experience the history of basketball. at Noshiro Basketball Museum.

Operating Hours : 9:30~18:00

Holidays /

Year-End and New Year Holidays
(29 December ~ 3 January)

Contact Us / Noshiro Hatamachi 11, 23

TEL 0185-88-8876

FAX 0185-88-8875

E-mail katsuryoku@city.noshiro.akita.jp

Sport Facilities



Noshiro Yamamoto Sports Resort Center

Arenas [MAP-1]

Noshiro Yamamoto Sports Resort Center is equipped with various types of facilities. The sports center also provides hostel accommodation as well as venue for tournaments.

[Facilities] Arena, running track, warmup, training rooms, seminar rooms, meeting rooms, accommodation, spa, restaurants

Operating Hours: 9:00~21:00

Holidays/ 28 December ~ 4 January

☎0185-54-9200



Hisashi Yamada Submarine Stadium

[MAP-1]

Hisashi Yamada Submarine Stadium is a baseball stadium named after Hisashi Yamada for his achievements during his time in the Hankyu Braves (now ORIX). Hisashi Yamada was born in Noshiro City and was a pitcher. Scheduled for reopening after renewal in 2016.

Gifts such as trophies received by Hisashi Yamada are on display.

☎0185-54-8994



Kaze-no-Matsubara Athletic Stadium

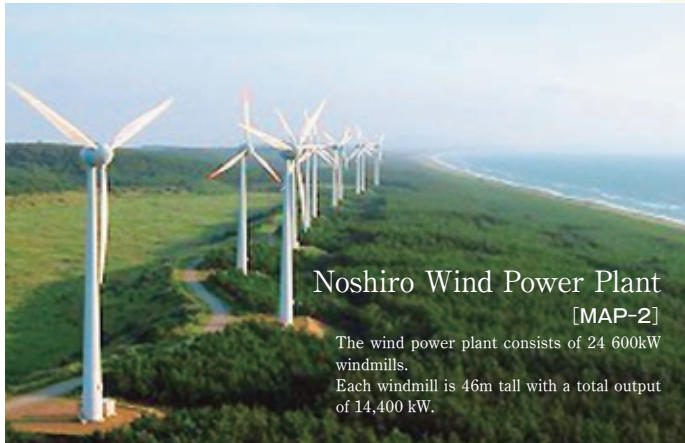
[MAP-1]

The Kaze-no-Matsubara Athletic Stadium has been renovated into an all-weather athletics stadium on 1 April 2012. The stadium is used for various competitions as well as a venue for sports events and recreation by schools and companies.

The tracks are all-weather types and one lap is 400 meters. The fields are grass fields.

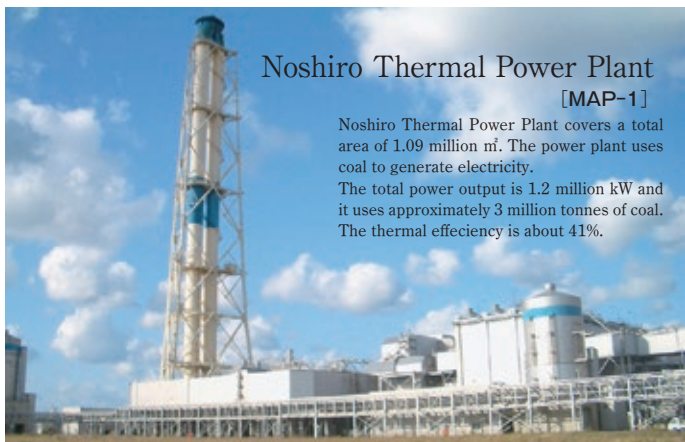
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Energy



Noshiro Wind Power Plant
[MAP-2]

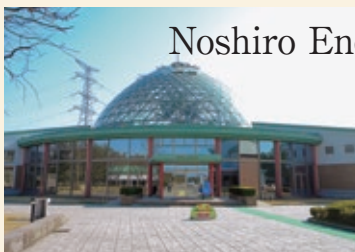
The wind power plant consists of 24 600kW windmills.
Each windmill is 46m tall with a total output of 14,400 kW.



Noshiro Thermal Power Plant
[MAP-1]

Noshiro Thermal Power Plant covers a total area of 1.09 million m². The power plant uses coal to generate electricity.
The total power output is 1.2 million kW and it uses approximately 3 million tonnes of coal.
The thermal efficiency is about 41%.

※Reservation is required for site tours. ☎0185-52-2955 (Noshiro Energyum Park)



Noshiro Energyum Park [MAP-1]

In the PR Hall of Tohoku Electric Power are parks with tropical plants, created using excess heat released from the thermal power plant, the Noshiro Nebunagashi Museum exhibiting hanging lanterns of Noshiro Nebunagashi and Noshiro Kites, the "Adventure Plaza" and many more.

Operating Hours: 9:30~16:30
Holidays/ Every Monday (Opens on public holidays), year end and New Year holidays
Free Entrance ☎0185-52-2955

Outer Space

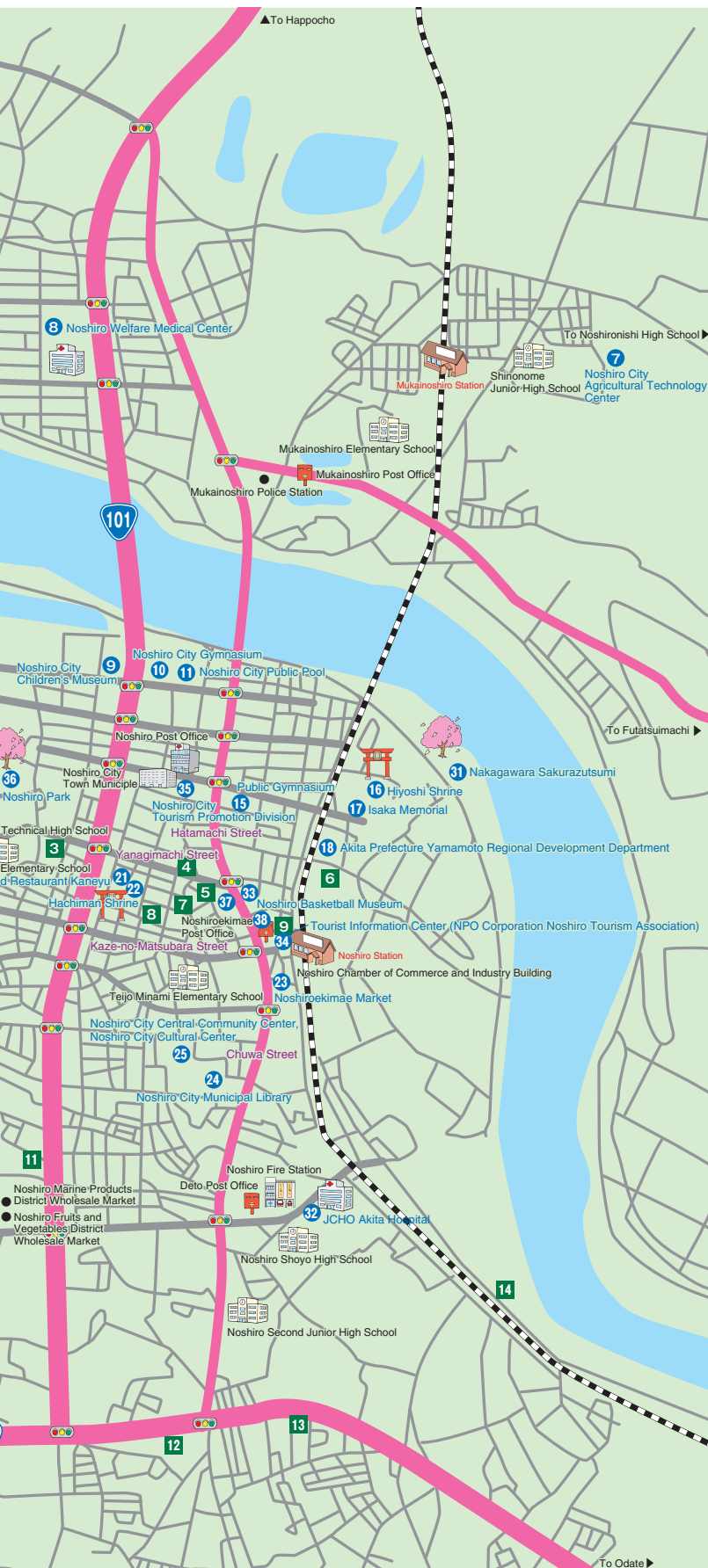


JAXA Noshiro Rocket Test Site [MAP-2]

JAXA Noshiro Rocket Test Site was established in 1962 as a research center affiliated with Tokyo University. The site houses Japan's largest vacuum combustion test building where ground combustion tests of M-V Rockets which help put "Hayabusa" into orbit and next generation Epsilon Launch Vehicles were carried out.

Operating Hours: 9:00~16:00
Holidays/ Saturdays, Sundays, public holidays, year-end and New Year holidays
☎0185-52-7123 ※Booking is required for tour on test site





Noshiro City Children's Museum [MAP-1]

Noshiro City Children's Museum is a facility where you can learn and experience science. Exhibitions related to space and cosmos such as planetariums, satellites and spacecrafts models can be found here.

Operating Hours: 9:00~17:00
 Holidays/ Mondays (except public holidays), every 4th Friday, the following day after public holidays, year end and New Year holidays
 ☎0185-52-1277

Main Facilities and Tourist Attractions

Area code (0185)	
Map Number, Facility Name	Phone Number
1 Yamada Hisashi Submarine Stadium (Noshiro Ballpark)	54-8994
2 Noshiro Yamamoto Sports Resort Center Arenas	54-9200
3 Ochiai First and Second Tennis Court	53-4181
4 Noshiro City B & G Marine Center	54-4419
5 Noshiro City Archery Field	54-4419
6 Noshiro City Tsuchiyuka Gymnasium (Noshiro-shi Tsuchiyuka Taiiku-kan)	54-1661
7 Noshiro City Agricultural Technology Center	52-2247
8 Noshiro Welfare Medical Center	52-3111
9 Noshiro City Children's Museum (Noshiro Kodomo-kan)	52-1277
10 Noshiro City Gymnasium	54-3607
11 Noshiro City Public Pool	54-9445
12 Public Stadium	54-3607
13 Kaze-no-Matsubara Athletic Field	52-1085
14 Hamanasu Gallery, Hamanasu Observatory Deck (Inquiry: Noshiro Tourism Promotion Division)	89-2179
15 Public Gymnasium	54-3453
16 Hiyoishi Shrine	54-1443
17 Isaka Memorial	54-1289
18 Akita Prefecture Yamamoto Regional Development Department (Regional Planning Division Shirakami Promotion Group)	55-8006
19 Kaze-no-Matsubara (Inquiry: Kaze-no-Matsubara Information Center)	52-3121
20 San Wood Noshiro (Kaze-no-Matsubara Information Center)	52-3121
21 Noshiro Old Restaurant Kaneyu (Noshiro-shi Kyuuryotei Kaneyu)	55-3355
22 Hachiman Shrine	52-2925
23 Noshiroekimae Market	54-5831
24 Noshiro City Municipal Library	54-1114
25 Noshiro City Central Community Center, Noshiro City Cultural Center	54-8141
26 Nebunagashi Museum (Inquiry: Noshiro Energium Park)	52-2955
27 Noshiro Energium Park	52-2955
28 Noshiro Thermal Power Plant (Inquiry: Noshiro Energium Park)	52-2955
29 Akita Prefectural University of Advanced Wood Processing Institute	52-6900
30 Noshiro Yamamoto Regional Exchange Center	54-5300
31 Nakagawara Sakurazutsumi	
32 JCHO Akita Hospital	52-3271
33 Noshiro Basketball Museum	88-8876
34 Tourist Information Center (NPO Corporation Noshiro Tourism Association)	88-8802
35 Noshiro City Tourism Promotion Division	89-2179
36 Noshiro Park (Inquiry: Noshiro Tourism Promotion Division)	89-2179
37 Hatamachi Shinkyoten	89-1414
38 Noshiro Woodwork Market	88-8592
Kaze-no-Matsubara Guide Society (Akibayashi)	52-1582
Akita Shirakami Club (Shirakami Cruise)	54-7711
Onagori Festival Executive Committee	54-6760
Executive Committee of the Noshiro Minato Fireworks Festival (Noshiro Chamber of Commerce and Industry-house)	52-6341
Noshiro Tanabata "Tenku no Fuyajo" Council Secretariat (Noshiro Chamber of Commerce and Industry-house)	52-6344

Accommodations

Area code (0185)	
Map Number, Facility Name	Phone Number
1 Yuraku no Yado Noshiro	54-2121
2 Ryoso Shirakami Inn	55-2500
3 Hotel Ohara	52-5100
4 Sekitei Inn	52-3867
5 Noshiro Town Hotel Minami	55-2256
6 Noshiro Castle Hotel	55-1111
7 Shinoda Inn	54-6953
8 Azuma Inn	52-3715
9 Ekimae Inn	52-5828
10 Hatakeyama Inn	52-4550
11 Hotel New Green Noshiro	54-3511
12 Hotel Minami	55-2255
13 Hotel Route Inn Noshiro	89-1003
14 Kawadokoberabo	53-3040
15 Kashiwaso Inn	52-5252
16 Noshiro Yamamoto Sports Resort Center Arinas	54-9200

Hiyama Area

Noshiro City Hiyama District was the center of NoshiroYamamoto area for more than about 400 years from the middle of Muromachi period until the end of Edo period and was the territory of Tagaya family, vessel of Akita Domain Lord Satake family. During the middle of Muromachi period, the place was the stronghold of Hiyama Ando family, which later became the Daimyo in the Warring States period.

Hiyama Area Designated Cultural Property

Hiyama Ando Family Castle Mansion Ruins (National Historical Site)
Joumyoji Temple (Prefecture Designated Historical Site)
Tahouin (Prefecture Designated Historical Site)
Kamosuichirizuka (Prefecture Designated Historical Site)
Hiyama-Oiwake-Kyu-Ushukaidou-Matsunamiki (Prefecture Historical Site)
Motaihachiman Shrine (City Designated Cultural Property)
Goanshimizu (City Designated Cultural Property)
Yakushi Shrine (City Designated Tangible Cultural Property)

Hiyama Castle Ruins [MAP-2]

Hiyama Castle was the main castle of Hiyama Ando family for five generations. The mountain castle is 1500m wide east-west and 900m wide north-south. On the west is Ushukaido that runs parallel to it. Due to the location of the castle, it is also said to be "Kiri Yamajo (lit. Mountain Castle of Fog)" and "Horinouchijo (lit. Hori-no-Uchi Castle)". In the present, it is used as a park.



View from San-no-Maru



Honmaru Ruins



Let me
guide you!



Noshiro Hiyama Area History Guide Association
☎0185-58-5316 (Mr. Kosugiyama)

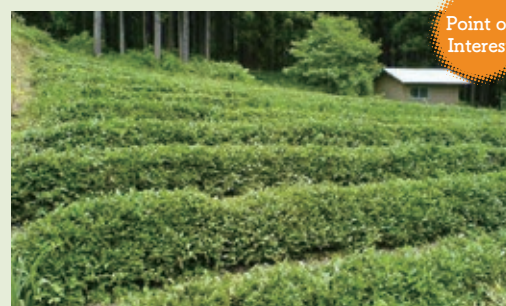
Tahouin [MAP-2]



Point of
Interest

Tahouin is also known as a famous spot for its Shidare-Sakura. In spring, many people visit to have a glimpse of the picturesque scenery of the splendid blooming Sakuras and experience the historical landscape.

Tahouin was the family temple of Hiyama Castle lord in the modern times. The temple was moved to Hiyama in 1610. The current main hall was reconstructed in 1771 and the characteristics of the main hall of Soto School of Buddhism is well depicted in its architecture. The corridor is composed of Nightingale Flooring that is considered rare in Tohoku region. The garden is said to imitate the ones in Ginakakuji Temple in Kyoto.



Point of
Interest

Hiyama Tea

Hiyama Tea that is known as the northern limit for tea production. It is said that Hiyama Tea started from the incident where one of the vessels of Hiyama Castle lord Tagaya brought back tea seeds from Uji of Kyoto and planted it in Kyoho era.

Hiyama Tea is a rare native species of tea of value that is unmodified since Edo period.

Even now, the tea is still produced using traditional methods such as plucking by hand and rubbing by hand.



Hiyama Regional Hub Facility Hiyama Soutoku Mansion [MAP-2]

Hiyama Regional Hub Facility is established as a place for imparting regional history and culture, and to serve as a place for interaction and exchange of information. The place is equipped with conference rooms, kitchen, workshops, multipurpose halls and historical exchange space.

A fee is required for use of conference rooms, kitchen, workshops and multipurpose halls.

Opening Hours / 9:00 a.m.~ 10:00 p.m.
Inquiry/ ☎0185-58-3101



Otononuma [MAP-2]

Otonuma is a swamp created artificially for irrigation. The swamp has a rich wetland environment.

Every year, wild birds such as wild goose use the place as a rest stop during migration.

Point of Interest

Resort Shirakami

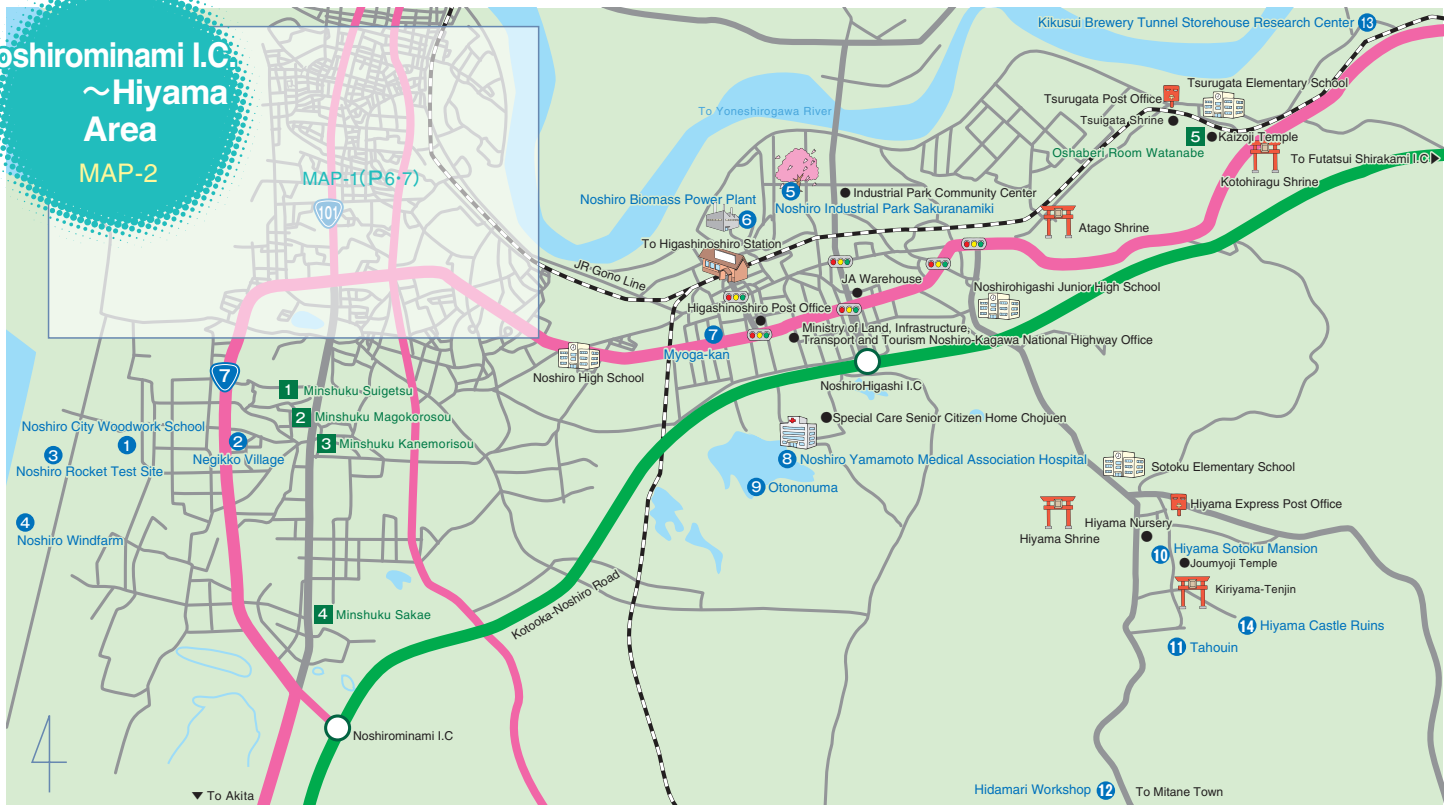


JR Noshiro Station

The 147.2km long Gono Line connects Kawabe Station in Aomori Prefecture and Higashinoshiro Station in Akita Prefecture. The line has received much attention nationwide as the local line that people want to ride at least once. A local line that is right by the sea is considered rare even in Japan, and what's best is you get to see Shirakami-Sanchi and The Sea of Japan.

Challenge yourself at the basketball shooting range during your stop at Noshiro Station. Attractive souvenirs are awarded to those who manage to score a hit.

Noshirominami I.C. ~Hiyama Area MAP-2



Main Facilities and Tourist Attractions

Telephone Area Code (0185)

Map Number and Facility Name	Telephone Number
1 Noshiro City Woodwork School (Woodworking Hands-on)	52-5249
2 Negikko Village	52-6200
3 Noshiro Rocket Test Site	52-7123
4 Noshiro Windfarm (Inquiry: Noshiro Energiumpark)	52-2955
5 Noshiro Industrial Park Sakuranamiki (Inquiry: Industrial Park Community Center)	58-2400
6 Noshiro Biomass Power Plant	70-1255
7 Myoga-kan	58-3005
8 Noshiro Yamamoto Medical Association Hospital	58-3311
9 Otononuma (Inquiry: Sakakitchaikiryoku)	54-7930
10 Hiyama Sotoku Mansion	58-3101
11 Tahouin	58-5027
12 Hidamari Workshop (Woodworking Hands-on Experience)	58-2378
13 Kikusui Brewery Tunnel Storehouse Research Center	52-2271

Telephone Area Code (0185)

Map Number and Facility Name	Telephone Number
14 Hiyama Castle Ruins (Inquiry: Noshiro City Tourism Promotion Division)	89-2179
Bishamon Ikoi-no-Mori (Management Building)	59-2120
Hiyama Area Historical Guide Society (Alms)	53-3351

Accommodations

Telephone Area Code (0185)

Map Number and Facility Name	Telephone Number
1 Minshuku Suigetsu	52-2753
2 Minshuku Magokorosou	54-1000
3 Minshuku Kanemorisou	55-1632
4 Minshuku Sakae	54-4085
5 Oshaberi Room Watanabe (Agriculture Hands-on Experience)	58-4448

Futatsui Region

Futatsui Regional Mascot
Mokkun



Prefectural Nature Park Kimimachizaka

In the 14th year of the Meiji Era (1881), during the Imperial Tohoku Tour, the Meiji Emperor was deeply moved after receiving a letter from the empress and gazing upon the pictureque scenery. Later, this land which did not have a name at that time, was named "Kimimachizaka".

The letter received by the Meiji Emperor at that time was a love letter from the empress containing a Waka, expressing concern for the Meiji Emperor during his long summer tour.

The range of large boulders, "Byoubuiwa" and the "Meotoiwa" boulder, which held wishes by men and women, are painted with the colours of Sakuras and red Maple leaves in the rotation of four seasons.



Kimimachi Tourist Guide Society
☎0185-73-5075

Spiritual
Place



Nanakurayama Mountain [MAP-3]

Virgin forest, Fog, Legends and Faith...
Mt. Nanakurayama is a mysterious mountain with many faces. Even the great Yoneshirogawa River cannot breakthrough this land and is forced to bend its flow around the scrub formed by the seven mountain summits.



Ichousan Shrine [MAP-3]

Ichousan Shrine is a historical shrine constructed during the Ezoseibatsu Expedition by Abe no Hirafu in the "Yamato-chotei-jidai" period to pray for victory.

Within the vicinity are 3 Gingko trees said to be planted at the time of construction of the shrine. The trees have grown into 25m tall and 8m girth, and in 1955 the trees have been designated as natural monuments of Akita Prefecture. It

is said that in the Edo period, the pilgrimage and prayers of the wife of Satake was granted and in return, the permission to use the Satake family crest at the shrine was granted.

Point of
Interest

Koibumi-no-Machi

From 1994 to 2004, Love Letter Contests has been part of the town revitalization event in Futatsuimachi. Koibumi Shrine is built in the park and is a popular dating place. In addition, if you drop your letter in the Koibumi Post installed in the park, the letter will receive a cute heart shaped postmark.



Kimikoi Cafe [MAP-3]

"Kimikoi Cafe" is a resting area established within the vicinity of the park.

The cafe is a single story wooden building with 18 seats. There are 12 seats on the wooden deck overlooking the spiritual place, Mt. Nanakurayama and Yoneshirogawa River.

Enjoy your lunch and snacks while viewing the beautiful scenery.

Business Day/ 20 April ~ Mid November
Holidays/ Tuesday, Wednesday (Business as usual, if Tuesday and Wednesday are holidays, and during event period.)

※Holidays are subject to change, please inquire for more information.

Business Hours/ 10:00 a.m. ~ 3:00 p.m. (Lunch hour is 11:00 a.m.~2:00 p.m.)

☎0185-73-2130



Futatsui Shirakami Kyodo-no-Mori

[MAP-14 page]

A promenade, rest area and toilet were constructed in the 190 hectares beech forest. If you ride a car up the bumpy road, you will reach the center of the forest.

Futatsui Roadside Station

Natural Park. The roadside station is a drivers resting area complete with facilities such as a history museum with clay face artworks which are national designated important cultural property, a comprehensive information center that also sells local prefectural specialties, and children's playground.



Futatsui General Tourist Information Center [MAP-3]

Business Hour / Product Stores 9:00 a.m.~6:00 p.m.
Restaurant 11:00 a.m.~6:00 p.m.
(Last Order: 5:30 p.m.)

Holidays / 31 December, 1 January
Inquiry / ☎0185-73-4111



Futatsui Town Historical Archive [MAP-3]

Opening Hour / 9:00 a.m.~4:30 p.m.
(Entry is until 4:00 p.m.)

Holidays / Every Monday (The following day if a holiday)
1 December ~ 31 March
Entrance Fee / Free of Charge
Inquiry / ☎0185-73-3036



Tourist Information Center (NPO Corporation Futatsui Town Tourism Association) [MAP-3]

Many tourists visit the tourist information center, located in between the Towada Lake Quasi-National Park and the Oga Peninsula. Please feel free to drop by for more sightseeing information on Futatsui Town.

Inquiry / ☎0185-73-5075
www.shirakami.or.jp/~futatsui-kankou/



Main Facilities and Tourist Attractions

Area Code (0185)

Map Number, Facility Name	Telephone Number
1 Kimimachizaka Prefectural Natural Park (Inquiry: NPO Futatsui Town Tourism Association)	73-5075
2 Tourist Information Center (NPO Corporation Futatsui Town Tourism Association)	73-5075
3 Futatsui General Information Center	73-4111
4 Kimimachi Sancho-kun	73-6610
5 Futatsui Town Historical Archive	73-3036
6 Kimikoi Cafe	73-2130
7 Sakurazutsumi Park (Inquiry: NPO Futatsui Town Tourism Association)	73-5075
8 Ichousan Shrine	58-5111
9 Nanakura Shrine	73-5308
10 Asashi-no-Mori (Stained Glass Making Hand-on Experience)	73-3855
11 Futatsui Town Multipurpose Gymnasium	73-6111
12 Tenjin Workshop	88-8815

Area Code (0185)

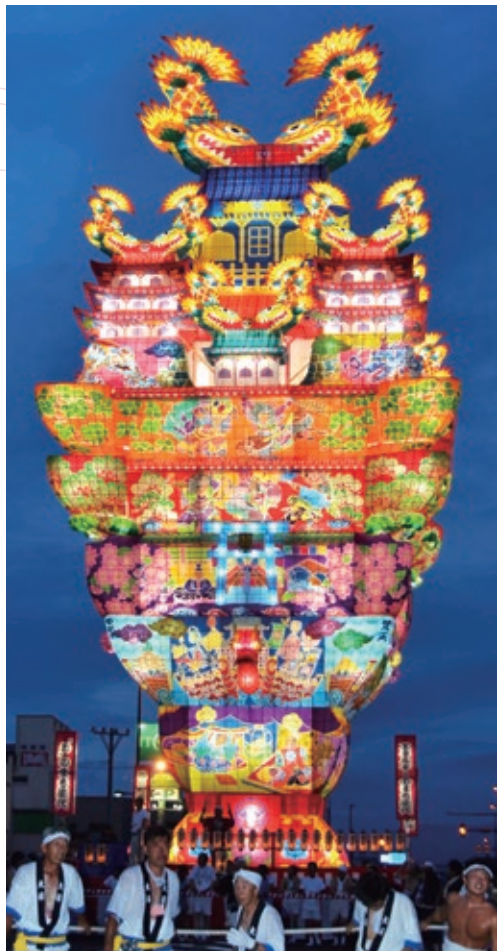
Map Number, Facility Name	Telephone Number
Kimimachi Futatsui Marathon Office (Noshiro Lifelong Learning and Sports Promotion Division)	73-5285
Kimimachi Tour Guide Society	73-5075
Kimimachi Romantic Street : Yoneshirogawa Riverside Cycling Course (Free Bicycle Rental service is available) Park RinRin	

Accommodations

Area Code (0185)

Map Number, Facility Name	Telephone Number
1 Taguchi Inn	73-2529
2 Kimimachizaka Ichi-no-Kura	73-3925

Festivals in Noshiro



Noshiro Tanabata "Tenku no Fuyajo"

"Tenku no Fuyajo" means "The skycastle that never sleeps". The festival of Giant Fortress Lanterns that was once held from the end of Edo period to Meiji era, was revived after one century later. The highlight of the festival is the presence of the giant sized lanterns reaching out to the skies. The lively hayashi performance also adds to the atmosphere of the festival.

Noshiro Nebunagashi

The city parade consist of Dengaku, Ohayashi, Taiko and fortress model lanterns. Just like a skycastle that never sleeps, the brightly lit lanterns that resembles castles and fortresses floating high in the summer sky, leave feelings of awe in its witnesses. The following day of the city parade is called "Shachinagashi", where the summit part of the lantern, "Shachi" is burned and washed away at Yoneshirogawa River.



Kodomo Tanabata

"Kodomo Tanabata" is a Tanabata festival held to create happy memories for the children as well as to nurture their love towards their own country home.

Children with small lanterns depicting pictures such as anime character in their hands, gather together to celebrate this wonderful festival.



Onagori Festival

Onagori Festival is held as a sign of reluctance to part with summer season. The festival is the largest event held in Noshiro City. Many different parades such as "Aomori Nebuta" and "Morioka Sansa" from Tohoku area and famous festivals from all over Japan as well as festivals from Akita all gather at this big event.



Minato Festival Noshiro Fireworks

The Minato Festival Noshiro Fireworks held in Akita Prefecture also marks the start of the festival. Many fireworks manufacturers in the prefecture participate in this event. More than 15,000 fireworks are launched in this event. Among the fireworks launched are San-Shakudama and Kyoen-Genso-Hanabi. The powerful and magnificent colourful fireworks lighting up the night sky of Noshiro will leave you in amazement and awe.



Hiyoshi Shrine Naka-no-Saru Yomemi Festival

The Hiyoshi Shrine Naka-no-Saru Yomemi Festival is held for the bride that got married within a year. In this festival, the bride wears the wedding dress and visit the shrine to pray for everlasting happiness and prosperity and to express gratitude for the good marriage.

Yearly Schedule

The date and time of events may be subject to change.

January	Nanakurayama-Gantan-Touzan
February	Takaiwa Shrine Hadaka-mairi ※(Lunar Calendar 15 January New Year)
March	Sakura-Land Yakiyama-Matobi
April	Noshiro Tako-age Tournament Noshiro Park Spring Festival (Sakura) Kimimachizaka Sakura Festival

May	Noshiro Cup High School Selection Basketball Tournament Iwazeki Shrine Festival Noshiro Park Spring Festival (Azalea) Kimimachizaka Azalea Festival Noshiro Children Festival (Naka-no-Saru)Yomemi Festival ※(A day before the second day of Day of Monkeyin April of Lunar Calendar)
July	Noshiro Minato Festival

July	Minato Festival Noshiro Fireworks Hiyoshi Shrine Festival Tomie-Atago Shrine Festival
August	Akita Sugi-no-Sato Futatsui Festival Kodomo Tanabata Noshiro Tanabata "Tenku no Fuyajo" Noshiro Nebunagashi (Noshiro Yakutanabata) Nibunasasara Dance/ Kiriishisasara Dance Mokkun Summer Holiday Noshiro Space Event

September	Onagori Festival Hachiman Shrine Festival Kogakeshoukisama
October	Kimimachi-no-Sato Festival Kimimachi-Futatsui Marathon Kimimachizaka Kouyou Festival Noshiro Industrial Fair
December	Asanai-Nagomehagi

To Savour For Presents Noshiro's Delicious Specialties!

Drinks



Local Sakes

The local sakes made in Shirakami-Sanchi just beside Noshiro City will leave even a sake connoisseur in amazement of its awesomeness.

Food



Spring Onion



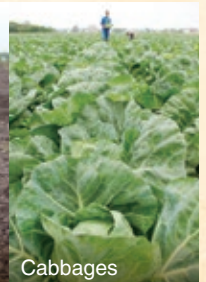
Myoga



Mountain Udo



Asparagus



Cabbages

Agriculture Products

Noshiro spots a variety of agricultural products such as spring onions, Myoga, Yama-Udo, Asparagus and cabbages. These exquisite agricultural products are grown in Shirakami-Sanchi blessed with lush natural environment.

Food



Noshiro Udon

The Katakuri Udon (lit. Trout Lily Udon) can be eaten with stew or eaten cold, and is especially suited for the finish of a hot pot. The Noshiro Udon with a smooth and chewy food texture can be enjoyed throughout the seasons.

Food



Tsurugata Soba

Tsurugata Soba is a flavoured soba made using 100% Tsurugata produced buckwheat flour. Soymilk is used as the filler. The soba is thick and has a chewy texture as it is 100% buckwheat flour.

Food



Hiyama Natto

Hiyama Natto is a large-grain natto fermented with traditional straw wrapper. The technique used in the creation of Hiyama Natto is handed down since the Edo period. The nostalgic taste of Hiyama Natto goes well with hot rice!

Food



Buta Nankotsu

Hiyama Natto is a large-grain natto fermented with traditional straw wrapper. The technique used in the creation of Hiyama Natto is handed down since the Edo period. The nostalgic taste of Hiyama Natto goes well with hot rice!

Skills



Noshiro Dako

The unique style of Noshiro Dako (lit. Noshiro Kite) is known nationwide. An example is the "Berabou Dako" which resembles a person sticking out his tongue.

Skills



Akita Sugi Oketararu

Akita Sugi Oketararu has its charm in its beautiful woodgrain and its fragrance. In 1984, it was designated as the National Traditional Handicrafts of Japan.

Agriculture Products Direct Sales Depot

We deliver fresh agriculture products.



Negikko Village [MAP-2]

Business Hour/ 9:00 a.m. ~5:30 p.m.
Holidays / Year-End, New Year holiday, Obon
Address / Noshiro City, Kawatogawa, Aza-Kitanishiyama 189
Inquiry / ☎0185-52-6200



Myouga-kan [MAP-2]

Business Hour/ 9:00 a.m. ~6:00 p.m.
Holidays / New Year holiday from 1 ~ 5 January
Address / Noshiro City, Nakazeki 33-1
Inquiry / ☎0185-58-3005



Kimimachi Sanchokun [MAP-3]

Business Hour/ 9:00 a.m. ~6:00 p.m.
Holidays / New Year holiday
Address / Noshiro City, Futatsui Town, Kotsunagi, Aza-Yunosawa 32-1
Inquiry / ☎0185-73-6610

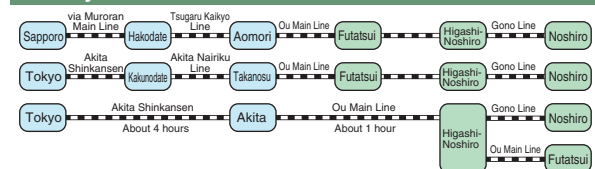
Noshiro City is located in the northwestern area of Akita Prefecture. In the north of Noshiro is the Shirakami-Sanchi mountainous region, a world natural heritage site. The Yoneshirogawa River that has its source in the Oou mountain range, flows from east to west through the center of the city. Along the coast is a vast buffer strip, "Kaze-no-Matsubara" where you get to interact with nature.



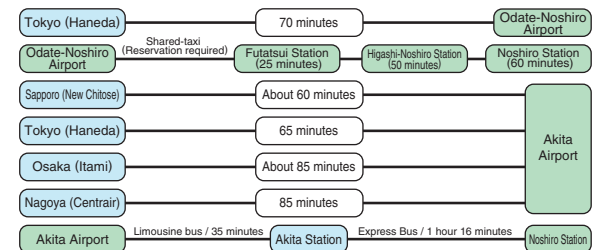


Route to Noshiro City

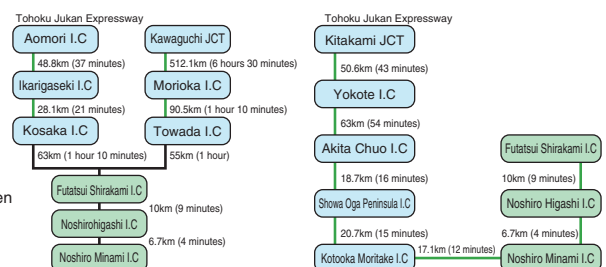
Railway



Airlines



Expressway



Express Bus



※Time stated are only an estimation and may be subject to change according to traffic conditions.

Transport-related Inquiries

Railway

JR Higashi Noshiro Station	0185-58-3111
JR Noshiro Station	0185-52-0867
JR Futatsui Station	0185-73-2003

Express Bus

Jupiter-Go (Shuhoku Bus)	0185-52-4890
Senshugo (Akita Chuo Kotsu)	018-823-4890
Akita-Noshiro Expressway (Shuhoku Bus)	0185-52-5356

Fixed Route Bus

Shuhoku Noshiro Branch Office	0185-52-5356
Daiichi Kanko Bus	0185-73-3200

Airport

Akita Airport Terminal Building	018-886-3366
Odate-Noshiro Airport Terminal Building	0186-62-5330

Taxi

Shuhoku taxi	0185-52-1111
Daiichi Taxi	0185-52-6161
Taxi Center	0185-52-2211
Noshiro Taxi	0185-52-1133
Futatsui Kanko Taxi	0185-73-2211

Car Rental

Station Rental Car Higashi Noshiro Branch Office	0185-58-3159
Akita Noshiro Toyota Rental Car Office	0185-52-0100
Nippon Rental Car Higashinoshiroekimae Branch Office	0185-58-5666
Akita Noshiro Nissan Rental Car Office	0185-55-3323
Haro Car Rental	0185-52-6000
Orix Car Rental Noshiro Branch	0185-89-1300
Times Car Rental Noshiro Branch	0185-88-8865
Niconico Car Rental Noshiro Branch	0185-55-0351

Tourist Information Center

NPO Corporation Noshiro Tourism Association
Noshiro City, Motomachi 13-14 ☎0185-88-8802

NPO Corporation Futatsui Town Tourism Association
Noshiro City Futatsui Town, Kotsunagi Aza-Nakajima 110-5 ☎0185-73-5075

Other Contacts

Happo Town (Industrial Promotion Division)	☎0185-76-4605
Happo Town Tourism Association	☎0185-76-4100
Fujisato Town (Commerce and Tourism Division)	☎0185-79-2115
Fujisato Town Chamber of Commerce and Industry Tourism Promotion Division	☎0185-79-2518
Mitane Town (Chamber of Commerce and Industry Tourism Exchange Division)	
Mitane Town Tourism Association (Mitane Town Chamber of Commerce and Industry Tourism Exchange Division)	☎0185-85-4830
Odate City (Commerce and Tourism Division)	☎0186-43-7072
Kitakita City (Commerce and Tourism Division)	☎0186-72-5243
Happo Town Shirakami Guide Society	
NPO Corporation Shirakami Nature Association	☎0185-70-4211
Shirakami Mountains World Heritage Centre (Fujisato Museum)	☎0185-79-3001