

FASCINATING FUKUSHIMA

Sapporo

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JAPAN Photos of Fukushima



1 Goshiki-numa Ponds
(Kitashiobara Village) **MAP D-2**

Welcome to the fascinating prefecture of Fukushima!



Please see page 10

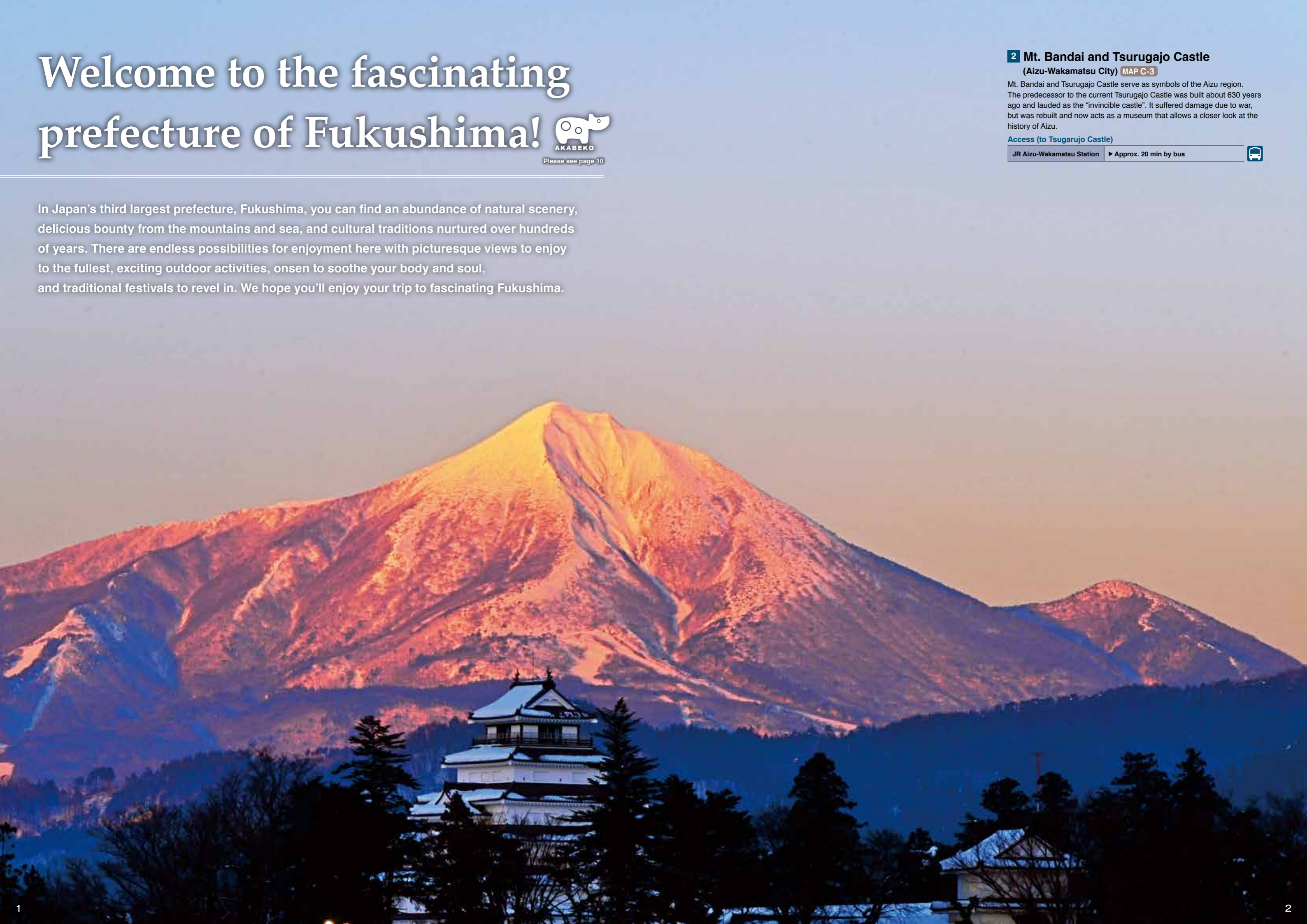
In Japan's third largest prefecture, Fukushima, you can find an abundance of natural scenery, delicious bounty from the mountains and sea, and cultural traditions nurtured over hundreds of years. There are endless possibilities for enjoyment here with picturesque views to enjoy to the fullest, exciting outdoor activities, onsen to soothe your body and soul, and traditional festivals to revel in. We hope you'll enjoy your trip to fascinating Fukushima.

2 Mt. Bandai and Tsurugajo Castle (Aizu-Wakamatsu City) [MAP C-3](#)

Mt. Bandai and Tsurugajo Castle serve as symbols of the Aizu region. The predecessor to the current Tsurugajo Castle was built about 630 years ago and lauded as the "invincible castle". It suffered damage due to war, but was rebuilt and now acts as a museum that allows a closer look at the history of Aizu.

[Access \(to Tsurugajo Castle\)](#)

JR Aizu-Wakamatsu Station ▶ Approx. 20 min by bus



Spring

Spring brings the budding of trees and blooming of flowers all at once. Fukushima is home to numerous locations famous throughout Japan for its symbolic flower, the cherry blossoms. The pink cherry blossom trees blooming against the backdrop of snow-capped mountains is one of Japan's most breathtaking landscapes, which perfectly embodies the coming of spring.

3 Hanamiyama (Fukushima City) MAP E-2

Famous for plum, cherry, and peach blossoms, as well as magnolia, forsythia, and other flowers that bloom here. It is also known for being praised as "Togenkyo" (Peach Blossom Utopia) by one of Japan's most famous photographers.

Access

JR Fukushima Station ▶ Approx. 15 min by bus or taxi





4 Miharu Takizakura (Miharu Town) MAP E-3

The Miharu Takizakura in Miharu is said to be one of Japan's three greatest cherry blossom trees. This giant tree is estimated to be more than 1000 years old, and its weeping waterfall-like branches are an amazing spectacle. The illuminations at night should not be missed either.

Access


JR Miharu Station ▶ Approx. 20 min by bus or taxi  



5 Kasumigajo Park (Nihonmatsu City) MAP E-3

This ancient castle site is located inside a park, which has been well-maintained with footpaths and a tea house which is open seasonally, is known for its bountiful natural scenery. It is also a cherry blossom viewing spot in spring with approximately 4,500 cherry blossom trees.


Access

JR Nihonmatsu Station ▶ Approx. 5 min by taxi 

6 Kannonji-gawa River (Inawashiro Town) MAP D-3

The Kannonji-gawa River boasts a kilometer of cherry blossom trees lining both sides of its banks. Enjoy the murmur of the stream as you take a stroll through the tunnel created by the cherry blossom tree branches.

Access

JR Kawageta Station ▶ Approx. 1 min on foot 



7 Nicchu Railway Line Weeping Cherry Blossom (Kitakata City) MAP C-2
 The former Nicchu Railway Line has been transformed into a footpath that boasts 1000 beautiful weeping cherry trees, which line the path for 3 km.

Access
 JR Kitakata Station ▶ Approx. 5 min on foot



8 Ogawasuwa Shrine (Iwaki City) MAP G-5
 The weeping cherry tree blooming at Ogawasuwa Shrine dates back approximately 500 years. It is illuminated when in full bloom, and large numbers of people come to catch a glimpse of its elegant appearance.

Access
 JR Ogawago Station ▶ Approx. 20 min on foot

9 Baryo Park (Soma City) MAP G-2
 The ruins of Nakamura Castle are located within this park. In springtime, more than 600 cherry blossom trees flower in the park. Take a stroll among the cherry blossoms to full enjoy the coming of spring.

Access
 JR Soma Station ▶ Approx. 15 min on foot

Summer

Plants and flowers flourish in Fukushima during summer. Summers in Fukushima welcome visitors coming to enjoy outdoor activities such as a trips to the beaches and trekking in the prefecture's mountains.

10 Sannokura Plateau Sunflower Field (Kitakata City) MAP C-2

In summer, one of the largest sunflower fields in the Tohoku region spreads across the ski slopes of Sannokura ski resort. Overlooking the Aizu basin, the beauty of the sea of sunflowers against the beautiful landscape below is breathtaking.

Access

JR Kitakata Station ▶ Approx. 30 min by bus or taxi



11 Hinoemata Kabuki (Hinoemata Village)

MAP A-5

This traditional kabuki play has been passed down through generations in Hinoemata Village for more than 270 years. The stage stands within the grounds of the area's tutelary shrine, and the actors in this precious rustic performing art are all local villagers.

Access

Aizu Railway Line
Aizukogen-Ozeguchi Station ▶ Approx. 1 hour and 10 min by bus



12 Enzoji Temple

(Yanaizu Town) MAP C-3



This ancient temple was built approximately 1200 years ago by the noted high priest Tokuchi Daishi. According to legend, when the temple was being built, a red cow appeared out of nowhere to help carry construction materials. This became the origin of the Aizu region's folk toy, "Akabeko."

Access

JR Aizu-Yanaizu Station ▶ Approx. 10 min on foot



Fruit-picking

You can experience harvesting a variety of fruit, including peaches, pears, grapes, and apples throughout the year in Fukushima. In particular, Prefectural Route 5, running through Fukushima City and familiarly known as the "Fruit Line," is a popular area among visitors for picking a variety of fruit.



13 Soma Nomaoi Festival
 (Soma City, Minamisoma City) **MAP G-2**

Horsemen clad in samurai armor participate in horse races, flag-catching competitions, and other performances at this festival. Local samurai culture has been passed down through generations for over a millennium thanks to Soma Nomaoi Festival.

Access (to the Hibarigahara festival grounds)
 JR Haranomachi Station ▶ Approx. 10 min by bus or taxi



14 Samurai Armor Experience
 (Minamisoma City) **MAP G-2**

At the Nomaoi-dori Meijokan, which displays Soma Nomaoi artifacts and offers sightseeing information, you can also experience wearing a suit of samurai armor. Transform into a fierce samurai warrior and get an up-close feel for the history of Soma Nomaoi. (Fee and reservation required)

Access
 JR Haranomachi Station ▶ Approx. 20 min on foot



15 Aquamarine Fukushima
 (Iwaki City) **MAP G-6**

This experience-centered environmental aquarium offers engaging and fun ways to learn about the oceans. It houses a large tank themed on the currents of the Pacific Ocean, and also includes one of the world's largest touch pools, where you can get up-close and personal with sea creatures.

Access
 JR Izumi Station ▶ Approx. 15 min by bus



16 Oze National Park (Hinoemata Village)
MAP A-6

Lake Ozenuma, Ozegahara Marshland, and Mt. Hiuchigatake can all be found here in one of Japan's largest high-altitude moors where natural scenery spreads bountifully. Enjoy the spectacular views of rolling fields of Nikko day lilies and other flowers.

Access (to Numayama Pass)
 Aizu Railway Line
 Aizukogen-Ozeguchi Station ▶ Approx. 2 hours by bus



Fall

Fall is the season to enjoy sights of leaves tinted with red and yellow, blowing in the crisp breeze as you breathe in the fresh air. With its comfortable climate and seasonally clear skies, Fukushima is the perfect place to enjoy the mountains, temples, and shrines adorned in beautiful autumnal leaves.

17 Bandai-Azuma Skyline (Fukushima City)

MAP D-2

The Bandai-Azuma Skyline is a sightseeing road that passes through the Azuma mountain range, at an average elevation of 1350 m. There are numerous spectacular views along the road, and the autumnal leaves are particularly breathtaking.

Access (to Jododaira)

JR Fukushima Station ▶ Approx. 45 min by rental car





18



19



20 Shingu Kumano Shrine Nagatoko
(Kitakata City) MAP C-2

The hall of worship at Shingu Kumano Shrine Nagatoko, which dates back to the 11th century, is a nationally-designated Important Cultural Property. In fall, the leaves of the ginkgo trees color the entire grounds in a yellow carpet.

Access

JR Kitakata Station ▶ Approx. 15 min by taxi



18 Nakakamado Weeping Maple Tree
(Iwaki City) MAP F-6

The twists and turns of the trunk of this giant Japanese maple tree create this botanically-rare shape. This tree has been nationally designated as a Natural Monument.

Access

JR Izumi Station ▶ Approx. 10 min by taxi



19 Byobuiwa Crags (Minamiaizu Town) MAP B-5

This uniquely shaped rock was shaped over many years by the rapid flow of the river. The white of the steep cliff-face and the blue of the water are contrasted beautifully by the autumnal leaves, which offer impressive views for your enjoyment.

Access

Aizu Railway Line Aizukogen-Ozeguchi Station ▶ Approx. 1 hour by bus





21 Mt. Adatara (Nihonmatsu City) MAP E-2

This 1700 m mountain sits within Bandai-Asahi National Park. Its gentle slopes put even novice mountain climbers at ease. The mountain is home to a bounty of alpine plants and its autumnal leaves are spectacular.

Access (to the Okudake climbing entrance)

JR Nihonmatsu Station ▶ Approx. 50 min by bus



22 Shiramizu Amidado Temple

(Iwaki City) MAP G-5

This Buddhist temple built in 1160 has been designated as a National Treasure. Surrounded by an elegant garden, the ginkgo and Japanese maples offer stunning views of autumnal leaves in the fall.

Access

JR Uchigo Station ▶ Approx. 25 min by bus

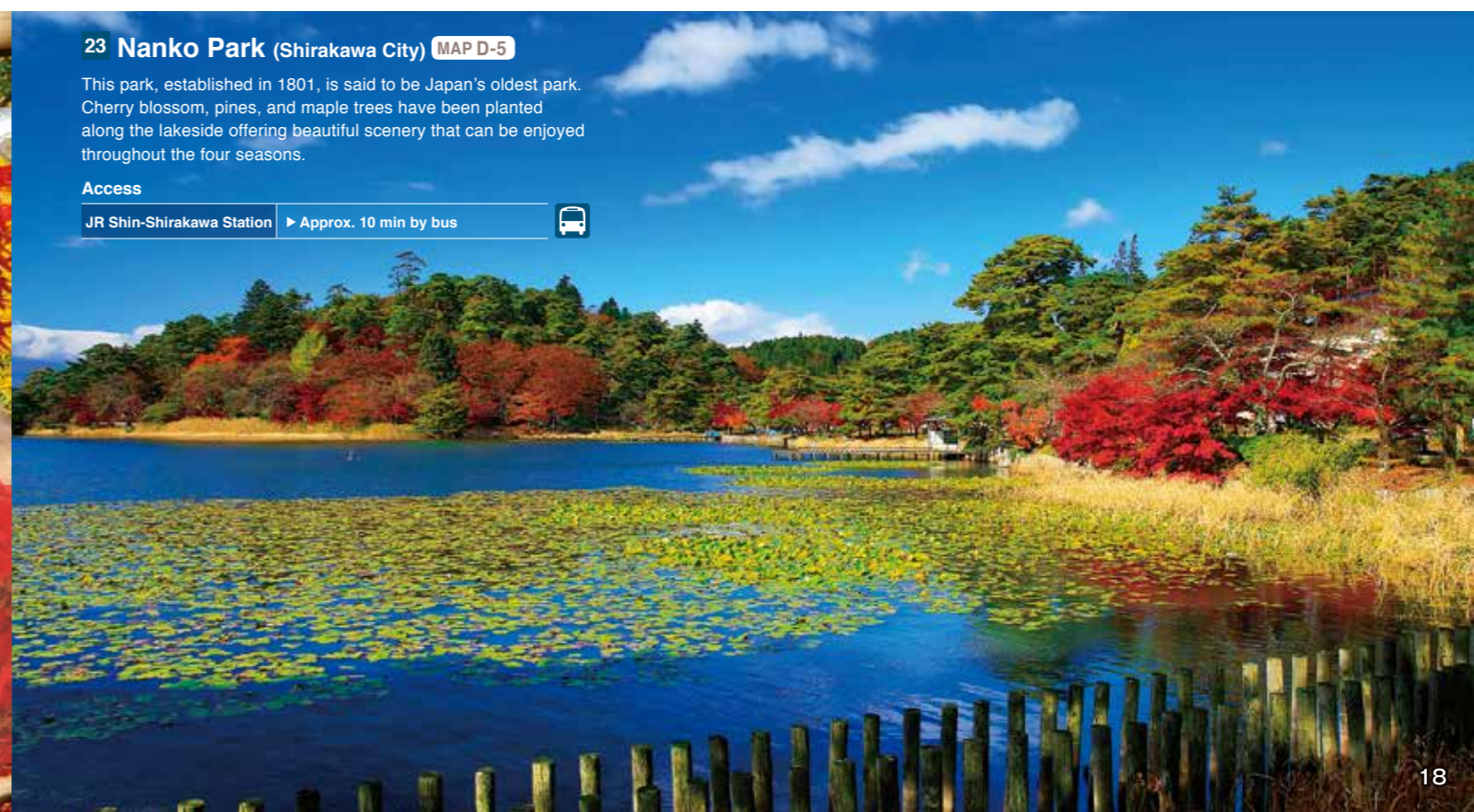


23 Nanko Park (Shirakawa City) MAP D-5

This park, established in 1801, is said to be Japan's oldest park. Cherry blossom, pines, and maple trees have been planted along the lakeside offering beautiful scenery that can be enjoyed throughout the four seasons.

Access

JR Shin-Shirakawa Station ▶ Approx. 10 min by bus



Winter

Fukushima's winters can be harsh, but have their own unique charms. Enjoy the beauty of the land blanketed with white, and make the most of the snowy weather by trying out snow-related activities in Fukushima, such as skiing and snowshoe trekking.

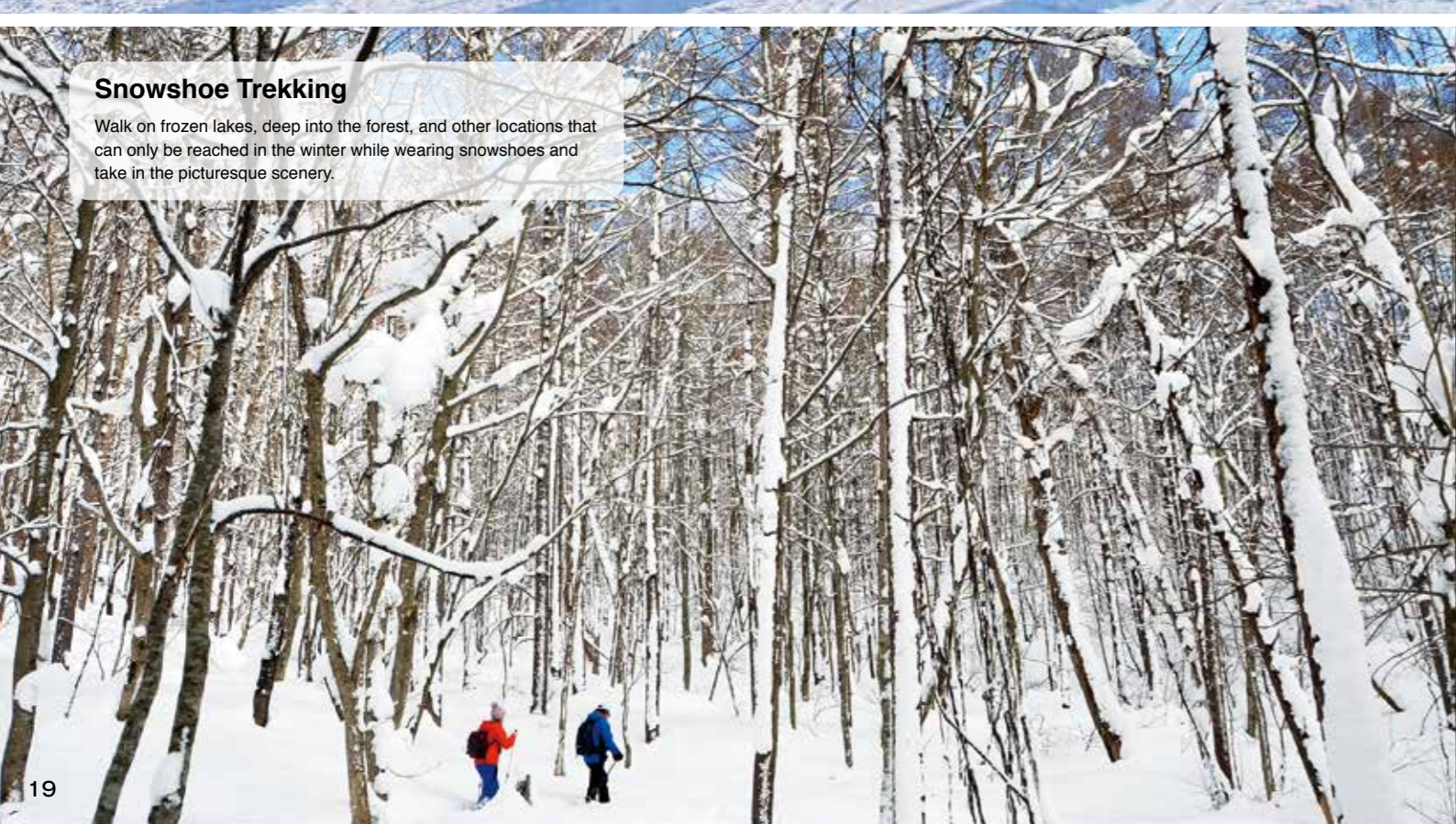


Skiing

In Fukushima Prefecture, there are 22 ski resorts, mainly in the Aizu area. The slopes, which boast fluffy powder snow, offer a variety of courses and skill levels to suit everyone from beginner to advanced skiers and even those who come as a family.

Snowshoe Trekking

Walk on frozen lakes, deep into the forest, and other locations that can only be reached in the winter while wearing snowshoes and take in the picturesque scenery.



24 Takayu Onsen (Fukushima City)

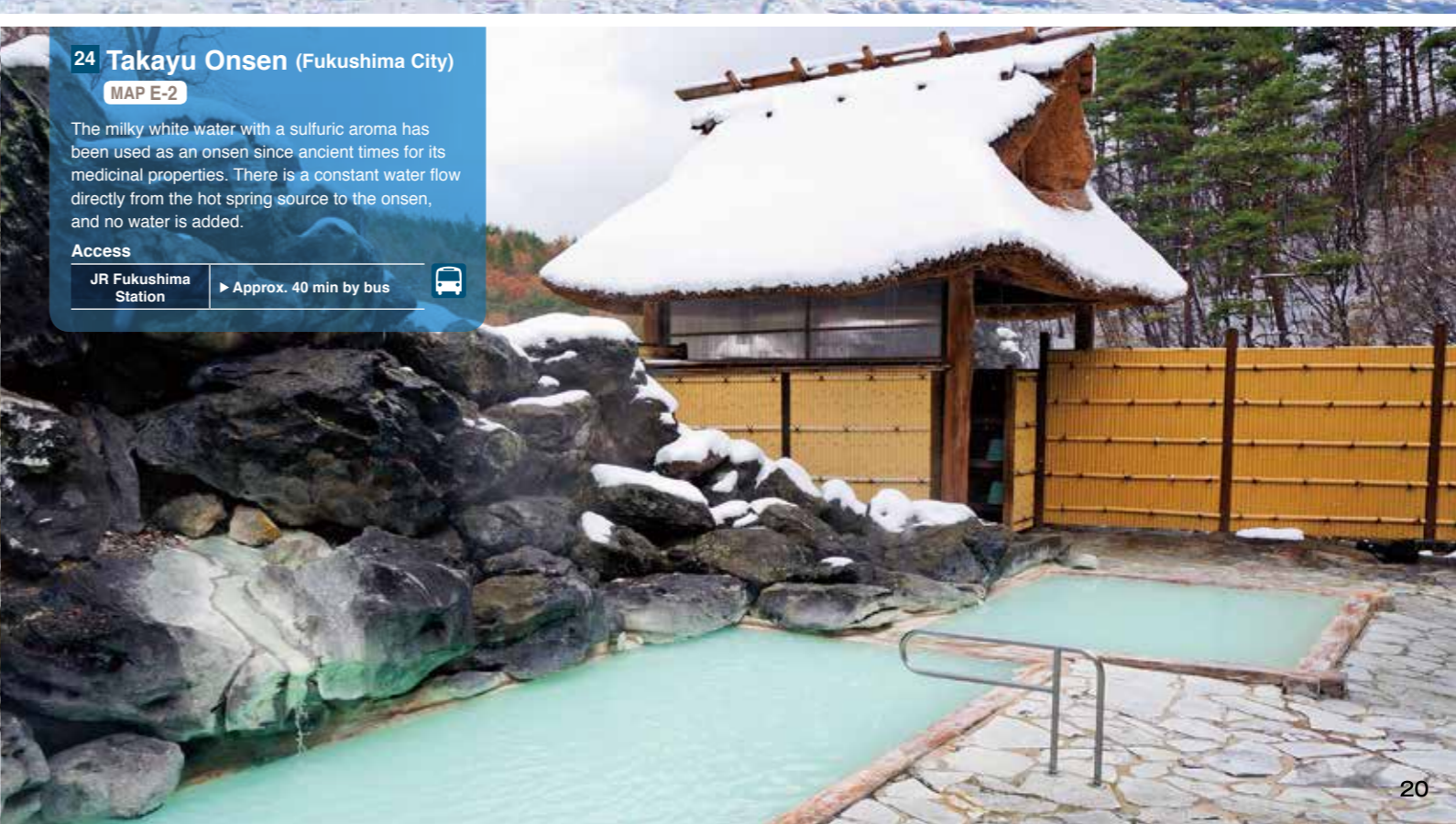
MAP E-2

The milky white water with a sulfuric aroma has been used as an onsen since ancient times for its medicinal properties. There is a constant water flow directly from the hot spring source to the onsen, and no water is added.

Access

JR Fukushima Station

▶ Approx. 40 min by bus





25 Ouchi-juku (Shimogo Town) MAP C-4

The traditional townscape of this post town has been preserved as it would have been in the Edo period. More than 30 buildings, complete with thatched roofs, stand, line the street. They house souvenir shops and restaurants.

Access


Aizu Railway Line
Yunokami Onsen Station ▶ Approx. 15 min by bus or taxi  



26 Tadami River Bridge No. 1 Viewpoint (Mishima Town) MAP B-3

The local train line running through the pure white mountains covered in snow is famous as a magnificent sight attracting tourists from around the world.


Access

JR Aizu-Miyashita Station ▶ Approx. 5 min by taxi 

27 Shirakawa Komine Castle
(Shirakawa City) MAP D-5

This castle, with its beautiful rock wall and sanju-yagura (three-story turret) construction, was almost entirely destroyed by wars, but it has been restored to its former glory thanks to the existence of the castle's original blueprints. It is one of Japan's Top 100 Castles.

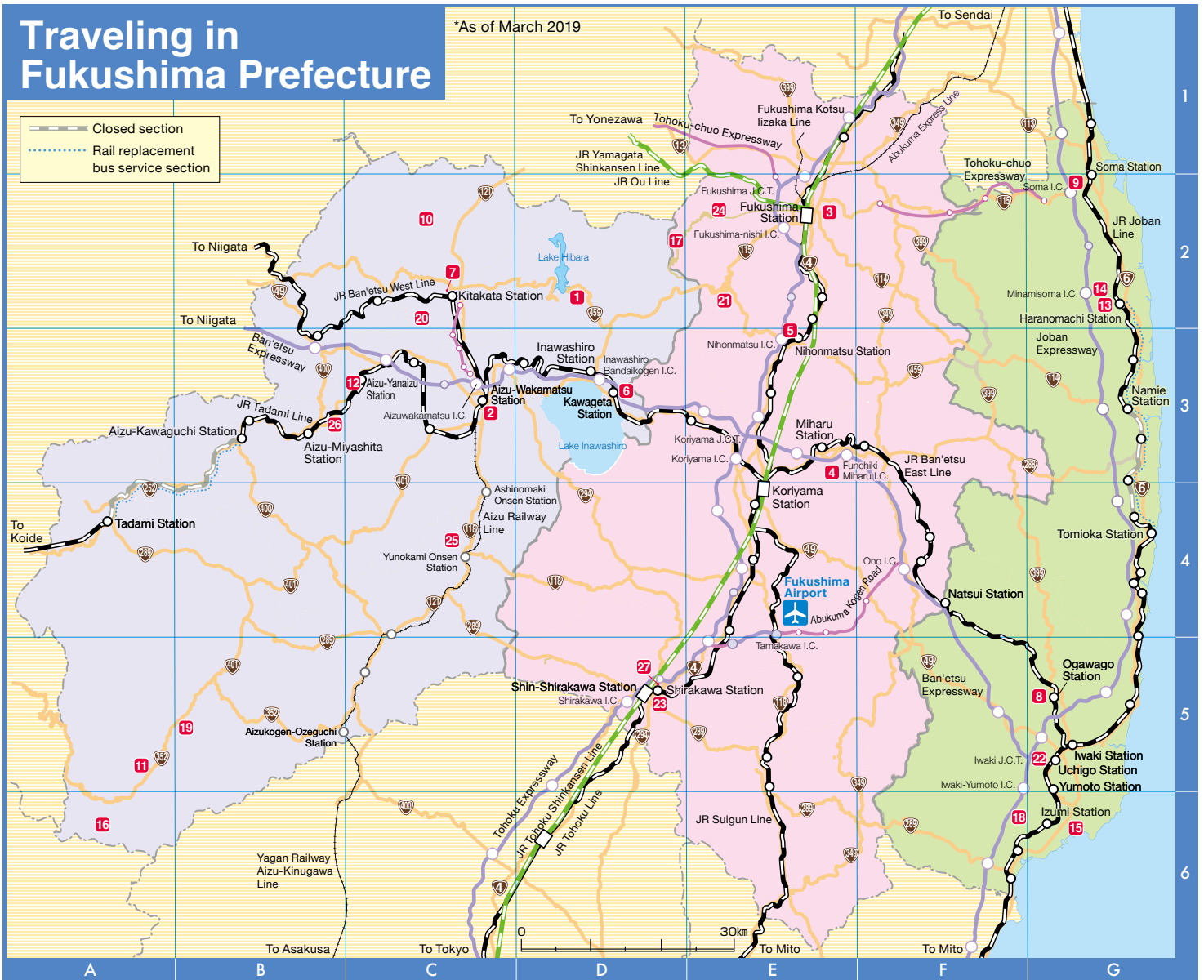
Access

JR Shirakawa Station ▶ Approx. 7 min on foot 



Traveling in Fukushima Prefecture

*As of March 2019



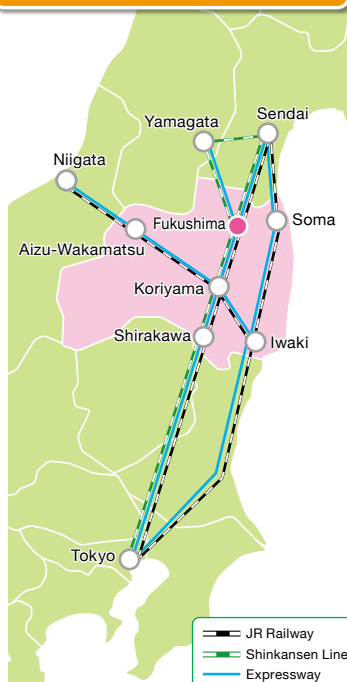
*The positions, scale, and required times listed on the map are estimations.

Airplane

Sydney, Australia	Approx. 10 hours	Tokyo
Los Angeles, USA	Approx. 11 hours	
London, UK	Approx. 11 hours	

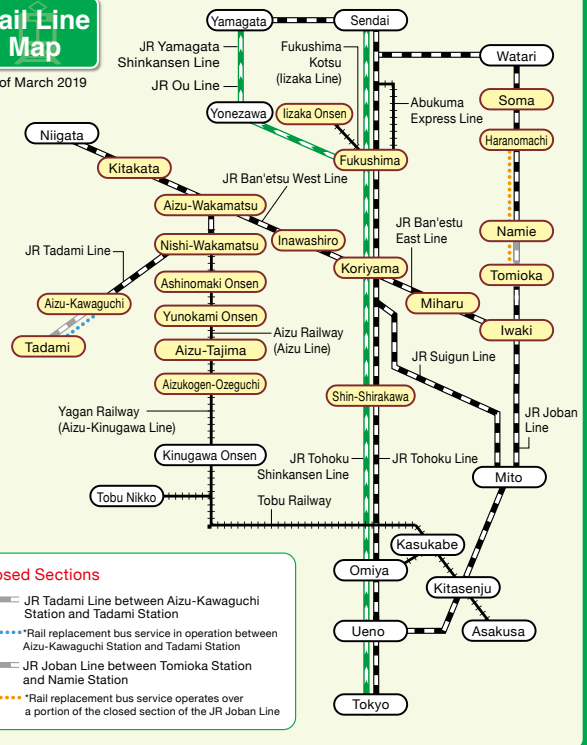


Access to Fukushima Prefecture



Rail Line Map

*As of March 2019



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