

Around the West Side of JR Utsunomiya Station

Utsunomiya Walking Tour Map

Enjoy Spring by the Tagawa River with its Beautiful Pink Cherry Blossoms in Bloom along its Banks.

Why don't you walk around the west exit of Utsunomiya station for a bit if you have a chance? Shidare-zakura (weeping cherry blossom) blooming along will warmly welcome you in spring. Following the 3 courses below, stroll around and enjoy the sights.

1 Short Course (approx. 30 - 40 mins)

"Sakura (Cherry Blossom) & Kibuna (Lucky Charm) & Local Food"

JR Utsunomiya station Gyoza Statue → Take away Gyoza (dumplings) at Gyoza shops → Viewing spot of sakura from Miya bridge → Shop at Fukube-Do <get lucky charms of Kibuna and Fukube-zaiku> → Visit Hozou Temple → Walk along Tagawa River and enjoy sakura (you can find benches as you go down the river path. You can eat your Gyoza there) → Back to the station.

2 Medium Course (approx. 40 - 60 mins)

"Old Shinohara Family House (Important Cultural Properties) & Oya Stone Warehouse"

JR Utsunomiya station → Gyoza Statue → Tagawa riverside walk. Go downstairs to the pathway from the eastside Miya bridge → Get up the next stairs → Coffee break at Café SAVOIA s-21. (café built with Oya stone) → Visit Old Shinohara Family House → Back to the station.

3 Long Course (approx. 60 - 90 mins)

"Slow Walk with Sakura & Enjoy Gyoza"

JR Utsunomiya station → Gyoza Statue → Take away some Gyoza (dumplings) at Gyoza shops → Go downstairs to the east side of Tagawa River and walk to the North → Enjoy Gyoza & beer at Sennami Park with sakura If you are lucky, you can see the Koinobori! (carp streamer) → Visit Old Shinohara Family House → Back to the station and get some Dorayaki & Daifuku for souvenirs.

Main Attraction

Tagawa River is right outside the west exit of Utsunomiya station. Walk along the hundreds of Shidare-zakura in spring!

Gyoza Statue & Frog Statue

The symbol of Utsunomiya. At the center of the pathway, outside the west exit of the station, you will find the Gyoza statue, "venus" made of Oya stone. You can find the Frog Statue welcoming everyone on the first floor of the station.

Photo spot

Benches at Tagawa River

Special seats for sakura viewing. Get some sweets or dumplings from the shops around the station and enjoy them with sakura and river views.

Old Shinohara Family House

(Japan's Important Cultural Properties & City's Tangible Cultural Properties)

This is the house of the Shinohara family who were fertilizer and miso merchants in the Edo period. The current building was built in 1895. The site includes three important properties of great architecture. Entrance costs ¥100. Opening hours: 9am - 5pm. Closed on Mondays (if Monday is a national holiday, the next day) and days following the national holidays.

Bicycle Rental

Utsunomiya is also famous for cycling area. Why don't you rent a bike from the bicycle parking area outside the station? Opening hours: 8am - 9pm. Rental fees: 100yen for a city bicycle and 100yen for EAPC/Pedelec/e-bike electric bicycle.

Gourmet & Souvenirs

Many Famous dumpling shops are around the station. Buy dumplings, sweets and enjoy them with Sakura.

Utsunomiya & Tochigi Souvenirs

Tochigi Grand Marche (0 minutes walk)

Selected items from all over Tochigi. Convenient to buy Souvenirs, located at the station. We highly recommend "Chat", an egg snack made by "Shimotsukekashidokoro-Usagiya". It's delicious and has been loved by many people in Utsunomiya for ages! Why don't you try it and enjoy the harmonious taste of eggs and butter. You will love it too!

Opening hours: 8am - 9pm, all days

Gyoza Statue Monaka & Tochtotome Strawberry Nama-Dorayaki & Tochtotome Strawberry Daifuku

Onkashitsukasa Masukin (1 minute walk)

A traditional Japanese sweets store, Masukin is located on the first floor in the station. Tochtotome strawberry Nama-Dorayaki, the moist and chewy pancakes filled with cream of ripe strawberries from Tochigi are highly recommended. The Gyoza-statue-monaka's shape is replica of the Gyoza statue approved by the Utsunomiya Gyoza society. Paste with plenty of red beans is a brand name made in Hokkaido. Also, try the seasonal limited Tochtotome strawberry Daifuku, the rice cake sheet filled with fresh, big Tochtotome strawberry!

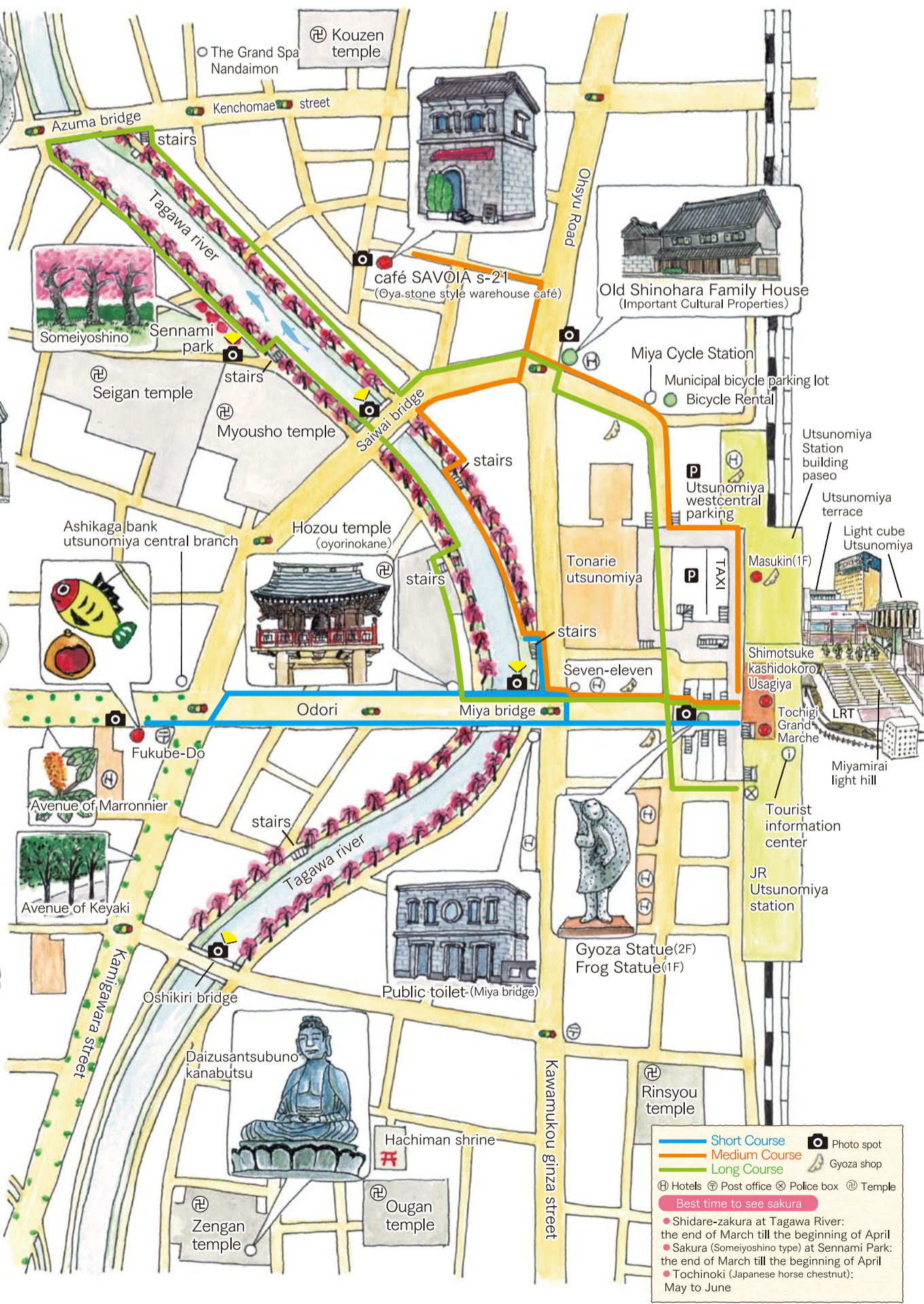
Opening hours: 10:am - 8pm. Closed: based on Utsunomiya Station Paseo's calendar.

Kibuna & Fukube-zaiku

Fukube-Do <9 minutes walk>

Tochigi traditional craft "Fukube-zaiku" is famous for talisman masks. Don't forget to check out the varieties of other lucky charms too!

Opening hours: 10am - 6pm. Closed: Sundays and national holidays



Short Course
 Medium Course
 Long Course
 Photo spot
 Gyoza shop
 Hotels Post office Police box Temple
 Best time to see sakura
 ● Shidare-zakura at Tagawa River: the end of March till the beginning of April
 ● Sakura (Someiyoshino type) at Sennami Park: the end of March till the beginning of April
 ● Tochinoki (Japanese horse chestnut): May to June

