

News and Topics

April 8, 2010

Shibazakura blooms in early April at Hitsujiyama Park in Chichibu.

Chichibu Hitsujiyama Park is located on a hill adjacent to the urban Chichibu area and offers a great view of Okuchichibu, as well as a distant view of the Joshinetsu area. The view is famous as one of the best for shibazakura in the Kanto area. Shibazakura Hill is in the southern part of the park. The 17,600-square-meter field is covered with 400,000 shibazakura (*Phlox subulata*) in 9 varieties, and during the flowering season (early April to early May), Mt. Buko showcases the flower carpet.

The eastern hillside is a magnificent flower patchwork depicting the colorful stalls, kimono patterns, and the lively spirits of the dancers on the floats during the Chichibu Night Festival.

Among the other facilities and sights in Hitsujiyama Park are the Yamato Art Museum, which features the works of the famed artist Shiko Munakata, Mt. Bukoh Museum, and Bokusui-no-taki Waterfalls, and you can spend a peaceful spring day appreciating the shibazakura.

Seibu Railway provides many extra trains for the Limited Express Red Arrow between April 15 (Thu) and May 5 (Wed/holiday) when the shibazakura is in bloom. Please pay a visit to the Chichibu area on this occasion.

<Shibazakura Hill>

Admission (flower season only): 300 yen

Open: 8:00–17:00

Access: 15minutes walk from Yokoze Station or Seibu-Chichibu Station on the Seibu Line