Aso-bo Pamphlet

Aso: Living in Harmony with Volcanoes

Aso is a land of constant surprises, showing a different face for each season. Discover this dynamic region, from its active volcanoes and lush grasslands to its centuries-old celebrations.

**Spring**

Aso Jinja Shrine

Visit one of Japan’s oldest shrines, home to several Important Cultural Properties.

*Hifuri Shinji*

Watch blazing torches and spinning rings of fire light up the night during this ancient ritual to pray for an abundant harvest.

Grasslands

See Aso’s grasslands carpet the craters and mountainsides in green after yearly controlled burns, a tradition handed down from generation to generation.

**Summer**

Mt. Nakadake Crater

Get up close and personal with an active volcanic crater inside one of the world’s largest calderas.

Milk Road

Drive under wide-open skies and through lush grasslands dotted with Akaushi cattle.

Spring Water Fountains

Sip the crisp, refreshing water that comes from the 30 natural spring water fountains around Aso.

**Autumn**

*Susuki* grass (miscanthus grass)

Wander through fields of *susuki* grassglowing gold in the autumn sunlight around Daikanbo lookout and Milk Road.

Iwato Kagura

Feel the beat of this sacred dance that has told stories linking the worlds of humans and gods for over 200 years.

Sea of Clouds

Gaze down over the “sea” of clouds that fills the caldera, one of Aso’s most dramatic early-autumn phenomena.

**Winter**

Snow-Covered Scenes

Breathe in the crisp winter air and marvel at the silver-white snow covering Aso’s peaks and grasslands.

Onsen

Relax in steaming hot springs heated by the same volcanic forces that created the Aso caldera.

Koga Falls

During the winter, this towering waterfall transforms into glistening natural ice sculptures.