

# the japan times

ALL THE NEWS WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR

with *The Shimotsuke Shimbun*

下野新聞

## Nikko Special



**A SECRET WORLD WITHIN REACH**  
Serene nature and World Heritage sites just a train ride away from Tokyo

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2019

# Commemorating 20 years of UNESCO status

6th World Heritage Summit to explore preservation options and tourism efforts

CEZARY JAN STRUSIEWICZ  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On Nov. 21 and 22, the city of Nikko in Tochigi Prefecture will host the 6th World Heritage Summit coinciding with the commemoration of the Shrines and Temples of Nikko being added to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) World Heritage list. The summit will focus on world heritage sites, their preservation and communal cooperation.

Nov. 21 has been set aside for subcommittees to discuss issues like traditional techniques necessary for proper restoration of historic wooden structures, collaboration with heritage sites in eastern Japan or local tourism. The theme of the Nov. 22 conference, on the other hand, will be the broader issue of world heritage and inbound tourism. David Atkinson, CEO of Konishi Decorative Arts and Crafts Co., Visit Kyoto ambassador and expert member of Nikko's special committee for policy issues, will deliver the keynote address.

Nikko was first recognized by UNESCO in 1999 when the buildings of its two Shinto shrines (Toshogu and Futarasan) and of its Buddhist temple (Rinnoji), as well as their natural surroundings, were added to the World Heritage List as a single, 50-hectare complex. The Shrines and



Temples of Nikko consist of a total of 103 buildings, the majority of which were constructed in the 17th century. Their histories, however, are much longer, going back to when the sites were first established in Nikko in the eighth century.

But the sites aren't just historically significant. They are also masterpieces of architecture and art, as well as important centers

of worship. Rinnoji temple, for example, venerates Buddhist deities of the three holy Nikko mountains. They include Mount Nantai's Senju Kannon (Kannon with a thousand arms), Mount Nyoho's Amida Nyorai (the Buddha of limitless light) and Mount Taro's Bato Kannon (Kannon with a horse head). Similarly, the Shinto Futarasan Shrine deifies Mount Futara (another name for Mount Nantai). As the only shrine in the area for many years, it came to prominence as the Shinto guardian of Nikko and a center of mountain worship.

However, no discussion of Nikko architecture can exclude Nikko Toshogu shrine. The massive complex, which enshrines the shogun Tokugawa Ieyasu, consists of 55 structures painted in vibrant colors, adorned with intricate sculptures, and, in many cases, covered in gold. Anywhere between ¥40 and ¥100 billion in today's money was used to decorate Toshogu, which surely contributed to it becoming part of the Shrines and Temples of Nikko.

It's not an easy thing to be recognized this way by UNESCO. Currently, there are 1,121 World Heritage sites around the world (with 23 in Japan), and they span everything from Brazil's Historic Town of Ouro Preto to the Great Barrier Reef in

Australia. But in order to make the list, all sites must be "considered to be of outstanding value to humanity." They must also be unique in some way. Specific conditions are laid out in the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention. Until 2004, any candidate for UNESCO's list had to fulfill six cultural and four natural criteria in order to be recognized as a World Heritage site. However, after the guidelines were revised, those requirements were changed to a candidate site having to only fulfill one of 10 of UNESCO's criteria.

The Shrines and Temples of Nikko met three of such conditions. For one, their spectacular architecture blends harmoniously with the breathtaking natural scenery, reflecting the artistic genius of the sites' architects. Secondly, the original, distinctive architectural style of Toshogu or the Taiyu-in Reibyō mausoleum became representative of the Edo Period (1603 to 1868) as more and more craftsmen adapted or were inspired by it. Finally, the Shrines and Temples of Nikko are a living example of religious centers emphasizing the Shinto belief about the indissoluble connection between man and nature.

It's why Nikko's shrines and temples



Above: A statue of the thunder god Jikokuten in Nitenmon Gate at Rinnoji temple; Far left: Revered as a spiritual and historical landmark, Nikko Toshogu shrine is where Tokugawa Ieyasu is enshrined. Left: Toshogu Shrine's inverted pillars are designed to ward off evil.

made the UNESCO list and why it's so crucial to preserve them for posterity. However, that, once again, can be a tall order. Rinnoji, Toshogu and Futarasan suffered from disasters such as earthquakes and fires, and each time they were restored faithfully using traditional materials and techniques in order to maintain their historic value. But with each year, that is becoming more and more difficult.

A few parts of the Nikko World Heritage site are currently in the final stages of a complex restoration project, one of the most challenging parts of which is renewing the lacquer coating that protects their wooden structures from rain, UV rays and wind. This must be done using 400-year-

old techniques from the Edo Period, which requires in-depth knowledge of not only lacquer application, but also its extraction, refining, natural properties and drying time. It's an incredibly difficult and time-consuming process, but no one who sees the final, beautiful results can argue that it isn't worth the effort.

*The Nikko Special was produced in collaboration with The Shimotsuke Shimbun, a daily Japanese newspaper in Tochigi Prefecture with over 140 years of history. The first two pages of this four-page supplement were created by The Japan Times, while the latter two pages were produced by The Shimotsuke Shimbun.*



Futarasan Shrine deifies Mount Futara (another name for Mount Nantai).



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# Nikko adventure

## 30 hours of wonder: Shrines, temples and hot springs

**CEZARY JAN STRUSIEWICZ**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The city of Nikko in Tochigi Prefecture is one of the brightest lights in the Japanese sightseeing firmament, which is apt, given that its name literally translates to "sunshine." With some amazing attractions from World Heritage sites dating back to the eighth century to picturesque hiking trails and relaxing hot spring resorts, it's easy to see why some Japanese people like to say, "Never say *kekko* (you haven't seen anything!) until you've seen Nikko." Visitors who'd like to confirm that for themselves but only have about 30 hours to do so, should consider the following itinerary:

**9:00 a.m.: Rinnoji temple**

Historic and beautiful but still relaxing enough to not feel overwhelming from the get-go, Rinnoji temple is the perfect place to start exploring Nikko after catching an early train (around 6:30 a.m.) from Asakusa in Tokyo via the Tohu Nikko Line.

Rinnoji is a Tendai Buddhist temple with a 1,200-year-long history. Its most famous building is the Sanbutsudo hall, a deep vermilion and majestic structure, the current version of which dates back to 1645. The hall houses statues depicting Nikko's three mountain deities that guests can admire from a special elevated path due to the site undergoing major renovation work that is expected to last until March 2021. Also found at Rinnoji is a treasure house exhibiting national treasures and important cultural properties, including sutras, religious art and paintings of the Tokugawa shogun. Additionally, when visiting Nikko in the fall, guests should not miss Shoyoen, a beautiful garden considered one of the best fall foliage viewing spots in the area.

**9:45 a.m.: Nikko Toshogu shrine**

Considered a symbol of Nikko, the Nikko Toshogu shrine (located a short walk from Rinnoji temple) enshrines Tokugawa Ieyasu, the shogun who founded the military government that lasted in Japan for more than two centuries.

Uniquely ornate, Toshogu's architectural style is probably best described as "Japanese baroque." Despite that, the sprawling complex's many paths fill visitors with feelings of peace and serenity as they guide them through natural sceneries or past fascinating cultural properties. This includes everything from the carvings of the three "see no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil" wise monkeys, to the Gojunoto five-story pagoda, where each story represents one of the basic elements of existence: earth, water, fire, wind and the void.

Gohonsha (the Main Shrine) is a central part of Toshogu. A designated National Treasure, it's where many festivals and other events are held each year, although it too is currently undergoing repairs that should conclude sometime in 2020. Of particular interest is also the grand Yomeimon Gate, known as the Main Gate of the Imperial Court or Gate of the Setting Sun. Covered in more than 500 carvings depicting people from all walks of life, one could spend an entire day admir-



Bodhisattva Jizo (also known as Bake Jizo) line a path in the Kanmangafuchi Abyss.

Left: Tokugawa Iemitsu, the third shogun of the Tokugawa shogunate, is enshrined in Rinnoji temple.



Left: Nikko-yuba (tofu skin served in a variety of ways) is present in a variety of regional dishes. Right: Yōkan (sweet bean jelly) is a traditional dessert and Nikko specialty.

ing one of the most impressive structures in all of Toshogu.

**12:00 p.m.: Futarasan Shrine and Shinkyō Bridge**

Just a five-minute walk from Toshogu stands the magnificent Futarasan Shrine, one of the most important places of Shinto worship in all of Nikko. Dating back to the mid-eighth century, it deifies Mount Futara (also known as Mount Nantai), which, in an etymologically interesting but complicated to explain way, is the source of the name "Nikko."

The entire precinct of the Futarasan Shrine is an astonishing 3,400 hectares and also includes the mountains of the Nikko National Park. But while it is a significant center of mountain worship, the shrine is also very popular among people praying for children, easy deliveries and marital bliss.

Futarasan offers amazing views of historic buildings combined with the splendor of Nikko's nature but one of its main draws is actually the Shinkyō Bridge that belongs to the shrine. The bridge measures 28 meters in length and more than 7 meters in width while standing about 10 meters above the river below it. Although it has

only been opened to generals and imperial court messengers, not much is really known about the origins of Shinkyō other than that it was rebuilt in 1636. The vermilion-lacquered wooden structure is today considered one of the three most beautiful bridges in all of Japan.

**1:15 p.m.: Nikko Woodcarving Village Craft Center and lunch**

While heading to the next destination, either 30 minutes by foot or 10 minutes by bus, it'd probably be a good idea to get some food. Especially recommended are Nikko specialties like *soba* or *Nikko-yuba*, tofu skin served in a variety of ways, including in raw form or dried, fried and eaten with *soba*. For lovers of something with a little more kick to it, try the popular *shisomaki tōgarashi* — spicy Japanese red peppers that have been pickled in salt and then wrapped in Japanese perilla. And for dessert, visitors might consider *manju* steamed buns with sweet red bean paste, *yōkan* sweet bean jelly, or anything with the famous Tochi Otome strawberry variety produced in Tochigi.

From there, Nikko explorers should visit the neighboring Woodcarving Village Craft Center where, under the watchful eye of experts, they can experience firsthand the art of *nikkōbori* (Nikko-style wood carving) starting from ¥920. Said to originate from the work of master craftsmen who worked on the Toshogu shrine, *nikkōbori* requires a special bent-tip gouge and primarily uses plant life as its main theme.

**4:00 p.m.: Kanmangafuchi Abyss**

Located a 15 to 20-minute bus ride from the previous spot, the Kanmangafuchi Abyss is the result of the volcanic eruption of Mount Nantai. But from that furi-

ous exhibition of nature's power came something beautiful in the form of a scenic river area perfect for light hiking and clearing one's mind. The abyss is also home to about 70 stone statues of the Bodhisattva Jizo, known as Bake Jizo (Changing Jizo) because they are supposedly impossible to count. Legends say that people who try to confirm how many statues there are always end up with a different number. Perhaps they are just distracted by the views of the Nikko Botanical Garden located across from the Jizo statues. It's impossible to tell.

Whatever the case might be, from its spring verdure to its autumn leaves or winter snows, the Kanmangafuchi Abyss has something to delight tourists all year round.

**Evening: Hoyo Center Nikko Hot Spring**

The Hoyo Center Nikko Hot Spring is an *onsen* with the egalitarian soul of a public bathhouse, which perhaps explains its low prices at ¥410 per person, and the fact that unlike many similar facilities in Japan, it accepts people with tattoos. The facility is located in the middle of a residential area not too far from the city center, but its baths look out at a calming, green vista, making it just the place to relax after a long day of sightseeing and hiking. The hot spring offers towels for sale but provides no other amenities. The last entry is at 8:30 p.m.

**Night: Nikko Kanaya Hotel**

The Nikko Kanaya Hotel is the oldest resort hotel in Japan, with a history that goes back to 1871. That's when Dr. James Curtis Hepburn (the creator of the eponymous Latin alphabet transliteration system of the Japanese language) stayed at the private residence of Zenichiro Kanaya. Following his



Above: The Nikko Kanaya Hotel is Japan's oldest hotel with a legacy dating back to 1871.



Left: The origins of Shinkyō Bridge are unclear, but access was once limited to high-ranking officials and imperial messengers.

guest's suggestion, Kanaya later turned part of his house into the Kanaya Cottage Inn in 1873, which over time became the Nikko Kanaya Hotel. The hotel has welcomed the stay of iconic visitors such as Isabella Bird, Albert Einstein and Helen Keller. With so much history under one roof and the seamless mixing of Japanese and Western aesthetics, the Nikko Kanaya Hotel is the perfect place to spend the night at and rest up in preparation for further exploration of Nikko.

**The following day**

**Morning: Irohazaka route**

From Tohu-Nikko Station, tourists can board a bus or a taxi that will take them up to the Oku-Nikko area through the Irohazaka road. "Mesmerizing" is really the right word for it: Irohazaka is actually two roads — an ascending and a descending one — and consists of a total of 48 hairpin turns corresponding to 48 characters of kana, the Japanese syllabary. That's actually how the roads got their name. "Zaka" comes from the Japanese word for "slope" while "iroha" comes from the first three kana used in the old ordering of the Japanese alphabet. But it's not necessary to know that to appreciate Irohazaka, one of the best places in Japan to admire the country's foliage.

**10:00 a.m.: Lake Chuzenji and Kego Falls**

After traversing Irohazaka, visitors will arrive at Lake Chuzenji, the highest natural lake in the country, found at an elevation of over 1,200 meters. Hot spring resorts and historic sightseeing spots abound, but the entire Chuzenji area is most famous for its hiking opportunities along the entire 25-kilometer circumference of the lake.

Hiking course guides, as well as detailed information on Nikko's nature and history, can be easily obtained at the nearby Nikko Natural Science Museum. From scenic trails to more challenging routes, Chuzenji caters to almost everyone. Additionally, a popular sightseeing boat operates on the lake between the months of April and November.

A local sightseeing spot also worth mentioning is Kego Falls, one of the three most beautiful waterfalls in all of Japan and part of the Eight Views said to perfectly encapsulate the beauty and the spirit of the Showa Era (1926 to 1989). At nearly 100 meters in height, it's truly a sight like no other, which one can admire up close from observation platforms set up near the falls. An elevator also goes down to the falls' basin, allowing visitors to get as close as possible to this deafening display of crashing water. Depending on the season, Kego offers diverse beauty, like lush green sceneries in spring or frozen blue landscapes in winter.

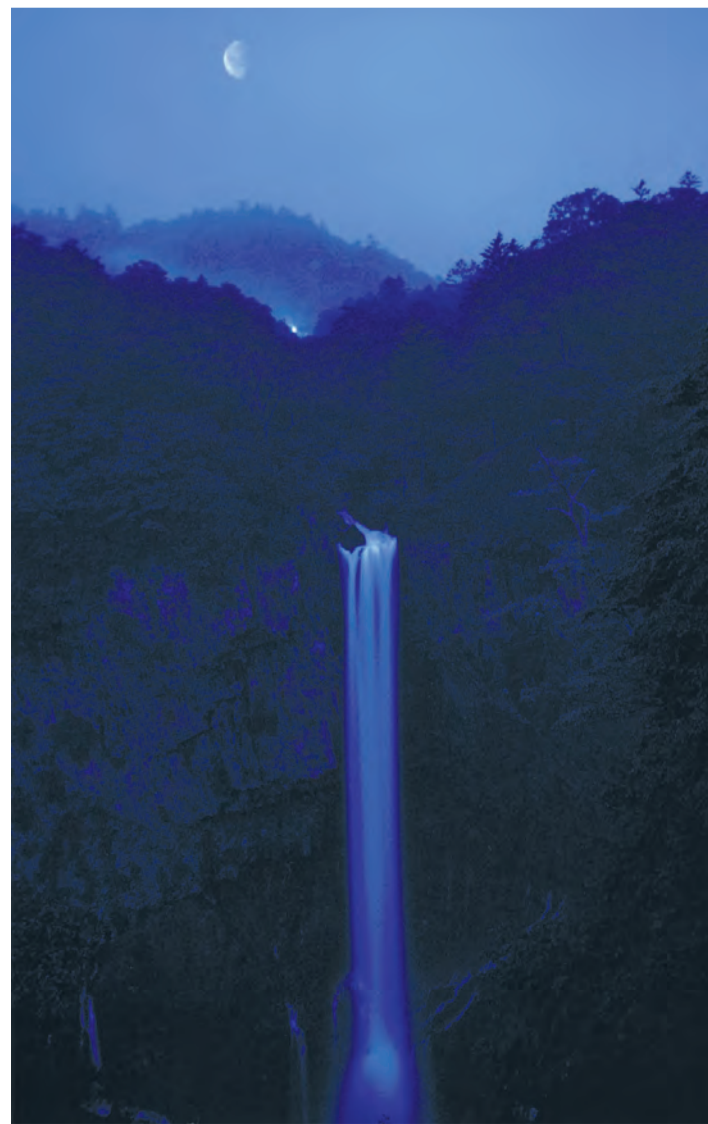
**3:00 p.m.: Utsunomiya's gyōza**

Although not part of Nikko proper, no visit to the area would be complete without stopping at Utsunomiya, a pleasant 40-minute journey via the JR Nikko Line, on the way back to Tokyo for some *gyōza*. What Naples is to pizza, Utsunomiya is to these delicious meat and vegetable dumplings, which are served pan-fried, boiled or deep-fried. With more than 350 restaurants in the city to choose from, a late *gyōza* lunch or early dinner at Utsunomiya is an easy and delicious option.

Transit information can be accessed via the QR code or by visiting <http://nikko-travel.jp/english/access>.



The Irohazaka route's two roads (split into one going uphill and the other descending) consist of 48 hairpin turns and are famous for their autumn foliage. Photo by DJHiro



Left: Kego Falls is recognized as one of Japan's three most beautiful waterfalls. Below: Lake Chuzenji is located at an elevation of over 1,200 meters, making it Japan's highest natural lake.





# ★ 星降る夜の日光

## 天地に通じる「祈りの場」それが日光

詳しくは  
「星降る夜の日光」  
ホームページへ▶



### 奥日光湯元温泉 雪まつり

**期間** 令和2年1月31日(金)～  
約1週間(氷の彫刻が溶けるまで)  
**会場** 奥日光湯元温泉  
詳しくは、奥日光湯元温泉旅館協同組合  
オフィシャルサイトをご覧ください。



詳細情報は  
こちらから▶

### ライトアップ 大猷院

**期間** 令和2年3月20日(金)  
～22日(日)  
27日(金)～29日(日)  
**会場** 家光廟大猷院

### わたらせ渓谷鐵道 各駅イルミネーション

**期間** 令和元年12月1日(日)～  
令和2年2月29日(土)  
**時間** 17:00～各駅最終列車通過まで  
**会場** 間藤駅・足尾駅・通洞駅・原向駅  
他

### 華厳ノ滝 ライトアップ

**期間** 令和元年11月16日(土)  
～23日(土)  
**時間** 17:00～19:00  
**会場** 県営無料観瀑台

### 中禅寺温泉 カマクラまつり

**期間** 令和2年2月8日(土)  
9日(日)  
**会場** 日光自然博物館前  
広場

### 交通情報配信中!

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@55nikkokamen



## ★ 天地に通じる 星空スポット

### 湯元エリア

#### ★ 日光山温泉寺

湯元温泉は、日光開山の祖・勝道上人が発見し「薬師瑠璃光如来」様をお祀りしたのが始まり。上人が険しい山々を越えて湯元温泉に辿り着いた時には、身も心も疲れ果てていたにちがいない。そして、湯気が上がるこの地を発見した時の喜びは幾何なものであったか。満点の星空の下、木々の音を聞きながら温泉に身を沈める姿が目に浮かぶ。

#### ★ 戦場ヶ原展望台 (三本松駐車場)

戦場ヶ原の星空は関東屈指の美しさと称賛されている。理由は、光害の影響が少なく周囲にも明るい照明の建物がない。頭上に輝く星々は、まるでアニメの中に居る感覚。

### 霧降エリア

#### ★ 霧降高原キスゲ平園地

夜景と星空を一望できる隠れた人気スポット。また、戊辰戦争の際、旧幕府軍の大鳥圭介と新政府軍の板垣退助は、日光市野口十文字で戦い、その日の夕刻には大鳥軍は霧降から会津へと向かい六方沢の谷底に仮泊した。見上げた小さな空に輝く星に一縷の望みを託したかもしれない。

### 日光エリア

#### ★ 表参道

1652年から「日光火の番」として日光東照宮を中心とした日光山輪王寺、日光二荒山神社の境内及び町内の防火を「八王子千人同心」が警備にあっていた。家光も天海も観ていた、歴史的建造物群に囲まれた星々、400年の時を経て今も変わらず見ることが出来るのは、この建物を大切に守ってきた人々のおかげだ。

#### ★ 大谷川河川敷

大谷川河川敷から上流を見ると、2000mを超える日光連山が鎮座する。大谷川は、華厳ノ滝から始まり、激流の華厳渓谷を経て日光市内を流れる頃には水も穏やかになる。心地良い川のせせらぎを聞きながら星空を眺めてみると、天の川と大谷川の競演が始まっていた。

### 足尾エリア

#### ★ 古河橋～古河橋上

足尾銅山の産業遺跡古河橋は現存する日本最古の道路用鉄橋で国の史跡。橋の上に立って往時を偲べばその強靱な揺るがない精神を貴方も手に入れることが出来るかも!?

#### ★ 横根山～勝雲山パーキング

中禅寺湖とほぼ同じ高さから条件が整えば、関東平野を一望できる。勝雲山パーキングは天空にたくさんの飛行機が行き来し成田・羽田空港の発着も展望出来る場所。ハート形の渡良瀬遊水地が貴方のハートを射止めるかも!?

### 中禅寺エリア

#### ★ 歌ヶ浜第一駐車場

奥日光には、男体山と赤城山(群馬県)の各々の神が領地を争って戦った戦場ヶ原の神戦伝説がある。戦いの最後は、男体山の神の孫にあたる弓矢の名人「小野の猿丸」が相手の左目を射抜き勝利し、歌ったところから歌ヶ浜の名前が付いた。戦いを終え、疲れ果てた体に静かな波音は癒しを与え、湖面に映る月や星々は賛美的な褒美となつたにちがいない。

#### ★ 西六番園地

長崎のグラバー邸で知られる「トーマス・グラバー」が所有していた別荘跡が有り、当時の暖炉と煙突がそのまま残っている。また、三代将軍・徳川家光は中禅寺湖を雪波湖(せきろうこ)と名付けた。雪が舞う頃、ここから見る満点の星空は、冬の厳しさとともに美しさも見逃せない。

#### ★ 第二いろは坂 黒髪平

上り第二いろは坂17カーブを過ぎたところに有る黒髪平は、日光市街と関東平野を望める。地元の人々があまりにも星が綺麗で立ち止まるポイントだ。

### 小来川エリア

#### ★ ふれあいの郷 小来川

日光山の開祖、勝道上人は、小来川に庵を構えこの地から鶏鳴山(けいめいざん)に登っては眼前に広がる日光連山を眺め開山の計画を立てたと伝えられている。鶏鳴山越しに見える星から、1200年前の仙人に思いを馳せてはいかが。

## NIKKO

Cosponsored by Nikko City Tourism Association (Phone 0288-22-1525) / Nikko Shun-tabi Club

# 20th Anniversary of Registration as a World Heritage Site

\*Contents and schedule of the events are subject to change.

### 20th Anniversary Goshuin (a vermilion seal of the Shogun)

**Period** 1st Oct. 2019 – 31st Mar. 2020

### Kegon Falls Illumination \*Shuttle bus available

**Period** 16th Nov. 2019 – 23rd Nov. 2019

### Nikko Studies

Lecturer: Mr. Takeyuki Kasuga

**First** 29th Nov. 2019

**Second** 2nd Dec. 2019

**Third** 6th Dec. 2019

Special present: Shamoji (a large wooden spoon) for all participants

### Instagram Campaign

**Period** 1st Dec. 2019 – 31st Mar. 2020

Let's post pictures on Instagram, and get ¥100,000!! Please visit the Nikko Onsen Cooperative Association website for details.

### Details

Information on 20th anniversary events and Nikko sightseeing is available on the official website!  
<https://www.20th-shaji.org>



### 20th Anniversary Special Experience Tours

**Toshogu Shrine** Special admission tour in Shogun's seating room  
**1st Dec. 2019 – 31st Mar. 2020**  
except 19th Dec.2019-4th Jan.,3rd,17th Feb.,16th,17th Mar.2020

**Rinnoji Temple** Special tour to experience Shakyo (Sutra Copying), Goma-prayers, and trying Nikko traditional desserts  
**English Guided Tour**  
8th Dec. 2019, 11th, 26th Jan., 11th, 24th Feb., 8th, 22nd Mar. 2020

**Futarasan Shrine** Special tour to learn proper manners with a Shinto priest for prayers and trying Nikko traditional desserts  
**English Guided Tour**  
7th, 21st Dec. 2019, 19th Jan., 8th, 22nd Feb., 7th, 21st Mar. 2020

### Akechi Mitsuhide Historical Mystery Tour

**Period** 12th Jan. – 29th Feb. 2020

### Taiyuin Temple Illumination

**Period** 20th,21st,22nd,27th,28th,29th Mar.2020

### Gift Campaign: Admission Ticket for Taiyuin Temple Illumination

You can get a free ticket if you stay at a member hotel of the Nikko Onsen Cooperative Association.

## 日光の冬イベント

今市エリア

2020年 2/11 火祝

### 今市花市

JR駅前通りで行われる今市地区の縁日。だるまや熊手などの縁起物の露店が並びます。  
【所】JR今市駅前通り【時】10:00～18:30【料】0288-30-1171(今市花市実行委員会(日光商工会議所内))【交】JR日光線「今市駅」から徒歩すぐ、または東武日光線「下今市駅」から徒歩約5分

### 日光街道今市宿 牡丹室内庭園

2020年 2/15 土

24 月祝

特殊な方法で育てた牡丹を、通常見ることのできない冬季期間中に咲かせ、室内に見事な日本庭園の空間を演出する展示会です。  
【所】道の駅日光 日光街道ニニコ本陣多目的ホール【料】大人200円【時】9:00～17:00※最終入場は閉園の30分前【交】0288-22-1525(日光市観光協会)【交】JR日光線「今市駅」から徒歩約8分、または東武日光線「下今市駅」から徒歩6分

日光エリア

2020年 2/11 火祝

### 日光鉢石宿のおひなさま

3/3 火

約140軒にオリジナルのお雛様が飾られ、訪れる方々をお迎えします。日光郷土センターでは期間中、段飾りやつるし雛などが飾られます。  
【所】日光地区の田母沢御用邸までの商店や民家など【料】0288-22-1525(日光市観光協会)【交】JR日光線「日光駅」または東武日光線「東武日光駅」から徒歩にて散策

湯西川・川俣  
奥鬼怒エリア

2020年 1/31 金

### 湯西川温泉かまくら祭

3/1 日

平家の里や沢口河川敷のミニかまくらなど、7つの会場で開催。昼も夜も楽しめる人気のイベントです。夜のミニかまくらは絶景です。  
【所】日光市湯西川【料】0288-22-1525(日光市観光協会)【交】野野鉄道会津鬼怒川線「湯西川温泉駅」から湯西川温泉行きバス「水の郷観光センター前」、終点「湯西川温泉」などで下車

鬼怒川・川俣  
エリア

2020年 2/1 土

### きぬ姫まつり

3/31 火

鬼怒川温泉郷の参加施設では、女将の手作りの「きぬ姫飾り」(吊るし雛)や江戸時代等の歴史あるお雛様が展示されます。  
【所】鬼怒川温泉大原【料】0288-22-1525(日光市観光協会)【交】東武鬼怒川線「鬼怒川温泉駅」から徒歩にて散策

鬼怒川温泉

2020年 2/1 土

### 春節・鬼まつり2020

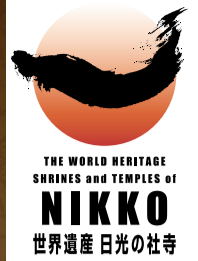
2 日

鬼怒川温泉の「鬼」にちなみ、鬼怒川温泉駅前広場では福をまくガラマキ、お囃子演奏など郷土芸能のステージ、地元グルメの販売のほか、射的、書初め、羽根突きなどが楽しめます。  
【所】鬼怒川温泉駅前広場、他【料】0288-22-1525(日光市観光協会)【交】東武鬼怒川線「鬼怒川温泉駅」から下車すぐ



読者の皆様へ

本紙面は「日光の社寺」世界遺産登録20周年と、世界遺産サミット開催を記念して制作した特別号です。国際観光都市・日光には大勢の外国人旅行者が訪れているほか、行ってみたいと考えている外国人も多いことから、ジャパンタイムズ社とタイアップし、英文で特集を組みました。英文記事の1面には日光の世界遺産の内容や意義、世界遺産サミットについて、2面には初めて日光を訪れる外国人が気軽に楽しめる旅行プランが掲載されています。日本語訳は下野新聞社ホームページ「soon」、または右のQRコードから読むことができます。日本語訳もぜひご覧ください。



日光 20th anniversary of World Heritage registration

世界遺産「日光の社寺」は、今年の12月で登録20周年を迎えます。「日光の社寺」世界遺産登録20周年を記念した「第6回世界遺産サミット」が11月21日(木)・22日(金)に開催されるのははじめ、記念イベントが催されます。この機会に改めて世界遺産の価値や奥深い歴史を感じ、さらめく秋冬の日光を巡ってみませんか。

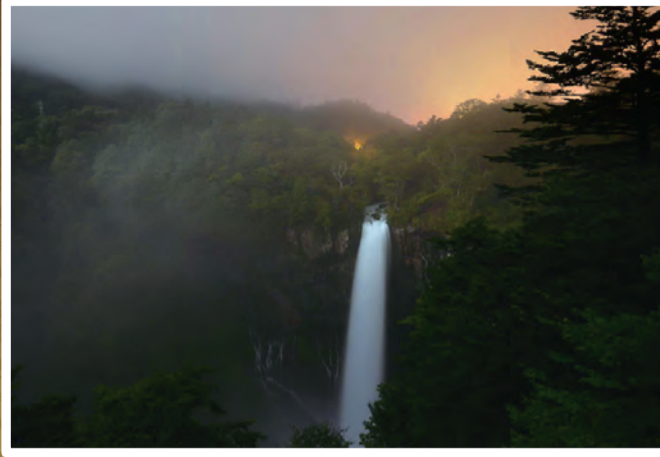
祝

世界遺産登録20周年

第6回世界遺産サミット開催

分科会 11/21(木) 各会場とも15:30~17:30
サミット会議 22(金) 13:00~17:00(開場12:00)

1日目は日光二荒山神社・日光東照宮・日光山輪王寺、2日目は道の駅日光「日光街道ニコニコ本陣」を会場に開催されます。同サミットは、全国の世界遺産所在自治体の首長が会するという貴重な機会です。ぜひこれを機に、世界遺産の「保全」と「活用」について全国の自治体の取り組みを伺い、日本が世界に誇る世界遺産について理解を深めてみてはいかがでしょうか。



華厳ノ滝ライトアップ

11/23(土)まで開催中 17:00~19:00(入場は18:45まで)

初開催!! 悠久の時を経て、今初めて姿を現す幽玄の滝

日本三大名瀑のひとつである華厳ノ滝の初めてのライトアップで、来年度以降の本格実施も検討されています。力強く流れる華厳ノ滝と幻想的な情景をぜひお楽しみください。会場は県営無料観瀑台です。

詳しくは「華厳ノ滝ライトアップ」ホームページへ▼



日光市長 大嶋 一生
1999年12月の「日光の社寺」世界遺産登録から20年が過ぎようとしています。日光を想うとき、東照宮陽明門に代表される社寺建築の素晴らしさが浮かびますが、世界遺産は土地と一体となった保護が前提であり、その準備として社寺境内地の保護を検討し、1998年に「日光山内」の史跡指定を受け、翌年の世界遺産登録につながりました。同時に当市は史跡の管理団体に指定され、二社一寺をはじめとした関係機関と連携し世界遺産の保全の一端を担ってまいりました。この20年を「里塚」とし、世界の宝を守り続ける道を歩んでいきたいと思えます。

栃木県知事 福田 富一
本県が世界に誇る「日光の社寺」が世界遺産に登録されたから20年という大きな節目を迎え、この貴重な遺産を永年に渡って守り、受け継いでこられた先人達の御努力に改めて敬意を表すとともに、心からお祝い申し上げます。この20周年という節目に行われるさまざまな関連事業やイベントが「日光の社寺」の魅力をごまかすことなく国内外に発信していく好機となることを期待し、今後もこれらの貴重な文化遺産を後世に確実に継承していく使命を、関係者の方々をはじめ県民が一丸となって果たしていきたいと思えます。

二社一寺当番長職 日光山輪王寺門跡 門主 小暮 道樹
日光の社寺は、平成11年に世界文化遺産の認定を受け20周年を迎えます。勝道上人により、1250余年前に開山されて以来、神仏一体の信仰霊山として、その歴史と伝統が継承され、現存する103棟(国宝9棟・重要文化財94棟)の建造物と古代以来の日本の宗教空間を引き継ぐ文化的景観(50・8ヘクタール)が評価されたもので、開山以来、神と仏が共に存する日本固有の山岳信仰の特異性と芸術的価値を有する建造物と聖地をかたちづくる自然景観との融合が世界遺産認定を決定づけたものであり、人々が信仰心で築き上げてきた日々々の営みと、人の力では作ることのできない時と自然の恵みが作りあげたものと言えましょう。

令和時代の新たな歩み始める日光の社寺は世界遺産登録20周年を迎えるこの期に、認定の意義を再度認識し、関心の高まりを一過性のものではなく、勝道上人開山以来、終始一貫して本迹一如、神仏一体の信仰道場として、多くの先人の尽力により維持されてきたことを忘れず、厚恩感謝の思いと、生きた布教活動の中核として、その保護と啓蒙に精進努力を惜しまずに歩みを進めて参ることが、世界の日光発展の礎となることと致す。

世界遺産登録20周年記念事業

世界遺産登録20周年記念イベントについてや、日光旅行をより楽しむ情報を公式WEBサイトで公開中!
世界遺産登録20周年記念公式WEBサイトhttps://www.20th-shaji.orgはこちら▶



世界遺産登録20周年記念御朱印

2020年3月31日(火)まで開催中

日光東照宮、日光山輪王寺、日光二荒山神社の二社一寺で20周年特別御朱印を授かり、日光JTBクーポン旅館連盟加盟店の12施設に宿泊した方に「特製御朱印箱」をプレゼント。先着1,000名限定。



日光市観光協会
日光市今市717-1 ☎0288-22-1525

日光学講座

11月29日(金) 12月2日(月)・6日(金)

江戸時代発祥の堂者引き(どうじゃびき)と呼ばれる、世界遺産「日光の社寺」専門の案内人 春日武之さんによる二社一寺のツアーと講座。世界遺産が楽しく学べます。会場は、日光山輪王寺にある紫雲閣にて。



日光市観光協会
日光市今市717-1 ☎0288-22-1525

大猷院ライトアップ

2020年3月20日(金・祝)・21日(土)・22日(日)・27日(金)・28日(土)・29日(日)

家光廟「大猷院」がライトアップされます。灯ろうに灯りがともり、仁王門から拜殿までの幻想的な空間を演出。実施日に日光温泉旅館協同組合加盟の旅館に宿泊の方は、ライトアップ大猷院拝観券をプレゼント。



日光温泉旅館協同組合
日光市所野2854 ☎0288-54-3126

世界遺産登録20周年二社一寺特別体験ツアー

12月1日(日)~2020年3月31日(火)

各社寺の職員が案内する、五感で体感する冬のスペシャルツアー。講話のほか、写経などの体験や日光老舗名店会のスイーツも味わえます。



日光東照宮 日光東照宮將軍座の間特別拝観ツアー
12月1日(日)~2020年3月31日(火)
日光山輪王寺 写経体験と護摩祈願と日光伝統スイーツを味わう特別参拝ツアー
12月8日(日)、2020年1月11日(土)、26日(日)、2月11日(火・祝)、24日(月・振替)、3月8日(日)、22日(日)
日光二荒山神社 神職と学ぶ正しい参拝体験と日光伝統スイーツを味わうツアー
12月7日(土)、21日(土)、2020年1月19日(日)、2月8日(土)、22日(土)、3月7日(土)、21日(土)

日光市観光協会
日光市今市717-1 ☎0288-22-1525

日光国旅券(パスポート)

12月1日(日)~2020年3月31日(火)

期間中、何度でも使えるおトクなパスポート、1枚200円。提示するだけで、日光市内の飲食店・物産店並びに協力施設で特典が受けられます。期間中、「日光旬旅倶楽部」加盟旅館へ宿泊した方は無料でもらえます!



日光市観光協会
日光市今市717-1 ☎0288-22-1525

明智光秀 歴史ミステリーツアー

2020年1月12日(日)~2月29日(土)

明智光秀と日光を結びミステリーあふれる伝説を解明しながら、専門の堂者引きが日光の社寺を無料で案内。参加は「日光国旅券(パスポート)」をお持ちの方限定。事前の申し込み不要。雨天決行、荒天中止。



日光市観光協会
日光市今市717-1 ☎0288-22-1525

Instagram投稿キャンペーン

日光温泉に宿泊して旅の思い出をインスタにアップして10万円ゲット!

12月1日(日)~2020年3月31日(火)

日光温泉旅館協同組合加盟の旅館に宿泊して「世界遺産の社寺や日光」での思い出をインスタへ投稿すると、抽選で20名に1万円、1名に10万円の現金が当たります。詳しくは「日光温泉旅館協同組合」で検索!



日光温泉旅館協同組合
日光市所野2854 ☎0288-54-3126

一般社団法人 日光市観光協会
事務局:日光市今市717-1 ☎0288-22-1525(代表)

Winter Nikko tourism information. Includes a cartoon character and QR code for the official website.

JTB協定旅館ホテル連盟 日光地区会

Table listing JTB-affiliated hotels and inns in Nikko, including names, phone numbers, and addresses.

Restaurant Meijinoyakata advertisement, featuring a photo of the restaurant and contact information.