

FEATURES

Japan's Impressive Snowy Landscapes



Above left: *Juhyo* is created as ice and snow accumulate on the branches of Aomori todomatsu trees.

Above right: There's a chance of unexpectedly encountering wildlife during a stroll, like the Yezo sika deer.

Below left: In winter, Ginzan Onsen bustles with tourists from overseas

Below right: Snow crystals with hexagonal forms

Japan is one of the snowiest countries in the world, with many scenic spots where visitors can view beautiful winter landscapes. This issue of *Highlighting Japan* introduces readers to the special qualities of Japanese snow from a scientific perspective and invites them to explore the country's snowy scenery in various ways, by admiring impressive snowy landscapes, art with snowy scenery themes, and literary masterpieces set in snow country.

