

perien



**Plan
your trip**



**Book
a Hotel**



Book Activities

**Ask about
Seasonal
Highlights**

From traditional to
modern, Tochigi
has it all.

Check out
www.nearbytokyo
.com/edo-tochigi

Visit the Tochigi City
Tourist Association
when you're in town!

Further Reading

Welcome! Visit Tochigi
<https://travel.tochigiji.or.jp/en/things-to-do/24/>

NearbyTokyo.com
<http://nearbytokyo.com/portfolio-item/tochigi-city/>

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TOCHIGI CITY

Step back into
Edo period Japan





Contents

The Ukiyo-e artist connected to Tochigi city	4-5
Visit Edo period Japan	6-7
Book an Edo-style experience	8-9
Stroll around Tochigi city	10
Cafés	11
Things nearby	12-13
Festivals, events, and weather	14-15
Restaurants and places to stay	16-17
How to get to Tochigi city	18-19



Tochigi in numbers

more than **250** Edo period warehouses

1,151 carp streamers flying over Uzuma river
(Early March to Early May)

1874 the year 'Tochigi Float Festival' began

about **100,000** Carp swimming in the
Uzuma river

歌麿

One of the arts greatest influencers UTAMARO



「Female Dharma」 Tochigi Kuranomachi Museum of Art ,Tochigi,Japan ca.1790-93 39.1×56.5cm



UTAMARO, the artist with a connection to Tochigi city that inspired Van Gogh

Kitagawa Utamaro (1753-1806) was one of the artists who caught Van Gogh's attention and went on to become one of the most famous Ukiyo-e artists in Japan. So, what is Ukiyo-e? The concept is to draw and capture the present rather than the past or

future. Utamaro rose to fame by his obsession with using high and low-end prostitutes for his works and the Bijin Ōkubi-e style of having portrait pictures of beautiful women.

UTAMARO



Utamaro's work was first introduced to the west at the Third Paris International Exposition of 1878 and has since gained popularity. In 2007, a painting titled "Onna Daruma Zu" (seen on page 4) was discovered in a house in Tochigi city. It shows the upper body of a courtesan disguising herself as Buddhist dharma wearing a red robe, on a sheet of "washi" paper.



Every Autumn Tochigi city pays homage to Utamaro by doing a re-enactment of him returning to Tochigi city and how the city looked through his eyes. It is a rare, wonderful experience to be a part of. Tochigi invites you to step back in time. (For Tochigi Utamaro Festival see page 14)

Inspired by the Ukiyo-e style, Vincent Van Gogh accumulated a large collection of Ukiyo-e works. A number of his works mimicked the Ukiyo-e style which also contributed to the Japonisme movement.



Self-Portrait with Bandaged Ear
Van Gogh sought serenity in Japanese prints.



Almond Blossoms
Rather than simply copying Japanese prints, Van Gogh began experimenting with motifs that frequently appear in them.

江戸

Feel, Learn & Taste the culture EDO STYLE



Tochigi Float Festival (see page 15)



STEP BACK INTO EDO PERIOD JAPAN

Visit Tochigi city and enjoy journeying back to Edo period (1603-1868) Japan. A large number of the buildings in Tochigi survived bombings during the war and still stand today as they did a hundred years ago. It's easy to imagine what it was like in this merchant town. Certain places that remain

today are a prime example. A prominent one being the Daishikaikan, a museum displaying decorative antique floats. Others include Yokoyama Folk Museum which is a traditional Japanese house once used as a bank and Abuden Miso a miso factory that has been in operation for more than one hundred years.

Edo Culture

LIVE AND BREATHE EDO CULTURE

Tochigi city is full of history. During the Edo period (1603-1868) an important route called 'Reiheishi Kaido' was established through Tochigi city. This route was used by the Imperial Court in Kyoto to send their special envoys to Nikko Toshogu Shrine (currently a UNESCO heritage site in Nikko). As Tochigi city was located between Edo (Tokyo) and Nikko, its well-traveled road and canal developed into an important trade route with Edo which helped the city prosper and develop. Since then, Tochigi city has become home to many rich merchants as well as artisans. Come feel the history beating beneath your feet as you traverse the city.



Dashikaikan



Okadakinenkan



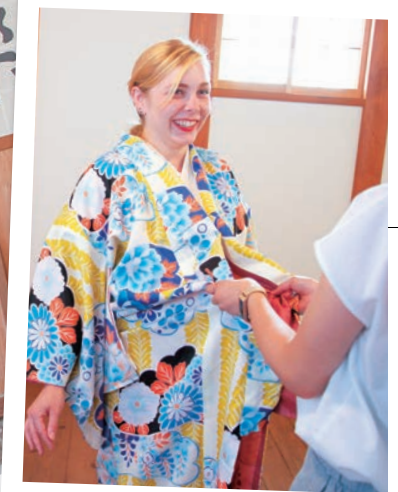
Abuden Miso



Yokoyama Folk Museum



BOOK AN
EDO STYLE
JAPANESE EXPERIENCE



Once-bustling during the Edo period with boats and tradesmen coming from Edo, Uzuma river is the city's focal point, even today! You can experience a boat ride along this now peaceful river and enjoy the boatman singing a traditional song escorting your imagination to the past.

Have an unforgettable experience that will make you the envy of your friends. then rent a Kimono for the day and let a volunteer guide point out the hidden gems of Tochigi city. After feeding the carps along the river, drop by the incense shop to blend your very own special Japanese incense. Also, don't forget to learn how to make an Edo-style confectionary and Matcha!



Scan this QR code with your smartphone to find experiences in Tochigi.

www.nearbytokyo.com/edo-tochigi



STROLL AROUND AND DISCOVER!

Tochigi city's historical heritage and museums are mostly located within walking distance. While visiting, make sure to wander around to discover the small

museums or find the bamboo forest where you can take amazing photos. To make the most of your time, why not rent a bicycle to cover more ground and explore further.



TAKE A BREAK IN STYLE

Enjoy a relaxing coffee break in one of Tochigi city's time-honoured buildings. Each cafe is unique and has delicious desserts, so have fun finding a place that suits you!



Parlour Tochigi (パーラートチギ)

Address 11-4 Yamatocho, Tochigi-shi TEL 0282-25-7700



Carioca Coffee (キャリオカコーヒー)

Address 9-11 Yamatocho, Tochigi-shi TEL 0282-23-2232



wakura cafe

Address 6-8 Yamatocho, Tochigi-shi TEL 0282-51-3033



Goridou Coffee Factory (悟理道珈琲工房)

Address 9-32 Yorocho, Tochigi-shi TEL 0282-51-9186



Experience something unique to Tochigi City

Try out some activities that take advantage of Tochigi City's abundant nature. It will surely be an unforgettable and enjoyable memory.



Mt. Iwafune Explosion Experience

Address iwafuneyama Shizuka, Iwafune-machi, Tochigi-shi



Watarase Retarding Basin

Address 1788 Fujioka, Fujioka-machi, Tochigi City

Things nearby

SEASONAL BEAUTY NOT TO BE MISSED

Right on our doorstep, we have a magnificent variety of nature which can be accessed by car, bicycle, or foot. Tochigi is fortunate to have four changing seasons throughout the year. Each of which can be observed close by. The more notable ones appear below. Among

them is Mt.Ohira, a place that can be accessed easily. Here you can enjoy daytime and nighttime views waiting for you at the top. Take in the sights of the beautiful cherry blossoms around a shrine that was founded in 827.



Spring (Koushouji Temple)

A Tochigi Heritage site. Many visitors come here to pray for a healthy pregnancy and birth.



Summer (Mt. Ohira Hydrangeas)

From mid-June to early July 2,500 hydrangeas beautifully line the 1,000 stepped ascent to Mt. Ohira temple.



Spring (Cherry Blossoms in Kanasaki)

Planted to commemorate the marriage of Emperor Showa in 1925. Selected as one of the "100 Scenic Spots in Tochigi" with 200 cherry trees blooming in early April.



Summer (Fireflies)

Around June, if you are lucky you can see Genji fireflies dancing along the Sakasa river in Ogaki, Tsugamachi.



Autumn (Toanji Temple)

Founded in 1260 this temple is said to be the oldest temple in the Nishikata region of Tochigi City. Address: Nishikata 1648



Summer (Watarase Retarding Basin)

One of the largest basins in Japan. The area is thriving with activities. Enjoy cycling through nature trails, skydiving, canoeing and yachting.



Autumn (Mt. Izuru Manganji Temple)

With its outstanding autumn leaves, this beautiful temple surrounded by mountains is known as a power spot!



All Seasons (Kashiwagura onsen Taishikan)

This Ryokan (traditional Japanese inn) is located in the mountain of Northern Kashiwagura. It has a hot spring, which is also open to daytime visitors.



Traditional Events Edo Style Festivals

Tochigi Utamaro Festival

Held yearly at the end of October. The festival takes you back to when Tochigi was a thriving trade town and Kitagawa Utamaro, the famous Ukiyo-e artist, worked here. The festival includes small exhibitions about Utamaro's work and a parade by locals dressed up in kimonos with the Oiran (high-class courtesan) wearing a lavishly decorated Kimono leading the way. A perfect photo opportunity.



Tochigi Float Festival

This biannual festival held at the November is by far the best in Tochigi City. Traditional Edo-style festival floats carry exquisitely carved figurines decorated in gold and silver. Watch as they parade up and down the streets to the sound of overwhelming Taiko drummers beating in rhythm. You'll feel the real togetherness of a city moving as one, so don't miss out on this experience.

The Weather

SPRING (March - May)

The perfect time to enjoy the cherry blossoms and azaleas in full bloom is at the end of March and the beginning of April. It can get chilly, so make sure to bring a light jacket.

SUMMER (June - August)

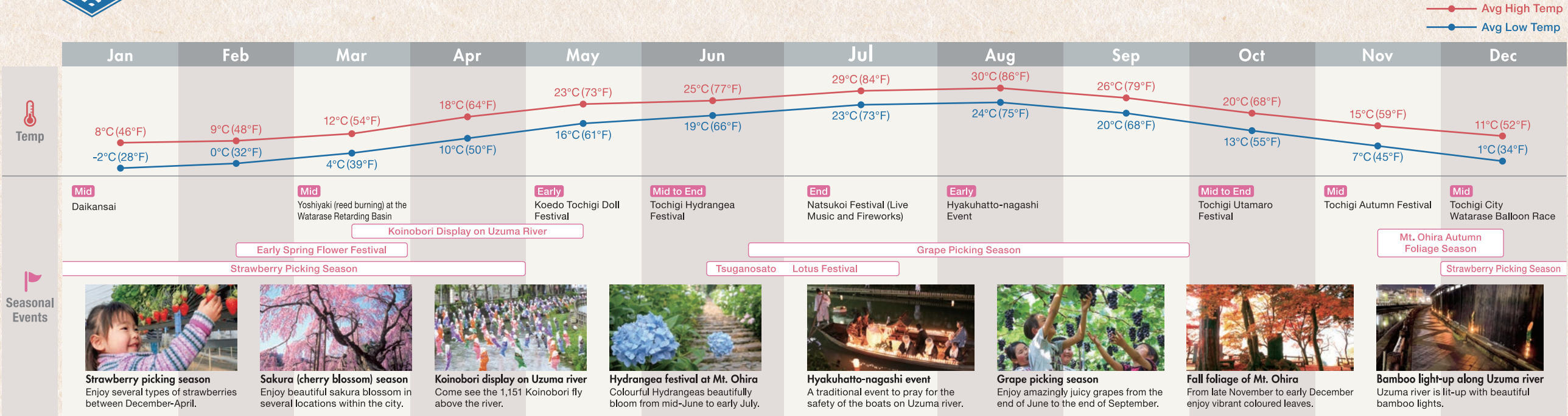
Experience the summer festival in August with its bountiful amounts of mouth-watering festival foods and traditional Japanese entertainment. Make sure to bring water wherever you go to stay hydrated.

AUTUMN (September - November)

The changing of the leaves is highly anticipated amongst locals and tourists. Become captivated by beautiful sceneries in the ever-changing landscape. Make sure to bring a cardigan/sweater for the evenings.

WINTER (December - February)

Snow in Tochigi is a rare treat, but when it does you can look forward to postcardlike views from Ohira Mountain. Make sure to wrap up with a scarf and gloves.





DELICIOUS FOOD & COMFY BEDS



Onjyo (温情)

Okonomiyaki
Address: 5-20 Kaemoncho, Tochigi-shi
TEL: 0282-51-6463
https://www.instagram.com/okonomiyaki_onjyo/



Panzou (パンゾウ)

Bakery
Address: 10-4 Yamatocho, Tochigi-shi
TEL: 0282-25-6616
<http://www.instagram.com/tengen1115/>



Hotel Sunroute (ホテルサンルート)

Type: Western-style
<https://www.sunroute.jp/HotelInfo/kanto/tochigi/>
Available on Booking.com
TEL: 0282-24-5858
Address: 16-1 Yorozucho, Tochigi-shi



Kanahan (かな半旅館)

Type: Japanese Ryokan
<http://www.kanahan-ryokan.jp/>
TEL: 0282-22-0108
Address: 5-2 Yorozucho, Tochigi-shi



Kanahan (かな半)

Traditional Japanese
Address: 5-2 Yorozucho, Tochigi-shi
TEL: 0282-22-0108
<http://www.kanahan-ryokan.jp/dining/>



Genki Cafe Tatsumoto (辰元)

Original Cuisine
Address: 24-3 Yorozucho, Tochigi-shi
TEL: 0282-22-0112
<http://tatsumoto.com/>



Taro an (太郎庵)

Soba & Udon
Address: 4-1 Yorozucho, Tochigi-shi
TEL: 0282-25-1241



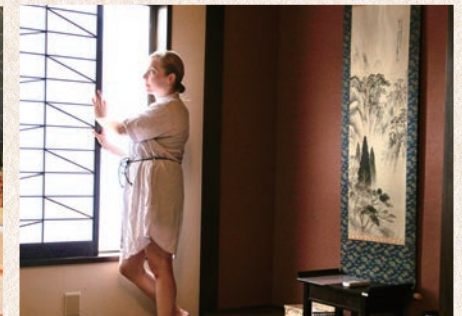
R9 Hostel (R9 ホステル)

Type: Budget Hotel
<https://hotel-r9.jp/hostel/>
TEL: 0282-21-8334
Address: 3-13 Sakaicho, Tochigi-shi



Guesthouse Kuranomachi (ゲストハウス蔵の街)

Type: Hostel / Guesthouse
Available on Booking.com
<https://junjun8ookini.wixsite.com/kuranomachi>
TEL: 0282-88-1193
Address: 12-20 Minatocho, Tochigi-shi



Dengaku Abuden (田楽あぶでん)

Light Japanese Food & Craft Beer
Address: 5-27 Kauemoncho, Tochigi-shi
TEL: 0282-22-3251
<https://abudenmiso.wixsite.com/website>



Cafe Bazzar (カフェバザール)

European / Asian Cuisine
Address: 4-6 Kauemoncho, Tochigi-shi
TEL: 0282-51-2810
<https://cafebazzartochigi.jimdofree.com/>



Laliguras

Indian Cuisine
Address: 10-7 Yamatocho, Tochigi-shi
TEL: 0282-22-1331
<https://www.laliguras.net/>



Chanvre (シャンブル)

Type: Western & Japanese Hotel
<https://business-activity-chanvre.com/>
TEL: 0282-22-6446
Address: 1-5 Kawaicho, Tochigi-shi



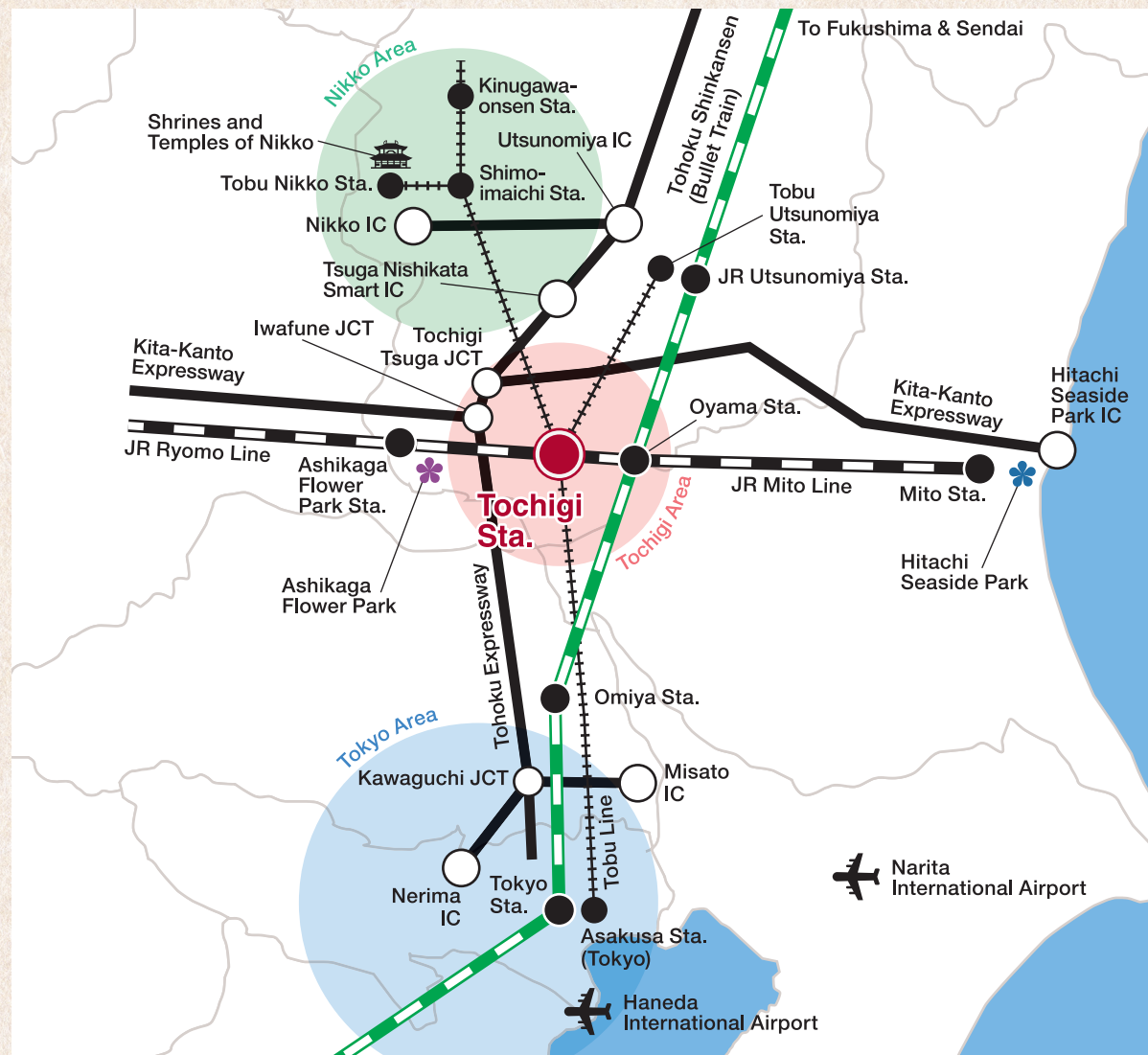
Kashiwagura onsen Taishikan (太子館)

Type: Japanese Ryokan with Onsen
<http://www.taishikan.jp/>
TEL: 0282-23-5035
Address: 967 Kashiwaguramachi, Tochigi-shi

Getting to Tochigi

Where is Tochigi city?

Tochigi city is 70min north of Tokyo. It is easily accessible from Tokyo and other popular destinations such as the world heritage site of Nikko.



How do I get to Tochigi?

From Tokyo (70 min)

The easiest way is to take the Tobu Line (Express train) from Asakusa Station which takes 70min. Alternatively, you can take the Tohoku shinkansen from Tokyo Station to Oyama Station and change to the JR Ryomo Line to Tochigi Station which also takes 70min.

From Haneda Airport (2 hours)

Take the Keikyu Airport Line (Express) to Asakusa Station. From Asakusa Station then take the Tobu Line (Express) to Tobu Nikko or Kinugawa Onsen and get off at Tochigi Station.

From Narita Airport (2 hours 20 min)

Take the Keisei Narita Sky Access Line Express to Asakusa Station. From Asakusa Station then take the Tobu Line (Express) to Tobu Nikko or Kinugawa Onsen and get off at Tochigi Station.

How to Get Around

GETTING AROUND TOCHIGI

Walking

One of Tochigi's attractive points is that you can quite easily enjoy the city on foot. Take a stroll from Tochigi station or any of the hotels within the city, and experience a deep sense of culture through the city which feels encapsulated in the Edo period.

A leisurely walk along Uzuma river is a must. You can regularly hear the boatsmen sing a traditional song whilst escorting people on rides up and down the river. Take in the sights of the many Kura, (storehouse) buildings that were built between the Edo and Meiji era.



Taxi

Taxis are available in front of Tochigi station or can be called from your hotel with assistance from hotel staff. If you'd like to call a taxi yourself then the three main operators for Tochigi city are :
Godou Taxi: 0282-22-5000
Chiyoda Taxi: 0282-22-5151

Rent-a-cycle

If you are looking to see more of Tochigi and savour at something a little more active then check out Tochigi's rent-a-cycle station in the heart of the city. For ¥400 you can rent your bike anytime between 9 am ~5 pm, plenty of time for you to take in the sights on two wheels.



Buses

Tochigi City has 12 bus lines with a price of ¥200 for adults. Children under the age of 12 can ride free. Alternatively you could buy a one-day adult pass which allows you to get on and off freely on all routes for one day for ¥400. Please see the link for Bus schedules in English. → Please scan the QR code and scroll down for bus schedules in English.



Train, Taxi, Bus information is correct at time of print March 2026

Where can I get more information?

A great source of information is the Tochigi City Tourist Association. Located on the main street, it provides you with detailed information on timetables and schedules of new or upcoming events. It is also the same spot in which you can rent a bicycle. For information online please check www.nearbytokyo.com/edo-tochigi

