

Mikaeridai Park

Mikaeridai Park is the start of one of two trails up Mt. Rishiri and a lookout from which to view the mountain and the southwestern part of the island.

Mt. Rishiri (1,721 m) is a composite volcano with jagged peaks and dramatic ridgelines. Its scarred and rugged appearance is the result of weathering and erosion caused by heavy summer rains and thick winter snow cover. The lookout, a five-minute walk along the path from the parking lot, offers unobstructed views of the mountain and its peaks. Views down the mountainside are of the town of Kutsugata and the island's southwestern coast.

The lookout is surrounded by swathes of Japanese stone pines (*haimatsu*; *Pinus pumila*) and other hardy alpine vegetation, which grows here at much lower altitudes than on Honshu, Japan's largest island, because of the harsher Hokkaido climate. There are benches at the lookout to rest and enjoy the view and surrounding area.