

# Coastal Region (Hama-dori)

In Fukushima, cherry blossoms begin blossoming from the Pacific coastal Hama-dori region. Here you can feel the first arrival of spring ahead of the other areas thanks to the warm climate and nature's favorable conditions interwoven by sea and mountain.

For flowering time information  
<http://www.tif.ne.jp>  
<http://www.tif.ne.jp/eng/index.shtml>



## 2 Baryo Park

[Soma City]

MAP G-2

Cherry blossom season:  
Early to mid-Apr.

Some 650 cherry trees of the Somei-yoshino variety. Cherry blossoms simultaneously bursting into bloom attract large numbers of viewers each year. This park is the site of Nakamura Castle built in 1611 by Lord Soma Toshitane. Only earthworks and walls remain today.

**[Access]** 15 min. walk from Soma Sta. on JR Joban Line; or 80 min. drive after exiting Joban-Tomioka I.C. on Joban Expwy

**[Inquiry]** Soma City Office (Tourism & Products Promotion Sec.) Tel: +81(244)37-2155

### ATI reporter-recommended gourmet venues

#### Restaurant "Takohachi"

Enjoy the freshest seafood unloaded at Soma-Haragama Port at reasonable prices. A set meal featuring a bowl (donburi) of rice topped with the soft and succulent hokki shellfish is highly popular. When boiled, the shellfish turn pink, hence the nickname, "Cherry-colored donburi." At a marine products shop next door, buy the choicest seafood as a souvenir to take home.



228-25, Hara, Obama, Soma City  
 Tel: +81(244)38-8808  
 [Hours] 10:00 ~ 18:00  
 Open year round

#### Farmer's Restaurant "Nanohana"

This restaurant serves dishes using vegetables, fruit and rice direct from its family farm. Its popular "Nanohana Gozen" is a set meal featuring ingredients of the season. Dishes change from month to month. The menu is designed to bring out the natural flavors inherent to each ingredient and creatively embodies nutritious balance and health as a consideration. Guests enjoy dining in a relaxing atmosphere as the restaurant is operated on a reservation basis only.



103, Akayashiki, Douzuki, Soma City  
 Tel: +81(244)35-2401 <http://abe.to/nanohana/>  
 [Hours] 11:30 ~ 14:30 (Reservations required)  
 [Closed] Sun.



## 3 Matsugaoka Park [Iwaki City] MAP G-5

Cherry blossom season: Early to mid-Apr.

Matsugaoka is the oldest park in Iwaki City. Some 280 cherry trees in the park are the foremost attraction of the Cherry Blossom Festival season. Various amusement facilities are also available for family enjoyment. Amada Guan's (an illustrious poet of the 19th century) residence is located here.

**[Access]** 20 min. walk from Iwaki Sta. on JR Joban Line; or 15 min. drive after exiting Iwaki-chuo I.C. on Joban Expwy  
**[Inquiry]** Taira Cherry Blossom Festival Executive Committee (c/o Iwaki Chamber of Commerce & Industry) Tel: +81(246)25-9151

### Event

#### Cherry Blossom Festival

[Late Mar. to early May]

Major cherry blossom sites around Iwaki City are illuminated, allowing visitors to immerse themselves in the fantastic world of night blossom viewing.

**[Inquiry]** Iwaki City Tourist Information Center  
 Tel: +81(246)23-0122



## 4 Nakoso-no-Seki

[Iwaki City]

MAP F-6

Cherry blossom season: Early to mid-Apr.

Nakoso-no-Seki is an ancient checkpoint. Minamoto-no-Yoshiie (1039 ~ 1106), a Heian-Period military leader, set out on his military expedition to the deep north from this checkpoint where he composed a poem about cherry blossoms. Even today, this place is favored by many as a prime cherry blossom viewing spot.

**[Access]** 25 min. walk from Nakoso Sta. on JR Joban Line; or 10 min. drive after exiting Iwaki-Nakoso I.C. on Joban Expwy  
**[Inquiry]** Nakoso-ekimae Youth Society Tel: +81(246)65-4515



## 5 Miyukiyama Park [Iwaki City] MAP G-5

Cherry blossom season:  
Early to mid-Apr.

This park is Iwaki-Yumoto Onsen hot spring resort's prime cherry blossom viewpoint. The hill right in front of Yumoto Station is Miyukiyama. During the blossom season, numerous lanterns are illuminated at night to invite the many flower lovers.

**[Access]** In front of Yumoto Sta. on JR Joban Line; or 10 min. drive after exiting Iwaki-Yumoto I.C. on Joban Expwy  
**[Inquiry]** Iwaki-Yumoto Onsen Tourism Association  
 Tel: +81(246)42-4322

## 6 Tenjin-misaki Sports Park

[Naraha Town]

MAP G-4

Cherry blossom season: Mid- to late Apr.

On a promontory overlooking the Pacific Ocean, this park contains not only cherry trees but a spacious lawn park, rental cycling, tennis courts, barbecue spot and other leisure facilities for family enjoyment.

**[Access]** In front of Tatsuta Sta. on JR Joban Line; or 10 min. drive after exiting Hirono I.C. on Joban Expwy

**[Inquiry]** Naraha Town Promotion Corporation Tel: +81(240)25-3113



#### Coya Café "Nanohana"

Standing quietly in a residential area like a "town hideaway." This café's homemade cakes and scones are highly recommended. In addition, it houses a florist and a variety shop. Why not buy a bouquet after your tea and cake?



169-1, Higashi-dai, Kaneyama-machi, Iwaki City  
 Tel: +81(246)62-0538  
 [Hours] 10:00 ~ 19:00 (Reservation required for lunch)  
 Irregular holidays

#### Sushi Shop "Tamura"

For delicious sushi, just come to Tamura. The "sushi lunch" set meal includes salad, chawan-mushi (steamed egg custard), miso soup and coffee - only for a surprising ¥1,000! Conveniently located in front of Iwaki Station.



14-16, Saitsuchi-koji, Taira, Iwaki City  
 Tel: +81(120)77-1345; +81(246)21-1345  
 [Hours] 11:00 ~ 14:00; 17:00 ~ 22:00  
 Irregular holidays

#### Fushi - Kaden "Fukuju-an"

This relaxing restaurant offers authentic Japanese cuisine for reasonable prices. The colorful "Shokado-bento" box lunch (¥1,500), elaborately prepared by their lady chef, lavishly appeals to the eye and appetite. She begins her succulent creation only after receiving your order! What more could you ask? Drop in after enjoying the Aqua Marine Fukushima or the Iwaki Lalamew complex.



5-6, Onahama Nishimachi, Iwaki City Tel: +81(246)54-7889  
 [Hours] 11:30 ~ 14:00; 17:00 ~ 22:00  
 (Reservation required for dinner)  
 [Closed] Sun.