Dochu: The Earth Pillars of Awa is a place of rare natural beauty about 1 million years in the making. It is a land where stones, sand, silt, clay and volcanic ash that flowed from the Asan mountains in the north accumulated and were elevated about 200 meters above sea level by great earthquakes. Heavy rain and earthquakes caused landslides which made valleys. After that the remaing earth was carved away by wind and water over the ages leaving beautiful and unique pillars. Even now they are changing shape due to the forces of nature.

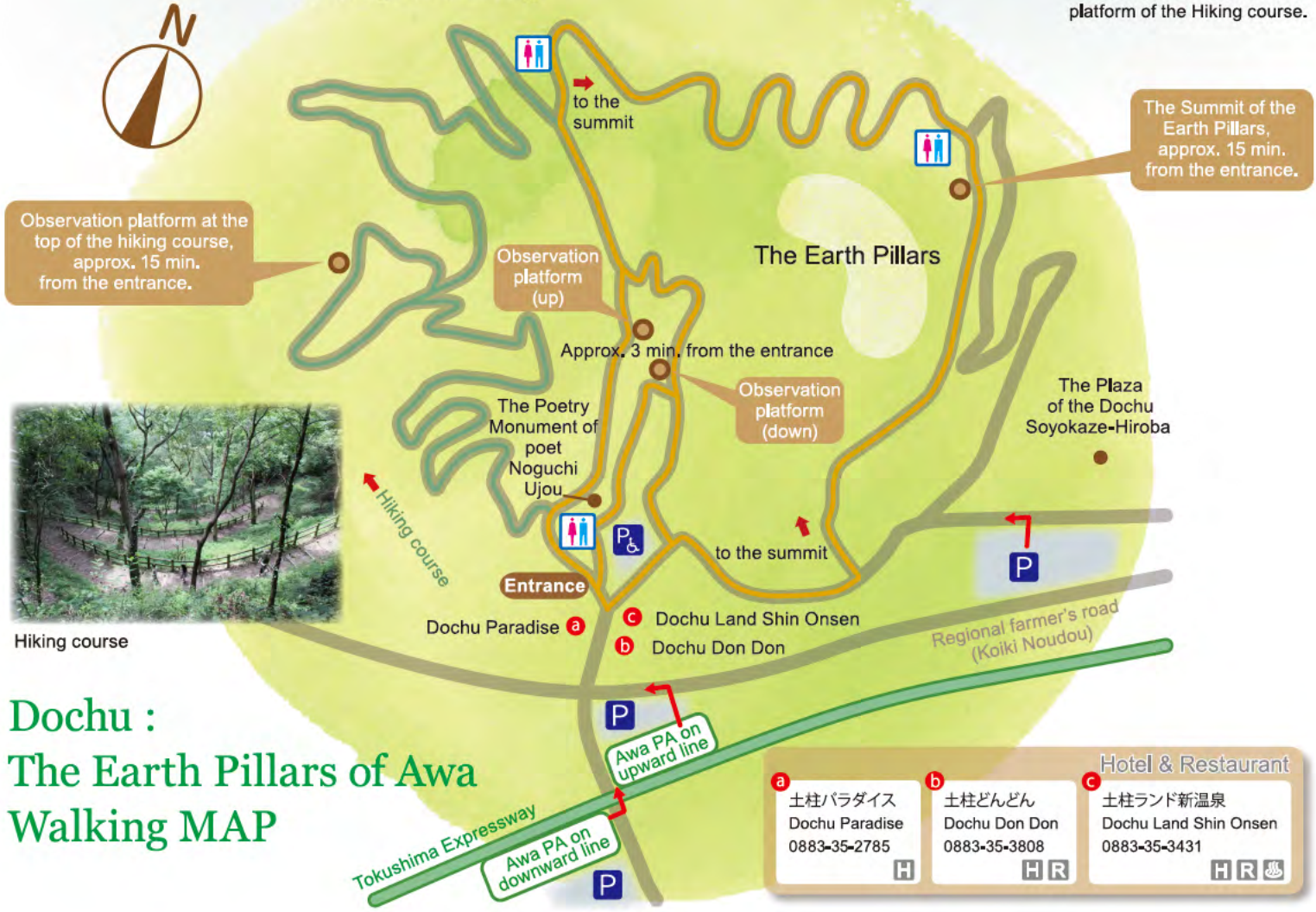
The Dochu has been loved by scholars and artists for generations. They have inspired great works of art such as poems, paintings and photos. Among the five stretches of pillars, Hatogadake is the largest and was designated as a national treasure on May 1st 1934.

A view from the summit of the Earth Pillars.

There are some paths, hiking courses and observation platforms around Hatogadake. You can enjoy birdsong and seasonal flowers and plants or come later to see the pillars lit up in the evening. Awa invites you to come and experience the Dochu, take a stroll and enjoy the landscape. The Dochu is located walking distance from Tokushima Expressway Awa Parking Area.

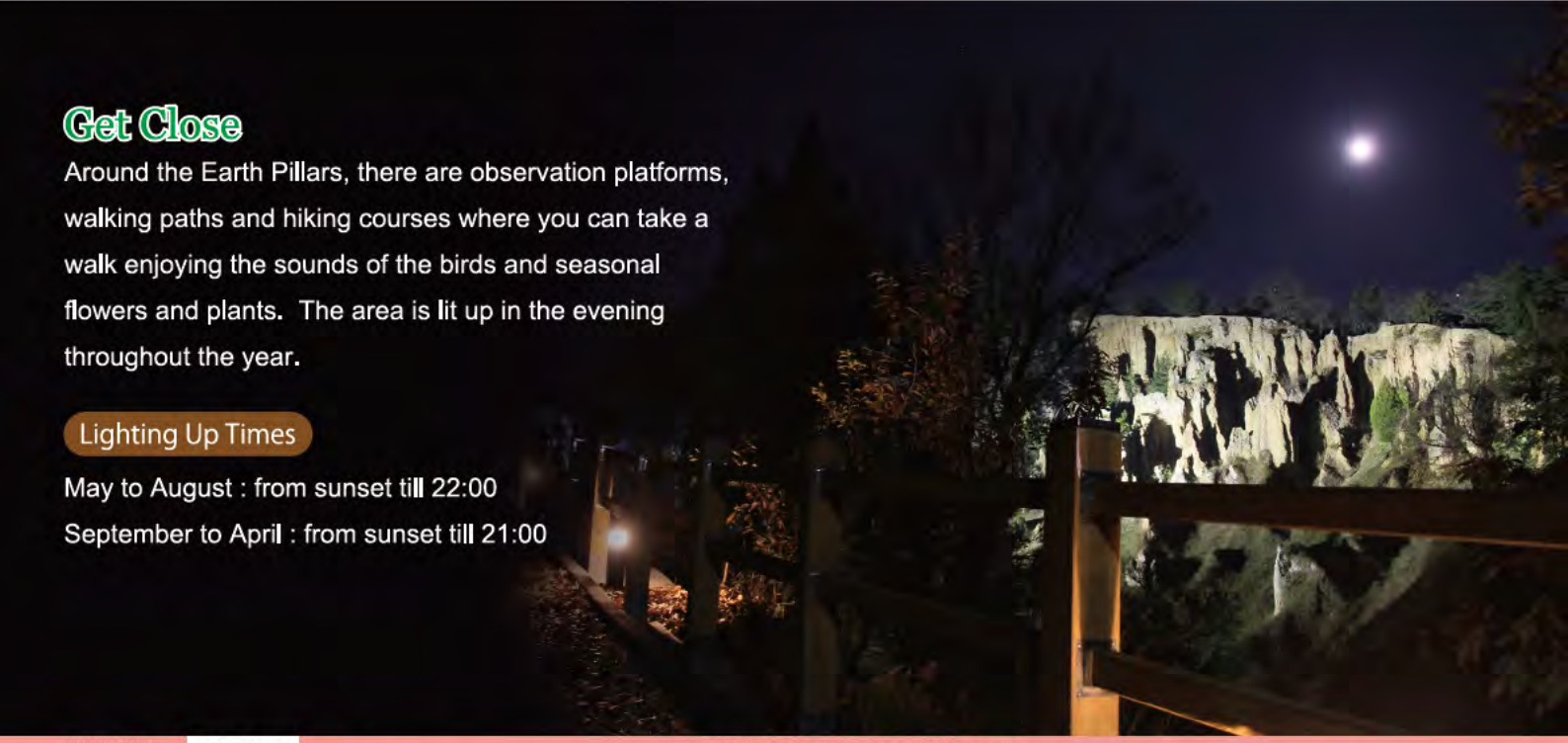
English-speaking volunteer guides are available by appointment. Please e-mail us at the Awa City Tourism Association to arrange a time at "info@awa-kankou.jp"

A view from the observation platform of the Hiking course.



Hiking course

Dochu : The Earth Pillars of Awa Walking MAP



Get Close

Around the Earth Pillars, there are observation platforms, walking paths and hiking courses where you can take a walk enjoying the sounds of the birds and seasonal flowers and plants. The area is lit up in the evening throughout the year.

Lighting Up Times

May to August : from sunset till 22:00

September to April : from sunset till 21:00

More information

一般社団法人
阿波市観光協会
Awa City Tourism Association

mail : info@awa-kankou.jp
URL : http://www.awa-kankou.jp

Awami-chan

Traffic access to the Earth Pillars of Awa

Dochu

From Tokyo

- by Air Plane (Haneda Airport) → Awa-odori Airport → Limousine Bus → Tokushima Station → JR Tokushima line → Awa-Yamakawa Station → by Taxi. 3hours.
- (Haneda Airport) → Tokushima Station → JR Tokushima line → Awa-Yamakawa Station → by Taxi. 10hours 20min.
- Tokushima Station → Highway Bus → Donan IC → by Taxi. 3hours 50min.

From Osaka

- Kobe-Awaji/Naruto Expressway (via Akashi Strait Chain Bridge · Great Naruto Bridge) → Naruto IC → Tokushima Expressway → Naruto JCT → Tokushima Expressway → Donan IC. 2hours 30min.
- Tokushima Station → Highway Bus → Donan IC → by Taxi. 4hours.
- Tokushima Station → JR Tokushima line → Awa-Yamakawa Station → by Taxi. 3hours.

From Okayama

- Seto Chuo Expressway (via Seto Ohashi line · JR Seto-Ohashi line · Dosan line) → Sakaide JCT → Takamatsu Expressway → Shirotori-Ouchi IC → 2hours 20min.
- Shirotori-Ouchi IC → Awa-Ikeda station → JR Tokushima line → Awa-Yamakawa Station → by Taxi. 3hours.
- Tokushima Station → Highway Bus → Awa-Yamakawa Station → by Taxi. 3hours 40min.

approx. 30min. by bus from Gaku station (JR Tokushima line)

approx. 10min. by car from Wakimachi Interchange(Tokushima Expressway)

approx. 10min. on foot from Awa Parking Area (Tokushima Expressway)

approx. 15min. by taxi from Awa-Yamakawa station (JR Tokushima line)

approx. 15min. by taxi from Anabuki station (JR Tokushima line)

Info for the GPS !

徳島県阿波市阿波町桜ノ岡
Sakura-no-oka, Awa-cho, Awa-City,
Tokushima, Japan

Hotel & Restaurant

- Dochu Land Shin Onsen 0883-35-3431 H R
- Dochu Don Don 0883-35-3808 H R
- Dochu Paradise 0883-35-2785 H

Dochu : The Earth Pillars of Awa