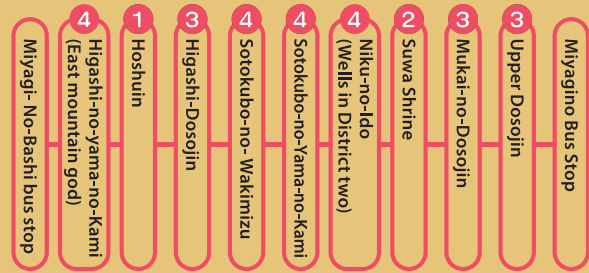


Trips around the historic sites of Miyagino

~ Miyagino Bridge bus stop to Miyagino bus stop ~

A stroll around Miyagino Village.

In the spring water area, let's walk along the stone structures such as Dosojin and Mizugami. Old settlements of bygone days may be imagined, whilst absorbing the calm healing atmosphere.



Distance: 1.5km, Duration: approx. 1 h

Have you felt the atmosphere of the Edo period?



Places of Interest Miyagino Onsen Hall



2 minutes from Miyagino bus stop. A hot spring is available for visitors. There is a lounge available for a charge in addition to hot spring.

Business hours: From 10:00 to 21:00
(last entry until 20:00)

Closing on Thursdays
(but open on if Thursday is a public holiday)

Charges:
Hot spring: Adult 650 yen, Child 300 yen
Lounge: (2 hours): Adults 400 yen, Child 200 yen

Tel 0460-82-1800

YOSEGI-Chan



Hakone Committee of Revitalizing Cultural Heritage

250-0315
Kanagawa, Ashigarashimogun, Hakonemachi,
Tonosawa 74
(within Fukuzumiro)

Supervisor Hakonemachi Board of Education

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Miyagino is a peaceful place, unlike bustling Gora and Ninotaira.

For those with a sense of history, this is the area you should visit -there are mountains and travellers' guardian deities, and nearby villages at the foot of Mt. Myojingadake, with shrines such as Suwa Shrine and Hoshuin Temple lie in the centre. And why not finish your trek by enjoying a hot spring?



You may come across an unusual lion dance, if you are lucky enough to be at the festival!



Highlights Yudate lion dance

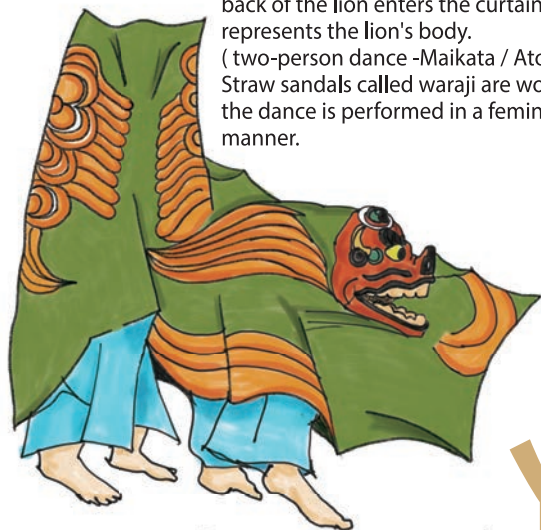


Yudate lion dance seen at the Tenno Festival on July 15 is an outstanding event selected as a National-ly-designated important intangible property. In Hakone, it can only be seen in Sengokuhara and in Miyagino.

It is said that you can remain healthy by taking a bath of yubana (mineral deposits from hot springs) using a bamboo leaf.

1 Hiramai

A dance to calm the god who has awakened. The person performing at the back of the lion enters the curtain that represents the lion's body. (two-person dance -Maikata / Atomochi) Straw sandals called waraji are worn, and the dance is performed in a feminine manner.



7 Shiho-Gatame-no-mai

Since the devil and sickness have been dispelled, a dance called shiho gatame is danced to protect the four corners of the village. This powerful sword dance is performed in an upright posture that is masculine in character. Finally after throwing away the hot water, the two-hour ritual comes to an end.



2 Suwa Shrine

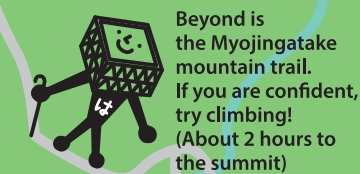
Suwa Shrine is the guardian deity of Miyagino which was a ceremonial transfer of a divided tutelary deity from Suwa Taisha Shrine in Nagano prefecture. Suwa Taisha is a guardian deity of mountains in charge of hunting and rituals in the Middle Ages. Suwa Shrine in Miyagino has many other shrines and monuments on the precincts, such as Tsushima Shrine (Tennosha), Yama-no-kami, Asama Daimyojin, and Inari Shrine. The annual festival of Suwa Shrine is on April 14 and 15, but during the Tenno Festival on July 15, Yudate lion dance is dedicated. This lion dance, along with Yudate lion dance of Sengokuhara, have been designated as an important intangible cultural property by the government.



1 Hoshuin

The temple of the Soto sect is said to have been founded in the late Muromachi period in the 1570s. In the cemetery, there are the tombs of four men who were sentenced to death penalty as a result of breaking through the barrier -the Sengokuhara Sekisho in 1840. Next to it is a grave of the "Shin no Gyosha" who trained as ascetic in

the mountains of Hakone during the Meiji era. He prayed for the inhabitants who became believers and was also called "Shinpen-san". He reportedly died at the summit of Kanmuri-gadake, behind Owakudani, and a shrine is still there to commemorate. He is said to have predicted the development of Gora.



Beyond is the Myojingatake mountain trail. If you are confident, try climbing! (About 2 hours to the summit)



Yudate Lion Dance

A Nationally designated Important Intangible Property

Kanagawa Prefecture Designated Intangible Folk Cultural Property

2 Gyo-no-mai

In the first instance, this Gyo-no-mai dance takes place in the shrine. This lion dance is also gentle and feminine.



3 Miya-meguri-no-mai

Kagura officials move from where the yugama (boiling pot) is placed towards the front of the shrine. A lion, a supporting role, and a salt swinger all head towards the village, reciting the "spell of Yuzamashi (cooling boiled water)". They then dance around the four corners of the shrine, called Miya-meguri Dance. This dance is performed without audience.

6 Yuzamashi-no-ho (dance of cooling boiling water)

This is a ritual in which boiling water is cooled by the power of dance. The lion stirs the boiling water with a wand called heisoku in his right hand, to ensure the water has cooled. Holding the bamboo bundle in both hands and stirring the cooled water, it then sprinkles the water on the Yudana (shelves), Haiden (worship halls), and the worshippers to dispel the evils.

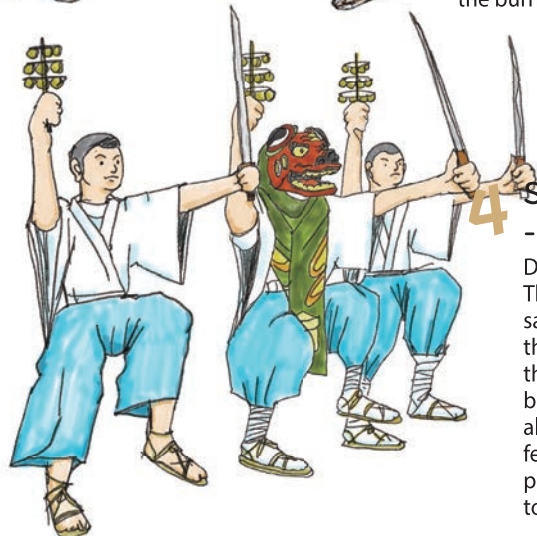


5 Kama-no-Mai (dance of the boiling pot)

The dancers return to the house of dance with the yugama (boiling pot). The lion dances to the chant of "spell of cooling water" around the yugama. Whilst moving towards the yugama, the right footsteps into the burning fire.

4 Sanbonken-no-mai

Dance to exorcise evil spirits. The lion wears waraji (straw sandals), holding a sword in the left hand, and a bell in the right. The dance becomes evermore powerful, although the gestures are feminine because it is performed with both knees together.



3 Dosojin

In Miyagino village, there are five Dosojin in three places. Two figures stand side by side on the edge of the village. It is said that these Dosojin prevent plague.



4 Various stone structures

In Miyagino, mountains are regarded as sacred places of worship that receive the blessings of nature. In addition to mountain Deities, there are also water Deities to be seen near springs.

