



春 Spring

夏 Summer

秋 Autumn

冬 Winter

# The four seasons of Maebashi

Spring blossoms, summer greenery, autumn leaves and winter snow: The changing seasons are beautiful in Maebashi. You can also enjoy festivals steeped in history and other exciting events.

## Early - Mid-April

### Cherry blossoms at the Road Station Ogo Green Flower Bokujo

道の駅くりにんふらわー牧場 大胡の桜  
027-283-5792 (Administrative building, Restaurant Makiba) MAP P8B2  
Approximately 500 cherry trees bloom around the Kita Kanto region's largest Netherlands-style windmill, complete with viewing platform. During cherry blossom season, it's lit up at night on weekends.

## Early - Mid-April

### 1,000 Cherry Trees and Moss Phlox on the Southern Face of Mt. Akagi

赤城南面千本桜の桜 芝桜  
027-235-2211 (Maebashi Convention & Visitors Bureau) MAP P8B2  
About 1,000 cherry trees line the road for approximately 3.5km. In Miyagi Senbonzakura Forest on the west side, the cherry trees and approximately 150,000 blooming moss phlox compete in a "contest" of contrasting splendor.

## Mid-April - Early May

### Gunma Flower Park Tulips

ぐんまフラワーパークのチューリップ  
027-283-8189 MAP P8B2  
In the Flatopia Grand Flower Bed, which covers about 6,000m², 200,000 tulips in 50 varieties, from wild to modern species, are used to create beautiful floral patterns.

## Mid-May - Early June

### Roses in Rose Garden of Shikishima Park

敷島公園 ばら園のバラ  
027-232-2891 (Maebashi City Rose Park Maintenance Office) MAP P8A2  
In this garden next to Shikishima Park, 7,000 rose bushes in 600 species bloom. The orange and red gradations of the original cultivar "Akagi no Kagayaki" (Radiance of Akagi) are particularly lovely.

## Mid-May - Mid-July

### New Greenery of Rinkokaku

臨江閣の新緑  
027-231-5792 MAP P8A3  
The main building of this historic guest house was built in 1884, and Emperor Meiji once stayed there. The Japanese garden with its pond is beautiful. In May, the azaleas bloom, and in June, it's the hydrangeas' time to shine.

## Late September

### Maebashi Akagisan Hill Climb Rally

前橋七夕まつり (Maebashi Star Festival)  
027-898-5834 (Maebashi City Board of Education Sports Division) MAP P8A2  
It's a total of 20.8km from the front of the Maebashi Government Office Complex to the summit of Mt. Akagi, with a difference in elevation of 1313m. In this large-scale Hill Climb Rally, bicyclists race to the top.

## Early - Late October

### Autumn Colors on the Shore of Lake Onuma

大沼湖畔の紅葉  
027-287-8402 (Akagi Visitors Center) MAP P8B1  
On the shore of Lake Onuma, a caldera-type lake at an elevation of 1340m, you can observe the autumn foliage on Japanese rowans, Mongolian oaks and maple trees, while in nearby Kakumanbuchi Marsh, the autumn grasses also present a vivid picture.

## Mid-October

### Maebashi Matsuri

前橋まつり (Maebashi Festival)  
027-234-5108 (Maebashi Matsuri Implementation Committee) MAP P8A3  
The war was barely over when this festival was started in 1948 to celebrate the restoration of the city. Festival floats and portable shrines are paraded around, among other events, and the Danbe Odori (Danbe Dance), performed by city residents, is also worth watching.

## Mid-October - Early November

### Autumn Roses in the Rose Garden of Shikishima Park

敷島公園 ばら園の秋バラ  
027-232-2891 MAP P8A2 (Maebashi City Rose Park Maintenance Office)  
During the autumn rose flowering season, the Autumn Rose Festival is held here. Presents of cut roses are given out, and the rose bushes are lit up until 20:00.

## Early November

### Otori-sai

大酉祭  
027-231-5644 MAP P8A3 (Maebashi Tori no Ichi Festival Implementation Committee)  
This festival is held at Kumano Shrine, where a three-legged crow that is said to bestow blessings for a prosperous business and good harvest is enshrined. Booths selling bamboo rakes and lucky talismans line the paths.

## June - October

### Nordic Walking Around Lake Onuma

大沼周辺のノルディックウォーキング  
027-287-8227 MAP P8B1 (Mt. Akagi Sightseeing Alliance/Akagi Youth Nature Center)  
Using a pole in each hand to help adjust your movements, you can get a full workout with just a little effort. The wealth of natural beauty surrounding Lake Onuma makes it a perfect field for this activity.

## Mid - Late June

### Japanese Azaleas at Kakumanbuchi Marsh

覚満淵のレンゲツツジ  
027-287-8402 (Akagi Visitors Center) MAP P8B1  
A marsh 800m in circumference is located in the center of this high moor. Boardwalks and promenades join to create a 2km-long walkway through the marsh, and in one area, beautiful Japanese azaleas bloom.

## Mid - Late June

### Japanese Azaleas at Shirakaba Farm

白樺牧場のレンゲツツジ  
027-235-2211 MAP P8B1 (Maebashi Convention & Visitors Bureau)  
Approximately 100,000 Japanese azaleas have been planted on this farm at the southern foot of Mt. Akagi, and when they bloom, the scarlet flowers paint a vivid contrast against the new green leaves.

## Mid-June - Mid-July

### Ogikubo Park Hydrangeas

荻窪公園のアジサイ  
027-210-2010 MAP P8B2 (Maebashi City Park Management Office)  
This park is located on the grounds of Michi no Eki Akagi no Megumi, and on "Hydrangea Hill" inside the park there are approximately 16,000 hydrangea bushes in 10 varieties, including lacecap and mountain hydrangeas.

## Early July

### Maebashi Tanabata Matsuri

前橋七夕まつり (Maebashi Star Festival)  
027-234-5108 MAP P8A3 (Maebashi Tanabata Matsuri Implementation Committee)  
One of the Kita Kanto region's largest Tanabata festivals. Approximately 650 bamboo decorations adorn shopping streets in central Maebashi, including Chuo-dori Street, Chiyoda-dori Street, and Tachikawacho-dori Street.

## The second Saturday in August

### Maebashi Hanabi Taikai

前橋花火大会 (Maebashi Fireworks Festival)  
027-234-5111 MAP P8A2 (Maebashi Fireworks Implementation Committee)  
Approximately 13,000 fireworks are set off. The 400m long Niagara fireworks display is a must-see. People gather in the green areas around Owatari Bridge, which spans the Tonegawa River.

## January - March

### Snowshoeing around Lake Onuma

大沼周辺のスノーシュー  
027-287-8227 MAP P8B1 (Mt. Akagi Sightseeing Alliance/Akagi Youth Nature Center)  
Snowshoe on frozen Lake Onuma or across the snowy fields of Kakumanbuchi Marsh. It's fun to look for the tracks of wild birds and animals. There are also guided tours.

## January - March

### Skiing at Mt. Akagi No. 1 Ski Slope

赤城山第1スキー場のスキー  
027-287-8311 (Onuma Sanso Villa) MAP P8B1  
The Mt. Akagi No. 1 Ski Slope is Japan's best small ski resort. There is a snow escalator (moving beltway), so kids can enjoy skiing too.

## December - March

### Snowy Mountain Climbing

雪山登山  
027-287-8402 MAP P8B1 (Akagi Visitors Center)  
The Mt. Kurobi - Mt. Komagatake Course introduced in the Hiking on Mt. Akagi (→P2) is also popular when the mountains are covered in snow. There is an excellent view of frozen Lake Onuma.

## Every year on January 9

### Maebashi Hatsuichi Matsuri

前橋初市まつり (Maebashi First Market Festival)  
027-235-2211 MAP P8A3 (Hatsuichi Matsuri Implementation Committee)  
This traditional event has continued for more than 400 years. At the Maebashi Hachimangu Shrine, people bring old daruma dolls to burn at an event called the Daruma Kuyo or Daruma Memorial Service. Booths selling daruma dolls and lucky talismans line the paths.

## Mid-January - March

### Ice Fishing for Wakasagi on Lake Onuma

大沼の氷上ワカサギ釣り  
027-287-8511 MAP P8B1 (Akagi Onuma Fishing Cooperative Association / Aoki Ryokan)  
From September, it's possible to fish for wakasagi by boat, but from mid-January to March, the lake freezes over, and people enjoy fishing through holes cut in the ice.