

Ryuzu no Taki Falls

The Ryuzu no Taki Falls were formed by lava flows from eruptions by Mt. Nantai. The falls flow over rock formed from consolidated ash from the eruptions. The name of the falls means “dragon’s head.” In Japanese, “ryu” means dragon, and “zu” head. The basin at the foot of the waterfall is said to resemble a dragon’s face, and the cascades of water are said to look like flying dragons.

Oku-Nikko is famous for its many different types of maple trees and the gorgeous autumn colors they produce. The foliage contrasts vividly with the cascading waters, attracting many visitors. The waterfall is also stunning in late May when the Togoku mitsuba tsutsuji (*Rhododendron wadanum*) are in bloom.