

## **Tanesashi Natural Lawn**

The Tanesashi Natural Lawn is located beyond the Yodo Pine Grove. This grassy area stretches some seven hectares along the rocky shores of the Tanesashi Coast, and is perhaps the best example of the rolling pasturelands that once covered the region. The grass used to be kept short and smooth by the horses that grazed here, but is now tended by locals.

A variety of outdoor activities are available here in warmer months, such as camping and barbecuing, as well as early-morning yoga classes on weekends. On nights when the moon is full, its light reflects off the water toward the shore, a phenomenon called *tsuki no michi*, or “moon road.” The area is also dotted with day lilies (*Hemerocallis esculenta*) and other seasonal flowers. The tunnels that can sometimes be seen here are dug by moles (*Mogera imaizumii*), and are actually beneficial to the health of the grasslands. Come fall, the grass begins to wither, and in winter, the area is sometimes blanketed in snow.

The Tanesashi Coast Information Center faces the seashore in front of the lawn. Inside, visitors will find a variety of interactive educational exhibits explaining the nature and culture of the Tanesashi Coast and the Michinoku Coastal Trail. There is also a café.