

[Declarations] **1. Declaration as a non-nuclear city of peace 2. Declaration as a city that promotes health 3. Declaration as a snow-resistant city**



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OJIYA CITY GUIDE



Ojiya City Data Book

• Want to know more? Here you go! •

おぢやに恋する

Fall in love with Ojiya

Welcome to OJIYA CITY

Sea of clouds at Mt. Yamamoto The sea of clouds viewed in early mornings during fall, when temperatures vary greatly, is a fantastical scene.

Blessed with cultural and tourist resources such as Nishikigoi carp, ushi-no-tsunotsuki bull sumo, Ojiya-chijimi hemp fabric, and the Katakai fireworks, the city also has a thriving manufacturing industry that takes pride in its high technology and outstanding quality. Ojiya also makes committed efforts toward childcare and the child-raising environment. It's a town where people can enjoy life and enrich the spirit. Learn more about the abundant charms of Ojiya, and fall in love with it!

> Buckwheat field in the Mt. Yamamoto Highlands

The "pure white carpet" that covers the entire area is at its peak from midto late September. Enjoy the beautiful landscape and buckwheat flowers.





Cherry blossoms in Funaoka Park

A famous place where magnificent cherry blossoms bloom every year. From mid-April, visitors can enjoy viewing cherry blossoms at night in a fantastical setting with illumination and paper lanterns.

Rape blossoms in the Mt. Yamamoto Highlands

The best time to see the "yellow carpet" of blossoms is during Golden Week in early May. It is also known for spectacular views of the Three Mountains of Echigo, among others.



Sunflower field

in the Mt. Yamamoto Highlands

Koi carp ponds in the Higashiyama area

Summe

Higashiyama has a large area of terraced ponds for farming of Nishikigoi carp. Combine the carp pond with sunrise or sunset for a truly photogenic shot.





Hasagi, Ikegahara

The dignified appearance of these trees standing amid snowy fields has even been featured in TV commercials. This spot is popular among photographers from both inside and outside Niigata Prefecture.









for Ojiya-chijimi hemp fabric

This traditional technique makes the colors of the woven fabric more vivid. A demonstration is held annually at the site of the Ojiya Hot-Air Balloon Festival. held in late February.

Terraced rice paddies in Sodenosawa

Terraced rice paddies located in the Iwasawa district seem to radiate a golden glow. The rice is grown in sunny rice paddies that take advantage of the mountain slopes, using spring water from the mountain.

Contents	С	0	n	t	е	n	t	S
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The Appeal of Ojiya	04-07		
Ojiya City Development	08-14		
Ojiya Event Calendar	15		



Nishikigoi

carp

about 200 vears ago when edible carp mutated, gaining bright coloration. Since then, the breeding lines have continued to be researched and improved, and Nishikigoi carp have earned a great and carp farming system utilizing the advantages of snow" was recognized as a Japanese Nationally Important Agricultural Heritage System. It has gained worldwide recognition as the "national fish" symbolizing



The only museum

for Nishikigoi carp in the world Nishikigoi no Sato Japan's "swimming jewels," carefully nurtured in snow country

There is a Japanese garden outside and a viewing pond inside, so visitors can witness these beautiful "swimming jewels" up close at any time. Visitors can feed and actually touch the Nishikigoi carp too. In one section, visitors can learn about the history of Nishikigoi carp, their varieties, and breeding methods. This is a great spot for appreciating and experiencing Nishikigoi carp, which are garnering attention worldwide.



Address: 1-8-22 Jonai, Ojiya City

Nishikigoi no Sato





A manhole cover depicting the Pokemon "Magikarp" has appeared! Find all four types of Pokemon manhole covers while strolling around Ojiya City. (Total of four types installed) ©Pokémon. ©Nintendo/Creatures Inc./GAME FREAK inc.

in Ojiya, and learned a lot about Nishikigoi carp. This place is truly a mecca for Nishikigoi carp! A lot of nice people live here too.



Soothing hot spring waters and the delicious food of Ojiya Relaxing and refreshing

The spring is characterized by its mild, lukewarm waters. At the bathhouse, men and women can enjoy Japanese-style Tsumugi-no-yu and Western-style Chijimi-no-yu bathing on a weekly basis. In the dining area, visitors can enjoy hegisoba buckwheat noodles and other dishes made with local ingredients.



Roadside Bathhouse Chijimi no Sato (Day spa facility) Address: 1670-1 Hiu-ko, Ojiya City

Designated by the national government as an Important Intangible Folk Cultural Property History and culture come alive in ushi-no-tsunotsuki bull sumo

The fierce fighting between two gigantic bulls and their wild breathing is very vivid and real! The first tournament is held on May 3 every year, and an event is held every month until the final bout in November. The live commentary at the venue is easy to understand, so even first-time spectators can feel at ease.



Ojiya Bullfighting Ring Address: 2453 Koguriyama, Ojiya City

Great for families!

Enjoy gentle mountain hiking Pick up some famous water at the trailhead, and head to the summit for a spectacular view.

A 384-meter-high nearby mountain, known locally as joyama ("castle mountain"). Baba Shimizu, Niigata Prefecture's famous water located at the entrance of the trail, is perfect with tea or coffee. The trail is wide and easy to walk, offering spectacular views of Ojiya City from the top of the mountain! The hike takes less than 2 hours as a round trip, so it can be enjoyed with children.

An easy way to experience country living. Day trips and overnight farm stays

Two programs are available: a one-day program where even inexperienced farmers can enjoy cultivating vegetables, and a stay program where visitors can fully enjoy countryside life at a farm with German-style "laube" accommodation facilities. Get a taste of farm living at a farm nestled in the great outdoors!



Ojiya Kleingarten Fureai-no-Sato Address: 1814-2, Shiodono-ko, Ojiya City

Learn, play, and stay A great spot for exchanges among citizens, regions, and cities



Ojiya Hot-Air Balloon **Festival**

A two-day winter tradition held in late February. As the colorful hot air balloons float over the snowy field, their burners roaring powerfully, the crowd's energy reaches its Glowing Balloon Festival, with view from the sky.



Inside the museum, visitors can experience and learn through a train driver simulator and a diorama of the Shinanogawa Power Plant, while outside they can enjoy camping, barbecues, and playing in the snow during winter. Accommodation facilities are available for study camps and training programs.



Ojiya Shinanogawa Hydroelectric Power StationOjāru Address: 1216-3 Yamamoto, Ojiya City

Mt. Tokimizujo



Address: Tokimizu, Ojiya City



At the top of Mt. Yamamoto, observe columns of hawks circling in the clear autumn sky. Many visitors come from outside the prefecture to capture this breathtaking sight on their cameras.

Ojiya, with its four distinct seasons, is a place to experience the richness of life! I enjoy the great country life while messing around in the soil in my own field.

> Relocated from Tokyo Urei Seino



Katakai Fireworks

Asahara Shrine by the people of Katakai to celebrate coming-of-age events, 60th birthdays, and so on are known as the Katakai mountain fireworks. These are known as one events, along with the Kashiwazaki and most spectacular Yonshakudama fireworks, which

inside and outside of the prefecture.

Click here

for the video



Symbol of Katakai,

town of fireworks

The full-size launching tubes are of impressive scale.

The monument that symbolizes Katakai, the birthplace of Sanshakudama fireworks, is open to visitors 24 hours a day. The launching tube used to launch 420-kilogram Yonshakudama fireworks is 5.2 meters long and 1.8 cm thick, made of steel, and is particularly eve-catching. Try to capture the fireworks and the monument in a single photo for a great Instagram shot.



The front and back of the literary monument are inscribed with the handwriting of Ryotaro Shiba, who depicted the life of Kawai Tsuginosuke in his novel "Touge." The book was made into a movie in 2022. Address: West end, Koshi-no-Ohashi Bridge, Takanashi-cho, Ojiya City

Japanese festivals are the best in the world. Feel the energy of people, culture, and history I visit Katakai Fireworks every year. are amazing!



Conveying the history and prosperity of Ojiya A long-established Japanese restaurant over three stories

A restaurant serving Japanese cuisine that has been in business since the Edo period. The building is a registered Tangible Cultural Property. The "Ume-no-Ma" room, where Kawai Tsugunosuke is said to have taken a late lunch after the Ojiya peace negotiations broke down at Jigen-ji Temple, is still carefully preserved.



Tochu Address: II-II Motomachi, Ojiya City



Katakai, a town of fireworks

and artisansMonument

Address: Katakai-cho, Ojiya City (Search for "Fireworks and Artisan Town Katakai Monument")

Achieving education where everyone can learn The first public elementary school in Japan opened here

Born into a merchant family dealing in Ojiya-chijimi fabric, Hiroki Yamamoto actively advocated for the importance of education for children, and that everyone should have the opportunity to learn. He gave up his private fortune to open Japan's first public elementary school, Shintokukan (now Ojiya Elementary School), in Gochi-in.



Gochi-in Address: 14-7 Motomachi, Ojiya City

Hemp fabric

with pleasant coolness and textured feel Try and purchase fabrics at the Ojiya-Chijimi Textile Workshop

On the first floor of Ojiya City Sun Plaza, Orinoza showcases an exhibition of Ojiya-chijimi hemp fabric, a weaving demonstration, and a coaster weaving workshop. At Takumi-no-za on the second floor, purchase a wide variety of goods. trend-setting apparel, and interior goods made from woven fabrics.

Honorary Citizen Titles

Appointed July 28, 1964

Contributed to the development of Niigata Prefecture through his business acumen

> Saisaburo Nishiwaki 1880-1962



He made large donations to public works projects and nvested in a scholarship fund to train human resources Contributed to the development of industry and education in Niigata

Appointed November 18, 1969

An authority in the field of forestry management during the Showa era





He led forest management studies by conducting surveys and research on natural renewal of forests, which utilizes natural forces to regenerate (renew) forests







Ojiya-chijimi fabric

Considered of outstanding quality, Echigo linen was presented to the Shogun during the Edo period. Around this time, Ojiva-chijimi fabric was born, characterized by the unique crispness of its warp yarn, powerfully twisted to produce a wrinkled texture known as shibo. This superior handcrafting technique is designated as an Important Intangible Cultural Property of Japan and is also registered as a UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage.



English literary scholar and great poet

Junzaburo Nishiwaki 1894-1982



With works such as his first collection of poems Ambarvalia, and No Traveler Returns, he made a major impact on the world of contemporary poetry.

An indomitable banker. and a huge baseball fan

Toshi Kaneko 1900-1982



development of Japan's economy, culture, and sports. A bust commemorating his life can be found near the baseball field in Hakusan Sports Park

He contributed to the

Ojiya-Chijimi Textile Workshop



Address: I-8-25 Jonai, Ojiya City (inside Sun Plaza)

Popular for their smooth texture and firm bite. A specialty dish from a town of textiles

Hegisoba noodles use a seaweed called funori as a binding agent. It was also used to glue down the threads when weaving Ojiya-chijimi fabric, unique to this textile-weaving town. The word hegi derives from a square plate-shaped container.

I was so surprised at the beauty of the blotchy Ojiya-chijimi fabric when it was exposed in the snowy fields! This tradition keeps the wisdom of our ancestors alive, just like *hegisoba* noodles made with funori seaweed



Relocated from Tokyo Urei Seino

Five Actions for the Future

Ojiya City is implementing various initiatives to become a city where everyone can live happily in comfort. Here, the city presents various projects encompassing childcare, education and welfare, building a stable social infrastructure, and promoting immigration.

Action 1 A town that cultivates future happiness Action 2 A town where skills and resources are put to use A town where people can iction 3 live in vigorous good health

e in peace Action 5 A town that expands circles of acquaintance

Ojiya City has various programs and systems in place

to continuously support and encourage its citizens from marriage to raising children. Ojiya City also provides

useful information via LINE and through its city guides. Residents are encouraged to take advantage of

Action 4 A town where everyone can

Continuous support from marriage to raising children! our marriage and parenting support services.

D Supporting marriage

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The Meguriai Support Center supports those searching for a wonderful partner through matching and events! No membership fee. For more information, please see the QR code.



In order to reduce the financial burden of infertility treatment and fertility treatment, subsidies are provided for out-of-pocket expenses for such treatment. Please contact the Health and Childcare Support Department for details on procedures.



3 Supporting childbirth

To ensure a smooth start to new life with a baby, new mothers can receive mother and child care, advice on breastfeeding and childcare at medical institutions on one-day sessions or overnight stays. The city offers support for raising children with peace of mind.





Supporting child-rearing





The city provides childcare services so that parents can work with peace of mind while children who need to receive medical care at home for illness or injury cannot go to school or nursery school

consultation



s seamless support for everything from pregnancy to raising children

ation and Childcare Section

This comprehensive consulting service provides seamless support for pregnancy childbirth, and child rearing. Public health nurses are available for various kinds of





Supports the raising of children by holding fun events and seminars as a place for parent-child interactions, providing consultation and information on child-rearing, and offering temporary childcare services.

Those who wish to request childcare assistance (requesting members) and those who wish to provide it (providing members) each register as members. This membership-based organization promotes mutual assistance to support childcare in the community.

 \triangleright town that cultivates future happiness ♦ •

Raising children

4 Main forms of support Child allowance

- Medical expense subsidies for children
- Infant medical checkups Nursery schools, certified childcare
- facilities, etc.

Child allowances and subsidies for children's medical expenses reduce the financial burden of raising children. Support is provided based on the child's stage of growth and family situation.

3 Main forms of support Home visits for all families with newborn infants Prenatal and postpartum support services Baby First campaign, etc.

Ojiya Shigoto Miraijyuku (Ojiya Work Future Program)

Driven by through industry-academia-government collaboration, this program gives all junior high school students in Ojiya City the opportunity to understand and experience the local industries that underpin their hometown of Ojiya, and to learn about attractive employers and businesses in the city.

Education



Promoting human interactions and hands-on learning activities utilizing local educational resources to foster a sense of hometown love and pride by learning about Ojiya's nature and culture.



The city seeks to maximize the abilities and potential of every child with a disability, cultivating their ability to be independent and participate fully in society.

The employment rate for

women is above the prefectural average! /

Women can play active roles in Ojiya

Women are making significant inroads into society and working

in all kinds of ways. Women also play active roles in Ojiya City.

The employment rate* of 52.4% ranks 7th in Niigata Prefecture.

Employment rates are particularly high among those in their 30s

Ease of living, such as a supportive environment for raising children,

creation of an environment in which women can play active roles.

facilitates ease of working. Ojiya city continues to support the

and 40s, which is very high among Japan nationally.



Through Ojiya Disaster Readiness Classes and similar programs, the lessons learned from previous earthquakes are passed on, and children are given an awareness of disaster prevention, so that they can safeguard their own lives.



To cultivate their skills in information use, students learn basic computer operations, application of information for problem–solving, programming skills, and so on.

Offering support for athletes with top-level athletic ability and ambition who aim to compete in the Olympics or Para-Olympics, and who are expected to perform well.

□ Sports



The city strives to provide opportunities for citizens to watch and participate in sports events, so they can be thrilled by sports, dream of sports, and enjoy a variety of sports.

Employment rates for women



National 52.4% Niigata **b** (Ranked 25th in Japan among 47 prefectures)

*The percentage of employed persons in the population aged 15 and over Reference: Niigata Prefecture Databook—Index Handbook (2022) Prefectural and Municipal Edition / Index Edition

□ Industry



Manufacture of rice crackers and rice food products that take advantage of the unique characteristics of Ojiya, a rice-producing region, is thriving at the moment. The outstanding quality and taste of these products are acclaimed both inside and outside of the prefecture. In addition to the nationally renowned Uonuma Koshihikari rice, Niigata is one of the largest producers of White Diamond cauliflower in Japan.





Environment



Rel

The city promotes decarbonization through the use of renewable energy, such as solar power generation at the Katakai Comprehensive Center and geothermal heat utilization at Nishikigoi-no-Sato.

INTERVIEWS

Striving to make Ojiya a town of skilled workers

Ojiya Ironworks & Electronics Cooperative, which celebrated its 55th anniversary in 2022, currently comprises 63 member companies. These principally manufacture industrial goods—the components needed to make the consumer goods we use every day, such as automobiles, smartphones, and watches. Although consumers rarely see these goods, they are an indispensable component in the manufacture of products and thus supports Japan's industrial foundation. Since the opening of Techno Ojiya Master Classes, the number of technicians who have passed the National Trade Skills Test has increased dramatically. The city hopes to create a future virtuous cycle that brings jobs and people to Ojiya, a town of skilled workers, contributing to revitalization.

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town

that

cultivates

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In order to promote local industries and expand employment opportunities, Ojiya aims to attract companies by securing and creating land for new company sites.



Since 2013, this project has been sponsored by the Uonuma Fisheries Cooperative and JR East, with the aim of harmonizing the river environment and water usage of the Shinano River.



The city is actively working to improve the efficiency of waste collection, transportation, and treatment, including sorted collection, recycling, and composting, in order to help achieve a recycling-oriented society.





diligent workers and dexterous with their hands. These attributes are well suited to the manufacturing industry," says Hirokazu Sakamaki, President of the Ojiya Ironworks & Electronics Cooperative (President of Yukiwa Seiko Inc.)

"Many residents of Ojiya are





Products are on display in Ojiya City Sun Plaza. Be sure to take a look at the Ojiya techniques on display





Promoting health



Benefiting from an environment that promotes incorporating exercise habits into daily life, visitors can enjoy nature and local history while walking.

Welfare for those with disabilities



The city also provides a place to work for those who have difficulty finding employment with general employers, as well as the training needed to improve knowledge and abilities and support for general employment.

□ Lifelong learning



Artists of all ages exhibit numerous works of Japanese painting, ink painting, and ceramics at the city's exhibitions. Citizens also take part in many activities such as sign language clubs.

Medical care



In conjunction with Niigata Prefecture and local medical institutions, Ojiya City is working to secure enough doctors and improve local medical care.



As opportunities to learn about the importance of

peace, lectures are held on Japan's experience of

the atomic bomb and junior high school students

are sent to the Hiroshima Peace Ceremony.

To extend the healthy life expectancy of citizens, the city has established classes in collaboration with Niigata University to conduct research on mobility and prevention of frailty.



Disaster readiness



In the event of a disaster, this site will be used as and cooking benches will be available, and as a place to construct emergency temporary housing.



an emergency evacuation site where manhole toilets

Disaster readiness training





live with snow

Enjoying snow

At the Ojiya Summer Snow Festival held each summer, children love to play with snow that has been covered and stored with insulating sheets since winter! Enjoying the benefits of delightfully cool snow in midsummer is something that only a city deep in snow country can offer.

Overcoming snow

To ensure that daily life is not interrupted, snow-melting pipes have been installed on major roads and snow removal trucks are tasked with removing snow.



"The mouth is our gateway to health." Ojiya Kita-uonuma Residential Dental Care Coordination Office

Sayuri Ohashi, Dental Hygienist

Ojiya City provides ongoing dental health guidance such as fluoride mouthwash, dental checkups and health advice, and cavity prevention classes. Ojiya City is actively working to prevent tooth decay, and ranks first in Niigata Prefecture for low rates of adult tooth decay! As well as brushing teeth, the key is to enjoy snacks in moderation in short windows of time. Until about the fourth grade, parents should finish brushing children's teeth carefully, while encouraging their children's efforts. Prevention of periodontal disease is also important, because it is associated with the risk of dementia and arteriosclerosis. Oral care is closely related to extending healthy life expectancy.

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town

where

people

can live

В.

vigorous

boog

health

INTERVIEW

This facility is designed to pass on the memories and lessons of the great Chuetsu earthquakes to future generations by providing disaster readiness education with electric simulators that simulates strong lateral shaking.

□ Safety



The city promotes and raises awareness of traffic safety by educating children and the elderly about traffic rules and manners.

Ojiya is a place of extremely heavy snowfall. Not only do we fight to overcome snow, we enjoy it and we use it, making the most of its blessings and living alongside it.





Using snow

Snow storage, utilizing snow-cooled thermal energy, enhances the flavorful components of rice, vegetables, and sake, making them even more delicious. We make the most of the wisdom of our ancestors, who lived alongside snow for ages.





Promoting interaction, relocation, and settlement



This is an agricultural experience in which students stay at a farmhouse for a week, engaging in farm work and experiencing the reality of farm life, with the aim of learning about agriculture and rural life.



Having relocated from urban areas, these people engage in a wide range of activities while engaging with the community, such as working on issues and doing farm work.



As an indispensable transportation for this mountainous region, the city operates a ride-share cab service and community bus service.

To support relocation, settlement, and entrepreneurship, the city actively works to convey the appeal of Ojiya, both domestically and internationally, through social media and delivering its consultation service in the Tokyo metropolitan area. The city also promotes support for activities that encourage more interactions among cities and local regions, as well as international exchange activities. Ojiya aims to develop a vibrant community where people come and go, where the circle of acquaintance expands.

Hometown tax payments Plenty of thank-you gifts brimming with all the charms of Oiiva!

See here for details

Sai-no-kami Festival Jan. Yamaya Tsubono Honyarado Festival Ojiya Hot-Air Balloon Festival Feb. Funaoka Park **Cherry Blossom Festival** Shinano River Terrace Walk Apr. •First bull sumo tournament May. Katakai Festival Held on September 9 and 10 every year. The town is energized by traditional events such as the launch Jun. of the world's largest Yonshakudama firework, as well as "tsutsubiki" and



"tama-okuri". This festival takes pride in its 400-year traditions.

Nishikigoi Carp Show Nishikigoi carp breeders in Niigata Prefecture exhibit their multicolored Nishikigoi carp, compete for the best coloration and body shape. The show attracts many people, including the general public, Nishikigoi

carp fanciers, and buyers from

Japan and abroad, who come

to catch a glimpse of these

"swimming iewels".



Jul

Aug.



\See you in Ojiya!/ Creating interactions, liveliness, and vitality

Tokiwabashi Bridge Nishikigoi carp viewing pond

A viewing pond for Ojiya City Nishikigoi carp is located in Tokyo Torch, a new development opened in Tokiwa-bashi, Tokyo. This PR space is also used to promote rice crackers, sake, and other local specialties.



□ A city of exchanges

Ojiya City has various exchanges with six other local governments in Japan through disaster readiness agreements. While making the most of each other's cultures, industries, and regional characteristics, we constantly seek to expand the circle of exchange among citizens



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acquaintance

INFORMATION

Ojiya is packed with fun things to do! OJIYA EVENT CALENDAR

Ushi-no-tsunotsuki bull sumo

Watch up close and personal as two massive bodies, each weighing over a ton, clash powerfully with each other. Echigo-style bull sumo generally ends in a draw. The skill and bravery of the seko attendants, responsible for separating the excited bulls, are also well worth witnessing.

(at the Ojiya bull ring, held monthly up to November)

Rose viewing parties (Ojiya Kleingarten Fureai-no-Sato)

Futarasan-jinja Shrine Festival

Ojiya Festival



Oct.

Nov.

Ojiya Trim Walking Event

Ojiya City Exhibition Nishikigoi Carp Show





Ojiya Festival

Huge karakuri lanterns are paraded with musical accompaniment and lively shouts. The finale, featuring the Super Wide Vesuvius Star Mine and approximately 7,000 fireworks launched by donations from local residents, is one of the most powerful sights in all Niigata.

See you in Ojiya!