



## Hakuba Village was selected “Best Tourism Village 2023” By United Nations World Tourism Organization

UNWTO (United Nations World Tourism Organization) announced the 2023 Best Tourism Villages at its regular meeting held in Samarkand on October 18. This year, approximately 260 regions from 60 different countries were nominated, the largest number of nominations to date, and three villages from Japan were selected among them. The three villages selected from Japan were Hakuba Village, Shirakawa Village famous for the World Heritage Site Shirakawa-go, and Oku-Matsushima, one of the three most scenic spots in Japan. In addition, Biei-cho, which was selected as an



area eligible to participate in the 2021 Upgrade Program, has been upgraded to the Best Tourism Village category.

Earlier in the year, Japan began the domestic screening process, and after a review by the Japan Tourism Agency in March, the nominees were narrowed down to the three regions selected this year. In addition, the amount of required documents was more than double from the first year, and with the addition of video submissions the award was given, despite the extremely high level of difficulty involved.

BTV is the project to certify regions that promote and preserve cultural heritage and sustainable development through tourism, in accordance with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) started in 2021.

In the first year, "Miyama Town" and "Niseko Town" were selected, but were unable to participate in the award ceremony due to COVID19. Last year, there was no selection from Japan, so this year's award ceremony marked the first participation from Japan, and Mayor Maruyama of Hakuba Village was the only Japanese to attend the ceremony and receive the certificate there by hand.



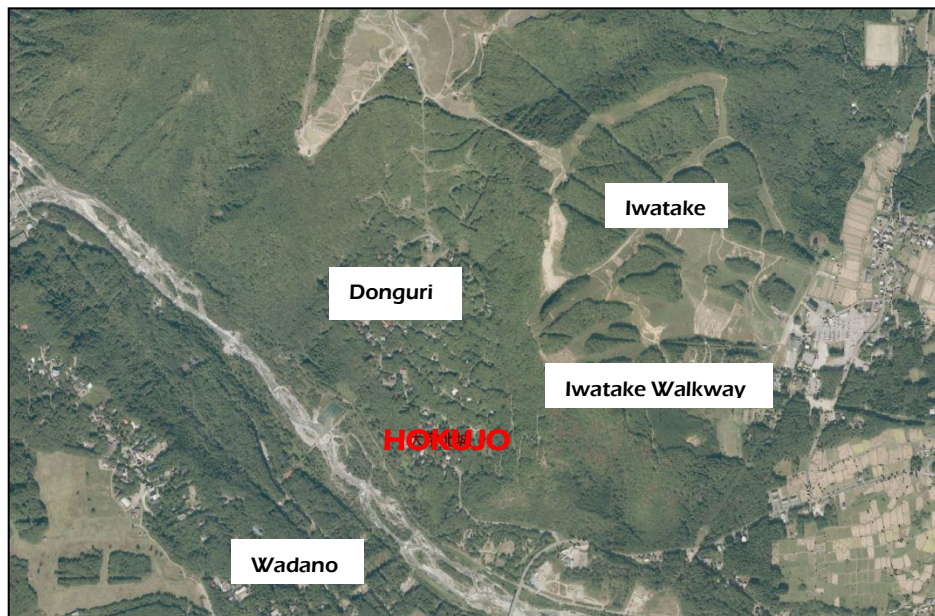
The term "Forest Pests, etc." as used in Article 2(1) Forest Pest Control Act\* will be defined as, beings which causes damage to trees forests, seeds and seedlings. Japanese Oak Wilt and Weevil (pine wood nematode) are one of the popular ones. \*Forest Pest Control Act (Act No. 53 of 1950)

## Situation in Hakuba

In Hakuba Village, the outbreak occurred around 2009 and was temporarily ended, but reoccurred around 2020 in the Iwatake and Donguri districts, etc. Since 2021, measures have been taken around residences and walkways to prevent human damage and ensure the safety of tourists, however, measures have not been taken in forests where there are no roads and no easy access to the area. Therefore, there was a strong demand for landscape measures, and a supplementary budget was approved by a majority vote at the September 2023 Village council meeting. According to the Forestry Agency, the number of oak wilts throughout Japan peaked in 2010 and declined to less than 100,000 m<sup>3</sup>, however by 2019 it had surged again to about 192,000 m<sup>3</sup>, and in 2022 it will be 151,000 m<sup>3</sup> in 41 prefectures throughout Japan.

## Oak Blight

Japanese forest pest that has been around since the Edo Era (pine blight is a non-native pest). Based on past cases, it takes about 5 years to end the outbreak because it is a natural cycle, but the location of the outbreak can shift (it will continue until there are no more trees for the oak bark beetle to enter). Recent studies have shown that oak blight occurs at elevations above 1,300 m. Studies in Gifu Prefecture have shown that oak bark beetles do not overwinter at elevations above 780 m. However, this may change due to global warming and other factors (research results only, not verified). Dead tree removal is important as a risk management measure against human damage, however it is not possible to remove all dead trees. Chemical treatment such as pray control by air and other control measures are also important.



## Area-specific measures

### Donguri area and Iwatake Walkway area

- \*1) Special logging
- \*2) tree fumigation
- \*3) chemical spraying are prioritized in order to prevent human damage.

### Shinden forest area

Although the area is steep and difficult to remove due to the rocky terrain, only logging was conducted for scenic reasons. Large-diameter trees are dense, and the lower part of the area is part of the designated landslide prevention zone, so it was determined which trees should be felled after a site survey.

### Iwatake Snow Field Area

The Cableway company surveys the damaged trees in the area. The village and the cableway company coordinate the processing and cost, etc.

### Wadano area

Flasks (wood chips) were confirmed in the oak trees. The district injected chemicals, etc., and the village provided materials.

For inquiries: Agriculture Division  
Hakuba Village Office Tel: 85-0766

## Red Pine

It is an exotic forest pest that infects red pine. Pine bark beetle carries pine bark beetles, which infiltrate the trees and kill them. The disease is spreading nationwide, with outbreaks occurring in the Matsumoto-Omachi area. The pine needles die rapidly from summer to fall. Healthy red pine trees secrete resin when their trunks are damaged, but infected trees either produce significantly less resin or none at all. In cooler areas, some trees may survive until the following year with a normal appearance, and then die in the following spring or early summer, known as "over-year die-off".

The cause of the spread has been reported to be rising temperatures and the attachment of chamomile attached to automobiles to the red pines.

In the village, mizorano and Meitetsu area streets are lined with wild red pines, and should be observed in the future.

## wildlife nuisance in Village

Currently, Hakuba Village is facing a large number of damage to farms and crops caused by wild birds and wild animals such as monkeys, wild boars, deer, and bears. Hakuba Village has organized the Hakuba Village Pest Damage Prevention Committee (JA, head of Hakuba Hunting Club, and leaders of each ward, etc.) to take measures, and it is also important for each neighborhood to cooperate in mowing grass.

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The mayor of the village appoints "Bird and Wildlife Control Teams" (mainly consisting of Hakuba Hunting Club members and Agricultural Division) to exterminate and hunt down these harmful wild animals. In addition to the use of fireworks to chase away monkeys and other animals and the regular extermination of wild animals using traps and guns, emergency extermination of bears and other large animals may be necessary when they appear in the local area.

Recently, the number of reports of damage and sightings of wild animals has been on the increase compared to a decade ago, and this year in particular, the number of sightings has doubled compared to last year.

Number of Sightings of Bears

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023
Number of Sightings	38	25	28	57

The members of the Wild Animals Damage Control Team will be dressed as shown in the photo (orange vest and hat). Depending on the appearance of wild animals, they may work near private residences, etc. We would appreciate your understanding and cooperation.



For inquiries: Agriculture Division Hakuba Village Office Tel: 85-0766

## Tax Reporting of Depreciable Assets

When you buy fixed assets for your business purpose, you would mind if such cost can be immediately deductible or should be capitalized for future depreciation. That is a tax concern from income tax or corporation tax (national taxes).

### What is a Depreciable Asset?

It is a fixed asset other than land or building and for business use. However, an intangible fixed asset (e.g., software, goodwill) and a car which is subject to automobile taxes are excluded from the taxable assets for FAT purpose. As it is limited to "business use", depreciable assets owned by self-employed but for private use should be excluded from the taxable assets. In contrast, any depreciable asset, regardless of idle or not in service, will be counted as the taxable asset as long as it is immediately available for business use. As aforementioned, municipal will impose the tax on Depreciable Assets, not registered, based on the tax filing by the taxpayers. Therefore the taxpayers are required to file the tax return even for the year when aggregated value of the Depreciable Assets is less than 1,500,000 yen. The filing due date is always end of January regardless of fiscal year of a corporate taxpayer. So you need to keep good record of Depreciable Assets to know their value as of every January 1 separately from fiscal year ending date.

### Where to file?

You need to file FAT return to each municipal where your business assets are physically located. Accordingly, the assets used in branch / sales representative offices, factories should be reported to respective municipal where such facility is located.

For Overview of depreciation,  
Go to National Tax Agency website.



For inquiries and information: Taxation Division TEL: 0261-85-0712

### Asobi Manabi Fest 2023 was held at the Childcare Shien Room and Kinagashi Park on October 14.



Local residents, organizations, and vendors offered a wide variety of programs/workshops to offer a wide variety of experiences. About 600 visitors enjoyed the event under beautiful weather. We would like to thank everyone who cooperated and participated in the event.

## ■ Payment Schedule of This Month

	Payment due date	Account transfer :Kouza Furikae	Payment Method				Payment Method	
			Cash	Account Transfer	Credit card	Payment App.	Cash	Account Counter at Village Office Bank institutions Convenience stores
6th of 10 payments National Health Insurance Tax	November 30(Thu)	November 27(Mon)	○	○	○	○	Bank Withdrawal	JA Bank Dai-Hoku, 82 Bank, Nagano Bank, Matsumoto Credit Union (Shin-Kin Bank), Japan Post Bank
4 <sup>TH</sup> of 8 payments Medical Insurance For Elderly			○	○	—	—		
Water & Sewer Bills	November 27(Mon)	November 27(Mon)	○	—	—	○	Payment App	

Water and Sewer Division TEL 0261-85-0766 Taxation Division 0261-85-0712



### Hakuba Village Office Parking Lot for School Buses

The Hakuba Kita Elementary School bus is currently using the Hakuba Village Office Parking Area. Since two parking spaces are used for large buses, please do not park your cars there all day during the school bus operation period.

We appreciate your cooperation

Hours of operation: 7:40 to 8:10/14:50 to 16:10

\*The buses will be in operation on school days except holidays and national holidays.



## ■ Kosodate Shien Room

• Notices/Information from Kosodate Shien Room is posted on the Hakuba Village office official website and Hakuba Village Maternal and Child Health Handbook App "Ohisama Memories by BO-SHI-MO:母子モ". <https://www.mchh.jp/login>



For inquiries/  
Child-Raising Support Division TEL: 0261-85-8101

## ■ Child Check-up

Venue: Fureai Center 1F

Date	Event	Eligible Child
Nov 27(Mon)	Physical Development Consultation	Appointment needed
28(Tue)	Health check-up for 2-month-old	Born in September, 2023 *at Shien Room
Dec 4(Mon)	Childcare/Breastfeeding Consultation	Appointment needed
7(Thu)	Health check-up for infant	Born in July, 2023
	Health check-up for toddler	Born in December 2022 - January 2023
18 (Mon)	Physical Development Consultation	Appointment needed
21(Mon)	Health Checkup for 3-year-old	Born in October 2020 - December 15th,2020
26(Tue)	Health check-up for 2-month-old	Born in October, 2023

## ■ Clinics, Hospitals and Pharmacy's open during holidays

Opening Hours: 9 A.M. ~ 5 P.M.					Reception Hours: 9A.M. ~ 11A.M. (Please call before coming over)			Pharmacy On Duty in Hakuba	
M	D	Day of week	Clinic On Duty			Dental Clinic			
			Northern District (Hakuba • Otari)	Omachi City	Southern District (Ikeda • Matsukawa)				
November	3	FRI	Otarimura Clinic	Nomura Clinic	Yoshimura Clinic	Kashiwabara Dental Clinic	Hakuba	0261-71-1182	—
	5	SUN	Kurita Clinic	Ito Clinic	Midori Clinic	Green Dental Clinic	Omachi	0261-23-6666	Ota Pharmacy
	12	SUN	Yokosawa Clinic	Ishizone Clinic	Azumi Hospital	Oda Dental Clinic	Hakuba	0261-72-6482	Hakuba Apple Pharmacy
	19	SUN	Kamishiro Clinic	Kakishita Clinic	Herb-nosato Clinic	Okuhara Dental Clinic	Omachi	0261-23-0500	Fujinoya Pharmacy
	23	THU	Hakuba Clinic	Endo Internal Medicine Clinic	Azumi Hospital	Iizawa Dental Clinic	Omachi	0261-23-7050	Fujinoya Pharmacy
	26	SUN	Shintani Clinic	Mogami Orthopedic Clinic	Kondo Clinic	Azumino Dental Clinic	Matsukawa	0261-62-2332	Fujinoya Pharmacy
December	3	SUN	Otarimura Clinic	Kikuchi Clinic	Nishimori Orthopedic Clinic	Otari Dental Clinic	Otari	0261-82-2762	—
	10	SUN	Yokosawa Clinic	Ono Clinic	Azumi Hospital	Omachi Municipal General Hospital	Omachi	0261-22-0415	Hakuba Apple Pharmacy
	17	SUN	Kurita Clinic	Hirabayashi Clinic	Ota Clinic	Odagiri Dental Clinic	Ikeda	0261-62-3134	Ota Pharmacy
	24	SUN	Kamishiro Clinic	Yokosawa Internal Medicine Clinic	Matsumoto Clinic	Kaneko Dental Clinic	Omachi	0261-23-2200	Fujinoya Pharmacy

For emergency cases of pediatrics and internal diseases on weekday nights, please go to "North Alps Weekday Night Emergency Center for Pediatrics & Internal Medicine". TEL: 0261-26-6199

Please do not request for the ambulance service for minor injury and illness or it will be overloaded when there is an emergency.

For inquiries:  
Health and Welfare Division  
0261-85-8101