

Bakuchiiwa Rock (Ice Hill)
【馬口岩 (アイスヒル)】

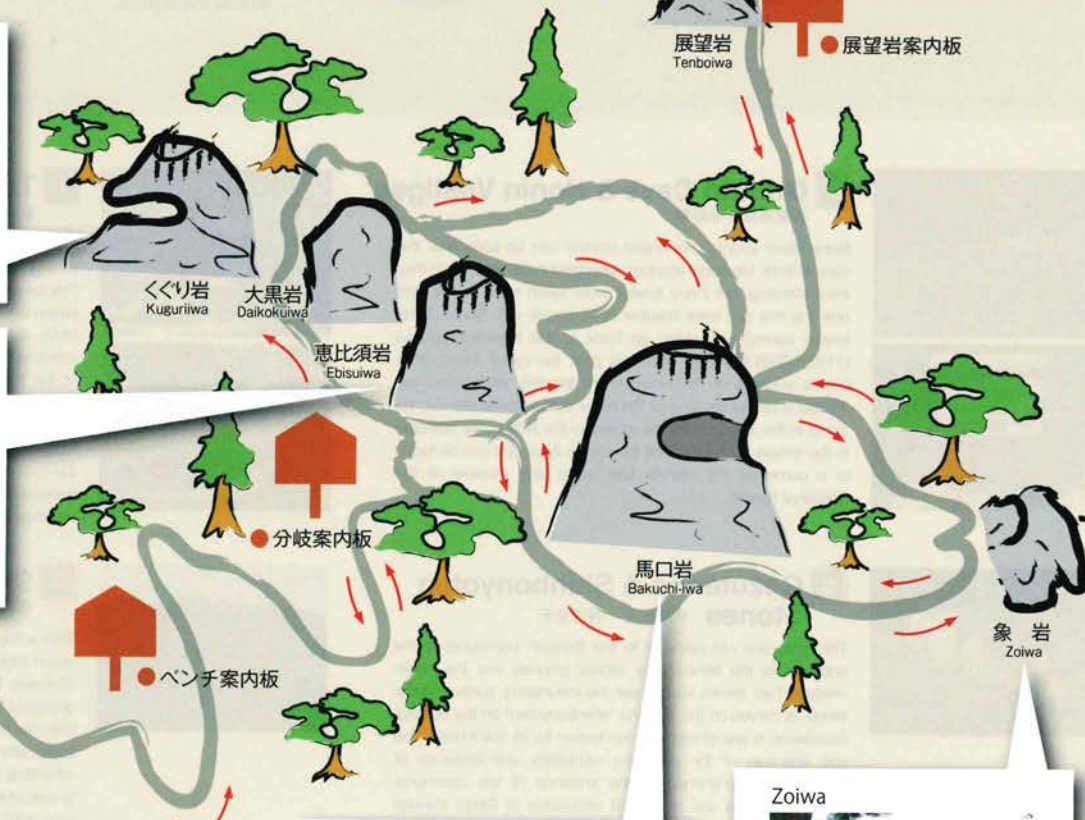
Yamadera Tendainomichi

やまでら天台のみち

The Bakuchi-iwa (or horse mouth) rocks take their name from their holes that look like a horse's mouth. In winter, gigantic icicles form around the rocks, creating a mountain devil of ice and snow. This gave the rocks their other name of "Ice Hill".

A singular scenery of Yamadera, these rock formations are made of Tuff-Breccia dating to the Tertiary Period. The holes are due to wind erosion, most have a diameter of about 70 to 80 cm, and none are similar. The largest ones can be up to 5 meters tall.

The Ou mountain range can be seen on the east side from the top of the Bakuchi-iwa rocks. The commune of Yamadera grew on the river terraces of the Risshaku-gawa and Momiji-gawa rivers sourced from the streams coming from those mountains. Mt. Gassan and the Mt. Asahi range can be seen over the Yamagata Basin on the west side.



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Tourist Information