

Chichibu-Tama-Kai National Park Guide



Heartfelt Ome



Ome City Tourist
Association



**Ome City
in
Tokyo**

Chichibu-Tama-Kai National Park



Spring

The Japanese plum tree (ume) heralds spring, blooming across Ome Plum Park in late February, before the cherry blossoms.

Spring is mild, and ideal for hiking in the mountains and exploring the sights. Azaleas bloom throughout Ome in late April and early May. Shiofune Kannon Temple to the east of Ome is famous for its azalea gardens.



Summer

The hot summer weather is perfect for fishing and water sports on the Tama River, and for exploring Mitake Gorge. The summit of Mt. Mitake is usually several degrees cooler than downtown Tokyo, providing a refreshing summer escape. Hydrangeas bloom in June, when the rainy season brings misty conditions to the mountains. Between July and September, a large colony of renga shoma, or false anemone, blooms in the hills near the summit of the mountain. Performances of Daidai Kagura, a form of Shinto dance, are held at Mitake Musashi Shrine at the summit of Mt. Mitake from June through November.



Ome City in Tokyo

The Four Seasons of Ome

Ome is located in the Okutama Mountains to the far west of Tokyo. The area has a subtropical climate of warm summers and cool winters, with light snowfall limited to the upper reaches of the mountains.



Fall

Autumn brings pleasant conditions for hiking and other outdoor activities. Visitors come to Mitake Gorge to admire the fall foliage. Japanese maples and ginkgo trees are among the most colorful trees at this time of year, and there are impressive specimens in the gardens of the Yoshikawa Eiji Museum and the Gyokudo Art Museum.

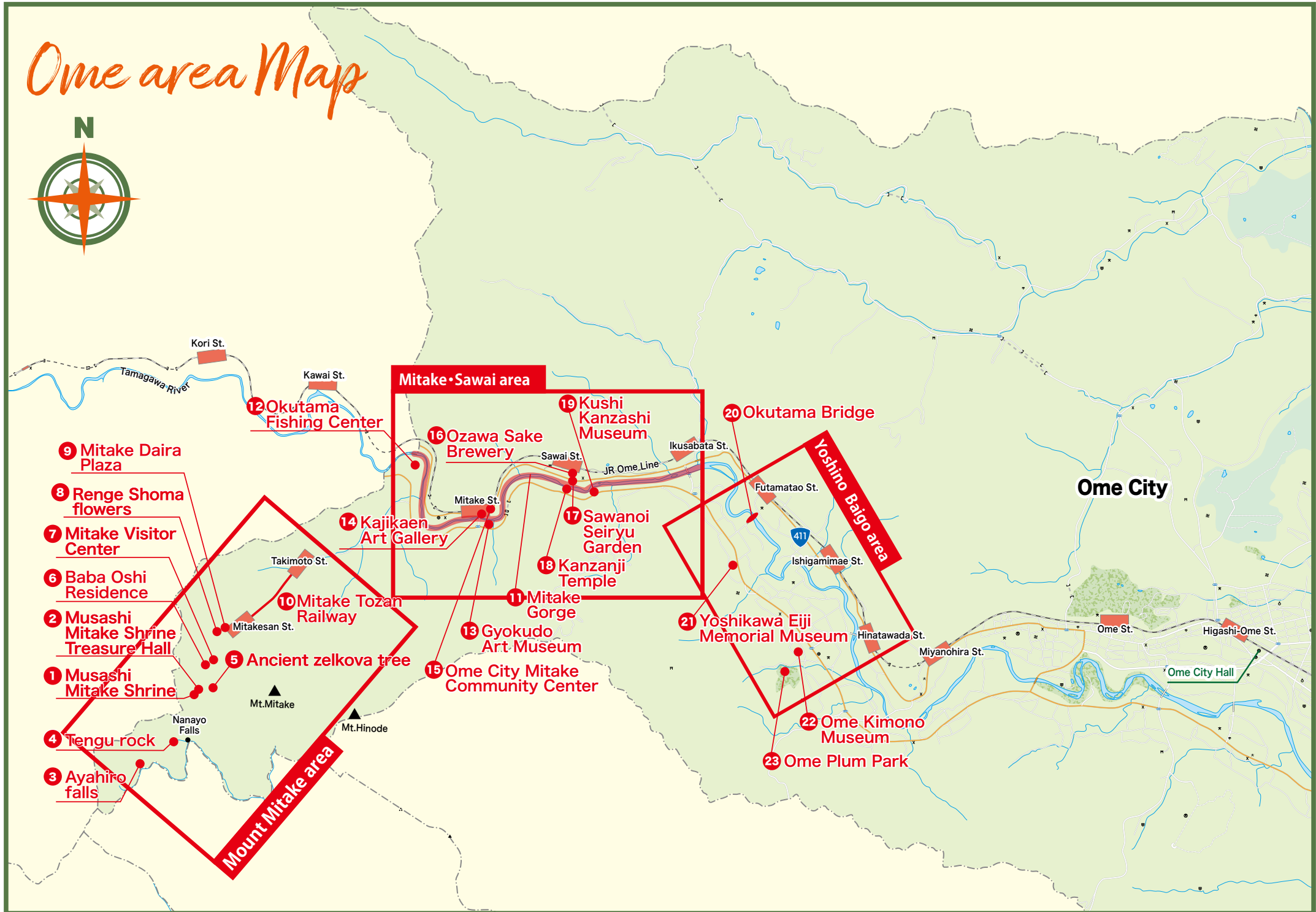


Winter

January is the sunniest month of the year in Ome, with brisk and invigorating weather. The winter sky is usually clear, so visitors can see all the way to Tokyo's city center from mountain vantage points. Shrines and temples in the area are busy with visitors praying for good fortune for the year ahead. Snow is uncommon in the valley, but hikers in the mountains should be prepared for snowy conditions and dress appropriately.



Ome area Map



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Mt. Mitake area Map



Takimoto St.

10 Mitake Tozan Railway

御岳登山鉄道

9 Mitake Daira Plaza

御岳平

Chairlift

8 Renge Shoma flowers

レンゲショウマ

Mitakesan St.

Colony of
Katakuri flower

7 Mitake Visitor Center

御岳ビジターセンター

6 Baba Oshi Residence

御師住宅 東馬場家

**Ancient
zelkova tree**

神代ケヤキ

**2 Musashi Mitake Shrine
Treasure Hall**

武蔵御嶽神社 宝物殿

1 Musashi Mitake Shrine

武蔵御嶽神社 社殿

Towards
Mt. Hinode

Onna Zaka
slope

Stairs

Nagao Chaya

Nagaodaira
crossroads

Nagaodaira
observatory

Nanayo falls

4 Tengu rock

天狗岩

Rock
garden

3 Ayahiro falls

綾広の滝

Towards
Mt. Otake

※ ——— Rock garden route

Introduction to Mt. Mitake

Mt. Mitake (929 m) has a long history as a center of spiritual belief. The sacred mountain has attracted pilgrims for thousands of years and is now also popular with hikers and sightseers. The heavily forested mountain is part of the Chichibu-Tama-Kai National Park, which covers parts of Saitama, Nagano, and Yamanashi prefectures, and Tokyo. At the summit, Musashi Mitake Shrine venerates the mountain and its associated deities.

Shukubo lodgings

A small community lives near the mountain summit, including the priests of Musashi Mitake Shrine and their families, who run pilgrim lodges (shukubo). These lodges provide an opportunity to experience simple, traditional hospitality, and some offer experiences such as takigyo waterfall meditation.

Hiking on Mt. Mitake

There are several hiking trails on Mt. Mitake of varying difficulty. A number of these routes start at the base of the steps leading to Musashi Mitake Shrine. The Rock Garden trail is the most popular. The 1.5-kilometer trail loops through the valley past Ayahiro

Falls and Nanayo Falls. Hiking routes range from 30 minutes to 2 hours and are signposted in English.

Hiking maps are available at the Mitake Visitor Center on the mountain.

Flora and fauna

Mt. Mitake is home to a diverse range of plant and animal life, including cherry blossoms in spring and renga shoma (false anemone) flowers in summer. Visitors who stay overnight might spot the nocturnal musasabi, a giant flying squirrel. The mountain is also home to deer, wild boar, and Japanese serow. Visitors can hike to the top of Mt. Mitake from the foot of the mountain in about 60 minutes, or take a cable car, which reaches Mitakesan Station in 6 minutes.



Flora and Fauna on Mt. Mitake

Rhododendron dilatatum

Japanese serow, black bear, and tanuki (Japanese raccoon dog) live in the dense mizunara oak, cedar, and fir forests that cover Mt. Mitake. The forests are also home to two species of nocturnal flying squirrel. The musasabi giant flying squirrel can grow to 80 centimeters from the tip of its nose to the very end of its tail, while its smaller relative, the momonga dwarf flying squirrel is around 25 centimeters long.



Japanese giant flying squirrel

Dozens of bird species inhabit the forests, and in summer, sharp-eyed bird watchers might spot the yellow-bellied narcissus flycatcher, which is about the same size as a sparrow, near mountain streams. The long-tailed rosefinch, often seen in winter, is similar in size; the males have red plumage, while the females are brown.

Narcissus flycatcher



There are eight species of snakes on the mountain. The largest is the nonvenomous Japanese rat snake, which can grow up to two meters long. Two species are venomous: the yamakagashi tiger keelback and the Japanese pit viper. The Mitake Visitor Center provides information on snakes and other animals in the area.

Numerous species of flowers bloom in the area through spring and summer. Pink, fringed shortia flowers can be found in rocky areas from late April into May. Delicate purple renga shoma (false anemone) flower on the mountainside through the summer months.

*Photo provided by Mitake Visitor Center



Japanese serow



Hiking on Mt. Mitake



Mt. Mitake has numerous hiking routes, ranging from gentle rambles to more challenging treks that require planning and preparation. A number of these routes start at the base of the steps leading to Musashi Mitake Shrine.

One of the most popular hiking routes takes visitors through a valley where they can see the Rock Garden, a picturesque section of the stream with moss-covered rocks,



before reaching the Ayahiro Falls. This circular route returns to the shrine and takes around two hours to complete.

More challenging routes include the hike to the peak of Mt. Odake (1,266 m) which takes around 60 minutes from the Rock Garden, or to Okunoin (1,077 m), a peak with a small shrine, which takes around 40 minutes from the trailhead at Musashi Mitake Shrine. Expect some steep sections

on both routes. Mt.

Hinode (902 m) is another popular

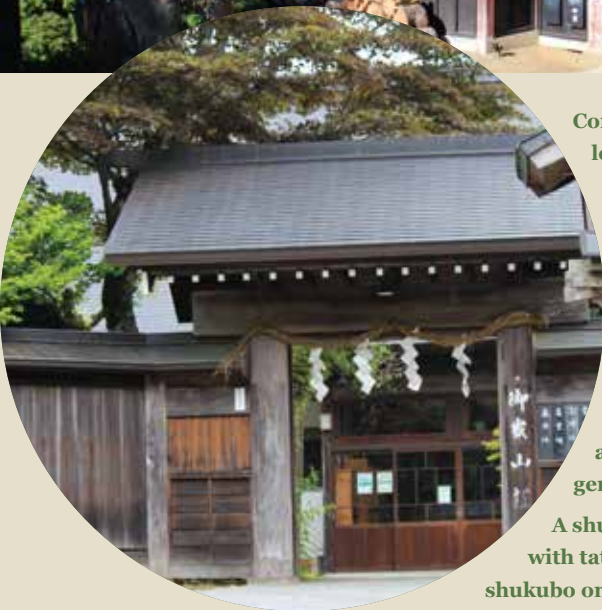
hike, which takes less

than an hour from the trailhead near Musashi Mitake Shrine. Many hikers finish with a visit to Tsuru-tsuru Onsen hot spring.

The majority of hiking routes are on rough trails, and appropriate footwear and clothing is strongly recommended. The Mitake Visitor Center provides hiking maps, as well as information about weather, trail conditions, and the local flora and fauna that hikers might encounter.



Shukubo temple lodgings on Mt. Mitake



Consider staying at one of the shukubo (pilgrim lodgings) on Mt. Mitake to experience local hospitality and Shinto practices. Originally built for pilgrims visiting holy sites around Japan, many shukubo now welcome visitors.

Mt. Mitake has been a destination for pilgrims for over a thousand years. The shukubo lodgings close to the peak are managed by families who have served as priests at Musashi Mitake Shrine for generations.

A shukubo lodging is typically quite simple, with tatami flooring and futon beds. Most of the shukubo on Mt. Mitake serve meals with seasonal ingredients, including fish from the Tama River and vegetables and herbs grown in the mountains.

Some lodgings on Mt. Mitake offer the opportunity to experience takigyo, the ritual cleansing of the mind, body, and soul through meditation beneath a waterfall. After morning prayers at the shukubo, guests are guided through the forest to Ayahiro Falls to complete the ritual. On the fourth Sunday of each month from June to November, guests can watch evening performances of kagura, Shinto ritual dancing and music, performed at Musashi Mitake Shrine.





Musashi Mitake Shrine



Musashi Mitake Shrine is a destination for pilgrimage and ascetic mountain training, with a history that spans two thousand years. The shrine is located at the peak of Mt. Mitake (929 m). Several deities are venerated here, including Okuchimagami, a wolf deity, and Zao Gongen, the principal deity of Shugendo, a mountain religion that draws on Shinto, Buddhism, Daoism, and asceticism. The Treasure Hall houses a collection of swords and armor, many dedicated to the shrine by samurai in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries.

The haiden, or worship hall, has been rebuilt several times. The hall used to face south towards the samurai capital of Kamakura in Kanagawa Prefecture during the Kamakura period (1185–1333). Later, in the seventeenth century when Edo (present-day Tokyo) became the center of power for the Tokugawa shogunate, the worship hall was rebuilt and rotated 45 degrees to face east, to protect the shogun's capital.



A path from the left side of the main hall leads to a series of smaller shrines. Tokiwa Kakiwasha Shrine (built in 1511) is the largest, painted black with gilded details. It enshrines the deities of all 47 prefectures of Japan. At the rear of the complex is a shrine dedicated to the wolf deity Okuchimagami, who is said to have saved a legendary warrior in the mountains here in the first century CE. Tokugawa Ieyasu (1543–1616), the first shogun of this period, is enshrined in the Toshosha, a small wooden shrine marked with a pair of gilded Tokugawa crests.



Information' -

address

176 Mt. Mitake, Ome City, Tokyo

phone number

0428-78-8500

VOICE GUIDANCE





Musashi Mitake Shrine Treasure Hall



The Treasure Hall displays a number of important historical items that were dedicated to Musashi Mitake Shrine between the Heian period (794–1185) and the Edo period (1603–1867). These treasures include suits of armor, swords, and a decorated saddle. The hall contains two National Treasures, along with Important Cultural Properties and Tangible Cultural Properties.

A statue of the samurai Hatakeyama Shigetada (1164–1205) on horseback stands in front of the Treasure Hall. This warlord is believed to have dedicated his armor to the shrine in 1191. The suit of armor, known as the akaito odoshiyoro or “red thread armor,” is made of small plates of iron and leather bound together with red silk cord. A National Treasure, it was produced in the late Heian period, and is one of the oldest intact sets of Japanese armor in the world.

In 1234, Emperor Shijo (the 87th emperor) presented an ornate war saddle to the shrine. The lacquered wooden saddle is inlaid with circles of mother-of-pearl. It is known as a kagami kura, or mirror saddle. It takes its name from the pommel and cantle, which are clad in gilt copper, polished to a mirror-like finish. This saddle is also a National Treasure.

A mikoshi portable shrine on display was dedicated by the shogun Tokugawa Tsunayoshi (1646–1709). The mikoshi is decorated with the Tokugawa family crest of three hollyhock leaves and is topped with five gilded phoenixes. A reproduction of the mikoshi is used in the annual Hinode sunrise festival (May 8) to mark the opening of Mt. Mitake for climbing and Shugendo training. The festival is one of Musashi Mitake Shrine’s main celebrations, and features a procession of people dressed in samurai costumes.

In addition to the displays of artifacts, a video exhibition features performances of Daidai Kagura, a form of Shinto ritual dance and music. Performances take place at Musashi Mitake Shrine between June and November each year. The shrine priests and their families have been performing Daidai Kagura for 32 generations, since the Edo period (1603–1867). The dance form is an Intangible Folk Cultural Property of Tokyo.

The Treasure Hall is open from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays, Sundays, and public holidays.

Information

business hours

9:30-16:00

Regular holiday

Mon-Fri

address

176 Mt. Mitake, Ome City, Tokyo

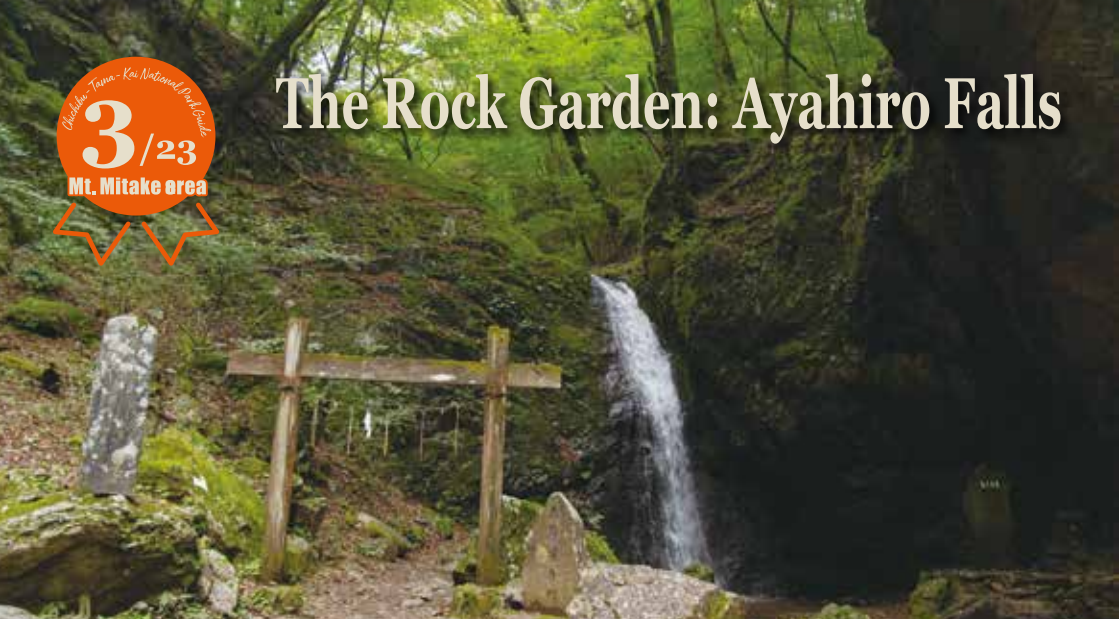
phone number

0428-78-8500

VOICE GUIDANCE



The Rock Garden: Ayahiro Falls



The wooden torii gate with a shimenawa rope that stands in front of Ayahiro Falls indicates that the area is considered sacred. The falls cascade around ten meters into a plunge pool encircled by rocks.

Priests and pilgrims visit the falls to practice takigyo, the ritual cleansing of the mind, body, and soul through meditation beneath the cascading water. Several shukubo lodgings on Mt. Mitake offer a morning takigyo experience for their guests. The practice involves specific prayers and rituals, and so cannot be undertaken without guidance.

The waterfall flows into a stream in a narrow valley of moss-covered rocks surrounding a picturesque section of the stream known as the Rock Garden. A number of hiking routes start at the base of the steps leading to Musashi Mitake Shrine, and the Rock Garden trail is the most popular. The 1.5-kilometer trail loops through the valley past Ayahiro Falls and Nanayo Falls. On the way to Ayahiro Falls, hikers can see an outcropping known as Tengu Rock (Tengu-iwa), shaped like the long nose of the mythical bird-like goblin called a tengu. These tengu are believed to protect the forests and mountains.



Information

address

Mt. Mitake, Ome City, Tokyo

Access by public transport

About 1 hour and 30 minutes
 on foot from Mitake Tozan
 Railway Mitakesan Station

VOICE GUIDANCE



Tengu Rock



Tengu Rock (Tengu-iwa) is a large outcrop said to resemble the distinctive long nose of a tengu, a bird-like goblin found in traditional folk tales and literature. Tengu are often depicted with avian characteristics such as wings and a beak. They can also be depicted in more human form, dressed in the robes of a yamabushi mountain priest with a red face and a long nose. Tengu are regarded as guardians of mountains and forests.

Step-like tree roots cover the surface of the rock, and there is a chain for climbing. The surface is slippery when wet. A bronze statue of a tengu in avian form is affixed to the top of the rock, and is visible from the trail below. A metal staircase near Tengu Rock leads to Nanayo Falls.



Information'-'

address

Mt. Mitake, Ome City, Tokyo

Access by public transport

About 50 minutes on foot
 from Mitake Tozan Railway
 Mitakesan Station

VOICE GUIDANCE





Ancient Zelkova Tree



The zelkova tree (*Zelkova serrata* or Japanese elm) on the approach to Musashi Mitake Shrine is believed to be approximately a thousand years old. The tree is about 30 meters tall, with a circumference over 8 meters, and is likely one of the largest zelkova trees in Japan. A shimenawa rope with white paper streamers has been placed around the trunk, signifying that the tree is sacred and that Shinto kami dwell within.

According to local stories, the tree was planted in the first century CE by the legendary warrior Yamato Takeru, the son of the twelfth emperor, Keiko. Trees that have survived over hundreds of years through wars and natural disasters are

revered as symbols of resilience and

as living connections to the past. Zelkova wood is prized among craftsmen for its durability, flexibility, and attractive grain. It is often used in traditional furniture, and for shrine and temple architecture.



Information'！

address

145 Mt. Mitake, Ome City,
Tokyo

VOICE GUIDANCE



Baba Oshi Residence



The head of the Baba family has served for many generations since 1659 as a priest at Musashi Mitake Shrine and served in the hereditary role of oshi, part of which involves providing accommodation for important patrons of the shrine. The Baba residence is both a shukubo, or pilgrim lodging, and a family home. It is one of the oldest residences on Mt. Mitake and is largely unchanged since it was built in 1866.

The Baba residence has five tatami rooms. The rooms have decorative alcoves and shelves to display precious items, exposed wooden beams, and earthen walls in a style typical of samurai and aristocratic residences in the early Edo period (1603–1867). One of the rooms holds a shrine where purification rituals were conducted for pilgrims before they visited Musashi Mitake Shrine. The shrine is still used for such ceremonies. The rooms are separated by sliding doors under hand-carved wooden ranma (transom panels), which allow light and air to flow between the rooms. Under the house is a large cellar, which was used for cold storage before the introduction of refrigerators.



Known locally as “Higashibaba,” the house is now occupied by the fourteenth generation of the Baba family, who operate it as both a lodging and a teahouse. The residence is a Tangible Cultural Property of Tokyo.



Information

business hours

Check-in 15:00 / Check-out 10:00

Regular holiday

Irregular holidays

address

54 Mitakesan, Ome City, Tokyo Prefecture

phone number

0428-78-8446

VOICE GUIDANCE





Mitake Visitor Center



Mitake Visitor Center provides maps of hiking trails in the surrounding mountains and information on local flora and fauna. Displays on the first floor introduce the animal life on Mt. Mitake, which includes several species of snakes, as well as deer, Japanese serows, and endemic flying squirrels. The center also has information on the mountain scenery and weather conditions.

A large touch screen display provides multilingual information about the flora and fauna. Visitors can pick up trail maps for hiking and pamphlets about nearby attractions.

The second floor has exhibitions on the history of human life on the mountain, including large photographs

of people who once lived on the mountain, some from over a century ago, along

with replicas of the equipment that people fashioned to transport goods up the steep mountain trails.



Information

business hours

9:00 - 16:30

Regular holiday

Mondays, year-end and New Year holidays (If Monday is a holiday, the following Tuesday will be closed)

address

38-5 Mt. Mitake, Ome City, Tokyo

phone number

0428-78-9363

VOICE GUIDANCE

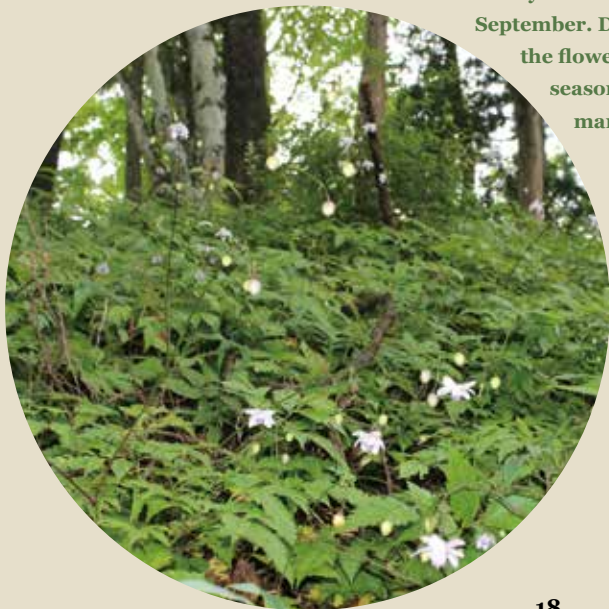
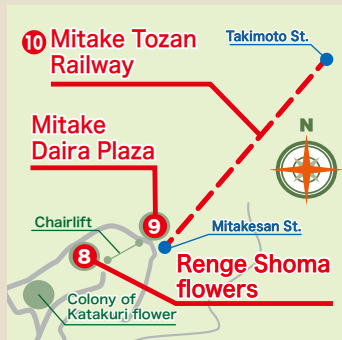


Renge Shoma Flowers

The delicate renge shoma (*Anemonopsis macrophylla*; false anemone) is a woodland perennial native to Japan. Today renge shoma flowers are only found in a handful of forested uplands on the Pacific side of central Honshu. The colony of around 50,000 plants on Mt. Mitake (above Mitake Daira Plaza) is the largest in the Kanto region.

In full bloom, the pale lavender flowers resemble miniature lotus blossoms (renge means “lotus”). The flowers are related to the buttercup, and thrive in cool, damp climates. They bloom between July and early September. During

the flowering season, visitors can view them along a well-marked forest trail from Mitake Daira Plaza.



Information

address

Mt. Mitake, Ome City, Tokyo

Access by public transport

15 minutes on foot from Mitake Tozan Railway Mitakesan Station

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Mitake Daira Plaza



The square in front of Mitakesan Station cable car stop serves as a rest area with public restrooms. Benches and tables are shaded by wisteria vines, and there are souvenir shops and restaurants.

An observation area affords views over the Kanto Plain and central Tokyo. On a clear day it is possible to see Tokyo Skytree about 80 kilometers away. There are two coin-operated binoculars. A large panoramic photograph indicates the positions of major landmarks in the distance.

Signs around the plaza indicate the main points of interest and hiking routes. A small chair lift operates on weekends and public holidays to take visitors to a higher viewing platform. The main path to Musashi Mitake Shrine starts from behind Mitakesan Station.



Information'

address

Mt. Mitake, Ome City, Tokyo

Access by public transport VOICE GUIDANCE

1 minutes on foot from Mitake
 Tozan Railway Mitakesan
 Station





Mitake Tozan Railway



A cable car takes visitors between Takimoto Station at the base of Mt. Mitake and Mitakesan Station near the summit, at an altitude of 831 meters. The 1.1-kilometer journey takes about 6 minutes, saving visitors an ascent of around an hour on foot.

On the way, passengers can enjoy views of the mountainside. As the cable car passes through a forest of oak, cedar, and fir trees, it may be possible to spot deer, wild boars, and tanuki (raccoon dogs), which are native to Japan. Both stations have souvenir shops and restrooms. Visitors can buy cable car tickets at ticket machines, which have English display options.

For children living on the mountain, the cable car is part of the daily school commute. The line operates seven days a week, although it is sometimes suspended in bad weather or after an earthquake for safety checks.



Information' '-

business hours

7:30 - 18:30

Regular holiday

open all year round

address

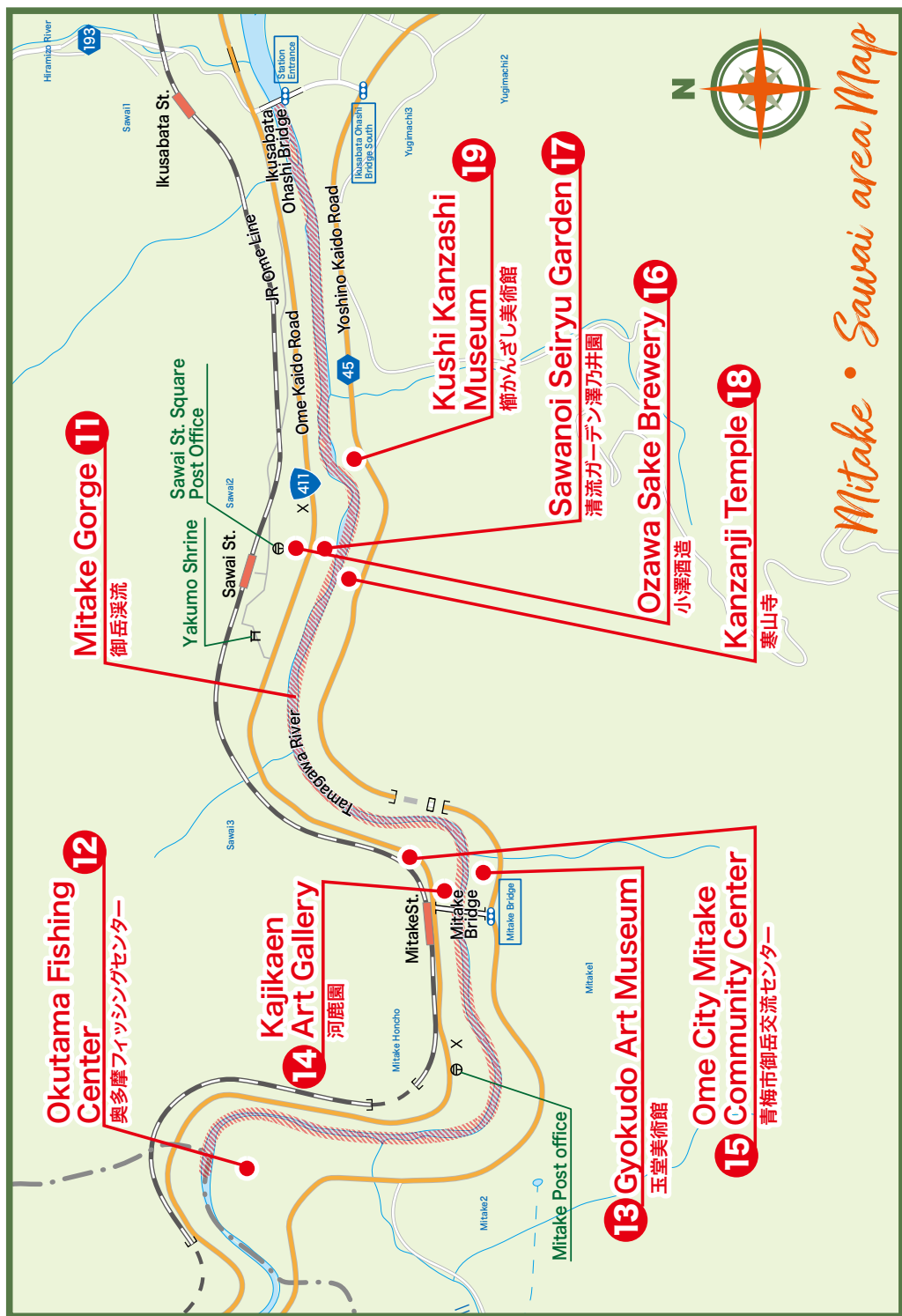
2-483 Mitake Ome City, Tokyo

phone number

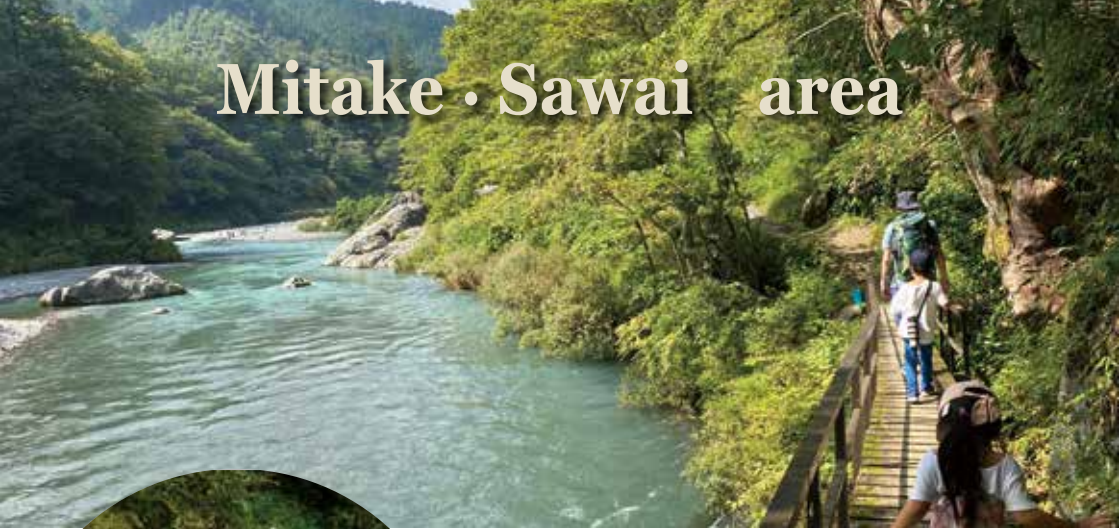
0428-78-8121

VOICE GUIDANCE





Mitake・Sawai area



Mitake Gorge



The Tama River twists and turns for four kilometers through Mitake Gorge, which is within the boundaries of Chichibu-Tama-Kai National Park. A walking path through the gorge covers a loop between Okutama Fishing Center and JR Ikusabata Station. The path connects several local attractions including the Ozawa Sake Brewery, Sawanoi Seiryu Garden, Kanzanji Temple, Gyokudo Art Museum, and Kajikaen. It takes about three hours to walk the entire course.

Every year, the Mitake Gorge Autumn Colors Festival includes events such as guided hiking tours, art exhibitions, and craft stalls. At night, the trees along the river are lit up.

Historically, the Tama River has played a key role in the lives of the people in Ome. The river is fed by mountain springs that provide pure water used in local sake production. Before Tokyo's highway system was developed, the logging industry used the Tama River's strong current to transport timber from the mountains to mills in eastern

Tokyo. Today, the river is mainly used for recreation. Along the gorge visitors can fish, navigate its rapids in canoes, or rent stand-up paddle-boards to enjoy the more placid stretches.



Information'

address

Ome City, Tokyo

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Access by public transport

The upstream is from midway between Mitake Station and Kawai Station, and the downstream is a little upstream of Ikusabata Station.





Okutama Fishing Center



Visitors can reel in seasonal fish such as rainbow trout, yamame trout, or char along a one-kilometer stretch of the Tama River at the Okutama Fishing Center. Experienced anglers can use flies or lures on the faster-flowing stretches of the river. Upstream, a series of pools have been excavated from the riverbed and stocked with fish. These are popular with novice fishers and families. Visitors can bring their own equipment or rent fishing poles and nets onsite. Near the car park is an accessible area designed for families with young children and visitors with physical limitations that includes two fishing ponds.

Visitors can cook their catch at the barbecue facilities within sight of the river. Staff are available to clean and prepare the fish for cooking. The center is open in all seasons, and is popular in spring and fall when trout are at their most active.



Information'-'

business hours

7:00 - 16:00 (December to February 7:30 -)
Thursdays from December to February "Lure,
Fly, Tenkara Catch & Release Business"

Regular holiday

None (closed only from December 29th to January 2nd)

address

2-333 Mitake, Ome City, Tokyo

phone number

0428-78-8393

VOICE GUIDANCE





Gyokudo Art Museum



Works by painter Kawai Gyokudo (1873–1957) are displayed at the Gyokudo Art Museum, which opened in 1961. Gyokudo is regarded as a leader among modern painters of the Nihonga style. The extensive museum collection ranges from his earliest nature studies dating from when he was only 15, to some of the last pieces he worked on at the end of his life. The artist moved to Ome in 1944, and lived next to a section of rapids on the Tama River.

The museum has a collection of more than 300 works, including detailed studies of animals and flowers. Gyokudo was a master of the Nihonga style, using traditional Japanese painting techniques with a modern approach to themes and subject matter. His landscapes often included people going about their daily work, adding a sense of scale and narrative to the scenery. The works at the museum are rotated to match the seasons.

A replica of Gyokudo's studio in the museum includes a partially completed work on a large easel. The studio is filled with the brushes, pots of paint, mixing dishes, and other paraphernalia of a professional artist.

The studio looks out across a well-tended karesansui (dry landscape) garden, which is composed of boulders from the river beyond the garden. A large Japanese maple tree shades the corner near the studio. The garden has been recognized as one of the best examples of karesansui design in Tokyo.



Information' -

business hours

(March to November) 10:00 - 17:00 /
(December to February) 10:00 - 16:30
(last admission 30 minutes before closing)

Regular holiday

Mondays (the next day if Monday is a holiday)

address

1-75 Mitake, Ome City, Tokyo

phone number

0428-78-8335

VOICE GUIDANCE





Kajikaen Art Gallery



Kajikaen is a former inn (ryokan) that has been repurposed as an art gallery. Built on the north bank of the Tama River in 1925, it was expanded during the Showa era (1926–1989). Each guest room is designed in sukiya-zukuri style, a refined style distinguished by tatami flooring, a tokonoma alcove, and staggered shelves for displaying decorative objects and artworks. The carved cedar transom panels contribute to the luxurious atmosphere.

The current owner transformed the inn into a gallery to exhibit his vast collection of artworks and ceramics dating from the Edo period (1603–1867) to the Meiji era (1868–1912). The 18 guest rooms have been turned into galleries, with period furniture, ikebana flower arrangements, and views of the Tama River. Kajikaen's large former bathhouse has also been used as a venue for contemporary art exhibitions. The main reception area features a hall for seasonal artworks.

Kajikaen is a National Tangible Cultural Property.

Kajikaen is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesday to Sunday.
The admission fee for the permanent exhibition is ¥800.



Information'-

business hours

11:00-16:00

(Admission deadline:15:00)

Regular holiday

Monday Tuesday

address

335 Mitake Honcho, Ome City, Tokyo

phone number

090-5342-9223

VOICE GUIDANCE





Ome City Mitake Community Center



Ome City Mitake Community Center is across the road from Mitake Station, and a few minutes' walk from Mitake Gorge. Visitors can get information on the sights and recreation opportunities in Mitake Gorge and the Ome area. There are pamphlets and hiking maps in several languages, and information about water sports on the Tama River, including rafting, canoeing, and kayaking. Some activities start on the riverbank directly below the center.

To the right of the main entrance, a path to the river leads past a climbing wall that visitors can use for a small fee. The center has coin lockers, toilets, and shower facilities, as well as a rest area with views of the Tama River. The bus stop for the Mitake Tozan Railway to the top of Mt. Mitake is a few steps from the center.



Information

business hours

9:00 - 17:00

(may be extended during summer)

Regular holiday

3rd Monday,
Year end and New Year holidays

address

362-8 Mitake Honcho, Ome City, Tokyo

phone number

0428-79-0720

VOICE GUIDANCE



Ozawa Sake Brewery



Tokyo has only nine sake breweries, and Ozawa Sake Brewery, founded in 1702, is one of the oldest. The brewery is currently managed by the 23rd generation of the Ozawa family, and is located in the Sawai district of Ome. The area is famous for its pure mountain water—critical for the production of high-quality sake.

The brewery occupies several traditional Edo-period (1603–1867) buildings with thick earthen walls. The walls keep the interior temperature stable throughout the year, which is important for preserving the intended flavors and aromas of sake once it is brewed and ready for consumption. The brewery produces 30 different varieties of sake. Some of the sake is exported to the United States, Taiwan, and Singapore.

The brewery offers free tours with advance reservations. Most tours are conducted in Japanese, with pamphlets about the brewery and brewing process available in English. Tours conducted in English are offered several times a month. Visitors are able to receive an explanation of the brewing process inside the brewery. A tasting room is located in the Sawanoi Seiryu Garden next to the brewery, where visitors can sample seasonal varieties.



Information'！

business hours

10:00 - 17:00

Regular holiday

Monday (If Monday is a holiday, the following Tuesday will be closed)

address

2-770 Sawai, Ome City, Tokyo

phone number

0428-78-8210

VOICE GUIDANCE





Sawanoi Seiryu Garden



Sawanoi Seiryu Garden is an attractive area on the banks of the Tama River where visitors can rest and enjoy the scenery of Mitake Gorge, or sample products from the Ozawa Sake Brewery. The garden has pavilions with tables and benches, and is a short walk from the brewery.

At the tasting room and retail outlet, visitors can try a wide range of seasonal sake from the brewery. There are two restaurants in the garden, and stores that sell local souvenirs such as sweets and pickles. A gallery exhibits contemporary art and photography by local artists.

Several sights are within easy walking distance, including the Kushi Kanzashi Museum, the Gyokudo Art Museum, and Kanzanji Temple.

*There is a charge for tasting sake.



Information'！

business hours

retail outlet 10:00 - 17:00

Regular holiday

Monday (If Monday is a holiday, the following weekday)

address

2-770 Sawai, Ome City, Tokyo

phone number

0428-78-8210

VOICE GUIDANCE



Kanzanji Temple



Kanzanji Temple is perched on a steep bluff overlooking the Tama River. The temple was founded by calligrapher Taguchi Beiho (1861–1930), on land donated by Ozawa Tahei, the president of the Ome Railway Company. Taguchi studied calligraphy in the 1880s at the historic Hanshan Temple and monastery in Suzhou, China. He was given a wooden figure of the Shakyamuni Buddha (the historical Buddha) to bring back to Japan.

The figure is enshrined at Kanzanji Temple, which was completed in 1930. The ceiling of the temple has been decorated with works by accomplished artists. Each of the 36 painted panels set into the ceiling is unique, with subjects including flowers, animals, and landscapes.



Information'

address

2-748 Sawai, Ome
 City, Tokyo

VOICE GUIDANCE



Kushi Kanzashi Museum



Around 400 traditional hair accessories are on display at the Kushi Kanzashi Museum, from a collection of over 4,000. The collection includes kushi combs and elaborate kanzashi hair ornaments from the Edo period (1603–1867) through the Showa era (1926–1989). Many of the accessories were custom-made for wealthy clients by artists including Ogata Korin (1658–1716), the father of the Rinpa style of painting which features subjects from nature (such as flowers) on gilded backgrounds.

The collection highlights the influence of social change on Japanese fashion. Early combs made of tortoiseshell (a banned import during the Edo period) could cost as much as a house, and were a statement of wealth. As architectural styles became more complex and decorative during the Edo period, hairstyles became larger and more ornate. But as Japan modernized in the Meiji era (1868–1912), hair ornaments became smaller and less showy as women adopted more European hairstyles. The collection continues to the post-war years, when new materials like celluloid made it possible to offer ornate hair accessories reasonably.

The museum also has a display of portable writing sets (yatate) from the Edo period, formerly owned by high-ranking samurai and wealthy merchants. Many of these were custom-made from wood, metal, or ivory, with intricate carvings and inlays.



The museum building is designed to resemble a traditional kura warehouse, with a larger-than-life kanzashi comb on the front.

The Kushi Kanzashi Museum is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (The museum is closed on Mondays and Fridays.)

Information

business hours 10:00 - 17:00 (Admission until 30 minutes before)

Regular holiday

Mondays (next day if Monday is a holiday),
 Fridays (open on holidays and in November),
 year-end and New Year holidays, etc.

address

3-764-1 Yugimachi, Ome City, Tokyo

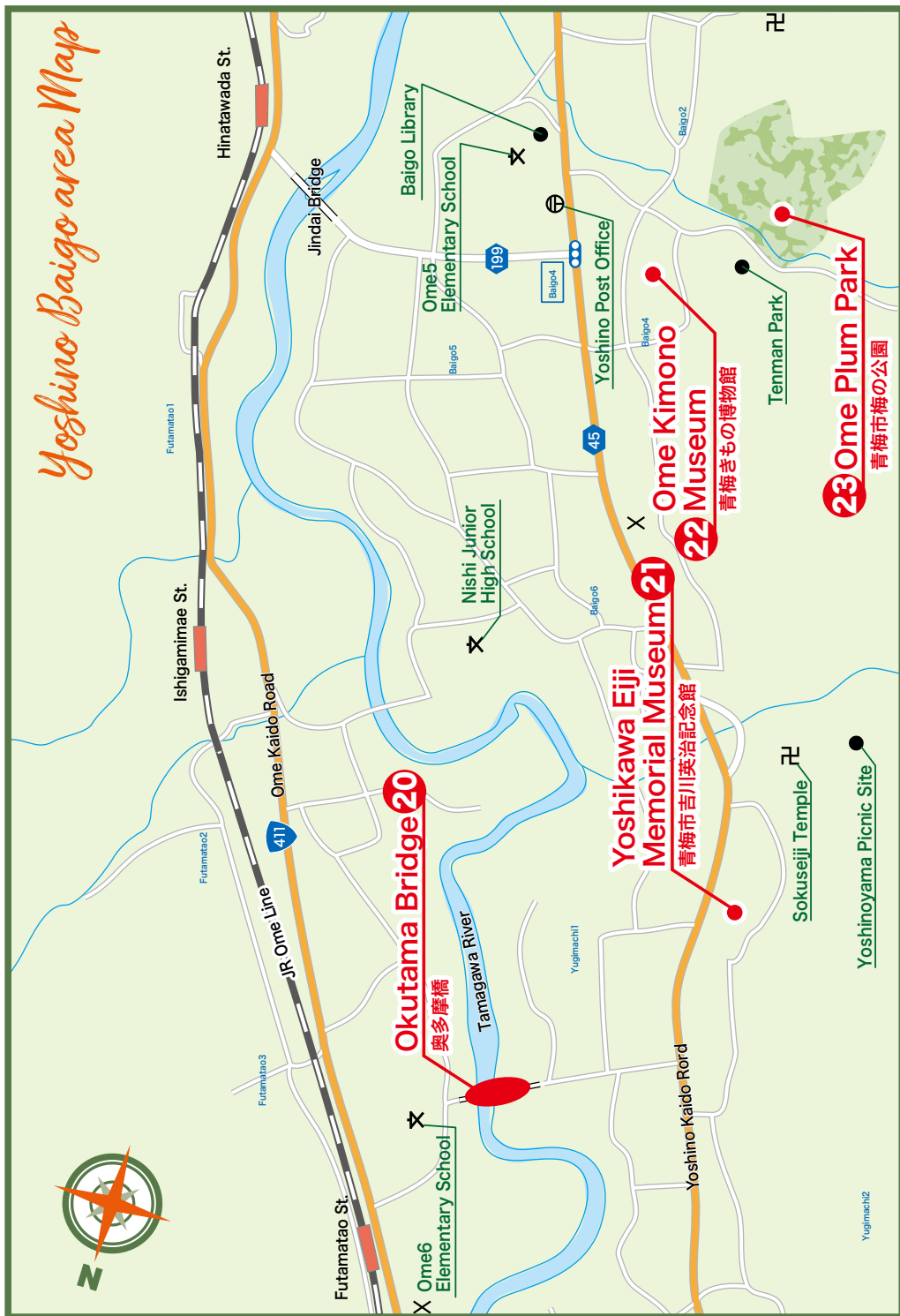
phone number

0428-77-7051

VOICE GUIDANCE



Yoshino Baigo area Map



Yoshino Baigo area





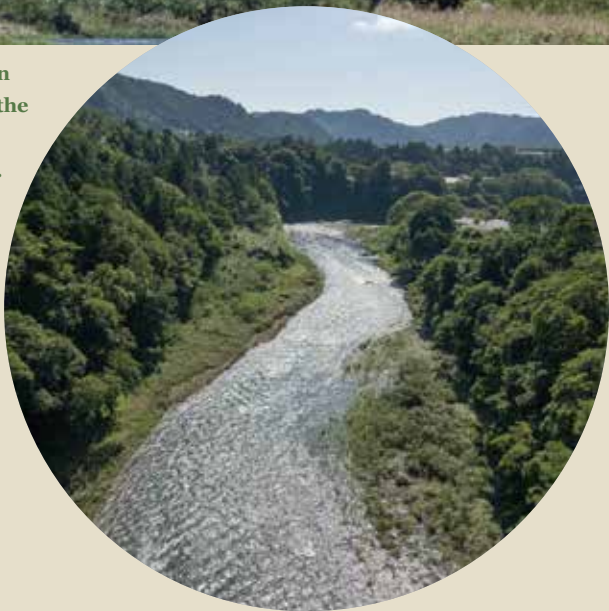
Okutama Bridge



The Okutama Bridge has a 176-meter span across the Tama River. The bridge traverses the gorge 33 meters above the river, with three observation areas along its red-painted span.

It was the largest arch bridge constructed in Japan before World War II and served as an important thoroughfare for communities on both sides of the valley, who previously had to descend to the riverbed and cross by ferry.

The bridge was completed in 1939. It is listed by Japan's Civil Engineering Society as an example of the nation's civil engineering heritage. The bridge is a short walk from Futamatao Station on the Ome Line.



Information'

address

Ome City, Tokyo

Access by public transport

Bridge between Yugimachi, Ome City and Futamatao Station

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Yoshikawa Eiji Memorial Museum



Yoshikawa Eiji (1892–1962) is considered one of Japan's greatest historical novelists. He wrote more than 100 books during his prolific career, starting as a newspaper journalist before moving into historical fiction. He is credited with making Japanese history accessible to a wide audience, and a number of his novels such as *Musashi* have been translated into several languages and made into popular films.

Yoshikawa's home has been preserved as a museum. He purchased the property in 1944 from a wealthy silk producer. He wrote several novels there, including *The Heike Story*. The house is spacious, with sliding doors that allow the rooms to be opened up onto the gardens. A room immediately inside the entrance to the house was used as a study.

Yoshikawa's main study is a semi-detached Western-style room laid out just as he used it, with a low table and chair, his papers, and writing implements. A tray holding his cigarettes and an ashtray—which still contains the ash of one of his last cigarettes—are beside the chair.

The museum has a complete collection of Yoshikawa's more than 100 books, as well as film posters, illustrations, and photographs of Yoshikawa and his friends. Yoshikawa was awarded the Cultural Order of Merit in 1960 and the Order of the Sacred Treasure in 1962 for his contributions to Japanese literature.



Information

business hours

10:00 - 17:00

Regular holiday

Every Monday (if Monday is a national holiday, then the following weekday), year-end and New Year holidays

address

1-101-1 Yugimachi, Ome City, Tokyo

phone number

0428-74-9477

VOICE GUIDANCE



Ome Kimono Museum



The Ome Kimono Museum is housed in a 200-year-old kura storehouse. The collection of more than 500 rare traditional garments includes ceremonial kimono worn by members of the imperial family. Much of the collection is rotated to match the changing seasons.

The permanent exhibition displays the kimono and accessories worn by Prince Nashimoto (1874–1951) and Princess Itsuko (1879–1977) for the enthronement ceremony of the Taisho Emperor in 1915. The garments incorporate designs and colors that were reserved for the use of the imperial family. Historical photographs and illustrations from the time help put the garments in context and give visitors a greater understanding of these formal occasions.

Some members of the imperial family had their own motifs. Visitors can see a small cloth owned by Empress Emerita Michiko (1934–) decorated with stylized Japanese white birch, her personal motif.

Other exhibits show how kimono styles differed according to social status, with displays of garments that were worn by samurai, the aristocracy, and members of the merchant classes. The collection is comprehensive and includes lavishly embroidered formal kimonos worn by women of the nobility, as well as a simple blue-and-white kimono worn by a retainer of Tokugawa shogun family.

The Ome Kimono Museum is open on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., or by appointment. (The museum is closed from December through February.)



Information'！

business hours

10:00 - 16:00

Regular holiday

Mon-Thursday
 Closed from December to February

address

4-629-9 Baigō, Ome City, Tokyo

phone number

0428-76-2019

VOICE GUIDANCE





Ome Plum Park



The plum blossom is the symbol of Ome. Almost one thousand plum trees bloom across the park in vivid pinks and whites from February to March. The park features several varieties including the Baigo plum, which originated in Ome.

The Yoshino Baigo Ume Matsuri plum blossom festival is held in the park from late February to late March. On weekends during the festival, there are music and dance performances.

Many seasonal flowers are planted throughout the park, including wintersweet, Japanese narcissus, and azaleas. The park is close to the Yoshikawa Eiji Memorial Museum and the Ome Kimono Museum.



Information 'i'

address

4-527 Baigō, Ome City, Tokyo

phone number

0428-24-2481

VOICE GUIDANCE





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Ome City Tourist Association

〒 198-0042

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Tokyo Higashi- Ome Center Building 3F

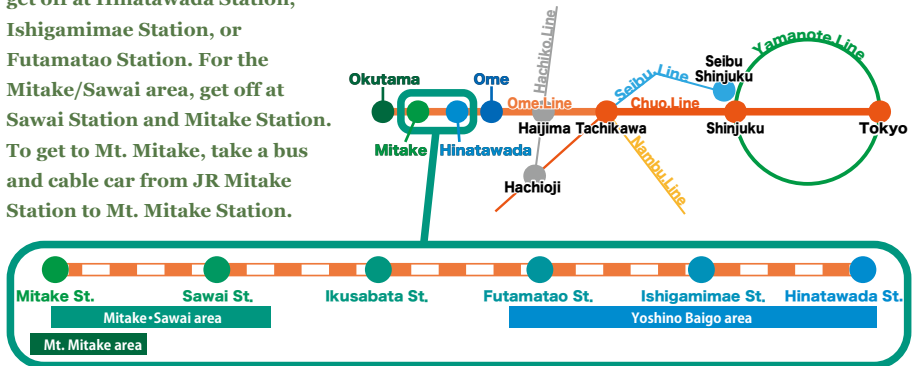
Tel number 0428-24-2481



Access

For visitors by Train

From Tokyo, take the JR Ome Line to Ome/Okutama. To get to the Yoshino Baigo area, get off at Hinatawada Station, Ishigamimae Station, or Futamatao Station. For the Mitake/Sawai area, get off at Sawai Station and Mitake Station. To get to Mt. Mitake, take a bus and cable car from JR Mitake Station to Mt. Mitake Station.



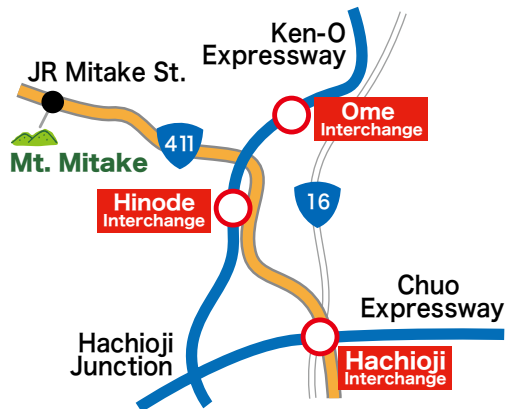
To Mt. Mitake



For visitors by car

From the Hachioji Interchange on the Chuo Expressway, the Ome Interchange on the Ken-O Expressway, or the Hinode Interchange, to Ome/Okutama Area. To Mt. Mitake, take the Mitake Tozan Railway at Takimoto Station.

*Beyond Takimoto St., you can not enter by car. Please park in the nearest parking lot.



Ome City Tourist Association

〒198-0042

1-2-5 Higashi-Ome, Ome-City, Tokyo Higashi- Ome Center Building 3F

Tel number 0428-24-2481

この英語解説文は、観光庁の地域観光資源の多言語解説整備支援事業で作成しました