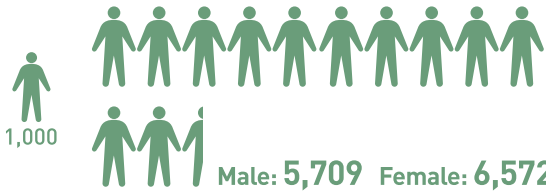


Data of Kuriyama

Population
(as of March 1, 2017)

12,281 people

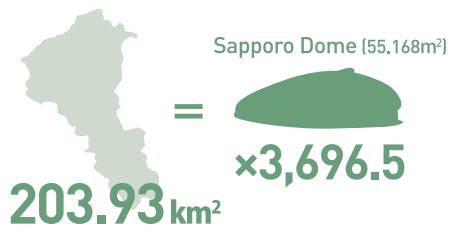


Town Emblem

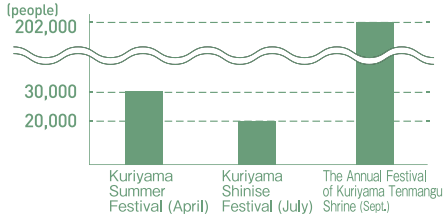


The Japanese letter "く" (read as "ku"), which is incorporated into the emblem, gives a vigorous, forward-looking impression and symbolizes the advancement of Kuriyama.

Area (as of March 1, 2016)



Number of visitors to the three main festivals (2016)



No. of farming households
(2010 Census of Agriculture and Forestry)



No. of shops*
*total of wholesalers and retailers

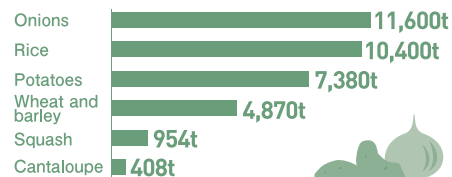


No. of business establishments, incl. factories*
*with at least 4 employees

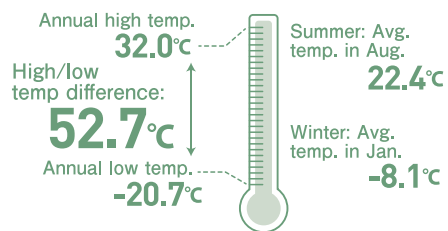


Major agricultural products and their yields

(Annual Report on Agricultural, Forestry and Fisheries Statistics in Hokkaido (Comprehensive edition) 2013-2014)



Weather data (FY 2011)



Published by
the Town of Kuriyama and the Kuriyama Town
Local Specialty Promotion Council
252, Matsukaze 2-chome, Kuriyama, Yubari-gun, Hokkaido
Phone: +81-(0)123-73-7516

Website of the Town of Kuriyama
<http://www.town.kuriyama.hokkaido.jp/>

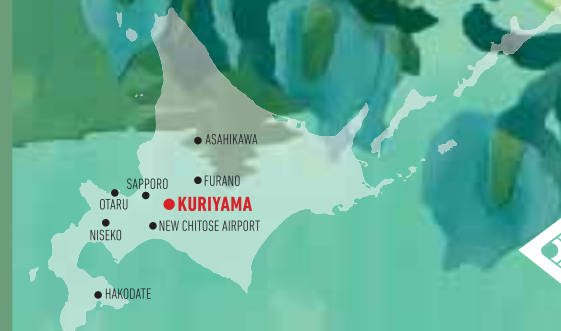


All information is as of March 31, 2017.

HOKKAIDO, JAPAN

KURIYAMA

TOWN GUIDE



**Town of Kuriyama,
Hokkaido**

Illustration: Hideyuki Fujikura

KURIYAMA TOWN GUIDE



The development of Kuriyama started in 1888. The name of the town derives from the Ainu* words *yam ni ushi*, meaning a place where Japanese chestnut trees flourish.

*an indigenous people of Hokkaido

- 02 The Four Seasons of Kuriyama
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- 06 Appreciating Nature in Kuriyama
- 08 The Three Main Festivals of Kuriyama
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- 12 Local Delicacies of Kuriyama
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Kuriyama spreads out over gently rolling hills between the Yubari Mountain Range and the Yubari River. It has been developing as a rural city with agriculture as its mainstay industry, but also with commercial and manufacturing businesses, including a sake brewery.

Spring

Kuriyama Park bustles with visitors from within and beyond the town, drawn by the many cherry trees in full bloom.

Summer

A field of sunflowers: This is just one of the many scenes that color Kuriyama in summer.

Autumn

The colorful autumn leaves, such as those of the ginkgo and maple trees that surround Kuriyama Tenmangu Shrine, are exquisite and fantastic.

Winter

In the snowbound winter, the quiet *satoyama* (cultivated countryside) in the suburbs is covered with deep snow.

Kuriyama, a Town with Long-established Businesses

Sake

As epitomized by a Japanese sake brewery that has a proud history of 130 years and a confectionery company that has preserved the traditional taste of *kibidango* dumplings, Japanese traditions and culture remain alive and well in Kuriyama.

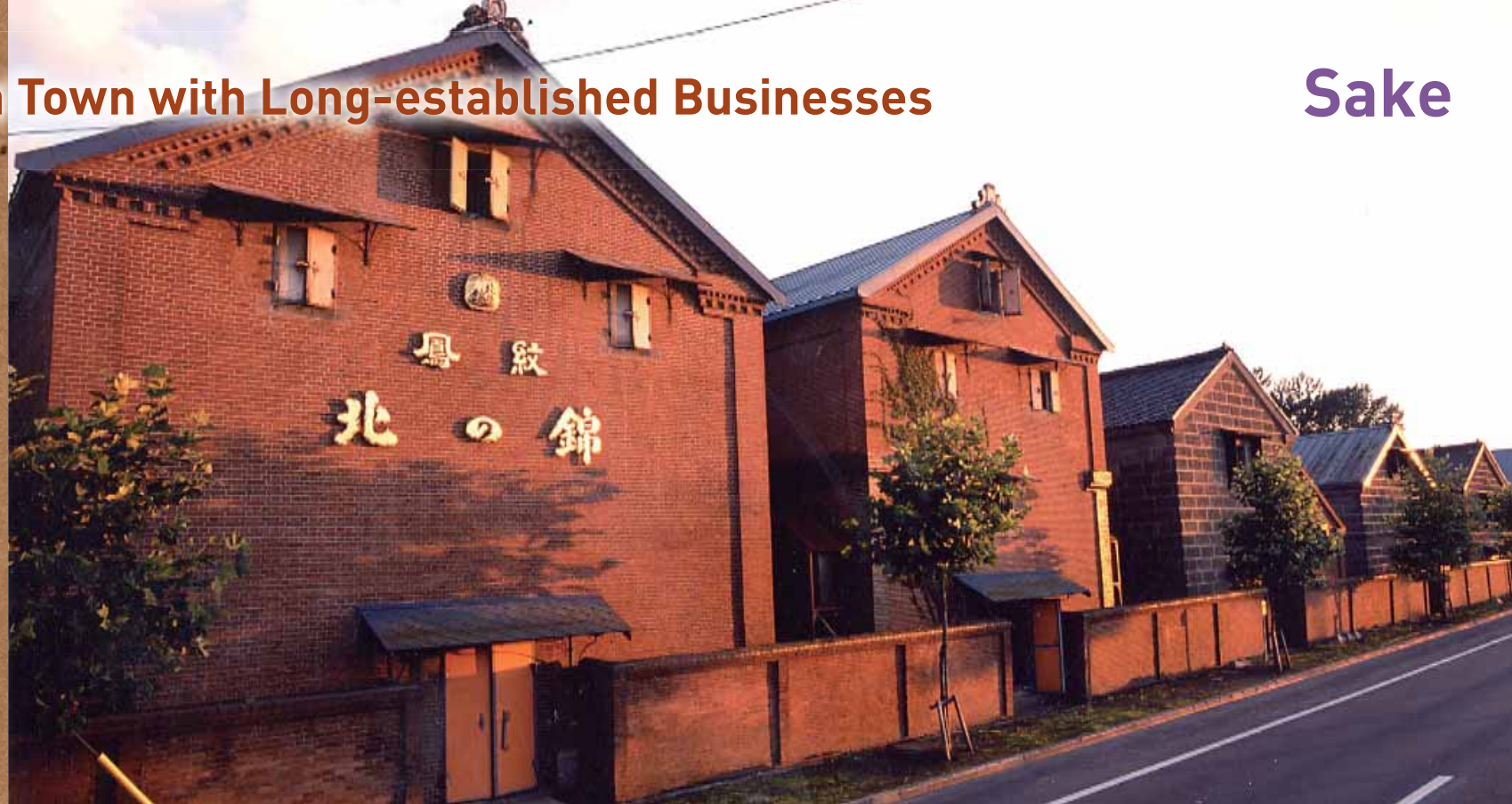
Kobayashi Shuzo (sake brewery)

Founded in Sapporo in 1878, this is one of Hokkaido's oldest sake breweries. It produces the Kita-no-Nishiki brand of sake. In 1901, the brewery moved to its current location, which abounds in splendid water from the Yubari River. This was the first brewery to use Hokkaido rice, and it aims to produce authentic local sake that's made by local sake brewers from 100% local rice and water.

Address: 109, Nishiki 3-chome, Kuriyama Town
Phone: +81-(0)123-72-1001
URL: <http://www.kitanonishiki.com/>



Kita-no-Nishiki Maruta is special sake of a kind called *junmaishu* ("pure rice sake") that's made exclusively from rice. It uses Hokkaido-grown rice of the Ginpu variety, a variety that's specifically for sake.



At the Kita-no-Nishiki Museum, which is in a renovated former headquarters of Kobayashi Shuzo, sake is sold and is available for tasting, and historical materials of Kobayashi Shuzo are on display.



Tanida Seika (confectionery)

A long-established confectionery that represents Kuriyama and dates back to 1913. Tanida Seika is well-known for its *kibidango* dumplings, which have been made by hand in a traditional method from choice natural ingredients since the company started selling them in 1923.

Address: 134, Nishiki 3-chome, Kuriyama Town
Phone: +81-(0)123-72-1234
URL: <http://www.kibidango.co.jp/>



Kibidango



Nature Activities



Appreciating Nature in Kuriyama



In Kuriyama, a town of great natural splendor, there's a park where townspeople relax and there are other facilities where various outdoor activities can be enjoyed. Efforts to conserve the great purple emperor, which is the national butterfly and an inhabitant of the town, are active as well.

Coca-Cola Environmental House at the Former Uenbetsu Elementary School

This educational facility with accommodations is managed with support from the Coca-Cola Foundation for Education and Environment. It's housed in a wooden building that used to be Uenbetsu Elementary School, which was built in 1936 and closed in 1998. It's a base for environmental education, and various nature activities are held here.

Address: 1-4 Uenbetsu, Kuriyama Town
Phone: +81-(0)123-72-1696
(The Non-Profit Uenbetsu School)
URL: <http://uenbetsu.jp/>
Accommodation is available only for a group of 10 people or more in principal, and prior reservations are required.

Sasakia charonda

The National Butterfly of Japan: The Great Purple Emperor

The first time this butterfly was found at Mt. Odaishiyama was in 1985, and Kuriyama is the northeastern limit of its habitat in Japan.

Fabre's Forest Observation and Breeding House

Visitors can see materials on the ecology of the great purple emperor on display and can observe the emergence of artificially reared butterflies. Visitors can also appreciate nature while strolling along the walking trail. The butterflies emerge from early July through mid-August.

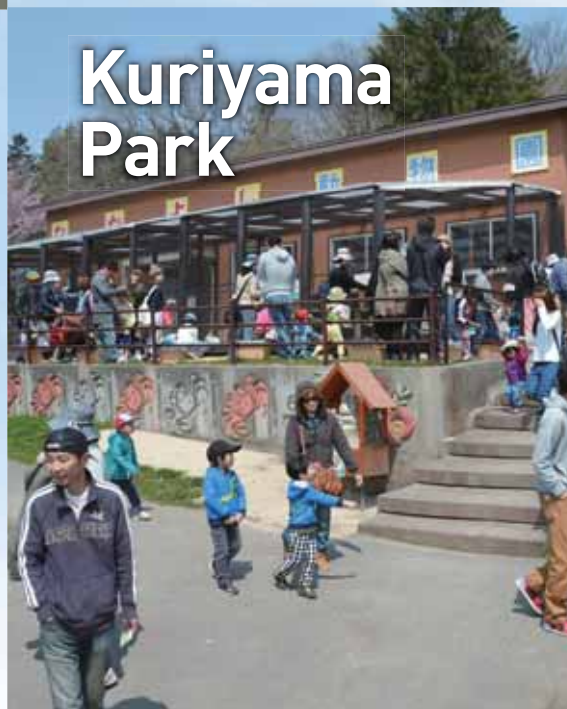
Address: 169, Sakuragaoka 2-chome, Kuriyama Town
Phone: +81-(0)123-72-7749
URL: <http://www.town.kuriyama.hokkaido.jp/furusato/>



Kuriyama Park

Natural trees grow thickly around Mt. Odaishiyama. Kuriyama Park spreads at the foot of the mountain. In early May, it bustles with tourists who come to see the profusion of cherry trees in full bloom. The park has various facilities: a steam locomotive on display that used to run through the town; "Nakayoshi Zoo", which entertains children and adults alike; a campsite; and hiking trails.

Address: Sakuragaoka 2-chome, Kuriyama Town
Open: April 29–November 3
Phone: +81-(0)123-72-0706
(Kuriyama Park Information Office)
URL: <http://t-daria.com/parktop/>



The Three Main Festivals of Kuriyama

Here we introduce Kuriyama's three main festivals, which are held between spring and autumn. During each festival, Kuriyama bustles with visitors from within and beyond the town.

Kuriyama Tenmangu Shrine Annual Festival

This is the largest festival in the town, with more than 300 stalls, among the most of any festival in Hokkaido. Some 200,000 people visit over a period of three days. Lion dance performers and portable shrines parade through the town on September 25.

Date: September 24- 26

Venue: Chuo 1-, 2- & 3-chome, and Sakuragaoka 2-chome, Kuriyama Town (Station St., Park St. & Kuriyama Tenmangu Shrine)

Phone: +81-(0)123-72-1278 (Kuriyama Chamber of Commerce and Industry)

Kuriyama Summer Festival

Traditional local performers and portable shrines parade through the festival venue, and on the second day, more than 20 *wadaiko* (Japanese drumming) teams gather from around Hokkaido to showcase their dynamic performances. A fireworks display is also held.

Period: Late July

Venue: Chuo 2- and 3-chome, Kuriyama Town

(Ekimae St. Shopping District & Shopping District Event Square)

Phone: +81-(0)123-72-1278 (Kuriyama Chamber of Commerce and Industry)

Kuriyama Shinise Festival

In this spring event, the Kita-no-Nishiki Sake Brewery Festival and the Kibidango Festival are collaboratively held by two long-established businesses: Kobayashi Shuzo for the former festival, and Tanida Seika for the latter festival. The brewery is made open to the public for free tastings, onsite sales and more. And at the *kibidango* factory, tastings of *kibidango*, factory observation tours and more are offered, all of which are quite popular every year.



Date: Second Saturday and Sunday of April

Venue: Nishiki 3-chome, Kuriyama Town

Phone: +81-(0)123-72-1001 (Kobayashi Shuzo)



Sports in Kuriyama

The various sports facilities in the town include a golf course, a ski ground, a "park golf" course, and a multipurpose ground.

Kurinoki Farm

This ballpark was established by Mr. Hideki Kuriyama, a manager of the Hokkaido Nippon-Ham Fighters, a professional baseball team. Inside the log house next to the ballpark, baseball memorabilia from a number of celebrated Nippon Professional Baseball and Major League Baseball players is on display, which makes the site a must-see for baseball fans.

Address: 22-25 Yuchi, Kuriyama Town
Phone: +81-(0)123-72-3917
Closed: Mondays & Tuesdays Admission: Free

Baseball

Ever Green Golf Club



The 18 holes on gentle hills feature variety and a strategic design, with the holes laid out to blend with the natural vastness.

Address: 421, Maruyama, Kuriyama Town
Phone: +81-(0)123-85-3011
Total length: 6,564 yards, par 72
URL: <http://www.evergreen-gc.com/>

Golf

Châteraisé Country Club Sapporo



The LPGA*-authorized Châteraisé Queen's Cup was held in 2004 and 2005 at this course. The course's 24 holes spread over hilly terrain.

*Ladies Professional Golfers' Association of Japan

Address: Mori, Kuriyama Town
Phone: +81-(0)123-85-3011
Total length: 6,564 yards, par 72
URL: <http://www.ishikarire-sort.co.jp/sapporo/>

Shin Sapporo Washington Golf Club



Golf legend Arnold Palmer designed this dynamic course, which takes advantage of Hokkaido's natural vastness. The 27 dramatic holes are set amidst virgin forest and valleys.

Address: 461, Misono, Kuriyama Town
Phone: +81-(0)123-76-3201
Total length: 9,899 yards, par 108
URL: <http://www.shinsapporo-washingtongc.com/>

Hot spring bathing and accommodations in Kuriyama



There are three accommodations in the town, including a resort hotel that features baths with natural hot spring water and an inn near the station. After your sightseeing or other activities, why not visit to soak in a relaxing hot spring bath.

Châteraisé Golf & Spa Resort Hotel Kuriyama (Natural Hot Spring Châteraisé)



This resort hotel has a golf course and hot spring bathing. Guest rooms overlook spectacularly scenic hills. Cottages cater to groups.

Address: Mori, Kuriyama Town Open: Early April to mid-November
Phone: +81-(0)123-72-6600
Fees: JPY9,500 person/night for accommodation with two meals; JPY550/adult for hot spring bathing only
URL: <http://www.ishikariresort.co.jp/sapporo/>

Hotel Paradise Hills (Natural Onsen Kuriyama)



The hotel is on National Highway 234 and features hot spring bathing. The hotel restaurant is well-known for its delicious dishes. Seen from the outdoor bath, the starry sky is spectacular.

Address: 91 Yuchi, Kuriyama Town Phone: +81-(0)123-72-1123
Fees (weekday): JPY10,000 or more/night/person with two meals; JPY650/adult for hot spring bathing only
URL: <http://www.parahill.jp/>

Kuriyama Inn



This is the closest accommodation to JR Kuriyama Sta. This comfortable budget Japanese inn is conveniently located in the center of the Station St. shopping district.

Address: 98, Chuo 2-chome, Kuriyama Town
Phone: +81-(0)123-72-1454
Fees: JPY6,000 or more/night/person with two meals

Kuriyama's Culinary Specialties

The town prospers from farming, producing rice, melons, tomatoes and other agricultural products. A diverse range of foods are processed from these. The various local specialties include sake, confections, ham and bacon.

Sanshimai Tomato Juice, made from vine-ripened tomatoes

The tomatoes are grown by farmers in the town who take great care from seedling to ripe tomato.



Taiyo-no-Shizuku Tomato Juice, made from vine-ripened tomatoes



This is proudly produced from coarsely chopped tomatoes grown on the manufacturer's own farm. No salt is added.

Kuriyama Croquettes

Local potatoes of the Danshaku variety are used. Take a bite, and feel the crisp croquette gently melt and its delicious taste slowly spread. There are many kinds of croquettes.



Sarasara Red

This onion is a functional food that has special health benefits. It's exclusively produced in Kuriyama. It's rich in components that dissolve blood clots.

Asparagus

Locally grown asparagus is thick, soft and sweet. Prized white asparagus, whose harvest season is short, is also available.



Kita-no-Nishiki Maruta (Special *junmai* ("pure rice") sake)

This special *junmai* sake is made from Hokkaido-grown rice of the Ginpu variety, a variety that's specifically for sake. The authentic color and the strong, delicious flavor of the rice are carefully maintained in producing this sake, which features a rich taste.



Hihara Canatalope

The producer has devoted 40 years to farming melons. The farm, which is on volcanic soil, has the ideal climate and soil for cantaloupe farming. Various efforts result in melons of the highest quality.



Rhubarb jam

This beautifully red jam is well balanced with tartness. It has a somewhat nostalgic taste, with a well-balanced flavor.

Taisetsu Hananomai

These delicious maitake mushrooms from Kuriyama have a good flavor and are said to boost immunity.



Tanida Kibidango: Japan's No.1

Tanida Kibidango was inspired by a wish for people's recovery from the Great Kanto Earthquake of 1923. It's made from choice natural ingredients and has been widely loved by people in Hokkaido down through the years.



Kinausu no Okome

This rice is specially grown in Kuriyama's rich natural environment with the minimal use of chemical pesticides and fertilizers.



Tagami Ramen

These egg noodles, made from high-quality flour and raw eggs, are delightfully firm.



Kuri Manju (steamed chestnut-jam bun)

This small confection has a hint of salt. It hasn't changed since its introduction, and it's been loved the whole time.

Sato-no-Kuri

This Japanese confection includes a whole chestnut and features a simple taste.



Sankaku-age (triangular deep-fried tofu)

100% local soybeans are used. Enjoy the sweet sensation of *sankaku-age* deep-fried tofu.

Cookies handmade by farmers

These superb cookies feature choice ingredients, such as 100% whole wheat flour made from the Kitahonami variety of Kuriyama wheat, and natural eggs (fertilized eggs).



Morohashi Chorizo

This raw sausage is inspired by Spanish sausages and is flavored with several spices.

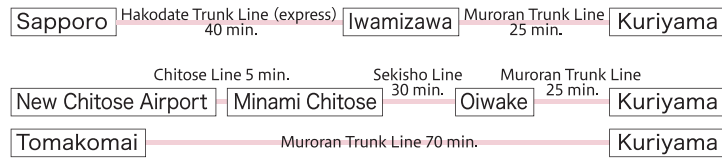
Kuriyama Ham

This additive-free ham is made by hand. It's a time-intensive labor of love.

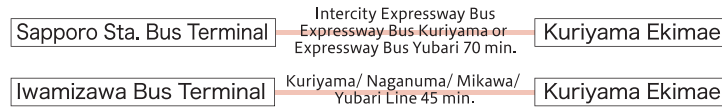


Access

●JR Train



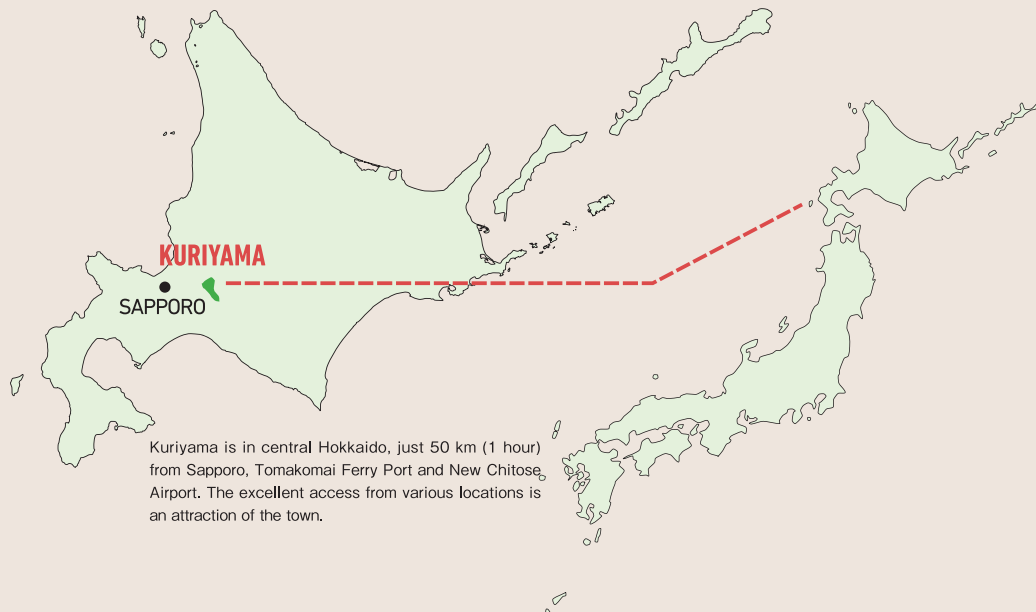
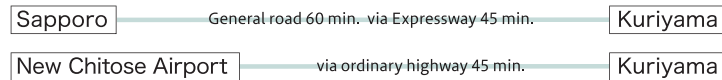
●Hokkaido Chuo Bus



●Yutetsu Bus



●Car



Map of Kuriyama

