

# Blessings of Mt. Hakusan

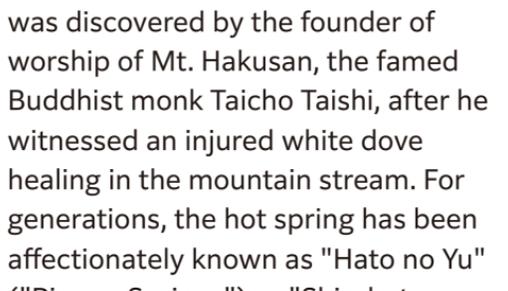
## Enjoying Mt. Hakusan's Hot Springs

### Hot Springs Well Up from Underneath Mt. Hakusan

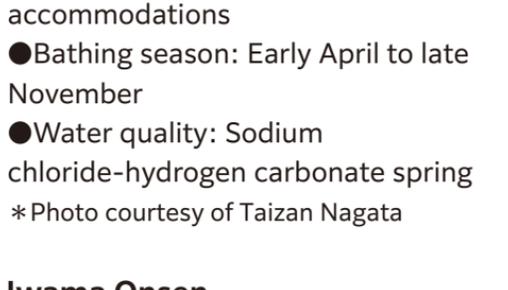
There are many hot springs around Mt. Hakusan. Water heated by the volcano's magma wells up from various sites as hot springs. The water's quality, color, texture, and effects vary with the location, providing a wide variety of hot springs to enjoy.

In addition to public baths, onsen centers, and other communal bathing facilities around the base of Mt. Hakusan, some inns and establishments offer baths and convenient foot baths for day visitors. Open-air baths with a rustic atmosphere, set amidst Mt. Hakusan's natural beauty, are also available. After sightseeing or hiking, immerse yourself in the blessings of Mt. Hakusan—its natural hot springs—and enjoy some time to relax both body and mind.

#### Chugu Onsen



↑ Onsen nestled in a valley, surrounded by greenery



↑ open-air baths

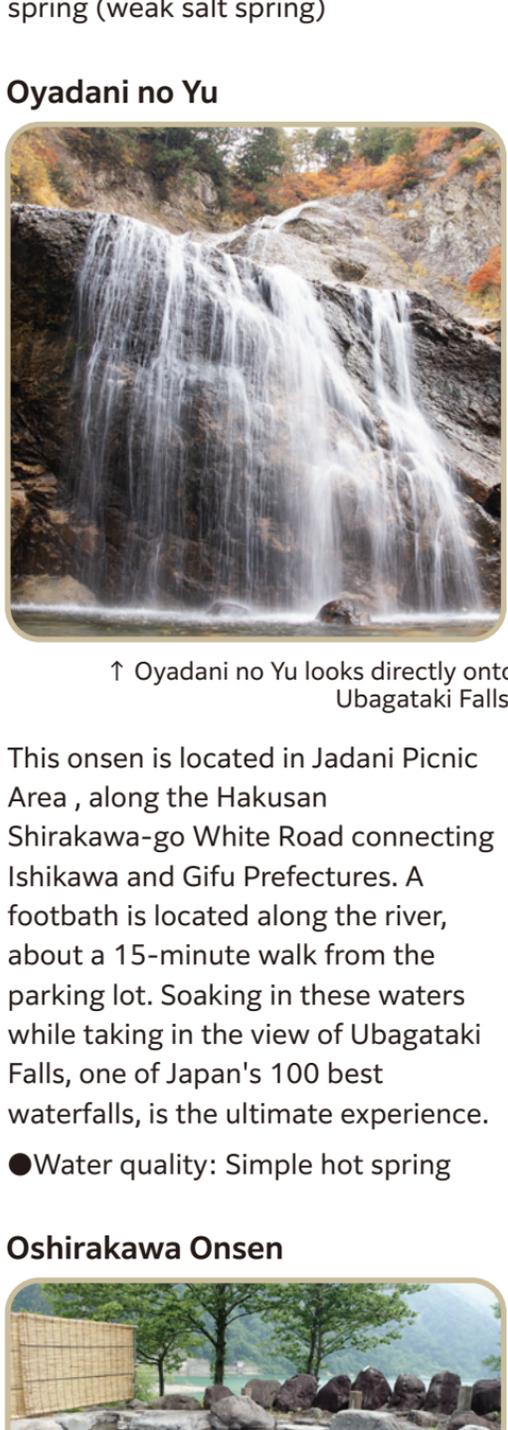
Located in Hakusan City, Ishikawa Prefecture, near the Chugu Museum just where the Hakusan Shirakawa-go White Road begins, Chugu Onsen boasts a history that stretches back 1,300 years. It's said this hot spring was discovered by the founder of worship of Mt. Hakusan, the famed Buddhist monk Taicho Taishi, after he witnessed an injured white dove healing in the mountain stream. For generations, the hot spring has been affectionately known as "Hato no Yu" ("Pigeon Springs") or "Shirohato no Yu" ("White Dove Springs").

- Facilities: Indoor baths, open-air baths, footbaths, lodging accommodations
- Bathing season: Early April to late November
- Water quality: Sodium chloride-hydrogen carbonate spring

\*Photo courtesy of Taizan Nagata

#### Iwama Onsen

\*Currently inaccessible due to road closure.



↑ Hot spring water gushes out from the side of the river.

Iwama Onsen in Hakusan City, Ishikawa Prefecture, is the hot springs source for Shin-Iwama Onsen and Ichirino Onsen. It is located about an hour's walk from Yamazaki Ryokan, Shin-Iwama Onsen's only inn, along a gently ascending forest path that follows the river. Down the trail are the Funsento-gun (Sinter Cones) at the side of the Nakano River. Designated a Special Natural Monument by the national government, these tower-like formations are created when the minerals contained in the hot spring water are deposited on the ground and solidify over time. While hot spring water does shoot out from the ground in various places, there are no baths or bathing facilities available. (Digging into the riverbed to bathe in hot spring water is prohibited by law.)

- Water Quality: Sodium chloride spring (weak salt spring)

#### Oyadani no Yu

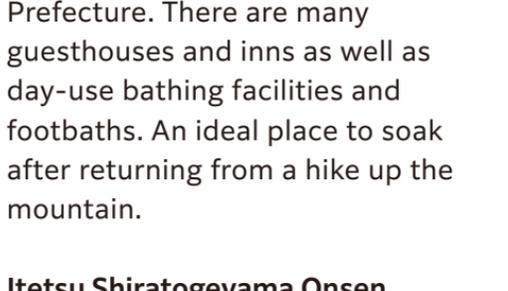


↑ Oyadani no Yu looks directly onto Ubagataki Falls.

This onsen is located in Jadani Picnic Area, along the Hakusan Shirakawa-go White Road connecting Ishikawa and Gifu Prefectures. A footbath is located along the river, about a 15-minute walk from the parking lot. Soaking in these waters while taking in the view of Ubagataki Falls, one of Japan's 100 best waterfalls, is the ultimate experience.

- Water quality: Simple hot spring

#### Oshirakawa Onsen



This hot spring is located deep in the mountains on the shore of Lake Hikusui in the Oshirakawa area, along a prefectural road from the Hirase district of Shirakawa Village, Gifu Prefecture. With baths offering a commanding view of Lake Hikusui and the lakeside, this is a "secret hot spring" that is truly worthy of the term.

- Facilities: Open-air baths, indoor baths (guests only), lodging accommodations
- Bathing season: Early June to early November
- Water Quality: Sulfate-sodium-chloride springs

\*Photo courtesy of Shirakawa Village Office

#### Hakusan Onsen



This hot spring is located at Ichinose, about a 30-minute drive from Shiramine in Hakusan City, Ishikawa Prefecture. It is home to an inn called Nagai Ryokan. Ichinose is the most popular trailhead for climbing Mt. Hakusan, and is the perfect place to refresh and unwind in a hot bath after descending the mountain.

- Facilities: Indoor baths, lodging accommodations
- Bathing season: Early April to late November
- Water quality: Sodium chloride-hydrogen carbonate spring

#### Other Onsen

##### Shiramine Onsen

Located in Hakusan City, Ishikawa Prefecture. This onsen area has many guesthouses and several bathing facilities for day use, including the public bath. Perfect for a soak after coming down off the mountain.

##### Hirase Onsen

Located in Shirakawa Village, Gifu Prefecture. There are many guesthouses and inns as well as day-use bathing facilities and footbaths. An ideal place to soak after returning from a hike up the mountain.

##### Itetsu Shiratogeyama Onsen

Located in Gujo City, Gifu Prefecture. Manten-no-Yu main building is situated within Wing Hills Shiratori Resort's ski area and is open for day-use bathing.

There are many other onsens in the surrounding area as well.



Chubu Regional Environment Office, Ministry of the Environment/Association for Conservation of Circum-Hakusan Area