

Discover the "King of Bonsai" in the Itoigawa UNESCO Global Geopark

# Itoigawa Shimpaku Bonsai Experience Free Pilot Tour



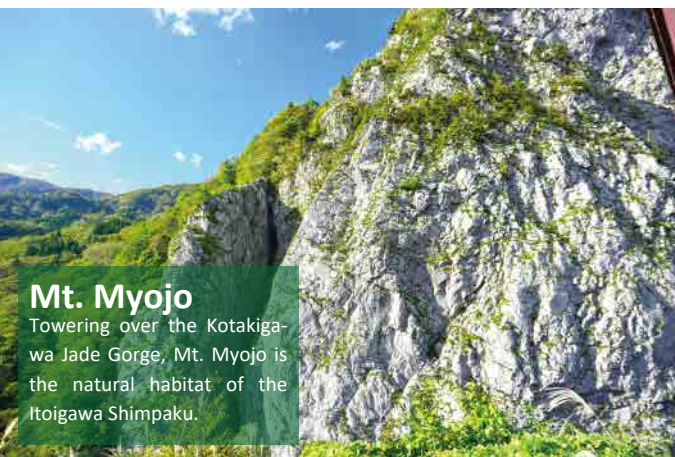
Tour Dates Oct 22 - 23

- Free tour includes meals, lodging, and all activity fees!
- Participants can make and take home a mini bonsai!

Check the back of this flyer for details on how to sign-up!



Itoigawa Shimpaku  
Project Official Website



## Mt. Myojo

Towering over the Kotakigawa Jade Gorge, Mt. Myojo is the natural habitat of the Itoigawa Shimpaku.



## Bonsai Experience

Local bonsai masters will help you learn how to train and care for your own miniature Itoigawa Shimpaku Bonsai!



## Garden Tour

Visit Itoigawa's 3 bonsai gardens to discover the beauty of the Itoigawa Shimpaku.



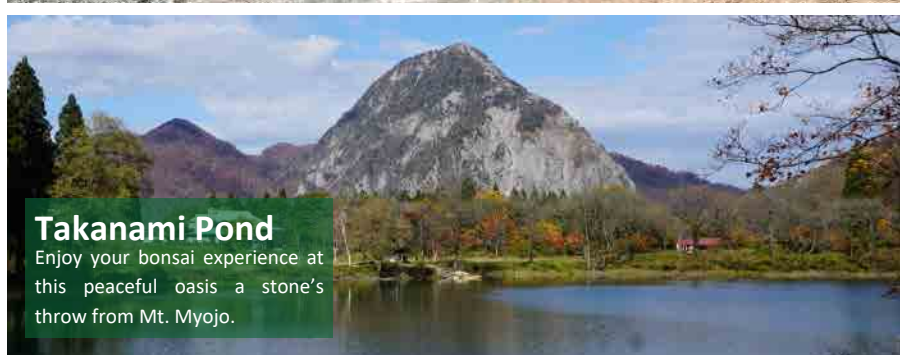
## Fossa Magna Park

See and touch the boundary between the Eurasian and North American continental plates!



## Fossa Magna Museum

This natural history museum tells the story of Itoigawa's jade and the birth of the Japanese Islands.



## Takanami Pond

Enjoy your bonsai experience at this peaceful oasis a stone's throw from Mt. Myojo.

# Itoigawa Shimpaku Bonsai Tour for Foreign Residents of Japan

## Sign-up Info

**Date:** 22 & 23 October 2022

**Meetup:** JR Itoigawa Station 10:00 AM

**Limit:** 6 people ※Registration Required

**Cost:** Free 【Sign-up by October 17】

**To sign up or for more information:**

**Email:** [geopark@city.itoigawa.lg.jp](mailto:geopark@city.itoigawa.lg.jp)

## Note:

This free pilot tour is available only to holders of a non-Japanese passport and Residence Card who will not be residents of Itoigawa City as of October 2022.

Please use the subject "Itoigawa Shimpaku Pilot Tour" and include your

① Name, ② Nationality, ③ Age, ④ Gender and ⑤ Address.

※ All information provided will be used only for the purpose of this pilot tour.

※ If there are more than 6 applicants, participants will be chosen by lottery.

## Day 1

### 10:20 Itoigawa Station

Meet-up at Itoigawa Station prior to departure.

### 10:30 Fossa Magna Museum

Learn about Itoigawa's unique natural history and its deep connection with the Itoigawa Shimpaku

### 12:15 Tsukitoku Hanten

Enjoy Itoigawa's famous "Black Yakisoba" at this popular local restaurant.

### 13:15 Fossa Magna Park

See and touch the massive fault which splits Japan between two continental plates.

### 14:25 Kataoka Garden

Visit the garden of Master Kataoka, where you can enjoy not only a variety of Itoigawa Shimpaku, both small and large, but also a wide assortment of wildflowers and other plants.

### 15:35 Himekawaen Garden

Master Umezawa cares for an impressive number of bonsai trees, including Itoigawa Shimpaku and Japanese White Pine. Some of his trees were collected from the wild, while others have been grown from cuttings or even by seed.

### 18:00 Downtown Itoigawa

Enjoy a dinner featuring fresh local seafood and sake from one of Itoigawa's five local breweries!

### 20:00 Hotel

Enjoy a relaxing night's stay at one of Itoigawa's cozy and affordable hotels!

## Day 2

### 09:00 Hotel

Depart hotel after checkout and begin program for the second day.

### 09:20 Ota Shofuen Garden

Master Ota's family have been collecting and caring for Itoigawa Shimpaku and other local bonsai for 3 generations. He has many large bonsai, with some of his trees estimated to be 600 to 800 years old! The scenic Nechi Valley provides a beautiful backdrop to his charming garden.

### 10:50 Takanami-no-Ike Pond & Mini Itoigawa Shimpaku Bonsai Activity

Travel deep into Itoigawa's mountains to visit the beautiful Takanami-no-Ike Pond. Learn from local masters how to make and care for your own Itoigawa Shimpaku Bonsai. Lunch will be served.

### 13:45 Mt. Myojo Lookout Point

Visit the natural habitat of the Itoigawa Shimpaku: the rocky limestone face of Mt. Myojo.

### 14:10 Kotakigawa Jade Gorge

Walk down into the Kotakigawa Jade Gorge, Japan's largest source of jade.

### 15:30 Jade Kingdom Center

After an opinion exchange, browse local produce and souvenirs before returning home.

※ Tour time and contents subject to change.

**For more information contact:**

Theodore Brown

Itoigawa City Geopark Promotion Office

E-mail: [geopark@city.itoigawa.lg.jp](mailto:geopark@city.itoigawa.lg.jp)