**Sakatejima Island**

Sakatejima is the closest of Toba’s four inhabited islands. Just 10 minutes by ferry from Toba port, it is an easy way to experience the relaxed pace and beautiful scenery of a traditional community. Staircases wind through the terraced streets of the village, leading to sights such as an iris pond that blooms from mid-May through the beginning of summer, a lookout on the grounds of a former school, and beautiful Hime-no-hama beach, which is open for swimming in the warmer months.