

Sunrise Echigo-Tsumari Tour -

Echigo-Tsumari Art Field 1-Day Tour (Round Trip from Tokyo)

Experience plan details

1. This special 1-day tour with a National Government Licensed English Guide Interpreter takes customers to a satoyama (regions comprising arable flat lands near villages and mountain foothills) which serves as a setting for the Echigo-Tsumari Art Triennale, one of the world's largest international art festivals.

2. Tunnel of Light (Kiyotsu Gorge Tunnel) by Ma Yansong/MAD Architects

This approximately 750-meter-long pedestrian tunnel in Kiyotsu Gorge, one of Japan's 3 great gorges, was reborn as the Tunnel of Light by Ma Yansong/MAD Architects in 2018. The stainless steel reflective material creates a fantastic view of the gorge, and the observation point at the end is a popular sightseeing spot where visitors can enjoy a beautiful kaleidoscope-like view of the scenery reflected on the basin at one's feet.

3. For Lots of Lost Windows by Utsumi Akiko

Using the surrounding landscape as a backdrop, this artwork of a window frame without glass standing on a small hill allows onlookers to appreciate the changing seasons of Echigo-Tsumari through curtains swaying in the wind. As the title "For Lots of Lost Windows" suggests, this artwork alludes to the windows that were shattered in the 2004 Chuetsu Earthquake, conveying memories and scenes of the earthquake that can only be told in this region.

4. The Last Class by Christian Boltanski + Jean Kalman

This Echigo-Tsumari Art Triennale artwork by Christian Boltanski and Jean Kalman set in the former Higashikawa Elementary School expresses human absence. Heartbeats echoing in the darkness, countless flickering light bulbs, fans, images, straws, and other objects stimulate all the senses at this artwork that can be experienced with the whole body.

5. Matsudai NOHUTAI Field Museum

With the building itself as an artwork, this facility designed by Dutch architect group MVRDV features works by Ilya and Emilia Kabakov, Yayoi Kusama, and other world-renowned artists scattered throughout the area. Enjoy the charm of colorful forms and contemporary art standing out against the backdrop of the satoyama scenery that changes with the season.

6. Museum on Echigo-Tsumari, MonET

This contemporary art museum opened after a renewal in 2021 as a base facility for the Echigo-Tsumari Art Triennale. The museum features an exhibition space that combines the natural environment of satoyama with contemporary art, and has permanent and planned exhibitions of works that make use of local culture and nature. Leandro Erlich's "Palimpsest: Pond of Sky," an iconic permanent exhibition, is a popular experiential installation that creates the illusion of being in water.

About Initiatives for Sustainable Tourism:

This tour promotes Environment(Eco)-friendly efforts and Cross-cultural Understanding as stated under Sunrise Tours' Sustainable Development Goals.

We advocate for responsible travel, and urge one and all to become responsible travelers.

Please check the following page for details.

<http://jtbgmt.com/en/g-web/sdgs>



Itinerary

Day	Time		Duration (min)	Itinerary	Itinerary Details/Special Items	Transportation	Meal
	Start	End					

1	7:50	8:00	Meet at Tokyo Midtown Yaesu B1F Bus Terminal Tokyo Yaesu in front of Information	Tokyo Midtown Yaesu B1F Bus Terminal Tokyo Yaesu in front of Information Meeting Time: 07:50/ Departure Time: 08:00 A National Government Licensed English Guide Interpreter will meet with tour participants. *Please check [Important Notes/Supplements: Meeting/Pick-up/Pick-up Location].		
1		5	Transfer	To Tokyo Station Shinkansen Boarding Area	On Foot	
1		90	Transfer	Board the Joetsu Shinkansen (ordinary car, reserved seating) and head to Echigo Yuzawa Station. *Please check the [Important Notes/Supplements: About Shinkansen]	Shinkansen	
1	9:30	9:40	Arrival at Echigo Yuzawa Station		On Foot	
1	9:50	30	Meet in front of Echigo-Yuzawa Visitor Center in the Echigo-Yuzawa Station Concourse (2F)	*If there are customers joining the tour round-trip from Echigo-Yuzawa Station, the tour will meet at Echigo-Yuzawa Station.	On Foot	
1	10:00		Depart from Echigo-Yuzawa Station East Exit		On Foot	
1			Transfer	From Echigo-Yuzawa Station East Exit to Kiyotsu Gorge Tunnel	Bus	
1	10:30	11:30	60	Tunnel of Light (Kiyotsu Gorge Tunnel) This 750-meter-long pedestrian-only tunnel offers a spectacular view of Kiyotsu Gorge, one of Japan's 3 great gorges. Reborn as the artwork Tunnel of Light by Ma Yansong/MAD Architects during the 2018 Art Triennale, the work is made of a stainless steel reflective material that creates a fantastic gorge scenery reflection. In particular, the observation point at the end offers a beautiful kaleidoscope-like view of the gorge reflected in the basin at one's feet. *Please check [Exemptions/Itinerary Guarantee: Itinerary/Destinations].	On Foot	
1			Transfer	From Kiyotsu Gorge Tunnel to "For Lots of Lost Windows"	Bus	

1	11:50	12:05	25	"For Lots of Lost Windows"	Using the surrounding landscape as a backdrop, this artwork of a window frame without glass standing on a small hill allows onlookers to appreciate the changing seasons of Echigo-Tsumari through curtains swaying in the wind. As the title "For Lots of Lost Windows" suggests, this artwork alludes to the windows that were shattered in the 2004 Chuetsu Earthquake, conveying memories and scenes of the earthquake that can only be told in this region.	On Foot	
1				Transfer	From "For Lots of Lost Windows" to "The Last Class"	Bus	
1	12:25	13:00	35	"The Last Class"	This Echigo-Tsumari Art Triennale artwork by Christian Boltanski and Jean Kalman set in the former Higashikawa Elementary School expresses human absence. Heartbeats echoing in the darkness, countless flickering light bulbs, fans, images, straws, and other objects stimulate all the senses at this artwork that can be experienced with the whole body.	On Foot	Lunch
1				Transfer	From "The Last Class" to the Lunch Venue	Bus	
1	13:20			Lunch (Echigo Matsudai Satoyama Shokudo)	Enjoy a buffet-style meal featuring plenty of rice from the rice terraces and fresh vegetables. *Please check [Important Notes/Supplements: Regarding Meals].	On Foot	Lunch
1		15:00		Matsudai NOHUTAI Field Museum (free time for sightseeing)	With the building itself as an artwork, this facility designed by Dutch architect group MVRDV features works by Ilya and Emilia Kabakov, Yayoi Kusama, and other world-renowned artists scattered throughout the area. Enjoy the charm of colorful forms and contemporary art standing out against the backdrop of the satoyama scenery that changes with the season. *Please check [Exemptions/Itinerary Guarantee: Itinerary/Destinations].	On Foot	
1				Transfer	From Matsudai NOHUTAI Field Museum to Museum on Echigo-Tsumari, MonET	Bus	

1	15:30	16:30	60	Museum on Echigo-Tsumari, MonET	<p>This contemporary art museum opened after a renewal in 2021 as a base facility for the Echigo-Tsumari Art Triennale. The museum features an exhibition space that combines the natural environment of satoyama with contemporary art, and has permanent and planned exhibitions of works that make use of local culture and nature. Leandro Erlich's "Palimpsest: Pond of Sky," an iconic permanent exhibition, is a popular experiential installation that creates the illusion of being in water. Visitors can experience a strange feeling as if walking underwater at this exhibition that promotes regional development and culture through art.</p> <p>*Please check [Exemptions/Itinerary Guarantee: Itinerary/Destinations].</p>	On Foot	
1				Transfer	From Museum on Echigo-Tsumari, MonET to Echigo-Yuzawa Station	Bus	
1	18:10	18:40		Departure from Echigo Yuzawa Station *Specific Shinkansen times may not be designated.	Board the Joetsu Shinkansen (ordinary car, reserved seating) and head to Tokyo Station. There is no accompanying National Government Licensed Guide Interpreter while on board the Shinkansen.		
1			90	Transfer	Board the Joetsu Shinkansen (ordinary car reserved seating) and head to Tokyo Station or Ueno Station. *Please check the [Important Notes/Supplements: About Shinkansen]	Shinkansen	
1	19:40	20:00		Tokyo Station or Ueno Station Arrival	Tour ends upon arrival at Tokyo Station or Ueno Station.		

Min. pax number to book tour:

1

Min. pax number to run tour:

2

Included:

Vehicle charges during the tour; National Government Licensed English Guide Interpreter fee; Lunch charge; Shinkansen tickets (round trip, reserved seating) between Tokyo Station and Echigo-Yuzawa Station; Other admission fees included in the tour

Not included:

Drink charges during lunch

Remarks:

Remarks
<p>Planning Company: JTB Global Marketing & Travel Inc.</p> <p>Address: 2-3-14 Higashi Shinagawa, Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo</p> <p>Japan Tourism Agency Registered Travel Agent (No. 1723)</p> <p>A member of the Japan Association of Travel Agents</p>
<p>[Reception Method]</p> <p>At reception, please show the reservation confirmation sheet or e-mail (printout/digital copy on mobile device) to staff.</p>
<p>[Cancellation Charge]</p> <p>- Cancellation fees will be charged from 10 days in advance.</p>
<p>[Operation Conditions/Tour Conditions]</p> <p>- If the minimum number of participants (2) is not met by 7 days before the scheduled date, the tour on that date may be canceled.</p> <p>- The last reception day (reservation deadline) is 4 days prior to the tour.</p> <p>- If the tour is canceled, customers will be notified by the conducting company or their travel agent.</p> <p>- The itinerary displayed on the booking screen is the final itinerary. A separate copy of the final itinerary will not be sent to participants.</p> <p>- Depending on vehicle availability, several vehicles may be provided.</p> <p>- Cancellation may occur due to traffic obstruction caused by heavy snowfall or inclement weather in the Echigo-Tsumari region.</p> <p>- For requests regarding tours where answers from the tour operator are required in advance, please input in the Remarks field and contact the tour operator.</p>
<p>[Exemptions/Itinerary Guarantee: Itinerary/Destinations]</p> <p>- The order of activities and arrival times may differ depending on road conditions and congestion at destinations.</p> <p>- Specific seats on board the bus cannot be requested.</p> <p>- The Kiyotsu Gorge Tunnel is 750 meters long and takes about 30-40 minutes to walk round-trip.</p> <p>- The Panorama Station ("water mirror") at the end of Kiyotsu Gorge Tunnel is walkable with a depth of about 0.5-2 cm, but as it is easy to get wet, please bring extra shoes, socks, towels, etc. In addition, as it is possible for multiple groups to take photos simultaneously without waiting in line at the Panorama Station, customers may freely enter and enjoy taking photos.</p>
<p>About Matsudai NOHUTAI Field Museum</p> <p>The paid area artworks/facilities that can be viewed on this tour are as follows.- Blackboard Classroom</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Art Drawers - 10 Albums - Labyrinth - The Artist's Library - The Palace of Projects - How to Make Yourself Better - The Rice Fields - Rotating Absence <p>*Customers will be viewing on their own. Please be mindful of the allotted viewing time.</p> <p>Rules and Etiquette for Visiting Museum on Echigo-Tsumari, MonET:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Flash photography is strictly prohibited to protect the artworks. Please confirm with staff members in advance as some artworks can be photographed. - The artworks on display will be changed regularly, and some areas may not be open to the public during the exhibition change period. - Please do not touch the artworks. - Please view the museum exhibits in silence. - Please leave large luggage in a locker. - Eating and drinking are prohibited outside designated areas.

[Important Notes/Supplements: Meeting/Pick-up/Pick-up Location]

Meeting Location: Tokyo Midtown Yaesu B1F Bus Terminal Tokyo Yaesu in front of Information

<https://bt-tokyoyaesu.com/en/accessmap-a-en/>

Meeting Time: 07:50

Departure Time: 08:00

*Customers who are late for the departure time will have their reservations canceled. Please give yourself plenty of time.

[Important Notes/Supplements: Regarding Children/Infants]

- Children 0-5 years old may join free of charge, but will not be provided with lunch and train seats. If lunch or train seats are required, please make a booking under the child rate.

[Important Notes/Supplements: Regarding Meals]

With Lunch: Echigo Matsudai Satoyama Shokudo (Japanese/Western-style buffet)

- This buffet-style meal uses plenty of rice from the rice terraces and fresh vegetables. The menu lineup has about 20 kinds of local flavors and homemade dishes.

- Drink charges are not included.

- As lunch is a buffet, requests for vegetarian meals cannot be accommodated.

[Important Notes/Supplements: What to Wear/Bring]

- Please wear shoes and clothing which are easy to walk in.

- This tour involves walking outdoors. Please take measures against heat depending on the season.

Summer: Temperatures can reach up to 35°C. Please bring items that protect from the heat such as sunglasses, hat, parasol, neck cooler, etc.

- As there may be a lot of mosquitoes in June to August, please bring insect repellent.

- In rainy weather, using a raincoat is recommended as it offers better visibility than an umbrella, won't break in strong winds, and keeps the hands free.

- Large luggage such as suitcases cannot be brought during the tour. Please have them delivered in advance, or leave them in a locker or at your hotel before participating.

[Important Notes/Supplements: Bus/Hired Car Company]

One of the following:

Essa Kanko Bus; Uonuma Chuo Transport; Yuzawa Uonuma Taxi; I.K Alliance; Izumi Kanko Bus; Echigo Kotsu; Ootaki Kanko Bus; Kashiwazaki Kotsu; Kan-etsu Kotsu; Kanbara Tetsudo; Ginrei Kanko Bus; Kubiki Jidosha; Keinan Bus; Koshiwa Kanko Bus; Joshin Kanko Bus; Showa Kanko; Shinei Kensetsu Kankobu; Central Kanko; Takasago Kanko Bus; Chuetsu Traffic; Naoetsu Kanko; Nagaden Bus; Nagano Kotsu; Niigata Kotsu Kanko Bus; Niigata Shinko Kotsu; Niigata Daiichi Kanko Bus; Niigata Chuo Kanko Bus; or Nihonkai Bus

*Depending on the number of tour participants, transportation to be used may be other than a small-size bus (minibus), a hired car (van, sedan), a taxi, etc.

[Important Notes/Supplements: Other] [Important Notes/Supplements: About Shinkansen]

- Please check the tickets and final itinerary for the train number and times. Changes may not be made to the scheduled Shinkansen.

- The Shinkansen schedule may vary slightly due to unforeseen conditions.

- No refunds will be issued even if the Shinkansen tickets are not used. In such cases, please use public transportation to the destination on your own.

- If you must cancel your tour after receiving the Shinkansen tickets, please send the tickets back to the planning company (see Remarks 1).

- Changes may not be made to the scheduled Shinkansen. Customers who miss the designated Shinkansen may board a later departing Shinkansen in the non-reserved car section only (same day only).

- Customers will carry their own baggage. Please be aware that there is not much space on board the Shinkansen.

- There is also a tour operating round-trip from Echigo-Yuzawa Station.

[Important Notes/Supplements: Language Support]

Guide Language Support: English - The tour is accompanied by a National Government Licensed Guide.

*Drivers do not work as guides.

