

IGR Tour spots



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Bicycle Rental

Available : early April to early December
 Rental fee : 300yen/day/1 bike, 500yen/day/2 bikes
 Additional day fee : 200yen/1 additional day/1 bike, 300yen/1 additional day/2 bikes
 ※Rental bicycle drop offs are allowed in both directions between the Koma station and Shibutami station (Extra 300 yen per bike for a drop off).
 ※The number of available bicycles is limited.



Aoyama Sta.



A rather nostalgic area with an historic red brick building formerly used by the army as a roofed parade ground for practicing under bad weather conditions.

◆Ooi Baba Plaza

The red brick building was completed in the 42nd year of Meiji era (1909), and was used as a practice ground for horse-back riding. Its pavilion style, with no support pillars, demonstrates advanced architectural techniques for that time. Other than Morioka, this historically significant style of building exists elsewhere only in Hokkaido.

10-minute walk 9:00~21:00 Every third Tuesdays (the following day if it is a national holiday), New Year holidays, temporary closure may take place. 019-643-3088 (Japanese Only)

◆Bistro Ginga

There is a "locally grown and produced" restaurant at the station where you can relax and enjoy regional cuisine using plenty of local produce and wine made right here in Iwate. It's a great place for those who want to unwind and savor their meals, and also for those who'd like to have a quick bite during lunch break or while waiting for a train. Come on in and enjoy!

Aoyama sta. south exit 019-601-4155 (Japanese Only)

Shibutami Sta.



Get a feeling for the bygone era that inspired the famous local author, Takuboku Ishikawa. It is said you can still sense his presence here in the town that has been attracting his fans throughout the ages.

◆Ishikawa Takuboku Memorial Museum

Handwritten letters sent to friends and students, as well as notebooks and collections of his Japanese poems, are on display at the Ishikawa Takuboku Memorial Museum. Outside the building, you find the house of the Saito family where Takuboku stayed as a boarding student and the former Shibutami Jinjo Elementary School building (pictured) where he used to teach. You can actually take a look inside the school building, too.

30-minute walk 9:00~17:00 (last admission at 16:30) Mondays (the following working day if it is a national holiday), 12/29~1/3 019-683-2315 (Japanese Only)

◆Yutoland Himekami

There are two styles of baths at this onsen spa: the western style design of "Iwate Fuji" and the Japanese style design of "Himekami". The superb scenic panorama outside the baths includes Mt. Iwate and Mt. Himekami. The hot spring water is thick and smooth, and leaves your skin feeling oh so silky. After your bath, enjoy a meal of local cuisine, or shop at the Direct Market where local goods and produce are sold straight from the maker. Overnight accommodations are also available.

14-minute taxi ride Onsen hot spring 10:00~22:00 (last entrance at 21:00)
 Direct Market 10:00~20:00 Restaurant 11:00~14:00, 18:00~20:00
 365 days open 019-683-3215 (Japanese Only)

Takizawa Sta.



Manabi No Mori (The Forest of Learning) is full of natural splendor. Feel at ease and free to enjoy yourselves in the woodland grounds and Umakko (horseback and pony riding) park.

◆Umakko Park Iwate

Horseback riding lessons are available for beginners. Our staff lead the horses by rope and gently guide you along so even little children can experience horseback riding. There is a plaza lawn and equipped playground. Just going for a stroll is a great way to spend the day here.

20-minute walk 10:00~16:00
 Mondays (the following day if it is a national holiday)
 019-688-5522 (Japanese Only)

◆Takizawa Forest Park (Nature center)

This wooded park features several attractions such as a waterside promenade, an azalea garden, and much more. At the "Forest of Birdwatching Nature Center" in the northern part of the woods, you are likely to encounter wild birds and animals. Isn't the beauty of nature just wonderful here in Iwate!

15-minute walk 9:00~16:30
 Tuesdays (the following working day if it is a national holiday) 019-688-5522 (Japanese Only)

Okunakayama Kogen Sta.



This area is filled with attractions such as ski resorts, hot springs, and a one of a kind amusement house for children. We highly recommend a visit here.

◆Okunakayama Kogen Ski Resort

This well-known ski resort is blanketed with a fine "aspirin" snow (named after its likeness to aspirin powder), and has a heavenly panoramic view. 10 different courses are available for skiers of all levels, from beginners to experts. A ski slope with a total run of 1,500 meters is also open in the evening until 8:00 pm.

14-minute bus ride 8:30~16:30
 night time lighting 16:00~20:00 365 days open
 0195-35-3131 (Japanese Only)

◆Iwate Kodomo no Mori

This children's house has many attractions to stimulate your kid's curiosity. In addition to the indoor playing places, such as "Noppie", the tower of adventure, and "Oshigoto train", there are also some outdoor spots like a boarding house for lodgers, "Manten House", and camping facilities where you can enjoy getting back to nature.

17-minute bus ride 9:00~17:00 Tuesdays (the following day if it is a national holiday), New Year holidays, temporary closure for maintenance may take place.
 0195-35-3888 (Japanese Only)

Ichinohe Sta.



This place is known as the town that used to have its own railroad, and yet even now, it still has many attractions. Ichinohe welcomes many visitors during its annual movie festival.

◆GOSHONO JOMON SITE

A Nationally Designated Historic Site, the Goshono site, has been developed and operated as an ancient history reenactment park. At the Museum in a site, they demonstrate how actual life was back then, throughout the seasons in the natural surroundings. Cinema-screen style video presentations are shown along with exhibitions of the "Hanamagari Dōmen" (clay ritual masks with 'crooked noses') and other artifacts from the Makumae ruins.

※Take a taxi with a "Jomon Taxi" sticker from Ichinohe station and get a discount of ¥430. Just show your taxi receipt at the museum reception.

10-minute taxi ride 9:00~17:00 Mondays (the following day if it is a national holiday), the following days of National holiday (except Saturdays and Sundays), and New Year holidays 0195-32-2652 (Japanese Only)

◆Bandaikan

The "Bandaikan" was originally opened as a venue for live performances. In the Taisho era, it was a flourishing movie theater. It is still available today for various types of events. This retro-styled building is also a popular film-shooting location.

10-minute walk
 0195-33-2111 (Ichinohe town) (Japanese Only)

Iwate Numakunai Sta.



Get acquainted with TOHOKU's artists and delicious food.

◆Ishigami-no-oka Museum of Art

This art museum, the first open-air sculpture museum in Iwate Prefecture, opened in 1993. It has an outdoor exhibition space where you can encounter the beauty of nature throughout the seasons, an art gallery, and an art experience workshop where the whole family can enjoy their time together.

15-minute walk 9:00~17:00 (last admission at 16:30)
 Mondays (the following day if it is a national holiday), New Year holidays 0195-62-1453 (Japanese Only)

◆Michinoeki (service area) Ishigami-no-oka

The Roadside Rest-stop Station here is affiliated with the Ishigami-no-oka art museum and sells all kinds of local specialties, such as highland grown fresh vegetables, mountain herbs, mushrooms, and so on. There is a restaurant where they serve ice cream and curry made with blueberries, the town's local specialty.

15-minute walk April to October 9:00~18:30, November to March 9:00~18:00 New Year holidays 0195-61-1600 (Japanese Only)

Ninohe Sta.



It is a 20-minute walk to Basenkyo with its beautiful rocky landscape. The splendor of nature and history are blended together here in this town.

◆Kunohejo Castle site

In the 19th year of the Tenso era (1591), a decisive battle took place right here, in which Toyotomi Hideyoshi completed his conquest of the whole country. Ruins of stone ramparts and remnants of the moat surrounding the main castle, reconstructed after being surrendered, are said to be among the oldest in Tohoku. This place has been designated as a significant historical site by the Japanese Government.

30-minute walk or 10-minute taxi ride

◆Nanbu Bijin (Sake Brewery)

Featuring sake made from the local specialty brewer's rice, "Gin-Otome" (which means silver maiden). Its name, "Bijin", leads you to imagine that the more you drink, the more beautiful you will become. It won the Champion Sake Award at the IWC2017 Tournament in the Japanese Liquor Special Junmaishu (sake made without added alcohol or sugar) category. Available now overseas, many people around the world are talking about this sake!

30-minute walk or 10-minute taxi ride 8:00~17:00
 Every other Saturdays, Sundays and National holidays
 0195-23-3133 (Japanese Only)

Kintaichi Onsen Sta.



This is a nostalgic hot spring resort. Come see a Zashiki-warashi! ("a guest room child": the spirit of a child with bobbed hair which haunts a tatami room and brings good fortune to the people living there.)

◆Kintaichi Onsenkyo Hot Spring

This hot spring was opened in the Kanei era (1626). It's been known from that time as the "Samurai's onsen" because it was the favorite therapeutic bath of the Nanbu-han (the Nanbu clan feudal lords). It is also the famous mystical place where a Zashiki-warashi appears. The writer, Tetsuo Miura, created his story, "Yuta and His Amazing Friends", based on this location.

20-minute walk 0195-27-2540 (Kintaichi Onsen Ryokan Kumiai (hotels' union)/Japanese Only)

◆Kamemaro Jinja Shrine

There is a Shinto shrine adjacent to the Japanese ryokan hotel "Ryokufu-so", where the Zashiki-warashi named "Kamemaro" appears. It is said that "Kamemaro" is an ancestor of the ryokan hotel owner.

20-minute walk