

**1** Abiko Information Center(Abishirube)

Tourist Information Center in Abiko

As a center for disseminating information on Abiko City, it provides information on sightseeing, lodging, events, and more. In addition, it provides information on sightseeing spots, offers referrals for tour guides through private organizations, and more. Abiko Information Center(Abishirube) Tourist Information Center in Abiko

One minute walk from the south exit of Abiko Station on the JR Joban Line  $\upDelta 504-7100-0014$ 

Hours of operation: 9:00 - 18:00 Closed: December 30 - January 3

②Sojinkan Sugimura Memorial

Sojinkan Sugimura was an international journalist who was active from the Meiji to the Showa Periods. He originally used this house as his second home, but after the Great Kanto Earthquake he moved to Abiko with his family, where he lived the rest of his life until his death in 1945. Camellia, one of his favorite plants, has been planted in the garden, as have trees that change color in autumn at pivotal points. Back then water flowed through the garden, and it is said that the Lake Teganuma scenery could be seen nearby. This building is evocative of the Taisho Roman aesthetic, and has even been used as a filming location.

2-5-5 Midori, Abiko City

☎ 04-7187-1131 Hours of operation: 9:00 - 16:30 (entry until 16:00) Closed: Mondays (or the next weekday if this is a national holiday), December 29 - January 3, internal organization days

③Sojinkan Park

This is a park overlooking Lake Teganuma that is located on top of a hillock right by the rear entrance to the Sojinkan Sugimura Memorial. There is a stone tablet inscribed with a haiku by Sojinkan here. It reads: Tsukuba in sight As I gaze through winter air That is crystal clear

2-4, Midori, Abiko City

**4** Sanjuso Remains

This is the remains of the residence of Muneyoshi Yanagi, one of the key figures of the Shirakaba school. The name Sanjuso (which means house of the three trees), is derived from the three ancient beech trees that are believed to represent wisdom, fortune, and long life in the local region. Muneyoshi was a thinker, aesthetician, and religious philosopher who gave rise to the Mingei movement. He was the nephew of Jigoro Kano. (Closed to the public)

I-9, Midori, Abiko City

**⑤Remains of the Jigoro Kano Villa** 

Jigoro Kano, the founder of Kodokan Judo and an educator, built a villa in Abiko in 1911. He also invited his nephew, Muneyoshi Yanagi, to Abiko. Moreover, he purchased an enormous plot of land nearby and opened a plantation there (Kano Koraku Plantation).

I-IO, Midori, Abiko City

**©Tenjin-zaka Hill** 

Sanjuso and Tenjin-zaka, a hill on which the fruit from the beech trees fell, were said to have been greatly loved by the cultural figures who gathered in Abiko back in the Taisho Period.

⑦Bernard Leach Monument

Bernard Leach was a British potter who was deeply involved in the Shirakaba school and Mingei movement.

34 Abiko Shinden, Abiko City

**®Bungaku-no-Hiroba** 

A small open space alongside Teganuma Walkway. There are monuments in memory of the literati who once lived in Abiko such as Shiga Naoya, Mushanokoji Saneatsu, and, Bernard Leach. There is also a monument in memory of Saito Mokichi, a famous poet.

Shirakaba Literary Museum

Muneyoshi Yanagi, Naoya Shiga, and Saneatsu Mushanokoji, who played key roles in the Shirakaba magazine in the Taisho Period, all lived in Abiko. In addition to their manuscripts and letters, it also possesses paintings, images, and more of artists associated with the Shirakaba school. It has a music room underground where visitors can appreciate songs by Kaneko Yanagi, Muneyoshi Yanagi's wife, who was also a vocalist.

2-II-8 Midori, Abiko City

 $\triangle$ 04-7185-2192 Hours of operation: 9:30 - 17:00 (entry until 16:30) Closed: Mondays (or the next weekday if this is a national holiday), December 29 - January 3

**®Remains of the Residence of Naoya Shiga** 

Only the library of Shiga, who penned most of his works between 1915 and 1923, remains. The library has a gabled roof and was part of the wooden home that was designed by Shiga himself and constructed by Takazo Sato, a craftsman from Abiko, in 1921. After being relocated, materials from the initial structure of the library were reused to restore it at this location.

2-7, Midori, Abiko City

## **MFormer Dwelling of Takii Kosaku**

Takii Kosaku was a journalist then become a novelist. He was a friend of Shiga Naoya and muved into Abiko and wrote "Mugen-houyou" in 1922. He lost his wife in the followed Sihga Naoya who had left Abiko for Kyoto.

**12** Former Murakawa Villa

This summer home was built by Kengo Murakawa and safeguarded by Kentaro, two generations of scholars of ancient history in the West who were father and son. It consists of the main building, which was a reconstruction of the detached house of (the Abiko Honjin,) a lodging house for high-ranking people, as well as an annex that was constructed in 1927 by Kengo, who emphasized a residence that was more about "shelter, food, and clothing," rather than "clothing, food, and shelter." Once here, visitors can experience the atmosphere it had from back when it was used as a summer home. The back gate faces out on to Hake Road. It is said that you could view the birds frolicking in the lake from indoors up until the 1950s. Sometimes there are local guides here that can fill visitors in on the details.

2-27-9 Kotobuki, Abiko City Inquiries: Culture and Sports Section, Board of Education, Abiko City ☎04-7185-1583

Hours of operation: 9:00 - 16:00

Closed: Mondays (or the next weekday if this is a national holiday), December 29 - January 3

®Nenokami Daikokuten

The Goma Fire Festival for Good Fortune is held on the fourth Sunday of October every year. Nenokami, the idol worshiped here, is considered to be especially beneficial for lower back ailments, and so metal sandals, which are a symbol of the feet and back, are dedicated as offerings within the grounds.

2-27-10 Kotobuki, Abiko City

**Mizu no Yakata** 

At Mizu no Yakata in Teganuma Aquatic Park, visitors can experience the majesty of Lake Teganuma and the appeal of Abiko City. A farmer's market overflowing with fresh, local produce, a restaurant that uses local ingredients, a planetarium that bowls visitors over with its impressive images, a showroom where visitors can learn about the history and living creatures of Lake Teganuma, and an observation room where visitors can get a commanding view of Lake Teganuma are just some of the facilities that everyone from children to adults can enjoy

193 Konoyama shinden, Abiko City

**2**04-7184-0555

Open: 9:00 to 17:00

Closed: Fourth Wednesday of every month (or the preceding Wednesday if this falls on a holiday), and December 29 to January

Access: Bus from Abiko Station, get off at the Shiyakusho-mae stop and walk five minutes (there is a bus that passes by the Museum of Birds on weekends)

15 Museum of Birds

In this museum, you'll meet birds from Lake Teganuma and around the world. You'll study the fascinating science of ornithology, and most of all, you'll come to realize the importance of coexistence among birds and people.

The first thing you see immediately away upon entering the museum is an egg from an elephant bird, a giant bird that has gone extinct. Though it is a replica, visitors can actually feel it. The exhibition rooms have displays on the origins of birds and the history of their evolution, the restoration of Archaeopteryx fossils, and stuffed and mounted birds from around the world organized by species. Be sure to check out the corners where you can catch a glimpse of nature and seasons of Lake Teganuma, as well as the past and present of the birds that have lived there.

234-3 Konoyama, Abiko City

☎04-7185-2212 Hours of operation: 9:30 - 16:30

Closed: Mondays (or the next weekday if this is a national holiday), December 29 - January 4, internal organization days

**6**Yamashina Institute for Ornithology

This is a world-famous research institute that specializes in birds. It has approximately 60,000 bird specimens, including some species that are extinct or rare, as well as some 40,000 volumes of precious literature on the subject. The institute plays an important role in ornithology in Asia by carrying out conservation activities on albatross and other rare species, as well as ecosystem studies and more. (Can be toured on the fourth Friday of every month, by reservation only)

115 Konoyama, Abiko City ☎04-7182-1101



