



## Life in Aso: true living off the land

### 阿蘇と暮らす、農と共に生きる

The agriculture of Aso has been developed and maintained over many centuries. The meticulous maintenance of Aso's grass fields through diligent grazing, trimming, and controlled burns creates an ideal environment for raising high quality livestock and produce in and around the Aso caldera. Locals still hold the same festivals for healthy crops as their ancestors did generations ago. In 2013, Aso was designated as a Globally Important Agricultural Heritage System in recognition of the unique ways farmers and locals continue to work and live off the land.

阿蘇には古くから放牧・採草・野焼きなど、草原を守る伝統があり、山間で牧畜を飼い、カルデラの中で農作物を育んできた。山の神を敬い、五穀豊穡を願う農耕祭事を今も受け継いでいる。2013年、火山とともに暮らす“農のくに・阿蘇”は、世界農業遺産の一つに認定された。