

# Japan's Eternal Home

## TONO TOURIST MAP

**TONO** Culture and tradition passed down through the ages live on here in Japan's eternal Home. And people live today and go towards the future.

**Tono: The Hometown of Folklore**

### The Legends of Tono and Tono Monogatari Shui

In June 2020, Kunio Yanagita's classic *The Legends of Tono* marks its 110th anniversary. Why not visit the actual scenes of these folktales with *The Legends of Tono* in your hands?

There's no better way to experience Tono's legends than to walk where the stories were born.

*The Legends of Tono*, published on June 14th, 1910, describes the geographic features of Tono and the 119 mysterious folktales that originate within Tono's mountains, rivers, and other areas. These stories include tales about mountain gods, Kappa, Tengu, Zashiki-warashi, and other mythical beings. Kunio Yanagita had heard these folktales from Kizen Sasaki, a native of Tono. In 1935, a new enlarged edition of 299 tales was published, which was compiled mainly from Kizen Sasaki's researches and records of folktales. This edition is called *Tono Monogatari Shui*.

**Map Key**

1 ... The circled numbers represent locations that correspond with tales in *The Legends of Tono*.

1 ... The numbers in squares like this one represent locations that correspond with tales in *Tono Monogatari Shui*.

A ~ G ... See reverse side

**"The Legend of Tono's Three Mountains" (Mt. Hayachine, Mt. Rokkoushi, Mt. Ishigami)**

A mother goddess came to Tono along with her three daughters and told them that she would give the best mountain to the one who had the finest dream. That night, the youngest sister noticed that a sacred lotus flower descended from heaven onto the eldest sister's bosom. While the eldest was still asleep, the youngest sister took the lotus flower and placed it on her own bosom. Thus, the youngest sister got the best mountain, Mt. Hayachine, and the other two got Mt. Rokkoushi and Mt. Ishigami, respectively.

**"Kappa" (Mischievous Water Spirits) 55 ~ 59 178**

Japan is a country of abundant water. It should be no surprise that there are cautionary tales in every corner of the land telling of mischievous water spirits waiting to drag young children into rivers. However, the Kappa of Tono are particularly famous.

They cut an odd figure, with plates on their heads, shells on their backs, beaked mouths, and webbed fingers and toes. Kappa are usually depicted as green and about the size of a human child, though there are stories of red Kappa in Tono too.

**"Zashiki-warashi" 17 18 87 ~ 91**

It is said that a spirit lives in old houses and sometimes take on a child's figure with bobbed hair. Some say they are boys and others say girls. They are called "Zashiki-warashi". Zashiki literally means a room floored with tatami mats, and Warashi means a child. It is believed that families become wealthy if "Zashiki-warashi" lived there. They are said to be sometimes mischievous, though.

**"Oshira-sama" 69**

Oshira-sama, the god of silk farming is depicted as a set of two dolls carved from mulberry wood, one with the head of a horse, and the other a human head. A sad story has been passed down through the ages, and relates the origins of this representation of the deity. A beautiful farmer's daughter fell in love with a horse. When her father found out, he killed the horse. Soon after that, the daughter and the horse's head ascended to heaven together. Oshira-sama are dressed over the robes already they wear with a new robe on the feast day every year.

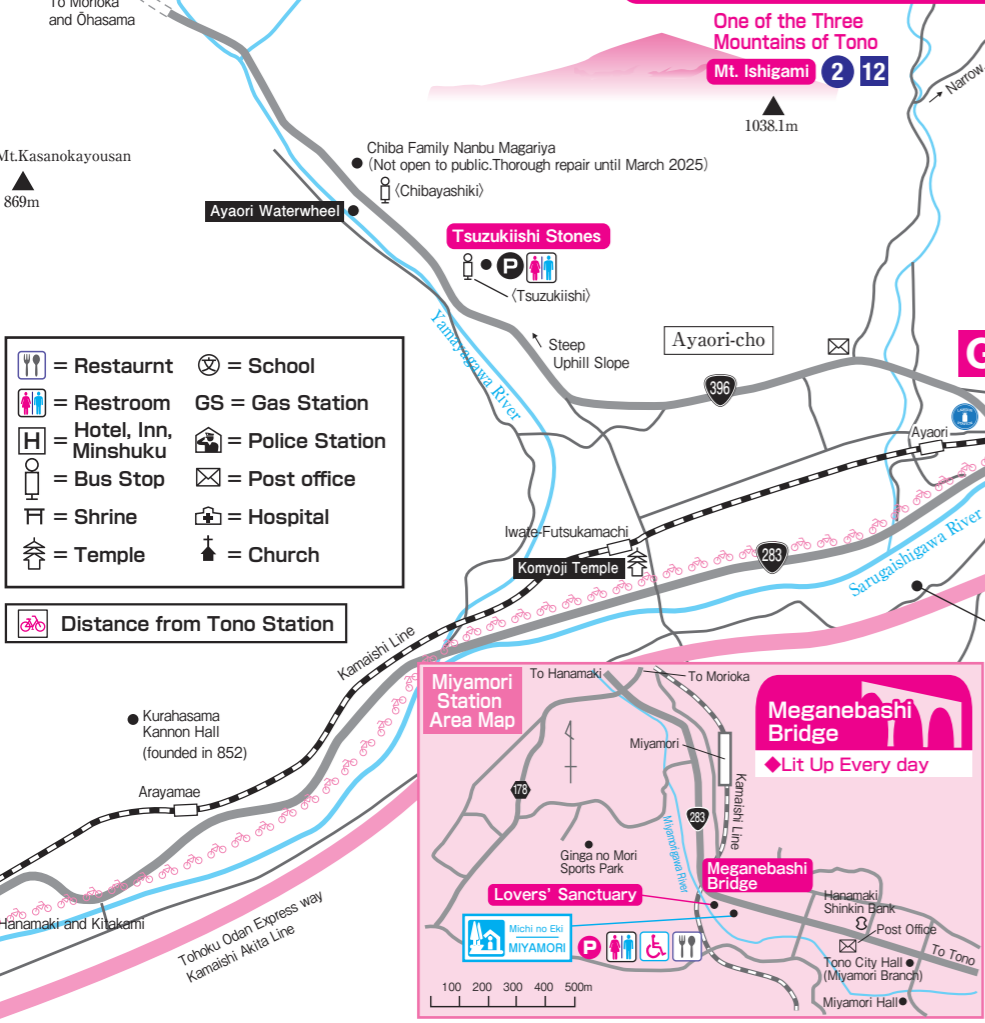


**One of the Three Mountains of Tono**  
Mt. Hayachine 1917.3m  
2 65 97 126

**"Tono Furusato Village"**  
An air of nostalgia wafts throughout the traditional folk village in "Yamazato" woodlands, where several old "Magariya" L-shaped farmhouses are transplanted and still utilized for seasonal hands-on programs of rural life for visitors. "Furusato" means a hometown. This village is often used as a filming location for "Samurai" movies.

**"Tono Uma no sato"**  
Facility of horse breeding and training racehorses & saddle horses; Horse riding available.

**"Denshoen"**  
An Oshirasama Hall which enshrines 1,000 Oshirasama deities, the Former Kikuchi Residence "Magariya" L-shaped farmhouse designated an Important Cultural Property, and Sasaki Kizen Memorial Museum are located. They tell the traditional life and rituals in Tono.



**"Unedorisama Shrine" 35**  
**Match-making deity**  
It is said that if you tie a strip of red cloth to the trees in front of this small shrine with only your left hand, you will find your soul mate.

**One of the Three Mountains of Tono**  
Mt. Ishigami 1038.1m  
2 12



**One of the Three Mountains of Tono**  
Mt. Rokkoushi 1294.0m  
2 61 3 97

Your paying respect to the working people, plants and creatures is greatly appreciated when you are in the farming area. In addition, there are a lot of big and small stones engraved characters everywhere in Tono, which are weather-beaten and mossy. People set them to pray at the spots where they thought very significant or meaningful, and people today keep them with respect.

# Tono Station Area Walking Map

**Discount tickets for many attractions available here**

**Local Products Center**  
 Souvenir shop  
 Tourism Association  
 Bicycle Rental, Car Rental  
 Shower

**Local Attractions:**  
 Tono Kura no Michi Gallery  
 Tono Castle Town Materials Museum  
 Folklore and Storytelling Center  
 Tono Public Library  
 Tono Municipal Museum  
 Nabekura Park  
 Nabekurajo Castle Site  
 Humanitarian Mr. Chiune Sugihara and Mrs. Yukiko Sugihara Monument

**Legend:**  
 H Hotel, Inn, Minshuku  
 BK Bank  
 Post Office  
 Restrooms  
 School  
 wi-fi Spot  
 Restaurant  
 Hospital  
 City Hall  
 Shrine  
 Temple  
 Pay to Park  
 Free Parking  
 Bike Rental  
 Taxi  
 Gas Station  
 Police Station  
 Church

**Directions:**  
 To Route 396 and 283  
 To Morioka and Hanamaki  
 To Tono I.C.

### A Yamazaki koseisama shrine

for Kawai  
 Unman Bridge  
 Bus Stop (Yamazaki)  
 for Yamaguchi Waterwheel  
 for Tono Station

### B Denderano

for Kawai  
 narrow road  
 Fire-fighter's Post  
 Fmr. Otsuchi Road  
 for Sadato Heights  
 Yamaguchigawa River  
 Takamuro Bridge  
 Uphill slope  
 Birthplace of Sasaki Kizen  
 Yamaguchi Waterwheel  
 for Takamuro Suikoen Park  
 Dannohana

### C Denshoen

Sarugaishi Cherry Road  
 for Fukusenji Temple/Tono Furusato Village  
 Fukusenji Bridge  
 Denshoen  
 Tsuchibuchi Elementary School  
 for Matsuzaki Kannon Hall  
 Traffic Signal  
 for Kawai/Yamaguchi Waterwheel  
 Jokenji Temple  
 Old Hayachine Pilgrimage Route  
 for Tono Station  
 Kappabuchi Pool  
 Kappabuchi Bridge  
 Kappabuchi Pool  
 No Parking space for bikes around Kappabuchi Pool.  
 No bike in Jokenji Temple.  
 Please park bikes at Denshoen Parking space.  
 for Kawai  
 for Tono Station

### D Yokotajo Castle Site

for Matsuzaki Kannon Hall  
 Yokotajo Castle Site  
 Murahyo Inari Shrine  
 Asonuma Lords Monument  
 Kappa of Tarobuchi Pool  
 Old Hag of Samuto Monument  
 Noboto Bridge  
 Sarugaishi cherry Road  
 for Matsuzaki Kannon Hall  
 Lord Seishin Niko Monument  
 for Aozasa  
 shops & restaurants along Route 283  
 Tono Junior High school  
 for Ayaori/Chiba Family Nambu Magariya  
 Traffic Signal  
 for Tono Station

### G TONO KAZE NO OKA Roadside Station

for Tszukiishi Stones  
 wind turbine  
 TONO KAZE NO OKA Roadside Station  
 Haguro Iwa Rock  
 narrow uphill slope about 600m  
 Traffic Signal  
 for Ayaori  
 Sarugaishigawa River  
 crossing with an underpass  
 railway crossing  
 Tono Station  
 Sarugaishi Cherry Road  
 recommended route

### F Matsuzaki Kannon Hall

Matsuzaki Kannon Hall (said to be founded in 807)  
 for Kappa of Tarobuchi Pool  
 for Fukusenji Temple/Tono Furusato village

### E Fukusenji Temple

for Tono Furusato Village  
 Fukusenji Temple  
 Grave of Kakusuke  
 narrow path about 200m  
 for Denshoen/Tono Station