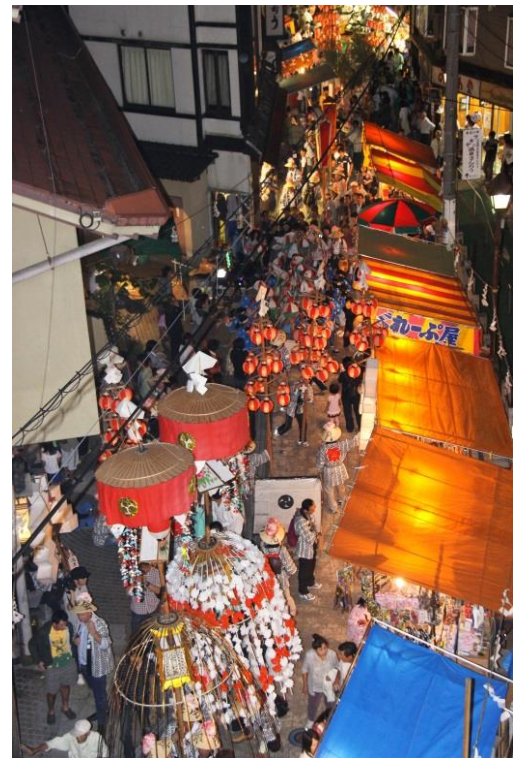


# Yuzawa Shrine Lantern Festival

During Yuzawa Shrine's religious Lantern Festival, a parade of large poles weighted with plentiful lanterns extends through the streets of Nozawa Onsen. The Shinto deity Sarutohiko-no-Mikoto performs the purifying ritual called "Shimekiri," where he rhythmically swings a large bundle of fire before cutting a ceremonial rope with a katana. Throughout town you can see performances of the Sarutahiko-no-Mikoto dance, the dance of the 36 great poets, and the dance of the lion. Also, from 19:30 yatai stalls fill the streets and fireworks light the sky. The next day an *omikoshi* float makes its rounds through the whole town.



Date	September 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2016 18:00~24:00 September 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2016 9:00~17:30
Place	Nozawa Onsen Village
Cost	Free
Contact Info	Nozawa Onsen Tourism Association 0269-85-3155
Website	<a href="http://www.nozawakai.or.jp/tourou-matsuri/">http://www.nozawakai.or.jp/tourou-matsuri/</a>
Access	Car: 25 minutes from the Joshin'etsu Highway Toyota-Iiyama IC Exit Train/bus: From Shinkansen Iiyama Station, take the Nozawa Onsen liner bus (25 minutes, get off at last stop)
Supported Languages	Japanese