

Four Waterfalls of Yokotani Gorge

A walking trail in Hida-Kanayama passes the four waterfalls of Yokotani Gorge, where the natural features of Gero are intertwined with cultural lore. The waterfalls are situated on the Yokotani River, a tributary of the nearby Maze River.

Walking the trail takes around four hours round trip. From the trailhead, the first waterfall is Shirataki Falls, less than 200 meters away. A pavilion offers a view of the 17-meter cascade. Next is Futamitaki Falls (13 m), named for its two-tiered structure.

Momijitaki Falls (9 m) is the third waterfall. It is surrounded by maple trees which are especially beautiful in autumn. The last and largest of the waterfalls is Keimeidaki Falls (33 m). Legend has it that a princess of the Heian period (794–1185) went there to search for her beloved pet chicken that had flown away. She saw it transform into a deity and disappear into the waterfall.

The Yokotani Gorge Trail connects to extensive walking paths along the Maze River, through the Zenshindani Forest, and past other waterfalls in the area.