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)





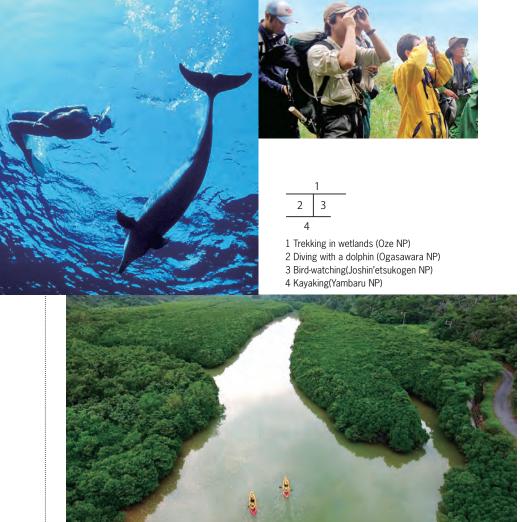
COLUMN Seeking for the autumn color

Japan is said to have the most splendid autumn leaves because of its abundant and diverse deciduous broadleaved 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.







National Park guide Visitor Centers

Visitor centers are the park facilities introducing special qualities of natural objects and processes in the park, to assist visitors to understand better and enjoy the park. Park visitors can learn about the park's scenic views and wildlife from the presentation of replicas, posters, diorama and videos. Realtime wildlife information, such as about blooming flowers and bear sightings, and information on the best hiking trails are also available. Use these free visitor centers to plan your activities and destinations in the National Parks.



Kamikochi Visitor Center (Chubusangaku NP)