

Spring



Kurihara Cherry Blossoms

The cherry blossoms bring word of the coming warm season. There are many famous spots for enjoying cherry blossoms in the city of Kurihara. Each place is great for enjoying the cherry blossoms with events like illumination, cherry blossom festivals, and more.

● Inquiries: A general incorporated association Tourism & Local Products Association Kurihara City
☎0228-25-4166



Ichihasma Sanno Historical Park Japanese Iris Garden

In one corner of Ichihasma Sanno Historical Site Park there are 220,000 individual irises of 300 different types, including ayame, rabbit-ear irises and sword lilies. In mid-June every year, the "Iris Festival" is held.

Ichihasma Sanno Historical Park Japanese Iris Garden DATA
● Address: Doman, Masaka, Ichihasma, Kurihara-shi, Miyagi
● About 20 minutes by car from the Tsukidate IC on the Tohoku Expressway
● Inquiries: Kurihara Municipal Ichihasma General Office Citizen Services Division
☎0228-52-2114

Lake Izunuma-Uchinuma Lotus Festival

This festival is held while the lotus flowers are in bloom. During this period, visitors can ride small boats to get a closer look at the flowers that cover the surface of the lake. Enjoy a leisurely boat ride while surrounded by lotus blossoms.

Lake Izunuma-Uchinuma Lotus Festival DATA

● Address: Wakayanagi Site, Kurihara / near the Izunuma-Uchinuma Sanctuary Center (Torikan) (17-2 Kamihataoka Shikimi, Wakayanagi, Kurihara-shi, Miyagi
● Tsukidate Site, Kurihara / near the Sanctuary Center Tsukidate (Mushikan) (20-1 Yokosukayoden, Tsukidate, Kurihara-shi, Miyagi)
● 10 minutes by car from JR Kurikoma-Kogen Station
● 10 minutes by car from the Tsukidate IC on the Tohoku Expressway
● 15 minutes by car from the Wakayanagi-Kannari IC on the Tohoku Expressway
● Inquiries: Kurihara City Industry and Economics Department Tourism Section ☎0228-22-1151



Obasama Festival

This festival that prays for a bountiful harvest is conducted regularly at Hakusan Shrine, worshipped as Sanhakusochinshu. It has been nationally designated as an Important Intangible Folk Cultural Property. Various Ennen no Mai are performed including an Iriburi Mai, a Shishi Mai. Arrows are also shot from a bow as part of the event. Held every year on the first Sunday in April.

Kannari Spring Festival (Obasama Festival) DATA

● 77 Yamanokami Kannariobasama, Kurihara-shi, Miyagi at the Obamasama Hakusan Shrine
● 10 minutes by car from the Wakayanagi-Kannari IC on the Tohoku Expressway
● Inquiries: Wakayanagi Kannari Commercial and Industrial Association Kannari Office
☎0228-42-1473

Minami-Kurikoma Highlands Ichihasma Lily Garden

Yurien spans over a vast 30,000 square meter area. There are about 150,000 lilies of 200 different varieties and 20,000 day-lilies of 50 varieties planted here. The park is open from mid-June through the end of July, and depending on the timing of your visit you can enjoy different types of flowers.

Minami-Kurikoma Highlands Ichihasma Lily Garden DATA

● Address: Aza-Shimizusekida, Ichihasamamasaka, Kurihara-shi, Miyagi
● 20 minutes by car from the Tsukidate IC on the Tohoku Expressway
● Inquiries: Minami-Kurikoma Highlands Ichihasma Lily Garden ☎0228-52-4551



World Marsh Primeval Flower Garden

The name means vast marshland. This wetland spans across the mountainside of Mt. Kurikoma, and is home to many varieties of alpine plants. From May through September, visitors can enjoy walks surrounded by various flowers. It's also a great place from which to view Mt. Kurikoma, making it a place to enjoy both flowers and mountains.

World Marsh Primeval Flower Garden DATA

● Address: Koeiminami Kurikomanumakura, Kurihara-shi, Miyagi
● 1 hour by car from JR Kurikoma-Kogen Station
● 50 minutes by car from the Wakayanagi-Kannari IC on the Tohoku Expressway
● Inquiries: A general incorporated association Tourism & Local Products Association Kurihara City
☎0228-25-4166

Fall



Mt. Kurikoma

Mt. Kurikoma is a 1,626 meter high mountain that spans Miyagi, Iwate, and Akita prefectures. There are six trails to the top from Kurihara, and visitors can enjoy various views including fresh green leaves or fall colors depending on the season.

Kurikoma Quasi-National Park DATA

● Time required to reach Iwakagamidara: 1 hour and 10 minutes from JR Kurikoma-Kogen Station
● 1 hour and 5 minutes from Wakayanagi-Kannari IC on the Tohoku Expressway
● Inquiries: A general incorporated association Tourism & Local Products Association Kurihara City
☎0228-25-4166



Kurihara, resplendent through all four seasons

Summer



Azabu Keikoku

This gorge runs for about 1.6 km along the upper reaches of Hasama River. The two waterfalls, one large and one small, as well as the rocks shaped by the river flow over the years are exceptionally beautiful. This area is most picturesque during the spring when the green leaves are young, and during the fall when the leaves change color.

Azabu Keikoku DATA

● Address: Aza-Honesawazabu, Hanayama, Kurihara, Miyagi
● 40 minutes from the Tsukidate IC on the Tohoku Expressway
● Inquiries: Kurihara Hanayama General Branch Office Citizen Services Division
☎0228-56-2111

Kurihara's Nejiri Honnyo

Rice plants are piled up to dry after being harvested. These piles are called Honnyo. In Kurihara, they are piled up little by little twisted at an angle so that the wind can dry them more quickly. This is called "Nejiri Honnyo," and it is the model after which the popular local mascot was designed. In the fall, there are many Nejiri Honnyo lined up in the rice fields celebrating the harvest.

Nejiri Honnyo DATA

● When to see them: Late September to mid-October
● Where to see them: All over Kurihara
● Inquiries: Kurihara Planning Department Citizen Cooperation Section ☎0228-22-1164



Winter



Lake Izunuma-Uchinuma

Lake Izunuma-Uchinuma is a lowland lake and marsh area that spans 491 hectares. Even in the winter the daily high temperature stays above 4 degrees Celsius and the waters don't freeze. These excellent conditions attract many waterfowl to spend the winter here. Various aquatic plants cover the surface of the lakes, and from this environment rich in plant life, dragonflies, fish, waterfowl, and various other creatures inhabit this area. In 1985, this area was registered as a wetland under the Ramsar Convention.

Kurikoma Merchant Doll Festival

Along the traditional shopping street in the Iwagasaki district of Kurikoma, a festival called the "Kurikoma Merchant Residence Doll Festival" is held every year around the time of the peach festival. Visitors can view traditional dolls handed down for generations in the Kurikoma Merchant Residence at various stops. There are shops and a special exhibit at the main event space for visitors to enjoy.

Kurikoma Merchant Doll Festival DATA

● Address: Mukimachi Kurikomawagasaki, Kurihara-shi, Miyagi
● Inquiries: Kurikoma Uguisuzawa Commercial and Industrial Association ☎0228-45-2191

