

Ginzan Onsen

Ginzan Onsen is a hot spring resort with traditional multistory inns—featuring white plaster walls, colorful *kote-e* plaster reliefs, and exposed wood—that call to mind the Taisho era (1912–1926). The town’s history dates from around 1600, when it flourished as Nobesawa Ginzan (“silver mine”). In its heyday in the mid-1600s, Nobesawa Ginzan was one of the three largest silver mines in Japan, but the mines were completely exhausted by 1689. Hot springs were discovered, and when the mining industry left, Ginzan developed as a resort.

Stroll the streets in a *yukata* (light cotton kimono) and enjoy the atmosphere while soaking your feet in the public foot bath. Browse shops for local specialties, refresh in the mists of Shirogane Falls, and experience the tranquility of the town at night, illuminated by gas streetlamps.