

Fall

*Clear mountain streams,
Colorful meadows and forests*

Mt. Asahidake, seen from mire pools in autumn color (Taisetsusan NP) (1)



Autumn sunset at Setonaikai Inland Sea (Setonaikai NP) (2)



Togakushi mountain range seen from Kagami Pond (Myoko-Togakushi renzan NP)



Kusa-momiji (Grass autumn color) and Japanese larch trees (Nikko NP) (3)

Autumn leaves and Ryuzuno-taki Fall (Nikko NP) (4)



COLUMN

Seeking for the autumn color

Japan is said to have the most splendid autumn leaves because of its abundant and diverse deciduous broad-leaved forests. In fall, a variety of deciduous species, such as maple, Katsura tree and mountain ash, turn red or yellow with delicately varied shades of color, which covers the mountain surface. The vividness of autumn color is different every year even at a same location because it depends on temperature variability and moisture conditions. Japanese people go out in the fields and mountains seeking for the view of autumn leaves, which has been a popular activity since 1000 years ago. Towada Lake, Oirase Stream and Oku-nikko, and other famous spots are crowded by viewers most during autumn leaf seasons.

