

Train Suite Shiki-Shima 2017 “Seasons for East Japan” Trip

In addition to our 4-day/3-night trip (spring - autumn), a 2-day/1-night trip (spring - autumn) and a 3-day/2-night trip (winter), you can enjoy the unique seasonal culture of the East Japan area on our special “Seasons for East Japan” trips.

1. Summer 3-Day/2-Night Trip - August 16 (Wed) to 18 (Fri), 2017 - Distance: Around 1,800km

Watch Japan come alive with cultural traditions on this special trip.

Watch the Nishimonai Bon Dance (designated an Important Intangible Folk Cultural Property of Japan) in Akita Prefecture and visit Hiraizumi, a World Heritage Site known as the birthplace of Pure Land Buddhism, on a journey through the history of Japan. The Tohoku Emotion, a restaurant train running along the Hachinohe Line, has also been chartered for your trip.



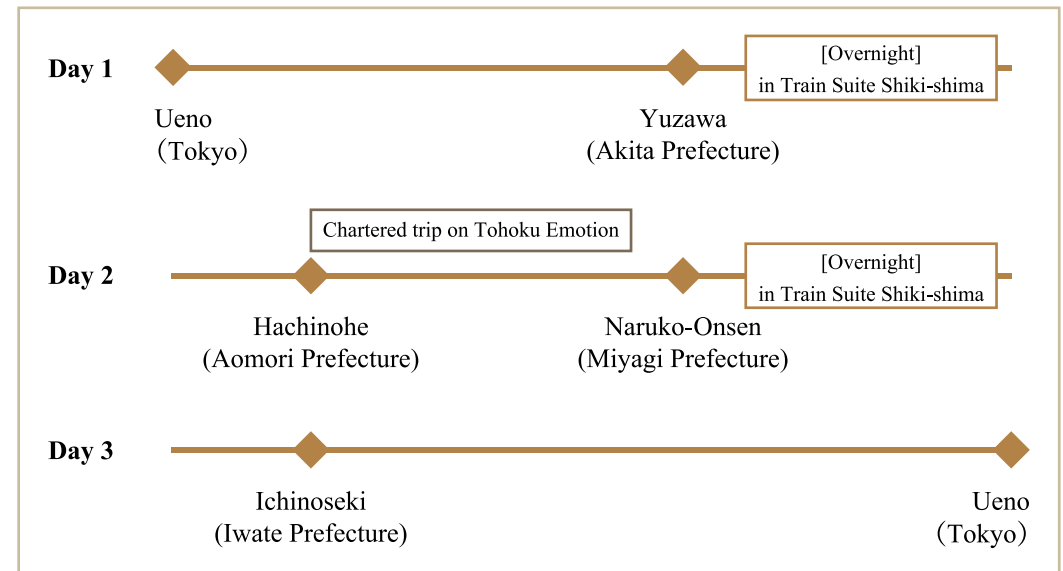
Nishimonai Bon Dance

One of the three most famous Bon dances in Japan, the Nishimonai Bon Dance is steeped in history and culture - it is said to be over 700 years old! Let the Nishimonai area show you one of Japan’s most iconic summer traditions!



TOHOKU EMOTION

Running along the Hachinohe Line with a stunning view of the sea in the Sanriku area, the Tohoku Emotion is a restaurant train where you can enjoy Tohoku’s delicious cuisine.

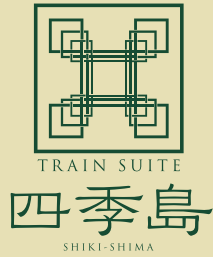


*”◆” indicates stations on each trip where you can board or alight from Train Suite Shiki-shima.

*The routes shown here are those planned as of October 1, 2016. Routes may be changed later.

*Tickets will go on sale from around February 2017. An itinerary and details will be available later.

*All photos are for illustrative purposes.



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2. New Year Trip - December 31, 2017 (Sun) to January 1, 2018 (Mon) - Distance: Around 1,000km

See in the New Year on a special trip on Train Suite Shiki-shima!

On Day 1, you’ ll visit Atami, an area that has attracted many famous writers and artists, and then see in the New Year with a countdown in Yokosuka.

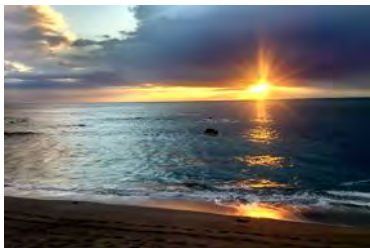
Then watch the first sunrise of the year from Wadaura on the Boso Peninsula (Chiba Prefecture) and join in New Year rituals at Kashima Shrine (Ibaraki Prefecture).



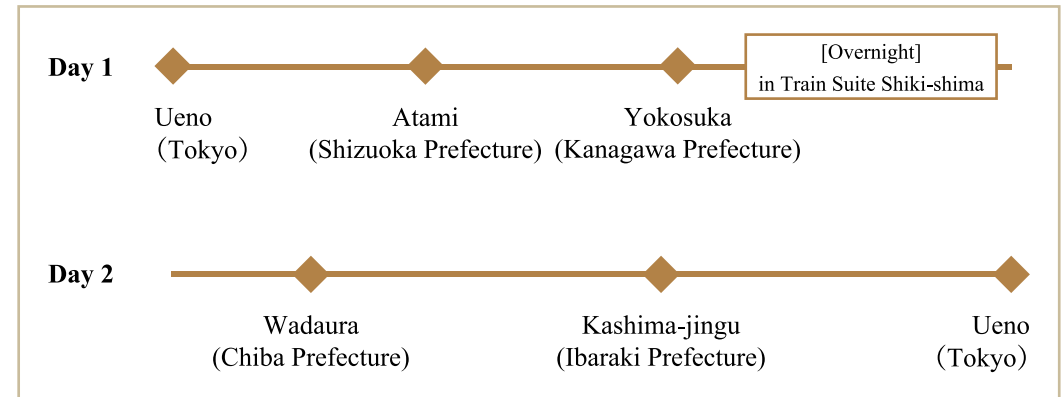
The countdown



Night scenery of Yokosuka



View of the sunrise from Wadaura

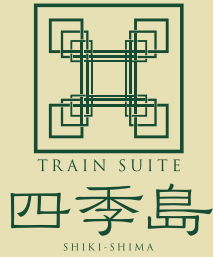


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3. Spring 3-Day/2-Night Trip - March 24 (Sat) to 26 (Mon), 2018 - Distance: Around 1,600km

See the Doll Festival, where Japanese people pray for the health and growth of girls.

The Doll Festival is an age-old tradition in many parts of the Eastern Japan area. You’ ll start this trip by viewing the vibrant doll culture of Sakata (Yamagata Prefecture), where the Kitamae-bune ship carries traditional dolls that have been preserved for generations. The next day, you’ ll see IHATOV (Utopia), a world created by famous author Kenji Miyazawa, from a special chartered trip on the SL Ginga. Then on day 3, you’ ll enjoy breakfast in Nasu (Tochigi Prefecture) before admiring Yuki-tsumugi, an ancient silk craft, in Yuki (Ibaraki Prefecture).



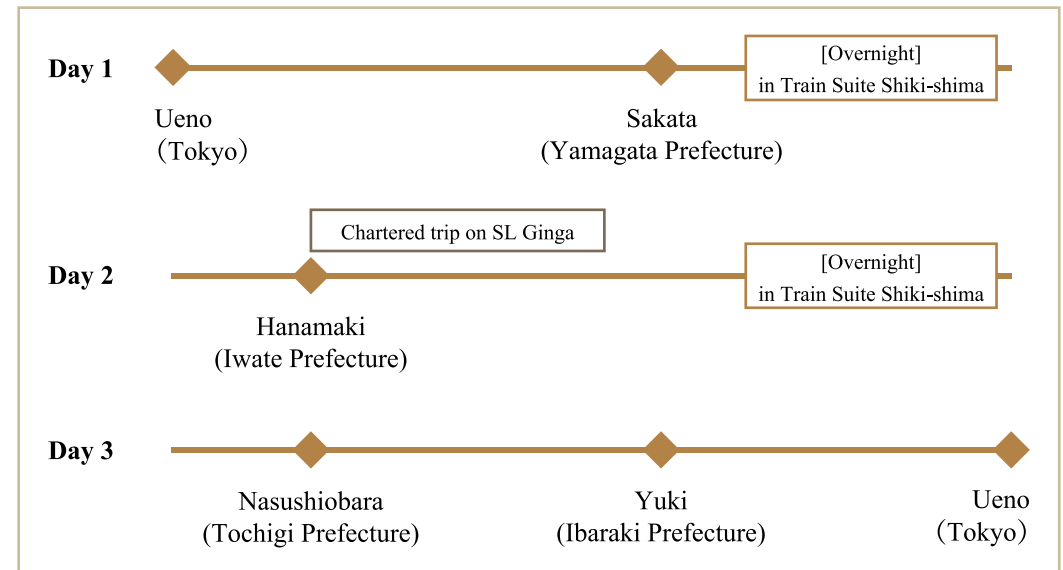
Traditional dolls being carried on the Kitamae-bune ship



View the world of Kenji Miyazawa from the SL Ginga



Yuki-tsumugi, a silk weaving craft dating back to the Nara Period (710-794)



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