

# Agricultural Tour Wonder Farm

For this edition of Iwaki Vision's Agricultural Tour, we visited Iwaki's newly opened Wonder Farm agricultural experience facility – the first of its kind in Iwaki.

Wonder Farm opened on the 24th of February earlier this year as a combined group facility managed by JR Tomatoland Iwaki Farm, Tomatoland Iwaki and Agripark Iwaki (note: Agripark's strawberry picking facility featured in the last edition of Iwaki Vision's Agricultural Tour) with the aim of allowing people to experience food and agriculture with their five senses. The facility wants people to taste, see and experience hands-on farming and farm produce and learn whilst having fun. It's a unique and interactive farm where you can learn more about traditional and past lifestyles as well as enjoy the natural scenery and active outdoor leisure.

Wonder Farm has multiple different types of facilities available where you can experience agriculture in a variety of ways.



## Mori no Marche: direct sales store and café

This facility within Wonder Farm sells fresh locally made produce (if local produce cannot be obtained, they sell produce made from within Fukushima Prefecture) including fruit, vegetables and seasonal flowers. Tomato products such as tomato juice, sauce and jam made at the nearby Agri Kobo are also sold here. Mori no Marche also holds occasional events such as product demonstrations, sales and tasting workshops from local farmers. You can also relax and enjoy coffee, vegetable smoothies and soup as well as tomato influenced desserts at the café.

**Opening hours:** The store and café are open from 9am-6pm for most of the year (April to November) and from 9am-5pm during the Winter months (December to March).

## Mori no Kitchen: buffet restaurant

This 136-seat restaurant uses local and regional fresh produce hand-picked by the chef and offers mainly tomato-based cuisine such as pastas and stone-oven baked pizzas. The restaurant features a seasonal menu with over 30 dishes as well as drinks and desserts on offer.

**Opening hours:** The restaurant's lunch hours are 11am-3pm (last order at 2pm) and dinner hours are 5pm-9pm (last order at 8pm). The restaurant is currently only open for dinner on Fridays, Saturdays and days before public holidays. Closed on Wednesdays and during the New Year holidays.

**Prices (excluding consumption tax):**

	Lunch	Dinner
Adults (junior high school age and older)	1500 yen	2300 yen
Seniors (65 years old and older)	1300 yen	
Primary school children from 2 <sup>nd</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> grade	800 yen	
Children aged 4 to primary school 1 <sup>st</sup> grade	500 yen	
Children aged 3 years old and younger	free	free



## Mori no Agri Kobo: processing plant

Open as of the 1st of April, this factory will produce tomato-based processed goods such as tomato puree and tomato juice to create new tomato flavours that one can't experience just by eating them raw. The processing plant will uphold rigorous hygiene levels and only use tomatoes that are trusted and safe to use. Wonder Farm also organises occasional tours inside the plant.



## JR Tomatoland Iwaki Farm

Scheduled to open later in Spring this year, JR East Group (that's right the Japanese rail company!) is working alongside Tomatoland Iwaki to help construct a greenhouse using innovative technology such as F-Clean fluorine-based plastic instead of glass for the greenhouse structure itself. The greenhouse will utilise a similar cultivation method of hydroponics to Tomatoland Iwaki, which involves a nutrient-filled liquid solution of fertiliser dissolved in water and uses coconut husks instead of soil.

## Garden and other facilities

The Garden and other facilities are in various stages of being completed. The Garden space is a place where you can get a hands-on farming experience growing your own flowers or vegetables and observe their progress as they grow. There is also a large open space that can be used to hold events or for a range of recreational activities. Wonder Farm is also planning on opening a hiking course in the adjacent mountains. However monitoring of the soil for radiation levels is being carried out first to ensure that the mountain is safe for people to access.

## Access

**Address:** 1 Hiromachi Nakajima Yotsukura-machi Iwaki City Fukushima Prefecture

**By car:** Take the Joban Expressway and exit at the Yotsukura Interchange. Wonder Farm is near the interchange exit.

**By train:** Take the Joban Line to Yotsukura Station. Wonder Farm is 10 minutes from the station via taxi.



## Inquiries:

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