



Hakusan, the Sacred Mountain Range

Fujimaki, Eihei-ji-cho; Hota, Katsuyama City; Ōtani, Echizen-cho; Wakisaka, Takahama-cho

Setting out toward Katsuyama, the Hakusan Mountain Range soon comes into view from the Kobunato Bridge. Upon drawing closer to them their white peaks gleam in the sunlight, and the viewer understands why, even today, they are an immensely important symbol to the people of Fukui.



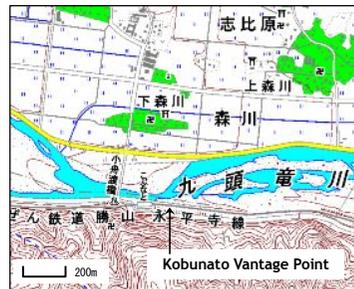
The Hakusan Mountain Range, as viewed from within Katsuyama City^①

Set against the Kuzuryū River running through the expansive Katsuyama Basin, the graceful Hakusan Range creates a breathtaking view found nowhere else. The stretch from Echizen Railways Kobunato Station to Hishima Station has been selected as one of the Top 100 Railway Window Views in Japan, and allows passengers to while



The Hakusan Range as view from Kobunato Station^②

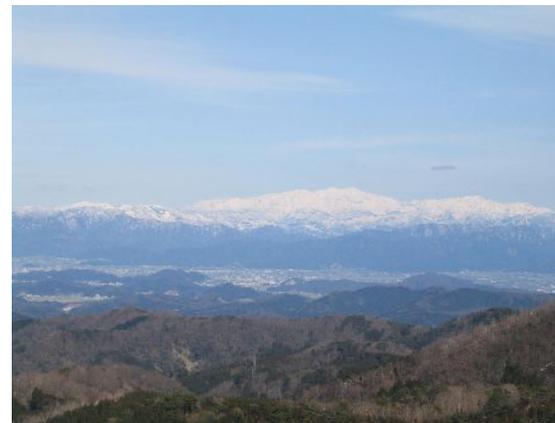
away the ride while taking in a spectacular river and mountain view.



Kobunato Vantage Point



Winter view of the Hakusan Range from Mt. Hō'onji^③



View from Mt. Ochi, Echizen-cho^④

From Mt. Hō'onji (elev. 1,357m), known for Ski Jam (the largest ski area in western Japan), the peak grants a sweeping view of the surrounding area, including the Hakusan Range. The path used by climbers today is the same used by Taichō when he ascended the mountain to found Heisen-ji Temple, and visitors can ponder what it was like for monks first walking the same path so many years ago.

It is said that Taichō's felt drawn to the Hakusan Range while training atop Mt. Ochi (Echizen-cho), and decided to establish his temple there during his training at Ochi.



As viewed from Takahama-cho, the westernmost point of Fukui Prefecture^⑤

On a clear day, the range can be seen even from Takahama-cho, deep in the southern portion of Fukui. Though it can only be seen several times a year, its snow-capped peaks seem as though a far-off mirage, a surreal visual treat for those who are so fortunate as to see it.