



SHIMOTSUKI MATSURI



2025
6th DECEMBER
11th DECEMBER
13th DECEMBER
14th DECEMBER
15th DECEMBER
20th DECEMBER
at TOYAMA-GO
Southern Nagano

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A unique and distinctive festival

The Shimotsuki Festival is a traditional Shinto ritual that is held in the middle of winter at the shrines of "Toyama-Go", deep in the mountains. The festival begins in the morning and continues until late at night (even throughout the night at some shrines). We are offering a limited number of package programs to see and experience this unique festival.

What is included in the Package

- 2 nights accommodation in Toyama-Go
- An excellent dinner featuring local fare
- Return transfer between hotel and shrine (even in the middle of night)
- Local staff to accompany you to the shrine during the highlight of the festival
 - Serve breakfast at a time you request
 - Late check-out

Possibility to customize the program according to your request



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©橋都とみ子



©食と体験の宿まごころ

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OTHER EVENTS & FESTIVALS in SOUTHERN NAGANO

We at Southern Nagano Rural Tourism Consortium offer packages for tourists visiting Japan To enjoy local festivals and events.

- Various accommodations near festival venues
- Local staff accompaniment
- Sightseeing tours to learn more about the history and culture of Southern Nagano
- Delicious local cuisines
- Unique programs offered only through cooperation with local community partners
- Please feel free to contact us for more information

WINTER FESTIVAL in Tenryu Village

Dates: 3rd, 4th and 5th of January

Masked dance and “Yugiri” – a special ritual of splashing boiled water dedicated to the gods. The Winter Festival is a tradition that has been passed down through the generations.



YATAIJISHI in Takamori Town

Period: March through April

“Yataijishi” is a festival featuring a lion’s head and a float, covered in a large, traditional fabric that makes up the lion’s body (makunouchi). Inside the makunouchi are dancers and musicians that parade in a special area. This unique festival can only be found in this region of Japan.



FIRE WORKS at local shrines

Period: July through September

Every summer, various fireworks displays of all sizes are held throughout Southern Nagano. Watch the fireworks display with locals. Afterwards, enjoy Iida’s famous barbecue to fully experience the area.



IIDA PUPPET FESTA

Period: Early August

“Iida Puppet Festa” was born in Southern Nagano where traditional puppetry culture remains. This is the largest puppet festival in Japan. Puppet troupes from all over the world participate in the festival. It is also possible for you to participate as a puppeteer, making it a festival not to look at to actively participate in.



AUTUMN HARVEST

Period: October and November

Autumn is the harvest season for various agricultural products such as rice, fruits and mushroom. In addition to harvest festivals and markets throughout Southern Nagano, you can also enjoy apple picking and mushroom hunting.

