

Starry Night in Nikko

Nikko, a sacred place for making wishes



Illustration by Tateho Kitayama

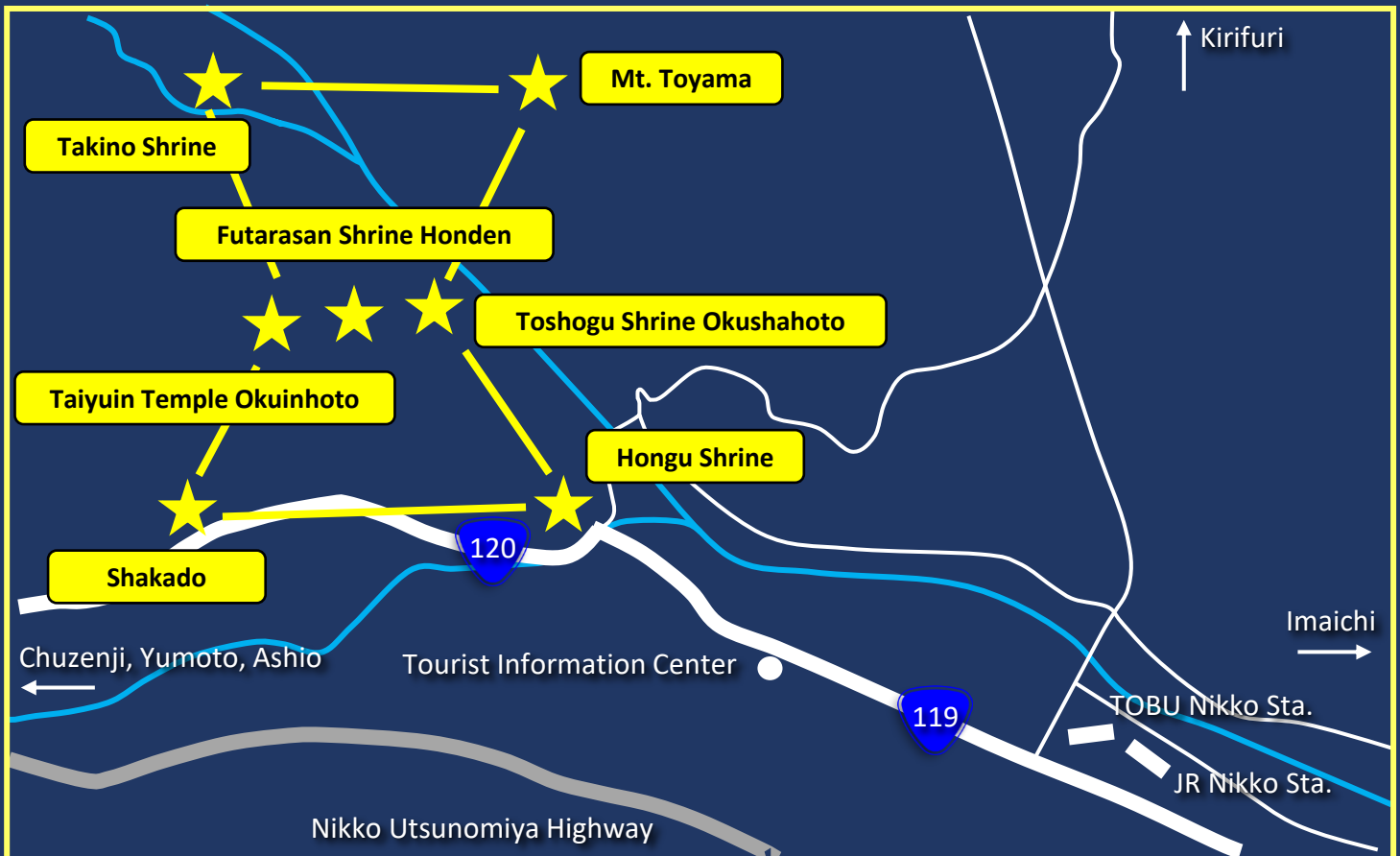
Stars and Nikko

Stars and Nikko have a strong relationship. The story began when priest Shodo, the founder of Nikko, dreamed of a divine revelation from the god of stars when he was seven. The god in his dream told him to build a shrine in Nikko. Then as being told, he enshrined the god of stars nearby Shinkyō bridge. After that, many shrines that enshrines the god of stars have been built not only in Nikko but all over Tochigi prefecture.

Nikko is in the true north of Edo (Tokyo), and the polar star shines right upon the Yomei-mon gate. Ieyasu Tokugawa wished to be enshrined in Nikko because when people worship the Toshogu shrine, they face the north, which means people, at the same time, worship the polar star that was assumed to be the supreme god in the universe. He regarded himself as the polar star and wishes peace of the world.

The Orion

The locations of shrines and temples in Nikko form the Orion. Although academically not proved, it is said that Iemitsu, the third Shogun of Tokugawa, wished for eternity of Tokugawa government upon the stars of the Orion. Nikko has been the ideal place for making wishes, as there exists the Orion on the ground and upon the sky. Let's make wishes under the night sky full of stars in Nikko.



★ Let's enjoy stars in Nikko!

Starry Night in Nikko Official Web Site

Information on light up events,
recommended sites to see the stars,
and so on! Check it out!

<http://www.star.nikko.org>

★ Present nail cleaners to 100 tourists

#星降る夜の日光

Instagram Posting Campaign

Step 1 Follow "星降る夜の日光" account

Step 2 Post your picture of Nikko in the night with #星降る夜の日光

We will send a direct message to the 100 prize winners.

*Posted pictures can be processed, copied and/or used without your consent.