

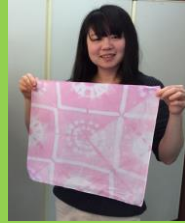


**“Takahata: Friendliness, Food, and Nature to Delight the Five Senses”  
on November 5th (Saturday) – November 6th (Sunday),**

The International Hospitality and Conference Service Association (IHCSA) is pleased to announce the schedule for the Takahata Town Tour, introducing the nature, history, culture, cuisine, and tourist attractions of the region. This tour, organized by IHCSA and sponsored by Takahata Town, is for ambassadors and diplomats stationed in Tokyo and their families.



Chindonya (street musicians)



Takahata is a beautiful and fruitful town located in the southeast of Yamagata Prefecture. The hills are dotted with ancient burial mounds and caves, and as well as rice the town produces cherries, grapes, apples, and other fruit. Quintessential Japanese scenery and folkishness are still alive and well in this town.

<b>November 5 (Saturday)</b>	
7:45	Meet at Tokyo Station "Yaesu Central Gate".
8:08	Leave Tokyo Station by Shinkansen (Tsubasa No.127).
10:36	Arrive at Takahata Station. Welcome by chindonya (street musicians). Welcome address by Mr. Fujio WATANABE, Deputy Town mayor, Takahata Town.
11:20	Uriwari Rock Garden Park ( quarry site).
12:00	Lunch at Takahata History Park. The menu will include local specialties like potato soup and meat dishes. (Participants will experience making potato soup and rice balls with local high school students and women.)
13:30	Ukitamu Fudoki no Oka Archeology Museum. (Participants will experience wearing prehistoric Jomon period clothing, making bows and arrows, and making fire.)
15:20	Takahata Winery.
16:10	Proceed to Hotel Folkloro Takahata.
17:40	Dinner with Mayor Makoto Sagae and senior officials of Takahata at Koshinkan.
<b>November 6 (Sunday)</b>	
7:00	Breakfast at the Hotel.
9:00	Leave the Hotel.
9:15	Apple harvesting experience at Oura Apple Orchard.
11:15	Goto Sake Brewery.
12:10	Lunch at Yoneori Tourist Center.
13:00	Safflower hand-dyeing experience and shopping.
14:40	Farewell ceremony at Takahata Station.
15:33	Leave Takahata Station by Shinkansen (Tsubasa No.146).
17:48	Arrive at Tokyo Station.



**MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: 18 persons**

**MINIMUM NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: 10 persons**

**PARTICIPATION FEE: 8,000 YEN for adults and children (tax included)**

**This tour includes expenses for accommodation, transportation, 4 meals, visits, insurance, and taxes.**

**PAYMENT: The amount should be paid in Japanese yen into our bank account by October 24, 2016.**

(Bank account information will be announced to the participant who has been confirmed only.)

Cancellation on and after November 01, 2016 will cause a cancellation fee of 100%.

**ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS:**

- **Ambassadors, diplomats stationed in Tokyo and their families (Family members must be aged 7 years or older.)**
- **A maximum of four people can apply from each embassy.**

**REQUEST FOR COOPERATION:**

- **Participants will be asked to cooperate in a questionnaire, giving their impressions and opinions from the perspective of foreign tourists.**
- **There will be newspaper and TV coverage of the tour. Please cooperate if interviewed.**
- **Photographs of tour participants will be shown on the websites and newsletters of Takahata Town and IHCSA.**
- **If possible, please write your comments about places visited on your blog and on the Trip Advisor review site.**

**REMARKS**

- **This tour will be conducted with English-Japanese interpretation.**
- **The itinerary is subject to change without notice.**
- **Participants are requested to wear warm, comfortable, casual clothing.**

**BOOKING: On a first-come first-served basis. DEADLINE: October 21, 2016**

**Please fill in the attached form and return it to us by e-mail I: (shigeki.miki@ihcsa.or.jp) or FAX: (03-3580-7451)**

**PLACES TO BE VISITED**

**Uriwari Rock Garden Park (quarry site)**

This park is located on the site of a quarry where Takahata stone was excavated. Takahata stone was excavated here for several hundred years from the Edo period (1603-1868). In the town visitors can still see the old Takahata station building and stone torii of shrines.

**Ukitamu Fudoki no Oka Archeology Museum**

“Ukitamu” is an Ainu word meaning “moving wetland.” (The Ainu are an indigenous people of northern Japan.) The museum displays artifacts unearthed at local sites. Participants will be able to experience wearing Jomon period clothing and making fires and bows and arrows.

**Takahata Winery**

Housed in a Western-style building surrounding by grape fields, this is one of the leading wineries in Yamagata Prefecture. Participants will be able to inspect the manufacturing process, including bottling, and then sample various types of wine in the testing room.

**Oura Apple Orchard**

Yamagata Prefecture is a fruit kingdom, and the town of Takahata, which lies in a basin, has an ideal climate for growing fruit of various kinds. The Oura Apple Orchard has been growing apples for about half a century.

**Goto Sake Brewery**

Founded in 1788, the Goto Sake Brewery swears by local rice and aims to produce small quantities of high-quality sake. It was one of the first breweries to introduce order-made Japanese sake production. Participants will be able to tour the brewery and enjoy a taste of the sake.

**Yoneori Tourist Center (Safflower hand-dyeing experience and shopping)**

The shopping zone offers fresh seasonal vegetables and fruit of Takahata, as well as crafts and other items. In the restaurant you can enjoy the seasonal tastes of Takahata, such as beef and other local delights. You can also experience safflower hand-dyeing with its bright colors. Whatever their age, both adults and children will have fun at this facility.

**Mahoroba Onsen**

There is a public hot-spring bath at JR Takahata Station. The entrance is just by the ticket gates. Participants will be given a free admission ticket along with your room key when you check in at the hotel. The hot spring is open from 07:00 to 23:00 (reception closes at 21:30). The spring water is said to be good for such ailments as neuralgia, muscle pain, and fatigue.

**INTERNATIONAL HOSPITALITY AND CONFERENCE SERVICE ASSOCIATION**  
**CONTACT PERSON: Shigeki MIKI (Mr.) TEL: 03-3580-0072 FAX: 03-3580-7451**

