

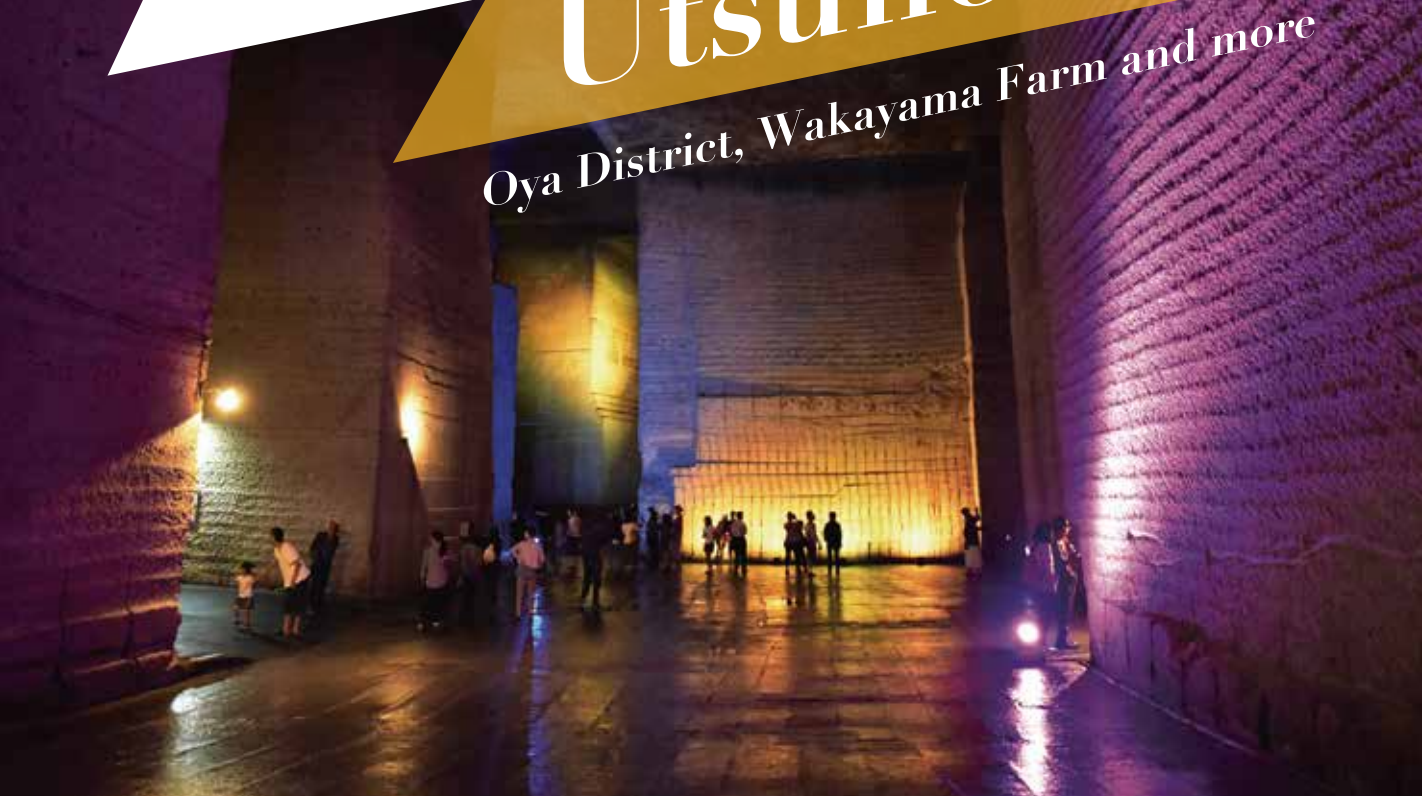


*Experience*

*The Wonders of*

**Utsunomiya**

Oya District, Wakayama Farm and more



# Delve deep and explore Utsunomiya

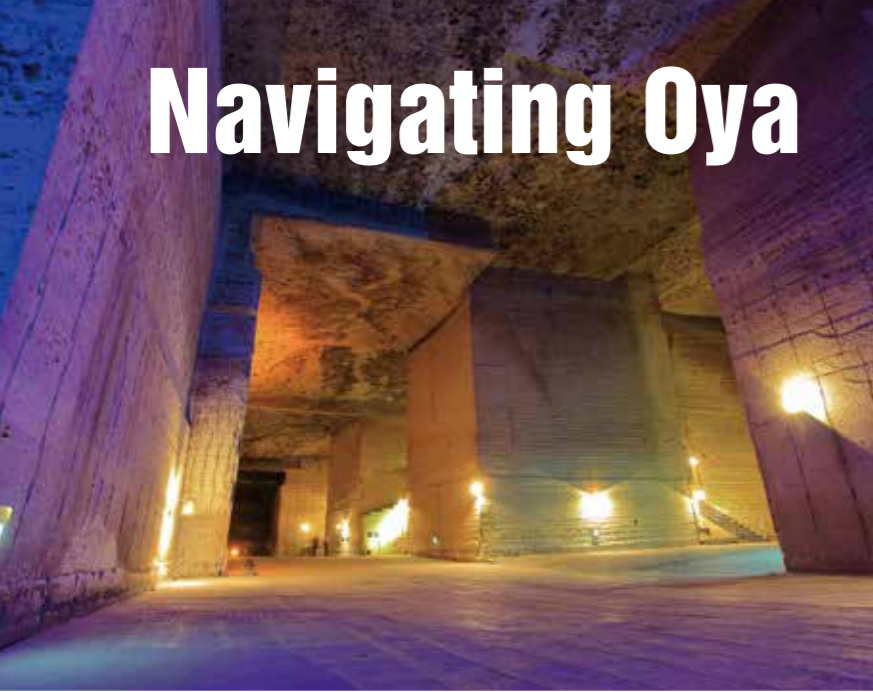
With only an hour's journey from Tokyo, Utsunomiya is conveniently situated between Tokyo and Nikko. It's home to the Oya District and the Wakayama Bamboo Farm, which are both popular attractions. In Oya, you can take a 60 m descent into an underground stone mine, that was dug by hand! Feel the impressive scale of work that has been done to mine these igneous rocks only found in Oya.

## Oya History Museum

Opening times  
Apr. ~ Nov. 9am ~ 5pm every day  
Dec. ~ Mar. 9:30am ~ 4:30pm\*  
\*Closed on Tuesdays  
<http://www.oya909.co.jp/>  
909 Oya-machi, Utsunomiya, Tochigi Pref.

With temperatures down in the mine of an all year average of 7°C, it's best to bring a jacket, even in the summer!

# Navigating Oya



# 大谷

## 1. Oya History Museum



Lose yourself 60 m underground and learn about how people mined Oya stone by hand. Winner of the "Cool Japan Award 2017!"

## Explore an underground lake (Booking required)



## Oya Underground

Take a majestic rafting boat ride along this underground lake. Instantly you'll grasp why it's used as a TV, movie location as well as for music videos. Never has the sound of water on stones sounded so cinematic.

### Contact Information

Enishi Travel  
TEL.+81-28-689-8782  
<https://enishi-travel.jp/tour/?cid=2>



## 3. Oya Temple



Built into a cave, this one of a kind temple is home to Japan's oldest stone Buddha.

## 4.Heiwa Kannon



"Heiwa" means peace in Japanese. This 27 m statue was carved into the rock face over 6 years.

## 5. Oya Fun Table



This stylish restaurant will be sure to please your eyes and taste buds. Surrounded by Oya stone, enjoy a delicious meal prepared using local products. To book, call 028-688-8409

## 2. Rockside Market Cafe & Souvenir Shop

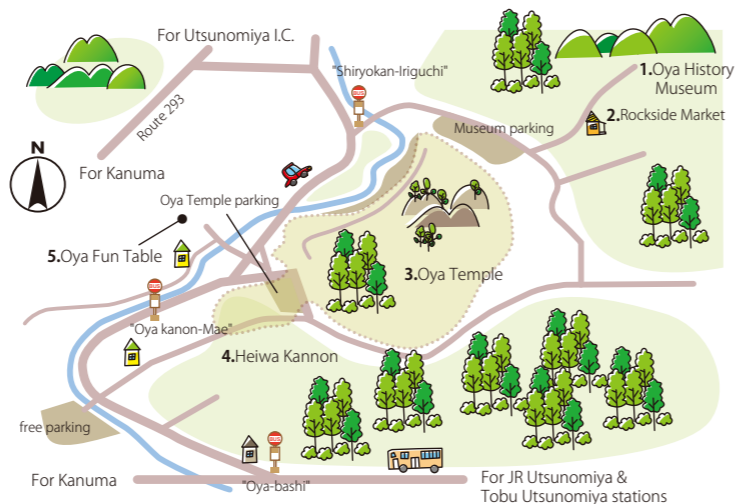


Here is your chance to grab a selection of goods made from the famous Oya stone.



"Buji Kaeru" means safe return. How many of these stone frogs can you spot on your journey?

## Oya Area Map



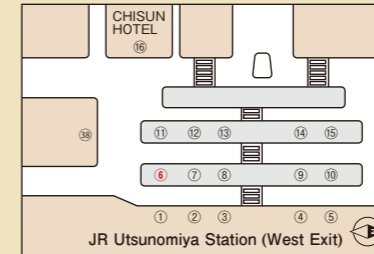
## How to get there



### Bus

About 30min. from JR Utsunomiya Station.  
From West Exit go to Bus Stop No.6 for Oya and Tateiwa.

Bus  
Timetable ▶



About 20min. from Tobu Utsunomiya Station.  
From Tobu Ekimae Bus Stop to Oya and Tateiwa.

Bus  
Timetable ▶



Google Maps is very convenient in helping you know your travelling times!



### Bicycle

For those who love combining adventure with exercise, we recommend renting a bicycle which will take you around 40min to reach Oya.

## Miya Cycle Station



Rental information ▶



## Save Money



### One-day passenger ticket for Oya sightseeing (¥1,850)

This ticket grants you admission to the Oya History Museum and a visitor pass for "Oya Kannon Statue (in Oya-Ji, Oya Temple)".  
**Saving you ¥250.**

[Includes] Bus fare for a round trip, an admission ticket for Oya History Museum, a visitor pass for "Oya Kannon Statue (In Oya-Ji, Oya Temple)"

[Place of Departure] West Exit of JR Utsunomiya Station (Bus Stop No.6)

[Where to Buy] Tourist Information inside JR Utsunomiya Station.  
+81-28-634-4182  
Weekdays 7:30am~7pm  
Saturday 8am~6pm  
Sunday 9am~5:30pm

Immerse yourself into a world of wonder

若山農場

# Wakayama Bamboo Forest

An Instagrammer's dream come day or night.

A farm that can be enjoyed through all the seasons! Take a leisurely stroll through one of the largest carefully maintained bamboo forests in Japan and enjoy the peacefulness. Without doubt a perfect date spot or friendly excursion is waiting to be captured on film.



After sunset, watch as the forest takes on a new character, being lit up atmospherically for your pleasure.

### Wakayama Farm Inc.

2018 Takaragihoncho, Utsunomiya City, Tochigi  
Weekdays 9am~5pm  
Weekends and national holidays  
Dec., Jan., Feb. 9am~7pm  
Mar., Apr., May., Sep., Oct., Nov. 9am~8pm  
Jun., July., Aug. 9am~9pm  
Tel +81 28 665 1417

Ap~June Bamboo picking, July~Aug. Blueberry picking,  
Sep~Oct. Chestnut searching.



photo by [@oya\\_official\\_jp](#)

## Wide-eyed in Wakayama Farm

The Wakayama family settled here 350 years ago. With 59 acres of flawless cultivated forest, it serves as a reminder of the ageless beauty of bamboo.

竹林



### Cool in kimono

Get the ultimate Japan vibe by kitting yourself out in a stunning kimono to make those pictures pop!



### Heaven in a hammock

Daydream away in one of their hammocks. An experience like this truly makes traveling the best remedy for anything.



### Take a bamboo breather

Amidst the adventure, why not take a short rest at the open air cafe. Enjoy a lovely cup of matcha in a bamboo cup, of which you can take home as a souvenir.

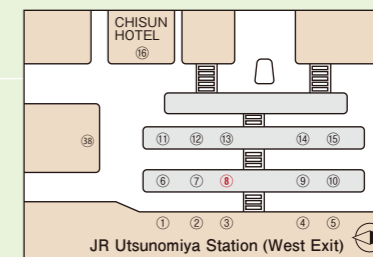
## How to get there



About 30min from JR Utsunomiya Station.  
From West Exit go to Bus Stop No.8.  
From there take the [52] heading to Ishinada, San-nou Danchi or take the [56] heading to Nikko Toshogu, Imaichi Shako or take the [58] heading to Funau.  
Get off at Osugiya Bus Stop and walk for 9 min.



Bus Timetable ▲



About 20min from Tobu Utsunomiya.  
From Tobu Ekimae Bus Stop take the [52] heading to Ishinada, San-nou Danchi or take the [56] heading to Nikko Toshogu, Imaichi Shako or take the [58] to Funau.  
Get off at Osugiya Bus Stop and walk for 9 min.



Bus Timetable ▲

For those who love combining adventure with exercise, we recommend renting a bicycle which will take you around 40min to reach Wakayama Bamboo Forest.



Rental information ▲



1

### GOING GAGA FOR GYOZA

Known as the best dumplings in Japan!

With over 300 unique gyoza stores packed into this city, it's unquestionably a must for any food junky. Have it your way! Pan-fried, deep-fried or boiled.



2

### JAMMING WITH JAZZ

Get drunk on Jazz sounds

Birth town of Japan's godfather of Jazz, Sadao Watanabe got the jazz scene sizzling. Take a night off and find a number of jazz bars scattered across the city.



3

### COCKTAILS IN THE CITY

Shaken not stirred

Time and time again representatives in Utsunomiya have won Japan's National Bartenders Competition. Leading the way is FLAIR BAR with its infamous bartender Michihiko Miyazaki.



4

### 3x3

The world's best 3 on 3 basketball tournament!

In the heart of Utsunomiya, this worldwide competition is packed full of intense layups, impressive dunks and satisfying hoops. Come and admire some of the world's best talents.



5

### JAPAN CUP CYCLE ROAD RACE

Bicycle! Bicycle!

Set in central Utsunomiya, the Japan Cup has easily become the most sought after and important race in Asia. Top professionals around the globe gather to battle it out on two wheels.

# 10 More Ways to Enjoy UTSUNOMIYA



6

### HACHIMANYAMA PARK

Birds eye cherry blossom viewing

Home to over 800 cherry blossom trees, this park will surely satisfy your desire to be moved by Japan's nature. Utsunomiya tower which is open to the public, delivers you a panoramic view from its observation deck.



7

### GALLERY HANNA

Not just an art gallery

This charismatic house has over 80 years of history with countless exhibitions every month. It was also once home to the great Hayao Miyazaki, founder of Ghibli animation studios.



8

### UTSUNOMIYA ZOO

Lions, white tigers and bears, oh my!

What sets this zoo aside from the rest is the interaction! Children as well as adults can enjoy hand feeding giraffes and kangaroos! Also you can get the chance to feed a white tiger!



9

### HOT SPRING

The ultimate relaxation experience

Romantic Village is home to its own natural onsen (hot spring). No matter what the season, you can enjoy them in this open and indoor bath which also offers professional massages.



10

### CRAFT BEER

Raising the bar

Romantic Village and Blue Magic have their own craft beer brewery. They both excel at being nerve centers for craft beers from Utsunomiya. So be sure to check them out when you visit.

# Finish the day with a night out!

Here are three suggestions.  
Check out other options online.



Read more here! Check out Utsunomiya's exciting nightlife on our new English website!



<https://nearbytokyo.com/utsunomiya-night-guide/>



## Yatai Yokochi

Socialize with the locals.

"Kampai!" meaning cheers in Japanese will be the common phrase along this alley. A place where you can enjoy over twenty Japanese pubs and restaurants. Each offering something different.



## Kayabuki

You'd have to be bananas to give this a miss!

Stepping inside this bar you will be greeted by a 2 foot tall waiter - a macaque monkey! Working for a maximum 2 hours a day, this little fellow will bring you hot towels and beer! A truly unforgettable experience which has entertained famous news outlets and celebrities around the world.



## RAMEN

The key to understanding the perfect ramen for you.

The four famous types of ramen are, Shio Ramen (salt-based), Shoyu Ramen (soy sauce-based), Miso Ramen (soybean-based) and Tonkatsu Ramen (pork-based). Discover some of the delicious ramen shops that Utsunomiya has to offer!

## TOP TIPS TO REMEMBER

### 1. OTOSHI - TABLE CHARGE

It is common in Japan to pay a sit down fee when in a bar. You will be compensated with a small snack which can range from a salad to a small dish of vegetables or meat. It is uncommon to refuse this.



### 2. TIPPING

This is not customary in Japanese culture and although you may feel you want to tip for good service, it can come across as rude or insulting. Tipping is also unnecessary in other situations such as taxis or hotels.

### 3. PAYING THE BILL

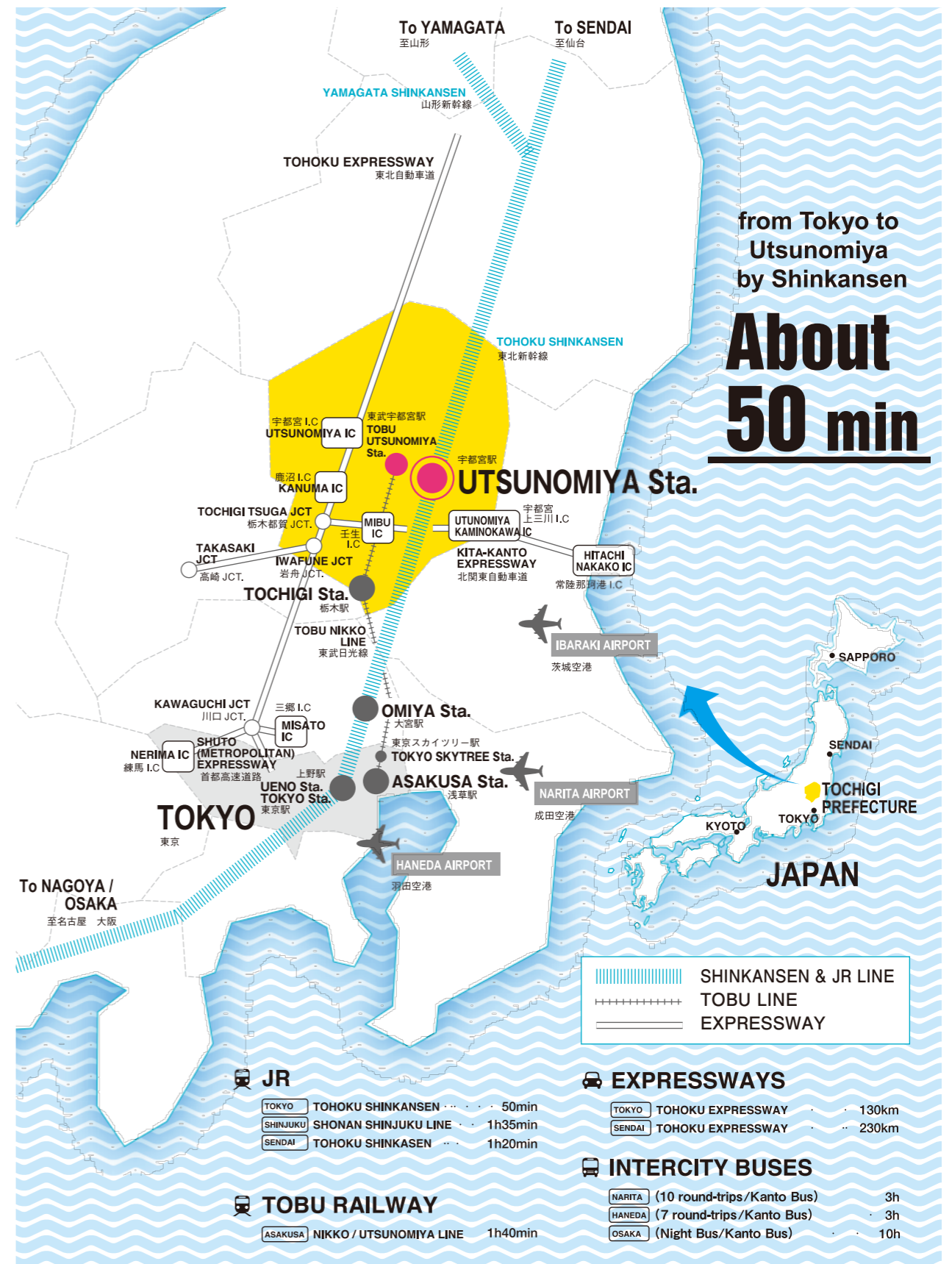
After ordering a meal the staff will usually leave your bill on the table ready for you to take it to the cashier at the end of your meal. In a bar you may have to ask for the bill which in Japanese is, "Okaikei wo onegai shimasu".



### 4. MUSIC CHARGE

Some bars that offer live music may charge an entrance fee when they are performing live music.

# Access Map



# Event Schedule

Late March to Early April

Cherry Blossom Viewing



August or September

Utsunomiya Fireworks Display



August or September

Furusato Miyamatsuri



November

Utsunomiya Gyoza Festival



# Other Ways to Enjoy Utsunomiya

## Utsunomiya Sightseeing App



Sightseeing app for the No.1 gyoza (dumpling) town - Utsunomiya

Google Play  
Android



App store  
iPhone



## Guidoor

An online guide helping tourists in Japan with everything from hotels to excursions.



## Utsunomiya Tourism Video

"RIGHT NOW! Utsunomiya" is a video introducing attractive sightseeing places in Utsunomiya.

