In Nozawa Onsen, snowcats are so much more than machines for shoveling snow drifts out of the way. At the ski resort you can board these giant vehicles and explore untouched mountain plateaus, which are usually inaccessible during winter season. It's a great way to discover the beautiful, snow-white landscapes during this non-skiing activity. While the snowcat moves through the forest, look out for wild animals, such as Japanese serows and rabbits. The ride takes about forty-five minutes and the vehicle has space for sixteen passengers—perfect for families and large groups.