Transportation

Car (Tohoku EXPY)



Bus (JR Bus Tohoku / Towada Kanko Dentetsu Co., Ltd.)



Tohoku Hokkaido Shinkansen (Hayabusa)



Aoimori Railway / Towada Kanko Dentetsu Co., Ltd. (bus)



Airplane



Taxi

Aomori Taxi (Towada)

0176-23-5155 15-18 Higashi-nijuichiban-cho, Towada

Sanbongi Taxi 0176-23-7155 10-41 Inaoicho, Towada

Towada Taxi 3-27 Higashi-sanban-cho, Towada Hakko Taxi 0176-23-8155 13-31 Nishi-niban-cho, Towada

Rental Cars

100 Yen Car Rentals (Towada)

J-Net Rent-a-Car (Towada)

0176-23-2305 3-32 Motomachi Nishi 1 Chome, Towada

7-1 Motomachi Higashi 3 Chome, Towada

0120-119-083

Toyota Rent-A-Lease Co., Ltd. (Towada)

21-2 Higashi-juyonban-cho, Towada 0176-25-0100

Carlife Stadium Rent-a-Car (Kirida, Towada)

178-5 Namikinishi, Sanbongi, Towada



See videos & panoramas!

For smartphones and tablets, search for COCOAR2 on the App Store for iOS, and the Play Store for Android. After downloading, open the COCOAR2 app and tap the scan mark.

View by holding over any image with this mark.



W Video Mark



360° Panorama Mark



http://digibook.safekeeping.jp/towada/en/

Tourist Information Center

Towada Oirase Tourism Bureau

Art Station Towada 15-3 Inaoicho, Towada, Aomori Tel: 0176-24-3006

Oirase

Oirase Stream Museum

183 Tochikubo, Okuse, Towada, Aomori Tel: 0176-74-1233

Lake Towada

Tourist Center Pratt

486 Towadakohan, Yasumiya, Okuse, Towada, Aomori Tel: 0176-75-1531

Towada Tourism Website

TRAVEL TOWADA

http://towada.travel



Published By: Towada City





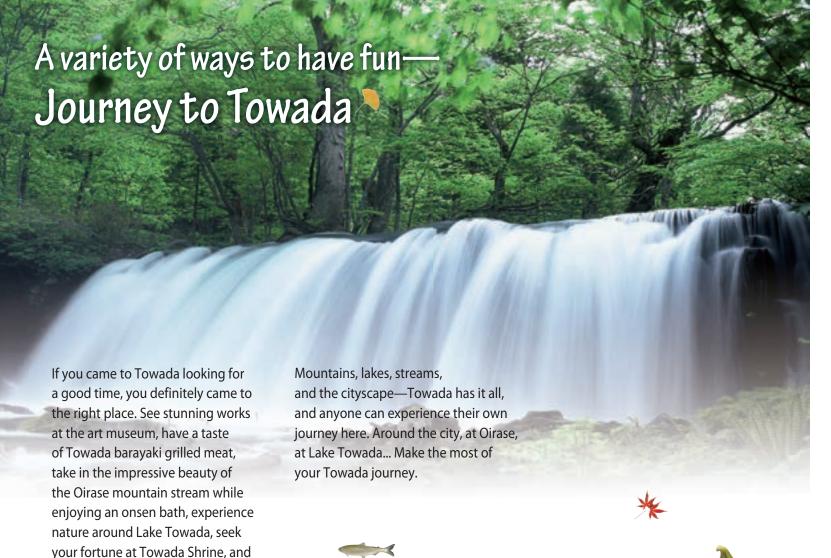
Tourist Guide to Towada, Aomori

TRAVEL TOWADA



Sometimes, doing nothing is everything





Journey to Towada Contents

Downtown

Savour the famous local products	10 IOWada, the town of art	4
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Oirase

Enjoy the beauty of the mount	ain streams to the full at Oirase Gorge
Revel in these relaxing, seclud	ed springs surrounded by mountains
Encounter the mysticism of the	ne beech forests of Tsuta
A true beer of the area made	using Oirase water

Lake Towada

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much more.

ARTS TOWADA

To Towada, the town of art

inges idee

Works of modern artists active on the world stage are exhibited at Towada Art Center.

It's the center of "Arts Towada" exhibiting a variety of art work in spaces outdoors which resemble the whole of Kanchogai Street being in one art museum. Its distinctive feature is the exhibition rooms of all the works being distributed and arranged as "houses for art" in developing the architectural space for the works. Getting its concept from Kanchogai Street with its alternating buildings and plazas, the various sized exhibition rooms are joined by a glass hallway.

There is a museum shop and café in the Art center which are recommended places to drop in when on walks around the downtown.



"Standing woman" Ron Mueck (Picture: Kuniya Oyamada) This statue of a woman stands at about 4m. The feel of the skin, the blood vessels and sad expression on her face are real to the point you could mistake her for a real woman.



Sub Do-Ho



Shin Morikita



"Bridge of Light" Ana Laura Aláez The "Bridge of Light" shows the different expressions of day and night. Surrounded by light in pleasant silence, a spiritual world of meditation lies before you.



"Yoroshiku Girl 2012" Yoshitomo Nara Yoshitomo Nara created this huge mural painting in 2012 when they held his exhibition "Aoimori no Chisana Chisana ouchi" there. Why don't you have your picture taken in the same pose as the girl?



Towada **Art Center**

Designer: Ryue Nishizawa

"Irotoridori no Kakera" Kyota Takahash

Tel: 0176-20-1127 Opening hours: 9:00-17:00 (last entry 16:30) Closed: Mondays (Tuesday if Monday is a holiday), New Year Holiday http://towadaartcenter.com/





"aTTA" Noboru Tsubaki (@Mami Iwasaki)

This is a statue of an ant which is located facing Kanchogai Street. This deep red objet d'art is made huge like a robot and it has a great visual impact! If you look up at it, there's the illusion that you've

There's also souvenirs and a town café here Cube Café & Shop After enjoying the art, drop in to the museum shop.

There are postcards of the exhibits, stationery and cups on sale. There is also a café attached which you can enter directly from outside of the art center so you can drop in when on a walk around the downtown.

Opening hours: (Café) 9:00-16:30 (Shop) 9:00-17:00 Closed: Mondays (or the following day if Monday is a public holiday)











"Love Forever, Singing in Towada" Yayoi Kusama (Picture: Kuniva Ovamada)

If you take one step in, you feel like you have become part of Kusama's world. The mysterious and cute objet d'art make the perfect spot for taking pictures.

Get a stylish souvenir as a precious memory

of your trin

The more you walk, the more you'll love the city After you've looked around the Towada Art Center, head into the downtown from Kanchogai Street. There are lots of artistic spots there. The more you walk, the more fun discoveries there are. Ritazono Parking Lot Chuo Hospital Towada City Office To Lake Towada-ko

City library

The Arts Plaza is also

Aroma Café

P

Manhole covers

with pictures of

There's a carillon

Chuo

Parking Lot

O.

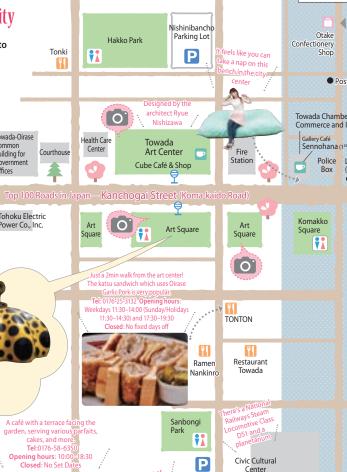
Towada-Oirase

Building for

Government

Tohoku Electric

Power Co., Inc.



Towada City Center Map



Otake Confectionery Shop

founding rulers

The staple of the shop is its Fromage Bran containing high quality cream cheese from France. The refreshing taste goes incredibly well with coffee Tel: 0120-39-4715 Opening hours: 8:00-19:00 Closed: Open all year



Towada Tourism and Local Products Center

A treasure trove of tourist information!

Tel: 0176-58-6707 (Towada Tourism Association) Opening hours: 9:00-19:00 (local products on sale 9:00-18:30)

Closed: 1st January There are guides and souvenirs on display here and it's the base

of information about Towada! After you've gotten tourist information from here, take a walk around the city. There's also information on Oirase and Lake Towada.



A gravesite paying homage to

three of the Nitobe family gener-

ations (Tsuto, Jujiro, and Shichiro),

known as pioneering ancestors who irrigated the Sanbongihara

Plateau with the waters of the

manmade Inaoi River, and laid

out the city's grid pattern, as well

as Dr. Nitobe (Inazo, the third son

of Jujiro), who maintained the

same pioneering spirit in his ac-

tivities around the world.

color the night scenery

of Towada at this dining

Higashi Sanbanmachi

Towada City Hotel



Yosaku Yakiniku and Ramen Shop

Katsu curry ramen

Recommended for people who want to eat tonkatsu, curry and ramen together at once. It looks very filling and heavy but it's surprisingly light. You can only have this dish at Yosaku in Towada

Tel: 0176-22-6265 Opening hours: 17:00-2:00 following day (Sundays

17:00-0:00 following day) Closed: Mondays



Lucky Items "Horseshoes"

On Kanchogai Street, also known as

Koma-kaido Road, there are horse

motifs and horseshoes to be found

Shops that are a collaboration with art Shuji Yamamoto's Tenori is on sale

Takamura Grocery Store

Tel: 0176-23-2301

Opening hours: 9:00-19:00 Closed: No fixed days off

This liquor store synchronizes exhibitions with Towada Art Center. The sake Tenori which the sake factory Hatomasamune and the artist Shuji Yamamoto collaborated on is on sale.



P

Cake House Shiroimori

Shidokan

Sports Center

A coffee corner created by an artist

Fukuda Confectionery Shop

Tel: 0176-23-2523 Opening hours: 9:00-19:00

Closed: No fixed days off

A confectionary shop popular for their brandy cakes. Sales of apple pies made with Aomori apples, as well as sake cakes made with Tenori nihonshu, and sake pudding are also available.



Although it's a tea room, is it also the 2nd art center?

Matsumoto Tea Shop

Tel: 0176-23-2138

Opening hours: 9:30-19:00 Closed: No fixed days off

There are works of art by permanent artists of Towada Art Center in the shop's exhibition room and many customers look forward to the proprietor's discourses on art when they



Please check out the many buildings designed by famous architectures!

A walk exploring Towada's art for a 2 days, 1 night stay

It's Towada where time passes idly by so you can walk wherever you want to go.





shop, Cube Café & Shop!

Towada Art Center Don't forget to do some shopping at the museum

11:30 Start your walk around the city center The start is at the Art Plaza in front of the Towada Art Center.

12:30 Take a look at the buildings of famous architects The design of the Civic Center Plaza Toware was

by the world renowned architect Kengo Kuma. The Towada Public Library designed by Tadao Ando is also a must see.

13:00 Have your fill of Towada's soul food, Towada

As a souvenir you can buy tare sauce for the barayaki at the Towada Tourism and Local Products Center, Towada Art Station.

Restart your strolling in the downtown

Go shopping after having dessert at one of the fashionable cafés.....

18:00 Check in at a hotel at the downtown

Go on a tour of the izakayas and bars

Savour the local sakes and horse meat. Try the local cocktails like Sakurahime at one of the bars. Finish the night with a katsu curry ramen

horse town

Cute horse shaped

cookies that could

only be from a

Registered as a national

tangible cultural

property

Designed by Tadao Ando

Towada Catholic Church

Opening hours: 9:00-18:00

The church was built in 1932. An atmosphere

of solemn prayer drifts in the air and it's

(Sunday mass 9:00-11:00)

soothing to the soul.

Tel: 0176-23-2561

Towada Public Library

Tel: 0176-23-7808 Opening hours: 9:00-20:00

Closed: Every 4th Thursday of the month, New Year Holiday (29th December-4th January), during inspections of the book collection

A facility designed by the Tadao Ando Architectural Research Institute which acts as a library and an education and training center. The large sunroom makes a big impression.



kids room!



Civic Center Plaza Toware

Tel: 0176-58-5670 Opening hours: 9:00-21:00

Closed: New Year Holiday (29th December-3rd January) *closed temporarily at times including during checks of the

Kengo Kuma is a designer of kabuki theatres in Tokyo and Ginza. This building is fitted out with a multi-purpose hall and it's renowned as a place aimed at social intercourse across the generations.



A great selection of products for a liquor store and not only alcoholic beverages

Import Store Sakurada Liquor Store

Tel: 0176-23-3201 Opening hours: 9:30-19:00 (Monday to Friday) 10:00-19:00 (Saturdays and Holidays) Closed: Sundays

The original blend coffee Hakkoda no Zansetsu, which the actor Ken Takakura loved drinking when on location making the film Hakkoda-san, is popular here.





Check out the hotel

Michi no Eki Towada Towadapia

Experience Nanbu Sakiori (weaving)

Have a lunch at a fashionable café

Meet and learn about horses at Towada Baiikoen Komakko Land...

> Learn about the culture surrounding horses at the horse museum Shotokukan which is a rare type of museum in Japan. Storytellers tell legends and folklore stories about horses at the weekends.

It's also recommended to go to further to the Tezukurimura Risokyo (handworks museum)

Depart from Towada Bajikoen

Arrive at Shichinohe-Towada Station

Go to the Tezukurimura Risokyo and see the irises.



This is a place where you can experience the wonderfulness of nature and food with the five senses. Flowers of the season bloom in the grounds with the iris garden being the centerpiece.

Tezukurimura Risokyo Open: From Late April to October *We are open on Sundays from August 1st to October 31st. Reservations are required for weekdays/ 9:00-17:00 Closed: From November to late April.

You can try Nanbu Sakiori (weaving), a handicraft born of the ingenuity of the women of the snow country

You can take a walk

Land.



In the north of Japan where cotton wasn't grown, cotton goods were very precious. Worn out kimonos that had been repaired many times were finally torn up and became yarn for sakiori

The distinctive feature of Towada's Nanbu sakiori is it's done on a machine called a Jibata which is rare in Japan. The Nanbu women weaved for the benefit of their family on these machines made by the men. The red trimming of the clad of a kotatsu was included in the woven material as a wish to have no fires. There are lots of colourful and bright fabrics using the red colour in this way.



Nanbu Sakiori Preservation Group 37-21 Tairakubo, Denpoji, Towada-shi

Tel: 0176-20-8700

Nanbu Sakiori Experience

Details: You will weave a tablecloth (width 20cm, lenath 25cm)

Times: Every week Tuesday-Sunday 10:00-16:00 (last booking 14:45)

Duration: About 60mins Price: 1,600 yen

This is a place you can go shopping, eat and try hands-on activities

Michi no Eki Towada Towadapia



There's a sanchoku corner where local agricultural and livestock products are on sale along with processed goods, a tokusanhin corner where all kinds of local souvenirs are on display, a restaurant which serves dishes made with local ingredients and a workshop where you can have a go at sakiori. There's also the renowned sweet of Michi no Eki Towada, a thick ice cream that has a soft cream base made from local sova beans and rice with a sauce topping made from the vegetables or fruits of the season. Definitely give it a try!

Michi no Eki Towada Towadapia

37-2 Tairakubo, Denpoji, Towada-shi Tel: 0176-28-3790 Opening hours: 9:00-20:00 (November-March

9:00-19:00) Closed: January 1



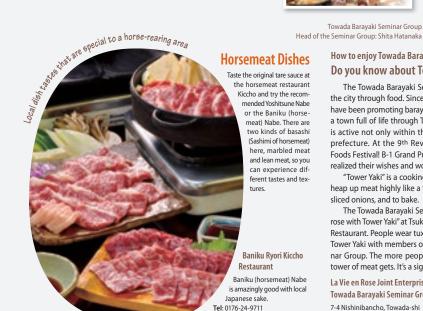
Beef rib meat fried with lots of sliced onions is Towada's soul food. The aromatic smell of the tare sauce stirs up your appetite. The taste of tare sauce differs depending on the shop so why not compare them.

Tsukasa Barayaki Taishu Shokudo Restaurant

Tel: 080-6059-8015

Opening hours: 11:00-14:30 and 17:30-23:00

Closed: Mondays *We are closed on Tuesday when Monday is a holiday.



Opening hours: 11:00-14:00 and

17:00-22:00 Closed: Sundays

How to enjoy Towada Barayaki

Towada Barayaki Seminar Group

Do vou know about Tower Yaki?

The Towada Barayaki Seminar Group is revitalizing the city through food. Since being formed in 2008, they have been promoting barayaki with the slogan "creating a town full of life through Towada Barayaki". The group is active not only within the city but also outside the prefecture. At the 9th Revitalizing Towns with Local Foods Festival! B-1 Grand Prix in Koriyama in 2014, they realized their wishes and won the Gold Grand Prix Prize.

"Tower Yaki" is a cooking method of the baravaki to heap up meat highly like a tower on the iron plate with sliced onions, and to bake.

The Towada Barayaki Seminar Group hold "La vie en rose with Tower Yaki" at Tsukasa Barayaki Taishu Shokudo Restaurant, People wear tuxedos and dresses and enjoy Tower Yaki with members of the Towada Barayaki Seminar Group. The more people there are, the higher the tower of meat gets. It's a sight worth seeing.

La Vie en Rose Joint Enterprise Cooperative Towada Barayaki Seminar Group

7-4 Nishinibancho, Towada-shi Tel: 0176-25-7758 No. of participants: 1-20

Duration: 1 hour Reservations: By 3 days before

Towada with its clean soil, water and air is a famous location for vegetables. There are lots of vegetables here including Garlic, Chinese yams, Burdock and Japanese leeks

that can be boasted about to all of Japan.

The character mascots of Towada's famous vegetables. They go around all the areas, in particular the city center, and promote Towada's vegetables.









Garlic

Towada produces the most garlic in Japan. The highest quality garlic, Fukuchi White Roppen, is distinctive with its head being white like snow and the large size of each clove.



Chinese Yams

These are light in colour and very sticky. They are distinctive with their crunchy texture along with not having much of a bitter taste. They have sweetness and good flavor so are delicious eaten raw or



Burdock

Its distinctive features are being rich in minerals, fresh and juicy with a great aroma. One boast of Towada's burdock is that it's so soft you can eat it raw.



Japanese Leeks (Bokeshirazunegi)

The beautifully clear distinctive green and white parts is characteristic of the Japanese leeks here and it's due to the thoroughness in managing the cultivation of them. You can enjoy the unique combination of their spiciness and sweetness.

Time to introduce the shops where you can taste the vegetables Towada is proud of!

The vegetables of Towada where there are many blessings of nature are in these shops

Enjoy healthy food at shops that have vegetable sommeliers

Noen Café Hibiki

Lunch: until 14:00

Taste dishes with vegetables as the main in an old house surrounded by nature. In addition to the Noen Kagomori Lunch, cakes and ice creams are also popular.

Tel: 0176-27-6626 Opening hours: 11:00-16:00 (Apr-Nov), 11:00-15:00 (Dec-Mar)

Closed: Wednesday, New Year's holidays, Bon holiday



Pleasant meals for body and soul

Garden kitchen Tariho

Garden Kitchen Tariho, along with the chiropractic office next door, offer a place to heal your mind and body. Tariho Zen is a popular choice for those looking to have a real taste of Towada

Tel: 0176-58-6441

Opening hours: 11:30-13:30 (Last Order.), Saturdays: 14:00 (Last Oder) Closed: Sundays and holidays





Hapitano Café

A neighborhood café that you can drop in on at leisure. Popular dishes at lunchtime are the Goboiri (burdock) Hamburger steak and the Nagaimo (Chinese yam) Fuwafuwa Hamburger steak. There's a healthy choice on the menu with lots of vegetables grown in Towada used. Tel: 0176-23-0853

Opening hours: 11:00-18:00 (food

Closed: Sundays and holidays



Italian food made with organic vegetables from the farm's garden

Farm Café Orta

This is a restaurant that serves food made using local natural ingredients and organic vegetables that the couple grew themselves. The wine and lemonade made with no chemical additives is recommended. Tel: 0176-25-0185

Opening hours: Lunch 12:00-15:30. Dinner 18:00-21:00 Closed: Mondays, every 1st / 3rd / 5th Tuesday April to October: Lunch of Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

spenditions with the houses in Towards, a house-centing ency

Come and meet the horses

Towada has been a special production localities of horse since before the war.

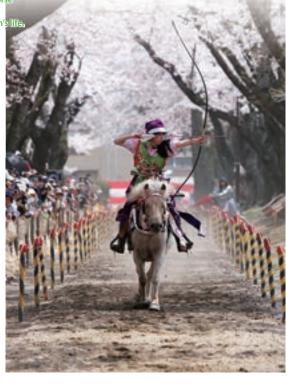
Even now these culture has been remaining in the citizen's lif

Competitive Yabusame (Horseback Archery)

During yabusame, or horseback archery, archers take aim at targets while riding. This martial art has been practiced since long ago, but has had some modern elements added to it over time to present day, making for an enjoyable new style of horseback riding.

Competitions are held in April, during Sakura Yabusame, and in October, during the Yabusame World Championships, where visitors can spectate competitions by top-level riders from around the world.

Sakura Yabusame received the Prime Minister's Award, one of the highest honors, in 2016 during the 20th Furusato Event Awards, which recognizes unique and outstanding events that utilize the individual personality of each region of the country. In 2019, the event was also considered for "Cool Japan" certification by judges from around the world, and selected to be part of the general category of the 2019 Cool Japan Award. Sakura Yabusame has also attracted attention both domestically and from abroad in receiving the Agency for Cultural Affairs Award during the 2016 Sports, Culture, and Tourism Awards, which honor outstanding efforts in sports and culture.



An event held at Towada's Chuo Park



A world competition of Yabusame! Yabusame World championship

A competing event by world class horse riders from all over the world.



A festivity for women horse riders! Sakura yabusame

The only competing event (Under the cherry trees) in Japan that is exclusive to women horse riders.





The history and development of Towada as a horse-rearing area

Towada has prospered from long ago as a horse-rearing place of Nanbu horses. In 1885 in Towada town area the Aomori Branch Office of the War Horses Office of the Department of War (currently Sanbongimura) was founded (later becoming the Sanbongi War Horse Rearing Center and later still the War Horses Replacement Section) and great effort was put into rearing war horses here. In those times, Towada was a lively place due to the horse auctions here. Until being disbanded in 1945, they turned out a

great number of good horses at this facility and its name as a horse-rearing location spread throughout Japan and contributed to the development of the city.

You can learn about the history of those times at the Shotokukan at Towada Bajikoen. It's a museum where you can learn about the history of horses here and people's relationships with the horses. There are horse accessories and horse toys on display and between April and November (on sundays and holidays) there are storyteller performances.

A little adventure!

Experience horse riding | Would you like to

try horse riding?



There are courses on offer suitable for tourists wanting to try some horse riding right through to people wishing to get horse riding licenses. Reservations necessary for all courses. There are also different routes you can go on outside the grounds including being able to see the sights of Towada on horseback.

Towada Joba Kurabu Group

Tel: 0176-26-2945 Opening hours: 9:00–17:00/Reservation necessary for the horse-riding Closed: Tuesdays

Experience Yabusame Course

Program period: April–November Duration: 60mins

Aimed at: Elementary School 5th grade and older Capacity: 3–5 people Fee: 2,400 yen for person *A yabusame outfit can be borrowed (fee charged)

Towada Bajikoen Kommako Land



There's the Kommako Bokujo where you can come into contact with and pet the horses, the Koryukan where you can rest and have light meals and the Shotokukan where you can learn about the history and culture of horses that are rare in Japan. There are lots of fun things to try at the Kommako Bokujo including feeding carrots to the horses, riding horses, taking rides in the horse carriages (or horse sleighs in winter) and walking ponies.



Try horse riding where the horse is led by a rope. You can also learn how to give horse food.

Tel: 0176-26-2100

Opening hours: April–October 8:30–18:00, November-March 8:30–17:00/Shotokukan (horse museum) 9:00–16:30 (last entry 16:00) Closed: Mondays (Tuesdays if Monday is a public holiday), New Year Holiday



There is a playground area within the grounds outside of the area where you can enjoy different activities with the horses.





akumi Sato continues the mak Hatomasamune sake as the chief brewe at the sake factory. The freshly squeezed namashu (pure sake) "Sato Takumi" series of products is popular.

There's Japanese sake of repute at the home of great springs

When you take a trip here, have some special Japanese sake that could only be from Towada at one of the local izakayas.

The staple product of Hatomasamune "Hakkoda Oroshi" uses "Hanafubuki" which is a shuzo koteikimai (rice suitable for sake brewing) of Aomori Prefecture. You can experience the sensation of the gorgeous aroma and refreshing taste. Tel: 0176-23-0221 http://www.hatomasa.ip

Have Japanese sake made from the clear underground water of Hakkoda and Oirase together with some local food.

Oirase Genryusui

Natural mineral water pours out from the vast sea of trees of the native beech forests of Hakkoda. This soft water has a distinctive delicate taste.

Lake Towada, Oirase Gorge and the area surrounding Hakkoda are designated as Towada-Hachimantai National Park. The land here, with its tough, rich nature being kept unchanged, is the source of the water of Towada. There are lots of great tasting things in Towada including sake made from the water, rice, vegetables and of course the water itself.

Hatomasamune, the only sake factory within Towada City, has continued to use the manufacturing method of long ago to create the taste of Towada since being founded in 1899. Come and try Hatomasamune sake which has won various prizes including the gold medal by the National Research Institute of brewing and the Monde selection.

Tours & Experiences

Kamikita Agricultural and Processed Products Agricultural Cooperative

You can watch the process of making Staminagen tare sauce which is loved local-



Tel: 0176-23-3138

Availability of Factory Tours: Weekdays Factory Tour Opening hours: 9:00-12:00 and 13:00-15:00 (tour is about 1 hour long) Reservation necessary (1 month before)

Maboroshi no Anazeki Tunnel

Venture into this unfinished "phantom tunnel," left just as it existed back when Nitobe Jujiro began excavation during the late Edo period.



Tel: 0176-26-2755

Availability: 9:00 - 16:00 (closed monday) General Admission: 700 yen (individuals), 600 yen (groups)

Elem - HS Student Admission: 400 yen (individuals), 300 yen (groups, reserva-

Wadakan Co. Ltd.

This is a long-established soy sauce maker. You can watch the process and the machines making the soy sauce.



Tel: 0176-25-2111

Factory Tour Availability: April-October (excluding holidays) Necessary No. of People: 10 or more

Factory Tour Opening Hours: 10:00-16:00 Reservation necessary (2 weeks in advance). You can book by phone, fax or email

Towada Agricultural Experiences Liaison Council

They provide agricultural experiences and farm accommodation for school excursions, individuals or groups from within Japan or from overseas.



Tel: 080-8206-5608 Opening hours: 9:00-17:00 Reservation necessary (1 week in ad-Closed: Inquire for details

Price: 1,600 yen (half-day)

Souvenirs of the art town

A memory of a fun trip. Here are some souvenirs typical of Towada.



A traditional handicraft made from long ago in the Nanbu area. Born of the ingenuity of women treasuring their cloth.



Kimigara slippers

Kimi is corn. Slippers made from the skin of the corn have a reputation of being cool in summer and warm in winter.



Premium Garlic Powder

Art goods from the art cente Fashionable art goods that are great as a present or to use yourself. There are a variety of types in-

cluding mugs and stationery.

This is powder which is made from garlic grown in mineral cultivation and processed to have a weaker smell. This is a handy product to use whenever you want to add a hint of garlic to food.



Towada Bijin Gonbo Series

Without it being a bad habit, you'll become addicted to this pickled burdock with its crunchy texture and great aroma. It's perfect as a side dish with rice or as a snack with a drink.

Towada



Three generations of women Nakako Orchard, an apple processing factory in Fukamochi District. The juice made from the carefully selected apples there is ideal as a souvenir.



This dressing uses burdock from prepared soil and is perfect as a sauce for pasta, fish and meat dishes and of course as a salad



Aomori's Majo no Toro Nama Chocolate Sandwich

This won the prize at the 2nd Local Sweets Championship. It's smooth like a mousse and its soft



Matured Black Garlic (medium sized) of Aomori Prefecture

It has a distinctive sweetness and sourness like dry fruits. Garlic that is high in sugar content grown in the famous garlic growing area of Towada is matured in a unique manufacturing process.



Towada Barayaki Tare Sauce

You can enjoy two kinds of tare sauce: sesami flavoured and salty-sweet. You can make proper Towada Baravaki even at home!



Sutaminagen Tare Sauce

This is a yakiniku tare sauce with the tastes of the local agricultural goods, garlic and grated apple, packed into it. This is a long selling product that continues to be loved by the people of Aomori Prefecture.

Special Place of Scenic Beauty - Oirase Goro

Enjoy the beauty of the mountain streams to the full at Oirase Gorge

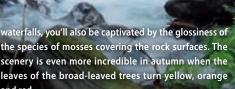
There are a number of ways to enjoy Oirase Gorge. Look at the scenic beauty, enjoy being immersed in the forest, take a look at the moss...... Enjoy the beauty of the changing faces of nature with the seasons and the weather here.

Oirase River is the only river to flow out from Lake Towada. The Oirase Gorge section is about 14km long, from Nenokuchi to Towada-bashi Bridge at Yakeyama. Oirase Gorge is also known as "Bakufu Kaido (Great Waterfall Road)" because of the numerous waterfalls dotted along the mountain stream.

In May while the winter snow still remains, the flowers of species of anemone bloom and the green season of Oirase starts. Not only is there the beauty of the sunlight shining off the fresh greenery and the wonderful

the species of mosses covering the rock surfaces. The scenery is even more incredible in autumn when the leaves of the broad-leaved trees turn yellow, orange and red.

A travel writer of Meiji era, Keigetsu Omachi, spoke highly of Ashuranonagare Stream. Come and enjoy the different mountain streams here which each have their own special kind of beauty.







A manly stream popular with cameramen Ashuranonagare Stream

The scenery here is representative of Oirase Gorge. Furiously flowing between the shadowy thick clumps trees, the river is just like Asyura of its name (a Buddhist god symbolizes force and violence).

Lake Towada is a caldera lake where water collected after the land subsided many times due to volcanic activity that started about 200,000 years ago. Part of the rim of the crater broke down and a huge flood eroded the plateau and created a deep valley creating the Oirase Gorge we know today. Currently, Oirase Gorge, including Lake Towada, is designated as a national park and the rich nature is protected here with great care.



Recommended route

Depart from Nenokuchi, Lake Towada by bus Start walking around Oirase

Walk around the mosses or go rambling together with a guide

11:00 Oirase Stream Museum

Have fun making a moss ball (ornamental plant grown in a ball of soil covered by moss) or shopping

12:00 Have lunch at Towadako Onsen Hot Spring Village Enjoy the lunches made using Towadako Wagyu Beef and local vegetables

13:30 Walk around Tsuta-numa Pond

16:30 Stay at a hot spring like Tsuta-onsen Hot Spring, Sarukura-onsen Hot Spring or Yachi-onsen Hot



Guides show people around Oirase

Lake Towada and Oirase are full of mysteries of nature. Knowing about these elements of the lake and mountain streams makes walking here even more enjoyable.

Towada Oirase Kunizukuri University (NPO)

Authorized guides of Oirase, Towada give information about the nature. history and culture here during each of the seasons. 163-3 Oboritai, Okuse, Towada-shi Tel: 0176-72-2780

Lake Towada and Oirase Sightseeing Volunteer Group

Many of the guides are local farmers. It's deeply interesting listening to them explain about Oirase and Tsuta in the local tongue. 86-15 Maekawara, Horyo, Towada-shi

Tel: 0176-23-0568 (fax also possible) Season: Late April-mid November

Oirase Nature, Tourism and Resources Research Group (NPO)

With the theme of "standstill so you can begin to see things", nature tours are conducted centered around observing the mosses, mushrooms and

Sun green 103, 23-11-1 Nishi, Towada-shi Tel: 0176-23-5866















Nalve Towarda Onsen Hot Spring Villaga

Revel in these relaxing, secluded springs surrounded by mountains

"The mountains of Tsuta are intertwined with the lives of the people. A place where hot water wells up is a place with beautiful water." There are well-known hot springs in Towada to soak in including Tsuta-onsen Hot Spring which was featured in a piece of work written by Keigetsu Omachi.







Towada Onsen Hot Spring Village is a gateway to Lake Towada and Oirase Gorge National Park and is a hot spring village that draws its water from Sarukura-onsen Hot Spring around 12km away. You can enjoy soaking in the spring while looking out at the beautiful scenery of each of the four seasons from the outside bath. It's loved as a base for tourists in Oirase Gorge throughout the year including in winter when it's alive with tourists visiting the area for skiing.



Girase Mori no Hotel

Their motto is "to give the best hospitality to valued customers". The main dinner course is roast beef produced within the prefecture. Come and try the creative dishes that don't it a set genre of food.

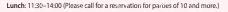
36-20 Yakevama, Horyo, Towada-shi Tel: 0176-70-5000

●11:00-15:00 ●Adults (JHS and over) 500 yen, Children (elementary school) 300 yen, Below elementary age Free



lave a casual lunch here

Featuring lunches made with seasonal ingredients, From a-lacarte, to course meals, enjoy the many tastes that the hotel has to offer. Day trip lunch plans are also available.





The only hotel along Oirase Scream Hoshino Resort Oirase Keiryu Hotel

A perfect accommodation for long-stavers as well. We have guest rooms and outdoor hot springs overlooking the Oirase stream. "Keiryu shuttle bus" is also available 231 Tochikubo, Okuse, Towada-shi Tel: 0570-073-022

(Hoshino Resorts Reservation Center)



Oirase Keiryu Hotel Nori no Shinwa Lounge

A lobby area famous for it's fireplace sculpture. Mori no Shinwa (Myth of the Forest), created by Okamoto Taro. At night, the space transforms into a relaxing bar lounge

For guests only.



Nonohana Yakeyama-so Inn

You can spend a relaxed, leisurely time in the building which is made from Aomori Hiba (a type of Japanese evergreen tree) and is all tatami. The pride of the inn is its puffy, soft textured kamameshi (rice, meat and vegetables boiled together in a small pot) made with seasonal ingredients from Aomori.

64 Yakeyama, Horyo, Towada-shi Tel: 0176-74-2345

•13:30–17:00 (necessary to call before going) •Adults 600 yen, Children (elementary school age and under) 300 yen

There are more Hot-spring bath / on a day trip facility

Oirase Green Hotel

■64-232 Yakevama, Horvo, Towada-shi

9:00-20:00 0176-74-2211

Adults (Middle school students and above) 500 ven. Chil-

Hachinohe People's Recreation Senshin-so Hotel

●64-184 Yakevama, Horvo, Towada-shi

●10:30–18:00 ●0176-74-2146

 Adults (Middle school students and above) 370 yen, Children (4 years old and above) 110 yen, Below 4 years old no charge

Shimin-no-le

●64-164 Yakeyama, Horyo, Towada-shi

9:00–21:00 (Closed: 3rd Wednesday of the month, 12/31, 1/1)

 Adults (Middle school students and above) 300 yen, Children (Elementary school students) 150 yen, younger than elementary school age no charge

Guest house Nanbuya

• 11-41 Tochikubo, Okuse, Towada-shi

●11:00–18:00 (Services after 18:00 are negotiable.)

0176-74-2047

 Adults (Middle school students and older) 400 yen, Children (Elementary school students) 200 yen, Children (Before elementary school) no charge

Akari to Kaede, Oirase Onsen

64-108 Yakevama, Horvo, Towada-shi

●11:00–22:00 (closed tue, wed, thur) *varies by season ●0176-74-1102 ●600 yen (adults, middle schoolers and older),

300 yen (children)





One of the top three secret hot spring in Japan

Yachi-onsen Hot Spring

It has a history of 400 years and is known as a powerful hot spring. High temperature, milky spring water and low temperature, clear spring water well up from the base of the hot spring bath.

1 Yachi, Horyo, Towada-shi Tel: 0176-74-1181

●10:00-17:00 ●Adults (JHS and over) 600 ven, Children (elementary school) 450 ven, Below elementary age Free





A hot spring where there's a sense of unity with nature

Sarukura-onsen Hot Spring

The spring quality of the water which is white with a hint of blue is a gypsum bitter hydrogen sulphide spring. From the outside bath you can sense a closeness to the nature of Southern Hakkoda. Naturally the source is free flowing. 1 Sarukura, Okuse, Towada-shi

Tel: 0176-23-2030 (Towada City Contact Point) 080-5227-1296 (the hot spring itself) ●9:00-15:00 ● Adults (JHS and over) 500 yen, Children (elementary school) 300 yen, Below elementary age Free

*Closed during the winter (End of Octobermid April) Day trip bathing is only available on weekends and holidays.

Have a great time doing lots of activities and relaxing in a hot spring

In the green season of spring you can go trekking and / or play golf. In the snow season of winter you can enjoy skiing or snow-rambling. After enjoying some activities in the Yakeyama area, finish with a hot spring.



Go to a treasure trove of alpine plants

Mt. Hakkoda

Parking lot

Mt. Hakkoda is a general term for over 20 mountains in the Northern Hakkoda mountain range and Southern Hakkoda mountain range. It is well known across Japan as place for seeing the autumn leaves. Between Kasamatsu-toge Pass on the border of Towada City and Aomori City and Suiren-numa Pond, there is a wetland called Takadayachi where you can see clumps of Asian skunk



GS Gas stations



To Mt. Hakkoda

Yachi-onsen Hot Spring

5 Tsuta-onsen Hot Spring

Sarukura-onsen Hot Spring

Hosino Resort



Keiaetsu

Keiryu-no-Eki

Shop

GS

Oirase Souvenir







Circle Mart Yugyoso Hotel Kamikochi Kuzumaki

You can fish at leisure

Minshuku

Be satisfied in mind and stomach

ith a Baravaki set course

Restaurant Kamikochi

Nanbuva Pension



To Towada City

Revel in the special scenery of

Snow Rambling

Wear snowshoes or snow ramblers and go walking across the snow fields. You can come across scenes special to winter like icicles and frozen falls.

Lake Towada Guide house Kai Tel: 080-1681-1036 Season: From late December to late March

A golf course that makes good use of its natural topography

Hakkoda Panorama Park Golf Club

If you just have one club and one ball, golf is a sport that can enjoyed by children through to adults. You can look out over the Hakkoda mountain range while enjoying a game of golf. 64-458 Yakeyama, Horyo, Towada-shi

Tel: 0176-74-2277 Opening times: 8:30-16:30 Late April-early November



A nature experience where you can enjoy the mysteries of the forest and mountain streams

Nature Rambling

A leisurely walk with a nature guide through Tsutanomori Forest and Oirase Gorge. You can experience the mysteries and beauty of nature. Lake Towada Guide house Kai

Season: From late April to Early November

Fishing pond

Relax and fish for rainbow trout

You can try fishing for rainbow trout at a reasonable price in a fishing pond in the grounds of the ryokan, Yugyo-so. The fishing equipment is free to use and you can take the fish you catch home with you. They'll prepare the fish for you for free so they're ready for you to cook.

64-120 Yakevama, Horvo, Towada-shi Tel: 0176-74-2202 Open: In the daytime on Saturdays, Sundays and Public holidays Price: 1kg 1,300 yen



Life Crafts

Yuzuriha (Oirase Shop)

A shop located in Oirase featuring a selection of Tohoku regional crafts. Tons of great things for yourself, as well as gifts for someone important to you. 11-253 Tochikubo, Okuse, Towada-shi



Stone Oven-Cooked Pizza Ortolana

he stone oven-cooked pizzas here are made with vegetables grown in the prefecture. he shop's motto is to convey the wonderful



astes of the seasons and their vegetables and you can experience the deliciousness of every season here. 11-253 Tochikubo, Okuse, Towada-shi Tel: 0176-70-5955 Opening times: 11:00-14:30 Closed: No set days off

Base for dispatch of information about Oirase Gorge Oirase Stream Museum



There a display of exhibits on Oirase Gorge, souvenirs on sale and you can also try making a Kokedama (moss ball). In the coffee corner, you can have hot coffee freshly made from the Oirase Gen rvu sui water source from the adjoining Oirase Yusui-kan, sterilization & bottling factory, Well and apple pie.

Tel: 0176-74-1233 Opening times: 9:00-16:30 Closed: Open all year



Kokedama (moss ball) Making Experience **Experience Corner** ~ as a memory of Oirase ~

This is a well-established restaurant in Towadako Onsen Hot Spring Village.

Since opening, the menu board has been centered on the Baravaki dish

made with beef produced in the prefecture and the cafeteria's own tare

sauce. There is also a Baravaki set course which comes with a kobachi (side

Opening times: 10:00 - 20:00, closing times may vary (sometimes closed be-

dish), an egg, rice and miso soup.

Handicrafts

64-177 Yakeyama, Horyo, Towada-shi Tel: 0176-74-2418

tween 14:00 - 17:00) Closed: No set days off

Make a Kokedama after walking in Oirase as a representation of the moss-covered rocks of Oirase. It's a popular activity and even children

can make one in around 30mins. *Moss and plants supplied by a horticultural center are used.

Oirase Moss-ball Workshop

Price: 2,000 yen per person

(You may choose any plant you like.)

Oirase Lamp Workshop

~ an expression of beauty with moss and light

Let's transform the Oirase's natural beauty into a lamp by drilling some holes on a gourd.

The picture shows a lamp created with Conocephalum conicum which can be seen in Oirase stream subject material.

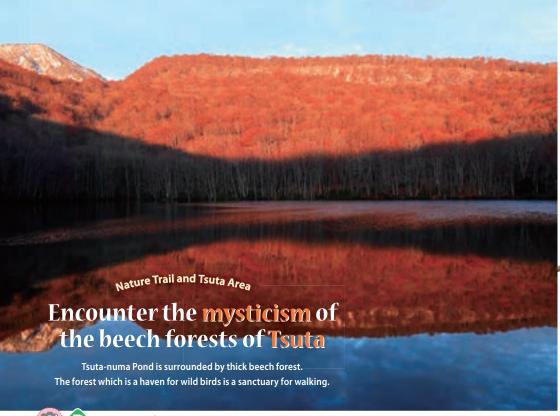
Oirase Lamp Workshop

Price: 5,000 yen per person (A wooden stand for LED included.) *This workshop takes about 60 minutes.





25



Tsuta-numa Pond Tsuta-numa Pond with a circumference of 1km and area of 6 hectares is the largest of the seven ponds in Tsuta. You can see the scenery coloured red at the beginning of the season of the autumn leaves.

You can savor the nature of Tsuta-numa Pond which differs from Lake Towada and Oirase Gorge. There are 7 ponds in the area that surrounds Tsuta-onsen Hot Spring; Tsuta-numa Pond, Kagami-numa Pond, Tsuki-numa Pond, Naga-numa Pond, Suga-numa Pond, Hyotan-numa Pond and Aka-numa Pond. The seven ponds are known as Tsutanana-numa (seven ponds of Tsuta) and with the exception of Aka-numa Pond they are all joined by a nature trail. This area is a haven for wild birds. If you listen out for the chirping of the wild birds, walking is even more enjoyable.

The biggest pond, Tsuta-numa Pond, is known for its beautiful sunrises. On calm days with no wind the trees are reflected on the surface of the pond and there's a peaceful beauty here.

Take a rest at Tsuta-onsen Hot Spring after a walk. Keigetsu Omachi, a travel writer of the Meiji era, loved it here and this hot spring where he spent his later years will relieve the weariness of your travels.



Dancing vigorous lights flutter through the summer nights

Tsuta-numa Pond Firefly Viewing

You can see two species of firefly amongst the rich nature of Tsuta-numa Pond. Come and see fireflies which come right up close to you. Hoshino Resort Oirase Keiryu Hotel

Tel: 0570-073-022 (Hoshino Resorts Reservation Center) Season: Mid July-late July (usually) *For lodgers ONLY.





Alpine plants are abundant at this pond in the vicinity of Kasamatsu-toge Pass. The view of the scenery of Hakkoda from

Kagami-numa

Pond Azuma-ya

Walking paths around Tsuta Onsen Hot Spring Nature study path around Tsuta-numa Pond (Total length 2.8km / about 70 minutes)

(Total length 1km / about 30 minutes)

Yacho-no-Mori observation path

Suiren-numa Pond

here is amazing!

Tsuta-numa Pond Walking Map

Tsutanana-numa, where seven ponds of varying sizes are dotted about. With the exception of Aka-numa Pond, the ponds are joined by a nature trail and you can enjoy walking with the background music of the birds chirping.

Tsutenbashi

Bridge

Tsutabashi Bridge





Tomb of Keigetsu Omachi

Become familiar with Keigetsu through the exhibits

Keigetsu Omachi Museum

This is a museum where you can learn about the life and paths of Keigetsu Omachi who loved Oirase. It's in Tsuta-onsen Hot Spring where Keigetsu spent his later years.

1 Tsutanoyu, Okuse, Towada-shi In Tsuta-onsen Hot Spring Tel: 0176-74-2311

Opening times: 10:00-18:00





Suga-numa

ne only place to stay that's surrounded by the beech forests

Tsuta-onsen Hot Spring

This secluded hot spring was loved by the travel writer Keigetsu Omachi. The current building was built in the Taisho era. The spring wells up from bottom of the bathtub made out of hiba (a type of evergreen tree that grows in Aomori) wood.

1 Tsutanoyu, Okuse, Towada-shi Tel: 0176-74-2311



Restaurant Tsuta

You can enjoy eating Inaniwa-style udon boiled in spring water from Tsutanomori Forest and / or freshwater fish dishes here. The Seiryuzaru Udon is recommended. This is a convenient restaurant for when you go walking around Tsuta-numa Pond.



The travel writer who communicated the appeal of Towada Keigetsu Omachi

A literary person who was from Kochi Prefecture. He first visited Lake Towada in 1908. On returning to Tokyo he spread the word about how wonderful Lake Towada was by publishing his article Ouu Isshu in the magazine Taiyo. He drafted the document when they requested for Lake Towada to be designated as a national park. He had a great love of Tsuta-onsen Hot Spring and visited many times. In his later years he made it his permanent place of residence.

There is a museum for Keigetsu Omachi in the grounds of Tsuta-onsen Hot Spring which is free for people staying there or taking a hot spring on a day trip there.







Michi no Eki Oirase Oirase Roman Park Local beer restaurant, Oirase Beer-kan



Michi no Eki Oirase Oirase Roman Park

There's the souvenir shop Shikisai-kan, the steak house Mirai-kan and local beer restaurant Oirase Beer-kan amongst other facilities within the large grounds of Michi no Eki Oirase.

Tel: 0176-72-3201 Opening times: 9:00–19:00 Closed: 12/31, 1/1

Shikisai-kan Tel: 0176-72-3201 Mirai-kan Tel: 0176-72-3341

Oirase Beer-kan Tel: 0176-72-3231

Miraku Kobo (dairy products made here)

Tel: 0176-72-3101

39-1 Sekimichi, Okuse, Towada-shi

Oirase Beer is brewed with carefully selected malt and hops with water from the water source of Oirase. The beer is brewed locally using techniques for brewing from the Czech Republic and it has strong aroma and it goes down smoothly. The beers produced here include a Pilsner beer which is the brewery's main one and 4 kinds of light-tasting weizenbiers.

In addition to being able to view part of the brewing process, you can taste the local beers brewed here at the Oirase Beer-kan adjoined to Michi no Eki Oirase. It's also possible to buy the beers brewed here at shops in Towada city area.



Pictured Reference Book of the Oirase Tastes

There are superb famous local foods that are produced with or made using the clear waters of Oirase Gorge.

Definitely check them out whether it's for lunch or for a souvenir.



Towadako Wagyu Japanese Beef

The beef is made from Japanese Black cattle that graze amidst the nature surrounding the base of Mt. Hakkoda. It's tastes great and has a distinctive fine texture like a marbling. The beef seems to melt in your mouth.



Castella Sponge Cake made with Oirase Honey

Made using honey from acacia trees in Yakeyama which has a natural, refined taste. The cake has two layers, a sponge layer and a vanilla pudding layer, which have a smooth, creamy texture when you eat them.



Wasabi (horse radish)

The Heichiishiune Method is a technique only used in Towada. The natural taste that you can savor of the wasabi grown with the pristine waters here is very popular.



Oirase Nomu (Drinking) Yoghurt

This yoghurt has a rich, mild taste and is made using milk produced locally. It's cultured at low temperatures and has a good balance between sweetness and sourness.

Oirase Genryusui

This is natural mineral water that wells up in the native beech forests of Hakkoda. You can look around the factory where it's bottled in the Oirase Yusui-kan Water Mucaum



Oirase Garlic Pork

This is a brand of pork where the pigs are fed and raised on a powdery feed containing garlic. The vitamin B1 content is higher than normal pork and it's a first-class delicacy with its sweetness and tenderness.



Towada Oirase Gyoza

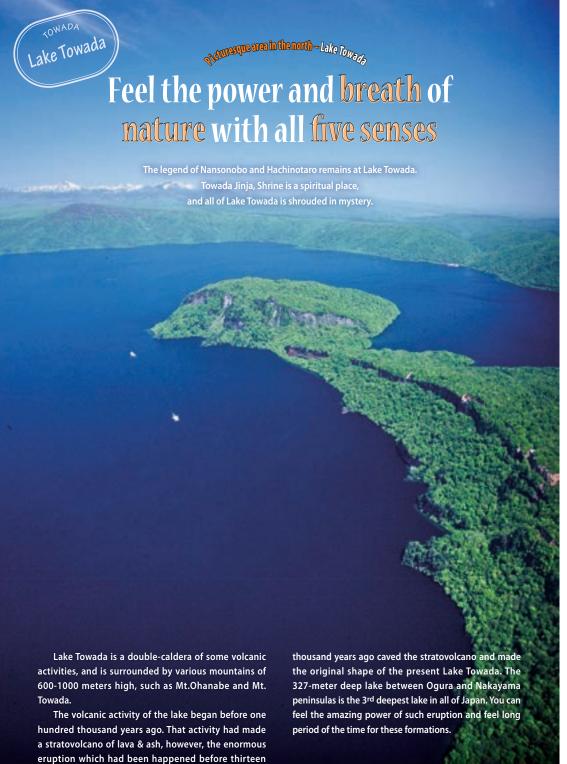
These gyoza are made one by one with hand. 20 kinds of ingredients from Towada are used to make the gyoza including garlic grown in Towada and Oirase Garlic Pork. They're delicious to eat even without tare sauce.



Dirase Coffee

Made using carefully selected coffee beans blended and roasted using an original roasting method with 30% of the water welled in Oirase.







Towada Hachimantai National Park

Towada Visitors' Center



The Towada Visitor's Center is a facility where visitors can learn about the rich nature around Lake Towada and see exhibitions explaining the structure of the "double caldera lake" and the process through which past volcanic activity formed Lake Towada. After learning about the history of Lake Towada, go outside for a walk. Opening hours: 9:00-16:30

Closed: Every Wednesday, December 29th-January 3rd (Open every day from late April-early May and late July-late October)

Fee: Free Tel: 0176-75-1015

Animal calls can be heard from all over. There's also a corner for handicrafts made with nuts and branch-

Lake Towada walking path rest area

Tourist Center "Pratt"

This is a convenient facility for sightseeing around Lake Towada. Visitors can view Towadako Kokanee swimming in an aquarium and materials relating to Kotaro Takamura and Sadayuki Wainai. Open: Throughout the year Tel: 0176-75-1531

The Bronze Statue of Maidens statue is Kotaro Takamura's last great work



This monument of a statue of a naked lady is an award presented to Towada National Park for distinguished service

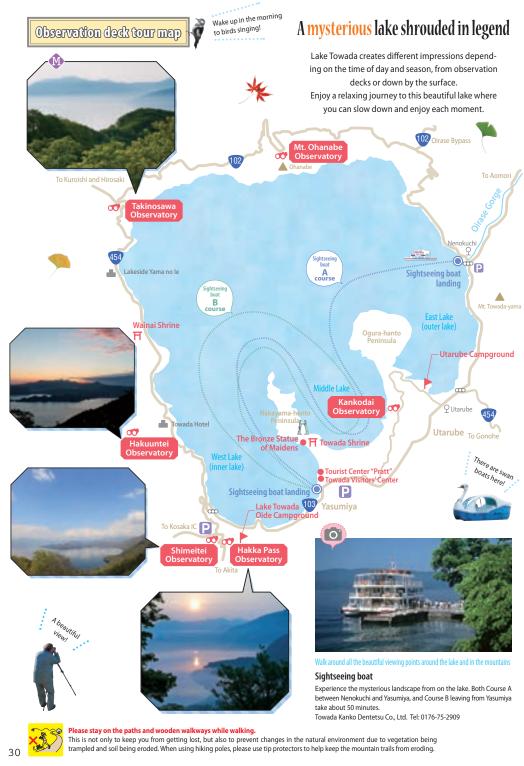
The Symbol of Lake Towada The Bronze Statue of Maidens

A statue of two women that stands at the end of the "Otome Lakeside Path." This statue was made by the poet and sculptor Kotaro Takamura, and is said to be modeled after his wife, Chieko. The figures face each other and their hands touch. The statue embodies the brightness of the lake and displays shadow and form. Their feet are firmly on the ground expressing the appearance of being able to withstand the harshness of Lake Towada.

Camera: This area is recommended for taking photos.



Holding your smartphone above images with this mark will show videos or panoramic photos.



View from the observation deck

P 駐車場

トキャンプ場

▲ 宿泊施設

展望台

H神社

This observation deck provides a breathtaking

Lake Towada and is a great place to take

om late November to early May)



mountains cular view.

Kankodai Observatory

The observatory is on top of a cliff face that faces the deepest part of Lake Towada, Nakanoumi (Middle Lake). The sightseeing boat that passes below is visible from there, making it an ideal spot for sightseeing.

Come and enjoy fishing from the shore, or go rowing on the lake and enjoy a bird's eye view of the natural beauty here.

Experience both the lakeshore and middle of the lake



Go on an outdoor adventure on the lakeshore

Utarube Campground

A campground surrounded by beech and maple trees. There are cottages and a shower building, so even people new to camping can enjoy themselves. It's very close to Oirase Gorge and other sightseeing spots, and is perfect for long stays.

Open: July 1-October 31 Tel: 0176-75-2477



vada have been protected by local people ever ased by Sadayuki Wainai. These Kokanee salmfished during specific periods.

Kokanee salmon fishing license [Boat fishing] 2,000 yen/day [Shore fishing] 1,000 yen/day Tel: 0176-75-2612 (Lake Towada-ko Fishery Propagation Cooperative)

*Subject to changes based on Ko-They manage the Kokanee kanee salmon growing conditions salmon fishing licenses. and weather. Please inquire in ad-



Get a bird's eye view of the lake

Lake Towada canoe tour

Let's start our journey from Yasumiya rest area with a Canadian canoe. Our tour guide will show you the beauty of the Lake Towada and the deeper levels of the wonders and pleasures of nature. Open: From late April to early November

Tel: 080-1681-1036 (Lake Towada Guide house Kai)



Picking any fauna or flora and removing rocks are prohibited. Thank you for protecting our ecosystem, and keeping this area beautiful for other visitors.



Recommended locations of spiritua Iowada-jinja Shrine An old shrine surrounded by large Japanese cedar Towada-jinja Shrine Tel: 0176-75-2508 Until the Edo era, this shrine was a center of Towada faith to a water deity, and said to be a place where mountain priests practiced their religion. Now the en shrined deity is Yamato Takeru no Mikoto.

Kodakara Tree

32

Visitors who take the Kaiun no Komichi path on the way to Towada Shrine will come across the shrine's goshinboku (sacred tree). Many visitors place a monetary offering into the hole of this tree, and wish

Branching off from a road lined with cedars, visitors will find the solemn main building of Towada Shrine. Towada Shrine is currently used to honor the deity Yamato Takeru no Mikoto, but up until the Edo period, it served as part of the Towada mountain faith, dedicated to Towadasan Seiryu Daigongen, a dragon deity and spirit of the lake.

The shrine's finely detailed engravings in the gongenzukuri style are quite impressive. From the three-dimensional mari balls, to the koi shooting upstream, the imagery of the elder men and women, and of Lake Towada—each one is worth seeing.



A blessing to bring good fortune

Towada Jinja Shrine talismans

The shrine is shrouded in mystery, and said to be a place of great spiritual power that can grant blessings. They have talismans for health, academic achievement, and other benefits.



Legend of Lake Towada

Lake Towada is home to the legend of Hachinotaro and Nansonobo. As it goes, a young man from Kazuno in Akita, named Hachinotaro, was eating an iwana charr fish, which he just caught in the river. In doing so, he was breaking the Matagi (local hunters) law. Also terribly thirsty, he blocked the flow of the river, and began drinking the water. Suddenly, the river had become a large lake (Lake Towada), and he was transformed into a great serpent. In his grief, Hachinotaro cried out, and sank to the bottom of the lake, where he became its quardian.

As for Nansonobo, he received a message from a deity in Kumano, a land of mountain faith, commanding him to "set

forth on a journey in a pair of iron sandals, and settle down forever wherever you may be when the straps break." Upon arriving at Lake Towada, the straps finally broke, and it was there that he faced Hachinotaro in battle. Winning the fight, he became the new guardian of Lake Towada.





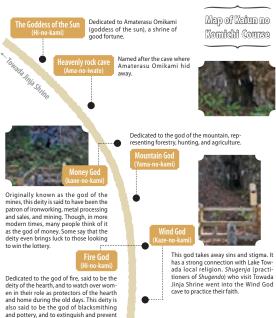
← The Bronze Statue of Maidens

It's said that you'll be blessed with

Wishing for luck at Lake Towada

Kaiun no Komichi Course ("A way to a good fortune")

A path connecting Towada Shrine to the lakeside area (Gozengahama). Gently curving in an S-like shape, the path is lined with wayside shrines, carved out by volcanic activity, to the deities of wind, fire, mountain, gold, Ama no Iwato, and the sun. Surrounded by a lush forest, visitors will also find a pleasant arboreal scent along the path.



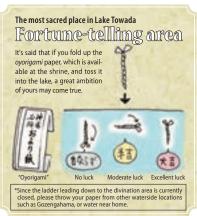
Otome Lakeside Path



This shrine houses the Kumano Gongen deity

Kumano-iinia Shrine

A smaller shrine located off to the right of Towada Shrine. Replicas of the iron sandals worn by the Kumano mountain monk, Nansonobo, are enshrined here



good fortune if you throw a coin into for the safe birth of their child, or to be blessed with a baby

Lakeside Towada Small Exploration Map



A pillar formed out of molten rock

A huge rock in front of the Bronze Statue of Maidens is also known as a columnar joint as it looks like a pile of pillars.

The Bronze

Statue of

Maidens

Shops that provide the handiwork of artisans Yuzuriha (Towada Main Shop)

This is a select shop that deals in arts and crafts from the Tohoku region. These pieces all display the thoughts and feelings of the artisans, including sakiori weaving and sashiko stitching. Everything that you would want to reward yourself or give to close friend are here.

Yuzuriha Shop

Kohan-no-vado

Minshuku

Nagomi

Pension

Towadako

Marine Blue

Address: 486 Yasumiya, Towada-kohan, Okuse, Towada-shi Tel: 0176-75-2290 Opening hours: 10:00-17:00 Closed: Closed during winter

₹å

(mid-November to mid-April)



This is the place for

sightseeing information

about Lake Towada! There's

Whether you enjoy local foods while walking around the lake, relaxing in a hot spring, or purchasing some souvenirs, it is our pleasure to welcome you at Lake Towada.

West Lake (inner lake)

Sightseeing boat jetty

JR Bus

Station

Towada-ko

Towadako Lakeside Hotel

Restaurant

Yasumiya

Ryogoku-bashi Bridge Towada Taiyo Plaza Start of suggested itinerary

Police Box

Map A

Towadako Lakeview Hotel

Towadako 📗 Yugetsu Inn Gas station

Shinzan-tei Inn

Lake Towada Marina

"Pratt"

P

"Otome Lakeside Path" Lakeside Promenade Utome Lakeside Path" Lakeside Promenade Sanbashi-mae Sightseeing boat ticket sales

Association

Adventure Hotel Towadako

■ Lake Towada National Park (4) Kaedeshokudo Restaurant

Fire station

 Post office Himemasu Sales Office

> Electric vehicle charging station (Contact the tourist center Pratt to make applications for use)

> > Multipurpose plaza

Parking Lots

Minshuku lodge

places to eat

Restaurants and

Hotels

Motorboats

Yamaju

Rest area

Legend

Coffee Shops

Shops and souvenirs

Kokanee salmon dishes

One-day bath services

Restaurant with

Ebisu Daikoku Islands These islands are full of kitagoyo (Pinus parviflora var. pentaphylla) trees and azalea bushes. The re- Gozeno flection of fresh green or fall colors on the lake surface are beautiful.

Rib Pioneer Rental Boat (8) Tochi-no-chaya Kimura Shop Kandagawa

Ichinomiya

Ichinomiva

Picnic Site

€ **7**1

I want to eat

Kokanee salmon!

7 Towada-shokudo

P

P

Restaurant

A Yuzuriha Shop

Takkoya Shop

Waraiiya

(5) Shinshuya Restaurant Takase Shop Takasagoya 6 Souvenir Shop and Restaurant Morita

Benkei Inn

Koshiki-no-Yado

Restaurant

Lakeside Natural Woods

A virgin forest, untouched by human hands with a precious ecosystem. In the summer-time this a great place to see Hotaria parvula (a species of firefly).



Made after the Bronze Statue of Maidens Otome mochi

Sweet miso is spread soft, moist mochi (rice cake) and then fried.

Shops along the approach to Towada Jinja Shrine

Souvenirs and Dining Morita

Address: 486 Yasumiya, Towada-kohan, Okuse, Towada-shi

Tel: 0176-75-2206

Opening hours: 9:00-18:00

(Restaurant hours: 11:00-15:00) Closed: Closed for the winter

Boat rentals and cruises also available

The fried okara konnyak

Konkatsu (250 yen), is also

Lake Towada sightseeing boats and handmade apple pie

Lake Towada Marine Blue Address: Yasumitai, Towadako, Kosa-

ka-machi Tel: 0176-75-3025 Opening hours: 8:00-18:00 Closed: Closed during winter (early November - late April)

Using apples from Aomori Handmade apple pie

Long, narrow homemade apple pies carefully made and baked by hand. (500 yen for 1 cut, or 3,000 yen for the entire pie)

Lake Towada-ko

Towada Visitors' Center

Learn the history of Lake Towada.

10:30 Tourist Center "Pratt"

On the 2nd floor learn about authors that have a connection to Lake Towada.

10:40 Explore "Otome Lakeside Path" Lakeside Promenade

The Bronze Statue of Maidens

Pray at Towada Shrine 11:20 Improve your fortune at this spiritual location!

12:00 Take a walk up and down the Kaiun no Komichi Course, and enjoy lunch at a nearby shop Enjoy eating Kokanee salmon.

13:30 Take a ride on a sightseeing boat and walk around the area

Check in at a hotel 16:00 Relax in a hot spring..

Ministry of the Environment Towada Hachimantai National Park Minshuku Administration Office Iwabuki Pension Medical office Nursery school buys - smoked Kokanee salmon Hotel Towada-so Takuboku Ishikawa Monument Kimura Store Lake Towada Backpackers 1) Minshuku Shunzanso Pension N Pension Gri-land Lake Towada hostel (2) Minshuku Himemasu Sanso Pension Minshuku Towadako-sanso Pension



I saw the legendary fish Sadayuki Wainai



Photo courtesy of Kosaka Municipal Museum Furusato Hall

Long ago, no fish lived in Lake Towada. This is supposedly because fish were unable to climb the Choshiotaki fall on Oirase Gorge. However, Sadayuki Wainai, who was working at the Kosaka Mine, started working in fish breeding. Sadayuki guit his job at the mine, and in 1884 (Meiji 17) he released 600 young carp. He continued to release young fish after that, but his efforts ended in failure. He tried one last time, releasing Kokanee salmon called "Kapa "Cheppo from Hokkaido, which returned two years later in 1905 (Meiji 38). The result was the "Towadako Kokanee," a landlocked fish that now makes its habitat in Lake Towada. After that he devoted the rest of his life to the development of tourism there, and Sadayuki and his wife are now enshrined at the "Wainai Jinia Shrine."

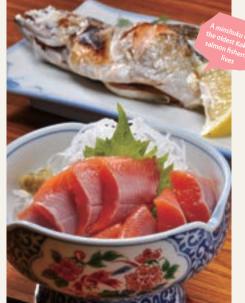
Lake Towada Fishery Propagation Cooperative Union



This local brand proudly carries out the wishes of our predecessors

110 years have passed since Sadayuki Wainai's labors. Now, the Lake Towada Fishery Propagation Cooperative Union is continuing his legacy. Towadako Kokanee salmon is recognized as an area brand and it was registered as a regional collective trademark in January 2015.

Kokanee salmon taken from Lake Towada in the morning and provided fresh to local shops every day.



1) Minshuku Shunzanso Pension Reservation Map page 35

Address: 5-1 Yasumiya, Towada-kohan, Okuse, Towada-shi

Tel: 0176-75-2607 Lunch features the "Kokanee salmon set (2,000 yen including tax)" and includes salt-grilled and raw Kokanee salmon, Towada bara-yaki (a stir fry), as well as a small bowl of wild vegetables, and senbei-jiru soup. Reservation required at least a day in advance.

Enjoy Towadako Kokanee as sashimi or salt-grilled.

In Japanese, the word for Kokanee salmon is a homonym for princess, and the flavor lives up to that illustrious name. It is particularly delicious when eaten raw as sashimi. Its pink flesh has a unique texture and sweetness that people love.

Additionally, it is lauded as being full of the healthy compounds anserine and anstaxanthin.



Tel: 0176-75-2206

Map page 34/35 -

(2) Minshuku Himemasu Sanso Pension

Address: 16-15 Yasumiya, Towada-kohan, Okuse, Towada-shi Tel: 0176-75-2717

(3) Minshuku Towadako-sanso Pension Reservation

Address: 294-1 Yasumiya, Towada-kohan, Okuse, Towada-shi Tel: 0176-75-2710

4 Kaede-shokudo Restaurant Closed for the winter

Address: 486 Yasumiya, Towada-kohan, Okuse, Towada-shi Tel: 0176-75-2126

(5) Shinshuya Restaurant

Address: 16-11 Yasumiya, Towada-kohan, Okuse, Towada-shi Tel: 0176-75-3131

7 Towada-shokudo Restaurant Closed for *

Address: 486 Yasumiya, Towada-kohan, Okuse, Towada-shi Tel: 0176-75-2768

(8) Tochi-no-Chava

Address: 486 Yasumiya, Towada-kohan, Okuse, Towada-shi Tel: 0176-75-2231



9 Towadaya Restaurant Closed for the winter

Address: 74-4 Utarube, Towada-kohan, Okuse, Towada-shi Tel: 0176-75-2810

(10) Lakeside Promenade Drive In Rest Area Restaurant

Address: 165 Utarube, Towada-kohan, Okuse, Towada-shi Tel: 0176-75-2159



(11) Mizuumi-tei Restaurant

Address: 469 Nenokuchi, Towada-kohan, Okuse, Towada-shi Tel: 0176-75-2875

12 Nenokuchi Lakeside Restaurant Closed for

Address: 471 Nenokuchi, Towada-kohan, Okuse, Towada-shi Tel: 0176-75-2226



Rest Area

Lake Toward



closed for the winter, generally from late November-early April.

*Open during the "Towadako Winter Story" event. Kokanee salmon dishes may not be available depending on the quantity harvested.

Lake Towada

Four seasons

Brilliant budding



When the cherry trees stretch their branches out over the lake, and buds begin to burst from the young leaves, visitors feel the vitality of their breath. The reflection of the trees over the quiet surface of the lake





In the spring, the melting snow raises the water level of the lake. After the harsh Aomori winter, the melting snow brings an explosion of blooming plants around the shore of Lake Towada from spring ephemerals to Anemone pseudo-altaica.





Lake Towada changes its appearance from moment to moment. From the sea of clouds in the morning to the orange sky of the sunset, visitors staying a number of nights can enjoy each moment.

Lake Towada Water Festival





Pass the time actively

Fall

Set off from the shore on a canoe and enjoy a completely different beauty than what is visible from land. Enjoy a waterfowl's eye view of the lake.

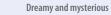






The mountains around Lake Towada burst into color during the fall, and show a completely different side during the green season. Also, October and November is the season for Kokanee salmon at Lake Towada. Visitors can enjoy the fatty Towadako Kokanee while viewing the beautiful fall colors.







When Lake Towada is covered in ice and snow it reveals a natural beauty completely different from the lush green and bring fall colors. The winter re-

ally brings about a dreamy feeling to the landscape.





[Date] Early February – late February [Venue] Lake Towada Yasumiya Special Event Grounds Tel: 0176-75-1531 (Lake Towada Winter Story Executive Committee)

This event features snow sculptures, an illumination of the Bronze Statue of Maidens, fireworks, and other participatory programs. The spiced mulled wine is a favorite. Every year there are original glasses, and many visitors come yearly to collect them all.











Tunnel of Light

The "Tunnel of Light" stretches to the event arounds. The illumination in the dark night creates a fantastical atmosphere.





The great fireworks flowers that blossom in the night sky display a unique beauty that differs from the beauty of winter fireworks. [Date] Saturdays and Sundays in mid-July [Venue] Lake Towada Yasumiya

Events to Experience Towada

A festival that tells the story of the local history and land. Visit during the festival, and have a great time!

Summer

Lake Towada Festival

Winter

2-Day, 1-night Towada Tour Course

From downtown, to the Oirase Stream and Lake Towada







Towada Day 1





7:00am Wake up early and take a walk around Lake

Towada

10:00am Check out from the hotel

11:00am Tsuta Onsen

Walk around Tsutanuma Take a dip in the hot spring waters at Tsuta Onsen

3:30pm Depart Tsuta Onsen 4:50pm Depart Shichinohe Towada Station



Oirase Stream

Kanchogai Road



wada Fall Festival

Towada Spring Festival

April 20 - May 5

Towada Spring Festival

Late April Sakura Yabusame May 3 Inaoi River Walk

Summer

Late June - Late July

Hanashobu Iris Festival
Oirase Roman Park Festival
Lake Towada Festival

August 14 Towada Summer Festival Fireworks Display

Fall

Spring

September (2nd Fri, Sat, Sun) **Towada Fall Festival**

Late September

Towada Yosakoi Yume Festival
Mid October World Yabusame Championships
Mid October Oirase Stream Eco Road Festival

Winter

Early Dec – Mid February

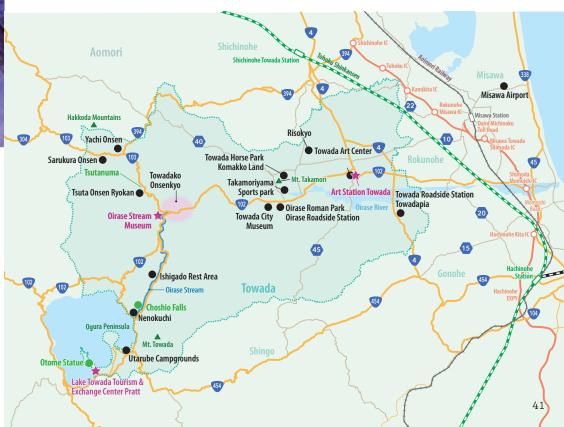
Arts Towada Winter Lights Display

Mid January - Mid Mar

Oirase Gorge Ice Fall Tour

Early - Late February

Lake Towada Winter Story



私は日本語を話せませんので、このシートを利用してお話させて頂きます。 該当する質問を指差して下さい。



I can't speak Japanese, so I'll use this sheet to communicate. Please point to the guestion you have.

道案内について質問 **Direction Questions**

- ●●に行きたいのですが、どこにありますか。 I want to go to ____, where is it?
- ●●が欲しいのですが、どこにありますか。 I would like , where is it?
- ●●までどのような方法で行けますか。 How do I get to ____?
- ●●行きのバスに乗りたいです。 I want to take the bus going to ____.

バスはいつ出ますか。

When does the bus leave?

●●までの距離はどのくらいですか。 How far is it to ?

時間はどのくらいかかりますか。 How long will it take?

切符はどこで買えますか。 Where can I buy a ticket?

Restaurant

●●には駐車場はありますか。 Is there a parking lot at ____?

この周辺の見どころは何ですか。 What tourist sites are around here?

バス停

Taxi stand

道案内について解答 **Direction Answers**

かこうにあります。(指をさしながら) It's over there (while pointing).

地図を指差してみてください。 Please point to the spot on this map.

案内するのでついてきてください。 I'll show you, please follow me.

この近くにはありません。 There isn't one near here.

バスで行けます。 You can go by bus.

徒歩で行けます。 You can go on foot.

約●時間 (●分) くらいです。 It takes about hours (minutes).

約●kmくらいです。

It's about kilometers.

銀行・ATM

Rental cars

トイレ

Coin lockers

買い物・食事についての質問 **Shopping, Dining Questions**

メニューをください。 Please give me a menu.

これと同じものを●個ください。 Please give me items like this one.

これはいくらですか。 How much is this?

特産品やおすすめはありますか。 Do you have any recommendations or local products to buy?

違う種類のものはありますか。 Do you have any other kinds?

スプーン/フォークはありますか。 Do you have spoons/forks?

お会計をお願いします。 Check, please.

別々に会計をお願いします。 We'd like to split the check.

支払いに●●は使えますか。 Can I use to pay?

タバコを吸ってもいいですか。 Can I smoke here?

Wi-Fiは使えますか。 Is there Wi-fi here?

店内を利用するにあたり、注意点はありますか。 Is there anything I need to be aware of here?

私は食べられないものがあります。 I am not able to eat certain foods.

Please refrain from taking pictures.

買い物・食事についての解答

Shopping, Dining Answers

The items are popular.

●●の商品が人気です。

少々お待ちください。

ここは禁煙です。

喫煙席はこちらです。

One moment, please.

It's sold out (out of stock).

This area is non-smoking.

The smoking lounge is here.

写真撮影はご遠慮ください。

ご注文が決まりましたらお呼びください。

Please call when you've decided what to order.

売り切れ(品切れ)です。

0 3 6 7 8 9 10 11

12 20 30 40 50 60

80 70 90 100 200 300

400 500 600 700 800 900

1000 2000 3000 4000 5000

6000 7000 8000 9000 10000

ドル 午前 円 dollars A.M. yen

●時 ●分 hours minutes メートル meters

キロメートル kilometers

午後

P.M.

場所 Places Tourist information center Bus stop Bank / ATM Restroom 駐車場 警察署 お土産屋 病院 宿 Police station Souvenir shop Hospital Hotel Parking lot 十和田神社 ボートレンタル場 乙女の像 カフェ 日本料理店 Statue of Maidens Towada-jinja Shrine **Boat rentals** Cafe Japanese restaurant レストラン タクシー乗り場 レンタカー コインロッカー

Station

観光案内所

十和田ビジターセンター Towada Visitor's Center 十和田湖ひめます料理店 Lake Towada sockeye salmon restaurant 遊覧船乗り場 コンビニ Sightseeing boat Convenience store boarding point キャンプ場 温泉 Campsite Hot springs