

Ojiya in Autumn

Freshly harvested food and extravagant firework displays define autumn in Ojiya. The landscape becomes a patchwork of golden-yellow rice fields from late September. Visitors can see the rice fields from the 336-meter observatory at Yamamotoyama Highland. There are plenty of opportunities to feast on seasonal local specialties during the harvest season, including soba noodles made from freshly harvested buckwheat and a wide variety of vegetables and mushrooms.

Over two days in early September, the skies of Ojiya are lit up with brilliant firework displays during the Katakai Fireworks Festival. This event began as an offering to the deities of Asahara Shrine in the Katakai area. The highlight of the show is the enormous Yonshakudama firework. It is one of the largest in the world, measuring approximately 800 meters across. A total of around 15,000 dazzling fireworks are launched during the festival.