



7 Yonomori Park

[Tomioka Town] MAP G-4

Cherry blossom season:
Early to mid-Apr.

Yonomori Park is situated close to Yonomori Station on the Joban Line. As night descends, the park turns into a fantasy world with an illuminated 2.5-kilometer-long "tunnel" of cherry blossoms by hundreds of trees including the century-old huge Somei-yoshino.

[Access] 3 min. walk from Yonomori Sta. on JR Joban Line; or 3 min. drive after exiting Joban-Tomioka I.C. on Joban Expwy
[Inquiry] Tomioka Town Tourism Association
Tel: +81(240)22-2111

Event

Yonomori Cherry Blossom Festival [Early to mid-Apr.]

During the ten days or so of the cherry blossom season, the park's cherry blossom tunnel is beautifully illuminated in the evening. The festival offers numerous events, including the "Sakura YOSAKOI," various sports and entertainment on the main stage.

[Inquiry] Tomioka Town Tourism Association
Tel: +81(240)22-2111

ATI reporter-recommended gourmet venues

Restaurant "Wain'ya"



A Japanese restaurant run by an owner-chef who is enthusiastic to let as many as possible appreciate the fine taste of locally caught fresh seafood. The menu creatively varies from day to day depending on the catch of the day. Enjoy the unexpected and exciting dishes of the day. The chef also pays particular attention to the choice of saké, *shochu* liquor and wine that complement his dishes. (Photo: "Shokado" box lunch)
166-1, Shin-Yonomori, Moto-oka, Tomioka Town Tel: 0240-22-5676
[Hours] 11:00 - 14:00; 17:30 - 23:30 (till 21:30 on Sun. & national holidays)
Closed on Wed.



8 Ukedogawa River Line

[Namie Town] MAP G-3

Cherry blossom season: Early to mid-Apr.

In season, cherry blossoms grace the cycling road stretching along the Ukedo River, starting from Namie Marine Park and ending near downtown Namie.

[Access] 5 min. drive or 10 min. walk from Namie Sta. on JR Joban Line
[Inquiry] Namie Town Commerce & Industry Association
Tel: +81(240)35-3321

Event

Cherry Blossom Festival [Early to mid-Apr.]

Open-air stalls and blossom viewing stands are erected along the Ukedogawa River Line cycling path enhanced by blossoming cherry trees. At night the blossoms are beautifully illuminated. Especially fantastic is the evening when fireworks enhance the beauty of the blossoms even further.

[Inquiry] Namie Town Commerce & Industry Association
Tel: +81(240)35-3321

ATI reporter-recommended gourmet venues

Sushi Shop "Konno"



This sushi shop is housed in a restaurant-only building on the Namie Station side. It pleases each and every guest with sushi of the day's freshest fish and shellfish available. Prices are guest-friendly as is the chef's attentive hospitality. The sushi lunch (¥900!) is especially recommended.

Carnival Station Bldg., 12, Kami Tsuzuki-machi, Gongendo, Namie Town
Tel: +81(240)35-3553
[Hours] 11:00 - 14:00; 17:30 - 24:00
Closed on Mon.



9 Yonomori Park [Minami-Soma City]

Cherry blossom season: Early to late Apr. MAP G-2

Yonomori Park is the best cherry blossom viewing spot in the city. During the Cherry Blossom Festival period, the park is alive with entertainment and open-air stalls that cater to all comers. The night blossom illumination is truly impressive.

[Access] 30 min. walk or 10 min. drive from Haranomachi Sta. on JR Joban Line; or 60 min. drive after exiting Joban-Tomioka I.C. on Joban Expwy
[Inquiry] Haramachi Tourism Association Tel: +81(244)22-2114

Event

Yonomori Park Cherry Blossom Festival [Early to late Apr.]

Open-air stalls and entertainment enliven the site. Night illuminated blossoms are simply gorgeous!

[Inquiry] Haramachi Tourism Association Tel: +81(244)22-2114



10 Odaka Shrine [Minami-Soma City] MAP G-3

Cherry blossom season: Early to late Apr.

Odaka-jinja Shrine is the stage for "Noma-gake," a soul-stirring Noma Festival event, in which horses driven into the shrine precincts are seized and captured by bare hands. Cherry blossoms in the shrine precincts are breathtaking.

[Access] 15 min. walk from Odaka Sta. on JR Joban Line
[Inquiry] Odaka Tourism Association Tel: +81(244)44-6718

Event

Ukifune Festival

[Mid-Apr.]

Traditional performing arts, events for children and open-air stalls welcome families.

[Inquiry] Odaka Tourism Association Tel: +81(244)44-6718

ATI reporter-recommended gourmet venues

Restaurant "Shokusai-an"

Housed in the Meijo-kan Bldg. on Nomaori-dori Street, this restaurant features the interior of a traditional Japanese-style home. The most popular menu item is "Today's Japanese Lunch" featuring a variety of dishes encompassing a variety of seasonal ingredients, all delicious and appealing to the eyes as well. The early 20th century Japanese-style decor is totally relaxing and perfect for a luncheon repast. Once a month, it offers a special buffet-style lunch at the very reasonable price of ¥1,260.

2-52, Motomachi, Haramachi-ku, Minami-Soma City Tel: +81(80)3321-9931
[Hours] 10:00 - 16:00 (lunch time: 11:30 - 14:00)* Reservations required. Closed on Mon. & 3rd Sun.



Japanese Confectionery "Miyamoto"

Japanese dumplings or "dango" are only ¥60 per piece! A pack of dumplings will surely add to the enjoyment of your cherry blossom viewing. Traditional "Ebisu-mochi" rice cakes (¥70 each) are another popular item. All Japanese cakes here are homemade - a tradition unchanged since the shop's opening.

3-7, Asahi-machi, Haramachi-ku, Minami-Soma City
Tel: +81(244)23-3343
[Hours] 8:30 - 19:00 Open year round



"Asahi-tei" for Local Cuisine

Here you can enjoy local cuisine and "bento" box lunches featuring local seasonal ingredients. With its popular "Asahi-bento" box lunch (¥850), customers can ask to change plain rice to sushi for only an extra ¥200. The evening menu offers an array of dishes featuring locally caught fresh fish/shellfish such as *hokki*, *donko*, *kasube* and bonito. The soy milk hotpot, renowned for health and beauty, is a guest favorite. The restaurant also accepts catering orders.

3-2, Asahi-machi, Haramachi-ku, Minami-Soma City Tel: +81(244) 23-0008 [Hours] 11:30 - 14:00; 17:00 - 22:00 Closed on Tue.



More Flower Viewing Spots in the Hama-dori Region



11 Iwaki City Flower Center

[Iwaki City] MAP G-5

This flower center is located on Mt. Ishimori at an altitude of 225 meters, and is surrounded by superb nature walks. Admission is free.

[Access] 15 min. drive after exiting Iwaki-chuo I.C. on Joban Expwy
[Inquiry] Tel: +81(246)22-5667



12 Shinchi-jo Castle Site [Shinchi Town]

MAP G-1

The Shinchi-jo castle site embodies the essence of Shinchi's history. Here, a colorful carpet of some 30,000 tulips signal the arrival of spring.

[Access] 7 min. drive from Shinchi Sta. on JR Joban Line

Event

Tulip Festival [Late Apr.]

Shinchi's local specialties and tulips are on sale, together with other events such as a "karaoke" (sing along) contest and bingo games for all.

[Inquiry] President of Shinchi-jo Castle Site Society
Tel: +81(244)62-2957



13 Futaba Rose Garden

[Futaba Town] MAP G-3

Flowering season: Mid-May to late Jun.

In season, this 60,000-sq.-meter European-style garden is filled with the fragrance from 7,000 rose plants of 650 varieties including classic and modern species. Immerse yourself in this exquisite home of roses.

[Access] 10 min. drive from Futaba Sta. on JR Joban Line; or 15 min. drive after exiting Joban-Tomioka I.C. on Joban Expwy
[Inquiry] Tel: +81(240)33-3134

ATI reporter-recommended gourmet venues

"Futaba Chathi"

Only 10 min. walk from Futaba Station, this confectionery offers some 50 varieties of cakes and baked sweets for sale at all times. All are free of artificial additives and offer a delicate taste with sweetness in moderation. The number one recommendation is creamy cheese gratin (¥105). Baked sweets rich in butter flavor make a fine gift item.



76-2, Kubomae, Shinzan, Futaba Town
Tel: +81(240)33-3903
[Hours] 8:00 - 19:00
Closed on New Year's day