NOZAWAONSEN, JAPAN ***** Restaurant and Bar Guide

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Open wide and say Nozawa.

Nozawa Onsen has one of the best village atmospheres of any Ski Resorts in Japan. The town is steeped in history and is really just a quiet and charming farming community. This translates into delicious fresh local produce and some amazing eating delights.

As all the venues cater to the locals all year round the prices are very good value all the time. You can easily get a terrific meal in many places for less than 1000 yen. So can afford to eat out every night and there are some unique and memorable splurges too.

Along with the great restaurants on the mountain there are far too many eating-places and quaint bars in Nozawa to mention here, but we would like to introduce you to a few of our favourites. Some are on the map and a few we try and keep a bit secret just for our guests, so be sure to ask our staff for their suggestions – we'll be delighted to share.

The amazing skiing, breathtaking scenery and relaxing hot springs are not the only reason to visit Nozawa Onsen If you are a foodie then could come to Nozawa just to give your taste buds an adventure. Something unique to Nozawa is cooking in the Onsens be sure to try an Onsen Egg or corn while here. Other specialties on the main street Oyu Dori are the Oyaki or steamed buns and Onsen Manju in the wooden boxes perfect on a cold day to warm the hands!

Of course you are welcome in any of the many restaurants around the village so get out and explore. Some places may appear closed so don't be shy they will be happy to see you. Most places have one night a week off which varies so if you miss it one night try again the next.

The menus are in English and Japanese and the restaurants should have a copy too to help make it easier for you.

If feel like a night in home delivery or "Demai" is a great option as they will deliver to the door of the Lodge in the authentic bowls on the back of a scooter! There are also a few places like Bun Bun that do a special Suki Yaki feast just need to book a day in advance .Just ask our staff for assistance.

Here are couple of phrases that may help with your dining experience:

| Please | Kudasai |
|------------|--------------|
| Thank You | Arigatou |
| Bon Apetit | Ittadakimasu |
| Delicious | Oishii |
| Food | Tabemono |
| Drink | Nomimono |
| One | Hitotsu |
| Two | Futatsu |
| Three | Mitsu |
| | |

At the end of the meal it is always polite to say - **Gochisosama**. Doesn't translate very well so you will just have to trust us on that one!!!

Mark, Yosh & the team

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LODGENAGANO VILLANOZAWA NOZAWAHOUSE NOZAWACOTTAGE

Four great locations to stay in a Magic Town



Restaurant - Biliken

Map Reference: 1

Type of Food Blend of East meets West with both Japanese and Other.

The Plug A quirky little place; looks like an old English Tea House from outside.

Inside and the décor match the menu of East meets West.

The food is excellent and good value.

Husband and wife team, husband rules the Kitchen and wife serves the hordes.

Usually fairly quiet as tucked out of the way.

House Specialty Tako (Octypus)Salad, Buta Kimchi (Pork and Kimchi Stir Fry), Raw Horse Meat.

Nearby Right next to Yoshimi Soba and down from Ogama.





Restaurant - Yoshimi Soba

Map Reference: 2

Type of Food Soba (Buckwheat Noodles), Udon Noodles, Donburi Rice Dishes etc.

The Plug You could be mistaking for thinking you have just walked into a Sumo training restaurant.

The owner Yamazaki san is one of the biggest Japanese guys in the village.

A true gentle giant and a great chef.



The family run business has some great Japanese cuisine, with rice dishes and the healthy Soba "Buckwheat Noodles" and lots more.

The place is beautiful inside and lots of interesting eats.

There is an onsen right next door too so make it a double.

House Specialty

Soba Noodles, Nameko Tofu (Tofu and Mushrooms), Fried Wasps.

Nearby

NOZAWA

Right next to Biliken and down from Ogama, so if one is closed good chance the other is open.





Restaurant - Akibitei

Map Reference: 3

Type of Food

Okonomiyaki (Japanese Pancakes) also Teppanyaki style.

The Plug

Probably one of the best value places in the village if you want something that is really going to fill you up after going hard all day on the slopes.

The owner is a super nice guy and he cooks the big Okonmiyaki or Japanese pancake on a hot plate right in front of you.



Also does Noodles or a combo and the beer is ice cold!!

Has a wireless connection too if you want to surf while you eat up.

House Specialty

Okonomiyaki or Yaki Soba Noodles or a mix Modanyaki.

Nearby

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Tricky one to find is at the lower part of town take the map and ask for directions there are a few Onsens nearby too so pack a towel.





Restaurant - Tonkichi

Map Reference: 15

Type of Food

Okonomiyaki (Japanese Pancakes) also Teppanyaki style.

The Plug Similar fare to Akibitei, with the Japanese Pancakes.

A great vibe with mainly Japanese style Tatami Seating and a Counter.

Koji san (the owner) also speaks great English.

House Specialty

Okonomiyaki or Yaki Soba Noodles or a mix Modanyaki and don't miss Big Beers for the Adults and Kids Beers for the kids!

Nearby

Just across the road from Villa Nozawa.







Restaurant – Kaze No le

Map Reference: 5

Type of Food Italian.

The Plug A very popular one with people looking for a bit of a Western style fix.

Kono san (the owner) spent some time in Italy and puts a lot of love into all his Pizzas and Pastas.

The place has a European feel and some good bottle of wine available.

House Specialty Pizza and Pasta that can be a bit different to your usual.

Nearby

Just across the road from Oyu the main Onsen and up the stairs.







Restaurant – Daimon Soba

Map Reference: 6

Type of Food Soba Buck Wheat Noodles.

The Plug The family at Daimon is 3rd Generation Soba Makers, and it is a real art.

It is a family business with husband and wife and all the kids working together. Great value and healthy sumptuous meals.



Lots of local specialties to stimulate your interest.

Keiko san the owner is also a master at the Japanese Art of Shuji - writing Japanese Characters.

She can write your name in Kanji and have it printed on a T-shirt to take home as long as you have a few days. Great memory of your trip to Nozawa.

Her son is a Champion Ski Jumper you can see his big jump skis in the back.

House Specialty

Soba Noodles my favourite Nameko Soba with Mushrooms.

Nearby

Just off the main street Oyu Dori and easy to find directly opposite the Liquor Shop in the centre of town.





Restaurant – Wanryu Ramen

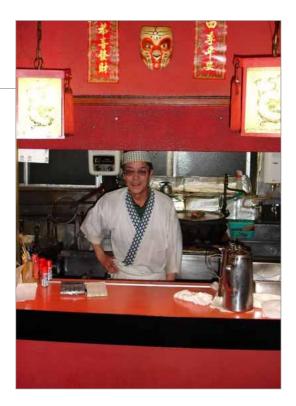
Map Reference: 7

Type of Food Ramen Chinese Noodles and Gyoza Dumplings.

The Plug

Ramen is traditionally a Chinese style noodle which the Japanese have adopted as their own and perfected.

It is usually noodles with vegetables and meat served with a hot soup with a base flavour of Salt, Miso or Soya Sauce.



The restaurant is warm with lively red colors and a relaxed feel. Prices are really cheap for a hearty meal.

Ramen is perfect after a hard days skiing and then an Onsen. Make sure you try the Gyoza.

Best enjoyed with a cold beer!!

Misui san (the chef) always had a smile.

House Specialty

Miso Ramen and a serve of Gyoza is hard to beat.

Nearby

NOZAWA

Opposite the main bottle shop in town, then down the road past the Pharmacy on your left and there are 3 Restaurants in row (all are great).





Restaurant - Wakagiri

Map Reference: 9

Type of Food

Japanese Te Shoku or Meal with different bowls and Sushi.

The Plug

This is often a great place to start when you first get to town.

It is a large place with a good English menu and great selection.

The staff are all great especially little 3 year old Come On (the owner's son) who will give you a greeting when you come in.

House Specialty Fried Squid Legs and Katsu Pork Fillet.

Nearby

One of the first you come to when heading into town from Lodge Nagano or Villa Nozawa, it is down a little lane way on the right, A frame shaped building.





Restaurant - Banri

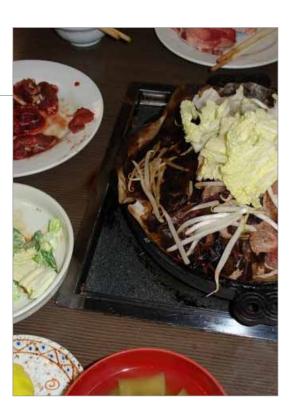
Map Reference: 10

Type of Food Korean Barbeque.

The Plug

Great place with a group of friends, and a very social way to dine.

You have you a little hotplate in the centre of the table and can order a few different meats and vegetables to cook up.



House Specialty

Beef and Mutton on the Hotplate and Fried Rice on the side washed down with a big beer or Lemon Chu hai.

Nearby

When you hit town walking from Lodge Nagano or Villa Nozawa it is down the hill towards the traffic lights on the left big white glowing sign.

Average Price of a Meal

900 Yen





Restaurant - Buna on the Slopes

Map Reference: 11

There are over 20 places to eat on the slopes at Nozawa Onsen Resort. The main areas are at the top and bottom of the Nagasaka and Hikage Gondolas and the base of the Karasawa Valley slopes. There are a few random spots like the bottom of Utopia slope which is lots of fun to sit with a beer and watch people cascade down the mogul field above. Then there is a bunch along the Paradise slope, which offers some great food and awesome views.



Type of Food

Japanese Filling Mountain Food.

The Plug

Buna is probably our favourite on the slopes. The Ueno family has run it for many years. Their 3 sons are some of the best skiers in Japan and the parents pump out some of the best skier hearty food to match.

It is a hexagonal shaped building with big glass windows to take in the views, can also sit out the front on a sunny day and soak up the rays with a cold ale.

House Specialty

Curry and Nan Bread, Sukiyaki Don, Cakes and Sundaes , but it is all pretty good.

Nearby

Just on the right side as you fly down Paradise Slope after getting off the Hikage Gondola or Paradise 4 chair. Can ski right to the door.





Bar – Stay Bar

Map Reference: 24

Type of Bar Bourbon Bar Cool Vibe and smooth tunes.

The Plug

There are quite a number of cool bars in Nozawa now but this is one of the originals and still the best!!

Owned by Kiku and Yumiko, two of the nicest people you will ever meet.

They used to live in Canada and when you walk inside you will think they brought half of Canada home with them.



Kiku is a muso and a big fan of Jackson Brown so the place prides itself on groovy music and a great range of drinks.

You can also get food here, usually a good place for a Western Fix or late night desert!!

There is a full band set up in the corner so feel free to belt out a tune if your heart desires.

Otherwise if you are lucky Kiku will do you a version of Eric Claptons "Wonderful Tonight".

Great atmosphere and you will find you just want to Stay a little bit longer.....

House Specialty

Beers and Bourbons from all over the world.

Nearby

On the main street as you come in town, just on your left next to the Foot Bar and down some stairs.

Average Price of a Drink 500 Yen





Bar – Foot Bar

Map Reference: 25

Type of Bar Modern Japanese.

The Plug Right on the main street and sometimes flowing on to the main street.

Foot Bar is a cool little bar with a great vibe. They have Internet access if you buy a drink and Fussball if want some exercise.

Otherwise you can watch lots of amazing ski and sports movies on the big screen.



Friendly staff and a few of the local hardcore skiers and boarders hang out there.

Standing room only, but a great place to drop in for a few ales and some people watching.

House Specialty

Locally brewed Beers and Sake, ask for the Ice shaped like a soccer ball.

Nearby

On the main street as you come in town just on your left can't miss it.

Average Price of a Drink 500 Yen





Bar – Heaven

Map Reference: 27

Type of Bar

Hip Western style Bar and Karaoke Boxes.

The Plug

Shot Bar Heaven has been recently refurbished and is now probably the funkiest bar in town. Nice long counter and lots of booth seating.

Tatsumi (the owner) speaks pretty good English and always keen for a chat.

Mellow lighting and matching tunes make the main bar area a great place to chill out.

Then if want some serious fun, you can hire out a Karaoke Box with some friends and belt out Aretha Franklin hits to your heart's content!

House Specialty

Draft Beer and just about any other drink you can think of.

Nearby

Just off the main street heading down to the Traffic Lifghts on the right hand side.

Average Price of a Drink

500 Yen



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Bar – Himatsuri

Map Reference: 26

Type of Bar Modern Japanese Izakaya.

The Plug

Just opened last season the Himatsuri meaning Fire Festival brings a bit of style to the main street. Great décor and outlook into the snow covered trees.

Owned by the same guys that own Foot Bar, they have taken Apres Ski to the next level.

Also a classy restaurant upstairs if want you something different, though it is a bit pricy by Nozawa standards.

House Specialty Some amazing Sakes.

Nearby

Right at the end of the main street opposite Oyu Onsen and the Foot Onsen.

Average Price of a Drink 600 Yen





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