Recommended Spots in the Hakone Area

June is the rainy season in Japan, and is the time when flowers like hydrangeas and irises are in full bloom. The Hakone area is easily accessible from the Tokyo metropolitan area and is famous for its hydrangeas. Come and take a short trip to these magical flower viewing sites.

Hydrangea Train

From the train traveling at a leisurely 20km/hour, you can gaze out upon the hydrangeas blooming right by the train track. The “Night Hydrangea Train” (reserved seats only) will allow you to enjoy the amazing hydrangea illumination up close!

Access
Hakone-Yumoto Station - Gora Station

The Hakone Open-Air Museum

An open-air museum that showcases around 120 artworks spread across the approximately 70,000 square meter site. Come and see the 20+ varieties of hydrangea in full bloom, as well as the majesty of the works of master sculptors.

Access
About 2 minute walk from Chokokuno-mori Station via Hakone Tozan Railway

Hakone Venetian Glass Museum

This is a museum specializing in exhibits of Venetian glass and modern glass art. 4,500 hydrangeas of about 70 varieties, including some of very rare breeds, bloom in the garden by the riverside.

Access
About 25 minutes from Hakone-Yumoto Station via Hakone Tozan Bus bound for Togendai to "Hyoseki/Hakone-garasunomori-mae," and then a short walk to the museum

Tsuyu: The Rainy Season Between Japan’s Spring and Summer

The rainy season between spring and summer is called tsuyu in Japan. Hydrangeas, which are at their most beautiful in June and July in the Hakone/Kamakura area, are the most famous of the rainy season flowers. These flowers are noted for their delicate balance of colors, and their large leaves of brilliant green. The rain-drenched hydrangeas are especially fascinating.
Recommended Spots in the Other Areas

Kamakura is well-known as a destination for sightseers, and dotting the landscape all over you can spot hydrangeas in gorgeous blue and purple. From temples and shrines to downtown, let’s make the most of the Japanese rainy season.

Hase-dera Temple 長谷寺
This ancient temple reputedly dates to 736. 2,500 hydrangeas in more than 40 varieties grow along the mountainside just behind the temple precincts. Entrance tickets for the pathway will be distributed when it is crowded.

Access
About 5-minute walk from Hase Station

NEWS
The Odakyu Sightseeing Service Center’s baggage counter is super-convenient!
The Odakyu Sightseeing Service Center in the ground-level concourse in Odakyu Shinjuku Station provides a full range of services to international visitors. They will not only keep luggage for up to three days but also transport it to the airport or to hotels within Shinjuku. Open between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Goryo Shrine 御霊神社
Enoden runs right in front of the torii gate. This spot is famous for the hydrangeas that bloom by the side of the track, and is frequently used to catch photographs of Enoden trains together with hydrangeas.

Access
About 5-minute walk from Hase Station

Enoshima Island 江の島
This small island off the coast of Shonan is very popular as a tourist destination. All along the pathway, from the gateway to the island to Enoshima-jinja Shrine high up in the mountain, hydrangeas bloom.

Access
About 20-minute walk from Katase-Enoshima Station

Hakone Freepass
Valid Period/2 days or 3 days
This is the pass to get maximum enjoyment in the Hakone area. It comes with a return ticket from Shinjuku to Odawara, and provides unlimited access to 8 rides in the Hakone area such as the Hakone Ropeway and the Hakone Pirate Ship!

https://www.odakyu.jp/english/passes/hakone/

Hakone Kamakura Pass
Valid Period/3 days
Unlimited access to Hakone, Enoshima and Kamakura with this one ticket!
1. Unlimited use of Odakyu trains on the entire Odakyu network, including the Odakyu Odawara Line, Odakyu Enoshima Line and Odakyu Tama Line.
2. Hakone Area: 8 Rides in the Hakone area (the same as the Hakone Freepass)
3. Unlimited use of Enoden trains between Fujisawa and Kamakura

https://www.odakyu.jp/english/passes/hakone_kamakura/

Railway Event Schedule

**The date and content of the events may change.**

The Little Prince Museum “Rose Fair 2019”
Place: The Little Prince Museum in Hakone

Inspired by the motif of the rose as appearing in The Little Prince, the rose garden, dominated by roses of various shades of red, is a site to behold.

Access
About 30 minutes from Hakone-Yumoto Station by Hakone Tozan Bus (bound for Togendai). Get off at “Kawamukai/Hoshi-no-ojisama Museum” and it’s right as you get off the bus.

Odawara Castle Hydrangea and Iris Festival
Place: Eastern most of the honmaru (central keep) of Odawara Castle (the Iris Garden)

Odawara Castle, famed as one of Japan’s Top 100 Castles in the grounds of this medieval stronghold bloom around 2,500 hydrangeas and 10,000 irises.

Access
About 10-minute walk from Odawara Station

Iris Festival
Place: Minazuki Garden, Sagamihara Prefectural Park

From the viewing deck, you can observe some 28,000, Iris of 118 varieties! There will also be a flea market and seedlings on sale.

Access
Right in front of Joshibi University of Art and Design Bus Stop after traveling approximately 20 minutes from Sagami-cho Station via Kanagawa Chuo Kotsu Bus bound for Joshi Bijuju Daigaku (Joshi University of Art and Design).