**Places You Want To Visit Shrines & Temples Course**

Otaru contributed greatly to the development, history, culture and economy of Hokkaido. A large number of people migrated to Otaru seeking work. Many shrines and temples were built as the people who played an active role in Otaru wanted to pray for prosperity, commemorate their hometown and honor their ancestors. The shrines and temples each have their own unique characteristics. Additionally, the mansions built by people who played an active role in Otaru and historic buildings remain to this day.

After walking the recommended Shrines and Temples Course, how about extending your walk by going a little further to the Otaru Museum to learn about the history of the railroad that opened in order to transport coal to and from the Bank of Japan Otaru Museum where you can find out about the history of Otaru’s rapid development through shipping and finance.

Visit peaceful shrines and temples while enjoying the mountain views of Otaru. I highly recommend the shortcut through the hills above National Route 5 from Tenjoji Temple to Sumiyoshi Shrine and the view overlooking the port after climbing the hill at Gohyaku Rakan Soenji Temple. It is naturally a dieting and trekking course. Feel free to stop by a mochi shop if you get hungry. This is somewhat different from your average course.

**Recommended spots (Access information)**

As the mansions are spread around a large area, we recommend using public transportation when taking the Shrines & Temples Course.

**[City line bus]**

Buses run from Otaru Station Terminal in all directions on over 20 routes, with many bus stops, making it a very convenient mode of transportation. To go to spots ( ), circle in red, board the bus bound for "C Sakarakamich","3" Shokou 2 Chome," or "L Boydai" from the bus stop in front of Nagasakiya.

There are also buses headed from Otaru Canal Terminal to Mt.Ten-guyama and Shukutsu. We recommend the 1-day pass with benefits (e.g. discount or gifts).

| Contact Chuo Bus Otaru Station Terminal | +81-134-25-3333 |

**Tourist information centers**

There are three tourist information centers in Otaru. When in trouble, please contact us.

- International Information Center (Canal Plaza) +81-134-33-1661
- Otaru Canal & Asakashu Bridge tourist information center +81-134-23-7740
- Otaru Station tourist information center +81-134-29-1333

**Recommended "gourmet spots"**

How about stopping by a café, sweets shop or a restaurant serving western-style meals on the way to visit shrines and temples? There are many old mochi (Japanese rice cakes), dango (Japanese sweet dumplings) and Japanese confectionary shops located near shrines and temples.

**Cotton Cloth**

A cozy restaurant serving western-style meals that is a local favorite. It has been loved for many years as their dishes use carefully selected ingredients and have a gentle flavor that you never get tired of.

- 4-18-3 Hanazono +81-134-27-2959
- 11:30 ~ 14:30, 17:00 ~ 21:30 (Sundays and National Holidays 12:00 ~ 15:00, 17:00 ~ 20:00)
- Mondays, every 2nd Tuesday

**Wazen Yuméitei**

Otaru’s 67th municipally-designated historic building. Stop by for a quick lunch, or enjoy full course banquets and more.

- 2-8-1 Infunе +81-134-64-9082
- Lunch 11:00 ~ 14:00 (L.O. 13:30)
- Dinner 17:00 ~ 22:00 (L.O. 21:30)
- Open year-round

**Kameju Bakery**

A long-established bakery founded in 1949 that opens at 4 am. The most popular item is their "thick-slice cream" featuring a 6-cm thick slice of bread slathered with plenty of buttercream that is sure to fill you up.

- 1-5-11 Infunе +81-134-33-8044
- 4:00 ~ 17:30 (Close when sold out)
- Sundays, National Holidays

**Cafe White**

(inside former Okagawa Pharmacy)

Located within Otaru’s 32nd municipally-designated historic building, this stylish cafe is decorated in tones of white. The menu includes soup curry, roux curry, and more.

- 1-7-7 Waramatsu +81-134-64-1086
- Open 11:00 ~ 22:00 (until 25:00 Fri & Sat)
- Ordinary Mondays, Thursdays (open when Monday and Thursday are a holiday or day before a holiday)

**Ramen Mikan**

A ramen restaurant where people wait in line that is located next to Nantaru Market on National Route 5. The menu is simple, consisting of miso, shio (salt), and soy (soy sauce). Each flavor is unique and leaves a lasting impression that is loved by locals.

- 11-13 Shitomi-cho +81-134-22-1221
- From 11:00 (L.O. 19:30, until 15:00 on Wednesdays. Closes when they run out of soup.)
- Thursdays

**Café-Kiato**

Located across from Nantaru Market. Choose from 4 types of waffles that are made after placing your order.

- 2-13 Shitomi-cho +81-134-23-5225
- 10:00 ~ 18:00
- Sundays & holidays

**Otaru City Hall**

Industries, Ports and Harbors Department Tourism Promotion Office
4-3 Minatomachi, Otaru, Hokkaido 047-0007
TEL +81-134-32-4111 (ext. 451) FAX +81-134-27-8600
E-mail: kanko@city.otaru.lg.jp
URL: https://www.city.otaru.lg.jp/

* Guide Illustration: Sayuri Nakamura
* Created on: February 2018

*Symboles explanation:* - Address - Tel - Business hours - Regular holidays
Spots Information

1. **Ryugu Shrine**
   - There is a bronze statue of Enmosto Takeaki who contributed to the development of Otaru and his framed handwritten calligraphy scroll "Hokkai Chirimen." This shrine prays for safety at sea and prosperity of the citizens.
   - Reitaisai (Annual Grand Festival): June 20-22
   - Address: 3-22-11 Inaho
   - Contact: +81-134-22-4268

2. **Nikkokus Temple**
   - This temple stands on a hill and is one of the thirty-three sacred sites in Hokkaido. There are sessions to read Buddhist scriptures and Tenrikyo (temple elementary school) lectures.
   - Hours: 9:00-17:00
   - Address: 2-22-22 Tomizoka
   - Contact: +81-134-23-5093

3. **Tenjou Temple**
   - This temple is famous as a popular spot where you can feel the four seasons, cherry blossoms in spring and fall foliage in autumn. There are many sights to see around the temple, such as Buddha statues.
   - Hours: 9:00-17:00 (advance notice required)
   - Address: 4-32-1 Inaho
   - Contact: +81-134-23-0785

4. **Suzumiyoshi Shrine**
   - An annual grand festival called Otaru Matsuri is held here. There are 5 mikoshi (portable shrines), including the hyakuran-mikoshi which is one of the three largest mikoshis in Hokkaido. (Hyakuran is a unit of weight equivalent to approximately 375 kg)
   - Reitaisai (Annual Grand Festival): July 14-16
   - Address: 2-5-1 Sumbiya
   - Contact: +81-134-23-0785

5. **Ryutokuji Temple**
   - There is an enormous wooden fish, the largest in Japan weighing 330 kg that was made out of a single piece of Cypress wood. In addition, there are green fires on the grounds that turn a vibrant yellow color in the fall.
   - Hours: 8:00-16:00 (varies depending on season)
   - Address: 1-3-8 Masukai
   - Contact: +81-134-22-0523

6. **Sennjii Temple**
   - Gojysho Rakan Temple is a Tangible Cultural Property of Hokkaido. Gojysho Rakan refers to the 500 statues of Buddha's disciples that represent Buddhist sages so as not to forget the teachings of Buddha.
   - Hours: 9:00-16:00 during April-October
   - Address: 1-19-10 Shiomizu
   - Contact: +81-134-22-7772

Recommended Mansion

1. **Former Endoh Residence**
   - Former Endoh accumulated his fortune as a seafood wholesaler and built this mansion in 1902. At first glance, the gate and wall are those of a samurai residence. To enter, please contact the Rissho Kosei Ka Otaru Church.
   - Opening period: Open to the general public for a limited time.
   - Entrance Fee: Free
   - Address: 1-9-4 Tomikita
   - Contact: +81-134-23-2706

2. **Otaru Civic Auditorium, Oh Stage**
   - The Auditorium was built by donation of maritime traffic merchant Eijiryo Hachimori in 1914 for accommodation for the Crown Prince (later Taisho Emperor). The Oh stage was built by Ken Okasaki who made a fortune as a general goods merchant, in 1926, in the courtyard of his family residence in Irfune-cho. The stage was donated to Otaru city in 1954, and it was moved to the current location when the Auditorium was relocated in 1981.
   - Opening period: Auditorium - all year, Oh Stage from June to August
   - Entrance Fee: Free (some paid)
   - Address: 5-2-1 Hanazono
   - Contact: +81-134-22-2706

Places You Want To Visit: Shrines & Temples Course

**Mochi Trivia**

Why are there so many long established mochi shops in Otaru?

The unique confectionary culture of mochi, dango and Japanese confectionaries developed even during a time when rice could not be harvested in Hokkaido because rice, flour and sugar came into Otaru as it was flourishing as a trading port. In the past, they fulfilled the stomachs of the workers at the port and the unchanged taste passed down through many generations of craftsmen has been loved by Otaru locals.