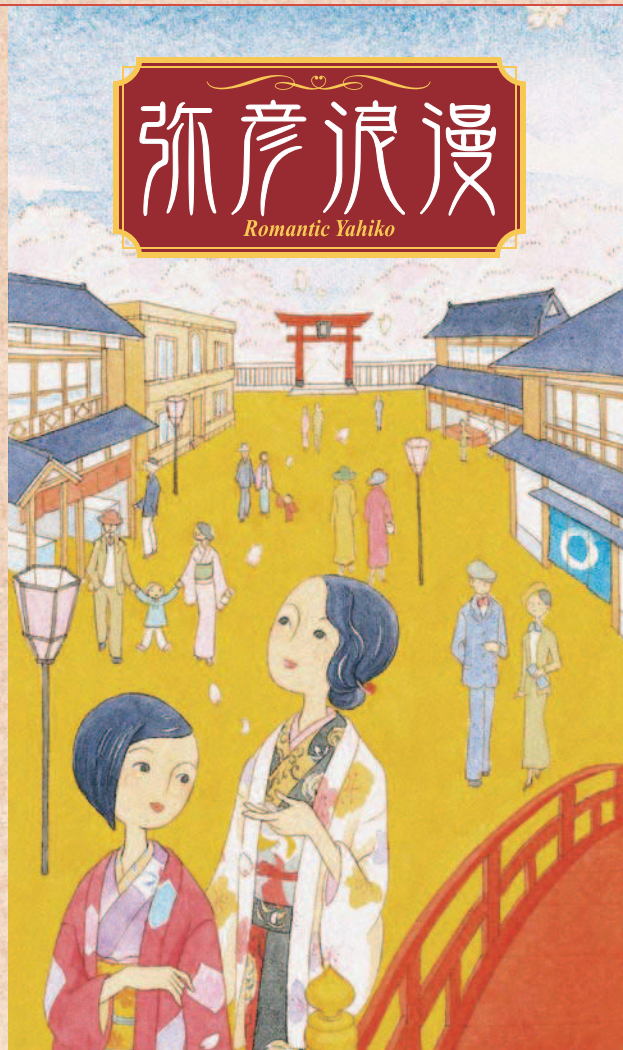
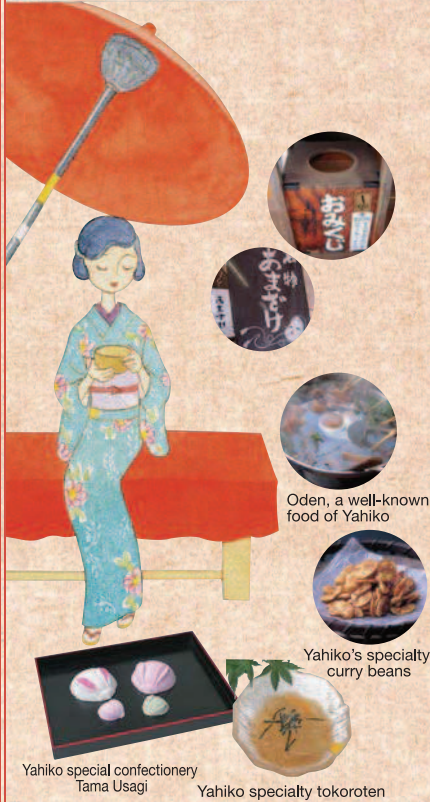


Heavenly Yahiko
Even on a day
Of blue clouds
A little rain

(A poem from Manyoshu, "Collection of Ten Thousand Leaves")



弥彦浪漫
Romantic Yahiko

Take a leisurely
stroll to take in
all that Yahiko
has to offer.

As one walks toward
the front of the gate at
Yahiko Shrine,
the steam rises from
the shops and there is
a nostalgic smell
in the air.
Oden, sweet sake,
dengaku skewers, and
hot spring manju buns...
Stroll leisurely while
enjoying the food.
This is an area with
people who are
warm and friendly,
a place with
merriment amid the quiet...



Winter

Yahiko Station in the snow



First shrine visit of the New Year

Jan. 1 – Hatsu-mode First shrine visit of the New Year

Jan. 1-3 – Yaen shrine ritual

Jan. 7 – First Yumi archery ritual of the New Year
During the morning, there is ritualistic plucking of the bowstring by Yumitaro and Yumijiro ("Meigen no Gi"), as well as the ritualistic shooting of 100 arrows by ten Shinto priests ("Hyakusha no Gi"). From the afternoon, archery specialists carry out the general sacred archery rituals.

Feb. 1-4 – Sacred procession shrine ritual

Feb. 2 – Rei Taisai Annual Grand Festival

Autumn

Momijitani Autumn Foliage



Harvesting Koshihikari Rice

Oct. 10 – Goshinpyosai
Late Oct. to Mid-Nov. – Autumn foliage

Nov. 1-24 – Yahiko Chrysanthemum Festival
The "Niigata Prefecture Chrysanthemum Flower Exposition," which is held at the grounds of Yahiko Shrine, sees entry after entry from enthusiasts every year numbering up to 6,000 pots.

Nov. 1-3 – Niigata Prefecture Forest Festival
Nov. 15 – "Shichigosan" shrine visit by three- and seven-year-old girls and five-year-old boys

Nov. 23-24 – Hatsuho Koshuki Taikai

Summer

Tamanohashi Bridge surrounded by verdure



Miscanthus Reed Circle Festival

June 25-30 – Miscanthus Reed Circle Festival
Late June – Firefly Festival

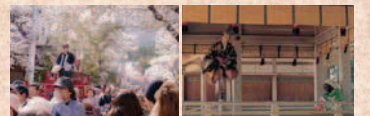
Mid-July – Official opening of beach swimming season
As the location is close to the Japan Sea as well, many come to swim every year, even from outside of the prefecture. (About 30 minutes to swimming beaches)

July 24-26 – Stone Lantern Festival
(Significant intangible folk cultural asset)
Various types of rituals are performed. On the morning of the 25th, ancient practices are followed in the offering of a ceremonial feast and then a portable shrine is paraded around the village from 9:00 p.m.

Early Aug. – Grape picking (Kyoho grapes)
Yahiko Kyoho grapes have a reputation for their sweetness due to the high sugar content.

Spring

Yahiko Shrine with cherry blossoms in full bloom



Yukake (Hot Water Splashing) Festival

Early April to Late April – Cherry blossoms
Yahiko's cherry blossoms start with the blooming of the Somei Yoshino variety in early April. A variety of other cherry blossom types, such as the multi-petal Yaezakura, can be enjoyed up until the extended Golden Week holiday at the end of the month.

Mid-April – Yukake (Hot Water Splashing) Festival
At the Yukake Festival, receive sacred water from Yu Shrine and enjoy Kyari songs and traditional music performances as you tour the village.

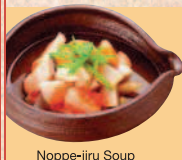
April 18 – Tsumado Okami Reisai Grand Shinto music and dance performances

Mid-April – Opening of Mt. Yahiko

Late April to Early May – Bonsai Exhibition
The "sekikazari" table-top display style of Japan Bonsai Association Yahiko Chapter members will be on exhibit.

May 10 – Goshinpyosai

Late May to Mid-June – Azaleas, verdure
In Yahiko Park, there are blossoming azaleas in every possible place and the trees take on an even deeper shade of green.



Noppe-jiru Soup



Fresh Fish from the Japan Sea



Yahiko Taro
Shiitake Mushrooms
(Jumbo shiitake mushrooms)



Kakinomoto



Koshihikari Rice



Grape Picking



Juzen Eggplants



Yahiko Musume Green Soybeans
(First Harvest Green Soybeans)



Local specialties

Yabiko Bird's Eye View



Yabiko Sightseeing Volunteer Guide

The guide services are completely free of charge so please make use of them at your convenience.



Natural Monument
Yahiko Summit / Yahiko-zakura
cherry blossom trees

Romantic Journey

"Oyahiko-sama,"
the shrine,
is home to traditions
from days of old and the
legends of the gods.
The feeling of
the four seasons
and distant memories
are revived.



Yahiko Shrine

It is said that the shrine deity, Amenokagoyamanomikoto, gave birth to Emperor Jimmu and taught the residents how to get salt from seawater, how to fish, and how to cultivate rice.



Big Torii Gate

Standing 30m tall, the Big Torii Gate was built in 1982 to commemorate the opening of the Joetsu Shinkansen Line.



Manyo Road

Mt. Yahiko has been made home to 60 of the species of plants featured in the poetry of the "Manyoshu" collection. These blossom as proudly as their poetic Manyoshu counterparts.

Yahiko Summit Park

Standing on top of the 638m Mt. Yahiko is the 100m Panorama Tower, an observation tower that rotates and goes up and down. Enjoy views as far away as Sado and Echigo Plain.



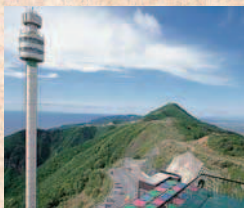
Yahiko Park

Covers 160,000 sq. meters. In Momijitani, the Kangetsu Bridge, a replica of an old-fashioned wooden bridge, offers spectacular views of autumn foliage.



Mt. Yahiko Ropeway

Off to the west is the expansive Japan Sea, amid which floats the island of Sado. Extending eastward is the rice-producing Echigo Plain.



Site of Takeishi Family's Former Residence

Designated a cultural asset by the village, the main house is thought to be built in the style of the early 18th Century, around 300 years ago.



Yahiko-no-oka Art Museum

Masterpieces by members of the Niigata Artists Association are on exhibition here at this quaint art museum found amidst the forest.

The Hot Springs Town has long prospered as an area that lodges visitors. The baths have been enjoyed as hot springs of note for a millennium.

