

YAMA LODGE MADARAO

ONSEN ETIQUETTE

Welcome! There are a few universal rules when it comes to public bathing in Japan, and you've probably heard about the no-tattoo rule. Because Yama Lodge has private onsens, we do not require you to cover your tattoos, but for everyone's comfort and enjoyment we appreciate you respecting the following:

1. No food or drinks in the changeroom or onsen area.
2. Hot springs are enjoyed naked. Please take off your clothes in the changing room and place them on the shelf. Leave your towel on top of your clothes. The only thing you should be taking into the onsen area is your onsen towel and any shampoo/body wash you prefer, otherwise these are provided at the shower stations.
3. Sit at one of the shower stations and wash yourself thoroughly. Rinse your onsen towel of soap and dry yourself with it. If you have long hair and you wash it, please towel dry and tie it up before entering the onsen. Many people use their onsen towel as a head wrap.
4. Please do not place your head, hair or onsen towel in the onsen water. It is for soaking only.
5. Please refrain from talking too loudly—sound carries in the mountains.
6. Please don't sit naked on the edge of the bath, as other people may place their heads there.
7. After you have finished soaking, you may like to repeat the process—wash at the shower station and then soak.
8. No running or splashing please.
9. If you move between the indoor and outdoor onsen and plunge in the snow, please rinse yourself under the shower to remove any leaves on your feet (and pat dry) before stepping back into the onsen.
10. Before you leave the onsen area, please use your onsen towel to pat yourself dry before entering the changeroom so you don't drip on the changeroom floor.

Above all, enjoy this little slice of Japanese culture.

