

Nozawa, Japan Restaurant & Bar Reviews



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Introduction

Nozawa Onsen boasts a wonderful array of quality restaurants and bars.

With a wide range of cuisine cooked by dedicated chefs, the town restaurant styles range from Italian to Korean to authentic Japanese.

You're sure to find something to delight your taste buds without blowing the budget.

(Our reviews include a guide on the average price of a meal – I'm sure you'll be pleasantly surprised.)

There are many more interesting and fun places in town to wet the whistle and get some tremendous food.

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.

Bon Appétit or Itadakimasu!

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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 (Octopus)Salad, Buta Kimchi (Pork and Kimchi Stir Fry), Raw Horse Meat

Nearby

Right next to Yoshimi Soba and down from Ogama

Day Off

Average Price of a meal

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

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

Day Off

Average Price of a meal

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 Okonomiyaki 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.

The owner Saito san is definitely a thumbs up!

House Specialty

Okonomiyaki or Yaki Soba Noodles or a mix Modanyaki

Nearby

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

Day Off

Average Price of a meal

800 Yen



Restaurant - Tomachi

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

Day Off

Average Price of a meal

800 Yen

Restaurant – Kaze No Ie

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

Day Off

Average Price of a meal

1000 Yen



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

Day Off

Average Price of a meal

800 Yen

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

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).

Day Off

Average Price of a meal

750 Yen



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.

Day Off

Average Price of a meal

900 Yen

Restaurant - Banri

Map Reference: 1

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

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.

Day Off

Average Price of a meal

900 Yen



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.

Day Off

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.

Day Off

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 bars 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 Lifights on the right hand side

Day Off

Average Price of a Drink

500 Yen

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 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

Day Off

Average Price of a Drink

600 Yen

Restaurants

- Billiken Japanese 1
- Yoshimi Soba Soba 2 ★
- Atarashiya Japanese 3
- Akabitel Okonomiyaki 4 ★
- Koze no ie Western 5
- Dalmon Soba 6 ★
- Wanryu Ramen Chinese 7
- Harmacho Sushi Sushi 8 ★
- Wakagiri Sushi 9 ★
- Banri Korean BBQ 10 ★
- Buna Japanese 11 ★
- Ikemitsu Japanese 12 ★
- Suzuki Soba 13
- Shantei/Arena Japanese 14
- Tomachi Okonomiyaki 15 ★
- Green Peas Italian 16
- Sakai Japanese 17 ★
- Jissaku Japanese 18
- Pasta di pasta European 19
- Bun Bun Suki Yaki 20 ★ Booking req.
- Yumoto Tearoom 21
- Carte Japanese 22
- Bell Japanese 23
- Stay Western 24★
- Foot Western/WIFI 25★
- Himatsuri Japanese 26★
- Heaven Karaoke 27
- Rotus Root Western 28
- Masauemon Japanese 29

Bars & Cafes

Other

- Bus stops
- Onsens
- Post Office / ATM / Phone
- Temple
- Tomii Rentals
- Traffic Light
- Super Market