

CHIDO MUSEUM

"Iwai-Bandori"  
(Congratulatory Bandori)



INFORMATION

Hours:

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (last admission 4:30 p.m.)  
Closed 28 December to January 4 each year.

Entrance Fee:

	Individual	Group	
		20 to 99	100 and more
Adults	700	600	450
Students	380	350	250
Children	280	200	120



Directions to Chido Museum:

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

CHIDO MUSEUM

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http://www7.ocn.ne.jp/~chido/ E-mail chido@axel.ocn.ne.jp

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 25 December to 10 January each year.  
Entrance fee: adults 450, students 350, children 150

Directions to Matsugaoka by taxi: 15 minutes from Chido Museum





**1 Former Nishitagawa District Office**  
 — National Important Treasure —  
 Built 1881; relocated to present site 1972

Prefectural governor Mishima Michitsune endorsed a policy of constructing European style buildings around the district. The former Nishitagawa District Office is one of his undertakings.

**Exhibits**

- The Shonai Region from primitive times to the Middle Ages
- The History of the Shonai Region dating back to the Stone Age
- The Meiji Restoration and Shonai at the end of the Boshin Battle; the Shonai Clan



**2 Goinden, Retirement Residence of the Sakai Lords**  
 Built 1863

The entrance, the back room and even the hallways give some idea of the magnificence of a Daimyo's(feudal lord) mansion.

**Exhibits**

- Chidokan
- Shonai-zao (fishing rods)

**3 Exhibition Gallery**

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

**4 Folkcraft House (Mingu no Kura)**

Initially used to store the Lord's arms and effects, this has been used to store traditional folk materials from various districts in Shonai since the establishment of the museum in 1950. Antique advertising materials and Sea of Japan shipping implements are displayed on the first floor; traditional local handicrafts such as Shonai dolls can be found on the se-

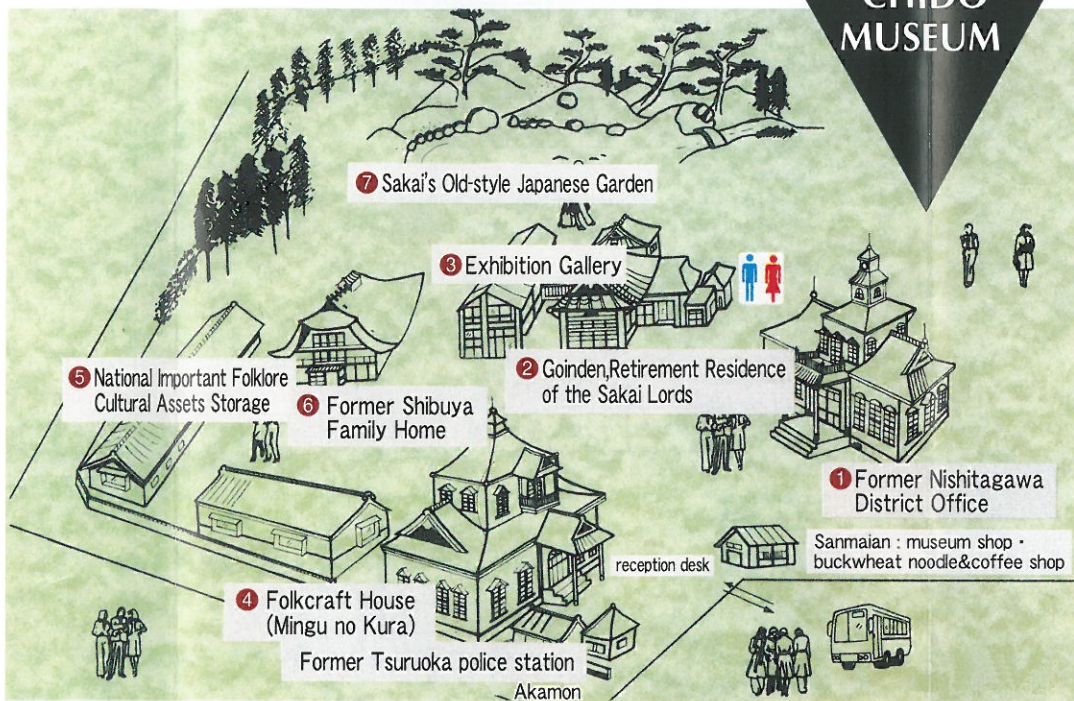
**5 National Important Folklore Cultural Assets Storage**

In 1981 a new building was established with seven kinds of items on display ; Banbori, a kind of backpack made of straw (116) ; Shuki, lacquered wooded sake casks (77) ; Kurimono, hollowed wooden vessels (250) ; Daihoji Yaki, pottery baked at Daihoji (234) ; beautifully quilted working clothes (126) ; Sea of Japan fishing tackle (1937) ; Mogami River fishing tackle(810) .

**6 Former Shibuya Family Home**  
 — National Important Treasure —  
 Built 1822; relocated to present site 1965



The Tasou-minka is a large three-story farmhouse. Its roof is thatched and shaped like a samurai helmet. The house was originally built in Tamugimata in Asahi Village. It was designated an Important National Cultural Asset in 1969.



**7 Sakai's Old-style Japanese Garden**  
 — National Scenic Location —



Shoin is a specific type of Japanese garden. In 1971 this garden was restored to its original condition. It was designated a National Scenic Location in 1976.

**Former Tsuruoka Police Station**



— Important Treasure of Yamagata Prefecture —  
 Built 1884; relocated to present site 1957

This structure was built by Michitsune Mishima according to the design of Kanekichi Takahashi, who also designed the former Nishitagawa District Office. It has a pseudo-European style common at the beginning of the Meiji era, symbolizing the dignity of the times.



Chidokan ceremonial lacquerware



Jomon pottery: big deep style (the middle of Jomon period)



Sashi-daru barrels: used for special occasions.



Suit of armor (Used by the first Sakai, Tadatsugu)