

No.9 Bird watching at Kotokunuma and Shobugahama in winter

Target audience

- Accommodation guests
- Affluent class
- Nature lovers

Highlights

- In winter when food is scarce, you can see small birds gathering to feed on the fruits of *Malus sieboldii*.
- You can see waterbirds gathering at Kotokunuma when covered with snow in winter.
- Let's see how the birds spend cold winter in harsh conditions.

Spots	Birds to watch
Kotokunuma Pond	Solitary snipe* • Mallard • Japanese wagtail • Rustic bunting • Eurasian wren
Shobugahama	Long-billed plover* • Brown dipper • Japanese wagtail • Coot • Tufted duck • Common pochard • White-tailed eagle* • Steller's sea eagle* • Common goldeneye • Common merganser • Peregrine falcon*



*Depends on how lucky you are

Shobugahama

Shobugahama is located in Nikko National Park, at the foot of Mt. Nantai, on the shore of Lake Chuzenji, surrounded by greenery and the murmuring lake, making it a perfect place for a relaxing camping life.

Being as a base for mountain climbing / trekking in Oku-Nikko, canoeing and fishing in Lake Chuzenji, Shogahama can also be used for sightseeing in the city, including visiting the World Heritage sites.

Kotokunuma Pond

Kotokunuma Pond is a small swamp with a circumference of around 300 metres and a depth of about 1 metre, located at the upstream of Sakasagawa River. Since it is surrounded by many large *Malus sieboldii* trees, you can enjoy their beautiful white flowers in mid-June. Nearby is the Kotoku Farm, where you can taste rich milk and ice cream while watching scenery of cows and horses grazing.

- ※Route is based on weekday schedule in October 2020.
- ※Hiking may take approximately 1.5 to 2 times longer than usual depends on weather conditions, congestion and probabilities of birds' occurrence.

Itinerary

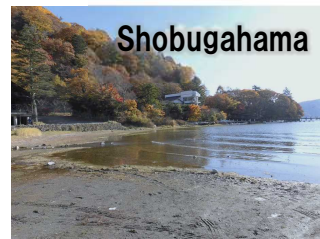
7:45	Meet at JR Nikko station	
↓	Bus	DEP: JR Nikko station 7:52~ ARR: Shobugahama tourist boat Pier 8:50
8:50	Shobugahama	
↓	Strolling	
9:40	Shobugahama tourist boat Pier	
↓	Bus	DEP: Shobugahama tourist boat Pier 9:45~ ARR: Kotokunuma Pond 9:51
9:55	Kotoku Onsen	
↓	5 mins walking	
10:00	Nikko Astraea Hotel (Snowshoe rental)	
↓	Strolling	Kotoku farm • Kotokunuma Pond • Sakasagawa river
↓	Strolling	
12:00	Nikko Astraea Hotel (Snowshoe rental returning and break time)	
↓	Bus	DEP: Kotoku Onsen 12:17 ~ ARR: JR Nikko Station 13:25
13:25	Dismiss at JR Nikko Station	



Snowshoe



Long-tailed tit



Shobugahama



Kotokunuma Pond

Tour overview

Course	JR Nikko station ⇒ Shobugahama tourist boat Pier → Shobugahama → Shobugahama tourist boat Pier ⇒ Kotoku Onsen → Nikko Astraea Hotel → Kotoku farm • Kotokunuma Pond • Sakasagawa river → Nikko Astraea Hotel → Kotoku Onsen ⇒ JR Nikko station → On foot ⇒ By bus
Caution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please be considerate of others when using binoculars or birdwatching in big crowds. • Let's take all rubbish home and help to protect the rich natural environment. Thanks for your understanding and cooperation.
Minimum number of participants	2 people
What is included	Guide fee • Bus fare • Snowshoe rental fee
Tour price	Selling price : ¥38,000
Contact	DMO NIKKO 1, Imaichihoncho, Nikko-city, Tochigi, 321-1292 TEL : 0288-25-3320