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INZAI CITY

Inzai flower guide

This area boasts flowers of all four seasons

This is what the city of Inzai is like



Traditional events

deeply rooted in the area from ancient times



Original grilled-by-hand senbei rice crackers



Make the most of your day off — Some fun activities



Introducing recommended shops Living in Chiba New Town




This is what the city of Inzai is like

Located in northwest Chiba Prefecture, this area can be easily accessed from downtown Tokyo and Narita International Airport. Incorporating urban and rural features, this city enables people and nature to co-exist and live in harmony...

That is Inzai City.

About the Symbol

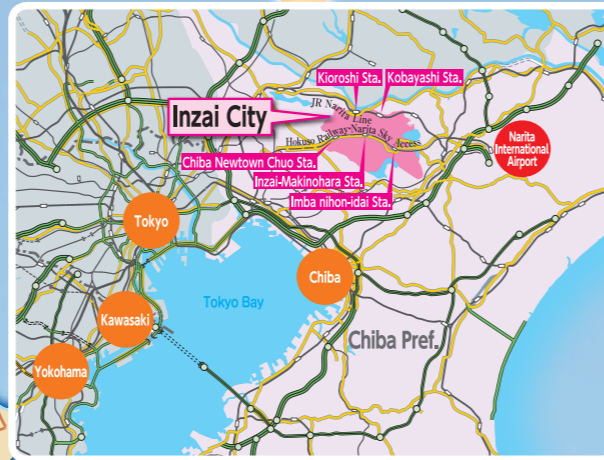
If you swipe a smartphone that has the dedicated application downloaded onto it over a photo with the  symbol that is published in this magazine, you will be able to watch the video. For details, please refer to page 8.

Inzai City Mascot character "Inzai-kun"

The seal of the Japanese character for "In" is a trademark of Inzai City. A cosmos, the official flower of the city, is blooming from the tail.



Inzai City data
 Area : 123.79km²
 Total population : 105,843 (As of the end of January 2021)
 Population density : 855 people/km²



Access from the city center (from Tokyo)

<By train>

→ To Chiba Newtown Chuo Station (JR, Keisei Electric Railway, Hokusai Railway)
1 hour–1 hour 10 minutes.

→ To Kioroshi Station (JR)
1 hour 10 minutes–1 hour 20 minutes.

<By car>

→ Approx. 50km from Tokyo Station to Inzai City Hall, approx.

1 hour 30 minutes

→ Expressway (via Shuto Expwy. and Keiyo-doro) approx.

1 hour 15 minutes.

Around Inbanuma

The area around Inbanuma Marsh, Chiba Prefecture's largest marsh, offers nostalgic views of the countryside including rice fields. The area also boasts nostalgic views of the countryside including rice fields. The area also boasts nostalgic views of the countryside including rice fields. The area also boasts nostalgic views of the countryside including rice fields.



This area boasts flowers of all four seasons Inzai flower guide

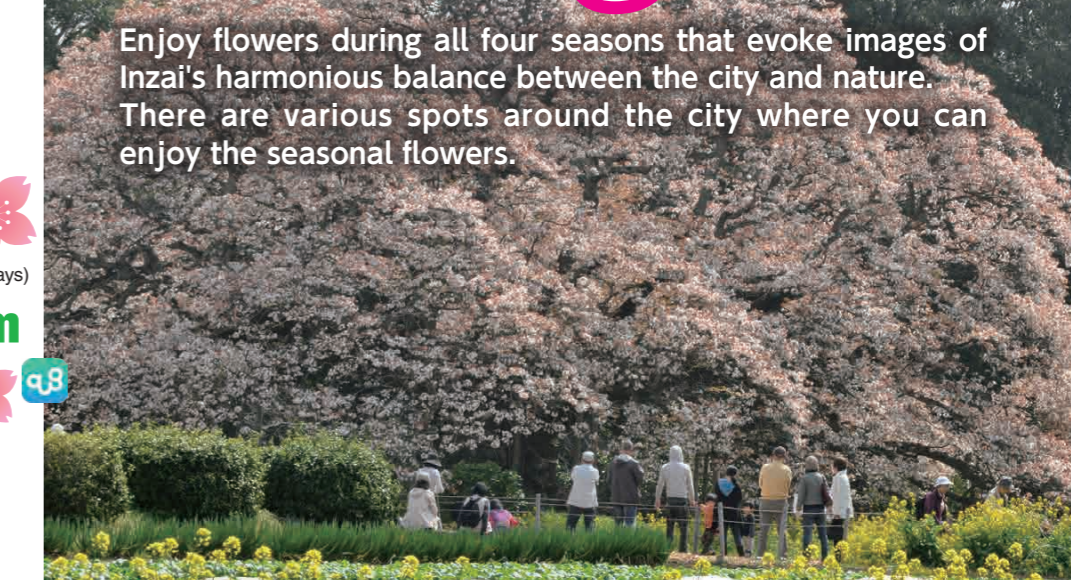
Cherry blossom trees

Flowering season: Early to mid-April
 (* Blossoms are in full bloom only 2–3 days)

Great cherry blossom tree of Yoshitaka

This yamazakura cherry blossom (mountain cherry blossom), considered a natural monument, is said to be more than 300 years old. It is so large that from a distance it appears like a pink hill. During average years, it blooms about one week later than the someiyoshino cherry blossoms, making a beautiful contrast with the yellow rape blossoms that bloom at the same time.

Access Take the bus from Kobayashi Station on the JR Narita Line, Imba nihon-ida Station on the Hokusai Line, Keisei-Sakura Station or Keisei-Shisui Station on the Keisei Line. Get off at Kyoshujo-mae and walk for 15 minutes.



Enjoy flowers during all four seasons that evoke images of Inzai's harmonious balance between the city and nature. There are various spots around the city where you can enjoy the seasonal flowers.

Cherry blossom trees of Kobayashi Ranch

Access Take the bus from Kobayashi Station on the JR Narita Line or Inzai-Makinohara Station on the Hokusai Line (5–10 minutes). Get off at Kobayashi-bokujo.



Inbanuma Park

Access Take the bus from Imba nihon-ida Station on the Hokusai Line bound for Keisei-Usui Station on the Keisei Line (30 minutes). Get off at Moroto and walk for five minutes.



Red Spider Lily

Flowering season: Late September to mid-October

Kechien-ji Temple

The standing copper statue of the Fudo Myo-O Buddhist protector installed in the main hall of Kechien-ji Temple is a national treasure. The area is surrounded by ginkgo trees, while in autumn the temple grounds blossom with red spider lily.

Access Take the bus from Chiba Newtown Chuo Station on the Hokusai Line bound for Takabana. Get off at Takabana-danchi-iriguchi and walk for 8 minutes.



Hydrangeas

Flowering season: Early June to Early July

Matsumushi-dera Temple

The origin of the name of the temple, decorated with gorgeous hydrangeas on the grounds, comes from the story of Princess Matsumushi (years of birth and death unknown), daughter of Emperor Shomu (701–756), who is said to have been cured of illness by the Bhaiasajyaguru (Medicine Buddha) image enshrined here.

Access 15-minute walk from Imba nihon-ida Station on the Hokusai Line

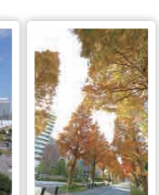


Around Kioroshi Station

The city has long flourished as a base for water transportation and a post-town for highways. Historical temples and shrines and old houses can be found nearby, and you can also enjoy sightseeing by boat.



Chiba New Town District



The area features beautiful expansive cityscapes designed based on urban planning. Various commercial facilities and restaurants can be found in the area.

Cosmos

Flowering season: Early October to mid-November

Moroto cosmos fields

To the west of Inbanuma Marsh, a field of cosmos planted by private organizations decorates a section of a large area near the Inbanuma Park.

Access Take the bus from Imba nihon-ida Station on the Hokusai Line bound for Keisei-Usui Station on the Keisei Line (30 minutes). Get off at Moroto and walk for ten minutes.



Makinohara Park

Access 2-minute walk from Inzai-Makinohara Station on the Hokusai Line

Hokusai Hananooka Park

Access 10-minute walk from Chiba Newtown Chuo Station on the Hokusai Line

Takefukuro Chosei Ike (Takefukuro Reservoir)

Access 15-minute walk from Kioroshi Station on the JR Narita Line

Traditional events of Inzai



Many traditional events that are deeply rooted in the area have been passed down to this day in Inzai.

Shishimai (Lion Dance)

Lion Dance in Bessho (city-designated intangible folk cultural properties)

Date officially designated: April 19, 1966



98

Coinciding with the harvesting season, Inzai's shishimai is dedicated to the various shrines three times a year. Participants wear lion masks and display their dances accompanied with music.

Lion Dance at Tomi-jinja Shrine (prefectural intangible folk cultural properties)

Date officially designated: December 15, 1955



98

Lion Dance at Hachiman-jinja Shrine (city-designated intangible folk cultural properties)

Date officially designated: April 1, 1974



98

Inazaki Lion Dance (city-designated intangible folk properties)

Date officially designated: April 19, 1966



98

Kagura

The festivals dedicated to shrines have a long history continuing from the Muromachi period and early Edo period.

Urabe Kagura (prefectural intangible folk properties)

Date officially designated: December 22, 1967



98

Kagura at Torimi-jinja Shrine (prefectural intangible folk cultural properties)

Date officially designated: June 9, 1961



98

Festivals, etc.

Festivals in which local residents participate in are carried out in various parts of Inzai.

Hashigo (Ladder) Festival at Afuri-jinja Shrine

This festival is held every July at the Afuri-jinja Shrine. Amidst the excited cheers of the crowds, traditional portable shrines come crashing to the ground to ward off evil spirits.



Rokken Itsukushima-jinja Shrine Festival

This festival, featuring separate traditional portable shrines carried by adults and children, plus three Kagura floats, winds through the streets of the Rokken area near Kioroshi Station. This event is held for three days every year in mid-July.



Event calendar

Late March to mid-April

Kobayashi Ranch. Great cherry blossom tree of Yoshitaka, Lion Dance at Hachiman-jinja Shrine during cherry blossom season



May 3

Lion Dance at Tomi-jinja Shrine (Hiraoka area)



Mid-July

Rokken Itsuku shima-jinja Shrine Festival



Last weekend in July

Afuri-jinja Shrine Festival (Kosai-Shinden) Urabe Kagura (Sundays only)



August 24

Lion Dance in Bessho



Autumnal Equinox Day (September)

Inazaki Lion Dance (Izumi area)



October 17

Kagura at Torimi-jinja Shrine (Nakane area)



Mid-October

Inzai Furusato Festival



Third Sunday in October

Urabe Kagura



December 31

Rokken Itsukushima-jinja Shrine New Year floats



Recommended spots along the Hokuso Line

Recommended stores in Chiba New Town and the surrounding areas



Bakery Cornet

A broad selection of hard breads, danishes, and more make this shop a popular spot. Low-temperature fermentation over many hours engenders delicious flavor.



Access 5-minute drive from Inzai-Makinohara Station/Hours: Open 8:00 (Saturdays and Sundays open at 7:00, ticket sales end when sold out) / Closed: Mondays and Tuesdays

garden house café

A cute, handmade-look cafe featuring wooden interior. The menu features primarily European/American-style dishes, such as eggs benedict and Hamburg steak. Inside the cafe, there is an adjoining space that sells miscellaneous goods, where you can also eat together with your pet.



Access 6-minute drive from Inzai-Makinohara Station/ Hours: 11:00-15:00/ Closed: Saturday-Tuesday, public holiday

Garden cafe Kazekusa

This charming café surrounded by oak trees is located in a traditional house in a remnant of times past. The visitor can sit on the terrace for a terrific view of Inbanuma Marsh. The ceramic dishware is even made by the owner.



Access 10-minute drive from Imba nihon-ida Station / Hours: Monday-Saturday 2nd and 4th weeks of the month, 11:00-17:00 (Winter hours: Closed 16:00) / Closed: Sundays

Garden Cafe Matsumushi coffee

This welcoming space is located next to the Matsumushi-dera Temple. Take in distinctive views of the four seasons while you drink authentic coffees. Light fare is also available. (Lunch is served on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays only).



Access 3-minute drive from Imba nihon-ida Station / Hours: 10:00-17:30 / Closed: Tuesdays, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month

Sabo Miyasaki-tei Tea House

This tea house-style restaurant occupies a renovated traditional Japanese farmhouse—one of the largest of its kind in Inzai City—dating back 240 years. It also features a gallery where the visitor can view a beautifully tended garden.



Access 9-minute drive from Chiba Newtown Chuo Station / Hours: 11:00-16:00 (Lunch starts at 11:30) / Closed: Sunday-Wednesday

Ristorante Dal Cuore

This is authentic Italian featuring carefully-selected ingredients, such as vegetables from locally contracted farmers. Try our popular meal courses, which are ideal for birthdays and other celebrations!



Access 10-minute walk from Inba Nihon-Idai Station/ Hours: 11:30-14:30, 17:30-21:30 /Closed: Wednesdays

Manai-no-yu Hot Spring

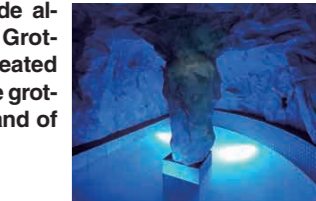
This natural hot spring boasts a constantly-flowing stream. There are different baths to choose from including an outdoor bath, as well as jar-shaped and carbonated baths. Visitors can also get a body scrub treatment or a massage!



Access 10-minute walk from Chiba Newtown Chuo Station / Hours: 9:00-23:30 (building closed at 24:00) / On Saturdays, Sundays and holidays open at 8:00 / Closed periodically on an irregular basis / Admission: ¥800 (Saturdays, Sundays and holidays ¥900, ¥200 discount after 22:00)

The Blue Grotto: Relaxation Spa

Try out the many different kinds of baths here at this relaxation spa, including the Umihotaru (Sea Firefly) bath, which offers highly concentrated carbonic waters, and the man-made alkaline Blue Grotto bath—created based on the grotto of the island of Capri, Italy.



Access 8-minute drive from Chiba Newtown Chuo Station. Located on theGreen./Hours: 10:00-22:30 (building closes at 23:00)/Closed: Wednesdays/Admission: ¥700 (Saturdays, Sundays and holidays: ¥800, Children 2 & under: ¥300, Book of tickets: ¥6,800)

Hand-grilled rice crackers from Inzai



The rice crackers carefully made by hand using traditional techniques are a local specialty of Inzai.

Iwasaki Beikaten Rice Cracker Shop

This shop dates back to the early Meiji period (1868–1912). Choose from a variety of flavors, all free of additives and chemical seasonings. Each cracker is meticulously charcoal-grilled using traditional methods.



Hours 8:00–19:00 / Open daily year-round



Kawamura Shoten Rice Cracker Shop

This shop boasts a 94-year history. Using locally grown koshihikari rice, all products are hand-made and carefully charcoal-roasted. The store makes their famous soy sauce flavor.



Hours Monday–Friday 8:30–19:00, Saturday 9:00–18:00, Sunday 9:00–17:00 / Open daily year-round



Urabe Senbei Rice Cracker Shop



These rice crackers feature koshihikari rice grown nearby as well as a legendary secret sauce in the soy flavor. Choose from the three flavors of soy sauce, golden sesame, and hot chili.



Hours 8:00–19:00 / Open daily year-round

Sekiguchi Beikaten Rice Cracker Shop

The dough used to make these soy sauce flavor rice crackers, roasted to aromatic perfection in the traditional way. The shop won the Prime Minister's Prize at the National Sweets Exhibition.



Hours 9:00–18:00 / Closed: Sundays



Ebihara Beika Rice Cracker Shop

This special dough features a unique texture drawing on the natural rice granules rather than making them into a fine powder. It utilizes koshihikari rice grown in-house.



Hours 9:00–sunset / Open daily year-round



Oyasuya Doi Beika Rice Cracker Shop

This traditional shop, dating back to 1906, is known for its special sun-dried dough into which strips of nori seaweed are kneaded in. Grilled between iron plates, the product is easy for even the elderly to eat.



Hours 8:30–18:00 / Closed periodically on an irregular basis



Enjoy activities

Enjoy a wide variety of activities in Inzai, which is surrounded by nature and water.



Mizu-no-Sato Inzai Leisurely River Ride

The boat route traverses the Rokkengawa River, Bentengawa River, and Tegakawa River connecting Teganuma Marsh and the Tonegawa River. As you go along, you can imagine times past when Kioroshi thrived as a riverside town

Reservations and Inquiries



Bouldering (Rocky Inzai)

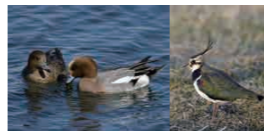
This is one of Japan's largest bouldering facilities. It accommodates all levels from beginning to intermediate and advanced and there is even a family area.

Access 7-minute walk from Inzai-Makinohara Station / Hours: Weekdays 10:00–23:00 (Saturdays, Sundays and holidays 10:00–21:00) / Closed: Once a month on an irregular basis / Admission: Membership: ¥500, Facility use: Adults ¥1,900 and up, children ¥1,600 and up (see the official site for details)



Bird-watching

There are numerous waterfront parks and reservoirs in the city—all of which are indispensable to bird-watching. Water birds can also be observed from atop boats.



Park Golf (Izumi kouen Park Golf course)

The sport of park golf uses balls that are larger than ordinary golf balls—and you can start easily with a single club! But don't wear leather shoes or high heels!



Access 7-minute drive from Chiba Newtown Chuo Station / Hours: 9:00–17:00 (November–February closed at 16:30), last start at 15:30 / Admission: General admission ¥510 per time, four hours ¥610, day ¥1,020 (double price for visitors from outside the city) / Monday (the next day when a holiday falls on a Monday)



Hands-on harvest experience



Inzai City produces a lot of vegetables and fruits. You can experience picking strawberries and blueberries at some farms.

Strawberry picking

Wada Farms

Access 11-minute drive from Imba nihon-idaï Station / Hours: January–May 9:00–16:00 (closed when strawberries are all gone) / Closed periodically on an irregular basis / Admission: ¥1,100–2,000 (differs depending on the season)



Blueberry picking

Blueberry Farms Kodera

Access 5-minute drive from Kobayashi Station / Hours: Mid-June to mid-September 10:00–17:00 / Closed: Mondays / No admission, 100g for ¥200 and up



Blueberry Kids

Access 8-minute drive from Kioroshi Station / Hours: Mid-June to mid-August 8:00–14:30 / Closed: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays / Admission: ¥500, All-you-can-pick-and-eat course (90 minutes) ¥1,000

Inba Blueberry Farms

Access 10-minute drive from Imba nihon-idaï Station / Hours: Early July to late August (phone reservation required) / Admission: ¥3,500, 100g for ¥200



Camping (Hiraoka Shizen-no-ie)

This facility is centered around a gymnasium surrounded by forest in the northern part of the city. There is even a cooking space in the multi-purpose outdoor plaza.

Access 10-minute drive from Kioroshi Station / Hours: 9:00–17:00 (reception open) / Closed: Mondays (the next business day when a holiday falls on a Monday, 12/28–1/4) / Admission: Camp (multi-purpose plaza) ¥520 per group per day



hotel

APA Hotel (in front of Chiba Inzai Makinohara Station)

Enjoy eating breakfast and drinking at the bar at the adjoining "PRONTO".



Price Single ¥6,200 and up / Twin ¥4,900 (tax included)

Hotel Mark-1 CNT

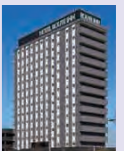
A business hotel located near the station that features a hot spring and is popular among women.



Price Single ¥5,400 and up / Twin ¥3,900 and up (tax included, with breakfast) / Fully equipped with a large public bath

Hotel Route Inn (Chiba Newtown Chuo Ekimae)

Complimentary breakfast buffet available. Choose from 30-plus items, every morning!



Price Single ¥6,800 and up / Twin ¥6,000 and up (tax included)

Ryokan Kouseikan

A ryokan (Japanese-style inn) with all Japanese-style rooms.



Price ¥6,000 (tax not included, with two meals). Inquire with reception regarding longer stays.

Choshiya Ryokan

A well-established ryokan continued from the Edo period. The ryokan has an adjoining restaurant as well.



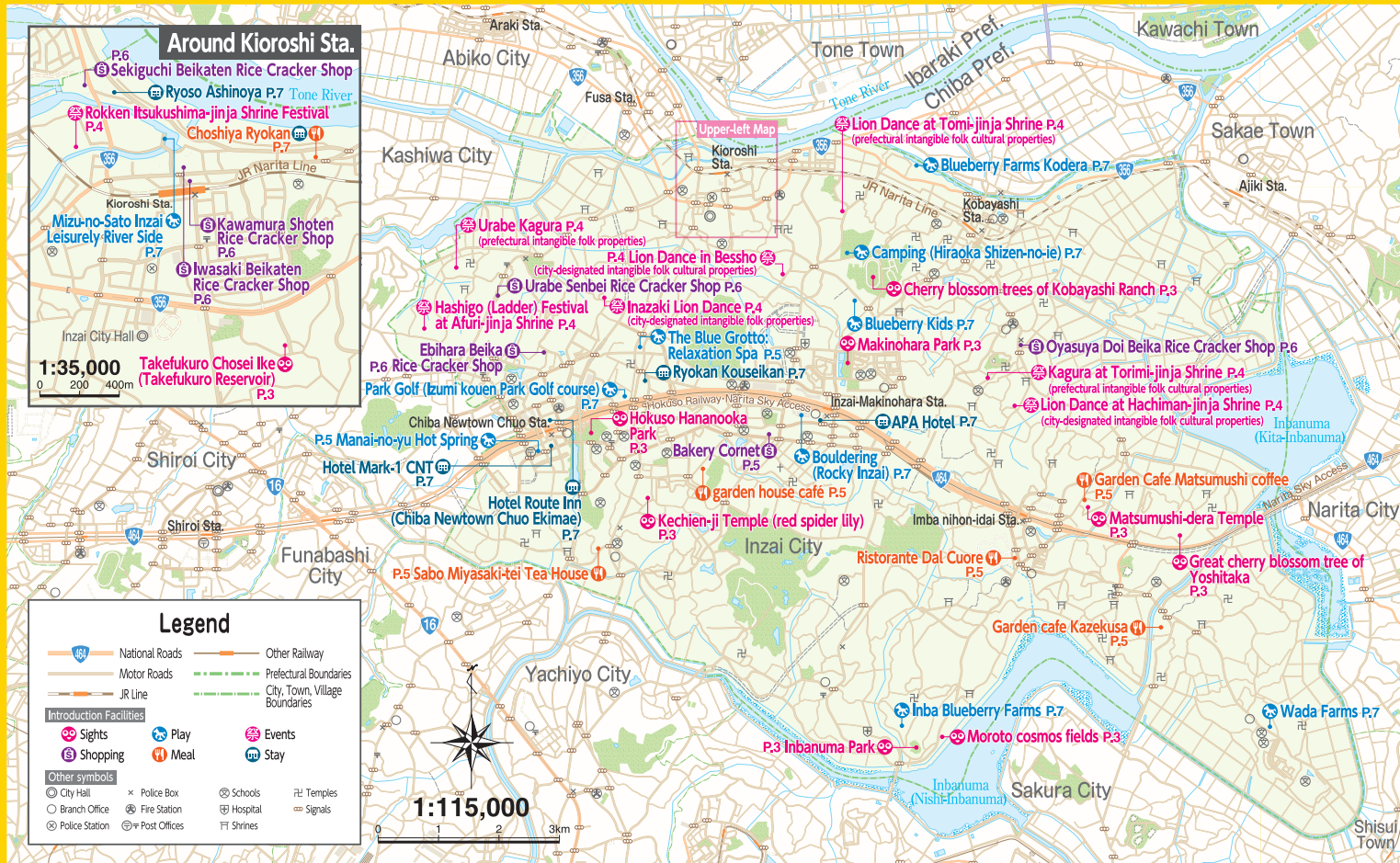
Price ¥6,000 (tax not included, with two meals) / ¥4,500 (tax not included, board with no meals)

Ryoso Ashinoya

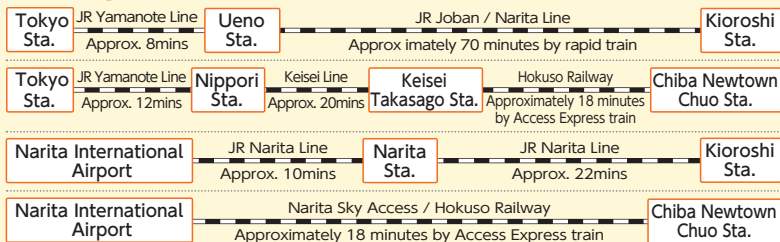
This ryokan is also available for business guests for longer stays, or as a training camp site.



Price ¥5,500 and up (tax not included, with two meals). Prices may vary for long-term stays or stays with two or more guests

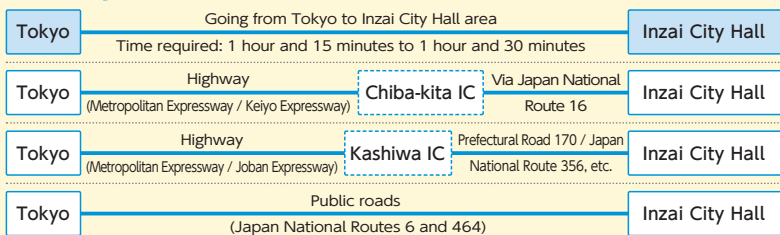


By Train



※ The above are some examples amongst several different means of accessing the location.

By Car



Inzai City Commerce and Tourism Department

TEL: 0476-33-4477 (direct line) 〒270-1396 2364-2 Omori, Inzai
Inzai City Homepage <http://www.city.inzai.lg.jp/>

Cooperation: NPO Organization Inzai City Tourism Association
<http://www.inzaikankoukyokai.com>
The Inzai Society of Commerce and Industry
<http://www.inzai.or.jp>

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About the AR Function of This Book

The AR function that has been attached to this book can play videos by simply swiping a smartphone or tablet that has the dedicated application downloaded onto it over the corresponding photo. In order to use this function, the following procedures are required. AR (augmented reality) is an interactive experience of a real-world environment where the objects in the real-world are "augmented" by computer-generated perceptual information.

- 1) Search for the AR application "aug!" (free) at the App Store or Google Play and download it onto your smartphone or tablet.
- 2) Start-up the downloaded application.
- 3) Swipe the smartphone or tablet over a photo with the AR symbol.
- 4) The video will be played along with the audio.

Precautions

- *For smartphones or tablets running iOS 9 or later, or Android 4.4 or later. We do not guarantee operation for some Android models.
- *The application can be used on a 3G environment, but we recommend using it on a high-speed communication environment such as Wi-Fi or LTE for smoother playback.
- *You will be charged a packet communication fee to use the application.
- *Due to circumstances such as system maintenance, the service may be stopped or modified without notice.

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- Please note that we shall not be held responsible for any trouble or damages that may be incurred from the content published in this magazine.
- The opening hours and business hours are based on the time from the final admission to the final order.
- Only regular days off are displayed as holidays, and temporary closures and Obon and New Year holidays are excluded.
- No part of this magazine may be reproduced in any form without permission.
- Shobunsha Publications, Inc. March, 2021