

C Otaru Regional Map



OTARU MAP

Footloose

IN OTARU

Welcome to the historic and romantic city of Otaru!

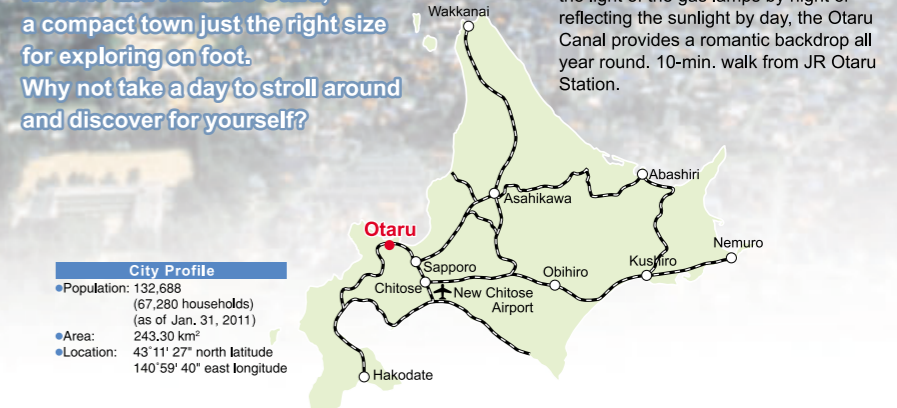
For the Japanese, Otaru has an atmosphere and sophistication of a foreign land and is known as a romantic and nostalgic city. As a herring-fishing town it was once the financial hub of Hokkaido, with its major financial institutes concentrated around the "Wall Street of the North". The stone and brick-built western-style buildings and old Japanese-style buildings, once the premises of banks and trading companies, still remain around the town.

Historic and romantic Otaru, a compact town just the right size for exploring on foot.

Why not take a day to stroll around and discover for yourself?



The Otaru Canal (Otaru Unga)
The face of Otaru has to be its famous canal, the peaceful waterway and cluster of historic warehouses along its bank. In the light of the gas lamps by night or reflecting the sunlight by day, the Otaru Canal provides a romantic backdrop all year round. 10-min. walk from JR Otaru Station.

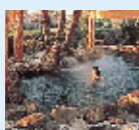


Places of Interest

8 Otaru Aquarium
One of Asia's leading aquariums with approximately 300 species of marine life, 20,000 fish and amphibians. The dolphin shows are popular. Location: Shukutsu 3-303. Tel. (0134) 33-1400. Late Mar. - late Nov. 9:00 am - 5:00 pm every day (may change slightly according to season). Adults: ¥1,300, 6-15: ¥530, 3-5: ¥210, U-3: Free. #10 or #11 Chuo Bus from JR Otaru Sta., 1-min. walk from terminus.



9 Asarigawa Spa Asari Dam Lakeside Park
Spa resort surrounded by green countryside. Golf and tennis in summer, ski resort in winter. The beautiful autumn leaves around Lakeside Park and great recreation facilities. #13 Chuo Bus from JR Otaru Sta. (30 min)



10 Mt. Tengu Ropeway (Cable Car)
View of Otaru from cable car is quite spectacular. At the top of Mt. Tengu is the popular Tengukan (Japanese Goblin Hall), café with a view and park. Night view shuttle bus is also convenient during the summer. Tel. (0134) 33-7381. 9:30 am - 9:00 pm (may change slightly according to season). Holidays vary. Return fare. Adults: ¥1,100. Children: ¥550. #9 Chuo Bus from Otaru Sta.



11 Mt. Kenashi Viewpoint
Small car park by the side of Rte. 393. The view of Otaru is great, particularly at night. 20 min by car on Rte. 393 toward Akaigawa Village.



12 Otaru City Nishin Goten (built 1897)
Built during the most prosperous period in the history of Otaru's fishing industry, this large-scale dormitory provided accommodation for herring fishermen at the time. The interior houses equipment used in their work and day-to-day lives, as well as photographs and important data from the era. Designated as a tangible cultural property of Hokkaido. Location: Shukutsu 3-228. Tel. (0134) 22-1038. Early Apr. ~ late Nov. 9:00 am - 5:00 pm every day. Adults: ¥300. High school students: ¥150. #10 or #11 Chuo Bus from JR Otaru Sta.



Otaru City Nishin Goten

Useful Contact Numbers

Emergencies: Police - emergencies only (accident, theft) ▶ 110 / Otaru police station (lost passport, property, etc.) (0134) 27-0110 / Ambulance - emergencies only (illness, injury) ▶ 119 (0134) 33-2510

Tourist Information: Otaru Tourist Association (Japanese) (0134) 32-4111 ext.450
Otaru Tourism Promotion Office (Japanese) (0134) 22-3330
e-mail: kanko@city.otaru.hokkaido.jp
http://www.city.otaru.hokkaido.jp/ (0134) 22-3330

Foreign Exchange (US dollars): Otaru Post Office (North Pacific Bank, Hokkaido Bank, Hokuriku Bank)
See map A on reverse side.

Gifts

Otaru is famous for music boxes and glass products. Glass floats and lamps once used by fishermen became souvenirs, bought by travelers as a reminder of the area's seafaring history. In course of time, many glass craftsmen were based in the town and its reputation as the home of lamps and glass spread. In addition, the historical architecture of Otaru provides a suitable backdrop to the delicate tones of the "Orgel" and the various shops dedicated to the music boxes match perfectly with the image of the town.



Orgels



A variety of glass products

Glass crafts

Otaru Cuisine

Otaru is famous for its sushi, and shops that specialize in the local delicacy are abundant, particularly in the town's "Sushiya Street". However, not just sushi, but all kinds of dishes containing fresh seafood are popular amongst locals and visitors alike and can be found at a variety of delicious restaurants in and around Otaru.



Fresh seafood



Sushi