

### **The Forest of Mt. Tatsugane**

At 512 meters, Mt. Tatsugane is the tallest peak in Minamisanriku and straddles the border with the town of Kesennuma. The summit offers a bird's-eye view of Shizugawa Bay and the area's jagged coastline. Tatsugane is considered a sacred mountain and is a must-visit destination for hikers and nature lovers.

The mountain supports a variety of flora and fauna but is perhaps best known for the crimson azalea bushes that cover the summit in spring. Hikers may also encounter camellia, among other flowers, as well as Mongolian oak, Japanese white pine, and cedar. Rabbits, serows, squirrels, raccoon dogs, and badgers inhabit the forests.

Please treat our forests respectfully when visiting.