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## Toyama Culture and Heritage : 2 nights 3 days



Bound by snow-capped mountains and the Sea of Japan, Toyama is the ideal destination for enjoying spectacular scenery along with a rich heritage of craftsmanship. Take your time to explore the prefecture, from the dramatic beauty of Kurobe Gorge and the snowy Tateyama Kurobe Alpine Route, craft art in Takaoka and charming thatched-roof houses in the villages of Gokayama.

**Suggested Length** 2nights 3days

**Main Transportation** Train, Car, Walk

## Day 1

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### Kanazawa Station



Train: 20 min

2

### Shin-Takaoka Station (AM)



## Shokoji Temple

Shokoji Temple, a designated National Treasure, is the head temple of the Jodo Sect of Buddhism in Etchu Province. It boasts unprecedented scale and form for a branch temple. In December 2022, the main hall, the reception hall, and the ceremonial platform were designated as National Treasures. The main hall, which was built in the late Edo period (1603-1868), is based on the Amidado (Hall of Amida Buddha) of Honganji Temple, the sect's head temple. The plans for Shokoji Temple were also drawn up by the temple carpenters of Honganji Temple. The "Major Heisei Repairs," a 23-year project that began in 1998, has restored the main hall, the reception hall, the ceremonial platform, and twelve other structures to their original state in the late Edo period.

## Takaoka (PM)



### Takaoka City –Takaoka metal casting-

Takaoka City was established as a thriving metal casting industry centered upon the Kanayamachi district (literally, “metal merchants’ town”). This industry developed here after Maeda Toshinaga invited seven metal casters to set up shop in Takaoka after he commissioned Takaoka Castle and founded the town in the early seventeenth century. Copper was cast and worked in these early days, and the city subsequently earned a reputation as one of the country’s leading copperworking regions.

Many metalworking artisans continue to pursue their craft in Kanayamachi and wider Takaoka City, creating works ranging from Buddhist ritual objects to contemporary homewares. Rows of historic wood-latticed buildings remain in Kanayamachi, with some of them housing metal-related businesses. At Otera, a gallery-shop housed in a former metal casting workshop, you can experience making your own one-of-a-kind metal accessory. Kanaya is a brand and shop offering contemporary interior goods made in Takaoka’s metalworking workshops.

Day 1

## 4 Tonami (Stay)

### Rakudo-an

Rakudo An is an “art hotel” in a renovated azumadachi (traditional farmer’s residence) that dates back over 120 years and is surrounded by rice paddies. This rural retreat is conveniently located a little under 45 minutes from Takaoka Station by train.

The hotel focuses upon guests’ relaxation and revitalization via a muted and contemplative form of luxury. Each of the three guest rooms is named for the material upon which its interior design is themed: the “Paper” room, for example, has walls and ceilings covered in traditional washi paper. These rooms, as well as communal areas, feature an eclectic selection of artwork and furniture both Japanese and Western, traditional and contemporary.

Rakudo An strives to have a positive impact upon its environment: it contributes to both the preservation of the historic local village, and activities to produce biomass power using pruned branches from local woodland.

-Accommodation-

Price:43,000yen/person/night  
(breakfast,dinner,included)

Check-in:3:00pm Check-out :11:00am



## 1 Tonami Okado Activity (am)



-Experience-

Price:7,700yen/person (Lunch included)

Duration:3hr

Season:November-March

### ‘Okado Somen Noodle’ making experience

Since Edo period, ‘Okado Somen noodle’ has been made in the Scattered village Okado area . Due to its small production quantity, they are also known as ‘phantom Somen noodle’ In the market.

Okado Somen noodle, need cold temperature to make. Early winter to late spring during farming off-time, is the best season for Somen production. Kneaded in the clear water of the Shogawa River and exposed to the cold winds blowing down from the mountains in winter, these hand-pulled Somen are made by the nature of Toyama and the local people. The noodles are popular for its firmness and smoothness. At its peak time (early Showa period), there were more than 60 farmers making this noodles, but today the number is few.

See and experience the hand-rolling process of Somen and take it home as souvenir.

## Day 2

### 2 Tonami

 Car: 40 min

### 3 World Heritage Site, the Historic Villages of Gokayama/Ainokura (pm)



Gokayama consists of 40 small villages. The 2 villages , **Ainokura** and **Suganuma**, are registered as World Heritage Sites along with Shirakawago's Ogimachi village in Gifu Prefecture.

**Ainokura** is the largest village of traditional thatched farmhouses in the Gokayama area, with around 20 houses. 100 to 350 years old houses at Ainokura create a nostalgic atmosphere of a bygone Japan. Most of the houses are still private residences, some serve as cafes, museums, and even guesthouses for stay. The village scenery is beautiful in each season, but more in the winter when the houses are covered with snow. Staying overnight is the best way to enjoy the captivating sights including seasonal illumination events.

## 4 The Gassho House of Gokayama (Stay)



This gassho-style inn built about 200 years ago is located in a village designated as a World Heritage Site. It is a two-story building with a height of about 11 meters. The ceiling on the first floor is high and the interior is spacious and has been renovated to make living easier.

Enjoy a comfortable moment by the fireplace, and savor the natural, seasonal flavors of Gokayama.



-Accommodation-

### **SHO-SHICHI**

Price :18,700yen/person/night  
(breakfast,dinner,included)

\*From 2 guests

Check-in:3:00pm Check-out :10:00am

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## World Heritage Site, the Historic Villages of Gokayama/Suganuma(am)



**Suganuma** Gassho-style Village is a place where you can refresh your spirit and be at peace. Here, not only can you fully savor a traditional Japanese setting surrounding in lush nature, you can also enjoy facilities offering the chance to experience the village's history and tradition. In this village surrounded in an abundance of nature, there remain 9 gassho-style homes still active today, including the Gokayama Folk Museum, where one can experience Gokayama's history and tradition, as well as the Ensho-no-Yakata building, where visitors can gain a sense of the culture and lifestyle of Japan's forefathers. Although of course great to visit during the day time, the light-up display held each season is simply too good to miss! The magical setting will steal your heart and ensure you fully savor this dream-like land.



-Experience-  
Price:10,000yen/person/ (Lunch included)  
from 2 people  
Duration:3hrs



## Day 3

2

**Nanto City (pm)**



Car: 1hr

3

**Toyama-Airport**