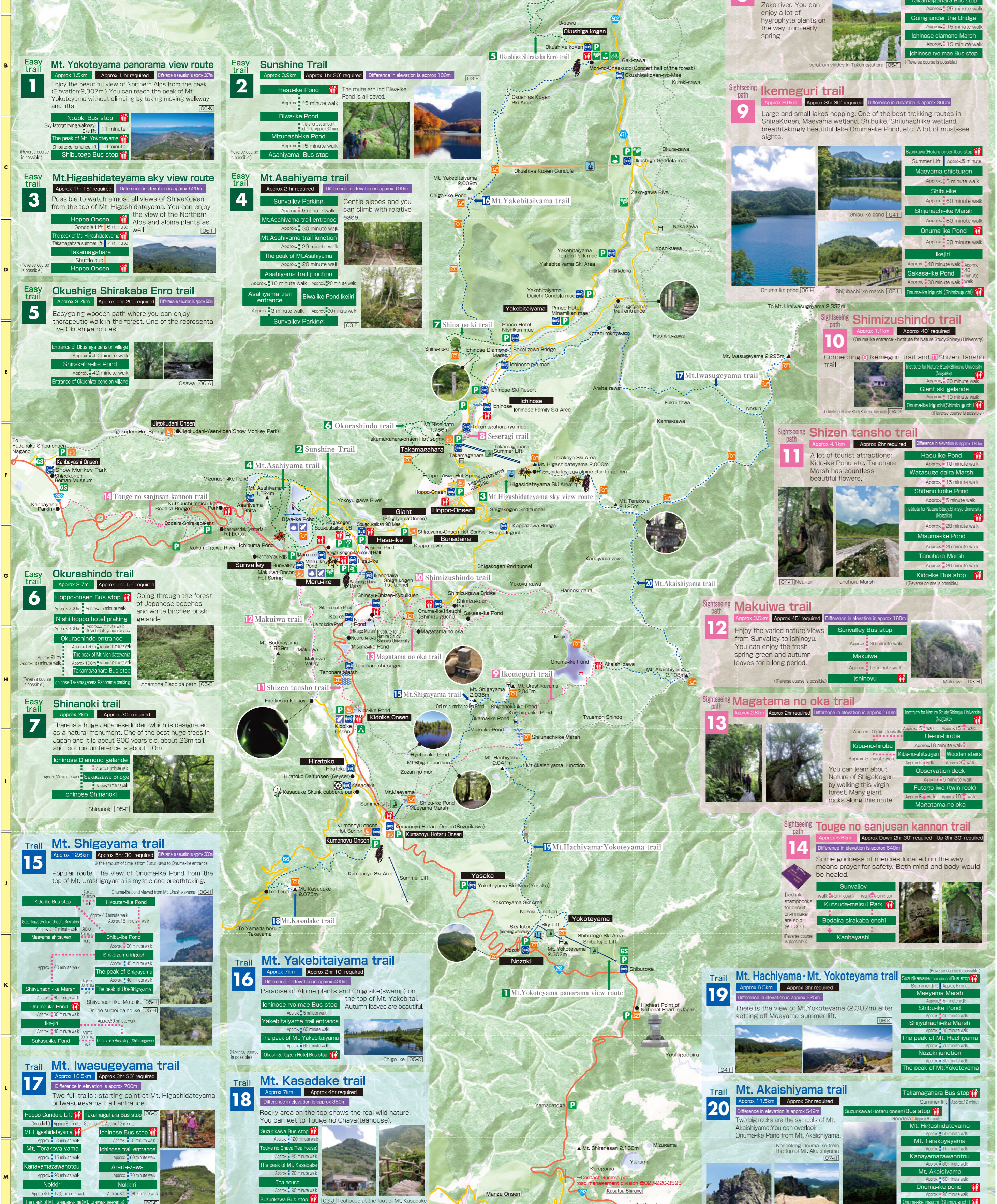


Trail Map



The most popular trail [Ikemeguri trail]

You can see the colors of emerald green and shiny purple on the surface of the cobalt blue Onuma-ike Pond. A lot of visitors visit Onuma-ike Pond for its mystic beauty from spring to fall. The scenic spot is in the north area of the trail but Onuma-ike Pond looks even shiner from Urashigayama (the shortest route taking about 35 min from Shijuhachi-ike) or Akaishiyama (the shortest route taking about 100 min from Onuma-ike Pond). Please check the bus timetable in advance if you need to take a bus.



Relieve the weariness of the travel at Shiga Kogen hot spring

The history of ShigaKogen hot spring dates back to 170 years ago, during the late Edo period. It began with the development of Hoppo onsen, which was named after the sound of boiling water and steam, and Kumanoyu onsen, named after a legend where an injured bear was found healing its injury in the bath. In addition to these 2 onsens, there are 5 more: Kidoike onsen, Horatu onsen, Shigayama onsen, Takamagahara onsen, and Makiuiwa onsen.



Historical ShigaKogen Hotel opened its doors in 1937

In 1937, ShigaKogen Hotel opened as the first hotel in ShigaKogen. The hotel is a graceful historic building that attracted many foreign tourists. It was one of the first locations to enjoy national policies regarding the acquisition of foreign exchange. Today, it is open to the public as ShigaKogen Memorial Hall to enjoy the architecture and part of Japan's history.

Trekking tour every day! ShigaKogen Guides Association holds various trekking tours and snowshoeing with knowledgeable guides throughout a year.

The mystical radiance in ShigaKogen!

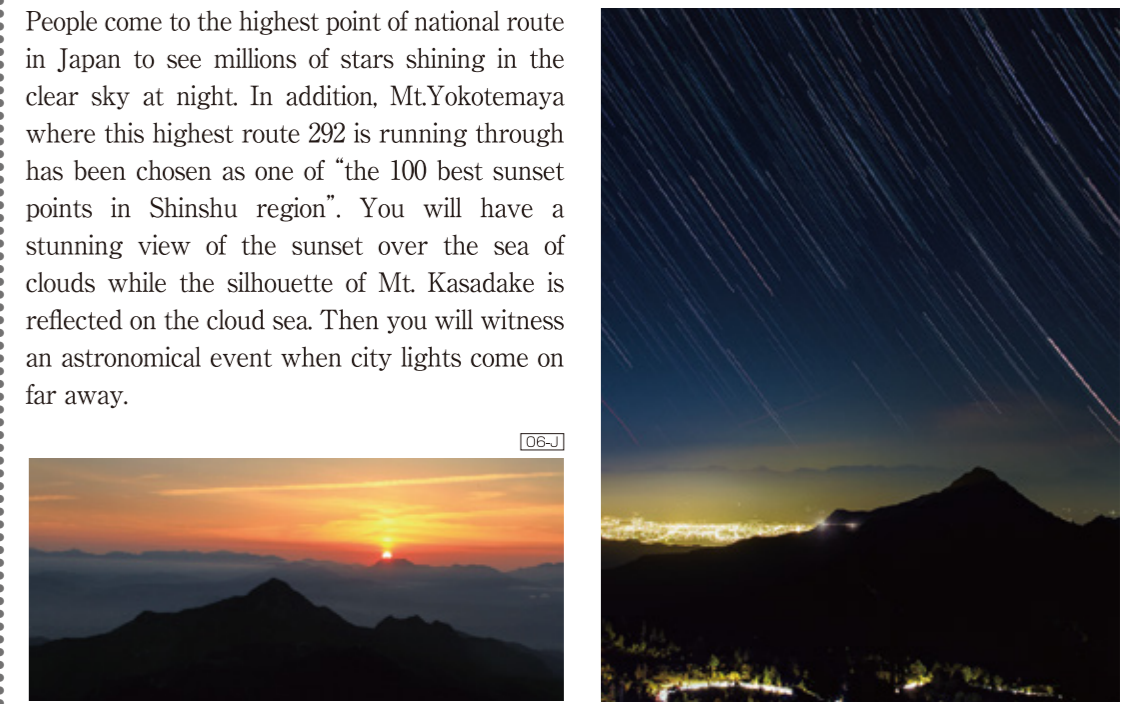
Enjoy the mystical beauty of Onuma-ike Pond in the spring and summer located in ShigaKogen. [Daia festival and ShigaKogen beauty contest] which is held every August is deeply related to Onuma-ike Pond. Legend has it the radiance of the waters of the lake is due to an enshrined dragon that is the guardian deity of Onuma-ike Pond. As the story goes, the dragon took the form of a human and fell in love with a princess. The dragon proposed to the princess but the lord did not allow it. After falling into the lord's trap, the dragon got injured. In a fit of rage, he destroyed the lakes and created a flood. As a result of the violent weather caused by the dragon, the princess drowned herself in the lake. Upon hearing about her death, the dragon stopped the flooding and went back to Onuma-ike Pond.



Fireflies in ShigaKogen - observable for the longest duration in Japan

Fireflies (Luciola cruciata) inhabit Ishinoyu in ShigaKogen. The bright light from the fireflies are observable for the longest duration in Japan. They usually can be found from late May to early October. The best period to watch them is from mid-July to mid-August. In 2008, they were designated as a natural national treasure in Japan. These fireflies possess outstanding qualities among their species. Notes: Do not shine any kind of light (flashlights, lights of vehicles etc.) at the fireflies. Do not enter the river. Remain quiet while you are watching them.

Glow of the Sunset and Glistening Stars in the Milky Way from the Japan's Highest National Route



Lovely Flowers Bloom in Fields and Autumn Leaves Bring Colors to Mountains

