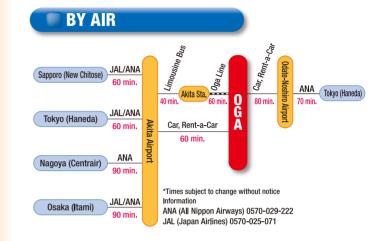


# Approximate Times to Oga, Akita



## BY TRAIN



Information

# Oga City Tourism Division

http://oganavi.com/ Tel +81-185-24-9141 Fax +81-185-23-2424

**Accommodations and Tourism Information** 

**Oga Tourism Association** Tel +81-185-24-4700 Fax +81-185-24-5700

Oga Hotspring Village https://e-ogaonsen.com Tel +81-185-33-3191

#### Ishiyaki Cuisine

Drop a red-hot rock into a cedarwood task full of fresh seafood and seaweed and you get a delicious plume of tempting steam. Enjoy the fantastic broth and pure fun of this traditional cuisine.



#### Melons

The Oga area has been producing high-quality melons for more than four decades. Popular summer varieties include *Bijin Red* and *Akita Bijin*.

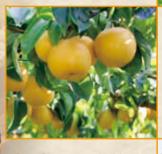
#### Hatahata-zushi

Oga's coastal waters provide a bountiful catch of sailfin sandfish early every winter. Sandfish is combined with new rice, a fermentation starter, seaweed, and vegetables. This mixture is pickled into a traditional Oga treat.



#### **Oga Pears**

Widely known in the back country, Japanese pear is rich in sweetness and juice, and has a distinctive aroma.



**Oga Shottsuru Yakisoba** A popular local fried noodle dish made with *shottsuru*, one of Japan's Three Great Fish Sauces; special noodles into which powdered *wakame* seaweed and kombu tangle stock are kneaded; and a variety of fresh seafood.





Fine ingredients from Oga's rich natural environment are crafted into traditional foods like miso, soy sauce, *shuttsuru dashi* (sardine-based fish broth), and miso pickles. Recent innovations inelude namen noodles with crab, shrimp, and scallop extract cooked night in.

The salt breeze on your cheeks as the sun sinks into the sea is a phenomenal accompaniment to a fresh, delicious Oga dinner. Tasting seasonal foods from seafood to wild edible plants from the mountains is what travel is all about getting in touch with the local culture.



camping car exclusive site, free site (no sectioned lots), and cottages. There is also a natural hot spring facility right nearby which makes it more appealing.

Fresh seafood right from the ocean, and vegetables directly from the fields of oga are lined up in Michi-no-Eki Oga. Adding to that, souveniers such as namahage crafts and local processed products can found here.

#### Nyudozaki Cape

The northernmost cape on the Oga Peninsula is located right on the 40° N latitude line. Enjoy a marvelous view of sea, particularly at sunset. Just look for the striped lighthouse that is the Cape's symbol

#### Mt. Kanpuzan

"One of the top 100 Grassland Villages to leave for the Future in Japan."

This gently sloping, 355-meter mountain is grassy top to bottom. Enjoy the great view of the Oga Peninsula and even mountains further inland from the rotating observation deck at the peak.



**Daisankyo Rocks** 

This bridge-like rock formation was sculpted by fiercely lashing waves. Take a sightseeing boat to get the best views of this dramatic coastal scenery.



#### **Unosaki Beach**

Unosaki has been chosen as one of the nation's one hundred best beaches. Low tide is particularly fascinating and fun, as two hundred meters of ocean floor is revealed through only a thin sheet of water.



Tour boats allow you to enjoy the rugged, jagged, mysterious, and dramatic coastline of the Oga Peninsula.

#### The Godzilla Rocks

The silhouette of Godzilla stands out here on the rocky coastline of Shiosezaki Cape. Come in the evening for the best views of Godzilla roaring at the sea and setting sun.



Among the peculiar and beautiful scenery making this area one of Oga's most popular destination are lowrelief. broad volcanic craters called maars, caused by shallow explosive eruptions.



Glass-Bottomed

Boats

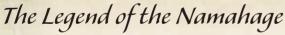
even getting wet!



Oga S Enjoy th show is Namahage and t they are both a converted traditi

Namahage Sedo Festival

This grand winter festival is the fusion of *Namahage*, a folk tradi Festival, a Shinto ceremony. Sacred fires light the precincts w *Namahage* dance and drums are performed. Finally, fifteen *Nama* from the mountain bearing torches, bringing the night to its clim



#### - The 999 Steps -

Legend has it that, once upon a time, the Han emperor brought five demonic ogres with him to Japan. These *oni*, as they are commonly called in Japanese, stole crops and young maidens from Oga's villages. The distressed villagers decided to trick the *oni* with this proposal: if the *oni* could build a flight of one thousand stone steps to Goshado Shrine in a single night, village maidens would be offered to them; if not, they were to leave Oga for good. The *oni* accepted the challenge, but when they had completed the 999<sup>th</sup> step, a quick-witted villager mimicked the crowing of a rooster. The *oni*, thinking it was already dawn, fled in panic and never came back again.

#### Oga no Namahage UNESCO intangible cultural heritage designated in 2018

National Important Intangible Folk Cultural Properties This New Year's Eve ritual is observed throughout Oga; it is such an ancient

tradition. Namahage in demonic masks and straw garments make the rounds of houses in their village. They burst into houses and find young wives and children who are hiding, and tell them to work hard, study hard, and obey their parents or

in-laws. The masters of the houses "protect" their family members, affirming that they all behave well. The *Namahage* are then placated with sake and food. According to one account, *Namahage* are deities who visit villages to celebrate the New Year. This tradition is designated as a national intangible folk cultural property.







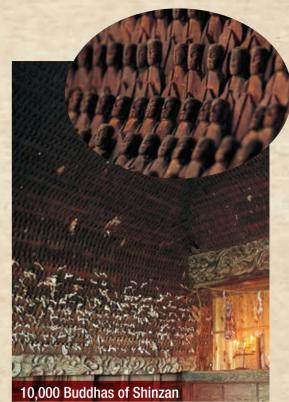
#### hinzan Folklore Museum

ne Namahage ritual year-round. The captivating, the banter between the he household head is humorous, and accentuated the atmosphere of this ional home.

tion, and the Sedo here the dynamic hage march down ax.



Shinzan Shrine, located on Mt. Shinzan, stands surrounded by majestic cedars. It is one of the most historical and the most revered shrines on the Oga Peninsula, deeply associated with the famous folk tradition Namahage. In February the Namahage Sedo Festival is held in the precincts.



OGA TRAVEL GUIDE

This hall, once part of a temple called Koboji, holds more than 10,000 wooden Buddhist statues despite being only 5.4 meters on a side. This exceedingly rare site is of particular folk-religious interest.

# Namahage Museum

Explore the mystery of Oga's Namahage folk tradition. Enjoy the costumes and demonic masks of the Namahage, or check out the video presentation.

### Akagami Shrine Goshado (National Important Cultural Properties)

Goshado, the central hall of Akagami Shrine, is thought to have been built around the turn of the seventeenth century. It is a rare site associated with the ancient Akagami Gongen worship; the view of the five pavilions spreading out side by side amidst the mountains is simply magnificent. Elements such as the frog-leg struts and tie beam carvings typify Akita's religious architecture, making this site of a significant historical value. The reliquary shrine in the central hall is designated as a national important cultural property.