

## **Workshops at Gassan Visitor Center**

Throughout the year, Gassan Visitor Center holds seasonal workshops that use the diverse plant species that grow in Dewa Sanzan's cedar and beech forests and alpine marshlands.

### *Plant dyeing*

In summer and autumn, visitors can learn to create dyes using seasonal plants. In spring, cherry blossom branches are boiled to produce a dusky pink dye to color scarves. In autumn, chestnuts shells create a rich brown dye, and Japanese bird cherry (*Prunus grayana*) is used to make a pink dye.

### *Basketmaking*

At the start of winter, chocolate vine (*Akebia quinata*) are used to weave baskets. Visitors first gather the vines and then learn to twist them into baskets or wreaths under a skilled basket weaver's guidance.

### *Wildflower papermaking*

In autumn, Gassan Visitor Center hosts papermaking workshops. Pulp is pressed into paper molds and decorated with seasonal leaves and flowers to create personalized stationery, which makes a charming souvenir from Dewa Sanzan.

### *Participating in a workshop*

Workshops are suitable for all ages. There is a modest fee, and advanced registration is required. For more information on the workshops offered, the schedule, and availability, contact Gassan Visitor Center.