

Ofune Festival

Every September, the peaceful, shady confines of Hotaka Jinja become the focal point of a lively, two-day festival that draws crowds of spectators. Colorful floats, the largest 12 meters long and 6 meters high and weighing 5 or 6 tons, are pulled through the streets before converging in exuberant clashes at the shrine. September 27, the second day of the festival, is observed as the anniversary of the death of Azumi-clan hero Azumi no Hirafu, who died in battle in the year 663.