

About Hirosaki City

Access from Tokyo

It's just a quick trip by airplane from Tokyo to Aomori Airport. Buses are available for the trip from Aomori Airport to central Hirosaki. By train, you can transfer between the JR Tohoku/Hokkaido Shinkansen and conventional railway lines at Shin-Aomori Station. There are direct expressway buses from Tokyo during the daytime and also at night. Only daytime buses are available from Sendai.

Haneda Airport	JAL 6 flights/day	Aomori Airport	Konan Bus Connection to airplane	Hirosaki Bus Terminal	2 hours 30 minutes
Tokyo Station	JR Tohoku Shinkansen "Hayabusa" 1 or 2 trains/hour	Shin-Aomori Station	"Tsugaru" limited express 5 trains/day	Hirosaki Station	4 hours 15 minutes
Shinagawa Bus Terminal	"Nocturne" 1 overnight bus/day (Can be boarded at the Hamamatsucho Bus Terminal. Departures from Yokohama are also available.)			Hirosaki Bus Terminal	9 hours 15 minutes
In front of Ueno Station	Konan Bus "Sky" "Panda" Daytime 1 bus per day; 2 overnight buses/day (Departures from Shinjuku Expressway Bus Terminal also available)			Hirosaki Bus Terminal	9 hours to 9 hours 30 minutes

Wi-Fi is available at the following facilities.

● Hirosaki Park ● Tsugaru-han Neputa Village ● Hirosaki Tourist Information Center ● Hirosaki Machinaka Information Center

【Contact】 Hirosaki Tourist Information Center, 1st Floor, Hirosaki Station Chuo-guchi ☎ 8:45 AM to 6:00 PM ☎ Phone: 0172-26-3600
Hirosaki Municipal Tourist Center, 2-1 Shimoshirogane-cho Hirosaki City ☎ 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM ☎ Phone: 0172-37-5501

まっぶる Hirosaki
Published: March, 2016
Published by: Hirosaki City
Editorial Supervision: Hirosaki Tourism and Convention Bureau
Shobunsha Publications, Inc.

- The information provided herein is based on interviews and investigations conducted in January through February 2016. - Please be aware that the listed information may change.
この地図の作成に当たっては、国土地理院長の承認を得て、同院発行の2万5千分1地形図、数値地図(国土基本情報)電子国土基本図(地図情報)、数値地図(国土基本情報)電子国土基本図(地名情報)、数値地図(国土基本情報)基盤地図情報(数値標高モデル)、電子地形図25000、基盤地図情報を使用した。(承認番号 平27情使 第15-D05510X号)

MAPPLE English

HIROSAKI

弘前

Discover the charm of Hirosaki with sample courses for every season!

Hirosaki Cherry Blossom Festival

Enjoy Every Visit

The Castle Town of Cherry Blossoms and Apples

Hirosaki Cuisine & Souvenirs

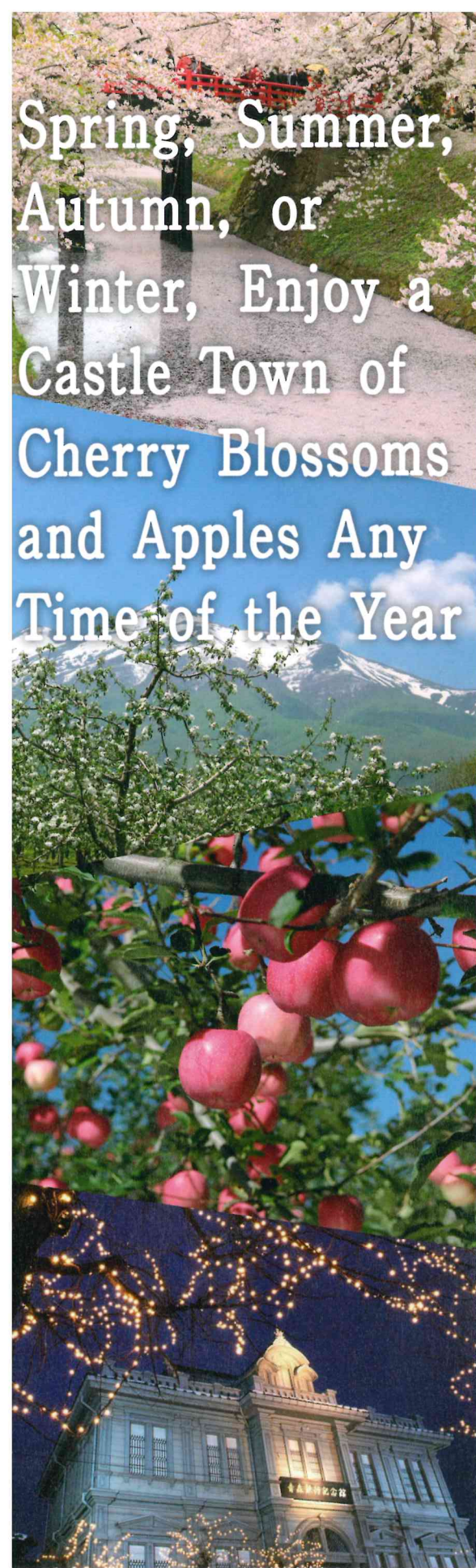
SpringSummer

WinterAutumn

Hirosaki Castle Snow Lantern Festival

World Natural Heritage Shirakami-Sanchi

Hirosaki Castle Chrysanthemum and Autumn Foliage Festival



Spring, Summer,
Autumn, or
Winter, Enjoy a
Castle Town of
Cherry Blossoms
and Apples Any
Time of the Year

Spring

Hirosaki in

One of Japan's Leading Cherry Blossom Spots.
Tour Hirosaki Castle and the Temple District.

Sample 1-day Course!!
START!
Hirosaki Station

Hirosaki Park (Hirosaki Castle)

The castle was built 400 years ago in the Edo Period. One of Japan's leading cherry blossom spots.

The castle was planned by Tamenobu Tsugaru (who had unified the Tsugaru region), and completed in 1611 by his successor Nobuhira. In spring, visitors can view the castle tower, cherry blossoms fully in bloom, and Mt. Iwaki.

EVENT
2,600 cherry trees in bloom
Hirosaki Cherry Blossom Festival

When April 23 to May 5

Hirosaki Park is full of great places to view cherry blossoms. Come walk through a tunnel of cherry blossoms and enjoy the view from a boat in the castle's west moat.

1 Shimoshirogane Hirosaki City April 23 to May 5 (depending on the state of bloom of the cherry blossoms) No charge to enter the park. Honmaru/Kita-no-Kuruwa: ¥310; Children: ¥100 (7:00 AM to 9:00 PM during the festival)

Summer

Hirosaki in

View of Vibrant Green Mountains.
Nights Colored by Neputa.

Sample 1-day Course!!
START!
Hirosaki Station

Tsugaru-han Neputa Village

See and enjoy Hirosaki Neputa all year round

In addition to large neputa (procession of floats) exhibits, Goldfish Neputa creation demonstrations, and other attractions, visitors can enjoy live Tsugaru-jamisen performances.

EVENT
Fan-style hanging lanterns vividly decorate the night
Hirosaki Neputa Festival

When August 1 to 7 each year

Tsugaru's representative festival, and a national important intangible folk cultural asset. Fan-shaped neputa (procession of floats) painted with warriors wind their way through.

61 Kamenoko-machi, Hirosaki City Adults: ¥550, Junior high/High school students: ¥350, Elementary school students: ¥220, Infants/Toddlers: ¥100 (9:00 AM to 5:00 PM; closes at 4:00 PM November to March)



Sazaedo

2-9-1 Nishishigemori, Hirosaki City Free of charge (Open every day April to November Closed December to March) <Exterior only>

Octagonal wooden Buddhist temple located in the Zen

Temple Area The Sazaedo is a Buddhist temple built in about 1839. Many Buddhist statues are housed there, and it is said that if you walk along its corridor you will accomplish your pilgrimage.

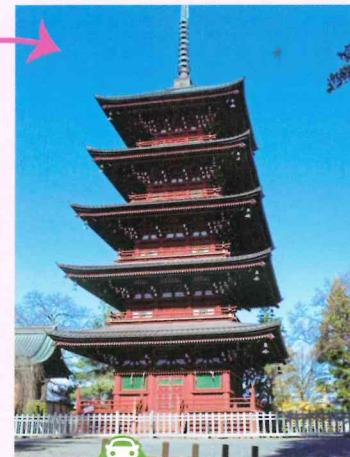


Choshoji Temple

1-23-8 Nishishigemori, Hirosaki City Adults: ¥300 (Open every day April to November Closed December to March)

Representative architecture of the early Edo Period on par with Nikko Toshogu Shrine

Located at the center of the Zen Temple Area, home to 33 Soto Zen Buddhist temples. It was the family temple of the ruling Tsugaru Clan. Precious Zen-style buildings from the early Edo Period still remain.



Five-Storyed Pagoda at Saishoin Temple

Built in 1667; Tohoku's most beautiful tower

A National Important Cultural Property located in the northernmost part of Honshu. A five-story pagoda built by the third domain lord Nobuyoshi as a memorial for the souls of all people who fell in battle during the unification of Tsugaru.

63 Doya-machi, Hirosaki City Free of charge (9:00 AM to 4:30 PM) <Exterior only>

Fujita Memorial Garden

Japanese garden with a view of Mt. Iwaki. Enjoy Japanese-style building Western-style building to your heart's content

A "borrowed-landscape" garden with a view of Mt. Iwaki. Built in 1919 by businessman Kenichi Fujita, a native of Hirosaki. Charming Japanese and European-style buildings stand on the hill.

8-1 Kamishirogane-cho, Hirosaki City ¥310 Children: ¥100 (Mid-April to November 23; 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM; Open temporarily on certain days in winter)



Hirosaki City Apple Park

Try apple farming or enjoy a stroll

The park is home to about 1,300 apple trees of 65 different varieties. Visitors can gather flowers, pick apples, and try their hand at other aspects of apple farming.

125 Shimizutomi Terasawa, Hirosaki City Entrance: Free of charge (Fee for apple harvesting; open every day 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM)



Ishiba Family Residence

88 Kamenoko-machi, Hirosaki City Junior high and older: ¥100; Elementary school and younger: Free of charge (9:00 AM to 5:00 PM)

The home of a wealthy merchant in the Edo Period, with an arcade since earlier times

Built over 250 years ago, this wealthy merchant's home is a National Important Cultural Property. It has an arcade for protection from snow, called a komise.



Hirosaki Park (Hirosaki Castle)

An imposing structure with layered gables, Tohoku's only existing castle tower

The only Edo Period castle tower surviving in Tohoku. With three levels and three floors, the gables on the east and south cut an imposing figure.

1 Shimoshirogane-cho, Hirosaki City Entry: Free of charge; Honmaru/Kita-no-Kuruwa: ¥310; Children: ¥100 (9:00 AM to 5:00 PM)

Walk on Mt. Iwaki

The view from the top of "Tsugaru Fuji," the prefecture's highest point, is spectacular

With its many hiking paths, Mt. Iwaki can be climbed on foot, or ascended in a car up to Mt. Iwaki 8th Station.

Take Konan Bus from JR Hirosaki Station toward Karekitai (50 minutes), transfer to a shuttle bus at Dake Onsen Hot Springs (30 minutes), then get off at Mt. Iwaki Station 8 (lift loading area)



Surprising sweetness! Dake Kimi

Sweet, firm corn born of the climate on the Dake Plateau, where the difference between day and night temperatures is significant. Shops are set up around Mt. Iwaki from late August to late September.

Dake Onsen Hot Springs

Milky white hot water at the foot of Mt. Iwaki

Historic therapeutic bath at the southwest foot of Mt. Iwaki. Visitors can enjoy milky white hot water in a scenic environment.



Kojima Ryokan Inn 20 Yunosawa Tokiwano, Hirosaki City



63 Kamenoko-machi, Hirosaki City Workshop tour: ¥200 (9:00 AM to 5:00 PM; closes at 4:00 PM November to March)



Kawasaki Dye Works

Try your hand at dyeing at an Edo Period indigo dye workshop

An indigo dye shop continuing since the Kansei Era. In addition to touring buildings from the late Edo Period, visitors can try their hand at indigo dyeing using tools from the Edo Period.

Welcome back! GOAL! Hirosaki Station 3

Autumn

EVENT

Hirosaki Castle Dyed in Crimson Leaves.
Harvesting Apples Ripe for Eating.

Thousands of crimson leaves and chrysanthemums weaving together

Hirosaki Castle Chrysanthemum and Autumn Foliage Festival

When Late October to early November

Thousands of maple and cherry trees dyed in red and yellow, with multicolored chrysanthemums, in full bloom in Hirosaki Park. Lavish chrysanthemum dolls choreograph autumn.

Sample 1-day Course!!
START!
Hirosaki Station

Hirosaki Cidre Brewhouse Kimori (Hirosaki Apple Park)

Taste the apple wine brewed by local apple producers

A small brewery surrounded by apple orchards. Local apple farmers manufacture 100% apple wine. Visitors can even tour the factory.

When 52-3 Shimizutomita Terasawa, Hirosaki City
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Apple Harvesting Experience (Hirosaki Apple Park)

Taste fresh apples you have picked yourself

Visitors to the park can pick their own ripe-for-the-eating apples.

When 125 Shimizutomita Terasawa, Hirosaki City
¥200/kg (Guests can pick up to 2 kg/person; August 1 to mid-November; 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM)

Fujita Memorial Garden

Enjoy the romantic air of the Taisho Period in this hilltop garden bathed in crimson leaves

Amidst the "borrowed landscape" of Mt. Iwaki, European-style buildings from the Taisho Period stand on a hill with its display of crimson foliage. Wall engravings and other elements of the era are still found inside.

When 8-1 Kamishirogane-cho, Hirosaki City
¥310; Children: ¥100 (Mid-April to November 23, 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM. Open temporarily on certain days in winter)

Starbucks Coffee Hirosaki-koenmae Shop

A short break

Taisho Roman Tea Room (Inside Fujita Memorial Garden)

Taisho Period European-style café in Fujita Memorial Garden where visitors can enjoy a stroll.

Hirosaki Park (Hirosaki Castle)

Stroll through the park looking for beautiful crimson foliage

There are many spectacular sights, such as the crimson leaves that stand out against the white wall of the castle keep, and the "maple valley" that looks like it was paved with brocade.

Hirosaki Station

GOAL!

World Natural Heritage

Shirakami-Sanchi

East Asia's largest beech tree forest spreads throughout Shirakami-Sanchi. Walk through the ancient forest and envelope yourself in the abundant natural environment.

World Natural Heritage Path
Beech tree forest walking path

Visitors can stroll casually through a beech tree forest. If you turn left at the second of three markers on the path, you enter a 30-minute course.

START!

Short course: 30 minutes on foot

Long course: 60 minutes on foot

GOAL!

Aqua Green Village Anmon

A campground at the entrance to Shirakami-Sanchi, with shops and dining halls. Stop by to gather information before taking a walk.

When 417 Okawazoe, Kawatatai, Nishimeya-mura
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Late April to early November

Winter

EVENT

Hirosaki Castle Snow Lantern Festival

150 fantasy-like snow lanterns

When Early to mid-February

Nearly 150 snow lanterns made by residents of the city color the park. The castle keep and old pine trees are illuminated at night, creating a richly poetic world.

Hirosaki Electrical Fantasy

When Late November to late February

European-style buildings from the Meiji and Taisho Periods are illuminated in the city, taking on the appearance of a dream in the snow.

Former Hirosaki City Library

Aomori Bank Memorial Hall

Naka-cho Historical House Preservation Area

The historical atmosphere of the feudal period remains even now on the northern side of Hirosaki Castle

The vestige of the feudal period lingers in the cityscape that spreads across the northern side of Hirosaki Castle. Visitors can see samurai residences, komise arcades, and other sights.

Former Umeda Family House

Hirosaki Park (Hirosaki Castle)

An extraordinary winter scene with pure white snow bathing the castle keep and old pine trees

Although famous for its cherry blossoms, during winter the castle keep and the surrounding old pine trees are transformed by the snow into a unified white, providing a spectacular sight.

Former To-o Gijuku Missionary House

Western architecture from the Meiji Period conveys the daily lives of foreign missionaries

To-o Gijuku was the first private school opened in Aomori Prefecture. The building was completed in 1900 as a residence for foreign missionaries teaching at the school.

Takateru Shrine

Houses the history of the Hirosaki Domain and enshrines the first and fourth domain lords

Enshrines Tamenobu Tsugaru and Nobumasa Tsugaru, the first and fourth lords of the Hirosaki Domain respectively. Historically valuable materials and swords are stored in the treasury house.

Hyakuzawa Ski Resort

A spectacular view of Mt. Iwaki and excellent snow The diverse courses are attractive

A ski resort located near Hyakuzawa Onsen Hot Springs. Visitors can enjoy skiing, snowboarding, and snow trekking, etc.

Iwakiyama Shrine

A history of 1,200 years on Mt. Iwaki

A shrine expressing the deep faith of the community

A shrine with a history of approximately 1,200 years, located at the foot of Mt. Iwaki. It is also known as the home of the deities of marriage and economic good fortune.

Hirosaki Station

GOAL!

Rice Paddy Art in Inakadate Village

When Early June to early October

Art created in a rice paddy by planting various types of seedling to create enormous pictures and writing. It can be viewed from the Inakadate Village Hall and the Roadside Station Observation Deck.

123-1 Nakatsuji, Inakadate, Inakadate-mura

Dining

DELICIOUS TOWN

in Hirosaki

Find out about dining in Hirosaki, from local cuisine using the sumptuous food of Tsugaru to French dining fit for a city of European-style buildings, retro cafés, etc.

Local cuisine that gently resonates within you

Japanese Food



Tsugaru Pub Kenta
11-2 Kaji-machi, Hirosaki City
5:00 PM to 12:30 AM

With a focus on local Tsugaru cuisine and food made from Aomori Prefecture's specialty items, this pub has a menu of seasonal vegetables for guests to enjoy.

Tsugaru Cooking

Kaiyaki Miso

¥530

Using a scallop shell as a dish, green onions, broth, and miso are boiled together, then finished off with eggs. The eye of the scallop is sometimes included as well.

Tsugaru Cooking

Igamenchi

¥500

Igamenchi is a deep-fried dish made of chopped squid tentacles and vegetables. It was born from the wisdom of not wasting any part of the squid, and carries in it that familiar flavor of Mom's cooking.

Local cuisine making full use of seafood

Kikufuji

1 Sakamoto-cho, Hirosaki City
11:00 AM to 3:00 PM,
5:00 PM to 9:30 PM



Local Tsugaru cuisine and seasonal vegetable dishes



Tsugaru Cooking

Kenoshiru

¥486

Diced vegetables, mountain vegetables, deep-fried tofu, and other ingredients are boiled together and seasoned with miso and soy sauce. A soup with a simple, homespun flavor.



Tsugaru-jamisen

Live Tsugaru-jamisen performances

Tsugaru-jamisen The 3-time consecutive winner of the National Tsugaru Shamisen Contest gives a powerful live performance right in front of you.

Tsugaru Shamisen Live Aiya

2-7-3 Tomita, Hirosaki City
5:00 PM to 10:30 PM
(Live shamisen performances start at about 7:00 PM)

Tsugaru-jamisen

Live Tsugaru-jamisen performances

Guests can enjoy local cuisine and Tsugaru-jamisen around an open hearth. The live performances right in front of you are powerful.



Tsugaru-jamisen and Local Cuisine Restaurant Anzu

1F Niko Building, Oyakata-machi, Hirosaki City
5:00 PM to 11:00 PM
(Live shamisen performances at 7:30 PM and 9:30 PM)

Akebi-vine Basketry

Bag ¥45,360~
Folk handicraft made by delicately weaving the Akebi vines that grow wild on Tsugaru's mountains.



Bunaco Tissue Box

From ¥8,640

Utilizing beechwood, Bunaco's unique soft feel and design are attractive.

[Bunaco Showroom BLESS]
2F Moriya Building, 100-1 Dotemachi, Hirosaki City
9:00 AM to 7:00 PM

Tsugaru-nuri iPhone Case

From ¥6,480



An iPhone case decorated with traditional Tsugaru-nuri lacquer. Characterized by the complex pattern brought out by polishing multiple layers of lacquer.

[Omoide Shop Sakura House]
1F Hirosaki Municipal Tourist Center, 2-1 Shimoshirogane, Hirosaki City
9:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Kogin-zashi embroidered coaster (small)

¥300

Needlework passed down in the Tsugaru region since ancient times. Patterns and colors can also be arranged in a modern fashion.



[Tsugaru-han Neputa Village]
61 Kamenoko-machi, Hirosaki City
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM



Japanese Restaurant

Kaiseki Dining

Lunch: From ¥4,320
Dinner: From ¥8,640

Tsugaru's seasonal fish, mountain vegetables, and other ingredients are selected according to strict standards and prepared with delicate technique to create a delicious meal that is like a work of art.



Tsugaru Cooking

Tsugaru Buckwheat Noodles

¥573

Soba (buckwheat noodles) made with a unique technique passed down since the Edo Period. A fluffy texture and simple flavor.

Sanchu Restaurant

164 Watoku-machi, Hirosaki City
11:00 AM to 7:30 PM

An elegant dish made with Tsugaru ingredients

French

Restaurant Yamazaki

41 Oyakata-machi, Hirosaki City
11:30 AM to 2:00 PM;
5:30 PM to 8:30 PM

Reservations required

Lunchtime only!

Recommended

Apple mini-course

¥3,564

As is proper for the home of apples, soup, main dishes, and desserts make ample use of apples.



Cuisine Francaise Chez-Moi

53-2 Daikan-cho, Hirosaki City
11:00 AM to 2:00 PM,
5:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Reservations required

Full-scale French dining with worry-free local ingredients

Recommended

Hirosaki French a la carte course

¥3,780

Select the soup and main dish you want from a menu of items prepared with fastidiously selected ingredients.

Highly Recommended Hirosaki Snacks

Apple Pie

Matani Bakery

23 Oyakata-machi, Hirosaki City
7:30 AM to 6:30 PM

¥320

The standard pie from a long-established bakery using Jonathan apples.

¥330

A buttery aroma and a lightly sweetened, gentle flavor.

Three Bridge

16-7 Ekimae-cho, Hirosaki City
8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

BOULANGERIE Four

65-1 Kamenoko-machi, Hirosaki City
7:30 AM to 6:00 PM

¥290

A unique item with half a Jonathan apple boiled in caramel.

¥302

Crisp homemade pie full of Fuji apples.

¥350

Utilizes the natural sweetness and tartness of apples. It also keeps well.

Shikanai Senbei

32 Shintera-machi, Hirosaki City
9:00 AM to 7:00 PM

¥259

A filling pie with plenty of apples that aren't too sweet.

Pâtisserie Blanc

1-9-7 Jotokita, Hirosaki City
9:00 AM to 7:00 PM

Hirosaki Souvenirs

MUST BUY!

Apple Sundries

Hiba Apple

Large: ¥1,000
Medium: ¥850
Small: ¥500

An air freshener shaped like an apple. Made from Aomori's hiba tree wood.

[Tsugaru-han Neputa Village]
61 Kamenoko-machi, Hirosaki City
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Apple Duet

¥850

A hand towel decorated with cute apple illustrations.

[Hirokabutsuryu]
1-2-1 Suehiro-cho, Hirosaki City
8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

I MUST BUY! Craftwork

Tsugaru-nuri iPhone Case

From ¥6,480



An iPhone case decorated with traditional Tsugaru-nuri lacquer. Characterized by the complex pattern brought out by polishing multiple layers of lacquer.

[Omoide Shop Sakura House]
1F Hirosaki Municipal Tourist Center, 2-1 Shimoshirogane, Hirosaki City
9:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Kogin-zashi embroidered coaster (small)

¥300

Needlework passed down in the Tsugaru region since ancient times. Patterns and colors can also be arranged in a modern fashion.



[Tsugaru-han Neputa Village]
61 Kamenoko-machi, Hirosaki City
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM



Rapuru

¥97 each

A baked snack with a moist texture, made by wrapping the flesh of apples in half-raw rice cracker dough.

I MUST BUY! Apple Sweets



Hoko (pack of 12)

¥1,360

The gentle flavor of apple paste sandwiched between thin rice cracker layers.

[Suzuro]
14-2 Tashiro-cho, Hirosaki City
9:30 AM to 6:00 PM

Tamura Cidre Sweet

<Produced in the company's own factory>
500 ml ¥1,296

A gorgeous foam with a fruity aroma and the sweetness of apples.

Tamura Cidre Dry

Tamura Cidre Dry

<Produced in the company's own factory>
500 ml ¥1,296

The aroma of apples, with a refined tartness and faint bitter flavor.



[Tamura Farm Co., Ltd.]
18-28 Aoki-cho, Hirosaki City
8:30 AM to 5:00 PM



Junmaishu Joppari

720 ml ¥1,188

Crisp and smooth. A perfect companion to strong-tasting Japanese or Western food.

[Rokka Shuzo Co., Ltd.]
217 Toyoda, Mukaitonose, Hirosaki City
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM



Hanaippu Special Junmaishu

720 ml ¥1,517

A gorgeous aroma and soft taste. Easy to combine with western cuisine.

[Kaneta Tamada Shuzo Co., Ltd.]
81 Shigemori-machi, Hirosaki City
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Buy your souvenirs here!

Hirosaki Municipal Tourist Center

The Hirosaki Municipal Tourist Center provides a variety of information about sightseeing in Hirosaki. Decorated with Hirosaki neputa, the first floor has a souvenir shop. The Tsugaru-nuri lacquering process is demonstrated on the second floor. The souvenir shop is Omoide Shop Sakura House.



2-1 Shimoshirogane-cho, Hirosaki City Open to the public (9:00 AM to 6:00 PM, may be extended during festivals)