

# Tottori Newsletter



December 2020



*Season's Greeting  
from our hearts*

As 2020 departs, so too ends a year's worth of triumphs, trials, and tribulations. In the New Year, your friends in Tottori wish you joy and good health as well as sincerely hope for your continued good will.



## 1. A Symphony of Lights, Flowers, and Fire

At Japan's largest flower park, Tottori Hanakairo, a colorful blanket of flowers atop rolling hills and valleys blooms even throughout the depths of winter. In this time of the year, with days shorter and nights longer, brightly colored flowers and brilliant light displays enjoy popularity. Combining elegant light displays with beautiful flowers, Hanakairo's seasonal illumination event produces a spectacle so sublime that it has earned a high position on the Illumination Awards that ranks similar displays across the nation. Further, the fireworks show on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays adds yet another dimension of enchantment to this winter-exclusive spectacle!

<http://hanakairou.sanin.jp/en/>



### **See the Rare Tulips that Bloom in Winter**

Tulips, despite their intimate relationship with spring, will make their 2021 debut in the depths of winter! At Hanakairo, subjecting tulip bulbs to a special method of refrigerating technique adjusts their flowering period and produces Ice Tulips. Visitors to the park can view these colorful rarities at the Christmas Exhibition.





## 2. Improve Your Fortune at a Tottori Power Spot

Amongst the many historical shrines that dot Tottori, the following three possess spiritual powers for improving luck making them the perfect spot for a New Year's resolution.

1



### 1 Hakuto Shrine

Enshrined here is the divine white rabbit that appears in the White Rabbit of Inaba, a myth recorded in the Kojiki, Japan's oldest extant literary work. In the myth, the rabbit acts as a matchmaker for Okuninushi and Princess Yagami, which makes it the oldest written love story in Japan, and earned the shrine renown for matchmaking magic.

<https://www.tottori-tour.jp/en/sightseeing/768/>



### 2 Oogamiyama Shrine

The main building of the shrine and the 700 m stone-paved approach are both the largest of their kind in Japan. Revered since ancient times as the dwelling place of a guardian deity for livestock, the shrine is said to bestow blessings that protect women in childbirth, grant good luck, cure illnesses, and exorcise evil spirits.

<http://www.oogamiyama.or.jp/>



3



### 3 Ube Shrine

Ube Shrine, constructed around 648, has a long history. In 1899, a portrait of Takenouchi no Sukune, the deity enshrined here, appeared on the first Japanese 5 yen bill along with an image of the shrine's main building. With his connection to money, he is known as a god of prosperity in business.

<https://www.ubejinja.or.jp/>

## 3. A Lovely Observation of 1,000 "Lovebird" Waterfowl



Males have vividly colored plumage, and females have gray plumage with a white stripe running back from the eye.

Every year in autumn until the beginning of spring, mandarin ducks winter in Tottori. During this time, the Hino River, which flows in Western Tottori, is an especially good place to observe the heartwarming scene of these wintering waterfowl known for their exemplary conjugal relationships — so much so that a loving couple ("couple of lovebirds") is referred to as a "couple of mandarin ducks" in Japanese.



### ■ Check the Sites Below for the Latest Information from Tottori Prefecture

HP: <https://www.tottori-tour.jp/en/>

FB (Visit Tottori, Japan): <https://www.facebook.com/tottoritouren/>

IG (Tottori Awesome): <https://www.instagram.com/tottoriawesome/>

YouTube : [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfFYg\\_iup-m1v52\\_LB-Eyig](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfFYg_iup-m1v52_LB-Eyig)

### ■ Tottori Prefecture Pictures and Videos Available from Google Drive to Use for PR

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1NOUEEIf93pD-](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1NOUEEIf93pD-DnsOI_Dlki3TCHUwuDs?fbclid=IwAR3KwRbrU5m4VFY1VPeISsxiQxKmi351y4qc8mhy4hTb1KLrSMW0vyqIFaA)

[DnsOI\\_Dlki3TCHUwuDs?fbclid=IwAR3KwRbrU5m4VFY1VPeISsxiQxKmi351y4qc8mhy4hTb1KLrSMW0vyqIFaA](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1NOUEEIf93pD-DnsOI_Dlki3TCHUwuDs?fbclid=IwAR3KwRbrU5m4VFY1VPeISsxiQxKmi351y4qc8mhy4hTb1KLrSMW0vyqIFaA)