

Published by
Aizuwakamatsu Tourism Bureau
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1-1 Ekimaemachi,Aizuwakamatsu City 965-0041

Aizuwakamatsu City http://samurai-city.jp/en/

3-46 Higashisakaemachi, Aizuwakamatsu City 965-8601





The castle tower of Tsurugajo is the largest in eastern Japan. It is second only to Edo Castle (the imperial palace) in castle area size. Aizu is the only place in all of Japan where the castle tower roof features red tiles.



Rinkaku Tea Cottage

MAP/P5.C-3

A tea house built by Sen-no- Shoan, the son of Sen-no-Rikyu. In order to enter the tea house, all swords had to be removed. Though the class system during the time of the samurai was strict, only in the world of the tea room was there equality. You can enjoy drinking Matcha here.

Same hours as Tsurugajo Castle Tower ●210 yen (free for elementary and junior high school students) Matcha charge /fee.600 yen (not included with admission)



Aizu Matsuri

The main event is the Aizu Clan parade, vhich features historical samurai figures. The parade starts at Tsurugajo Castle, and travels around the city.

• 3 days surrounding September 23rd

of the Samurai Still Lives Modern Japan began with the tragedy of the Aizu samurai and ordinary people. After the war in Aizu, though the samurai no longer existed in Japan, Aizuwakamatsu preserved the spirit of the samurai to this day, by continuing to teach the children of

The Spiritual Culture

1. Be kind to others.

Aizu the "Aizu Clan Precepts"

The Aizu Clan **Precepts** 2. Say "Thank you" and "I'm sorry".

- 3. Do not act in cowardice.
- 4. Have pride for Aizu, and show respect to your elders.
- 5. Follow your dreams.
- 6. Have self-restraint.

Do not do what you must not do. That which is forbidden must not be done.



Resting place of the Last Samurai, Saito Hajime Amidaji Temple MAP/P5.A-2

> The tomb of Saito Hajime (later known as Fujita Goro) can be found at Amidaji Temple in Nanokamachi. As captain of the Shinsengumi, he fought to the end alongside the Aizu clan against the new government army. Saito Hajime is well known even in foreign countries, and has been portrayed in manga, anime, and movies.



The Aizu-Wakamatsu Foreign Language Volunteer Guide



The Aizu-Wakamatsu foreign language volunteer guide will give guided-tours in Tsurugajo Castle and the surrounding grounds in English or Chinese.

* A reservation is required at least two weeks in advance. In addition, please understand that we may not be able to meet your request for a tour guide.



The Kita-de-maru that served as the entrance to the castle was made very strong, in order to block invasion by enemy forces



Inari Shrine, located on the castle grounds of Tsurugajo, is known as a spot of power, which protected the castle

Volunteer Guide (by appointment)

To request a guide, call Aizuwakamatsu International Association **☎**0242(27)3703

Tsurugajo Castle Guides

Tours of the castle and castle grounds are available in English and Chinese.

Reservations (English):

http://www.tsurugajo.com/language/eng/v_index.html Reservations (Chinese): http://www.tsurugajo.com/language/cha/v_index.html

City Guides * reservations and guides are available only in Japanese at this time Groups or individuals can enjoy a tour around the city by chartered bus, private vehicles, or even by bicycle. You will be asked to provide your guide's lunch and transportation fees

■Reservations:

http://www.tsurugajo.com/kankou/v_yoyaku.html

■ Price: Free *you must still pay admission fees ■ Hours of availability: 9:00AM-4:00PM

■Guide holidays: December 30th to January 3rd, and training days (irregu**Í**ar)





garden to save the people of Aizu. Though the Aizu clan became the first in Japan to export valuable Korean ginseng to China, they were also able to export the plant cultivation research done in Oyakuen. You may also enjoy Japanese tea in Ochayagoten tea house. Reservations required

MAP/P6.D-2

- A few steps from the Oyakuen (H21) bus stop on the Haikara-san route and 5 minutes on foot from the Shokokaigisho (A20) bus stop on the Akabe route
- Hours: 8:30 17:00 (last entry at 16:30)
- ●330 yen for adults, 270 yen for high school students, and 160 yen for junior high and elementary school students. Matcha charge / fee 600 yen



Aizu Clan Nisshinkan School



The restored school through which high-class children of the Aizu Clan samurai passed. It is here that young boys learned the spirit of the samurai. Classes such as chemistry and astronomy were taught. The Aizu clan taught not only martial arts, but was also eager to teach academic lessons, at a level that was said to be regarded highest throughout Japan.

About 20 minutes (2,500 yen) by taxi from Aizuwakamatsu

●Hours: 9:00 - 17:00(last entry at 16:00) ●700 yen for adults, 550 yen for senior and junior high school students, and 500 yen for elementary school students ☎0242(75)2525

Samurai Activities | Meditation: 600 yen for 40 minutes, 10 or more persons (reservations required) / Tea ceremony: 600 yen for 45 minutes, 10 or more persons (reservations required) / Note: The above activities require a museum



Aizu Bukeyashiki (Samurai Residences)

The mansion of the Aizu clan's chief retainer Saigo Tanomo, which has been faithfully restored and open to the public. Come experience what daily life was like for the samurai. Nearby shops selling quality Aizu souvenirs are also available.

MAP/P6.E-3 A few steps from the Aizu Bukeyashiki (H30.H24.A11.A17) bus stop

Hours: 8:30 - 17:00 from April through November, Additional closings in winter.

●850 yen for adults, 550 yen for senior and junior high school students, and 450 yen for elementary school students 20242(28)2525



Samurai | Archery (April – November): 200 yen for 15-minute (4 arrows), 1 – 5 persons (reservations required for 10 or more persons) Note: Museum entrance fee is required.



Gravesite of the Aizu Clan Leaders, the Matsudairas

The location of the graves of the family of Hoshina Masayuki, founder of the Aizu clan and the first lord of Aizu.

This family tomb is the final resting place for the 2nd through the 9th and final generation of the Aizu feudal Jords. The large gravesite and stone monuments here are rare even in Japan, and are visited by many people. It is a spot of great power.

10-minute walk from the Innai (H29.H25.A12.A16) bus stop



Sazaedo

A Buddhist temple that features two spiral staircases, for going up and down. Visitors can take a tour of the strange building without ever passing through the same place twice. The Sazaedo was showcased as one of the rarest buildings in the world in a British architectural magazine.

MAP/P6.D-1

5-minute walk from the limoriyama-shita (H36.A5) bus stop

Hours: 8:15 to sunset from April through November, 9:00 to 16:00 from December through March •400 yen for adults, 300 yen for senior high school and college students, and 200 yen for junior high and elementary school students 20242(22)3163



Tombs of the Byakkotai

During the Boshin war, 16 and 17 years old samurai boys fought in a battle in order to protect their home, Aizu. However, defeated by the modern weapons of the new government forces, the boys were forced to escape to limoriyama. From there, they saw what appeared to be the castle tower wreathed in flames. Though the boys discussed with each other the best course of action, they chose the noble death of the samurai, and committed seppuku.

MAP/P6.D-1

5-minute walk from the limoriyama-shita (H36.A5) bus stop



Enjoy the Townscape on Foot

Why not enjoy a leisurely stroll around the historic town? You're sure to encounter friendly locals, popular goods, and delicious food.

Shibukawa Donya(Nanokamachi Street) MAP/P7.E-4





The area around Mitsutaya (Keirinji Street) MAP/P7.F-4

Merchants and historical buildings that supported the revival

Edo era buildings which survived the Boshin Civil war still exist, as do a number of European-style houses and warehouses which were built after the war. It is in these preserved buildings that the Aizu original industries of the samurai era were revived by merchants, and still thrive today.





The area around the Shirokiya Lacquerware Shop MAP/P7.G-4 (Nanokamachi Street)





Aizu Lacquerware P8

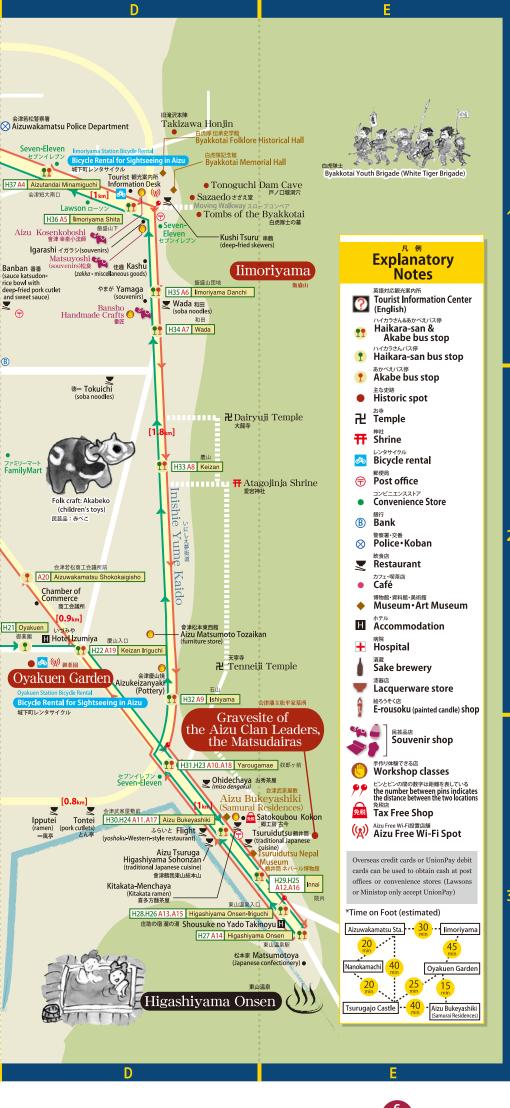


Folk Toys P8



Brewery Tours P10







Buses leave every 30 minutes from the Aizuwakamatsuu Station bus stop (first bus: 08:00, last bus: 17:30)



Buses leave every 30 minutes from the Aizuwakamatsuu Station bus stop (first bus: 09:15, last bus: 16:15)

Single ride 210 yen for adults

110 yen for elementary school children

2 1-day pass

600 yen for adults 300 yen for elementary school children

Where to buy a 1-day pass

Aizu Bus Information Booth at Aizuwakamatsu Station, Aizu Bukeyashiki (Samurai Residences), Tsurugajo Kaikan, Higashiyama Onsen Kanko Kyokai, Tsurugajo Tourist Information Center, limoriyama Tourist Information Desk, Oyakuen Garden, Aizuwakamatsu Tourism Bureau, members of the Aizuwakamatsu Inns and Hotels Association, Eki Café

Note: 1-day passes are not sold on the bus. Please obtain your pass in advance at the above locations.

Aizu Bus, Wakamatsu Office 20242-22-5555

Aizu Gurutto Card





2,720 yen for adults 1,360 yen for children

The card gives you unlimited 2-day access to the following transportation systems within the Aizu region: JR and Aizu Railway lines, Aizu Bus, Aizuwakamatsu City Classic Town Bus (Haikara-san and Akabe), and Bandai Toto Bus. In addition, the card entitles you to discounts and/or other benefits from participating tourism and lodging facilities and restaurants.

Where to Buy Aizu Gurutto Cards

Aizuwakamatsu Station / View Plaza Aizuwakamatsu / Top Tour Aizuwakamatsu Office / Aizu Bus - Wakamatsu Station Information Booth / Aizu Bus Tourism ATS / Higashiyama Onsen Kanko Kyokai / Nanukamachi Station Eki Café

Inquiries:

Aizuwakamatsu Station Tourist Information Center (English)

Aizu Card Administration Council Aizuwakamatsu Tourism Bureau Aizuwakamatsu City Tourism Division (closed Sat., Sun. & national holidays)

☎0242(23)8000 ☎0242(39)1251

Tour Our Town on Wheels Bicycle Rentals

There are four bicycle rental stations in Aizuwakamatsu, all located at strategic points linking popular tourist sites. Cycling is a great way to get to know our city.

- Rental charge: 600 yen per bicycle for a full day's use.
 Bicycles are available for use from 9:00 to 16:00.
- ●Tsurugajo Station ●Oyakuen Station
- limoriyama Station (city-operated parking lot)

Inquiries: Aizuwakamatsu Tourism Bureau ☎0242-27-4005

Bicycle Rental

(Electric rental bycycle from the Station) Aizuwakamatsu Station Travel Drsk ☎0242(23)8000 1,600 yen for 1 day / 1,100 yen 4 hours or less





Here are some traditional items of Aizu that have been cherished through



Akabeko

Akabeko (red cow) is one Aizu's most famous traditional toys. The head bobs up and down and side to side when the cow is moved. Legend has it that the toy protected children from an epidemic.

Yamada Folk Craft Workshop MAP/P5.A-2

Okiagari Koboshi

Because this figure stands right back up after it's knocked down, Okiagari Koboshi have become a beloved symbol of luck and resilience. It is custom to buy one more than the number of people in your family.

Aizu Lacquerware

When Gamo Ujisato became the lord of Aizu, he brought lacquerware artisans from Oumi who began making lacquerware in Aizu. Local makie techniques, including gold leafing, are famous all over Japan.



Nuriichi Lacquerware Store Shirokiya Lacquerware Store

Fukunishi Lacquerware Store Suzukiya Rihei Lacquerware Store

MAP/P5.B-1 MAP/P5.B-2 MAP/P5.B-2 MAP/P5. B-2 MAP/P7.E-4

MAP/P7.G-4 MAP/P7.G-4

MAP/P7.G-4

Aizu Painted Candles

A high-quality craft with a long history in Aizu. It is said that around 300 years ago, the majority of the candles used in Edo (the capital) were produced here in Aizu.

Aizu Cloth (Cotton)

Cotton cloth that features a distinctive, colorfully striped pattern. The cloth was used in a kimono worn by the heroine Yae Niijima, in the Taiga television drama series, "Yae no Sakura"

amada Momen Orimoto MAP/P5.A-2

Dzawa Rosokuten

Yamagataya Honten Hoshiban Erosokuten MAP/P7.E-4

MAP/P7.G-2

Hands-on Activities

Folk Crafts

Okiagari Koboshi

Activity: 30 minutes to 1 hour 500 yen – 1,250 yen

Yamada Folk Craft Workshop MAP/P5.A-2 **2**0242(23)1465

Aizu Bukeyashiki (Samurai Residences) **2**0242(28)2525 MAP/P6.D-3

Tsurugajo Kaikan **20242(28)2288**

Aizu Clan Nisshinkan School **3**0242(75)2525 Outside of map area

Aizu Kosenkoboshi

20242(85)6218 MAP/P6.D-1

Aizu Machikata Denshokan **20242**(22)8686 MAP/P5.B-1

Warabi **2024**2(24)0020

MAP/P5.B-2

Aizu Etokoboshi **202**42(28)6651

MAP/P5.A-3

Lotus Wood Village **20**242(93)8488

Matsuyoshi **25**0242(24)2503

Folk Crafts

Akabeko Painting

Activity: 30 minutes to 1 hour 990 yen – 1,250 yen

Bansho Handmade Crafts 20242(27)4358

Warabi

MAP/P5.B-2 **2**0242(24)0020

Tsurugajo Kaikan

MAP/P5.C-3 **2**0242(28)2288

Aizu Bukeyashiki (Samurai Residences) **25**0242(28)2525

Aizu Clan Nisshinkan School **33**0242(75)2525 Outside of map area

Aizu Kosenkoboshi **2**0242(85)6218 MAP/P6.D-1

Aizu Machikata Denshokan **33**0242(22)8686

Lotus Wood Village MAP/P5.B-1

20242(93)8488 Matsuyoshi **2**0242(24)2503

Traditional Crafts

Maki-e Lacquerware

Activity: 1 – 2 hours 1,100 yen -6,000 yen

* Reservation required

Lacquerware Studio Suzutake ☎ 0242(27)9426 Outside of map area

Suzuzen Lacquerware Store

☎ 0242(22)0680 MAP/P5.B-2 **Bansho Handmade Crafts**

☎ 0242(27)4358 MAP/P6. D-1

Fukubun Lacquerware Store ☎ 0242(22)2846 MAP/ P 5. B - 1

Onmakie Yamauchi ☎0242(22)6493 MAP/P5.B-2

Traditional Crafts

Painted Candles

Activity: 40 minutes - 1 hour 880 yen - 2,100 yen

Hoshiban Erosokuten ☎ 0242(27)1873 MAP/P7.E-4

Ozawa Candle Shop ☎ 0242(27)0652 MAP/P5.B-2

Yamagataya Honten

☎ 0242(22)5769 MAP/P7.G-2 Aizu Kosenkoboshi

20242(85)6218

MAP/P6.D-1





During winter, the mountainous Aizu area is covered in snow. Due to the snowy climate, the traditional dishes of Aizu are usually foods preserved through drying or salting, which are then cooked using a variety of techniques. Modern local food, which includes sauce katsudon and ramen, is also popular.

Enjoy the town at night by visiting the local izakaya, and trying out some of the regional food and sake.

Sauce Katsudon

A popular dish featuring fried pork cutlets on top of Aizu-grown rice and layered with thinly sliced cabbage. The freshly fried cutlets are flavored with a special sauce.

Nakajima

Banban Kuishinbo

MAP/P7.G-3



Wappameshi

A local dish of rice and food steamed in a circular wood container.

▼ Takino MAP/P7.G-1

Tagoto MAP/P5.A-2



Kozuyu, Nishin Sansho-zuke, and Bodara- Shibukawa Donya MAP/P7.E-4 ni are local dishes that have been enjoyed Tagoto MAP/P5.A-2 in the mountainous land of Aizu since olden t Takino MAP/P7.G-1



Bodara-ni

Cod fillets dried to a rock-like hardness are softened in water and stewed in soy sauce and sugar for many hours until the meat and bones are soft enough to eat.



Nishin Sansho-zuke

This consists of migaki nishin (dried herring fillets) sandwiched between sansho (Japanese pepper) leaves and pickled in vinegar, sake (rice wine), and soy sauce. It's a great companion with sake.



Kozuyu

A hearty soup made from dried scallop stock and seasoned with salt and soy sauce. The soup contains taro, carrots, *shiitake* mushrooms, and other vegetables, plus tiny balls of wheat gluten called mamefu. Kozuyu is a regional specialty and a must for wedding feasts in Aizu.

Ramen

Ramen has long been a very popular dish in Aizu, as evidenced by the fact that the region originated the Kitakata Ramen, one of the top three types of ramen in Japan.

Medetaiya MAP/P5.C-2

Kurukuruken MAP/P7.G-1

Kitakata menchaya MAP/P6.D-3



Aizu Rice

The climate and pure water specific to the basin produces delicious rice which is recognized nationally as top of its class.



Aizu Horse Meat

Because of the meat's pink color, it is called sakura (cherry blossom). It is often enjoyed with sake.

Tsuruga MAP/P7.G-1

Yoshita MAP/P7.G-1



Dengaku

Said to have been the staple for samurai during a battle; skewers of food basted in miso and grilled.

Mitsutaya

MAP/P7.F-4

Ohide Chaya MAP/P6.D-3



Handmade Soba Noodles

Aizu produces fine-quality sobako (buckwheat flour) that offers excellent aroma and flavor.

Kiriya Sakura MAP/P7.G-2

Wada



Aizu Jidori (local chicken)

Aizu Jidori are locally bred chicken which have been bred over a long period of time, and produce firm meat (from living free range).







Higashiyama Onsen

An old onsen village located near Aizuwakamatsu City. An onsen village with ambience, situated along the banks of the Yugawa mountain stream.

health benefits gastrointestinal/ stomach disorders, women's health related diseases, neuralgia, rheumatism

◆Higashiyama Onsen Kanko Kyokai **20242-27-7051**

http://www.aizu-higashiyama.com/

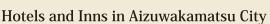
Ashinomaki Onsen

Surrounded by mountains, Ashinomaki Onsen is blessed with beautiful natural surroundings. You can also enjoy the onsen's abundant waters on a one day trip.

health benefits neuralgia, gastrointestinal/stomach disorders, skin diseases

◆Ashinomaki Onsen Kanko Kyokai **☎**0242-92-2336

https://www.aizu-ashinomaki.jp/



From homey traditional Japanese inns, to affordable "business hotels", to large urban-style hotels with modern facilities- there are a variety of accommodations to choose from, depending on your preferences.

◆Aizuwakamatsu Ryokan Hotel Kumiai ☎0242-28-9221 http://www.aizu-ryokan-hotel.com/



* Enjoy the foot baths in Kagayaki Park

Higashiyama Geigi

Sake Popular Aizu Sake

Although Japanese sake and cuisine are held in high regard all over the world, it is the sake produced here in Fukushima Prefecture that has been ranked number one in Japan at the national sake contest for the last six years. Moreover, more than half of the sake in this contest Fukushima sake is produced by Aizu breweries. Aizu sake is so delicious because of the basin-specific climate, and pure groundwater.



Nagurayama Sake Brewery

20242(22)0844

• Resaervations required • Japanese only



Tatsuizumi Sake Brewery

230242(22)0504 MAP/P5.C-2



Ishibashi Sake Brewery

☎0242(27)0313 MAP/P5.A-3



Kaishuichi Sake Brewery

20242(25)0054 MAP/P5.C-1



Eisen Sake Brewery

☎0242(73)2300 Outside of

Sake tour reception shop <Yukkra>



Tsurunoe Sake Brewery

☎0242(27)0139 MAP/P7.F-4

• Resaervations required • Japanese only



Takahashi Shosaku Sake Brewery

☎0242(27)0108 Outside of map area



Hanaharu Sake Brewery

☎0242(22)0022

Outside of map area • Resaervations required • Japanese only







Suehiro Sake Brewery

ත0242(27)0002 MAP/P7.F-3



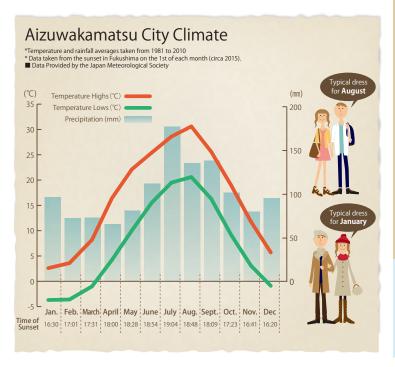
Japanese only



Sake Brewery

230242(27)0031 MAP/P5.C-3





Information

Sightseeing

Aizuwakamatsu Station Tourist Information Center (English) **25** (0242) 32-0688

Aizuwakamatsu International Association (English,Chinese) **25** (0242) 27-3703

Tsurugajo Castle Tourist Information Center (English) **25** (0242) 29-1151

Aizuwakamatsu City Tourism Division **☎** (0242) 39-1251 Aizuwakamatsu Tourism Bureau **2** (0242) 23-8000

General Hospitals

Fukushima Medical University Aizu Medical Center 26 (0242) 75-2100 Takeda General Hospital **☎** (0242) 27-5511 Aizu Chuo Hospital **25** (0242) 25-1515 Yamaga Clinic **2** (0242) 29-6611

Police

Aizuwakamatsu Police Department **2** (0242) 22-5454

Transportation

☎ (050) 2016-1600 JR East Japan Telephone Center **☎** (0242) 28-5885 Aizu Railway Aizu Bus, Wakamatsu Office **2** (0242) 22-5555 Bicycle Rental for Sightseeing in Aizu (Aizuwakamatsu Tourism Bureau) **3** (0242) 27-4005 Aizu Wakamatsu Tourism Bureau **2** (0242) 23-8000

Websites

Aizuwakamatsu City http://samurai-city.jp/en/ Aizuwakamatsu Tourism Bureau https://www.aizukanko.com/ Gokujo no Aizu Project Council https://gokujo-aizu.com/iti/



Aizuwakamatsu Station **Tourist Information Center**

This pamphlet is from January 2023. Please contact us for the most up to date destination information



By Train from Tokyo

■ With Bullet Train

Narita International Airport/Haneda Airport - Tokyo - (Tohoku Shinkansen: 1 hr 25 mins) - Koriyama - (Ban-etsu West Line: 1 hr 10 mins) - Aizuwakamatsu

■ Without Bullet Train

- Asakusa (Tobu Kinugawa Line: 2 hrs) Kinugawa Onsen (Yagan Line/ Aizu Line: 2 hrs20mins) - Aizuwakamatsu
- •Shinjuku (JR Line/Tobu Kinugawa Line: 2 hrs) Kinugawa Onsen - (Yagan Line/ Aizu Line: 2 hrs20mins) - Aizuwakamatsu

From Regional Airports

■ Fukushima Airport

- (Transit bus: 40 mins) Koriyama Station (Ban-etsu West Line: 1 hr 10 mins) - Aizuwakamatsu
- -Koriyama Station (Highway bus: 1 hr 10 mins) Aizuwakamatsu Station

■ Niigata Airport

- (Transit bus: 30 mins) Niigata Station (Highway bus: 1 hr 50 mins)
- Aizuwakamatsu Station

Sendai Airport

- (Airport Line/ Tohoku Line: 17 mins) - Sendai Station, East Exit -(Highway bus: 2 hrs 25 mins) - Aizuwakamatsu Station

Ву Highway Bus

■ Tokvo

Shinjuku Station, New South Exit – (4 hrs 20 mins) – Aizuwakamatsu Station (Reservations required) Aizu Bus ☎0242-22-5555

Sendai

Sendai Station, East Exit - (2 hrs 30min) - Aizuwakamatsu Station

Niigata

In front of Niigata Station – (1hr 50 min) – Aizuwakamatsu Station

The Charms of Aizu Course

- Tokyo (Tobu Line) –Nikko (Yagan Line/ Aizu Line) –Aizuwakamatsu (you can use the Shuyu Buses to get around the city) – (Ban-etsu West Line/Tohoku Shinkansen/ JR Local lines) – Matsushima -(Tohoku Shinkansen) - Tokyo
- Tokyo –(Highway bus or Tohoku Shinkansen/ Ban-etsu West Line) -Aizuwakamatsu (you can use the Shuyu Buses to get around the city) - (Highway bus: or Ban-etsu West Line) - Niigata - (JR Local lines/ Hokuriku Shinkansen) - Kanazawa - Kyoto
- Nikko (Tobu Line/Yagan Line/ Aizu Line (2 hrs 40 min)) –Aizuwakamatsu
- Matsushima –(Senseki Line/ Tohoku Shinkansen/ Ban-etsu West Line)
 - Aizuwakamatsu