

CHIDO MUSEUM

“Iwai-Bandori” (Congratulatory Bandori)



INFORMATION

Opening Hours

[March—November] 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. (Last admission is at 4:30 p.m.)
[December—February] 9:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m. (Last admission is at 4:00 p.m.)

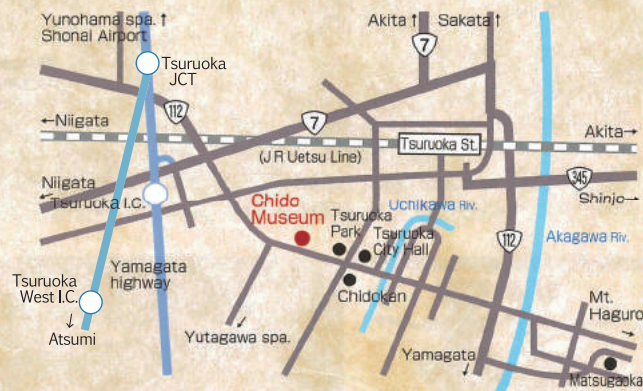
Closed

Closed on December 28—January 4 each year.
[March—November] Without a closing day
[December—February] Closed on Wednesday

Entrance Fee:

	Individual	Group	
		20 to 99	100 and more
Adults	800	700	500
Students	400	300	200
Children	300	200	100

(Tax in)



Directions to Chido Museum :

By taxi, 10 minutes from Tsuruoka Station (JR. Uetsu Line),
25 minutes from Shonai Airport (ANA Line).
5 minutes' walk from Tsuruoka City hall.

CHIDO MUSEUM

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In 1950 Chido Museum was founded by the former Lord Sakai, the feudal lord of the Shonai district, who wished to improve and develop local culture. He donated his properties and established the “Chidokan,” the Shonai Clan’s Samurai school.

Numerous examples of classical calligraphy, woodcraft and ceremonial sake barrels are preserved in “Goinden,” the old retirement residence of Lord Sakai. The two white wooden buildings in western style were transferred and rebuilt here. One is the former Tsuruoka Police Station and the other is the former Nishitagawa District Office. The old three-story farmhouse was brought from a snowy mountain village, Tamugimata, and has attracted attention for its gracefully curved thatched roof.

The new storage and the folkcraft houses contain exhibits of traditional folk materials of the Shonai district.

Sakai Tadatsugu served Tokugawa Ieyasu, the first Tokugawa Shogun. As a reward Lord Sakai was given the title of Tokugawa Shitenno, which means one of the “Big Four.” In 1622 Sakai Tadatsugu, the third of the Sakai family, became the feudal lord of the Shonai district, an area which could produce as much as 140,000 koku of rice each year. Successive feudal lords put a great deal of effort into agricultural administration. In particular, the ninth Sakai, Tadaari, re-shaped financial affairs, supported education, and founded Chidokan, a school created to train Samurai.



Shonai Farming Tools Exhibit (Branch Museum)

These are agricultural tools used in rice production in the Matsugaoka area (nominated as Important Folklore Cultural Assets). After the Meiji Restoration, Matsugaoka was cultivated by Samurai of the Shonai Clan, and was nominated as a National Historic Site in 1989.

Hours 9:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m. Closed every Monday and Christmas and holiday season
Entrance fee: adults 450, Students 350, children 150

Directions to Matsugaoka by taxi: 15 minutes From Chido Museum



6 Former Shibuya Household <Important Cultural Property>

Tamugimata of Tsuruoka City is a mountain village at the foot of Mt. Yudono. This is one of few farmhouses left which have been disappearing due to the recent changes in lifestyle. Its second and third floors were silk workshops and its gable windows are enlarged for better lighting and air flow. Its front roof is called "kabuto zukuri" (helmet-shaped roof). It was moved and reconstructed here for preservation in 1965.



5 Garden of the Sakai Clan

The age of this garden's construction is not clear, but is said to be exemplary of the "Shoin Teien" style. It is said that this garden originally borrowed from the landscapes of Mt. Chokai.



4 Exhibition Gallery

The exhibits presented here include many kinds of arts and crafts and change periodically.



1 Goinden (Retirement Residence of the Shonai Sakai Lords)

The remaining entrance and back room help to give an idea of the former magnificence of the daimyo's (feudal lord) mansion. Exhibits: Model of Tsurugaoka Castle/Shonai-zao (fishing rods)/Old documents passed down from the Shonai Sakai lords.



2 Former Nishitagawa District Office <Important Cultural Property>

Built by Michitsune Mishima, the first prefectural governor, in 1881 under the design of Kanekichi Takahashi, a master carpenter and artisan of Shonai. It was built at the beginning of the Meiji era with influences from Western architecture as seen by the design of the pillars and rafters. Formerly in the Babacho area, it was moved here in 1972. Exhibits: Archaeological Materials of the Shonai region and Materials of the Meiji era.



7 Treasury of Cultural Assets

Collection of folk materials characteristic of the culture of this district. The following are several items designated as national cultural assets.

Exhibits: Bandori: a kind of back-cushion made of straw/Shuki: lacquered wooden casks of Japanese wine/Beautifully quilted working clothes/Kurimono: hollowed wooden vessels/Daihoji yaki: pottery baked at Daihoji/Fishing tools used in the Sea of Japan/Fishing tools used in the Mogami river



8 Folkcraft House (Mingu no Kura)

Exhibits: Antique advertising materials and shipping implements used in the Sea of Japan. Traditional crafts and craftsmen's tools

3 Former Tsuruoka Police Station <Important Cultural Property>

This was built in the Babacho area in 1884 by the design of Kanekichi Takahashi who also designed the former Nishitagawa District Office. It was moved here in 1957. In addition to the quasi-western-style architecture, it was constructed using new western-style techniques. It has a pseudo-European style common at the beginning of the Meiji era, symbolizing the decorum of the times. This underwent reparations from 2013 to 2017 and was reopened to the public in June 2018.

