

UNESCO'S Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity

Takayama Spring Festival

Night festival (Only on April 14th)
- Eleven floats parade throughout the town



Takayama Spring Festival (Sanno Matsuri)

April 14, 2023 – April 15, 2023

A UNESCO'S Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity Since Dec. 1st, 2016

Welcome to Takayama spring Festival in 2023.

Even though the origin of the festival is unknown, it is believed that the festival started between 1586 and 1692 when the Kanamori family governed the Hida Takayama area. Takayama Festival is regarded as one of the three most beautiful festivals in Japan. The predominant reason for this is that the main attractions of the Takayama Festival are the magnificent yatai, or festival floats, which have been preserved for about 300 years.

All floats are beautifully decorated with carvings, dolls, elaborately woven thick curtains, lacquerware, and bamboo blinds. These exquisite decorations are found not only on the outside where they are seen by the crowds, but also on the inside, such as under the roof and behind the doors, where elaborate carvings can be found.

April 14, 2023

9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Gathering of the yatai floats: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Seven floats on Shinmei-cho Street - Four floats near Nakabashi Bridge
11:00 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.	Karakuri Marionette Performance at Otabisho near the Nakabashi Red Bridge
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Gojyunko Procession - A procession with hundreds of townspeople wearing various traditional costume with traditional music and lion dancing.
3:00 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.	Karakuri Marionette Performance at Otabisho near the Red Nakabashi Bridge
6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Night Festival - Eleven Yatai floats are paraded through the streets.
9:00 p.m.	Floats are returned to their storehouses

April 15, 2023

9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Gathering of the yatai floats: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Five floats on San-machi Street - Two floats on Hon-machi Street - Four floats near Nakabashi Bridge
10:00 a.m. – 10:50 a.m.	Karakuri Marionette Performance at Otabisho near the Nakabashi Red Bridge
12:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Gojyunko Procession - A procession with hundreds of townspeople donning various traditional costume with traditional music and lion dancing.
2:00 p.m. – 2:50 p.m.	Karakuri Marionette Performance at Otabisho near the red Nakabashi Bridge
4:00 p.m.	Floats are returned to their storehouses

Incase of rain or it is likely to rain, the floats are not gathered on the streets, and will be kept in storehouses. Please do not touch the floats, and do not obstruct the procession.