

Tohoku Town

Photograph:Ogawara Lake





by the Legendary Sisters of Lake Ogawara:

[A 1,350-year search for their father]

Princess Tamayo and Princess Katsuyo arrived at Honshu's northernmost town of Tohoku after setting out to look for their father, who had gone missing from Kvoto.

(See page 9 for the legend of Lake Ogawara)

Shimizume Dam



This campsite lies west of Route just below Shimizume dam in the upper reaches of Shimizume River. Located in between valleys and surrounded by mountains, this serene spot is blessed with an abundance of nature. The campsite has several naths that allow visitors to enjoy some light hiking. Cooking facilities and washroom

are available, but visitors should bring their own drinking water.

Memorial of Emperor Meiji's visit

Officially dedicated on July 23, 1931 to commemorate the Emperor's visit to Tohoku. this stone monument is located on top of a small hill along the former Oshu Route, just outside the village of Chibiki along Prefectural Route 8. The Emperor took a break here in Ishizaka on his way to Noheji Town on July 13, 1876.

Hinomoto Manaka Monument

This center exhibits the Hinomoto Manaka Monument. It also has exhibits of tanka and haiku inscriptions related to a legendary nonument engraved with a poem called "Tsubo no Ishibumi."

discovered?

The Hinomoto Manaka Monument was discovered at a spot located about 20 m down the staircase from the parking lot, which is 1 km in the direction of Ottomo Station along Prefectural Route 8 from Chibiki Station.



This Museum introduces various assets of Tohoku Town in various classified sections. These sections include the history and wildlife of Lake Ogawara; archaeological findings excavated from ancient remains; achievements by Meiji Period writer Kozan Otsuka and Tohoku Town parliament members Jujiro Morita and Giichiro Yonaiyama; and a estored model of a traditional house from the early Showa period.



One of the best-known fishing spots for catching Japanese white crucian carp. It also hosts Japan's national white crucian carp fishing competition, which is held every May.



Rokkasho Village

Hironuma Daimyojin Shrine
Numazaki Kannon Shrine

•Lake Ogawara Youth Center

sisters became the guardian spirits of their respective resting places.

Aneto

Shrine

Tohoku Shinkansen

Daimyojin

Aoimori

To No.2 Michinoku Toll Road

Kamikita Expressway

Lake Terugaoka Mizuhami Ogawara

Tohoku Town Hall Head Office

nnanryo Hands

Citizens' Forest Mt. Modashi

Japanese red pine forest

(seed stand)

Kitasakae Tohoku Town

"Miraikan"

Tohoku Town Hamadai Community Center North Athletic Park Sotoebisawa Tohoku Town Kacchi

Yokosawa

Hall Branch Office To Aomori City Michinoku Toll Road

Shichinohe Town

where are

you...?

[cries]

Shichinohe-Towada Station

Noheji Town

To Aomori City

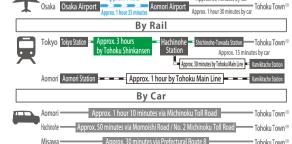
Underground forest

of Yudataira

South Athletic Park Niidate Where was it Niidate

To Towada City

Accessibility By Air Tokyo Haneda Airport Approx 1 hour Misawa Airport



%Leads to Tohoku Town Hall Head Office

About Tohoku Town

Tohoku Town is located in the eastern part of Aomori Prefecture, almost at the center of the Kamitosan region. Extremely lush and with a seemingly limitless amount of nature, the vast land of Tohoku Town is home to more than 400 ancient historical sites dating as far back as the Jomon Period, including the Sannai-Maruyama site in Aomori Prefecture.

The town is also home to Lake Ogawara, which is the 11th largest lake in Japan and even has its own designated postal address. The lake is a great leisure spot that allows visitors to enjoy the cherry blossoms in spring, swimming in summer, gourmet food in autumn, and migrating birds in winter.



The park has scientific playground equipment divided up into five zones including those modelled on molecules enlarged to 1.2 billion times their actual size and Edison's speakerphone. The path is planted with Japanese red pine trees that are over 60 years old, as well as cherry trees and azaleas.



A thatched-roof house located on a raised area in the park, "Manaka" (which means "center" in English) derives its name from the Hinomoto Manaka Monument. The Japanese characters 日 本中央 are read as "Hinomoto Manaka."



In the winter, the slope in the park is turned into a ski slone with two ski lifts. This is highly popular with families and kids.



surrounded by a pine forest, this quiet park is located at the lakeside in the Hamadai District of Tohoku Town. It is equipped with hot showers, cooking acilities, and washrooms so that visitors can enjoy camping and swimming in summer in the swimming area visitors can also eniov catching freshwater clams. During the Tohoku Town Lake Festival, the park serves as the main venue for the Wakasagi Marathon.



Fresh vegetables, seafood, special produce, and handicrafts from Tohoku Town are sold here. This is one of the most popular roadside



with others and enjoy facilities such as a warm-water swimming pool and a hot spring that's open year-round to promote good health. It also serves as an emergency evacuation center during natural disasters.



fireworks and other events are hosted

Tsurugasaki

cooking facilities, playground equipment, and a miniature golf course



Lake Ogawara Park **Campsite**

With cooking facilities and coin-operated showers



April to October for camping July to August for swimming Inquiries: Call 0176-56-3525



Tohoku Nature Trail Also known as the Lake Ogawara and Lakeside Path, this trail stretches 7.3 km between Ogawara Station and Kamikitacho

The trail includes the following: a lakeside area where you can enjoy bird watching; the Numasaki Kannondo Shrine honoring the legend of Lake Ogawara; the Hironuma Daimyojin Shrine; the Hanakiri River; and the statues of Princess Tamayo and Princess Katsuyo, which are known as one of the four greatest



Located on a raised area in the park, this village has Canadian-style cabins, an automobile campsite, and cooking facilities. You don't need to bring anything with you when you visit here!



Mid-April to the end of October

*Reservation required. Cabins can be booked two months in advance. Inquiries: Call 0176-56-3600





Open space



"Hokokan" Lake Ogawara Interaction Center

Interaction Center (heated swimming pool, hot spring, barbecue house)

Closed on Wednesdays and during the New Year's holiday (December 28-January 4) Hours: 9.00 a.m. - 8.00 p.m. Inquiries: Call 0176-56-3820





Wakasagi Park

*With cooking facilities and coin-operated showers

Open

July to the end of October for camping July to August for swimming Inquiries: Call 0175-62-2581



Wakasagi Park campsite



Shimizume Dam Automobile Campsite

Open

July to the end of October Inquiries: Call 0175-64-7757



Midori no Daichi to Roman no Mori Park (Green Land and Romantic Forest Park)

The path is lined with azaleas and cherry trees.



Manaka Inquiries: Call 0176-56-3111 (Tohoku Town Commerce & Tourism Division)





Open: Late December to early March Inquiries: Call 0175-63-4848

4 Tohoku Tohoku 5



Feel the Passion of Tohoku Town! Exciting!

Seasonal festiva

Enjoy Tohoku Town's festivals with different events for each season





Date: Around Golden Week Venue: Lake Ogawara Park

You can view the series of cherry trees known as "The Thousand Lakeside Cherry Blossoms" that stretch from Hanakiri River to the lakeside swimming area. Many events are held during the festival, including outdoor tea ceremonies and a seine net fishing experience.

Hanakiri River National White Crucian Carp Fishing Competition



Lake Festival Date: Late July
Venue: Lake Ogawara Park in the Kamikita area and Wakasagi Park in the Tohoku area

The summer festival at Lake Ogawara opens with its main event, a creative fireworks display designed by famous young fireworks artists from all over Japan that draws its viewers into a realm of fantasy. The festival also has many other events, including treasure hunting, the Wakasagi marathon, and the town's special product festivals.



The Tohoku Town ke Festival fireworks light up

Tohoku the lakeside in the summer

Wakasagi Park Venue



Wakasagi marathon runners enjoying a refreshing lakeside run





Hinomoto Chuo Festiva

Date: Mid-September Venue: Around Ottomo Station

This festival is a 3-day event held in mid-September that features float parades, traditional Shinto song and dance performances, and costume competitions. The second day features a fire festival known as the Hinomoto Ghuo Torch Festival. During this event, locals pray for sound health and reminisce about the Heian Period, the era when the Hinomoto Manaka Monument ("Tsubo no Ishibumi") was built.





Costume Competition





Those floats

Nanyadoyara dance

Lake Ogawara Gourmet Festival

Date: Late September

Venue: "Hokokan" Lake Ogawara Interaction Center



Free miso soup made with freshwater clams



The festival is held to promote the delicious, rich seafood from Lake Ogawara and agricultural produce from Tohoku Town. The town's restaurants sell inventive meals and the fishing association of Lake Ogawara also sells freshwater clams, smelt, icefish, and other seafood. There are also other shows that attract many visitors each year.

Active Industry & Culture festival

Date: Early November

Venue: Community Culture Center in the Kamikita district and North Athletic Park in the Tohoku district





Commerce and industry exhibition



Singing performance



This will warm you right up!

Event booth

You can buy affordable fresh local vegetables as well as seafood freshly caught in Lake Ogawara. The cultural exhibition displays a full lineup of works from the past year made by people of all ages, from infants to adults. There is also a health-check booth where you can get an unofficial checkup



been saying!





Exploring the History of Tohoku Town (Look deeper into history!)

Wise men and myst

Listen to the timeless voices of our predecessors and think more deeply about our history



Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Closed on Tuesdays and the New Year's holiday (December 28–January 3)

Hinomoto Manaka Monument Preservation Center

39-5 Aza lenoshita, Tohoku-machi, Kamikita-gun, Aomori 039-2685 Phone: 0175-64-7979

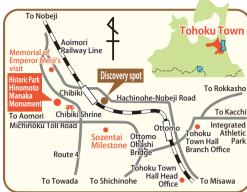
Tohoku Town History & Folk Museum 191-30 Aza Uwano, Oaza Uwano, Tohoku-machi, Kamikita-gun, Aomori 039-2401 Phone: 0176-56-5598



Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Closed on Tuesdays, national holidays and the New Year's holiday (December 28–January 3)

The museum's displays are classified by themes. The "Four Seasons of Lake Ogawara" section introduces the history, animals, and plants of Lake Ogawara. "The Dawn of Tohoku Town" and "The History of Tohoku Town" sections display archaeological findings from historical sites. The "Remembering our Predecessors" section introduces the achievements of Meiji Period literary figure Kozan Otsuka and former members of the Tohoku Town parliament Jujiro Morita and Giichiro Yonaiyama. The "Lifestyle and Traditional Crafts" section shows a restored traditional house from the early Showa Period.



Engraved with the eternally romantic poem "Tsubo no Ishibumi," the Hinomoto Manaka Monument is a natural rock about 1.5 m long. It was discovered on June 21, 1949, near the Ishibumi Village alongside the upper reaches of Akagawa River, which runs through Tohoku Town. It was officially designated as Tohoku Town's first tangible cultural property on December 7, 1989. The monument is currently displayed at the Hinomoto Manaka Monument Presérvation Center.



A memorial stone monument in front of a lakeside jetty



Kozan Otsuka

Remembering Kozan Otsuka (today Kozan Otsuka (real name Jusuke) was born on

January 1, 1880, in Uranodate Village (now Tohoku Town) in what was then Kamikita Province, and died at the young age of 31. During his short life, he left many works, including about 1,000 poems, 10,000 haiku and 2,400 tanka poems, as well as some travel essays. He was a literate man of many talents, having also worked as an auditor in literary circles, including the To'oh circle of poetry. Recognized by Ogai Mori and other respected figures, his works were reputed to equal the works of Takuboku Ishikawa. To commemorate his achievements. Tohoku Town had published a total of 7 volumes of Otsuka's work by 2004, based on materials stored at Hirosaki University.

> Available for purchase at the Tohoku Town History &Folk Museum

▶ Seven volumes of Otsuka's works



Hinomoto Manaka

ponder the deep land of Michinoku Tsubo no Ishibumi and the

t understand why you withhold your words, Like the name lown in Iwate, Mutsu, Pour your heart into a letter, Long as tance to the stone monument at the furthest end of Mutsu.

It has become the land of monument without the monument The thought of brave men crosses my mind / by Keigetsu Omach

What am I?

What am I, a sparkling fire?

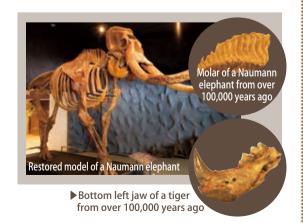
What am I, a fragrant flower?

What am I, a welling tear?

Taking the fire, flower and my tears As warp

And woof

I am weaving the affairs of the world



Legend of Lake Ogawara: Statues of Princess Tamayo and Princess Katsuyo



The sisters watch over the blessing of the lake and people's happiness

About 1,350 years ago, a nobleman called Lord Tachibana Chunagon Michitada lived in Kyoto. He was living a happy life there with his two beautiful daughters.

One day, roques attacked his mansion and killed his high-ranking officers. Disillusioned by this bleak world, Lord Michitada disappeared from Kyoto and built a small secluded house by Lake Ogawara.

Left stranded in Kyoto by their father, Princess Tamayo and Princess Katsuyo embarked on a journey to search for him with two samurai, Óribe Shindo and Śakyonoshin Komazawa. After visiting many provinces, they finally arrived at Lake Ogawara only to be told that their father had already died. On hearing this, the sisters drowned themselves in the lake. The marsh that Princess Tamayo drowned in has since been called Anenuma (meaning "Elder Sister Marsh"), and the marsh that Princess Katsuyo drowned in is now known as Imotonuma (meaning "Younger Sister Marsh"; now Lake Ogawara).

Afterward, Sakyonoshin stayed at Anenuma to protect the marsh and the spirit of Princess Tamayo, while Oribe—inspired by Princess Katsuyo—stayed at Imotonuma as the lord of the marsh. The sisters' spirits paid homage at Numazaki, where their father had been laid to rest, and the three became Buddhist saints.

Visitors to Lake Ogawara can see statues of Princess Tamayo and Princess Katsuyo, who stand together as devoted sisters.

The statue of Princess Tamayo was built looking up at the blessed mountains of Hakkoda, while the statue of Princess Katsuyo was built praying for safety and happiness on the lake. Together, these statues convey the sad, yet compassionate feelings of these beautiful sisters from the Nara Period. (built on 1989)



Aneto Daimyojin Shrine honoring the elder sister Princess Tamayo Hironuma Daimyojin Shrine honoring the younger sister Princess Katsuyo





Numazaki Kannon Shrine honoring the sisters' father, Lord Michitada



8 Tohoku



Tohoku Town has the highest catches of smelt in Japan. This fish is served in a variety of ways, including caramelized, tempura, marinated and deep-fried.



Yam Garlic Deep-fried yam and garlic

These dishes are available in restaurants all around town, but please check their availability as they may not be served in some seasons.

latural eel

Tighter meat and a lighter

Seared natural

eel on rice

and Lake Ogawara is ranked

number one in the country for

its fishing harvest, producing

about 70% of the country's

Icefish rice bowl

Restaurant contact details						
Oshokuji no Wako	Tel 0176-56-4005	Fukuzushi	Tel 0176-56-5577			
Izakaya Restaurant Ebizo	Tel 0176-56-5098	Ichiraku Sushi	Tel 0176-56-2631			
Chinese Gate Xhenlong	Tel 0176-56-4453	Isogen	Tel 0175-63-2322			
Izakaya Isshin	Tel 0176-56-2648	Ajidokoro Tanaka	Tel 0175-63-2639			
Hozumi Sidashiten	Tel 0176-56-2066	Kyodo Ryori Kura	Tel 0175-63-3968			
Sushi Kappo Ogata	Tel 0176-56-2678	Lake Ogawara Porotopia,	Tel 0176-58-1122			
Shiki Shunsai Kinichi	Tel 0176-56-4870	Roadside Station (Michi no Eki)				



It keeps your heart Tohoku Town's luxurious

100% natural II hot spring

Natural hot spring villages Atherapeutic that keeps you warm in both mind and



Blessed with vast amounts of hot spring water and set amidst rich nature, the town is publishing useful visitor information on using the hot springs.

Tohoku Town has 12 hot springs that visitors can visit without staying overnight, and all of them are natural. This is rare even in Aomori Prefecture. Visitors get to enjoy a relaxing and therapeutic time.

To Rokkasho

219

Hakko Hot Spring

To Misawa

Kacchi
Post Office

Tohoku Town natural spring map for day-trip visitors

Tohoku Branch Office

To Nobeji

Tohoku Town Senior

Shichinohe

Town

To Shichinohe Hot Spi

Natural hot springs for daytime visits

%This image is for illustration

		Hot Spring	Tel	Overnight stay
	1	Hot Spring Ryokan Suimei	0176-56-5083	-OK
ing e	2	Kamikita Sakura Hot Spring	0176-56-3900	-OK
	3	Matsu no Yu Natural Hot Spring	0176-56-2276	-OK
	4	Tamakatsu Hot Spring	0176-56-3007	-OK
	5	Hakko Hot Spring	0176-56-2364	-OK
	6	Anetogawa Hot Spring	0176-56-3529	
	7	Lamp Hot Spring	0176-56-3680	-OK
	8	Kamikita Health & Welfare Center Hot Spring	0176-56-2933	
	9	Lake Ogawara Interaction Center Hot Spring	0176-56-3820	
9	10	Tohoku Hot Spring	0175-63-3715	-OK
ara	1	Hiba no Yu Poplar Hot Spring	0175-62-2945	
	12	Tohoku Town Senior Welfare Center Hot Spring	0175-63-2001	
		\circ	ا ما ما	at t0







10 Tohoku Tohoku 11









Authentic local products



A cup of Tohoku Town's energy!



Icefish

Caramelized smelt, icefish and other seafood



Deep-fried

crucian carp

Additive-free ham & sausage

Hand-made cheese from Tohoku Town milk

aawarako



Natural cheese with no preservatives or artificial colors.

Tohoku Town's Local Shochu



Aoimori Milk



Looking for souvenirs? fou're in the right place

Roadside Station (Michi No Eki) Lake Ogawara

8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. from April to September 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. from October to March

You can find local vegetables, seafood from Lake Ogawara, and Tohoku Town's special products all in one place. You can also enjoy some of the local cuisine. Check out tourism information about the surrounding areas: \$\sqrt{}\$

Website

http://www.ogawarako.co.jp

*These products are also available at the Roadside Station (Michi no Eki) Lake Ogawara.

Processed local products

Tohoku Town Product Tel: 080-6040-4769 **Promotion Association**

Caramelized and fresh fish / clams

Tsushima Shoten Tel: 0176-56-2145 Tel: 0176-56-2701 Shindo Suisan Numao Suisan Tel: 0176-56-2135 Nagakubo Shokuhin Tel: 0175-62-2119 Variety Shop Ohno Tel: 0176-56-2264

Inquiries Confectionery

Français Ominatoya Tel: 0176-56-2090 Tohoku Miyage Senbei Tel: 0175-63-3707

Additive-free ham & sausage Koritsu Ginnanryo Tel: 0176-56-5121

Vegetables

A Co-op Tohoku Branch Tel: 0175-63-2006

Fresh fish

Numao Yori Chokubaijo Tel: 0176-56-3740 Hashimoto Shoten Tel: 0175-62-2289 Ebimitsu Shoten Tel: 0175-63-2504 Fresh vegetables, processed products,

delicatessen goods

local sake, handicrafts and other products Roadside Station

(Michi no Eki) Lake Ogawara Tel:0176-58-1122



Inquiries: Commerce and Tourism Division, Tohoku Town Office, **Tohoku Town Tourism Association**

Address: 4-32-484 Kamikita Minami, Tohoku-machi, Kamikita-gun, Aomori 039-2492

Tohoku Town Website

http://www.thk.net.pref.aomori.jp/