

# Takasaki Area Map

## Takasaki City Map

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## Locating Takasaki on the Map



## Getting here from Tokyo



## Transportation Guide

### From Tokyo:

Kanetsu Expressway (Nerima IC to Takasaki IC or Fujioka IC) About 1 hr.  
Joetsu Shinkansen (Tokyo Station to Takasaki Station) about 50 min.

### From Niigata:

Kanetsu Expressway (Niigata-nishi IC to Maebashi IC or Takasaki IC) about 2hr. 30min.  
Joetsu Shinkansen (Niigata Station to Takasaki Station) About 1hr. 20 min.

### From Nagano:

Joetsu Expressway (Nagano IC to Yoshii IC) About 2 hrs.  
Nagano Shinkansen (Nagano Station to Takasaki Station) about 50min.

### From Narita Airport:

Highway Express Bus (Narita Airport to Takasaki Station East Exit) about 3 hrs.

福

Welcome



高崎

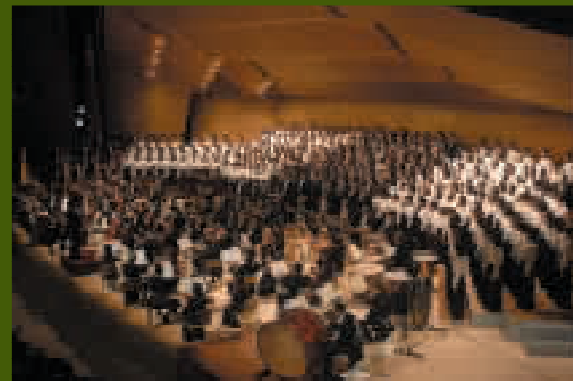
Takasaki

英語 English

# Takasaki City

## Takasaki City

In olden times Takasaki flourished as a post-station along one of Edo Japan's main roads. Today, the city is a strategic rail and expressway stop for Japan's high-speed transit system. Situated 50 minutes outside the Tokyo Metropolitan Region, Takasaki shows all the signs of a bustling commercial city. Takasaki is also home to the Gunma Symphony, making it one of only a handful of Japan's regional cities to have an orchestra. It is the site of numerous music events held at the Gunma Music Center as well as other venues. Takasaki is a city that's in touch with nature and has numerous onsens (hot springs) where you can relax and allow your body to recuperate.



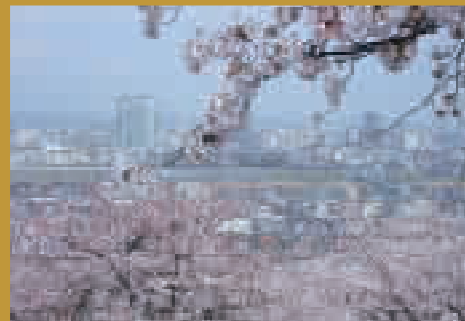
# Kannon yama

## Kannon Yama



In the Kannon-yama Hills spreading out to the west of the central city stands the Byakui Dai-Kannon, who smiles benevolently as she keeps watch over the streets of Takasaki. The Goddess's concrete statue is 41.8m tall (equivalent to a 9-story building) and weighs 6000 tons. You can visit her hollow interior and pay your respects to numerous Buddhist idols as you climb the stairs to her shoulder. From her shoulder you can see a sweeping view of the city of Takasaki. When the approximately 3000 Japanese cherry trees blossom in the spring, the entire hill becomes covered in pink.

Transportation: From JR Takasaki Station – 40 minute walk or 20 minutes by bus.  
Fees: Statue Entrance Fee - ¥300 for adults



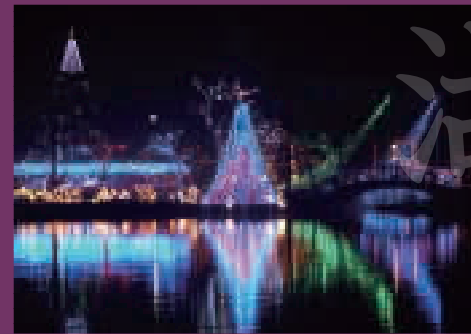
# Lake Haruna

## Lake Haruna

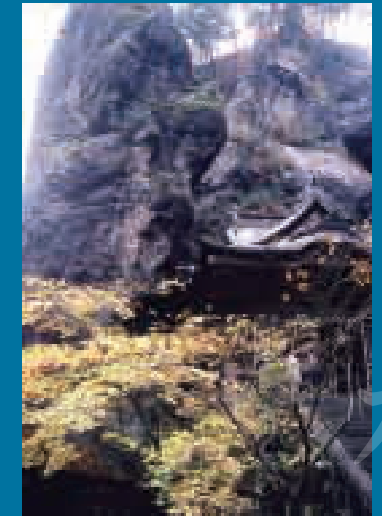


Lake Haruna is located near the top of Mt. Haruna, one of the most famous mountains in Gunma Prefecture. At an elevation of close to 1,100m and surrounded by mountains, the beautiful waters of Lake Haruna reflect the colors of each changing season. There are hiking trails maintained along the outer rim of the crater that surrounds the lake and various flowers can be enjoyed during each season from late April through late September. There are also fantastic light shows held by the lake during the winter.

Access: 90 minute bus ride from JR Takasaki Station



## Haruna Shrine



Haruna Shrine stands amidst a majestic formation of strangely shaped rocks that rise straight from the earth. With an approximately 1,400 year history, the shrine has attracted the faithful throughout the ages. The shrine's historic buildings and a giant 600 year old tree provide numerous highlights, including pavilions that have been integrated with the rocks. You can also enjoy a bowl of Monzen Soba ("Before the Gate" Buckwheat Noodles), a specialty dish served at eateries in the town.

Access: 70 minute bus ride from JR Takasaki Station





# Daruma

## Daruma



Daruma dolls are a leading form of a good luck charm in Japan, and approximately 80% of the country's Daruma dolls are manufactured in Takasaki. Takasaki Darumas are characterized by their eyebrows, which are symbolized by cranes, and by their noses and moustaches, which are symbolized by turtles. Because they are modeled after these two animals, both of which are associated with long life, the faces are considered to be extremely auspicious. You make your wish to the Daruma by first filling in its right eye while you say a prayer for what you want (e.g. an uneventful year, etc.). When the wish comes true you fill in the other eye as a way of appreciation.

### Shorinzan Daruma Temple

The temple where the Darumas originated. Takasaki Darumas can be purchased here, and many people come to buy them during the Daruma Market, which is open for 2 days every year on January 6th and 7th.

Transportation 20 minute bus ride from JR Takasaki Station  
20 minute walk from JR Gunma-Yawata Station

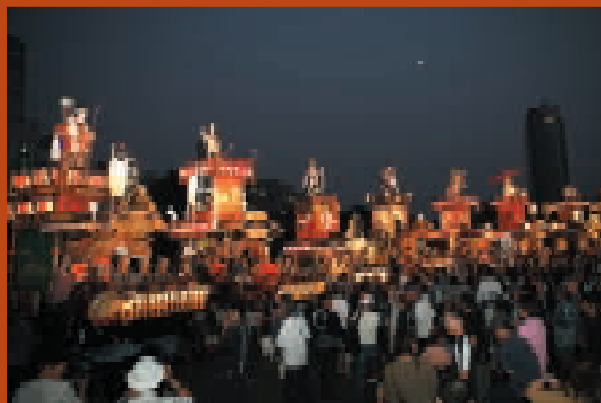


達磨

# Takasaki Festival

## Takasaki Festival

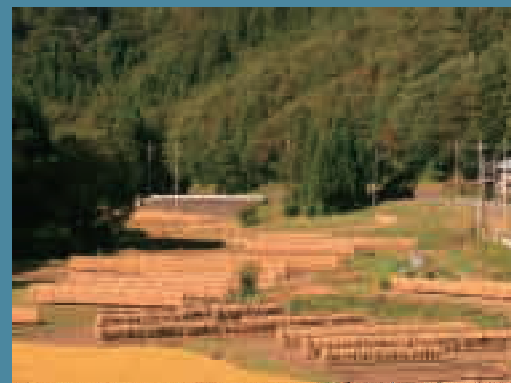
The Takasaki Festival is held each year on the first Saturday in August. The central city roars to life as people dressed in Happis (workman's livery coats) carry Mikoshis (portable shrines) and pull floats through the streets. There is also a fireworks display on the Saturday night. Besides the Takasaki Festival, from late July to the end of August there are numerous other summer festivals held in various neighborhoods throughout the city.



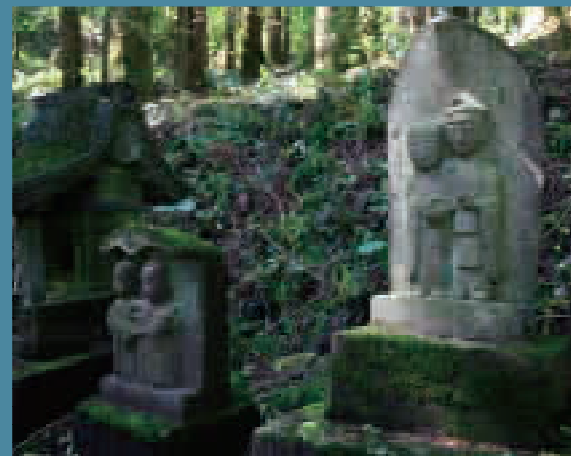
高崎祭

# Dousojin

## Traveler's Guardian Deity



The Kurabuchi and Haruna areas in Takasaki's northwest have retained much of their natural beauty and atmosphere making them great places to enjoy mountain climbing, camping, and onsens (hot springs). You can also see many Soutai Dosojin (a type of Dosojin depicting a happily married couple) with unique shapes. Dosojin are stone markers or figures that are worshiped as deities. These deities are believed to protect the town, bless people with children, and watch over travelers during their journeys.



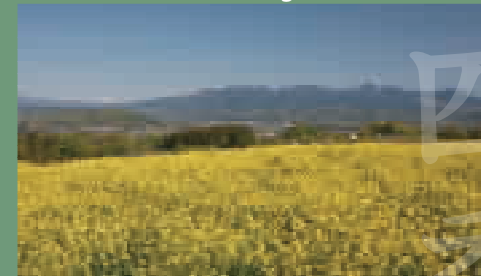
道祖神

# Flowers

## Seasonal Flowers

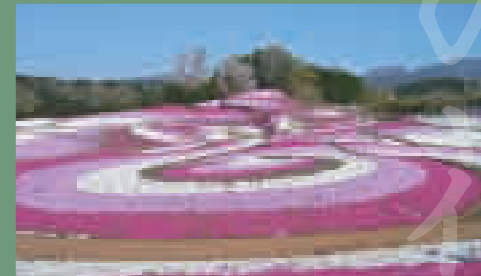
You can sense the seasons in Takasaki through the various flowers as they bloom. Each new season brings new flowers to be admired.

### Hanadaka Viewing Flower Hills



Visitors can enjoy looking out at the surrounding mountains and view over 15 types of flowers throughout the year, including rape blossoms (late April through late May) and cosmos (late September to early November).

### Misato Moss Pink Park

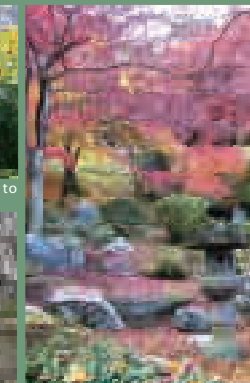


Bands of red, pink, and white Moss Pink blossoms form waves and whirlpools as they undulate and eddy along the pathways and across the landscape. (mid April to early May)



Sunflower Maze: mid August to early September

Misato Plum Grove: late February to late March



Tokumei-en Autumn Leaves: mid November to early December

四季の花

## For Further Information

Please contact

Takasaki Municipal Tourism Society  
Takasaki Tourism Association

Address: 35-1 Takamatsu-cho, Takasaki-shi, Japan  
370-8501

Phone: (+81) 27-321-1257

E-mail: [kankou@city.takasaki.gunma.jp](mailto:kankou@city.takasaki.gunma.jp)

<http://www.city.takasaki.gunma.jp>



The information posted on this site is current as of January 2008.

# Present

## Souvenirs

### Sake

Sake is brewed at the Makino Sake Brewery, Takasaki's exclusive sake brewery. Sake is made from rice and water. The Makino Sake Brewery uses Mt. Haruna's famous spring water to create a full bodied sake with a true sake aroma.



### noodle stew

Takasaki is a major producer of high quality wheat and many of the city's specialty dishes use wheat flour. Takasaki udon is made from a locally grown strain of wheat called "Kinu-no-nami" that gives the noodles their distinctive slippery and springing texture. Visitors can also try the Okirikomi, a local stew made from wide noodles and vegetables, including daikon and taro.



### Japanese Plums

Takasaki is the largest producer of Japanese plums in eastern Japan, both in terms of quantity and growing area. The Haruna and Misato Plum Groves contain 220,000 plum trees and many people visit the groves in March to see the blossoms. Many plum based products are made here, including plum wine, plum juice, as well as umeboshi (dried pickled plums).



# Spa

## Onsen (Hot Springs)



There are many onsens in Takasaki that are surrounded by nature.

**Aimagawa Onsen Fureaikan**  
[Communion Hall]  
(+81) 27-378-3834  
(hotel accommodations available)

**Kurabuchi Onsen**  
(+81) 27-378-2311  
(hotel accommodations available)



**Kamezawa Onsen**  
(+81) 27-378-4126 (hotel accommodations available)

**Okukawaura Onsen** (Artificial Onsen) Hamayu Sansou  
[Hamayu Lodge]  
(+81) 27-378-2333 (hotel accommodations available)

**Kurabuchi Welfare Center Seseragi-no-yu** [Babbling Water]  
(+81) 27-378-3440 (day trip only)

**Gunma Onsen Yasuragi-no-yu** [Comfort Waters]  
(+81) 27-372-4126 (day trip only)

**Harunako Onsen** [Lake Haruna Onsen] Yusuge-motoyu  
(+81) 27-374-9211 (hotel accommodations available)

**Harunako Onsen** [Lake Haruna Onsen] Lakeside Yusuge  
(+81) 27-374-9131 (hotel accommodations available)

**Haruna Onsen Spa House**  
(+81) 27-374-9226 (hotel accommodations available)

**Takasaki Kannon-yama Onsen Kin Zansou** (Kin Lodge)  
(+81) 27-322-2916 (hotel accommodations available)

**Kyogashima Tennen Onsen Yutori**  
(+81) 27-350-8811 (day trip only)

A number of Japan's leading onsens are located just outside Takasaki.  
Ikaho Hot Spring (55 minutes by bus from Takasaki Station)  
Kusatsu Onsen (1 hour 30 minutes by train, or 30 minutes by bus from Takasaki Station)

# 温泉

## Event Calendar

**January** **1st**  
Takasaki New Year's Day Concert/Gunma Music Center (Takamatsu-cho) Hatsumode  
[New Year's visit to a shrine]/Haruna Shrine (Harunasan-machi), etc.

**6th and 7th**  
The Daruma Market [Shorinzan Feast of the Seven Herbs of Health Festival]/Shorinzan  
Daruma Temple (Hanadaka-machi)

**February** **Late February to Late March**  
Misato Plum Festival/Misato Plum Grove

**March** **Late March to Early April**  
Takasaki Film Festival/Takasaki Cultural Hall (Suehiro-cho) and other local movie  
theaters.

**Third Sunday in March**  
Haruna Plum Blossom Festival/Haruna Cultural Hall

**April** **Early April**  
Shin-machi Cherry Blossom Festival/Self-Defense Forces Shin-machi Military Post  
(Shin-machi)

**Early April to Early May**  
Misato Moss Pink Festival/Misato Moss Pink Park (Misato-machi Matsunosawa)

**May** **May 5th**  
Tsunoochiyama [Mt. Tsunoochi] Exchange Mountain Climb/Hamayu Sansou [Hamayu  
Lodge] (Kurabuchi-machi)

**Late May**  
Yugen no mori Concert [Ethereal Forest Concert]/Haruna Shrine Kagura Hall  
(Harunasan-machi)

**July** **Last Sunday in July**  
Misato Furusato Summer Festival – Fureai Park [Communion Park] (Misato-machi  
Nishiakiya)

**August** **August 15th**  
Haruna Furusato Festival and Commerce and Industry Festival Fireworks/Karasugawa  
Park (Shimomuroda-machi)

**August 16th**  
Shin-machi Furusato Festival Karasugawa Grounds (Shin-machi)

**Mid-August**  
Kurabuchi Summer Festival/Kurabuchi Branch Office (Kurabuchi-machi Sannokura)

**Late August**  
Takasaki Byakui Dai-Kannon Candle Festival "Mandoe" [Buddhist Lantern  
Festival/Jigenin (Ishihara-machi)]

**Late August**  
Gunma Haniwa-no-sato Festival/Yawatsukakofun [Yawatsuka Ancient Tomb]  
(Ide-machi)

**First Friday in August**  
Haruna Festival Fireworks/Haruna Lakefront (Harunako-machi)

**First Saturday and Sunday in August**  
Takasaki Festival/Motenashi Hiroba [Welcome Plaza] (Takamatsu-cho)

**October** **Early October**  
Takasaki Raibu Festival [Takasaki Thunder Dance Festival]/ Motenashi Hiroba [Welcome  
Plaza] (Takamatsu-cho)

**First Sunday in October**  
Minowanosato and Kitsune-no-yomeiri Pageant [Monowanosato and Fox Bride  
Pageant]/Misato Branch Office (Misato-machi Nishiakiya)

**November** **Late November**  
Takasaki Ebisu Market/Central City

**December** **Early December to Early January**  
Takasaki Pageant of Light/Takasaki City Hall and Vicinity (Takamatsu-cho)

**Mid December to the 25th**  
Lake Haruna Illumination Festa / Lake Haruna Lakefront (Lake Haruna)



Minowanosato and  
Kitsune-no-yomeiri Peagent



Haruna Festival Fireworks